

# The Battalion

**STUDENT TRI-WEEKLY NEWSPAPER**  
TEXAS A. & M. COLLEGE  
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Foreign Minister. The tremendous task of reconstruction was begun. The cities were in shambles, Spain's 8000 miles of railroads and 60,000 miles of roads had been bombed and used until they were almost impassable. The finances of the country were very bad.

Franco immediately strove for self-sufficiency, one of his most important measures being to guarantee a 4% profit on all new industries established which were judged vital to the nation. Spanish trade after the war was mostly with Germany, and to a smaller extent with Italy and the United States. She exported iron ore, mercury, copper, hides, pyrite, olives, and cork. With these goods she bought manufactured goods, automobiles and engines, and food with which to feed her starving populace.

Spain is now at the crossroads: it seems extremely probable that with the coming of spring Hitler will launch his all-out Mediterranean offensive, and to do this he will need Gibraltar, which could be taken only by land. The Franco government has been as good as possible, and is the best thing for Spain. Franco has kept out of the war with the exception of aid to German U-boats and sending a division to fight on the Russian front. The Spanish navy consists of 2 old battleships, 3 cruisers, 19 destroyers, 13 subs, 5 gunboats, and 11 modern torpedo boats. There are no available statistics on the Spanish army at present, but it could put up nothing but a token of resistance to the German legions. This will probably not be done, but Spain will grant German troops free passage for their attack upon Gibraltar and at the same time allow them to take Tangier, across from the Rock, in Africa. This would immediately put Spain in the war against the United Nations.

Spain's plight is bad; she has no alternative except to do what the Führer says, and Franco, who was appointed by the Grand Council of the Falangist Party in 1939 as "Supreme Chief responsible only to God and to History" must certainly play his cards carefully and pray to God that his nation won't soon become another of the "habeens" of Europe, with the Swastika flying over the Telephone Exchange Building in Madrid.

Number 1 military uniform is always proper for college dances, but if a cadets' clothing budget can include a tuxedo, he will find it very useful, and it is acceptable as formal attire in other social circles.

Accessories with the tuxedo include a white shirt with wing of turndown collar; black or white waistcoat (usually black); black tie or maroon or dark blue may be worn. A handkerchief may be worn in the breast pocket of the tuxedo; it is always linen and should be white.

A derby or soft hat in gray or black felt may be worn, but most college men do not wear any.

Young men usually wear their everyday topcoats with their tuxedos unless they are of a lurid plaid material.

Strictly speaking summer affairs are not formal, but here in the South all-white suits are considered "semi-formal." A soft white shirt may be worn with this attire.

In some communities, a dinner invitation issued for seven o'clock means dinner-dress for both men and women, but if you are in doubt, it is correct to ask, when the invitation does not state, and the host should answer definitely.

Important for both the young man and the young woman, is, that they be dressed in the same type of clothes—a young man doesn't care to be dressed in formal attire when the young man is wearing a business suit.

## The World Turns On

By Dr. J. H. Quisenberry

Singapore has fallen. The allied forces admit another stinging defeat. Three of Germany's major fighting ships have withstood one-hundred and ten air attacks and thumbed their noses at the English shore batteries and aircraft as they passed through the English Channel last week. Another costly defeat to the Allied sea power.

These reverses, to many, are sources of disappointment and discouragement. When the world becomes locked in a suicidal clash of power there must be reverses on both sides. The peace-loving countries, naturally unprepared, must suffer the larger portion of the early reverses in the war.

If we are to win this war, as we all feel that we must, these early defeats must not serve as discouragements but as stimuli. Stimuli to shake us out of our lethargic complacency and start our adrenalin to flowing. War calls for emotion. We must become more emotionally alive to the issues at stake; otherwise, defeats bring despondency rather than determination.

Dr. J. P. Scott of Wabash college reported in the last number of the Journal of Heredity (January 1942) some interesting observations on the social behavior of inbred strains of mice. He found that the initially "pacifist" group later came through to success by licking the stuffing out of the "aggressors."

Morphologically and physiologically men are quite different from mice. But, if wholesale aggression continues, we shall soon be running them out of their subterranean habitat and taking over their nocturnal habits. Our battle cry may be "Remember Pearl Harbor" but our victory cry may well be "Remember the Mouse!"

## PRIVATE BUCK . . . By Clyde Lewis



## BACKWASH

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

Along the Trail . . . War issue of the Agriculturist will be distributed this week . . . Don Spencer, leading manufacturer of football program covers, has requested pictures of Reveille, along with other outstanding college mascots, to place on his grid programs next fall. And incidentally, Reveille has completely recovered from her recent illness and was released from the local veterinary hospital about two weeks ago . . . On the basis of meals consumed, Aggies eating in the mess halls use 1.6 pounds of sugar each per week . . . Draft registration stretched its far-reaching arm into the confines of the local hospital yesterday to sign up six cadets who were seriously ill. Numbered among the victims (of illness) were: R. L. Glaze, L. T. Lacey, R. E. Modlin, W. F. Oxford, J. W. Peil, and E. H. Powell.

are inclined not to let the matter of that Open Forum letter appearing in the last issue of The Battalion drop out of sight without some sort of public discussion. First, let us say that this essay is addressed mainly to the author of the letter, Bob Powell, for only two or three of his endorsers were present at Cashion Cabin that night. Concerning Elliott's statement that night, we were informed by two competent cadets (who were there) of its meaning in accurate entirety. According to these seniors, Elliott implied that A. & M. could do more to help in this war than they are doing at this time. Elliott's contention was naturally that A. & M. should contribute financially to those prison camps in foreign countries. The worthiness of that item is one of personal opinion and was not up for discussion in this column. Our point was that Elliott wanted Aggies to expend more effort in trying to win this war. According to Elliott, A. & M. was not trying to do enough toward the war cause. We have that statement from three seniors who WERE present at the party. Their names may be had on personal call. We stand ready for any further criticism.

