

The Battalion

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

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Off to a Great Start

The Aggie year of 1941-42 is off to a great beginning. Such an excellent start demands that the cadet corps continue the good work.

Registration has been completed in a manner that does credit to the registrar's office and to the administrative officers of the college. The plan of the registrar's office to permit classified seniors and first sergeants to register on Tuesday was a successful innovation. This plan should be continued in future years. On the first day of registration 555 classified seniors and first sergeants took advantage of the early registration date.

Thursday night, the freshmen had their first introduction to A. & M. as the entire student body joined in the traditional College Night activities. The spirit and enthusiasm that were shown at the first yell practice seem to be indicative of a successful college session this year.

Aggieland seems to be alive with everyone back in uniform, but it's the same old A. & M. The corps must see that it stays that way. Changes will be made this year, but it is the responsibility of the corps to see that any changes made are for the benefit of the corps.

The big job which lies ahead is to see that we take advantage of the educational opportunities which A. & M. offers. A. & M. is fundamentally an educational institution. The first duty that an Aggie has at A. & M. is to see that full advantage is taken of the educational facilities of A. & M.

This is the sixty-fifth year of the college's existence. With the cooperation of every Aggie, it can be the best. Your college is giving you an opportunity to educate yourself; make the most of it.

Classes have started again, the football season is once more here with A. & M. Every indication points to a successful college year. Do your part this year to improve yourself and your school.

Education and Work

In speaking of American colleges, Robert M. Hutchins, president of the University of Chicago, stated recently, "We must have scholarships, and scholarships large enough so that the student can spend most of his time studying."

There is a definite need for more scholarships to encourage the pursuit of scholastic enlightenment, but today's college students are getting misguided attitudes concerning what their colleges or the government owes them to keep them in school.

Certain students are kept in coke and cigaret money by N.Y.A. jobs, but this is a minority of the total group. N.Y.A. is a worthy policy and should be extended to include as many members of the student body as possible who actually need the aid to further their education.

But mental labor is more strenuous than physical labor. Getting an education is an 8-hour day, full time job. There is little time for other work. Students who stay up working all night to stay in school the next day are completely off the right track. And those who use the college jobs or N.Y.A. as mere fronts to say "I'm helping pay my way through college" when they really don't need the money and should be studying instead, are equally misdirecting the purpose of student financial aid.

This is not to advocate doing away with student employment at all. Many students are enabled to attend school by working who would not be able to otherwise. And from actual records, students who are employed make better average grades than the unemployed group.

But this idea of "the world owes me a living because I'm a college student" is detrimental to character moulding. Viewed with the other group who are sacrificing grades, social activities, and health and everything on the altar of education, it shows that an ever growing section of students are finding learning secondary to attending college, and drawing the check first.

The answer lies not in awarding scholarships or abolishing student employment, but in using discrimination concerning student's jobs and remembering that college is a place to promote learning and not financial schemes.

—The East Texan, E. T. S. T. C.

Open Forum

Editor's Note: The following Open Forum article was carried in The Summer Battalion this year. It aptly expresses a need for a Union Building at A. & M. The Battalion would appreciate further comments from the student body on the subject of a Union Building.

TO THE BATTALION;

From an Old Aggie to Those not so old:
When I went to A. & M.—We didn't know much or expect very much either. We sawed our wood and carried it up to the top of Ross Hall, or stole in from the more energetic fish.

We pumped our water out of cisterns and used the good old No. 3 round type of tub, and dumped it on the "Bull" or down on stoop No. 1 when we were finished with it.

The "Sink" was located where the "Old Chem building" was built; there were lots of good quarter men in those days, speed was essential. We walked to Bryan and we walked back, after "Taps"—We thought we were hell raisers, and I guess we were. Mamas didn't let their little daughters roam around College Station in those days.

But times have changed—now the Aggies have everything, but one thing, that any other school in the land can boast of.

WHY is it that the BEST SCHOOL in the big state of Texas has no UNION BUILDING?

Why is it that when you go down to visit the place, you have to sit on a bench in the sun, or climb a mile of stairs to find a rest room for your old wife or mother? Why is it that a visitor has to drive a hundred miles to find a place to stay all night if he wants to witness the Final Review the next morning?

I have been asked these questions by dozens of people who have been there. I haven't the answer.

A school the size of Texas A. & M. without a Union building or any place for a stranger to rest or stay over night in comfort is as out of date as it was during the days I spent there.

A. & M. is a college now, and ranks with the High Brow schools in the country, but to a stranger visiting it who does not know the tradition behind it, it looks like an institution.

It's up to you young fellows to bring the old school up to date, you know that I'm right in what I say about it; if I didn't love it, I wouldn't give a damn about it.

An old Aggie, who wouldn't climb that flight of stairs at the "Y" to shake hands with John Kimbrough.

I'll take that back, I'll get up there somehow, for that privilege.
Slayton W. Hamner, '04
Healdton, Okla.

The World Turns On

By Dr. R. W. Steen

Freedom of the seas is by no means a new principle of American foreign policy but a principle of which little has been said since 1939. For more than ten years before 1812 the United States quarreled with Britain and France over the rights of neutral vessels on the high seas. Finally the United States was drawn into a war by a series of events involving chiefly the capture of American vessels at sea.

Freedom of the seas and isolation are in fact contradictory policies. The one insists that the seas belong to all nations in war as well as in peace. It implies that trade is essential to the economic welfare, and perhaps even to the life, of any given country. The other insists that a country should live at home if need be and that it should renounce its rights on the seas if war places its ships in danger.

