

# The Battalion

STUDENT TRI-WEEKLY NEWSPAPER  
 TEXAS A. & M. COLLEGE  
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## Unhealthy America

Half of America's manpower unfit for military service—this fact has been released by Selective Service officials.

Is the United States getting soft? With a possibility that American manpower may be called upon to see combat action in the future, it is of prime importance to see that the physical condition of this country is improved. The United States should have a much better physical record than this.

Such a finding as this might even underestimate the health of American manhood, since these draft rejections occurred among men whose ages extend from 21 to 35. Normally this should be the healthiest part of our national population. If this is indicative of the general state of health, then immediate efforts should be made to improve this nation's health standards.

More than 2,000,000 men have taken physical examinations after being called by their draft boards for service in the army. Of this number 1,000,000 have been found unfit to be soldiers. American health is evidently at fault when 900,000 of the men rejected have been called down because of poor health. An effort must be made to improve this condition, but unfortunately not much can be done at the present. The answer to this problem lies in a long range health program which would not permit such a situation to exist in the future.

Many of the men rejected might be classed as curables; 200,000 of the men rejected because of bad health could be made fit for military duty if proper medical treatment is made available. If proper treatment were given, these men could be called upon to defend this country. Most of the men who fall in this classification are suffering from ear, eye, nose, and throat ailments, bad teeth, hernia, and venereal diseases. These cases can be cured.

If the United States is to engage in actual conflict in World War II, then immediate efforts must be made to put American manpower in peak physical condition. An effort may be made now to treat many of these cases and make the men fit for military service. The real significance of the draft board findings is that it shows a need for a national health program which would extend over a long period of time. If our health standards are to be improved, then now is the logical time to introduce such a health program.

## War and Realism

More college papers have swung from the "arch isolationist" camp to the interventionist side this fall, a Time magazine survey this week reported. We do not doubt the accuracy of their conclusions; they were to be expected. But we think the survey came too late—the issue is dead.

We are an active participant in a war—an undeclared war. It is futile to argue any further, isolation or intervention. Action by the administration has taken the place of words.

It is not surprising that the isolationist has shifted since spring to the interventionist camp. His ground has been cut from beneath him, but not by logical reasoning. Specific acts—troops to Iceland, the Churchill-Roosevelt pact, the president's "shoot on sight" speech—have made the position of the isolationist untenable. He may still sincerely believe it is better to stay out of an European war; he can no longer argue logically this.

Still there are many who, knowing that isolationism is dead, refuse to swallow whole, as now presented, the talk of the interventionist. It is such a stand that we now must take.

We are in the war; we accept that. And being in, we feel we have a right to demand that the issues for which we may die and kill be made clear-cut and realistic. We feel we have the right to protest the government's "pussy-footing," as one senator has stated, into the war.

The policies of the government as to present and future actions should be made clear. They haven't. Instead, the movements of the administration on foreign questions are screened with clouds of words, secret diplomacy, political maneuvering. We have been placed in a position where there is no turning back. Why aren't we told what lies ahead?

Not as isolationist, nor as intervention-

ist, but as Americans we have a right to know these things. What are our relations with the British government? Is it an Anglo-American alliance, or an "association," as President Wilson termed it in the last war? If it is Anglo American, why don't we determine what English post-war aims are?

We do not demand knowledge of all the intricate so-called state secrets. We know that to be impossible and unwise. But as representatives of the group that will make up most of the second A. E. F., as part of the electorate that must be able to act intelligently if a representative form of government is to remain alive, as natives, by birth or naturalization, of a country that we love, moving into another war, we can ask: Where are we going? What do we hope to gain? Are we taking the road to war only as a last resort?

