

The Battalion

STUDENT TRI-WEEKLY NEWSPAPER
 TEXAS A. & M. COLLEGE
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America's First Line

Last year \$75,000 was allotted to the N. Y. A. here at A. & M. with the Student Labor Department which enabled about 675 boys monthly to work their way through school. This is about a third of the jobs which are held by students here at A. & M. that helps them overcome some of the financial difficulties which their efforts to obtain a college education causes them to have to meet.

For the two semesters of 1941-42, \$56,000 was allotted to N. Y. A. labor at A. & M. which allowed only some 500 boys monthly to hold jobs.

The student labor rolls carry the names of some 1500 to 2000 boys annually holding jobs which enable them to gain an education which otherwise would not be had. Of these the boys on N. Y. A. come from families in the income bracket about \$1500. In addition to the fellows who do obtain jobs on the N. Y. A. and come to A. & M. for higher educational training some 500 to 1000 boys have to be turned down due to lack of funds. These boys that are turned down also have families in the income bracket of \$1,500 a year and scholastic records in the top fourth of their graduating classes since applications are not even considered where the record of the boy scholastically is lower than the top fourth.

If it were possible to give these additional deserving boys financial assistance there is a probability that approximately 500 more might be added to the college rolls and be ready to take their place in the nation's first line of defense, the democratic educational system.

"A college graduate," a military spokesman once said, "no matter what college he attended and whether or not he had any military training is as a rule worth an average of about eight other men in the line who are without college educations." How much more valuable would the graduates of a military institution be? With the present need for trained officers for an expanded army how valuable to the nation is a school especially designed to train officers? The answer is quite obvious.

And this answer is that such a school is practically priceless to the continued existence of such a nation in a world of hate and war.

From homes all over Texas, where boys in all walks of life wish to continue the education begun in our public school systems applications come every day to the office of student labor at A. & M. which handles the N. Y. A. funds. What happens to the boys that the committee must necessarily refuse is a matter which cannot be easily dismissed. Some of these boys undoubtedly obtain work at other schools; some take up their life work without a college preparation while others—who know? That these boys have keen minds is shown by the scholastic standing. That they have the desire to learn and continue their education is shown by their application for work and college enrollment—yet their financial status shows that it will be impossible for them to do so.

When the life of a nation is at stake it cannot afford to ignore such obvious assets. That it should retard or stop the progress of any organization set up to continue the training of competent American youth as the first line of defense of these United States would be very questionable stupidity.

Be Essential

Today, our nation and our government faces the most important crisis which it has come to meet in the total years of its history. The efficient operation of a capitalistic and industrialistic government has been put to test and in many cases has already proven that such a system can organize and produce faster than any other type of government or economic system set up in the world today.

That the red tape and inconsequential policies and trivial arguments being carried on by governmental agencies will be subordinated and more efficient operation be brought about is the essence of our victory effort.

To assist in this each individual must

Something to Read

By Dr. T. F. Mayo

RISE OF AMERICAN CIVILIZATION by Charles and Mary Beard.

This is, without a doubt, the most interesting, and at the same time, the most substantial treatise on this subject in one volume. The authors have spent an incredible amount of effort in digging through documentary material for the background of their story of American life in all of its phases since the discovery of the New World. As the New York Times has so aptly said, the authors have "gathered into the sweep of their history, the whole circle of American Life—economic, political, social, agricultural, industrial, and intellectual..." It is not merely a dry factual compilation of chronological events, but a very fascinating and moving picture of the major sweep of forces that have been responsible for the unfolding of events in the development of our country. A few chapter headings are suggestive of the book: "The Clash of Metropolis and Colony," "Agricultural Imperialism and the Balance of Power," "The Second American Revolution," "The Gilded Age," and "Imperial America."

ADVENTURE FOR DEMOCRACY by W. C. Phillips.
 In a world where the forces of democracy are being put to their supreme test for survival, a suggestion for making democratic units not only really "democratic," but efficient as well, should be heartily welcomed. The author, who is an engineer, and his wife, relate their experiences in several experiments which are used to outline their plan for a "national social unit." These are then to be organized into a pattern for a "national social unit." The eminent philosopher, John Dewey, very highly recommends the book, and the magazine, SCHOOL & SOCIETY, is of the opinion that it is one of the most practical suggestions to date for making democracy work. Whether one agrees with the authors, or no, there is a great deal of food for thought, and the social implications of such a plan should be of interest to anyone who really wants to see a workable solution for democratic institutions.

The World Turns On

By A. F. Chalk

The effects of the current war on the foreign trade of Latin American countries is of increasing concern to our State Department. Commercial considerations are for the moment overshadowed by direct military problems, but the implications of the present Latin American trade problems are not being overlooked in Washington. The effect these changed economic conditions will have on our "good neighbor" policy is of particular importance during the present war.

About one third of the external commerce of South America is with the U. S. during periods of normal trade relations. Now that trade with most of the other nations of the world has been stopped or drastically curtailed, the economies of the South American countries are being very seriously affected. The economies of most of our Latin American neighbors have not attained a very high degree of diversification, and the loss of a major part of their export markets makes it impossible for them to secure the large quantities of manufactured goods which they customarily import.

