

# The Battalion

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

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## The Least We Can Do

Loyal and true Americans, men willing to do the utmost for the good of democracy and their country—this has been the light in which A. & M. graduates and students have been looked upon and in which they have looked at themselves since 1876 when Gathright first swung open its doors. The acid test of 1917 and 1918 proved this to be the full truth.

Today another situation has arisen which will again put A. & M. men to the acid test. Little doubt is in anyone's mind what the result will be.

But to be prepared fully for this test in the short time available, to be ready morally, mentally, and physically, some changes have been deemed necessary by the college authorities. These changes may cost the sacrifice of personal pleasures and conveniences, but this is little enough to give up in the face of national emergency.

The President of the United States asked that every person build himself up mentally and physically to the fullest extent so that the nation as a whole be ready for any eventuality. Our new program and yesterday's action by the executive committee is A. & M.'s answer to this request.

There is another reason for this change. A. & M. is considered one of the Nation's foremost developers of military leaders. Now, our school is expected to continue the development of officers to an even greater extent than it has in the past. Aggies are now supposed to be the finished product, and this goal cannot be attained unless definite changes are made in the military routine of life at Aggieland.

Some students may feel the pinch of the sacrifices, but if these men are true Aggies and true Americans they will not complain. No, their action will be the opposite for they know that nothing is too great a sacrifice for the good of the American way of life.

THE UNITED STATES IS AT WAR!

*I know no method to secure the repeal of bad or obnoxious laws so effective as their stringent execution.*  
—Ulysses Grant.

## Publications Will Carry On

Heartening news to the cadet corps was the action taken Monday by the Student Activities Board when it adopted a broad policy of maintaining student publications on a 12 month basis.

As the college prepared to enter into a streamlined educational program for the duration of the war, it became apparent that every effort must be made to insure that college life would continue uninterrupted. The June-October session must be considered by all as a regular session and not a glorified summer school.

The Activities Board recognized this fact when it adopted a 12 month policy for all publications. Specific provision was made that The Battalion would continue as a tri-weekly publication. Within the past four years, The Battalion has emerged from a weekly paper into a tri-weekly, and the board realized that this policy should be continued.

Of vital importance to all members of graduating classes during the emergency was the announcement that each graduating class would have a Longhorn. Eventually this may mean a great deal of readjustment for the yearbook, but the publications office will make every effort to see that every senior will have a Longhorn.

Present plans also call for the publication of The Battalion Magazine as well as the college's two technical publications, The Agriculturist and The Engineer. These also have come to play a very important role in student activities on the A. & M. campus.

Members of the board should be commended on their far-sightedness in providing for the continuation of these student activities.

## Something to Read

By Dr. T. F. Mayo

**Reading in War Time**  
The most important thing in war time, it seems to me, is to remember that war time will not last forever. Wars are short; history is long.

Of course, while it lasts, the war and its demands must take precedence of everything else. We are in a fight, and in a fight you must win—or else. Fortunately for us, we have a good cause to fight for, and a good chance to win if we buckle down and try.

Also fortunately for us, we have history on our side: That is, if we should lose, the current of history would be violently diverted from the course which it has been following for three hundred years. If we win, we shall simply be keeping open the channel through which the stream of history can go on flowing in the same direction, in the direction which for three centuries has been the normal one, in the direction of more freedom, a greater degree of equality of opportunity, more decency and kindness and intelligence in the relations between man and man.

There are two great dangers. One is that we may not win; but we are aroused at last, and we can win. The other danger is less obvious: It is that in our intense concentration on winning we may lose sight of what we are fighting for, of the grand historical tendencies mentioned above: toward more freedom, more social justice, more decency and kindness and intelligence. It is to avoid this danger that you are urged to read in war time at least some of the great sober books which most fully express these grand historical tendencies which we are fighting to maintain.

For one thing, try re-reading the Four Gospels in the New Testament. After all, the Sermon on the Mount will continue to influence human development long after Mein Kampf is enshrined in a historical Chamber of Horrors. And while you have your Bible open, read the Book of Job and Esther and Ruth.

Then read one or two of the great novels of the world: Dostoevsky's *The Brothers Karamazov* is about as great as any of them. Without shutting his eyes to any evil whatsoever, the author leaves you with a sense of the dignity of man, and of the continuity and upward trend of his history. Even a humorous novel like Fielding's *Tom Jones* somehow makes you better satisfied to belong to the same species which includes Mussolini. Somerset Maugham's *Of Human Bondage* deals with problems which will interest young men much longer than tanks and Stukas.

