

# The Battalion

STUDENT TRI-WEEKLY NEWSPAPER  
 TEXAS A. & M. COLLEGE  
 The Battalion, official newspaper of the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas and the City of College Station, is published three times weekly from September to June, issued Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday mornings; and is published weekly from June through August.

Entered as second-class matter at the Post Office at College Station, Texas, under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

Subscription rate, \$3 a school year. Advertising rates upon request.

Represented nationally by National Advertising Service, Inc., at New York City, Chicago, Boston, Los Angeles, and San Francisco.

Office, Room 122, Administration Building. Telephone 4-5444.

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## Let's Go, Army

In action again—this afternoon the twelfth man of A. & M. goes into action for the 1941 football season.

It is a definite certainty that the twelfth man is ready—ready to support the team to the best of their ability. The twelfth man at A. & M. is a tradition of which no other college can lay claim to. Make this year's cadet corps a real twelfth man.

While Kyle Field will not be filled for the opening game, a great many visitors from all of Texas will be on hand to witness the debut of this year's team. The twelfth man also has an opportunity to show these visitors a sample of Aggie hospitality.

The team is ready, and if the corps is ready A. & M. should have an unbeatable combination. Long hours of work by the yell leaders have coordinated the yelling efforts of the corps. This afternoon the corps has its first test. The Aggies can be depended upon to make a perfect record on this test, but it will mean a high degree of cooperation with the yell leaders.

Behind the team to the utmost, the cadet corps echoes the closing lines of the new fight song, "We're the twelfth man on that fightin' Aggie team."

*To be prepared for war is one of the most effective ways of preserving peace.*  
—George Washington.

## Student Deferments

The cause of the draft-eligible college student is the subject of a public announcement by the presidents of Macalester and St. Thomas colleges, and Hamline university, all in St. Paul.

Addressing the general public and local draft boards, Dr. Charles J. Turk of Macalester, the Rev. James Moynihan of St. Thomas, and Dr. Charles Nelson Pace of Hamline ask that college students be given every deferment consideration by selective service boards. Their joint statement follows in part:

"The national committee of education and defense secured from the national headquarters of the selective service system an amendment, with the full effect of law, providing for the postponement of induction for any person for whom in the judgment of the local board immediate induction would create an unusual individual hardship.

"While this amendment is stated in general terms, it provides the basis for preventing the interruption of a student's education during a semester or college year.

"It has been officially interpreted to include as a cause of such hardship . . . 'to complete a course of training or instruction.'

"President Roosevelt recently said: 'America will always need men and women with college training. Government and industry alike need skilled technicians today!'

"We hope selective service boards will be willing to grant students the opportunity of completing the semester's work or the year's work on which they have embarked.

"These students are not claiming exemption from selective service but merely a postponement of a few months.

"In calling this matter to the attention of the public and local boards, we believe we are acting for the best interests of the country and in pursuance of a request addressed to us by Dr. Francis J. Brown of the subcommittee on military affairs of the national committee on education and defense."  
—ACP

*Simplicity of character is no hindrance to subtlety of intellect.*  
John Viscount Morley.

## They Say

A. C. Payne

Oliver Herford, in an imaginative mood, has drawn an amusing picture of the earth in a cosmic accident. He sees it falling unchecked through space, shaking off and getting rid of "Of the little crawling things — Ants, philosophers, and lice Cattle, cockroaches, and kings, Beggars, millionaires and mice, Men and maggots, all as one, As it falls into the sun."

All this is bad enough to a conceited human being, but he finishes up with a

knockout blow to the inflated ego of sophisticated earthlings:

"Who can say but at the same instant, from some planet far, A child may watch us and exclaim: 'See the pretty shooting stars!'"

Like it or not, we are thus reminded that mankind is still capable of outgrowing its intellectual breeches. It was only a few centuries back that a chap named Copernicus, after meddling around with a telescope, insulted his fellows by declaring that the earth was not really the center of the universe. Doubtless he was known as a queer egg, and suffered the usual pangs of "man's inhumanity to man."

But now that new discoveries have forced us to tighten our academic belts, and we have had to retreat from former positions that crumbled beneath us, the question is repeatedly asked: "Just who is man to claim such importance, anyway?" Old Job was concerned about this a long time ago, and our philosophers still seem to be having a wonderful time disagreeing over the answer. Science has made so many strides recently that man hasn't been able to keep up the pace, particularly in his conception of himself and his relation to the entire universe.

