

The Battalion

STUDENT TRI-WEEKLY NEWSPAPER
 TEXAS A. & M. COLLEGE
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The World Turns On

By DR. R. W. STEEN

The war picture has not been rosy at any time this year, and during the past few weeks it has taken a decided turn for the worse. The English defeat in Libya was bad enough, even though they seem to have recovered to some extent. Even if Rommel never advances another foot he is 300 miles closer to Alexandria and Cairo than he should be. It will be no easy task to throw him back.

Much worse than the Libyan affair is the story from Russia. The Germans have gained more ground in three weeks than the Russians gained in their highly publicized winter offensive, and are now deeper in Russia than ever before. To make matters worse they are in position to trap a large portion of the Russian army and if they succeed they will be in possession of several valuable oil fields. Germany's spring offensive turned out to be a summer offensive, but there can be no doubt that it is a full scale offensive.

There is much talk about Russian armies withdrawing deep into the country and continuing the fight from the very fringe of European Russia. Too many people assume that this would be a simple task, and that there would still be a full scale Russian front. The retreat might be possible, but when it happens, if it happens, the Russian front will become one of secondary importance. There is very good evidence to indicate that not more than one-fourth of the German army was facing the Russians last winter. A much smaller force would be necessary to hold off a Russian army cut off from many of its own resources and from the aid which America and Britain could offer. In such a case it would be necessary for Britain and America to face practically the entire might of a German army flushed with its new successes.

All of this means that the condition is serious and should be treated as such. It might be a good idea for Americans to put away their rose colored glasses and quit assuming that we are going to win whether we work hard or not. One thing that does the country no good is the presence of candidates for high office assuring the people that there is nothing to worry about. Chairman Andrew J. May of the House Military Affairs Committee has just assured the people that the war will certainly end early in 1943, and that it might end in 1942. He says the information on which he bases this prediction is a military secret. It is undoubtedly a secret. It is to be hoped that it is something more than cheap politics.

This Collegiate World

ASSOCIATED COLLEGE PRESS

Six hundred Michigan high schools and 100 from outside the state are being surveyed by the University of Michigan to find out how many of this year's high school seniors plan to enter colleges and universities this June in accelerated programs like that announced by Michigan.

A letter to high school principals, describes the university's three-term plan and asks for information on number of high school students to be graduated this spring, how many will go on to college, how many will enter the university's new summer term, and what studies students intend to pursue. Each term of the university's new program will be equal to a full semester, and students entering this June will be able to be graduated with the bachelor's degree in February, 1945.

Information obtained from the survey will be available to other educational institutions.

Taking into consideration the varying needs of students to fit into the defense effort, Kent State university has conducted a survey of students expecting to attend the summer session to find out their individual needs.

Publication of the summer catalogue was delayed until results of the survey were tabulated.

Students have a still better chance of earning their way through college now than they had before war was declared, according to Arno Nowotny, director of student employment at the University of Texas.

Looking toward possibilities of employment for students in future university terms, Nowotny declared:

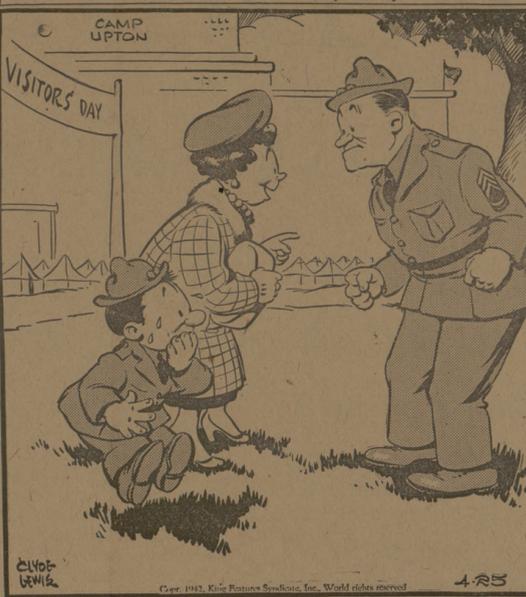
"There has been a tremendous turn-over in part-time jobs, because of the large number of men leaving school for the army or navy. There are more jobs open and more employers coming to us for student workers as their employes are drafted. We have a particular demand for waiters, butchers, soda jerkers and filling station operators."

In normal times, approximately two-thirds of the men students and one-fifth of the co-eds seek jobs. Although no exact figures have been kept, it is probable that the percentage of co-ed job hunters now more closely approximates that of the men students. As more and more students don uniforms, more and more unskilled jobs—such as waiting tables—are open to girls.