No, we no longer argue about whether we should enter the war. Now we must make it our duty to determine our direction. Many do not know where we are going—too many. —The Idaho Argonaut

## Quotable Quotes

"The number of high school teachers who come to us each summer, eager to take graduate work in journalism because they find themselves poorly prepared for responsibilities which have been thrust upon them by their school administrators, leads me to believe that we have here a very weak link in our teacher-training program." Kenneth E. Olson, dean of Medill school of journalism, Northwestern University, sees a need for sounder training of high school journalism teachers.

## Man, Your Manners

By I. Sherwood

John is in Professor and Mrs. Burton's home, making an evening call. The clock strikes ten—then the half-hour; he has been there since seven-thirty. Mrs. Burton looks at her husband, and she is thinking, "Will that young man ever leave?" The truth of the matter is, John wants to leave as much as they want him to, but he just doesn't know how to get away. Three times he has said, "Well, I ought to be going." Mrs. Burton should help him; she should say "Must you go," then walk toward the door; John would know that he really must go.

The Burtons like John very much, and they like to have him call, but John has far out-stayed his welcome.

Calls in faculty homes should not, as a general thing, last more than thirty minutes. When you have been invited for dinner, never stay longer than an hour after dinner, unless other entertainment has been provided. Avoid inconvenient times to call; if you find the family at the dinner table, offer an apology and take your leave.

When you call on a young lady and linger longer than a reasonable length of time, you may not be asked to call again; no young woman wishes to ask a visitor to leave.

Visits made without warning should be shorter than those by appointment. Arriving too early for a party or dinner is almost as bad as staying too late.

When you take leave from a party or dinner, your host and hostess and those nearest you are the only ones you need to tell goodbye.

Consideration and tact are the principal qualities of a gracious guest.

## The World Turns On

By Dr. J. H. Quisenberry

In recent years there has been much talk about "new orders" in various parts of the world. To many of these "new orders" have seemed nothing more than new people giving the orders.

One of the first so-called new orders for Europe was the "Russian Experiment" in which Communism was the excuse. Basically, the communistic way of life appears at its best if we assume all people to be alike genetically. Russia soon found this assumption to be unfounded. She attempted to compensate for this by legislating a new biological order, a new genetics.

"Classical genetics" according to the Russians, was old fashioned, out moded and ready for the discard, or to be left to the Democracies that could safely inculcate it into their political doctrines. Russia then attempted to solve her problems of plant and animal improvement by manipulation of the environment and by the declaration that Mendelism was a mistake.

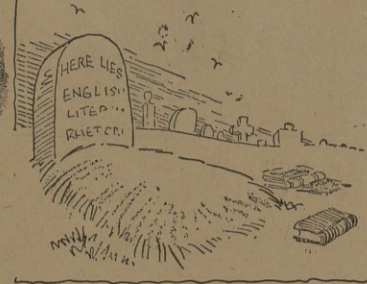
Naturally, the laws of heredity which show why no two individuals, with the possible exception of "identical twins," are likely to be born alike could not be stomached by a political philosophy which would work best when all individuals were born alike. For Mendelism, "Yarovization," "Vernalization," and such environmental approaches have been substituted. Several well known Russian geneticists who have insisted that the laws of heredity could not be repealed (even at the request of Dictator Joe) have suddenly been listed as "address unknown."

Russia today is fighting with Communism (each with an equal right to die) for her very life. If, through the help of the Allies, she can survive Russia will command a great deal of respect from the rest of the world. If Russia does not survive, the struggle must be continued by those who have a greater respect for fundamental natural laws.

## Kollegiate Kaleidoscope



ENGLISH LITERATURE AND RHETORIC USED TO ANNOY EARLY DAY BROWN UNIVERSITY STUDENTS. CONSEQUENTLY EACH YEAR THEY HELD A "JUNIOR BURIAL" AT WHICH ALL TEXTBOOKS ON THESE SUBJECTS WERE INTERRED WITH SUITABLE RITES!