Of course, it's easy to caustically ask "So what," and go on about our business of bringing home an occasional strip of bacon. We plain folks aren't very disturbed as long as our bread and butter isn't molested. We see the stars, smile, and write a beautiful poem about the heavens declaring the glory of God. Maybe it doesn't matter so much after all. And yet, man himself is a world full of problems. In fact, his potentiality is quite immeasurable. Nobody tries to weigh personality in ounces or pounds, nor measure true ability in inches and feet. Man alone transcends the limits of time and space and regulates them to suit himself.

So we see that man isn't easily browbeaten by a mere universe of stars and planets. He alone is capable of hungering and thirsting after righteousness, searching for truth as he knows it, weighing the merits of relative values, and making up his own mind. Every man may be the center of his own universe, but he is also the one who discovers the elements that go to make it up. "man is very insignificant."

"Astronomically speaking," said a cynic, "Astronomically speaking," replies the scientist, "man is the astronomer."

*The Ship of Democracy, who has weathered all storms, may sink through the mutiny of those on board.*  
—Grover Cleveland.

## 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.

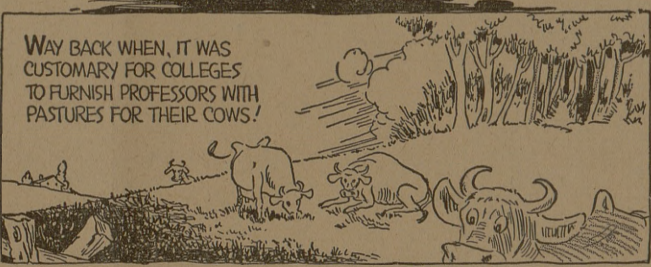
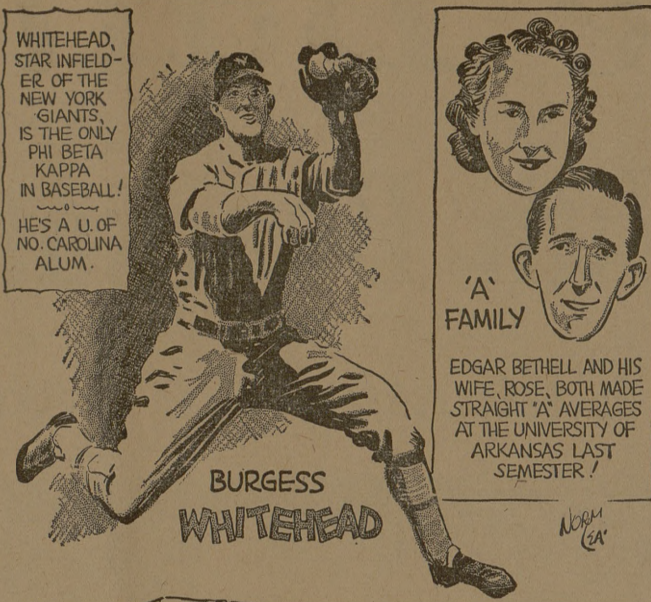
During the past month members of Congress have been enjoying what may be described as a semi-vacation. Many members have been visiting at home, and many of them have found that war sentiment at home is higher than it is in Washington. Some who voted for the extension of the period of service required of draftees with fear and trembling that their constituents were in hearty accord with the act. One month ago Washington correspondents were convinced that the neutrality act could be amended only with great difficulty. Now they are convinced the President can obtain the repeal of the entire act if he so desires.

The administration has not yet asked repeal of the act, but may give its support to a resolution that has been introduced in the Senate asking repeal. The chief issue at the moment is whether or not American merchant ships are to be armed. The neutrality act, at least by implication, prohibits the arming of American vessels. The president, however, has clearly stated that American ships are to be armed. He would doubtless like to obtain a modification of the act, but plans are going forward to arm the vessels.

It is generally agreed that the president has the power to order the arming of the vessels. President Wilson used this power in 1917 even though Congress had not authorized him to do so. A majority of the members of Congress were willing to grant the president the power, but a vote was not taken. The House passed the resolution by a vote of 403 to 13, and a majority of the Senate favored the proposal. A filibuster, conducted by eleven Senators, prohibited the taking of a vote on the measure.

