The Battalion

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

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Editor's Note: Staff organization will be completed after the first staff meeting, and the masthead will carry the complete staff as soon thereafter as possible.

So You're Going to Be An Aggie

You are now a member of the greatest brotherhood of men in the world. Over thousands of miles of land and sea, where ever you may go, whatever you may do, you will find men wearing the ring of A. & M. But you cannot call yourself a true Aggie until you have undergone the ritual of your "Fish" year, for it is in that year that you will be taught the meaning of Aggie Spirit. Either you will grow to love A. & M., or if you are not willing to accept the role of a freshman, you will grow to dislike the college and will leave.

The purpose of fish duties is not to haze nor to hurt you. Nor is the purpose to relieve upperclassmen of undesirable tasks or responsibilities. The purpose of serving as a fish is to teach you discipline. Within a short time most of you will be taking your places in the armed forces of the United States as leaders of troops engaged in battle. Unless you know and thoroughly understand what discipline is, unless you are the master of self discipline, you cannot be a successful leader.

It may seem to some that the Aggie system tends to destroy initiative. On the contrary, by removing all previously established ideas of superior abilities and by reducing rich and poor alike to a common status, your superior officers are able to ascertain your individual worth on the basis of results, not reputation.

You now stand at the doorstep to the proving grounds of man's ability, common sense, willingness and eagerness to learn. Before you is the opportunity to carry on a great tradition. On the road ahead lie many pitfalls and heartaches. If you will conquer them, you may proudly call yourself an Aggie.

No other weapons are needed to win this battle than a firm heart and a determination and willingness to be an Aggie in the fullest sense of the word. Remember, 50,000 other men have preceded you in the path you are now walking. They are Aggies! Will you be one?

Welcome New Students

This week some 1200 boys from all parts of Texas and the United States will be introduced to Aggieland. They will be taking one of the biggest steps in their lives. The returning Aggies know that they have come in the right direction—to the greatest school in the country. Each old student welcomes the new Aggies heartily.

Here at Aggieland there will be many new things to you new students, and some of these you will not like. But it has been proven time and again that the best man grins and meets his obstacle with vim and vigor. In many cases help will be offered; take it, for experience, you'll find, counts.

Your stay here at Aggieland will be what you make it and what you want it to be. A student gets back what he puts into his work, and this is true here as well as elsewhere.

Welcome to Aggieland and good luck while you are here.

Quotable Quotes

"Victory will be in two fields, combat and recovery. The impoverished nations of Europe have not the force to handle victory alone or recovery alone. America will lead the way in organization; in answering the tormenting question, how do we want to live; in the just care of our soldiers; in the fair distribution of the national income; in attempting to reduce unemployment; and in world co-operation. Only a trained people, trained in leadership, trained in analysis, **trained in agreement,** can win these great objects. To them our colleges can and will be dedicated, for they are among the highest objects to which the civilization that we cherish is dedicated, our colleges with all the rest."—**From an address by Isaiah Bowman, president, Johns Hopkins University.**

Robert C. Yates of the Louisiana State university mathematics faculty is the author of a new volume, "The Trisection Problem."

Open Forum

16 Harding Place,
Danbury, Conn.
May 13th, 1942.

Commander Corps of Cadets,
Texas Aggies,
Texas.

Dear Sir:

It was my pleasure on Monday, May 11th, to listen to the radio program from your campus and given by Vox Pop and Mr. Johnson. As far as radio programs go, I believe it was one of the best of such so far.

Towards the end, in fact the end, I was held in my chair by your silvery trumpets, when they played your college salute to those graduates who have died in the cause of today, Taps.

I cannot find words that would express to you and your great college, the feeling that came over me all through that sacred few minutes. I know how you feel, because I went through the last war. I know how your hearts are saddened when you hear another of your great men has passed to the great beyond, and, with this in mind, may I present to you and your great college my Taps to these noble lives. May their souls rest in Peace.

Sincerely yours,
William P. Adams.

(Editor's note: The poem is printed on the front page).

From Capital to Campus

ACP's Jay Richter Reports from Washington

HIGH PRICES CHECKED

WASHINGTON.—(ACP)—College students—because their "income" is relatively "fixed"—should benefit more than the average person from the Office of Price Administration's over-all ceiling order on prices.

The inflationary spiral has sent retail prices up 19 per cent the last year. Were the spiral to continue, students would find it tougher and tougher to compete for goods and services in a market glutted with eager buyers.

The ceiling on retail goods goes into effect May 18, while that on services becomes effective July 1. Retailers then must charge no more than their highest March price. Here is what will happen to some important items in the student budget:

Room and board—If you live in a war-rental area room and board will be controlled. Some two-thirds of the Nation's population is included in these areas.

Restaurant meals—No price control.

Clothing—Both men's and women's controlled.

Movies and entertainment—No ceilings.

Carfare—No ceilings.

Cigarettes, cosmetics, toothpaste, aspirin—Just a few thousands of "processed commodities" on the controlled list.

Laundry, dry cleaning, shoe repairing, etc.—Controlled.

Beauty and barber shop services—No control. The government does not recognize beauty as a "commodity," and only services involving commodities are controlled.

You might remember, when the ceilings go into effect, the order does not wipe out price differences between stores. If a merchant under-sold his competitors last March, he may still do so. On about 100 important cost-of-living items retailers must post signs signs informing purchasers of the maximum legal price. Also, merchants must give you a sales slip if you request one.

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WAR . . .