Declaring that education of people to be more discriminating radio listeners is "highly imperative" in a democracy, Raymond W. Tyson, instructor in public speaking at Pennsylvania State college, urges that public schools and colleges give more courses in radio.

Tyson is teaching a course in radio appreciation at Penn state, stressing program planning, rigid adherence to professional standards of timing and study of production technique.

PRIVATE BUCK By Clyde Lewis



"Buck's often spoken of you in his letters, Sergeant. Now let's see, are you the Shavetail or the drip?"

BACKWASH

By Jack Hood

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

Hilger

Lt. Col. John A. "Jack" Hilger is listed in the 1932 Longhorn as a member of the Toonerville Reviewers but according to the general opinion around the campus it was one of the practical jokes prevalent during the era . . . shortly before that time there was an interurban running from college to Bryan which was called the Toonerville Trolley and some trickster connected him with the operations of the line.

Backwashin'

Following is the text from an ad in the classified section of a San Antonio daily and thinking that the soldier might have been an Aggie it ought to be brought to the attention of the corps . . . "A CERTAIN soldier's wonderful brown eyes seemed to send a message to my grey-green ones as he marched along Houston Street Bridge (right-hand side) Wednesday p.m. I hope he may see this and write to box 2992 Express.

Sports Editor?

Just picked this up in the rubbish but it might be the description of a Sports Editor . . .

When God gave out brains, I thought He said trains and I missed mine;
 When He gave out looks, I thought He said books and I didn't want any.
 When God gave out legs, I thought He said kegs and I asked for two short ones.
 When He gave out noses, I thought He said roses and I asked for a big red one.
 When God gave out ears, I thought He said beers and I asked for two short ones.
 Gee! I'm a mess . . . Yes, could be.

Blasting Caps Should Be Handled Carefully

With recent months bringing to Texas a great number of defense construction projects, the danger resulting from the careless handling of blasting caps has been greatly magnified, according to Dr. Geo. W. Cox, State Health Officer.

"Due to occasional carelessness on the part of workmen, live caps sometimes are left in the neighborhood of construction jobs and thus get into the hands of children or others ignorant of their character," Dr. Cox said, "Curiosity often leads to tampering with these blasting caps with resulting serious injury."

Parents and school teachers should stress that it is perilous to hit blasting caps with a hammer or other instrument, and that it is equally hazardous to throw them into fires, Dr. Cox said. Children should be warned not to touch blasting caps. If they come upon a stray one they should report the fact promptly to some one in authority or to their parents, so that proper steps can be taken to remove this potential danger to life and limb.

With the dangerous character of blasting caps sufficiently emphasized, and children trained not to touch them, the hazards now associated with them can be practically eliminated, Dr. Cox said.

If anyone is interested in getting a job typing under civil service the news comes that the only requirement is to distinguish between a washing machine, a machine gun, and a typewriter in three tries.

In case you fail on the original exam you are eligible for re-examination upon request.

Sweepings

Intoxicated driving, uncontrolled thumbing, and indiscriminate spooning, a traffic report declares, are among the major menaces of our highway safety. (Or to put it more briefly, hic, hike, and hug.) . . . This darn near broke the vacuum cleaner.

Attention

all profs. The editor of this column considers his studies more important than the editing of same and it is therefore being written today by a ghost guest writer.

Family Gardens Are Life Savers Due To High Food Prices

J. F. Rosborough, horticulturist of the Extension Service, said today that increased food prices was causing many families to lean heavily on the home supply of fresh vegetables. Those who have these gardens are finding that they are life savers.

The gardening program is not, however, over for this year, according to Rosborough. The winter gardens of the southern half of the state are usually the best for that section of the state.

In preparing fall gardens all weeds should be removed before plowing. After removing weeds, summer manure, or barnyard fertilizer should be broadcast over the area to be planted. The garden should then be plowed to a depth of three or four inches, being sure that the soil is well pulverized. An additional fertilizing should be done using commercial fertilizer, three to four pounds per hundred feet of row.

Certain seed, such as beans, peas and cabbage, should be treated before planting. Cabbage blackleg disease may be eliminated by immersing the seed in water of 122 degrees F. for 25 minutes. Hard-coated seed may be soaked in hot water over night. It will also be helpful to press the soil around the seed by tamping with a hoe or by walking on the row after the seeds are planted.

Spinach should be planted in October or early November in order to escape the heat of late summer. Rosborough also recommends that certain vegetables, such as beans, mustard, potatoes, English peas and radishes mature before frost. Other vegetables will stand light frosts with little ill effect, according to Rosborough.

