

The Battalion

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

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Restore Senior Prestige

Restore the prestige of the Senior Class—this seemed to be the underlying theme of the meeting of the Senior Class held Thursday night.

At that time the members of the Senior Class elected a slate of officers who pledged to do their best to maintain the power of the Senior Class. If the power and prestige of the class has been slipping, then this downward movement must be checked. The officers of this year's class have given their support to this cause.

It is only natural at A. & M. that the Senior Class should have a controlling power over those issues which directly affect the Cadet Corps. If the class of '42 should not be entrusted with this task, then something is wrong at this college. Within less than a year, the members of this class will be out of college and be on their own as responsible citizens. They can be fully capable of managing those affairs of the college which can be properly handled by the Senior Class.

A. & M. is capable of graduating responsible citizens. In order that members of each graduating class may have training for responsible positions, they must be allowed to exercise as much responsibility as possible while here at A. & M.

However, a greater responsibility rests upon the officers and members of the Senior Class, that is to see that the power which this class has is not abused. The prestige of the class must be upheld; its reputation must be increased.

A senior year at A. & M. should provide the class members with a feeling of responsibility. A senior, as a cadet officer, has the opportunity to exercise leadership; he has the opportunity to acquire other character traits which may prove of value to him in later civilian or military life.

The Senior Class has made a fine start this year. They have put forth a program which if carried out successfully will provide its members with many of the essential characteristics of a leader. The officers selected by the class to lead them seem fully capable of directing and organizing the activities of the class.

A. & M. can move forward if the activities of the seniors are for the best interest of the college. There is no conflict between the aim of the class in restoring prestige and the program of the college. The Senior Class will work for the betterment of A. & M. and at the same time will be providing a concrete example of the fact that it is capable of assuming more responsibilities.

A woman should be seen, not heard.
—Sophocles.

Student Activities

Student activities here have received a stimulus with the announcement of a new policy for raising funds. One of the major problems of the many student organizations has been a financial one. Clubs have found it necessary to their welfare that they have some source of income.

In the past it has been customary for student organizations to receive much of their financial assistance from benefit shows given in the Assembly Hall. This method has proved rather faulty during the past few years; however, and many clubs actually lost money in attempting to give a benefit show.

This year a new system has been put into operation which is designed to more equitably distribute money to the various clubs. Benefit shows have been eliminated. In the future 20 percent of the proceeds of Y.M.C.A. shows will be given to student clubs. Based upon the record made last year, this will represent a considerable increase in student club income.

The program for handling Student Activities at A. & M. is quite extensive, and all club officers and members should take full advantage of these facilities which the student activities office offers. All club officers who are interested in obtaining a portion of the Assembly Hall receipts should get in immediate contact with the student activities office.

Extra-curricular activities are among the most important aspects of a well-rounded college life. Officers of the various clubs should take care in seeing that their organization has taken full advantage of the activities office.

They Say

A. C. Payne

"There was a little daschund once
So long he had no notion
How long it took to notify
His tail of his emotion.

And so it was that while his eyes
Were full of woe and sadness,
His little tail kept wagging on
Because of previous gladness."

I don't know what the author was trying to "put over" when he wrote this little ditty, but it's packed with poetic dynamite. Some might sum it up as an analogy of social lag; others might prefer to compare it to the manufactured enthusiasm of Dr. Goebbels. To me it depicts the plight of the Class of '45.

A cynic may or may not be a disillusioned idealist, but a lot of the so called cynicism of young people today is merely a result of the false idealism of those who now blame youth for its attitude of irresponsibility. It strikes me that most people who worry over the perennial "youth problem" are merely disconcerted by the untarnished sincerity of their own product.

Realism has recently been dealt a number of misleading blows beneath the belt. It still stands, however, as a rugged fighter, faithfully destroying every thin veneer of false optimism. Its eyes are still open, and it wastes no time by shadow boxing.

And so, a good suggestion (in this hour of cheap advice) is to take pride in a bit of honest skepticism, and try to develop a spirit of healthful, intellectual curiosity. It really isn't so unfortunate that the age of "Amen" has been replaced by the age of "Oh, Yeah?" Secondhand goods may be cheaper, but they seldom give the same satisfaction as merchandise which cost a little more. To carry the analogy farther, it's sometimes even more satisfying to a real craftsman if he constructs the thing himself.

Most everyone agrees that the statement, "Keep your feet on the ground" is good advice, but a fellow doesn't move forward unless he lifts them occasionally!

