

The Battalion

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

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United We Stand...

Every successful organization whether it be a person's family, a large business establishment, the United States Army or even the United Nations trying to fight the war, can not reach its goal unless it has at least a semblance of unity. Without unity a group becomes its own worst enemy, for the various factions in the group spend all of their efforts fighting one another when the same energy could be used in accomplishing a definite purpose.

The necessity for unity of the A. & M. student body is also essential.

But the last few days have shown that 100% unity does not exist at our school today as it has in the past. The reason why it didn't the first few days after the new changes were announced are obvious: everyone was so stunned to rationalize the situation and each student had his own solution. Now, the student body has had over a week to calm down and coordinate ideas and formulate some definite plan, but still a plan agreeable to all can't be found. What one large group is for a minor group opposes and blocks.

If we continue to have small groups of students trying to dominate the picture the senior class as well as the entire student body will never accomplish a thing. The minorities must accept the plans of the majority, and all must put their wholehearted efforts into such plans. Arguing among ourselves will accomplish nothing.

The first ideas accepted by the organization commanders were killed on second presentation by the commanders themselves. No doubt there was good reason for such action. A new proposal has now come up. Should it be finally accepted the acceptance should be definite. Every individual student whether he agree with it or not should give his full support. A united front must be shown. Only unity will continue the advance A. & M. has made in years past.

Chance to Express Your Ideas

Every day someone on the campus feels that he has an idea which should be generally known all over the campus. Perhaps he will tell his room mate and a few of his friends and let the matter go at that, but nevertheless he shelters a discontented feeling because he hasn't spread his thought around to a greater extent.

For these people there is an opportunity, an opportunity which will increase the volume of their voices 6,000 fold. All that need to be done is to take advantage of the Open Forum column in The Battalion.

In most cases all Open Forum letters received are printed providing they meet with the signature requirement. The person writing the article must sign his own name in full. Initials will not suffice. Unsigned articles are not even considered whether they are from freshmen, sophomores, juniors, men with or without contracts, or from the college staff. This is a policy which can not and will not be violated.

But the opportunity is still open. Feel free to take advantage of what belongs to you, for the Open Forum column is yours.

War Interpretations

By Robert L. Freeland

FINLANDIA

Public sentiment is extremely unpredictable, but so are the fortunes of war. If you will pause a moment to think back, only a little over one short year ago, the Finnish nation had the sympathy and tacit aid of the American people and government. Finnish Minister to the United States, Mr. Procope, was received at numerous diplomatic and social functions, and received letters numbering in the thousands sympathizing with the struggle of his little nation against a ruthless aggressor. There were small tin boxes and paper cartons in all the restaurants and cafes throughout the United States urging the American people to drop in their change for

'Finnish War Relief'. Today, these are no longer to be seen. Why?

In October, 1939, Finland was going about her business as usual, little dreaming that a month later she would be the object of a Russian attack. The eyes of all Americans were turned upon central Europe, and Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain was confidently predicting a quick victory over Germany.

Then came the Russian attack upon Finland. Russia's version was Finnish depredations across the border and a desire to gain additional land to make her borders safe from future "Finnish aggression." The Finns told us that the attack was unprovoked and merely represented a desire of the Red Army to add another nation to her already vast territory, flushed with the success of her armies in Poland after she joined in for the kill with her new-found friend, the Third Reich.

The true story is yet to be told, but the latter version is probably nearer to the truth, and the Red Army's desire to test out her weapons and give her men some fighting experience, probably looking ahead to a clash in the future with either Japan or Germany, or both, Karelia and almost all of present day Finland was once a part of Russia, so why not again, thought Joseph. The Mannaheim line was a tough nut to crack, and cost the Russians much, but it was accomplished, and Finland had to make a peace, giving strips of territory and a naval base on Hangoe Peninsula to Russia. She was now practically defenseless, but Finland rearmed with American aid.

The democracies in the rest of the world had failed to give her aid. Finland became a benevolent dictatorship, if there is such a thing. When Germany attacked Russia, she joined in the attack, choosing as an ally a nation which is like an octopus—once its tentacles are in a victim, it never lets go until that country is devoured.

The territory lost to Russia was regained with the help of Nazi legions and equipment. Finland was ready to quit, but her ally, with thousands of troops within her borders said 'No.' and meant it.

