

# The Battalion

STUDENT TRI-WEEKLY NEWSPAPER  
TEXAS A. & M. COLLEGE  
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## Open Forum

### Vital Problem Confronts The A&M Student Body

The cold light of dawn reveals another freshman gone. "He can't take it" is the consensus of his company. A student has difficulty in passing his work. "A playboy," murmur his professors with Greek chorus precision.

The company Polly Anna develops moroseness and a biting repartee. "Hm, not as pleasant a fellow as we thought," agree his self-righteous critics. "Eighteen per cent of student body on Dean's team," a Battalion headline says. "A crying shame," protest disappointed parents.

#### Growing A. & M. Problem

There has been a growing problem which, while not necessarily limited to A. & M., should be of vital concern to the students, faculty, and administration here because by its elimination we could increase the efficiency of turning out normal, well-trained graduates.

Is it not strange that an institution that is interested in administering large knowledge doses makes no provision for the proper mental functioning of the assimilating mechanism? In full justice, this has not been the result of deliberate ostrich-like evasion, but of insufficient recognition that such a need exists.

We need a special department which is composed of men trained in human relationships to take care of the mental welfare of the corps. Its function would be to ease the strain between the student and his environment. The department could investigate all delinquent cases, all working students, and all cases under undue mental strain so that proper influence could be exerted to insure good mental attitudes and freedom from various types of worry. All the staff members need not be psychiatrists, although one surely should be on the staff.

"But is such a department really needed?" you might ask. Two cases, extremes perhaps, may be cited as proof that such a department is needed.

Some years ago a student saw fit to destroy himself because of financial difficulties. Perhaps no solution could have been worked out, but there were strong possibilities.

#### Care in Treatment

Another student entered a department office one night and began to wreck the furnishings, before he was caught and held by a night watchman. When the head of the department came, he exhibited rare judgment. He told the student to go to his room, but to come by and see him the next day. During the subsequent interview the department head dragged to light a persecution complex. An adjustment of classes and some thought cleared a situation which could have been disastrous for the student.

We admit a failure when we permit a student to return to his home without benefit of any attempts to help. His problems do not magically cease with the purchase of a railroad ticket. No one can expect a student to step from the debris of a short-lived college career with the equanimity of a dime novel hero. Humans reach greatness because we are a bundle of failings, not because of Victorian attributes.

#### All Male Enrollment Problem

The isolation of our campus, an all-male enrollment and our dormitory set-up contribute to a system which is far from normal. It is inconceivable to believe that students can be torn from a great number of varied environments and plopped down under such a system without numefous casualties unless some provisions are taken. As students, we are taking the "break or make" tradition too close to our hearts. The fact that we have so many "breaks" in proportion to "makes" is criticism enough. We should give more consideration to the "break" proposi-

tion. There is no basic reason for the majority of resignations which cannot be corrected.

#### Student Failures

Recently a large number of students have returned home because they failed to pass the required number of hours. There still are students on the campus, who have failed in one or more subjects. What is the reason behind these failures? Native intelligence?

While a correlation may be drawn between high school grades and subsequent grades in college, there is sufficient variation to assume that factors other than studying may be also causative. Admittedly, all low grades are the result of insufficient studying except in rare cases, but the crux of the matter may be traced to those factors influencing studying other than sheer laziness. The student may be in an impossible situation, such as living off the campus and depending on catch rides to college, or excessive financial worries. True, if the student is unable to make high enough grades to stay in college, he should be sent home, but he should have had the opportunity to try under optimum conditions.

#### Corps Cooperation Needed

But the establishment of such a department as mentioned would not be successful unless it had the fullest co-operation of the corps. Under no circumstances should the student feel under any social ostracism for patronizing such a service, nor must he feel any shame to admitting a problem. He must feel that the department was established for his benefit and must feel free at all times to discuss any problem which may hamper him. He must feel assured that his discussions will be treated with full confidence and sincerity. He must realize that the welfare of a sane society rests on a well-adjusted membership.

Somehow and somewhere, the germ that will create such a department is lying dormant. By sufficient exertion it may be made to blossom. Think it over.