The sick man is a parasite of society. In certain cases it is indecent to go on living. To continue to vegetate in a state of cowardly dependence upon doctors and special treatments, once the meaning of life, the right to life, has been lost, ought to be regarded with the greatest contempt by society.
—Friedrich Nietzsche.

The World Turns On

By Dr. R. W. Steen

Editor's note: Three points of view are presented in "The World Turns On," a column in which three members of the college staff discuss current national and international topics. Dr. R. W. Steen presents an historian's interpretation of events; A. F. Chalk considers world affairs from an economist's angle; and Dr. J. H. Quisenberry interprets present day affairs from a scientist's point of view.

For several months Americans have been talking of conveying as a theoretical problem. Conveying is no longer a theory, it is now a condition. American warships, with orders to shoot Axis raiders on sight, are now guarding the sea lanes from the United States to Iceland. They are protecting British as well as American ships, and in so doing have greatly reduced the strain on the British fleet. Newspaper comment, in general, is favorable to the step, as most newspapers have felt it a bit absurd to provide England with materials under the lease-lend act, and then permit the materials to be sent to the bottom of the sea. In any case the American navy is now conveying merchantmen. Time will not have to test the accuracy of Mr. Roosevelt's statement made last year that "convoys means shooting and shooting means war."

The neutrality act has been made a dead letter by interpretation. Repeal of the act would go far toward clarifying America's position, and would at the same time be a bow in the direction of political honesty. There is something amusing in the policy of sending naval vessels out on convoy while arguing that merchant vessels can't be armed because it is contrary to the neutrality act.

The American Legion, at its Milwaukee convention, changed its attitude toward the sending of American troops abroad. The members of the legion knew better than anybody else in America the evils of war. They have consistently opposed moves which might result in sending American troops abroad. The Milwaukee Convention decided, however, that offense sometimes constitutes the best defense, and approved the sending of American troops to any point where they are needed.

The various polls indicate that American enthusiasm for intervention has declined greatly in the past few months. This change in sentiment is due to a hope, perhaps a belief, that such intervention will not be necessary and not to the work of Lindbergh and his cohorts. This hope has been based on the remarkable resistance of the Russians. Now, however, it seems that the superior equipment of the Germans is beginning to tell. The Russians undoubtedly face some very grave and serious problems. Russian reverses will doubtless result in a revival of American interest in intervention.



Steen

Kollegiate Kaleidoscope



HARVARD HAD A LITTLE BRICK INDIAN COLLEGE FROM 1654 TO 1693 BUT ONLY ONE INDIAN GRADUATED!



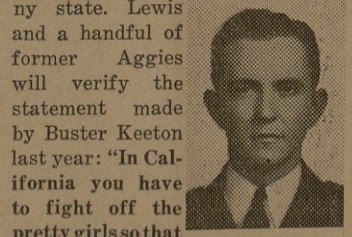
IN ORDER TO ATTEND THE U. OF OREGON, A STUDENT TRAVELED ALONE 1700 MILES FROM SITKA, ALASKA IN A 16 FOOT DORY!

BACKWASH

By Charlie Babcock

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

Backwashin' Around . . . Uncle Sam's post office brings the message from Ira F. Lewis, '41, who is working at the Lockheed Aircraft Co. in California, that all is well in the sunny state. Lewis and a handful of former Aggies will verify the statement made by Buster Keeton last year: "In California you have to fight off the pretty girls so that you can watch the beautiful ones." . . . From The Mail Bag: Backwash is willing to comply with the request from the group of freshmen who desire reclassification of Mr. Hitler. Further suggestions are welcomed . . . Fish Whitaker of CWS is a more experienced man today. He knows that a jar of ionization constants can not be found in the Chemistry building . . . Cavalryman "Doc" Robertson could set up a general store. His "one and only" came through recently with a compound gift of ties, tie clasps, wallets, belt buckles, and several unmentionables . . . The Tyler A. & M. club retained a note of appropriateness in its recent election of club officers: a student named Tyler was made vice-president . . . C Battery, Coast Artillery responded to Coach Norton's plea for football centers with a turnout of half a dozen men.



Babcock
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Aggie Sparkler
S. B. Zisman of the department of architecture reads the New York newspaper, The PM! Zisman was on his toes this week when he uncovered the following in the Manhattan sheet: "The football Giants are a pretty tough outfit this year and they'll have a loud voice in who wins what title in the National League race. "For thirty minutes against the Philadelphia Eagles Saturday night, they were the same old seemingly stodgy Giants. But with the insertion of Marion Pugh, their new passing and running back, they are a different ball club. "This Pugh has plenty of poise, handles a team well and knows where the body lies all the time. He can pass with rifle accuracy and can pick spots like a deadly virus. Keep your eye on him this fall . . ."