At Russia's request, England declared war on Finland when the latter refused to make peace. But it is a token war, and as yet no British bombs have blasted Helsinki. Finland fights, no doubt unwillingly. And she must continue to fight until either her masters call her off or until the body of the octopus is crushed. Her main contribution in the spring may be an attempt to cut the Murmansk-Moscow railroad. But although an enemy now, and although she will be on the opposite side of the conference table from us when peace is restored, you may be sure that the strains of Finlandia will once again be heard over a free, democratic Finland several years hence.

The World Turns On

By Dr. R. W. Steen

When will the war end? That question is asked hundreds of times a day, and no one can answer it. Winston Churchill, who is probably better qualified to speak on that subject than any other person made no attempt to answer the question in his recent address to Parliament. He admitted that the outlook for the immediate future in the Pacific is dark, but the more distant future is bright. It is made bright by the courage of free peoples and those who wish to be free, and by the manpower and productive ability of the United States. Certainly we can't hope for victory in 1942, but it might be possible in 1943.

A small American force has arrived in northern Ireland. Its function at the moment is to guard the bases prepared there last year by American workmen. We were not at war then, so Britain supervised the activity. These bases could serve only one possible use, and that is the use to which they will doubtless soon be put: to serve as reception bases for American troops on the way to European battlefields.

This small force can hardly be described as an American Expeditionary Force, but it is doubtless the vanguard of such a force. Americans—even small numbers of them—in Europe at this time have a great psychological value. They will give encouragement to the English. They will discourage the Germans. Even more important is the fact that an American expeditionary force will make it possible for the British army to be placed in contact with the Germans. The British army of between two and four million men, probably well equipped by now, has been largely immobilized by geography. It has not been strong enough for an invasion of the continent. The Germans have not gone to England. The result is that the army has drilled and drilled and nothing more.

One of the most interesting results of the arrival of this force is the protest made by the Irish government. The Irish seem quite hurt at not having been told all of the plans in advance. Ireland is a neutral country, and northern Ireland is not a part of the Irish Free State, so it is a bit difficult to see why the Irish government should have been consulted.

More than a century ago an American naval commander sent a message famous for its brevity: "We have met the enemy and they are ours: two ships, two brigs, one schooner and one sloop." This week the pilot of a naval plane made an equally definite statement in even less space. His report: "Saw sub; sank same."

PRIVATE BUCK . . . By Clyde Lewis



"Who was th' wise guy that said the army travels on its stomach?"

BACKWASH

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

Ye Olde Classified

Unbelievable as it may be, we've found documentary evidence that there is actually an inanimate object older than Ross Hall, more commonly known as Chateau de Rosse, 1347, or Fort Ross, the last old post. Still more unbelievable is that this document is the prehistoric object.

Field Artillery freshman Jack Dempsey supplied us with the article in question, a newspaper titled The Ulster County Gazette, dated Saturday, January 4, 1800.

Headline type was as small as the body type of a modern paper. In fact, only the fourth page of the four-page journal carried items of unusual interest.

Several "classified ads" were run on that page, as follows:

FOR SALE

A neat, elegant, well-finished pleasure sleigh.
Apply to James Hafbrouch.

SAMUEL FREER

Has just received an assortment of goods adapted to the season, which he will dispose of for cash or country produce only, upon very moderate terms.

SECOND NOTICE

Of my wife Hannah is hereby given; forbidding all persons whatever from harboring or keeping her, and from trusting her on my account, as I am determined to pay no debts of her contracting.
Matys Van Steenbergh

Air Raid

Captain Culberson of the local Army Recruiting Service supplies us with the following which may help Aggies in time of air raid attack, if such ever comes to College Station.

AIR RAID INSTRUCTIONS FOR CIVILIANS

1. As soon as the bombs start dropping, run like hell. It doesn't matter where, as long as you run. Wear track shoes if possible. If the people running ahead of you are slower and

fall down, you won't have any trouble in passing them or jumping over them.

2. Take advantage of the opportunities afforded you when the Air Raid sirens sound the warning of attack or blackout; If in a bakery, grab a pie. If in a tavern, grab a beer. If in a movie, grab a blonde.

3. If you find an unexploded bomb, pick it up and shake it. Maybe the firing pin is stuck.

4. If an incendiary bomb is found burning a building, throw gasoline on it—you can't put it out anyway, and you might just as well have a little fun.

5. When the first bomb falls, holler bloody murder. It will add to the fun and confusion and scares hell out of the kids.

