

# The Battalion

STUDENT TRI-WEEKLY NEWSPAPER  
TEXAS A. & M. COLLEGE

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## Aggie Officers Ready

With an ever increasing possibility that A. & M. men in the future will be called upon to defend this country, Cadet officers for the 1941-42 college session possess and excellent opportunity to develop the qualities of leadership.

Senior cadet officers at A. & M. have proved many times that they are fully capable of leadership and of competently administering the affairs of their organizations. This year is no exception. The class of '42 has a staff of cadet officers who have already shown evidence of their ability.

For a great many years it has been said that the power of each senior class diminishes from year to year. This should not be so. If A. & M. graduates are to be called upon to lead their fellow Americans in possible future combat, they must be prepared. The responsibility of a cadet officer while attending to his military duties at A. & M. serves as necessary experience to him in his future military service.

But if A. & M. men are to develop these essential qualities of leadership, they must be allowed to develop those qualities here. A major portion of the problems of the cadet corps must be left in the hands of the Cadet officers.

It is the responsibility of the cadet officers to see that their authority is not abused. A. & M. graduates are known as leaders. If the class of '42 is given the opportunity to develop these qualities to the utmost, they too can carry on the tradition of Aggie preparedness.

## SOS - Save Our Spoons

Aggies—the mess halls need our aid. Because of the great effort which this country is making in preparation for national defense, it has been necessary that many materials which have been extensively used in peacetime activities are now essential items in national defense.

This situation exists in the mess halls at A. & M. Many of the utensils which are used in the mess halls can not be replaced under any conditions. If equipment which is now being used in the mess halls in broken or taken away, it will be absolutely impossible to obtain replacements.

The solution to this problem rests entirely upon the members of the cadet corps. Every effort must be made to see that equipment of the college remains in first class condition. The present shortage applies particularly to metal utensils. There is an acute shortage of spoons. The supply on hand is barely sufficient to meet the needs of the record size cadet corps.

The cadet corps alone can handle this situation. Aggies, those spoons are needed, and they are of the greatest use in the mess halls and not in the dormitory rooms. The management of the two mess halls urgently request that the corps not remove any utensils from the mess hall. The cadet corps alone can decide upon this issue. Spare those spoons! Keep them in the mess halls.

## Things Worth Reading

By Dr. T. F. Mayo

### PERSONAL FAVORITES (III)

The third of a series of books of various kinds, countries, and ages, which are reviewed here merely because the reviewer likes them. (The first two were Fielding's Tom Jones and Bertrand Russell's Political Ideals).

"The Way of the World" (by William Congreve, London, 1700).

This is the best comedy I ever read, provoking what George Meredith called "thoughtful laughter."

Correave seemed to have arrived at his plot somewhat in this way: "What would happen," he probably asked himself, "if an irresistible man and an irresistible girl, both highly intelligent, thoroughly decent, and accustomed to easy conquests, should fall in love with each other?"

This is the central situation, as rich in potential comedy, I believe, as any imaginable situation could be. The plot is further enriched, of course, by placing the two smart and decent people in a perfect nest of fools and rascals, with whom their affairs are closely and exasperatingly entangled, and whose folly and rascality continually strike out of Mirabel and Millamant the most sparkling and delectable flashes of wit.

other. But it is a highly unusual climax, involving no mushy raptures or starry-eyed clinches. They both surrender, each to the other worthy match who has ever come along. But they do not surrender meltingly and unconditionally. Realizing that they are undertaking to get along decently for life together, they each present a set of terms. Millamant demands first of all that Mirabel shall go on "soliciting" her.

"Though I am upon the very verge of matrimony," she says, "I expect you should solicit me as much as if I were wavering at the gate of a monastery, with one foot over the threshold. I'll be solicited to the very last,—nay, and afterwards."

Mirabel: What, after the last?  
Millamant: Oh! I should think I was poor and had nothing to bestow, if I were reduced to an inglorious ease, and freed from the agreeable fatigues of solicitation."

Moreover, after they are married, she will have no "sweet names" in public: "as wife, spouse, my dear, joy, jewel, love, sweetheart, and the rest of that nauseous cent, in which men and their wives are so fulsomely familiar". She must have her liberty, too, and not be watched and checked on. And "wherever I am, you shall always knock at the door before you come in." If, she says, her lover will subscribe to all this "if I continue to endure you a little long, I may by degrees dwindle into a wife."

And now Mirabel presents his own terms—but if you want to know what they were, you'll have to read the play. Millamant exclaims at the end of them, "I hate your odious provisos!", but she seals the bargain, nevertheless.

I wonder how they got on?

Except by name, Jean Paul Friedrich Richter is little known out of Germany. The only thing connected with him, we think, that has reached this country is his saying,—imported, by Madame de Staël, and thankfully pocketed by most newspaper critics,—"Providence has given to the French the empire of the land; to the English that of the sea; to the Germans that of the air!" —Richter, June, 1876.