V. A. Yentzen, '42

## Quotable Quotes

"The present world turmoil is a phase in the evolution of an epi-organism, or world state, because two important problems are not yet solved. One has to do with the progressive extension of the integrating forces of society, and their product, namely altruism, loyalty and the feeling of being part of even larger groups. Consequently there will be an ever greater scale of conflicts between groups and nations until one all-encompassing group integration is achieved. The second problem concerns leadership. Mechanisms for selecting the leaders in present human societies are still extremely primitive and subject to serious breakdown." Dr. Ralph W. Gerard, University of Chicago physiologist, predicts a world state will evolve as a biological certainty just as the parts of the human body are integrated.

## The World Turns On

By Dr. R. W. Steen

Two interesting articles appeared on the same day early this week. One was a translation from a German military magazine which proved in a most scientific manner that the Russian army was made up of 10,000,000 men. The other was a report from the German news agency that Russian losses in the war, killed, wounded and captured, now number more than 10,000,000 men. This is all a bit puzzling, for available reports indicate that there are at least a few Russians holding the lines west of Moscow while others have just succeeded in driving the Nazis out of Rostov in one of the few reverses suffered by the German army in this war.

The United States and Japan are engaged in an all out war of nerves. The situation is serious in the extreme, and actual warfare might result at any time. The Japanese have much to worry about. The people of this island empire have suffered greatly because of the war with China, and a war with the United States would mean also war with Britain. The Japanese can find little encouragement in the constant arrival at Singapore of men and supplies, while the arrival in the far east of several additional British warships was certainly not welcome news to the Japanese.

In spite of the odds against them the Japanese may decide to fight. They place great store in what they term their honor, and the economic isolation which has been forced upon them is damaging in the extreme. In choosing between war and economic strangulation they may decide upon war as the lesser evil.

The last Italian outpost in Ethiopia surrendered a few days ago. The surrender brings to mind the bombastic outburst made by Mussolini in 1936 when he modestly stated to the Italian people: "Our peace, the Pax Romana, is expressed in this simple, irrevocable, final statement: Ethiopia is Italy's. The head of the Government and the Ras, defeated and fleeing, count no longer. No forge in the world will ever be able to make them count again." That statement was made five years ago, and Mussolini has doubtless learned that a great many things can happen in five years.

## PRIVATE BUCK . . . By Clyde Lewis



"You don't catch me sleeping, Sarge. I'm all set for this 'gorilla' warfare I been hearing about!"

## BACKWASH

BY Charlie Babcock

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

### Turnstile Click

According to a recent survey made by the Associated Press, every Southwest Conference school, excepting Rice, showed an increase in total number of fans attending home football games this past season in comparison with 1940.

A. & M. was host to 97,784 customers at five games, while in 1940, it was only 84,036 for a like number of contests. However, the Aggies had to be content with the third spot in the conference, first and second places going to Texas and Rice, respectively.

Texas footballers played before 135,000 fans in five games, compared to 106,000 customers in four games the year before. Rice dropped from 115,000 in seven games in 1940 to 100,000 in six games this fall.

### World Premier

John Kimbrough's appearance in Houston Thursday night, both on the screen and on the stage, caused many to recollect fond memories of the big boy when he was jarrin' his way to fame on the gridiron.

The Kirby theater officials hung out the "standing room only" sign at the first performance, with a large number of the capacity audience being young boys and girls who came to watch their hero perform. Many Aggies were in the crowd, but it remained for the witticisms of the adolescent group to supply the color of the occasion.

In one scene where John was running across roof tops to capture one of the many villains, a voice, apparently from a girl about ten, shrilled, "Oh Daddy, look at John Kimbrough running just like he did in the game." That pretty well sums up young America's conception of Big John as a Texas Ranger.

A short program was held on the stage before the first show. The master of ceremonies read several congratulatory telegrams from friends who could not be present, and among those were ones from Dr. T. O. Walton, Aggie Backfield Coach Marty Karow, and Governor Coke Stevenson, all of whom wished Kimbrough success in his new field.

Then Kimbrough came on the stage. He smiled and thanked the audience for coming. Then, he looked down at the first couple of rows and spotted a fellow who had gone to school with him, John M. Arendale, a deaf mute. Big John thanked the deaf boy for coming. Arendale couldn't hear him, but he understood by reading Kimbrough's lips.

### Records

If the Aggies hadn't had Texas university on the football schedule during the past five years, it would be able to boast of the finest record in football for that period.

As it is, A. & M. must be content with fifth place among the nation's grid powers in the way of games won and lost during the past half-decade.