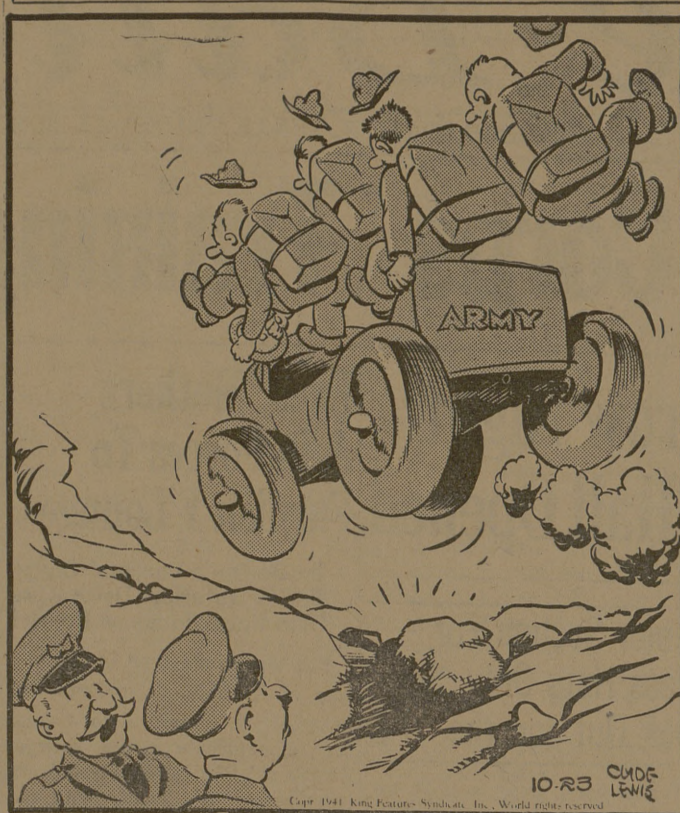
Briefly stated, the problem we now confront is how best to enable these countries to secure a reasonable amount of manufactured goods during the war. Even if we take much larger amounts of their agricultural and mineral products, we will still have great difficulty in supplying these countries with anything approaching their normal consumption of manufactured goods. Priorities and shipping space are examples of the problems we would likely have to face.

We must first make it possible for these countries to buy our manufactured products. The only sources of funds the Latin American countries have are: (1) Exports of their products and (2) Whatever loans we may make to them. We must, therefore, permit an increase in their exports to us and/or grant them extensive loans. After they have been able to secure dollar credits by either or both of these two procedures, we then must do whatever is within our means about solving the problem of producing and shipping larger quantities of the goods they so badly need.

One bright aspect of the Latin American trade problem is that our demand for many of their mineral and agricultural products is increasing and we will probably continue to increase during the war. The copper of Chile, the rubber of Brazil, the oil of Venezuela and Colombia, and the tin of Bolivia are cases in point. The increased demand for such products will help offset the loss of their other export markets. Still another fact to be considered is the possibility that we may have to act as the bread basket for many of our allies, and the demand for foodstuffs may become so great that we will need a large amount of the production of our neighbors.

put aside those things which do not have direct bearing on the Defense effort and the ultimate success of this nation's winning the war. Individually do we realize what we are up against? Individually are we doing anything about it? Are we removing all the inconsequential and trivial things from our lives in order that we may no longer waste effort when this effort has become so important to the nation?

PRIVATE BUCK By Clyde Lewis



"We've equipped all our 'jeep' men with parachutes!"

Musical Meanderings

By Murray Evans

For all intents and purposes the blues are dead. They have little or no appeal to the masses any more. There are any given number of name bands today who are always willing to prove that jive has its jewel, but blues proponents are practically extinct. Take, for instance, the story of a famous Negro band recently. When its leader was requested to play a blues tune he looked startled, as if he had never heard the word, and replied, "Blues? Man, we can't play no blues in here. Not for this crowd. Maybe some other time." And then the band straightway glided into some sophisticated ballad number. Formerly, when "blues" was mentioned, you just naturally thought of jazz. As a matter of fact, blues was synonymous with jazz at one time. But now nobody plays them anymore. Woody Herman, the band that allegedly plays the blues (or so say the billings) plays a couple of "show" blues tunes and lets it go at that on all his jobs. Coleman Hawkins, one of the truly fine Negro bands, trots out a blues but rarely. If fine, musicians have deserted

the blues. Even Negro vocalists and bands have turned their collective backs on their native form of music.

The truth of the matter is that the blues are "just played out." They are, technically speaking, monotonous. They are simply too easy to work with, too cut and dried, too formulaized. The chord pattern is repeated over and over, and there are but four changes in the course of its standard 12 bar length.

Blues were necessary in earlier days because they afforded a convenient, simple vehicle on which to hinge the limited variations known and practiced at that time. But modern swing and jive is much more complicated than early jazz, talent has improved infinitely, and there is a need for a music theme more intricate, one that is more worthy of present day talent.

It is no wonder that blues is in a bad way, that it is becoming as extinct as the Dodo bird, that musicians of most calibres shun it like a plague.