This filibuster resulted in President Wilson's famous statement concerning the "little group of wilful men" who so successfully thwarted the will of the Senate majority. As a consequence of this statement the Senate restricted slightly its famed freedom of debate. A filibuster can now be stopped in three or four days. To put the closure rule, as it is called, into operation sixteen senators sign a petition asking for closure and place it on the desk of the presiding officer. Forty-eight hours later the Senate votes on the petition, and if it receives a two-thirds vote no Senator can speak for more than one hour. This is no very great limitation, but it does help.

## Kollegiate Kaleidoscope



## BACKWASH

By Charlie Babcock

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

Hello Sam Houston . . . We've been waiting for you ever since a certain fateful day back in November, 1940.

Yes, we're ready, and you will have a battle on your hands . . . the likes of which a Sam Houston hasn't had since the days of San Jacinto.

But with all due respect for your team, it can only be said that A. & M. won't be beat. You know, the Aggies are a determined lot. The year of 1940 will provide a grim memory to prod their determination.

The cadet corps has applied the final sharpening to the hoe for that tough row ahead. Aggies don't forget holiday tragedies very easily. No, they lay their plans carefully for revenge, and it so happens that you Bearkats have come first in the line of preparatory plans.

. . . a la Winchell

Backwash takes to the air waves this morning at 11:55 in the first of a series of campus news broadcasts over WTAW.

Present plans call for a five minute review of the news at the same time every day in the week except Saturday.

Policy of the program will be to present the unusual campus news of the day . . . with a purpose of appealing to the College and cadet corps.

the name of the local theater made off with a \$100 check.

Joel McCrea was the only movie winner.

?????

## Campus

15¢ to 5 P. M. — 20¢ After 20¢ All Day Sunday

### LAST DAY

### "TIGHT SHOES"

JOHN HOWARD, BINNIE BARNES, LEO CARILLO

Plus 3 STOOGES & THREE OTHER SHORTS

PREVUE TONIGHT AFTER CORPS DANCE SUNDAY — MONDAY

VIVIAN LAURENCE LEIGH OLIVIER in THAT HAMILTON WOMAN!

Also ALL-GIRL MUSICAL CARTOON — NEWS

Come At 10 p.m.—See Both Shows

On Saturday Prevue, Feature will start a few minutes after midnight—after the corps dance.



## Flawless

## CLEANING & PRESSING

Not even Hawkshaw, the detective could find any wrong in the type of cleaning and pressing we turn out.

LET'S TAKE SAM HOUSTON AGGIES  
 AGGIE CLEANERS & DYERS

## COVERING campus distractions

WITH TOM VANNOY

One of the most popular novels of the century has been made into a motion picture for about the third time. It is "THE SEA WOLF" by Jack London. Edward G. Robinson is cast as the captain of the mystery ship who takes such sadistic delight in tormenting his crew members. The other main characters are Ida Lupino and John Garfield. "The Sea Wolf" is much too brutal to be really entertaining. There really must be something in a story for it to be made over for the third time. Robinson is at his best when playing a character such as Wolf Larsen, a man who inflicts cruelties on his crew that are not at all pleasant. John Garfield has always had inside track we thought for the type of character that he portrays, a sort of carefree fellow without a worry in the world. This is one show that is drama, devoid of all trim-

(See DISTRACTIONS, Page 6)

## WHAT'S SHOWING

### AT THE CAMPUS SHOES

Saturday — "TIGHT SHOES," featuring John Howard, Binnie Barnes, and Brod Crawford.

Saturday prevue, Sunday, Monday — "THAT HAMILTON WOMAN," with Vivian Leigh, Laurence Olivier, and Alan Mowbray.

### AT THE ASSEMBLY HALL

Saturday — "THE SEA WOLF," starring Edward G. Robinson, Ida Lupino, and John Garfield.

Monday — "THE GREAT LIE," with Bette Davis, George Brent, and Mary Astor.

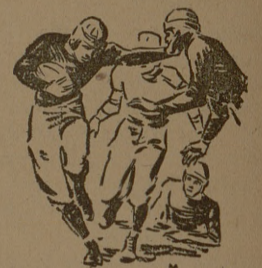
## Football Is Here

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# Assembly Hall

SATURDAY — 6:45 and 8:30

Jack London's Story

## Sea Wolf

With

EDWARD G. ROBINSON and IDA LUPINO

Also Mickey Mouse

COMING MONDAY

(One Day Only)

BETTE DAVIS — GEORGE BRENT

## The Great Lie

Selected Shorts