

# The Battalion

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

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## Something to Read

By Dr. T. F. Mayo

**Clear Talk about Russia**  
If you are interested in (1) Why the Russians are fighting Germany and (2) Why they are fighting so well, you ought to read Walter Duranty's recent book, "The Kremlin and the People." Mr. Duranty, you will remember, is the famous Russian correspondent of the New York Times who for twelve years wrote the best dispatches in the world from Moscow. So he ought to know. The book is short and clear.

"The Kremlin and the People" begins with the assassination of Kirov in 1934, explains and describes the 'purges,' and shows how step by step the relations between Germany and Russia developed into the present war. Two explanations of Hitler's invasion last June are presented: (1) That the evident progress of Russia's war industries convinced him that he must strike now or never; (2) That the purges and the Russo-Finnish war had made him look upon the Red Army as easy to beat. Mr. Duranty favors the latter explanation.

As a matter of fact, according to the book, the "prge of generals" was not a bad thing for the Russians, who had been developing too independent an attitude toward the civilian authority. Again, according to "The Kremlin and the People" the Russians didn't actually do badly in Finland.

Though Mr. Duranty makes no attempt to whitewash Stalin and the rest, and though he depicts the purges as a sort of prolonged and constantly deepening nightmare, his book leaves one with a more cheerful feeling about Russia than most of us have had for the last four years. The author himself is so obviously sane and well-balanced that the Bolsheviks, seen through his sceptical but tolerant eyes, take on a more credibly human aspect than they have been wearing recently in the pages of liberals horrified by the Hitler-Stalin treaty, or conservatives gleefully beating the liberal dog with this convenient stick.

Anyone who reads Mr. Duranty's book will be able, I think, to rejoice in the exceedingly useful Russian victories with a clearer conscience. Misery acquaints nations as well as men with strange bedfellows. This little book will make our present Russian bedfellows seem a little less strange.

## The World Turns On

By A. F. Chalk

It is becoming increasingly apparent that time is the essence of the present world conflict. Many of us are beginning to realize for the first time the true military significance of the "blitzkrieg" principle. The previously unrealized advantage of constantly maintaining the initiative in a military campaign is now being exploited with a high degree of efficiency by our enemies.

It would seem that once the urgency of the production situation is realized, we in this country would insist that nothing be allowed to stand in the way of the production goals we have had set for us by the Administration. The longer we postpone this necessary volume of production then just so long will we continue to fight the now-famous "defensive" phase—in other words, the more ground we will continue to lose. The essential tragedy of the situation lies in the ultimate cost of regaining the territory we are now losing and may lose in the future as a result of the lack of supplies.

It should be apparent to most people that we must further regiment our economy for the duration of the war. This regimentation must come because we cannot successfully combat regimented economies with a relatively free economy such as that we now have. It is inevitable that many of our personal liberties should be sacrificed during such times as the present, and the quicker we become reconciled to it the better for the ultimate welfare of our country. When one compares the governmental economic controls which have been instituted in European nations with those which have thus far been utilized in the U. S., he begins to realize how much more drastically we must have our economic lives regimented.

The rigid control of labor mobility is an illustration of what we must do within a relatively short period of time. Some governmental agency will have to be given the responsibility of allocating our labor resources in the most efficient manner possible. England has mobilized her labor resources in such a way that most of her skilled laborers are in positions of maximum efficiency in the defense effort. In the early part of this war many in the U. S. criticized England for not permitting unemployment to continue in the face of a labor shortage. We in this country are hardly starting out more auspiciously than did England in that respect.

This same regimentation must be applied to all parts of our economy. Some of the groups in our economy are even yet so concerned with their immediate self-interest that they make this regimentation absolutely essential. For instance, if one looks at the income statements of the 50 largest corporations in the U. S. during 1940 and 1941, he can appreciate the fact that organized labor is not the only group that is willing to "feather its nest" during the war. The simple and unpleasant fact is that we are rapidly reaching the point where we must all sacrifice for the common good. Sacrifice in war can never be absolutely equal, but the results thus far in Europe indicate that something very near equality of sacrifice must be attained before a modern war can be successfully prosecuted.

## Kollegiate Kaleidoscope

**BAR TO BOARDS**  
WANT TO BE A STAR?  
TAKE LAW!  
THESE FORMER LAW STUDENTS  
NOW APPEAR BEFORE THE COURT  
OF PUBLIC OPINION



**BING CROSBY**  
GONZAGA UNIVERSITY

**RUDY VALLEE**  
YALE - MAINE

**LANNY ROSS**  
YALE - COLUMBIA

**WORLD'S LARGEST SCHOOLHOUSE**  
PITTSBURGH'S CATHEDRAL OF LEARNING IS 42 STORIES HIGH, CONTAINS 375 ROOMS, 67 LABS, 52 RESEARCH LABS, 91 CLASSROOMS, 8 LARGE LECTURE HALLS, 15 DEPT. STUDIES, 5 THEATERS, 78 OFFICES, 3 FLOORS OF LIBRARY, A FINE ARTS LIBRARY, CLUB AND LOUNGE ROOMS!

