

# 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: 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 4-6444.

1941 Member 1942  
Associated Collegiate Press

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## Something to Read

By Dr. T. F. Mayo

### Biology for Engineers

I say "for engineers" because of the well-known fact that all Ag. and Veterinary Medicine students and Liberal Arts know all about biology anyhow. Since there is no biology, however, in the engineering curriculum, it occurred to me that it might not be a bad idea for you engineers to do a little reading on your own account in this field. After all, you are a member of the animal kingdom, too, along with the rest of us. When all is said and done, even a civil engineer is a form of organic life, and ought therefore to know something about organic life as a whole. I have accordingly asked an obliging graduate assistant in biology to compile the following list of good books on biological subjects which laymen can read with ease and profit. Here they are (thanks to Mr. Weaver!):

Julian Huxley's "Man Stands Alone" and "Essays of a Biologist."

Hans Zinsser's "Rate, Lice, and History" and "As I Remember Him."

J. B. S. Haldane's "Heredity and Politics." Schienfeld's "You and Heredity."

Wheeler's "Fables of Insects and Men." Maeterlink's "The Life of the Bee."


Fabre's "Social Life in the Insect World." De Kruijff's "Microbe Hunters and The Fight for Life."

Sinclair Lewis's "Arrowsmith" (a novel which contains some good biology).

## Kollegiate Kaleidoscope

**MAJ. GEORGE MASON**

GRADUATED FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN AT THE AGE OF 93! AT 21 HE WAS WITHIN A FEW WEEKS OF RECEIVING HIS DEGREE WHEN HE ENLISTED IN THE CIVIL WAR. HE WAS PRESENTED WITH HIS SHEEPSKIN 72 YEARS LATER!



**ALEXANDER WOLLCOTT**

WAS NEARLY VOTED OUT OF HIS FRATERNITY BECAUSE HE INSISTED ON WEARING A RED FEZ AROUND THE HOUSE. SIX - HAMILTON COLLEGE.

*Not a!*

**DE-PANTSING**

AT ARMOUR TECH (CHICAGO) ALL FRESHMEN REFUSING TO WEAR GREEN CAPS ARE STRIPPED OF THEIR PANTS AND REQUIRED TO WALK IN SUCH A STATE TO ALL CLASSES DURING THE DAY!

## BACKWASH

By Charlie Babcock

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

**Open Letter to Five "Aggies":**

We call you Aggies, but we're not so sure of it—don't believe the other 6000 Aggies will be either after they hear the story.

The scene was Saturday morning at the East Gate, and you five were down near the bottom of a line of nearly fifty waiting for rides to Houston. A station wagon came by and offered rides to Houston for two bits. Then, before the first several men could even grab their bags, you fellas jumped in the automobile and refused to get out.



Babcock

Wasn't exactly what you would consider "cricket," was it? Especially since some of those first in line had been waiting for several hours. Especially since two of you were seniors, two were juniors, and one a sophomore and being classified as such, should know better. Especially since such procedure isn't a part of the A. & M. code of honor and ethics!

Your actions of last Saturday are inexcusable. In fact, you don't belong at A. & M. You have come to this campus like saboteurs and during your stay will destroy some of the traditions and beliefs which A. & M. men have sheltered for years. Well, you've stayed long enough. Those who have weaned and slaved in the interest of this school will be glad to see you go.

War is going to do its share in the destruction of many Aggie principles. So, there is no place for other destroyers. YOU JUGGERNAUTS CAN LEAVE!

### Red Cross

If it's a good cause you're looking for and you want to do your part, then don't pass up the Aggies' Second Annual Charity grid battle on Kyle Field Saturday afternoon at 2:30.

The players and the sponsors have been working hard the past week to make the attraction a successful one. Proceeds above the bare expenses of the game will go to the Red Cross.

Do your part and give!

### Esprit de Teasippers

Over Austin way, the T. U. boys are hastily making efforts to answer Uncle Sam's call for men in his armed service.

It's really an all-out example that the Longhorns are setting. Numbered among the major student office-holders leaving to join the military ranks are: Fred Nieman, student body president; Ben Kaplan, associate editor of The Daily Texan; and W. L. Harper, editor of The Texas Ranger.

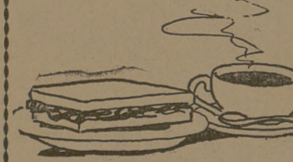
## Random Remarks

By E. M. Rosenthal

Don't let 'em kid ya; A college education does pay. In fact a college degree or at least several years of higher learning is the prerequisite for almost every job offered other than W.P.A. positions, and even W.P.A. positions reportedly must boast more than high school training. But the joker hits pretty near home. According to local hack hell drivers, a Bryan ordinance requires that all cab operators must have at least 60 hours of college work. Who knows? This might prompt the school to offer Taxi Driving 101 at the beginning of the fish year and teach Taxi Backing 102 the second semester.