Laid in 1820, the cornerstone of Bentley hall, Allegheny college, contains a piece of Plymouth Rock, marble from Dido's Temple, mortar from the Tomb of Vergil and brick from the Tower of Babel.

Juke Box Prom Saturday...35 cents

Were You in the Group?

Thursday night a group of Aggies, or supposedly students of the college who claim to be Aggies, amused themselves in a manner which would characterize them more as junior high school students than as college men. This group, the number is not known, knocked out six street lamps along the main drive while walking back from the east gate. Not only is this group of men guilty of knocking out these lamps which add much to the attractiveness of the campus at night, but other Aggies have been responsible for similar acts. Especially along military walk a number of these lamps have been destroyed for no good reason at all.

The action of these Aggies is without any doubt not representative of the true Aggie spirit. It is hurting no one except the Aggies themselves, as replacing the lights takes money which otherwise could be used in a beneficial way. Because these lights can not be replaced during the present emergency due to priority orders, their absence will cause an unsightly appearance with some of the lights on and some out.

Probably one man in the group Thursday night could have saved the six lamps, but he did not think until it was too late to do any good. In fact all of these men failed to think. Anyway let us hope that was the reason, and not that they actually knocked the lamps out maliciously.

Next time if you get the urgent desire to throw a rock at a lamp, stop and think what will be the result—the loss of a lamp which costs ten dollars and can not be replaced until after the war.

You have to provoke some people into telling the truth.

Twenty-Two Years of Service

Tomorrow the First Baptist Church of College Station will dedicate its new \$50,000 church building located at the North Gate. It represents the culmination of nearly 22 years of tireless effort on the part of Rev. and Mrs. R. L. Brown and stands as a symbol of the outstanding church work they have done on the campus since 1920.

Their work at A&M began with services in Guion Hall, which consisted of one B.Y.P.U. and a short evening preaching service. After three years of struggle to organize a Sunday School and raise money for church purposes, a church was organized with 91 charter members. This is the only church in the United States that is known to be the outgrowth of Baptist student work on a college campus.

Now more than 1,200 Aggies are Baptist or of Baptist preference. So far this year nearly 400 students have joined the church. The church has grown to have a well-graded Sunday school of 24 classes, a Training Union with nine unions, a Brotherhood, a full-graded W.M.U. with five circles of the Missionary Society and five junior organizations, and a very active B.S.U. with a council of more than 20 members.

This is an outstanding accomplishment in the religious field of A. & M. for Rev. and Mrs. Brown and the many Aggies who have over the period of years made this church what it is today.—WJC.

Two Aggie Heroes Return

Two fightin' Texas Aggies return to Aggie-land today to relate their experiences in the theatre of war and more particularly their experiences in dropping bombs on Tokyo. Colonel John Hilger, one of the many decorated former members of B Infantry, was one of the leaders in this attack. Ensign Gay, a member of a younger organization on the campus, has also distinguished himself in the war effort.

These men deserve the admiration and respect of the cadet corps while they visit the campus as guests of their old organizations. May they receive the honor and courtesy which they deserve as graduates of the school and heroes of the Second World War.

COVERING campus distractions

By JACK KEITH

Twenty dollars in prizes will be given away tonight at KADET KAPERS to the best quiz answers and best stunt givers among the audience. Run on the plan of the "Dr. I. Q." program, in which members of the audience answer questions shot to them from the stage, the program will also include a stunt or act of some kind from the winners of the prizes. The regular sing-song and general fun characteristic of the Kadet Kapers programs will be prevalent. Time is 7 o'clock; place—the Assembly Hall.

Price of the JUKE BOX PROM tonight in Sbsa Hall has been raised to thirty-five cents to cover the added cost of having the dance in the main dining room of the building. It is expected that the additional comfort gained by this change will be worth the slight addition to the price of admission. The dance will start at nine and will last till midnight, with the best recordings obtainable being played.

Gracie Allen is starred in the mystery comedy showing today only at Guion Hall. Its "MR. AND MRS. NORTH" with Gracie, William Post, Rose Hobart and Paul Kelly.

With her usual zaniness, Gracie plays the part of Mrs. North, a lady with the hobby of amateur

detective. Bodies fall out from all sides, producing new murder cases and new laughs nearly every minute. The famed Allen line of chatter that has been heard so much over the radio goes on throughout each succeeding murder mystery until finally she stumbles onto the perpetrator of the crimes.

The place usually occupied by George Burns, Miss Allen's husband and cohort, is played by William Post, Jr. Paul Kelly turns in (See DISTRACTIONS, Page 4)

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Gracie's so dizzy
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She's catching killers now
 ...in the fun-thriller of the
 Broadway year!