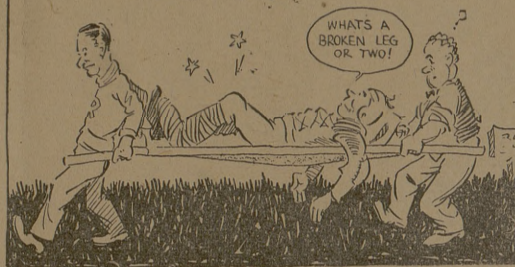


## JAPAN

SENT ITS FIRST WOMAN TO STUDY IN A FOREIGN COUNTRY TO THE STATE NORMAL SCHOOL AT SALEM, MASS. IN 1886!

## "I'D DIE FOR DEAR OLD RUTGERS"

FRANK K. (TOP) GRANT, NOW DECEASED, SPOKE THESE IMMORTAL WORDS AS HE WAS BEING CARRIED OFF THE FIELD WITH A BROKEN LEG DURING THE PRINCETON GAME IN 1892 -



## BACKWASH

BY Charlie Babcock

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

The Way Around . . . Football fans in Detroit are raving about the smart passing and heady playing of Walemon "Cotton" Price, the professional Detroit Lion quarterback . . . September issue of the Holland's carries the article, What College? Authored by Dr. Homer Rainey, Texas U. prexy, the story goes into great detail explaining the age-old subject of how to select a school for study . . . Attention William Rautenberg of Brockton, Massachusetts: Your requested program is on the way, but it is Texas A. & M. College—not TEXAS A. & M. UNIVERSITY! . . . Another short delay in the publication of the student directory. Amassing 7,000 names is no small task . . . Football signs are looking better each week. A united effort should be made to continue the improvement.



Results . . . If you want a date, advertise in the Fort Worth Star-Telegram! Coast Artillery freshman Wayne Townsend, was looking forward to the T. C. U. corps trip, but he had no prospect of a date for the weekend. Townsend invested his hopes in a classified ad in the Fort Worth paper the Sunday before the game.

He only wanted one date for the game and dance following, but it was a pleasant surprise when the advertisement reaped more than 60 replies. Townsend's choice was Barbara Van Zandt, 18, brunet daughter of Mrs. R. L. Van Zandt of Fort Worth. They went to the game in the Van Zandt automobile, later had dinner at the Van Zandt home and then went dancing.

Townsend wasn't selfish with his fortunate luck . . . he turned the other 59 applicants over to upperclassmen.

## Fast Work

Aggie Roy Pankey was driving to Dallas this past weekend. On the way, he narrowly averted an automobile wreck which involved the collision of two other cars.

While drivers of the other vehicles were calling each other cousins, Pankey merely walked over to the window of one of the machines and struck up a conversation with a young lady that could be more accurately described as a beautiful babe.

Talk became more intimate with every word and soon Pankey found himself processing through the rather tasteful task of asking for a Saturday evening date.

The young miss complied, and the Aggie reputation of being fast and smooth grew another root.

## This Collegiate World

—ACP—

Popeye has attained academic respectability. Students at Rockford, Illinois, are learning to sing about the exploits of the sailor man in Spanish. The tune found its way into the curriculum through the help of Professor Nicolas Percas, who first heard the song in his native Spanish home, and then found it equally popular in Venezuela, where he lived for two years before coming to this country.

The Popeye jingle is part of Percas' direct method of introducing Spanish to first-year students. A fourteenth century folk song is also in the repertoire of the Spanish students and during the year their instructor plans to teach the girls other songs illustrative of particular dialects used in different sections of Spain.

## -HONOR SOCIETY-

(Continued from Page 1)  
 T. Berry, Roland Bing, A. R. Boemer, L. C. Calloway, J. M. Carpenter, W. K. Clark, J. W. Gibson, J. F. Golden, J. M. Hefley, O. M. Holt, R. F. Keller, W. J. Lawler, T. W. Leonard, E. M. Rosenthal, Jack Taylor, D. C. Thurman, R. M. Warren, J. C. Wallace, E. D. Wilmeth, A. C. Yezak, M. R. Yezak, and G. C. Young.