6. It is well to have onions or limburger cheese handy as a snack before entering a crowded air raid shelter. It may make you a very unpopular fellow, but you'll have lots of room for yourself.

7. If you should be a victim of a direct hit, don't go to pieces. Just lie still and the sanitation squad will attend to you.

8. If an air raid warden starts to tell you what to do, knock him down and kick his teeth in. Wardens always save the best seats for themselves, anyway.

California University Experiments Produce Only Missing Element

BERKELEY, Calif.—An unstable form of element No. 61, only missing item in the list of known chemicals of the material universe, has been produced in the University of California cyclotron and by experimenters at Ohio State University.

Announcement of the experiment here said a radioactive form of No. 61 was produced by bombarding some rare earths with atomic bullets. The raw materials used were sent to Berkeley more than a year ago from Italy by Dr. Luigi Rolla, Italian chemist.

The work was done by Dr. Elilio Segre, one of the discoverers of elements No. 43 and 85, and Dr. Chien Shiang-wu, a young Chinese woman researcher in nuclear physics.

Get the Newest in Both Styles on
VICTOR and BLUEBIRD RECORDS

VICTOR RECORDS 50c BLUEBIRD RECORDS 35c

"Serenade For Strings"—Waltz—Freddy Martin
"Angels Of Mercy"—Glenn Miller
(Royalties on this record is split between Red Cross and the President's Fund.)
"I Don't Want To Walk Without You"—Dinah Shore
"Deep In The Heart Of Texas"—Alvino Rey
"We're The Couple In The Castle"—Sammy Kaye
"Blues In The Night"—Artie Shaw

HASWELL'S

COVERING campus distractions

WITH TOM VANNOY

Charley Chaplin, who made his fame back in the silent era of motion pictures, got an inspiration for a story that is bound to have you rolling in the aisles before it is all over. This is not to be conjectured once the picture gets under way. Chaplin gives "THE GREAT DICTATOR" fling and Jack Oakie gets rung in as Il Duce. Chaplin's first effort for a number of years is really tops in entertainment and will be shown at the Campus tomorrow and Monday.

The great comedian is the leader of the followers of the Double Cross. Also he is a barber who was a soldier in the German Army in first war and lost his mind. The story flashes from one character to the other. When it is all put together, it's a riot that has not been equalled for quite some time.

When Chaplin and Oakie start to outdo each other in showing off their military might and egoism, the picture gets better than ever. If you are in need of some relaxation that is excellent, don't miss seeing "The Great Dictator."
Bonnie Baker and Orrin Tucker

tried to get something started in the film at Guion hall at 1 o'clock today, "YOU'RE THE ONE." It is all about the efforts that a singer makes to land a job with a dance orchestra. The whole thing flopped rather flat. But if it's a close-up of Wee Bonnie you're wanting, then this should fill the bill.

Britain in war-time is depicted in the story of "BLACKOUT" at Guion hall tonight. Conrad Veidt and Frances Hobson play the roles of a Danish sea captain and a British intelligence agent, respectively.

The story of German agents attempting to overpower them to obtain vital information is lacking in dramatic polish, but it portrays splendidly the life in England under the stress of the blockade and blackouts and bombing.

WHAT'S SHOWING

AT GUION HALL

Saturday, 1:00—"YOU'RE THE ONE," with Bonnie Baker, Orrin Tucker, and Jerry Colonna.

Saturday, 6:45, 8:30—"BLACKOUT," featuring Conrad Veidt and Valerie Hobson.

Monday—"SAINT'S VACATION," with Hugh Sinclair.

AT THE CAMPUS

Saturday—"THIS WOMAN IS MINE," with Franchot Tone, Walter Brennan and Carol Bruce.

Saturday preveue, Sunday, Monday—"THE GREAT DICTATOR," starring Charles Chaplin and Jack Oakie.

LOUPOT'S

Little Place
BIG SAVINGS

Campus

4-1181

LAST DAY
"THIS WOMAN IS MINE"

Carol Bruce Franchot Tone

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

Charlie Chaplin
The Great DICTATOR

Go In 9:20 P. M. & See Both Shows

Movie

GUION HALL

SATURDAY
1 P. M.

Bonnie Baker—Orrin Tucker
in
"You're The One"

6:45 & 8:30
Conrad Veidt—Valeria Hobson
in
"BLACKOUT"

Also
MICKEY MOUSE