*Praise, like gold and diamonds, owes its value only to its scarcity.*

—Samuel Johnson

## The World Turns On

By A. F. Chalk

It will be interesting to observe the reaction of Congress to the recommendations of the President concerning the pending tax program. Many politicians have expressed belief that the "feathers must be plucked where it will hurt the least." This familiar technique of political feather plucking is utilized most frequently before an election year, and the present crisis may not cause any material change in this traditional procedure.

One of the most violent debates will probably occur when the problem of the sales tax is considered. It is commonly recognized that a sales tax is not an equitable form of taxation, because it does not conform to the widely-accepted "ability to pay" principle of taxation. Most congressmen are well aware of this fact, but many of them will be willing to vote for such a tax. These votes will ostensibly be cast for reasons of expediency—the theory being that it is better to use any method which will yield large revenues without causing great political repercussions. The President as expressed opposition to a sales tax but it is generally believed that he would accept such a measure without anything more than a mild protest.

The question arises as to what the sources of additional revenue will be if the sales tax is not adopted. The President has suggested that \$2,000,000,000 be raised by increasing Social Security taxes. The remaining \$7,000,000,000 are, according to his proposal, to be raised primarily by means of increases in excess profits taxes, personal income taxes, and most of the existing excise taxes.

This \$9,000,000,000 tax program will appear to be very severe, but the fact is that it should not be looked upon as a final tax measure. With an estimated deficit of \$33,000,000,000 for the coming fiscal year (assuming the pending \$9,000,000,000 tax bill is enacted) it can readily be seen that taxes are likely to go even higher in the near future.

Within a relatively short period of time, we will likely utilize more fully the excess profits tax and most of the excise taxes. The need for additional revenue will be so great that a general sales tax will have an excellent chance of being adopted for the duration of the war. In addition to these tax increases, there will very likely be instituted a form of forced savings comparable to that used in England. We should make every effort to try to curtail the vastly increased purchasing power of the people, because the supply of consumer goods is diminishing at a rapid pace. The only alternative is to permit a rapid rise in the general price level.

## Kollegiate Kaleidoscope



**BACKWASH** BY Charlie Babcock  
"Backwash: An agitation resulting from some action or occurrence."—Webster

### Cinema Record

Capitalizing on a most timely appearance before the public eye, "Sergeant York," Warners' biographical film of the greatest hero of World War I, is topping all Houston movie records, according to the latest reports from theater officials in that city.

Sergeant York is now in its seventh consecutive week in the down-state metropolis, having played three weeks at Majestic and then four at the Kirby. It will be held over at least through this week at the Kirby.

Setting a record also in the number of movie fans who have seen this stirring picturization of the life of a true American, "Sergeant York," through last Friday night, had played to 99,673 paid admissions.

### Leg Leather

Juniors are wondering whether the customary senior boots will be generally accepted as dress wear for four-year men next scholastic year.

Let's quote the facts. Through Tuesday, nearly two hundred pair of boots had been ordered by prospective seniors from the two leading boot makers, Holick and Luchese.

That seems to be a strong indication that boots will retain their traditional popularity with seniors.

### Mailbag

Our usually empty P. O. box produced a letter the other day from a certain member of the Class of '45.

The fish began his letter with: "In your column in The Battalion, you are persistently trying to boost Aggie tradition and honesty."

## This Collegiate World

—ACP—

"Sleep late, and let the Mercury Book Service return your overnight reserve books to any campus library before 9 a.m."

That is the appeal being made by two enterprising Brown university students who are setting up a book returning service—for a price, of course.

The entrepreneurs, Vincent J. Luca and William P. Saunders, figure that many students would rather pay a nickel to be sure their books are returned on time than pay the library's fine of 10 cents for every 15 minutes that a reserve book is overdue.

With an average of 450 reserve books on overnight loan during the week, at the Providence, R. I., school, Luca and Saunders can make a maximum of \$22.50 a week.

Well, here's another of those 'examples'.

The Aggie goes on with his case by stating that he left his green and white jacket in the automobile of a Tyler Aggie while highwaying home Christmas. The freshman had his name on the inside of the jacket and can't understand why it hasn't been returned.

Perhaps the Tyler Aggie doesn't feel obligated to remember the fish's name, since the fish didn't remember his. But that isn't the right attitude. More than likely the Tyler Aggie is like thousands of other cadets—lazy—and just hasn't taken time out to return it.

