

# The Battalion

STUDENT TRI-WEEKLY NEWSPAPER  
TEXAS A. & M. COLLEGE  
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## Man, Your Manners

By I. Sherwood

"To be or not to be" married—that is the question many Seniors are asking themselves, for no young officer will want to go marching off to the army and leave his best girl at home in the care of the young man next door.

A couple, no matter how long they have known each other, should not take marriage for granted until the young man has proposed and the young woman has accepted—and it still isn't too old fashioned to get the consent of the girl's parents.

When the announcement is to be made public, whether or not the wedding date has been set, intimate friends may be told in advance. If it is to be a surprise, they are asked to tell no one.

The ring—is, of course, bought by the young man and usually is a diamond, although there is no arbitrary rule as to that; he may choose it himself or ask the girl to aid in its selection. It isn't considered wise to propose and offer the ring at the same time, since this suggests to the young woman that the man is too confident. Should an engagement be broken, each must return valuable gifts received from the other; this includes the ring.

Engaged couples, as a rule, do not wish to have dates with others, but if the situation is such, and consent has been given, either may attend parties or dances with another, but naturally, not too often with the same person.

## PRIVATE BUCK By Clyde Lewis



SUGGESTED BY  
SGT. R. W. DORFF  
MEDICAL DETACHMENT,  
SELFRIDGE FIELD,  
MICHIGAN.  
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"You can't kid me, Buddy. You're not a Colonel; you're a cook! Otherwise, you wouldn't be wearing those chickens on your shoulders!"

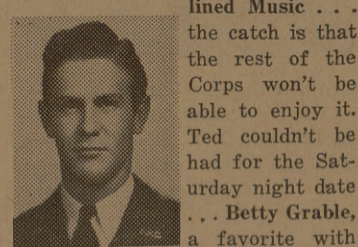
## BACKWASH

By Jack Hood

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

## Musical Pilots

From the Coconut Grove, Hollywood; Hotel New Yorker, N. Y.; Meadowbrook Country Club, St. Louis; and other swanky joints, comes the Composite Regiment's band—Ted Pio Rito and his Sky-lined Music . . .



... the rest of the Corps won't be able to enjoy it. Ted couldn't be had for the Saturday night date . . . Betty Grable, a favorite with the male sex in high school by Ted—she warbled with him until Hollywood crooked its finger . . . He also uncovered Evelyn Keyes, Joy Hodges and "Candy" Candido, who is still with him . . . incidentally, "Candy" is a real novelty—the little man with a thousand voices, or the stunt pilot with a tri-motor voice . . . the little guy can sing the scale from the shoelaces up . . . also, featured is Bert Traxler, "Stratospheric Saxophonist," and "The Three Chicks and their 'power diving trombones' . . . Ted is a devoted horse-raiser (like Crosby) . . . his horses have paid him a net profit of twenty grand so far—they cost him five—and he claims he does it because he loves horses . . . his greatest ambition is to win a Kentucky Derby—and then write a hit tune about it.

## Sweepings

Foreword: the American soldier draws a \$42 pay check every month (more when on foreign soil), which ain't "hay," and the Jap soldier draws a 37c pay check, which is "rice" . . . a very nice looking young lass, who is blonde, blue eyed, five foot, three inches tall, and weighs 107, wants one nice cadet to take her to the Cotton Pageant. She is a Duchess from Beaumont, and her picture may be seen by asking Mrs. Johnson, in the Agronomy office . . .

## Aggies--

Come to see us today for that Shampoo and Haircut  
WE STRIVE TO PLEASE YOU  
AGGIELAND BARBER & BEAUTY SHOP  
North Gate — Across From Post Office

Clyde Ingram, extension poultryman at Louisiana State university, has developed a chicken brooder that can be built in spare time with about \$7 worth of materials.

S. W. Edgecombe, horticulturist on the extension staff of Iowa State college, has resigned to become associate professor in plant science at the University of Manitoba, Winnipeg.

## Capital to Campus

Associated College Press

WASHINGTON—(ACP)—Secretary of War Stimson has announced that 100,000 men and women will be trained for civilian war jobs—inspectors at Government factories, depots and arsenals; production workers, etc.—in Government and State-owned schools. Students will be paid \$900 to \$1400 a year while in training. (Men trained must be "outside" Selective Service requirements.)