Child Care Program to be Organized By State Health Officer for Defense

Training programs for certified child care volunteers will be made available to local defense coordinators shortly, according to Doctor Geo. W. Cox, State Defense Coordinator and State Health Officer.

The program as provided under the office civilian defense is intended to provide a nucleus of training voluntary workers in local communities to aid in the care of well children as distinguished from volunteer nursing aides trained through Red Cross assistance. The program is an extension of the present program of child growth and development of the State Health Department.

With mothers needed for defense work or being drawn into industrial activities, this training program will provide a volunteer group capable through a background of information regarding the normal development and every day care of the child to care for groups of children adequately.

Courses now under consideration will be made available to anyone with time, ability, willingness to work, and a sincere interest in making a contribution to the growth, development, and welfare of the child.

Doctor Cox indicated that final details of subject matter would be referred to the Texas Inter-professional Commission on Child Growth and Development which is made up of outstanding physicians, dentists, nurses, educators, welfare workers, and others in or-der to assure that the best resources of the state can be brought to bear on planning.

Army Sends Call For Rated Specialists

There has been an urgent call put out by the War Department for all kinds of technicians, cooks, clerks, radio mechanics, repairmen, bakers, welders, photographers, chauffeurs, linemen, truck drivers, painters, and other specialized technicians.

COVERING campus distractions

WITH TOM VANNOY

"Rosebud!" A very unassuming word, perfectly good English, but most interesting. Around this seven letter word is built the story of "Citizen Kane." It is really a one-man production. Orson Welles conceived the idea, wrote the story, directed it, and played the starring role of Charles Foster Kane, the world's third richest man.

The film is really a photographic masterpiece. The angle shots, the shots purported to be ancient newsreels, the cinematography, are all superb. It was named as the best picture of the year by the leading experts. "Citizen Kane" represents a new high in the dramatic achievement of the motion picture industry. The most amazing thing about the whole picture is the fact that it was made by people who do not have a star's reputation.

To get back to the story of Charles Foster Kane, the film opens just as Kane is dying in his extensive castle in Florida. He is the world's most generous and stingiest man, all at the same time. Kane's last word uttered on his death bed was "rosebud." While reconstructing his life for a featured program on the "March of Time" the producers try to discover the meaning of the word and its significance to the man who spoke it.

A special reporter is assigned to track down the meaning of the word. He visits Kane's employees, enemies, friends, former wives, anyone that had any contact with the deceased multi-millionaire. Kane's life from birth to death is gone over to find out the meaning of "rosebud." "Citizen Kane" can be summarized in one word, extraordinary. Here is one last word about the picture at the Campus tomorrow and Saturday. Get in at the beginning or the story will lose its significance. Also note the similarity between the story told on the screen and the life story of America's most powerful present-day journalistic overlord.

Greta Garbo started her film career in Sweden. After starring in a picture there, she was brought to America by Louis B. Mayer. She got her start in the film world by posing as a model for a department store.

Some of her most recent pictures are "Ninotchka," "Camille," "Anna Karenina," and "Conquest." Miss Garbo is an entirely new Garbo in "TWO-FACED WOMAN" at Guion Hall today and tomorrow. The old Garbo is a ski instructor in the mountains; the new one is a vamp with all the ways of the world at her fingertips, skillfully employing them to win Melvin Douglas as her husband. The picture has been produced in marvelous manner. The script is excellent, and some of the scenes

between Douglas and Miss Garbo will be enjoyed thoroughly. Melvin Douglas saw service in the first World War and later as a newspaper reporter before becoming an actor. He is now one of the screen's most popular actors and will be co-starred with Norma Shearer in "We Were Dancing," soon.

Joseph Caldwell, a Princeton graduate, was the first president of the University of North Carolina.

WHAT'S SHOWING

AT THE CAMPUS

Thursday — "THE BUC-CANEER," starring Frederic March and Franciska Gaal. Benefit Fish & Game Club.
 Friday, Saturday—"CITIZEN KANE," with Orson Welles.

AT GUION HALL

Thursday, Friday—"TWO-FACED WOMAN," featuring Greta Garbo and Melvyn Douglas.

PALACE

PHONE 2-8879

Thursday, Friday and Saturday

WALTER PIDGEON MAUREN O'HARA in

"How Green Was My Valley"

Preview 11 P. M. Saturday Night CARY GRANT JOAN FONTAINE in

"SUSPICION" Shown Sunday-Monday

Campus

Dial 4-1181

TODAY ONLY
 Box Office Opens 2 P. M.

"THE BUCCANEER" with

FREDERIC MARCH AKIM TAMIROFF
 All Day Today—Benefit Show, Fish & Game Club, A. & M.

FRIDAY AND SATURDAY

"GREATEST EVER MADE!"



The Mercury Actors News - Cartoon

A LOUPOT TRADE Is Money Made



WANT TO WIN HER?

• Shower her with attention . . . bring her here where the food is wholesome and for music that will put sweet swing in her heart.

HRDLICKA'S

Movie GUION HALL

Thursday and Friday, Feb. 19 and 20

3:30 and 6:45



News --o-- Cartoon