## The World Turns On

By A. F. Chalk

In recent months the American people have become increasingly concerned about the economic consequences of a Hitler victory. Interventionists have been warning the people of the dire effects on the American economy of a totalitarian victory, and the Isolationists have been saying that from the economic point of view our going to war could not possibly be justified. Our purpose in this and a few of the following "commentaries" will be to state and clarify the basic economic issues which are involved in this nation-wide controversy.

It is generally recognized that the following are the most important economic problems which would result from a totalitarian victory: (1) the possible loss of most of our foreign trade, and (2) the costly maintenance of large defense forces to resist a possible military attack. Our discussion will be limited to the first of these cost items, because there appears to be no widespread disagreement concerning the huge annual outlay which would be involved in maintaining large armed forces for defense.

In the event of a German victory, there are at least three economic policies which we in the U. S. might adopt with respect to our trade relations. The first of the policies we might conceivably pursue would be that of attempting to maintain normal trade relations with Germany and its conquered nations. A second alternative line of action would be that of engaging in an economic war with Germany and its satellites for foreign markets. A third possibility is that we might become reconciled to the loss of most of our international trade in a world preponderantly authoritarian and try to build an economic wall around ourselves. Each of the above-named policies has been recommended by different groups within the country in anticipation of a possible German victory. Our discussion will at present be limited to a brief consideration of the first of these alternatives.

From the purely economic point of view it would obviously be advantageous for us to continue our trade with Europe, but the question immediately arises whether Germany would be willing to cooperate (assuming we would be willing to do business with such a government) in a free exchange of goods and services. There is no historical evidence to be found in the writings and actions of high-ranking Nazis to show that they would desire to carry on normal, peace-time trade relations with us. This is curious in one respect, for it would be of great benefit economically to both Europe and the U. S., but the Nazis apparently have other ends in view than that of a peaceful, prosperous Europe trading with the rest of the world.

Many Americans believe that Germany would be willing to trade freely with other countries once she conquered Europe, but the only evidence which we have points toward European self-sufficiency and continued economic aggression. Space does not permit further comments, but in concluding, we should like to recommend a recent best-seller publication which we believe every informed person should read. It is "You Can't Do Business With Hitler" by Douglas Miller. The author was our commercial attache in Berlin for 15 years, and his book is unusually informative about Nazi trade objectives and techniques.

## Kollegiate Kaleidoscope



**WORLD'S CHAMPION COLLEGIATE COMMUTER!**  
CAPT. CARL F. BRUCE OF UNITED AIR LINES MAKES A DAILY ROUND TRIP OF 1500 MILES FROM OAKLAND CALIF. TO SEATTLE, WASH., ON HIS REGULAR FLIGHTS AND ATTENDS CLASSES AT THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON!

THE COST OF GOING TO HARVARD HAS GONE UP 280% SINCE 1840!



**ONE IN A THOUSAND!**  
OF 1000 FRESHMEN ENTERING C.C.N.Y.'S MAIN CENTER THIS YEAR, FRANCES COTT WAS THE ONLY GIRL. SHE IS STUDYING CHEMICAL ENGINEERING!

## BACKWASH

By Charlie Babcock

"Backwash: An agitation resulting from some action or occurrence."—Webster

So It's College Night Again . . . That's something the Texas Aggies have been waiting for—probably a date that runs parallel to Thanksgiving, 1941, in importance.

Tonight is the night that 7000 will hump it and stand shoulder to shoulder. It is the date set aside for freshmen to get their first taste of that nationally famous term—Aggie Spirit. It is a time for Aggies to get together with their yell leaders, the football boys, and the coaches and talk things over for the coming year.

And a word to the freshmen . . . You've never experienced such a night. You've never stood for 60 minutes and yelled until your stomach was upside down. You've never watched a football team defeated by an ancient rival—and then sit bewildered in a massive stadium with salty liquid pouring from each eye—all because the boys out on the field who were beaten were fellas just like you, fellas that were playing their very hearts out so that A. & M.

But more than all that, you don't know what it is to have an Aggie that you haven't seen for several months to come up and grip your hand—just because the two of you have accepted a way of living that tops all others. There is no farce in that handshake. You'll find that if you stay here long enough . . . especially, if you stay long enough and then someday have to tell A. & M. goodbye. Tickets for the event are expected to know or understand what the Aggie Spirit is that something that has to grow on you. Make all sell get a chance tonight.

### Coast-to-Coast

The incident occurred this past summer and required a bit of initiative.

Lieutenants Burt Griffin, Robert Robbins, and Hugh Derrick, all A. & M. grads of 1941, had been attending the Fort Belvoir Engineering School since early June, but were ordered to report to San Francisco before sailing for the Philippines in August. They were given only three days leave to make the coast-to-coast trip.