Civil Service here in Washington virtually assures stenographers a job within one week of filing an application. Within the next few weeks Civil Service must furnish 1,000 stenographers to Washington war agencies.

Typing and shorthand skills are an excellent entering wedge if you are interested in working for Uncle Sam and can't discover any vacancies in your field. Your chances of transferring to the kind of work for which you are especially trained are termed "very good" if the specialty you are seeking ties in with the war effort.

More than 5 per cent of the nation's 20-year-olds who registered in the last draft are college students—some 136,700 of them. They were assigned order numbers March 17 and prospects of an early military career are very real for most of them. The War Department says that beginning June 1, quotas will probably call for men in both the first (21-35) age group and the second age group (20-year-olds and 36-45 year olds). Local boards have been instructed to mail questionnaires to registrants in the second age group in "sufficient numbers to insure filling of the June call entirely from this age group if necessary."

According to an OCD survey of 400 college newspapers, more than half are sending the school paper free of charge to former students now in military service.

The University of Hawaii was included in the survey, but a letter from Frederick Tom, president of the Hawaiian A. S. U., explained that the student newspaper couldn't answer the questionnaire because publication stopped Dec. 7. Enrollment has dropped 65 per cent; almost the entire staff of the paper, Ka Leo O Hawaii, has left school.

## Quotable Quotes

"Education for national unity was achieved by the Nazis at the cost of a general depreciation of intelligence, lowering of scholastic standards, and corruption of national morality. Absolute indoctrination was achieved by grotesque falsifications of history and by incalculating certain emotions before the critical faculties had a chance to develop. The Nazis proved masters not only in the psychology of education but in its organization, as they did in all other fields. They organized new educational agencies and institutions which took educational leadership away from the schools. I am referring to labor camps, so-called land years and, above all, the youth organization of the party. The result has been a reversal of educational values: of greatest importance now are physical fitness, indoctrination, the development of the 'will,' silent obedience and absolute loyalty; of least importance is intellectual development." Dr. Frederick Lilje, instructor in education at the University of California.—ACP.

"There is a possibility of the United States suffering defeat in the present war as a result of Americans failing to recognize their peril." John DeBoer, director of student teaching at Chicago Teachers college.

## Unexcused Absences?

It was unfortunate that Lord Halifax, the British Ambassador to the United States was unable to make his visit to A. & M., but due to unfavorable flying weather in San Antonio the trip was cancelled. A large group of local people were anxious to get a glimpse of the ambassador and Aggies were equally desirous of reviewing for the noted visitor. As a result of the failure to have the review, many Aggies missed their 10 and 11 o'clock classes after they had been rescheduled and received cuts as a consequence.

To those who did not have a class at those hours it will make no difference, but to many students there will be cuts chalked up. For a man to receive a cut this late in a term will hurt his grade, and because of the shortened term here the effect might be more severe. Many students had no idea that their classes were being held since they were told to meet them just a few minutes before they started. And what about those students who lived with non military outfits and did not have time to get back and make class?

It seems unfair to charge a student with an unexcused absence under the conditions of Wednesday morning. Dean Bolton has suggested a fair method of determining cuts to meet this situation. Such a method would be to let each student take up with his own professor the absence which he has acquired.

## Preps Favor Speed-up

Almost half the high school students in the United States favor an accelerated college program that will enable them to complete their educations more quickly, as called for by the present emergency. This was revealed recently when results of a survey conducted by Northwestern university among 9,354 high school students throughout the country were announced.

Forty-eight per cent of the students queried said they preferred one of three types of accelerated programs to the traditional four-year course with annual summer vacations. Percentages ranged from 35 per cent on Chicago's North Shore to 54 per cent in the western states. Fifty per cent of the men and 45 per cent of the girls favored acceleration, but indications were that many men voted against speed-ups because they must work during summer vacations.

Most popular of three suggested faster programs was one calling for three regular years and two summer quarters, averaging 16 or 17 hours, with graduation coming in June of the third year. This was selected by 20.6 per cent of those voting, or 43.5 per cent of those favoring acceleration.

