# The Battalion

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# Pre-Induction Training

The average male undergraduate is badly prepared in his inevitable life in the armed forces and American educational institutions are giving no evidence that he will be any better prepared in the near future. That, reports Richard C. Himmel, chairman of the board of control of the University of Chicago's Daily Maroon, is the clear indication from a telegraphic poll of 72 college and university student editors. The poll aimed to determine how much pre-induction military training is available to college men and whether the character of this training is such that it will give these men special army qualifications, leading eventually to a com-

College editors report that universities and colleges introduced vast changes in curriculums after Pearl Harbor and 74 or more new "defense courses" were reported by the 72 schools. Requests have been made to the War Department for ROTC units by non-ROTC schools and several ROTC institutions have asked that the size of their units be increased. The War Department replied that limited facilities made it impossible to establish new units or make substantial increases in the sizes of the units already established.

**Pre-induction Training** Pre-induction military training is of two kinds, basic and specialized. Into the basic classification fall Reserve Officers Training Corps and similar devices to teach military fundamentals. Most of the courses listed by college editors as "defense courses" fall into the specialized classification. ROTC is in the former classification because about 75 per cent of its manpower takes only the first two years of this training, known as the "basic" course. Completion of this course does not make one eligible for a commission. The "advanced" ROTC, given in the junior imposed by the war department. Only about 20,000 of an estimated 650,000 men in the institutions of higher learning in the country are accommodated in the ROTC "advanced" course. Only at completion of the "advanced" course are men eligible for com-

"Defense courses" reported to the Maroon are of three types: specialized pre-induction military training, best exemplified by the numerous "cartography" courses which have a definite military implication; courses in "fire fighting" and "knitting" would fall into a general civilian defense classification; and war industries training courses include such courses as "personnel administration" and "industrial microbiol-

Pressure for Basic ROTC

Immediately after Pearl Harbor, students exerted pressure to get some kind of basic military training in cases where there was no such training available to them. Colleges and universities were faced with the problem of either giving their students no military training or establishing such training themselves, since the War Department gave no evidence that it planned to do anything about it. In most cases the schools chose to have no basic military training and to offer their students instead a counterirritant, "defense courses." Only three schools successfully attempted after Pearl Harbor to get some kind of basic military training: the University of North Carolina, Washington and Lee, and Muhlenberg col-

A statement by Lt. Gen. Ben Lear, the survey report says, is the best substantiation of the fact that the college man's first cry for basic military training was the right cry. General Lear, in response to a query from a parent asking why his son wasn't an officer when he had had a college education, said, "Academic training is not of itself sufficient to make a soldier. These college trained young men in most instances have the physical and mental qualities of an of-ficer, but because of lack of military know-ledge they must join the greenest recruits."

The main "defense course" which swept the country was of the physical conditioning type. Almost every school in the country

# The World Turns On

By A. F. Chalk

The problem of uniting the different economic groups within our country is becoming more and more vital as our military position deteriorates in the Pacific. Recent speeches made by the President and the Vice-President indicate that the administration intends to use its influence more strongly in the future to restrain minority groups whose actions are seriously retarding the war effort. The President again called attention to the simple fact that we must all sacrifice some of our customary economic liberties if we are to prosecute this war effective-

In both of these speeches referred to above, the farmers were reminded of the benefits they have received during the Roosevelt administration. They were also advised not to demand higher prices for their products at a time when the government is attempting to institute methods of controlling the rising price level. The farm bloc in congress has in the past demanded that farm prices be allowed to rise to 110% of parity with the prices of manufactured products. It has been the contention of the administration that the rising prices of farm products must be curtailed if we are to avoid a serious inflationary trend in the general

The problem of agricultural prices is but a part of the general problem of regulating a war-time economy. Organized labor and big business constitute two other minority groups which must sacrifice many of their cherished economic liberties in the interest of the general welfare. Loss of time resulting from disputes between these two groups must be abolished. The government now has ample power to enforce a system of compul- Week-end Maestro sory arbitration for the settlement of industrial disputes, and voters of the country may make their protests known at the ballot box ganization to feature a Negro band used in the invitations, i.e., "Lieu- from the start. Finally Robinson this fall if some drastic action is not taken.

Each group is obviously afraid that any sacrifices it might make will not be made by other groups, and it would seem that the function of a government under such circumstances would be obvious. Simultaneous action on the part of the administration to institute controls over wages, corporate profits and agricultural prices might cause a sud- mond, buxom vocalist, see cut, and gram inviting her to the Field den shock, but such a procedure would make Mary Lou Williams, pianist. Fea- Ball. The only hitch to the urgent it difficult for any one of the three groups to justify selfish behaviour in the future. Whether it would be "politically expedient" is still another matter, but it occurs to the writer that a good measure of positive action on the part of the government might not cost as many votes as the congressmen are apparently thinking it would.

# Quotable Quotes

"The contemporary attitude that the schools should not teach controversial issues and should teach children 'how to think' but not 'what to think' is sheer moral pussyfooting and a betrayal of the real purposes of education. If we educators do not correct this moral deficiency in education we are going to lose the confidence and support of the people." Dr. Homer P. Rainey, president of the University of Texas, holds that it is the ultimate purpose of liberal education to develop moral and spiritual leaders.