American foreign policy has followed roughly a more or less uniform pattern. Isolation has been the rule during most of our history, but in practically every instance the policy has been abandoned when put to a severe test. Prior to the war of 1812 President Jefferson placed an embargo on shipments from American ports, but the policy was soon abandoned, and in 1812 President Madison could find no course other than war. The condition prior to the first World War was similar. There was no embargo, but Americans at first said little about freedom of the seas. Finally, however, President Wilson and the American people came to resent the "Verboten" sign which Germany had posted in the Atlantic, and war was the result.

President Roosevelt in his address on Thursday evening clearly indicated a shift in policy since 1939. In that year American ships were practically ordered off the seas. Recently they have been permitted to sail to numerous ports, and now President Roosevelt has ordered American naval vessels to fire at Axis raiders in American waters on sight. He has not demanded as yet freedom of all the seas for American vessels but has demanded freedom of American seas for American vessels, and his definition of American seas is not a modest one. Moreover he is attempting to close American seas to Axis war vessels. This is another and an important step in the American program of aid to Britain. It may lead to an undeclared naval war. It may lead to an all out declared war.

Kollegiate Kaleidoscope



ALTHOUGH HE HAS BEEN BLIND SINCE EARLY BOYHOOD T.J. ASHFORD IS THE SUCCESSFUL BAND DIRECTOR OF HAVERFORD COLLEGE!

BUCKSHOT

THE SENIOR WALK AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS HAS THE NAMES OF ALL GRADUATES (OVER 4000) ENGRAVED ON IT!

A BUTLER IN THE LAMBDA CHI HOUSE AT ALABAMA HAS NAMED THREE OF HIS OFFSPRING LAMBDA, CHI AND ALPHA!

BACKWASH

By Charlie Babcock

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

Only 73 Days Until Christmas . . . But Santa Claus comes to Aggie-land when Texas plays here Turkey Day . . . Out of the ordinary is the case of a 1940-41 freshman who hadn't purchased a coupon book and not having enough money to pay the regular \$5 fee for a Longhorn, asked permission from officials that he might have one of the extra Longhorns at cost. The fish' hopes were high when he was granted the request. However the cash register rang NO SALE when the prospective buyer was informed that the actual cost of a Longhorn is \$6.50 . . . Professor J. G. H. Thompson of the M. E. department is still looking for the energetic Aggie who sent a card to him this summer asking about his M. E. 212 grade. Thompson was willing to respond, but there was no name for return address attached to the correspondence. . . . It won't be long. The first issue of the Battalion Magazine will hit the street within a few days . . . Field Artillery freshman, Winfred Bean, assumed major proportions of transportation this summer when he flew by airliner from Los Angeles, California, to Houston, Texas, in less than nine hours . . . The Agriculturalist and The Engineer are progressing this year with a boost to eight issues for the long session instead of the usual four . . . Pertaining to the Y.M.C.A. picture show set-up for this year, it can be said that the Y privilege cards will be good for the usual Saturday show or may be used the following Monday in lieu of the Saturday feature . . . Tom Power, 1940-41 Editor of the Agriculturalist, was the first person to send in his subscription for The Battalion and The Agriculturalist.



Babcock

"Jawn" Gives Ring
"The Lone Star Ranger" stopped cow-punching long enough this week to give his "lady-fair" a diamond ring as a token of love and engagement to marry. Certainly, it was the Aggie full-back, John Kimbrough, who halted his cinema duties on the sound (Continued on Page 3)

COVERING campus distractions

WITH TOM VANNOY

A little something on the lighter, musical side is "THERE'S MUSIC IN ROMANCE" at the Assembly Hall today with Allan Jones, Susanna Foster, and Margaret Lindsay playing the leading roles. It is better than average story with that wonderful voice of Allan's to help out.

"WASHINGTON MELODRAMA" is to be shown at the Assembly Hall Monday. In spite of the fact that Frank Morgan is starred, it is really a disappointment as far as entertainment is concerned. It is an old story that has been revived and given a modern angle or two, but it just fails to have that certain punch that is needed to make it a real show.

If the blues have already gotten a good hold on you, then take time to go see "IN THE NAVY" at the Campus today. Abbott and Costello and Dick Powell are the stars, and then, of course, there are the Andrews sisters. "In the Navy" is the sailors' version of "Buck Privates" and there is a marked sim-

ilarity between the two. And of course the Andrews Sisters harmonizing is among the best. The antics that Abbott and Cosetello can think up are bound to keep you laughing from the first frame to the last.

WHAT'S SHOWING

AT THE ASSEMBLY HALL Saturday—"THERE'S MAGIC IN MUSIC," with Allan Jones, Susanna Foster, and Margaret Lindsay.

Monday—"WASHINGTON MELODRAMA," starring Frank Morgan, and Ann Rutherford.

AT THE CAMPUS Saturday—"IN THE NAVY," with Abbott and Costello, Dick Powell, and the Andrews Sisters.

Saturday prevue, Sunday, Monday—"THE KNEW ALL THE ANSWERS," featuring Joan Bennett and Franchot Tone.

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THE AGGIELAND BARBER SHOP

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Haircuts — Shaves — Shampoos

Across from Post Office at North Gate

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★ Double Soles Sturdy oak-tanned Texas steer hides

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Cartoon — News
PREVUE TONIGHT 11 P. M. SUNDAY — MONDAY
Go in 9:00 P. M. — See Both Shows

Hilariously romantic!
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JOAN BENNETT FRANCHOT TONE
A COLUMBIA PICTURE

Plus "WABBIT TWACKS" Short — News