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In Rebuttal  
It is a futile effort at any time for a columnist to enter in a controversy with his readers. But we

## This Collegiate World

Have you ever wondered how many persons a president of a university entertains? Here are the figures for Dr. K. C. Leebrick, president of Kent State university. In 27 months 3,045 persons were guests of Dr. Leebrick at his home. Of this number, 139 spent the night at the president's home. Teas, receptions, and other functions brought numerous students to Dr. Leebrick's home. The average attendance at senior teas was 225. Nine hundred twenty-nine freshmen visited Dr. Leebrick during 1940 and 1941. The actual number of different varieties of figs grown in the world is still a mystery, even to scientists, according to the University of California experiment station. McCald and Lafelmer, "college educated steers," have added \$300 to the student loan fund at the University of Nebraska Agricultural college.

Presented to the agricultural college by interested Nebraskans, the steers spent several months in college feedlots before they were sold to provide funds for the education of worthy students.

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Perhaps the reason for Mickey Rooney's continued success in the cinema is the fact that he has been on the stage since the tender age of 11 months. He is costarred with Judy Garland in "BABES ON BROADWAY" at Guion Hall today and tomorrow. His parents were a well-known vaudeville team. His film career started on the Metro lot making shorts. He has appeared in all the pictures in the Hardy Family series and other hits such as "Captains Courageous," "Men of Boys Town," and "Young Tom Edison." "Babes on Broadway" is the story of amateurs who are trying to crash Broadway and make a name for themselves on the stage. It is almost entirely a juvenile picture and the younger stars eclipse the adults with their remarkable performance. This is truly a breath-taking musical production. The list of songs performed by the cast is too lengthy for enumeration. There are some new ones and some old ones that have been national favorites for many years.

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**News - - - Cartton**

## Singapore Falls

With the increase in war activity in the United States, due to the developing seriousness of a situation which had been practically unanticipated in a country filled with the spirit of a peaceful democracy until a few short months ago, we are rapidly becoming conscious that every effort on the part of every one of us is going to be necessary to drag an ultimate victory from what has so far been defeat.

Winston Churchill in his recent message to the British Empire, following the fall of Singapore, sounded the note which has to become the watchword of all democratic nations if they are to win. "The voice of Mr. Churchill was that of a tired and war-torn man" one news commentator stated. "But he spoke of the hardships through which the English nation had already come and the hopes that America's huge war machine and vast resources would bring once that country could step into the swing of war."

Frivolities of an easy and wasteful life must be laid aside by every one of us. Not only have we a greater responsibility than ever before but we must realize that to lose the final battle will not only be death or worse than death to us but slavery to many generations to follow.

Democracy cannot dally any longer. Action must be the watchword. We must not allow trivialities to come between us and the goal we must reach. The burden is on our shoulders. It is not the fault of any of the leaders of our country that such a situation has come about, but our doing. Now we must make the most of it.

## Espana

One of the countries upon which Herr Hitler is now casting his eyes from his lofty retreat of Berchtesgaden as he plans his new offensives for the summer of 1942 is without a doubt Spain.

Spain is a large country, compared with the rest of the European countries, and once had, the mightiest empire in the world. In 1934 Spain had a population of 24,583,096, living on 196,607 square miles of land, including the Canary and Balearic Islands. A republic was established after the constitutional monarchy fell in 1931, but on July 17, 1936 a revolt broke out against the government under General Francisco Franco, who set up an insurgent government at Burgos.

A bloody civil war was to follow. The Loyalist government received aid from the Soviet Union, and Franco was strongly supported by Germany and Italy. Spain was really a testing ground for the implements of war which are now being used. The Germans sent their long, sleek bombers manned by German pilots over to blast the Loyalists. The Condor Legion, as the Germany Flying Unit was called, gave Germany many experienced pilots with which to start the present war. The Italians had several divisions of Italian "volunteers" in Spain. Each country sent just enough to keep the war going, and to test under actual conditions their latest developments. The actual procedure was much the same as employed in the last years of the World War I, with a four or five hour bombardment of enemy lines by nine inch guns, planes roaring over to drop their eggs, tanks then preceding the infantry who occupied the enemy positions.

Franco made good use of propaganda, and at the end the Loyalists had a revolt among themselves, with the Spanish fleet going to French Tunisia to be interned. With it out of the war, Franco immediately ordered all ships entering the territorial waters to be torpedoed without warning. The collapse was then quick, although in January, 1939, the Loyalists had an army of 400,000 men, including some youths under 18 years of age. Planes came over from the Italian base at Majorca to blast at the crumbling defenses of the Reds; roads were jammed with refugees fleeing before the Fascists, and whole divisions of Loyalist soldiers were fleeing to France. President Anzaña fled into exile, and the war was declared to be ended on the 28th day of March, after Madrid fell.

Franco then established a totalitarian government, with Ramón Serrano Suñer as