Leon Henderson said a vehicle would be issued new tires if it carried as many as ten people. This gives the taxi officials of the Bryan-College runs new hopes for getting the precious rubber because they claim to have been hauling on the average of ten per load for years. . . . And speaking of national defense, the army has decided on another change from the old style. Uncle Sam's khaki clad are going to abandon sam brownies and garrison caps, and replace them with air corps type cloth belts and over seas caps. Sabers and campaign hats have already sung their swan song. Before the end of the year it is very likely to see the same ideas put

TRY  
A  
SANDWICH &  
HOT DRINK



**CASEY'S**

In The  
"Y"  
★

## COVERING campus distractions

WITH TOM VANNOY

Gloria Swanson makes her return to the screen after an absence of some ten years in "FATHER TAKES A WIFE," with Adolphe Menjou as "Father" at the campus today. The Mothers Club of the A. & M. Consolidated High School is sponsoring the picture as the first in the new series of Thursday benefit shows at the Campus.

The story takes up the matter of a retired businessman, Adolphe Menjou, who falls in love with an actress, Gloria Swanson. The man's son and daughter-in-law are the staid, one-track sort of persons who can't conceivably feature their father falling in love at his age. Their efforts to prevent the marriage and the father's efforts to go through with it go toward making up a dandy little story that is amusing no end.

In the line of sophisticated comedy is the motion picture at Guion Hall today and tomorrow, "WHEN LADIES MEET." The cast alone is almost enough to ensure its worthiness to be called a super-show with such names as Robert Taylor, Joan Crawford, Greer Garson, Herbert Marshall and Spring Byington.

Joan is an authoress in love with Herbert Marshall who happens to be very securely married to Greer Garson. Taylor comes into the picture as the guy in love with Joan. Acting honors for the

### WHAT'S SHOWING

AT GUION HALL  
Thurs., Friday—"WHEN LADIES MEET," starring Joan Crawford, Robert Taylor, and Greer Garson.

AT THE CAMPUS  
Thursday—"FATHER TAKES A WIFE," with Gloria Swanson and Adolphe Menjou.

Friday, Sat.—"NIGHT OF JANUARY 16," featuring Ellen Drew and Robert Preston.

## Campus

4-1181

TODAY ONLY  
Benefit Show For The A. & M. Consolidated School Mother's Club.

Glamorous Gloria Returns!

ADOLPHE MENJOU  
GLORIA SWANSON  
At Their Best

FATHER TAKES A WIFE  
RKO RADIO

Also  
Popular Science - Cartoon - Sports  
FRIDAY - SATURDAY

Paramount presents  
**"THE NIGHT OF JANUARY 16"**

With  
Robert Preston - Ellen Drew  
Also  
Donald Duck Cartoon - Sports News

**PALACE**

**HELLZAPOPPIN**  
OLSEN and JOHNSON



**MARTHA RAYE**  
HUGH HERBERT  
MISCHA AUER  
JANE FRAZEE  
ROBERT PAIGE  
30 CONGROOS

Thursday - Friday - Saturday  
Preview 11 P. M. Saturday Night  
GRETA GARBO - MELVYN DOUGLAS  
in  
**"TWO-FACED WOMAN"**  
Also Shown Sunday - Monday

Movie  
**GUION HALL**

THURSDAY & FRIDAY  
3:30 & 6:45  
Joan Crawford - Robert Taylor  
Greer Garson  
in  
**When Ladies Meet**  
NEWS - CARTOON - COMEDY  
COMING SATURDAY  
1 P. M.—Richard Arlen - Jean Parker  
**Flying Blind**  
6:45 & 8:30—Merle Oberon - Melvyn Douglas  
**That Uncertain Feeling**

## Uncalled-for Exams

### Profs Are Bucking Leader's Desires

Last Tuesday's Battalion carried an editorial showing how one hour extra exams which are in reality quasi-finals would over tax the already burdened student. It was pointed out that at the time the average Aggie had nine major quizzes to take in the remaining nine days of school and that there wasn't time to prepare for additional work.

Yet some professors as well as a few entire departments fail to recognize the facts and continue to schedule additional work to make up for the cancelled finals. True, a great many instructors have seen the light and called off recent announced exams, but there has been an increase of new offenders who do not recognize the gravity of the present situation. These new offenders admittedly say if they can "get away" with giving an extra exam they are going to do it. This is childish and far below the high standards A. & M. professors are known to hold.