Second choice among speed-up programs was one calling for three regular years and three summer quarters, averaging 15 hours each, with graduation in August of the third year.

This demand for both normal and accelerated education indicates, the survey report points out, that colleges and universities must be prepared to maintain flexible educational programs during the war period.

"Americans have always paid great deference to European culture patterns and the more uncritical among us have held a sense of inferiority. The average college graduate has had a greater knowledge of European culture than his own. The future will see a revival of interest in the cultural history of the United States. Close attention will be paid to American history, philosophy, literature and language. There will be a keener interest in American institutions, traditions and ideals. The well-balanced programs of secondary and higher education in the United States are likely to be characterized by a minimized emphasis upon European cultural antecedents and a greater emphasis upon American and Oriental culture patterns." Dr. Gordon S. Watkins, dean of the college of letters and science on the Los Angeles campus of the University of California.

## ANIMAL ODDITIES

By Tex Lynn

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In the upper reaches of the Amazon and Orinoco rivers of South America lives one of the world's most deadly fish—the dreaded Pirahna. Although its total length is only 18 inches, it can do almost as much damage as a 3-foot shark, and is much more inclined to attack man than is the latter.

Were an animal to fall into Pirahna-infested waters it would be reduced to a skeleton in short order. The harmless looking fish are quick to respond to the scent of blood, and a few moments after an animal enters the realms of the Pirahna it will be attacked. In no time at all the water will be literally boiling and seething with the ravenous fish, all bent on gorging themselves on the flesh of the rapidly-disappearing carcass. Foreigners not acquainted with this fish have been known to trail their hands in the water while drifting quietly along in a canoe; they suddenly feel a stab of pain, and upon withdrawal of that member find a finger missing.

Sometimes it is necessary to drive cattle across streams or small rivers in which the Pirahnas dwell—so a clever ruse has been developed by the South American natives to fool these fish. Two old steers are staked in the middle of the river, one up stream

and the other down stream, some 300 yards apart. The blood-thirsty fish are thus lured away from the cattle who are fording the stream at a point midway between the two steers.

An equally strange fish is the East Indian Gurnard, a water-living, land-walking monstrosity. Three spiny projections on the breast fin enable it to climb out of the water, and into low-hanging branches of a near-by tree, or to wander over the land in search of streams or rivers with a more plentiful supply of food. Travelers have brought back tales of these cross-country journeys, and from all reports the fish seem to suffer little from their long absence from their native element.

The army seems quite capable of constructing submarines and tanks, and yet they seem to be baffled by a machine that would combine the finer points of the two, something this versatile fish evolved with surprising success.

A close relative to this marine oddity is the "archer fish," the William Tell of fishdom. It can eject a fine stream of water so accurately that it can bring down an insect basking on an over-hanging leaf or branch, and without any semblance of a bomb sight what so ever.

How refreshing it is to know that all fish are not as uninteresting as our native minnow, mackerel, or smelt.

## Le Clerc to Give Course for Consumers

Belleville, Ill. (ACP)—A course designed to enable every consumer to fight his way through rising prices caused by the defense program and still save money has been announced by Le Clerc college.

The course is offered in night school and is open to men and women for both practical value as well as college credits.

Directed by Professor Charles Waller of Le Clerc college and St. Louis university, it will follow advice of the federal government in how to purchase. It will cover the intricacies of new defense taxes and detailed operation of 12 federal housing agencies.

Students will be instructed in how to get the most for their money in virtually every type of consumer goods and will be shown the variety of government bulletins covering nearly every subject of interest to consumers.

2 Used  
TUXEDOS  
Must Be Sold  
LOUPOT'S



For Good Food  
And A Good Time

Come To The Deluxe  
Cafe

DELUXE CAFE  
Bryan

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Couples Only  
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Delicious Food  
Fun and Good  
Music for All  
•

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Don't Fail To See  
Loupot's Uniforms  
LOUPOT'S

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TOP FLIGHT  
DRESS  
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Sanforized to control shrinkage—No-Craft non-will collars — for comfort, for good looks, for long wear, choose Topflight Shirts!

\*Reg. U. S. Pat. Off.  
Sanforized means fabric shrinkage will not exceed 1%.

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Your Cuffs  
Only 35 Cents

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