All-Out Spirit
Monday night proved a few things. First of all, there was

the customary yell practice. But more than that, a little scene took place in front of Walton hall that left an indelible impression on those fortunate enough to see it. Yell practice was nearing the closing point. The band was playing "The Spirit of Aggeland." Riding on the campus from the North Gate in a taxi were two khaki-clad Aggies. As soon as the sacred notes of the Aggie song hit their ears, the cadets told the "taxi skip" to stop the car, and both of them got out of the automobile and stood at attention throughout the remainder of the tune. Proof enough that the "twelfth man" is getting ready.

SIGNAL CORPS
(Continued from page 1)

serve commission in the Signal Corps is known as a communication engineer, no matter what phase of engineering he majors in. Training in the Signal Corps furnishes such practical and useful training that numerous large industrial organizations as General Electric, Westinghouse, Graybar, R.C.A., and Bell Telephone hire many Signal Corps officers after they enter civilian life.

There are now twenty-one non-electrical engineering students enrolled in the Signal Corps R.O.T. C. unit here at A. & M. There are also three liberal arts or science students in the Signal Corps this year. This is the first year that students outside of the electrical engineering department have had this opportunity of joining the Signal Corps and receive reserve commissions in that branch of the service.

All men interested in enrolling in the Signal Corps are authorized to do so by the P. M. S. & T. Freshmen and sophomores desiring such change should see Lt. Lerner, room 110 EE building at once.

The first name of "The Battalion" was "The Journal."

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BOOTS
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Two Bi-Swing
BLOUSES
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7:00, Student League
8:00, Evening Devotion and Fellowship

All Services in the Y. M. C. A. Chapel

This Collegiate World

ACP

Due to some diligent investigations by Williams college students a few salient facts have been discovered concerning the attitude of Smith and Vassar girls. The Smith lasses were recently quired on the question, "If it were a matter of choice, would you rather have your husband imprisoned for conscientious objection or killed in Europe?" and returned a verdict in favor of the latter alternative.

Evidently possessing much of the Madame Defarge in their cold-blooded little hearts, the young ladies felt that a "hero dead" would be preferable to a "coward alive." Of course, the traditional Smith feeling that "you can always get another" may have in part prompted this display of pseudo self-sacrifice on the altar of their country, but we are more inclined to credit it to their self-styled "dashing love of adventure."

Vassar, on the other hand, offers an understanding heart to the youth who refuses to fight in a senseless combat. The lad who expects to be a conscientious objector in the event that the United States is drawn into foreign entanglement had best begin some weekend prospecting tours to Poughkeepsie, for the adopted daughters of Matthew Vassar, would prefer a husband in irons to a husband entombed, any husband being better than no husband.

band being better than no husband.

Consequently, the lover of the home and fireside, who has no illusions about the glory of war, will find a more sympathetic companion at Poughkeepsie than he can hope to find by carrying the favor of some damsel at Northampton.

The class of 1918 was the first class in the history of A. & M. to take an absolute stand against hazing. The senior class resolved, "hazing must go; let our class be the first to accomplish the impossible."

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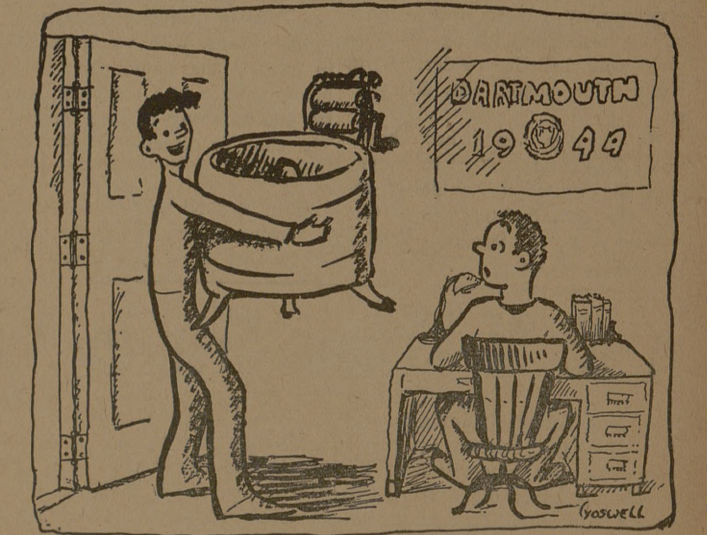
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