Engineering  
 T. Ando, J. Barker, H. T. Chang, E. H. Copeland, R. A. Cook, E. G. Daughy, D. D. Echols, L. W. Fisher, D. S. Hammons, B. Hardie, M. D. Havlok, J. M. Holliday, R. D. Kenny, G. R. King, J. L. Lamberon, L. L. Manchester, Jr., M. A. Miller, G. Nassouer, H. C. Owen, R. B. Pearce, A. W. Sisson, F. A. Smitham, C. C. Sprinkle, M. H. Stevens, G. C. Summer, Louie Tomaso, J. L. Wilson, Paul Wolfe, Jr., R. E. Woodham, Jr.

Arts and Sciences  
 R. S. Crawford, A. B. Crimmins, T. S. Gillis, A. J. Landeau, G. D. Gabriel.

Veterinary Medicine  
 W. G. Aldridge, T. H. Coffey, Alex Grossman, V. C. Issac, E. L. Lapon, R. D. Macy, H. Shanzer, C. R. Tubbs.

## COVERING campus distractions

WITH TOM VANNOY

That slap-happy, screwy Bob Hope is at it once more. This time he's "CAUGHT IN THE DRAFT." This "aid to national defense" will be shown at Guion Hall today and tomorrow. With someone such as Dorothy Lamour to spur him on, Hope joins the army the hard way, via the draft.

All the way through the show the type of humor that has made Bob what he is today is just running all over the place. The glamorous Dottie decorates the screen more than ample on all occasions. Minus the sarong, she is an army officer's daughter, just an ordinary typical American girl once more.

The Draft Act is just about to be passed, and Hope is within the age limit. Like a drowning person catching for an escape from the inevitable, Hope seeks to catch himself a bride to keep himself out of Uncle Sam's army. Then he discovers that he is not within the age limits. So what does any sensible man try to do, but get out of the engagement. But what anyone would want to be "disengaged" from Lamour is more than we can understand. She calls him a coward; he resents it and vows to show what kind of stuff he has in him, by volunteering for enlistment.

Things go awry and he really does become a doughboy spending his days peeling potatoes, drilling, and reeling off those famous Hope remarks that always appear at just the right moment.

During maneuvers Bob makes only two major mistakes, but when the smoke clears, Dottie is all his

and we can't say that we don't envy him just a little.

Betty Grable, the blonde with the most perfect figure in Hollywood, is the outstanding attraction of "MILLION DOLLAR LEGS" as the eye-filling portion of the double-feature at the Campus today and tomorrow.

This is a story of college life as it is supposed to exist at an American co-ed university. The students make up a pot to bet on a horse-race. The reason for such doings as this is that winning a horse-race is the quickest way to get enough money to get funds for racing shells for the college crew team.

Quite naturally, Betty is the belle of the campus. The show is rather delightful entertainment and a welcome relief from the steady grind.

## WHAT'S SHOWING AT THE CAMPUS

Tuesday and Wednesday—"MILLION DOLLAR LEGS" with Betty Grable and Jackie Coogan. Also, "MEN AGAINST THE SKY," featuring Richard Dix and Wendy Barrie.

AT GUION HALL  
 Tuesday and Wednesday—"CAUGHT IN THE DRAFT" starring Bob Hope and Dorothy Lamour.

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 Private and Class Lessons in BALLROOM DANCING  
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GUION HALL  
 TUES. OCT. 21 — WED. OCT. 22

THE BIG LAUGH BLITZ OF 1941!  
 "CAUGHT IN THE DRAFT"  
 Starring BOB HOPE & DOROTHY LAMOUR  
 Also Richard Dix — Wendy Barrie  
 With Bing Crosby Short "SWING WITH BURG"  
 Showing All This Week Movietone's All American Football Team of 1940