Desiring to spend a few days with relatives in Texas before reporting, the three Aggies got together and dug up an old army regulation which allowed one day for each 250 miles from station to station. Then, they purchased an automobile and presented their plan to the Commandant of the Fort, whereupon the orders were changed and 12 days travel time allowed in addition to the three days leave.

The young officers drove night and day in shifts and gained enough time for a vacation in Texas. Then, to complete the successful jaunt, they sold their automobile in San Francisco for a sum very near the original purchase price.

### Growing Pains

So, Aggeland's enrollment is going to pass the 7000 mark!

That makes it easier to believe that A. & M. is the largest all-male military school in the country, with the two largest mess halls in the U. S. and providing the largest School of Agriculture . . . with the Schools of Engineering and Veterinary Medicine ranking second in size among other similar schools in the nation.

And so it is that A. & M. has another birthday . . . its 65th. And steadily the College grows larger and larger day by day.

But don't worry. Back in 1917-18 everybody said that A. & M. would be too large for practical purposes if the enrollment mark ever passed 2000.

The statue of Lawrence Sullivan Ross, former Indian fighter, Texas Ranger, and Governor of the State of Texas who later became president of A. & M., is the only life-size statue of an individual on the campus.

## COVERING campus distractions

WITH TOM VANNOY

Another year is just getting started for everyone. It was a fine vacation and we are all set to get back in the journalistic saddle once more to have a look-see at the various shows that come our way during the year.

Guion Hall is to become the new Y theater after October 1. It is being remodeled to make it suitable for showing pictures. The Assembly Hall will be used for lectures and meetings after that date. Town Hall will still be in Guion Hall this year as usual. The Campus Theater has signed some new contracts and promises to have some good films lined up for the year. So all in all, it looks as though the show business is picking up as far as we are concerned.

Bob Crosby and his Bobcats will be featured in "ROOKIES ON PARADE" at the Campus today. Marie Wilson and Ruth Terry are included in the cast. If you are inclined to favor the Crosby style of music, here is a good chance to hear the Bobcats do a good job. Outside of this the show has little to offer in the way of anything dramatic.

"TIGHT SHOES" is to be shown at the Campus Friday and Saturday. John Howard, Binnie Barnes, and Broderick Crawford are starred. Imagine the dire consequences that beset a social climber who buys a pair of shoes that are too small. It is really a panic. Damon Runyon is the author of the story, and if his past stories are any indication of what he can do, then we are going to laugh harder than ever at "Tight Shoes."

The Y.M.C.A. has announced that this year Y cards will be good for Saturday night shows or for the show on Monday afternoon or night. Gay says that the Monday shows will be just as good as the Saturday ones, so that is another break for boys who in the past have missed out on some of the shows on their cards.

The cadet corps will share in the profits from the Y shows this year. Twenty percent of the profits will be put into the student activities fund so that any campus organization, club, or society who is in need of funds for a worthy project may apply to the student activities committee and the amount needed will be given to

### WHAT'S SHOWING

AT THE CAMPUS

Thursday—ROOKIES ON PARADE" starring Bob Crosby and his orchestra, Marie Wilson, and Ruth Terry.

Friday and Saturday — "TIGHT SHOES" with John Howard, Binnie Barnes, and Broderick Crawford.

AT THE ASSEMBLY HALL

Thursday—"SUNNY," featuring Anna Neagle.

Friday — "FOOTSTEPS IN THE DARK," with Errol Flynn and Brenda Marshall.

## Campus

Correctly Air-Conditioned by Frigidaire  
15¢ to 5 P. M. — 20¢ After LAST DAY

### "ROOKIES ON PARADE"

Starring BOB CROSBY RUTH TERRY MARIE WILSON Also 3 STOOGES

FRIDAY — SATURDAY

Bud Abbott Lou Costello

### "IN THE NAVY"

With THE ANDREWS SISTERS

## TEXAS A. & M. GRILL

NOW LOCATED IN THE NEW WALDROP BUILDING AT THE NORTH GATE

Maintaining The Same Service And Standard

\$5.50 Meal Tickets for \$5.00

\$11.00 Meal Tickets for \$10.00

## TEXAS A. & M. GRILL

New Waldrop Building

## Assembly Hall

Movie for Thursday (today)

### "SUNNY"

with ANN NEAGLE CARROLL BOLGER also

Selected Shorts

Information Please and Picture People

Y CARDS ARE GOOD THIS YEAR EITHER ON SATURDAY OR MONDAY MATINEE AND NIGHTS

20 SHOWS FOR \$2.50

Friday

### "FOOTSTEPS IN THE DARK"

with ERROL FLYNN and BRENDA MARSHALL Selected Shorts

Wanted 1,000 Used Books BEST PRICES PAID Loupot's Trading Post NORTH GATE