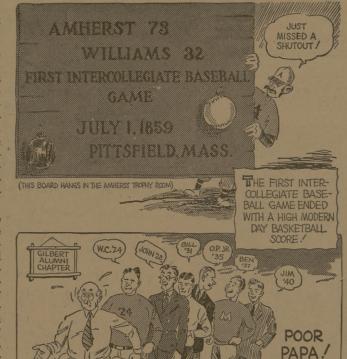
reports some kind of emphasis on physical 45,000 in January. conditioning. That physical conditioning is The Kirk crew is en route to the Club has given, "Engineering's an insufficient substitute for basic military West Coast to do some musical Part in the Development of Civtraining is clear. Further, several college ed- shorts in the film capital. With ilization," by Dugald Caleb Jacktors report that student interest is declining his vocalists, Andy plans to include son; "Locomotives on Parade," by in these courses, and close order drill and Floyd Smith, swing guitarist, as Edward Hungerford; "Blood, bayonet movements have been introduced a stand-out. to vitalize them.

schools are teaching Japanese, Portuguese, "military German," "military French," Rus-"military German," "military French," Russian, Arabic, Italian, and Turkish. Classes in Backwashing Around quietly commemorating a boy by cryptography have already been introduced Something new has been added to dedicating to him some books that in two schools and similar courses are slated dress up the "John Henrys" of his fellow-Aggies will enjoy and to appear in six more curricula. Psychology many of the graduating Seniors. profit by. departments have taken on significance by offering "pre-service" training in "military offering "pre-service" training in "military psychology", "propaganda psychology," "moral psychology" and the "psychological causes of war." College men are being trained in "quick computation methods," "ballistics," electronic chemistry," "Pacific geography," "military cartography," "aerial photography," "practical telephony," "ship drafting," "first aid," "stress analysis," and "truck driving."

The task of the average male undergraduate today is to achieve the highest possible military effectiveness, both for his personal satisfaction and advancement, and for the general effectiveness of the United States in winning this war. To this average student, says the report, three things are important: first, his college education; second, a sound basic pre-induction military training; and third, some assurance that any specialized pre-induction training he does will be utilized by some branch of the armed forces. The institutions are making it easier for men to complete their requirements for a bachelor's degree by using various devices to speed up the curriculum; consequently, men will soon be able to be graduated a year or two earlier than they would normally.

The report concludes, "There must be a close cooperation between the army and educational institutions to standardize 'defense courses' before the college men can have any assurance that his specialized training will

# Kollegiate Kaleidoscope



The Engineers are the second or- tary titles on their personal cards, a business partner. The two feud this year. Their choice, Andy Kirk, tenant John E. Doe." No. 1 reason exposes his partner's criminal accomes from engagements at the for the change is to make the tions. It may sound a little mixed Grand Terrace, in Chicago, the cards usable after the final ex- up, but the details are not vital to Famous Door, in New York, and ercises. (Four years of Aggie econnumerous college dates, including omy is another reason.) Yale and Princeton. His is one of From Denton comes a story lathe few traveling outfits that car- beled "Aggie optimism": TSCWite ry female features-June Rich- Lucille McDermott received a tele-



June Richmond

tured male soloist is Pha Terrell. Mother's Club of San Angelo has Clouds of Joy, the band broadcasts College Library in memory Decca—their recording of "47th recently. Street Jive" sold to the tune of In memory of Ely Wright, an

Joe W. Gibbs and Leo D. House- Churchill. Substitute Courses Offered wright, piloting plans for the Ball, Walter Stanley Campbell's College editors also report that their say that only uniforms will be "Short Grass Country" has been

arms, some Seniors will sport mili- he is forced to take Arnold in as

Jack Hood

MERCER UNIV.

ALUMNUS OF 189 ENROLLED FOR

invitation, closed "with love," was that Lucille doesn't know, and has never heard of, the Aggie who sent it . . . the so-called blackout Tuesday night was just a practice to get the new air raid wardens "in the mood." A few lights were turned off for effect, but the main objective was to get the wardens on the line to prevent possible "first scares" . . . for an up-to-theminute view of war geography, look in on the war maps in the main hall of the Library. Carlton Sheram, I-Infantry, keeps the maps current on his own time, changing them daily, or more often, as the battle goes

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During the past year the A. & M. Billed as Andy Kirk and His made two gifts of books to the San Angelo Aggies who have died

> engineering student, the Mother's Sweat, and Tears." by Winston

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# COVERING

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for lion-hunter Douglas Fair- to be a success. banks. Things get along and event- The story is quite different from ually the right man wins. It is the usual run of detective mystermotion pictures.

paper editor who turns the col- her beautiful figure well covered umns of the unscrupulous partner, as Carole Landis' sister. Carole Edward Arnold, in "UNHOLY starts out as a waitress and be-PARTNERS." There is a little bit comes a model through the efforts of romance, a dash of comedy, and of sports promoter Victor Mature, lots of action in the story. It will determined to get ahead in the be at Guion Hall today and tomor- world.

Robinson returns to New York after the first World War with a revolutionary idea for the journalistic world, the tabloid size pa-Slated to answer an early call to per. To keep the firm in business,

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AT GUION HALL Thursday, Friday - "UN-HOLY PARTNERS", starring Edward G. Robinson.

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the life of a trio, two men and a tery picture and solve the crime this ability, then go see "I WAKE Outside of the talented Miss Car- UP SCREAMING" at the Campus roll, the story does not hold too tomorrow and Saturday. You will much attraction. To attract atten- probably guess wrong. With a tion from her fiance, Tullio Carm- cast made up of Betty Grable, Vicinati, who is a baron or some- tor Mature, Carole Landis, and thing of the sort, she makes a play William Gargan, the show is bound

strictly in the average class of ies. In fact, it borders on the psycopathic. The cast turns in a fine Edward G. Robinson is a news- job of acting. Betty Grable keeps



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