At any rate, anyone knowing the whereabouts of the jacket could restore a freshman's faith in the human race by returning it to the owner—Fish Huff, F-7 Walton.

FOR A GOOD NEAT HAIRCUT You Just Can't Beat the Y.M.C.A. BARBER SHOP OLD "Y"

Movie **GUION HALL**  
THURSDAY & FRIDAY — 3:30 & 6:45  
**The Chocolate Soldier**  
With Nelson Eddy and Rise Stevens  
News — "The Flying Bear" — Comedy

## COVERING campus distractions WITH TOM VANNOY

For something in the upper realm of entertainment don't miss seeing "THE CHOCOLATE SOLDIER," at Guion Hall today or tomorrow. Nelson Eddy and Rise Stevens have been starred in one of the year's best musical shows. Miss Stevens makes her debut in motion pictures from the stage of the Metropolitan Opera and it seems that this will not be her last picture either. She has great possibilities as a motion picture star as well as an outstanding performer in the opera.

"THE GAY FALCON" is the

feature to be shown at the Campus today. George Sanders and Wendy Barrie play the leading roles in this typical detective story that lacks a punch to make it really thrilling.

Brian Donlevy and Maria Montez contribute a Sotuh Sea atmosphere to "SOUTH OF TAHITI" and Brod Crawford makes up the trio. Any similarity between this picture and the "Road" to Singapore or Zanzibar is probably no mistake. It's rather pleasing on the eye, and that is about all. In all the other departments the story falls just a little short of specifications. It will be at the Campus Friday and Saturday.

In a sleepy little German town of Altdorf, there is a pastor known as "PASTOR HALL." When the Nazis came into power in Germany (See DISTRACTIONS, Page 4)

### WHAT'S SHOWING

AT THE CAMPUS  
Thursday — "THE GAY FALCON," with George Sanders and Wendy Barrie.

Friday, Saturday — "SOUTH OF TAHITI," featuring Brian Donlevy, Brod Crawford, and Maria Montez.

AT GUION HALL  
Thursday, Friday — "THE CHOCOLATE SOLDIER," with Nelson Eddy and Rise Stevens.

Saturday, 1:00 — "THREE SONS O' GUNS," with Wayne Morris and Marjorie Rambeau.

Saturday, 6:45, 8:30 — "PASTOR HALL," starring Wilfrid Lawson and Nova Pilbeam.

## Campus

4-1181

### TODAY ONLY THE GAY FALCON

With George Sanders — Wendy Barrie Also Popeye Cartoon, Sports, Popular Science

FRIDAY — SATURDAY

**SOUTH OF TAHITI**  
Starring BRIAN DONLEVY BROD CRAWFORD ANDY DEVINE HENRY WILCOSON H.B. WARRNER ARMBIDA and MARIA MONTEZ

Also Donald Duck Cartoon — Sport Latest Movietone News

PREVUE SAT. NIGHT 11 P. M. SUNDAY — MONDAY

**Unfinished Business**  
with PRESTON FOSTER Produced and Directed by GREGORY LA CAVA

Also Information Please — News Popeye Cartoon

**Bullock-Sims SEMI-ANNUAL SALE Begins Today AGGIES**

In The Face Of Present Price Increases And Limited Production For The Future, We Advise All Aggies To Anticipate Your Next Fall Needs Now.

**SAVE on Suits & Top Coats Sweaters Aggie Sweat Shirts Aggie Sport Shirts Pajamas Robes**

**FLORSHEIM SHOE SALE**  
\$11 & \$12 Oxfords \$9.85  
\$10 Oxfords \$8.95

**FREEMAN SHOE SALE**  
Broken Lots \$5.50 & \$6 Oxfords TO GO \$3.67

**Save On Champion Shoes**  
\$4.45 & \$5 Oxfords \$2.67

**Save On Gloves Wool And Leather Sport Coats**  
Loafer And Finger Tip Lengths  
\$18.50 Coats — \$13.87  
\$15.00 Coats — \$11.27  
\$11.95 Coats — \$ 8.97  
\$10.95 Coats — \$ 8.27  
\$ 9.95 Coats — \$ 7.47  
\$ 8.95 Coats — \$ 6.67  
\$ 5.95 Coats — \$ 4.47  
\$ 5.00 Coats — \$ 3.77  
\$ 3.95 Coats — \$ 2.97

**Bullock-Sims**  
POPULAR PRICE CASH CLOTHIERS FOR MEN AND BOYS