With the regularly scheduled final examinations cancelled by the Board of Directors on the recommendation of the academic council and the executive committee every instructor, assistant professor, and professor who has announced extra work should realize that he is not conforming with the spirit the leaders of our institution desire to see. These leaders as well as most of the deans have unofficially declared that the students have sufficient work to do while rounding out regular class work, and extra finals should not be given since they would in general lower grade averages because there is not sufficient time to devote to additional work.

If those men have planned to give one hour finals can not see how extra work is harmful and unfair they should cancel this work on another justification, that justification being to do what their leaders and the students' leaders desire to see done.

—E. M. R.

Among all the diseases of the mind there is not one more epidemic or more pernicious than the love of flattery.

—Sir Richard Steele

## Settle Down, Ole Army

The past few days have been momentous ones for A. & M., and quite naturally they have been exciting ones too. With one bold stroke, the administrative officials of the college and the Board of Directors have streamlined the entire college program so that A. & M. may play a greater part in the nation's war effort.

This has been a sudden change and its effects have been rather peculiar. No final examinations at first may seem a godsend, but for some students they might possibly prove to be a chance of passing a course. However, it would be a practical impossibility for many of the students and grossly unfair to them if the regularly scheduled letter quizzes take on the aspects of being comprehensive final examinations squeezed into a one hour period.

It just can't be done. This is one of the many problems that the new ruling has thrust upon the corps and the faculty of the college. By the close of the next semester all college courses should be adjusted so that a final exam would be unnecessary.

Right now the solution seems to be for the corps to settle down and do their best on the coming letter quizzes. We must realize that this change has been made because the United States is at war, and that A. & M. desires to do all that it can in support of that war. There have been many changes in the past few days. Undoubtedly there will be many more changes. The cadet corps must accept these and do its best to adjust itself at this time.

## Quotable Quotes

"This man is not free if he cannot read or write or speak. He must be able to communicate with his fellows, express his ideas, criticize theirs, if he is never critical, he soon will be in chains. If we are to have a nation of free men we must have a nation that is at home in the world of ideas, a nation well-informed, a nation able to profit from the lessons of history, a nation that does not shrink from critical thought, a nation that reflects on ends or will or means. Freedom cannot be purchased like paint. It cannot be acquired over-night. The development of intellectual power comes only by long and close association with other minds. It requires much practice."— Dr. William P. Tolley, president of Allegheny college, points to basic requisites for freedom.

## The World Turns On

By A. F. Chalk

The current fiscal prospects of the Federal government are not as bright as some commentators would have us believe. The situation is by no means critical, but it is rather obvious that political considerations are likely to govern too many of the fiscal policies adopted by our national legislators. There is increasing evidence that the election next year is to have a very important influence on the voting relative to taxation and price-control measures.

The debt and taxation prospects for the fiscal year 1943 (July 1, 1942 to July 1, 1943) may be summarized briefly. The present annual tax program is yielding approximately \$14,000,000,000, and the plan is to increase the annual federal tax income to \$23,000,000,000. The forthcoming tax legislation will, therefore, have to raise an additional revenue of some \$9,000,000,000. The proposed expenditures for the 1943 fiscal year are \$59,000,000,000. This would result in an addition to the national debt of about \$33,000,000,000 during the next fiscal year. This addition to the debt would bring the total indebtedness of the Federal government in July 1, 1943 to \$105,000,000,000, which is almost one third of the estimated national wealth.

It must be borne in mind that this figure of \$105,000,000,000 is conditioned by two basic assumptions. The first is that the government will actually be able to spend \$56,000,000,000 during the next fiscal year. Congress can authorize the expenditure of such a huge sum, but it is possible that our potential production of war materials during that period of time will not be sufficiently large to permit the expenditure of such a huge sum. The second assumption is that congress will actually pass a tax measure which will yield the \$9,000,000,000 asked for by the President.

In any event, the size of our national debt will likely exceed the hundred billion mark within 18 months from the present date. With that fact well in mind, one can begin to better appreciate the probable future debt if the war continues for some considerable time in the future. If the conflict should continue for three or four years, a national debt approximating 200 billions is a very real possibility. The only way to curtail the size of such a debt is to inaugurate a tax program even more drastic than that the government is now contemplating. Sales of defense bonds will help prevent inflation, but it doesn't help solve the long-run problem of the Federal debt. It should be remembered that a debt of \$200,000,000,000 would necessitate the payment of at least \$5,000,000,000 in interest each year. Such a carrying charge as this would make it extremely difficult to retire any of the principal through taxation, and it would be well for us to avoid getting ourselves into such a position if at all possible.