The AP ranked the first five teams in America as follows:

Team	W	L	T	Pct	For	Ag
Duke	40	6	1	.870	1042	199
Tennessee	45	7	1	.865	1208	196
Fordham	32	6	3	.842	804	214
Notre Dame	35	7	2	.833	683	292
A. & M.	37	8	3	.822	902	253

### Idaho Cows Travel In Style—in Trailers

Idaho has four dairy herd improvement association testers operating from comfortable and well-equipped trailers. In one end of the trailer is a compact and efficient milk-testing laboratory. The trailer is so wired that when it arrives at a farm it can be connected with the power system. A small motor runs the testing machine and an electric plate heats the necessary water.

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**JEWELRY**  
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The one gift that is lasting and there is nothing your sweetheart, wife or girl friend would like better than a gift of jewelry.

BRACELETS — LOCKETS — COMPACTS  
With Aggie Seal  
DIAMOND RINGS — SILVERWARE  
WATCHES

**C. W. VARNER, Jeweler**

North Gate Bryan

## COVERING campus distractions

WITH TOM VANNOY

The aerial battles in "A YANK IN THE R.A.F." are authentic, Red Skelton makes his debut and were filmed over Germany, France, and England with the full cooperation of the British Air Ministry. The picture stars, Tyrone Power, Betty Grable, and John Sutton and will be shown at the Campus tomorrow and Monday.

In addition to the battle scene, interest in the story is kept from lagging by the struggle between Tyrone and John for the favored spot in Betty's heart. It all adds up to make an excellent motion picture that really lets the American public know how the war is being fought.

Betty is in a role that fits her fairly well, that of a night-club entertainer, with plenty of chances to make the most of dancing and eye-filling figure. Tyrone ferries a bomber to England from the States and runs into Betty with whom he was acquainted here. He enlists in the R. A. F. and complications set in.

A light bit of romantic drama in a vivid tropical slash of technicolor is "ALOMA OF THE SOUTH SEAS" at Guion Hall tonight. Any mention of romance in the South Seas should immediately bring to mind Dorothy Lamour of the famed sarong. Costarred with her is John Hall.

The story behind the picture is not a whole lot as far as importance goes, but the scenery overcomes almost all the difficulties that this would entail. If it weren't for technicolor, there just wouldn't be anything at all to "Aloma of the South Seas." In order to enjoy it, such things as consistency, dialogue, situations, and performances must be overlooked. This is just one more in Dottie's long string of

**Campus**  
4-1181

LAST DAY  
**"UNEXPECTED UNCLE"**

PREVUE TONIGHT  
11:00 P. M.  
SUNDAY — MONDAY

**TYRONE POWER**  
**"A YANK IN THE R.A.F."**  
**BETTY GRABLE**

Plus  
World Today — News  
Cartoon

COMING SOON  
**JOHN KIMBROUGH**  
in ZANE GREY'S  
**LONE STAR RANGER**

**GUION HALL**  
—MOVIE—  
SATURDAY — 1 P. M. Only

**Whistling in the Dark**  
with  
**Red Skelton & Conrad Veidt**

SATURDAY — 6:45 & 8:30

LOVE PRIZE OF THE ISLANDS!  
**DOROTHY LAMOUR**  
**JOHN HALL**

**"ALOMA OF THE SOUTH SEAS"**  
Paramount's music-filled thrill spectacle  
in glowing  
**TECHNICOLOR!**  
A Paramount Picture with  
**LYNNE OVERMAN - PHILIP REED - KATHERINE DE MILLE**  
**FRITZ LEIBER - DONA DRAKE** - Directed by ALFRED SANTILLI

Selected Shorts

**WHAT'S SHOWING AT THE CAMPUS**  
Saturday — "UNEXPECTED UNCLE," with Anne Shirley, Charles Coburn, and James Craig.  
Saturday prevue, Sunday, Monday — "A YANK IN THE R.A.F.," starring Tyrone Power, Betty Grable, and John Sutton.  
**AT GUION HALL**  
Saturday, 1 p. m. — "WHISTLING IN THE DARK," with Red Skelton and Conrad Veidt.  
Saturday, 6:45, 8:30 — "ALOMA OF THE SOUTH SEAS," featuring Dorothy Lamour and John Hall.  
Monday — "FOOTLIGHT FEVER," with Alan Murray and Donald MacBride.

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**QUEEN**

A. & M.'s  
All-American  
Kimbrough  
Crashes Into The Movies  
As The  
**"LONE STAR RANGER"**

★  
Sunday  
Monday  
Tuesday

★  
Dec. 7, 8, 9  
★