Quisling's order sending 500 Norwegian teachers off to Finnish labor camps in the cramped hold of the S. S. Skjerstad has aroused storms of protest throughout Norway. The 500 were among thousands who refused to join Norway's Nazi Teachers Union, Norges Laerersamband.

When the "Nazi slave ship" docked in Tronheim, it was reported that all the teachers were sick and two of them had gone mad. Even Quisling satellites protested against resumption of the trip. Provincial Governor Prytz wired Quisling:

"Hygienic conditions on board are extraordinarily bad . . . Many will not be able to lie down at night . . . Many of the teachers are ill . . . The water supply is insufficient. . . . Suggest medical examination for all teachers."

The ship was sent on its way after a Quisling physician treated some 100 of the sick.

Iowa State college spring quarter registration is 5,211, a drop of 2½ per cent from the 1941 spring quarter.

Foster hall is to be the name of the new girls' dormitory at Texas Christian university, which is nearing completion.

University of Michigan faculty members have undertaken 31 war research projects for the federal government.

Sixteen Iowa State College women are now qualified to drive ambulances in the services of the United States.

BACKWASH

By Jack Hood

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

Climbing

Back in the saddle again . . . we thought about starting this 67th year with the usual Backwash column . . . leaving out the "welcome-back-did-you-have - a - good-vacation" bull . . . but this was written during vacation and we're as lazy as you are . . . so we'll just introduce ourselves to the "fishermen" and try to make customers out of them.

To the newcomers: Backwash is the Aggies' column dealing with the lighter side of Aggie life. **(This is one thing you don't have to pay for, or stand in line to get . . .** our job isn't front page blab, sports, or editorials; but usually falls in several departments: Human interest, entertainment, humor (or call it worse), campus small talk, miscellaneous . . . and this year we hope to uncover interesting lines on Aggie-Exes in the service. Once in a while we have to put in our two pennies worth in the form of a little editorializing, but we try to shy away from that—the editor can do the bleeding.

Hood

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Last Year

Started as usual . . . close to 7,000 registered . . . our football team was the fall attraction—they literally fought and tore their way from the underdog position to the top . . . **then, December 7th—and the fun started.** Many changes quickly changed **Aggie College days to Aggie Red, White, and Blue days . . .** some of our prized traditions got the ax, but it was all for **Uncle Sammy.** Shortly before mid-term we began to really taste the war—even outside the mess halls . . . the semester was shortened a week, and we wasted no time getting into the second semester. The Board announced a 12-months school year, with no finals. The last go-around seemed short . . . dances were crowded into the scarce week-ends, but bands (like sugar and rubber) were hard to get. **Finally, the Great Day rolled around for our seniors . . . but the 564 who got commissions didn't get a breathing spell—they were ordered to active duty two days after graduation** (out of the frying pan, into the fire).

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This Year

It's "around and around she goes," but she stops for no man . . . everything is speedier. The '43 seniors will graduate in January, so the football season, the dance season, etc., will have to be jammed together . . . it should be **far from dull. The new open-air dance pavilion will be used for regimental dances,** as well as informal shindigs . . . and Social Secretary Bobby Stevens hopes to get more good bands on the dotted line this summer.

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Left-overs

And was her face red: Mrs. Francklow, secretary in the Student Activities office, was worrying over the problem of identifying about 300 students who had lost the fiscal receipt with which they were supposed to get their Longhorns. One day a little fella came into the office . . . he was dressed in coveralls—one leg rolled up . . . Mrs. Francklow didn't even look up . . . said she, **"Alright, let's see your yellow slip"** . . . the young man returned, "Please, I'd like to get my mail. I'm Boyd Raeburn."

Most everybody heard Dub Sibley talk to Ann Sheridan via long distance telephone on the Vox Pop program a few weeks ago . . . but not all of it. Dub Sibley said a few words to Ann over the air waves, but he talked to her a good while after leaving the stage at Guion Hall . . . something like this: **"Say, Ann (Honey), I got a girl out at U.C.L.A., and I wish you'd wire her for me and tell her to saddle her horse and come to Texas . . . and I'd sure like to have a little six-by-eight foot snapshot of you."....**

We swiped this for the fish: "Believe it or not, your handshake reflects your personality" . . . "The shortest distance between dates is a good line" . . .

Ten Points Maximum Student May Garner at One Time in Campus Affairs

Student executive positions in the corps are limited as a result of the point system which has been adopted by the Student Activities Committee.

The maximum number of points to be allowed a single student would be ten. The original recommendations of the student activities committee provided that the various student jobs be distributed among as many students as possible, and, at the same time, prevent any one student from being engaged in more activities than time would permit.

The basis for this limitation, as recommended by the committee, would be a point system whereby each job would be judged by the importance it carries and weighed accordingly.

Student positions on the campus carry the following weight:

Cadet Colonel	10
Editor Battalion	10
Editor Longhorn	10
Advertising Manager Battalion	8
Advertising Manager Longhorn	8
President Senior Class	8
Associate Editor Battalion	6
Associate Editor Longhorn	6
President Junior Class	6
President Sophomore Class	6
President Freshman Class	6
Town Hall Manager	6
Senior Yell Leaders	6
President of student clubs	4
Managing Editor Battalion	4
Junior Yell Leaders	4
Vice-president student clubs	2
Sec.-Treas. student clubs	2

WELCOME BACK TO AGGIELAND

OLE ARMY

DINING

AND

DANCING

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