**HOAGY CARMICHAEL**  
INDIANA

**LOWELL THOMAS**  
KENT

**DON AMECHE**  
WISCONSIN

## Musical Meanderings

By Murray Evans

Despite its inherent drawback made so by his violin support on of being a weak-volume instrument, the violin is now being used more than ever in modern bands. Artie Shaw boasts one of the finest string sections in the business. He uses them because he says they are "restful," and that they relieve the monotony of the constant brass blare and reed whine. In organizing his imminently successful band, Harry James was smart enough to include five violins in his roster, and the fine receptions accorded his band everywhere he goes have started a general trend to the use of strings again.

A small detachable microphone which fits under the violin tailpiece has provided means of amplifying the instrument and greatly enhances its solo effectiveness. Violin ensembles are best used as a background for vocals, or for instrument solos. Probably the best recording every made of "Stardust" is attributed to Artie Shaw's new band, and a large measure of credit should go to the string section for backing up each chorus with a prominent chord background and commendable variations. Harry James' fine solo was

## COVERING campus distractions

WITH TOM VANNOY

It's a riot of comedy and unusual circumstances in "THE FEMININE TOUCH" at Guion Hall today and tomorrow. This is a four-cornered version of romantic mix-ups with Rosalind Russell, Don Ameche, Kay Francis and Van Heflin exchanging quips and slaps.

Miss Russell began her stage career shortly after graduation from school. She played in stock shows for years before she won a part in a show on Broadway. Hollywood eventually got hold of her to put her excellent talent as a comedienne on the screen. In school Rosalind Russell she excelled in riding, swimming, basketball and hockey. She was elected an honorary member of an R. A. F. bombing squadron in England.

Jealousy is the theme of the story. Don Ameche as a college professor has written a book concerning jealousy in all its forms



The T Club is sponsoring the feature at the Campus today, "BEAU GESTE." It is a re-release of the picture that featured Gary Cooper, Ray Milland, Brian Donlevy, and Susan Hayward. It is a good show and the money goes to a worthy organization.

The newest unit of the Army is depicted in "PARACHUTE BATTALION" (See DISTRACTIONS, Page 4)

## Campus

Dial 4-1181

## PALACE

PHONE 2-8879

Thursday, Friday and Saturday

"The Corsican Brothers"

Starring DOUGLAS FAIRBANKS Jr.  
RUTH WARRICK  
AKIM TAMIROFF

Preview 11 P. M. Saturday Night  
FREDERIC MARCH  
MARTHA SCOTT

in "ONE FOOT IN HEAVEN"

Shown Sunday and Monday

Box Office Opens 2 P. M. TODAY ONLY "BEAU GESTE"

with GARY COOPER ROBERT PRESTON RAY MILLAND

All-Day Benefit Show "T" Club, A. & M. Sport — Information Please Cartoon

FRIDAY AND SATURDAY

FILED WITH FIRST-TIME THRILLS!

### PARACHUTE BATTALION

starring Robert PRESTON • Nancy KELLY Edmond O'BRIEN • Harry CAREY

Buddy Paul Richard Robert EISEN • KELLY • CROWWELL • BARRAT KKO Radio Picture

Also News — Musical Community Sing — Cartoon

## Any Tubes Today

Last week the government made another small request for the people to aid the national war effort. Everyone was asked to save his old collapsible tubes such as tooth-paste and shaving cream containers, for these items are made of valuable, war-scarce tin.

Of course, the Aggies use their share of these tubes and are as willing as any American to save them for the government. The saving, however, will not be of any value unless a systematic plan of collection can be arranged.

One of the many ideas which have been suggested is to have the tubes collected by organizations. A box could be placed at some specified place in each company or in each dormitory and the students could use it as a depository. Once each week the organization commanders could turn in their collection to some central point; for example, the commandant's office.

The local Boy Scouts under the direction of Coach Manning Smith have accepted the responsibility for the collection of all scrap defense items in this area, and they are also able to see that if such a collection of tubes is carried out that the tubes would be turned over to the proper authorities.

The march of the human mind is slow.  
Edmund Burke

## Quotable Quotes

"There is a lot of sloppy thinking about war, as something that must be got rid of. But it has been a part of the defense of liberty. You can't fool our students about that. Unless you can distinguish between aggression and defense, then all the Kellogg pacts in the world will be ineffective. I think it is up to us now to make sure that the world issues we are confronted with are more clearly seen, not only by the student bodies but by the world at large." Dr. James T. Shotwell of Columbia university urges that the study of war and its causes be introduced into the classroom curricula of American colleges.

## PHOTOGRAPHS OF DISTINCTION

at the

### AGGIELAND STUDIO

North Gate

Movie

## GUION HALL

THURSDAY AND FRIDAY

4:30 and 7:45

Rosalind Russell -- Don Ameche  
Kay Francis

in

### "THE FEMININE TOUCH"

Late News

Cartoon

Comedy

COMING SATURDAY

Redgrave and Lockwood

in

### "THE STARS LOOK DOWN"

COMEDY

Also MARCH OF TIME — "Our America at War"

## NO BLACKOUT

### ... for industrial research!

In these critical times engineers at Western Electric are at work harder than ever developing advances in the art of manufacture.

These are being applied in producing the latest types of military communications equipment—now being turned out on a large scale for our fighting forces on land, at sea and in the air.

All this is in addition to our greatly increased job as manufacturer, purchaser and distributor for the Bell System. Meeting the abnormal telephone needs of America at war is a tremendous task, complicated by shortages of many materials. Even record-breaking production cannot fill all civilian requirements now, for Uncle Sam comes first!

## Western Electric

... is back of your Bell Telephone service