

# The Battalion

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

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## Open Forum

### Non-Reg in Bryan

Much has been said in the past few months in regard to maintaining the status quo here at A. & M. We have objected to many changes, but have overlooked one change that is within our power to correct.

In years past it has been the policy of the senior class not to allow the other classes to go to Bryan non-reg. We can remember when it would have been worth our life, or certain parts of our anatomy at least, to be found in Bryan in Civilian clothes, or without our hats, or with our collars open and sleeves rolled up. Rather than being the exception now it is the general rule to see juniors, sophoms, and fish all over town in every stage of undress.

With only about three more weeks to go in this term it is time for the senior class to stamp out this condition so that the incoming fish, frogs, or whatever they are, will not think it their privilege to dress as they please.

We take this means to enlist the support of all seniors in correcting this condition and to inform the underclassmen that we expect to see them reg in Bryan at all times.

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## Our Neighbors to the South

By HARRY A. CORDUA

We usually visualize the Latin-Americans as lazy and without any drive and energy. This is a result of paintings depicting the Mexican peon. This annoys the Latin as much as if he would paint a picture of the average W.P.A. worker and claim that he was representative of the North American people.

Two important causes for the lack of energy of some people of the Latin countries is due to the climate and elevation of the countries in which they live. These countries will be found to be in the hot, wet tropics. They naturally have less drive and energy than those who live in cooler climates.

We also unconsciously believe that all Latins are the same racially and culturally, but this isn't true. Argentina's population, for instance, is almost entirely white. Haiti's is black. Guatemala's is 60 per cent pure Indian. In nearly all the republics these races have inter-married. But in each country, the pattern of culture and development is largely set by the numerous elements in the population.

Latin America is made up of two original stocks, Iberian (Spanish and Portuguese) and Indian. Soon after the two stocks began to mix, a third was added, the Negro slaves brought from Africa. Then during the 19th century, a modern immigration movement began. This added a fourth element consisting of new arrivals from many parts of the world.

Latin America in a way is like the United States, just a conglomeration of all races. The South American Indian being more cultured and its conquerors being willing to intermarry with them have made up a great majority of the population of most of the Latin American countries. However, the American Indian, being of the more savage

intermarry with them, has gradually died type, and its conquerors being unwilling to out in prominence.

### WHAT LATIN AMERICA IS DOING!

Bolivian Defense Minister announced in mid-June that a Bolivian military mission was in the United States endeavoring to purchase fourteen million dollars worth of armaments.

The Chilean Army has taken over responsibility for rationing of gasoline in the cities of Santiago and Valparaiso.

Mexican engineers are aiding the Guatemalan government in the construction of the Pan-American Highway bridge over the Suchiate River.

Panama's Ambassador to the United States signed with Secretary of State Cordell Hull an agreement for the sending of U. S. officers to Panama to aid the people in the organization of local defense.

The Colombian War Minister, after returning from an airplane survey of Colombia's coastal regions declared that these areas were as well protected as they possibly could be. The Minister is bitter on the subject of Colombian newsmen who magnified the gravity of the situation; of sensation-seeking foreign journalists, (he didn't state what country) he suggested they had better return home.

Mexico is collaborating with the United States in a large-scale anti-sub campaign for the Gulf of Mexico area, and states that planes and mosquito boats would be issued.

Spanish Falangists were accused of fomenting Axis propaganda, in Latin America. A report from the Venezuelan Congress added that many Falangist occupied important positions in that country.

## Something to Read

By Dr. T. F. Mayo

### Are You Using the War Information Center?

Miss Clara M. McFrancis of the College Library, supplies the following notes on some interesting pamphlets to be found in the entrance hall of the Library. (They may be checked out, by the way).

**Blackouts, 1941,** by the U. S. War Department.

"The effectiveness of a blackout system depends upon the knowledge and the cooperative spirit of the people at large . . . It is inherent strength of character which enables a people to survive air raids . . . This pamphlet . . . is published to provide information as to how certain typical installations may be effectively blacked out."

**Australia, official handbook, 1941,** by the Australian National Publicity Association.

Very readable material on the continent "down under," with excellent illustrations.

**Air-conditioning young America, 1942,** by U. S. Civil Aeronautics Authority.

Why and how high schools and colleges should step-up aviation education.

**Fundamentals of air fighting, 1942.**

"The information . . . has been derived from official and accurate reports of actual air combats and operations." Excellent illustrations.

**Questions and answers on regulations concerning aliens of enemy nationalities, 1942,** by U. S. Department of Justice.

Who "alien enemies" are and what is being done about them.

**First aid in the prevention and treatment of chemical casualties, 1941,** by the U. S. office of Civilian Defense.

" . . . Intended for the personal emergency medical field units and others who may be immediately concerned in the decontamination of persons and the administration of first aid to chemical casualties." Graphic illustrations.

**Handbook of first aid, 1941,** by the U. S. Office of Civilian Defense.

" . . . Prepared for the supplementary training of members of Civilian defense units and as a guide for continued practice after completion of the first aid course." Well illustrated.

**Divide and conquer, 1942,** by the U. S. Office of Facts and Figures.

Hitler's recipes for the "war of nerves."

**Nutrition handbook; a guide for county and municipal food and nutrition committees in Texas, 1942,** by Texas State Nutrition Committee.

"Nutritionists have the knowledge to conquer both hidden and hollow hunger. This knowledge has been translated into a simple guide—the Texas Food Standard which was prepared by Texans for Texans."

**Revised tire rationing regulations and the tire rationing guide, 1942,** by the U. S. Office for Emergency Management.

**Organization of the Army, 1942,** by the U. S. Office of Civilian Defense.

The organization and functions of the various branches of the army services.

**The Personnel of the Army of the United States, 1942,** by the U. S. War Department.

"Information regarding the appointment, enlistment, and induction of commissioned officers, army nurses, warrant officers, cadets, officer cadets and enlisted men."

**The United States Navy, 1941,** by the U. S. Office of Civilian Defense.

Information relative to organization, personnel, fleet, and shore establishments. (1941) (Walsh, David Ignatius).

Similar in scope to the War Department's "The Army of the United States," in the Library's cataloged collection as Serial 10312. Types of ships and aircraft are illustrated.

## PRIVATE BUCK . . . By Clyde Lewis



"We like your enthusiasm, Buck, but it isn't necessary to censor the addresses!"

## BACKWASH

By Jack Hood

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

### Joke . . .

Although there was no highly objectionable matter in the August issue of The Battalion mag the mere fact that it wasn't issued caused more publicity than any of the jokes heard lately could have. After passing the joke around several times it finally got enough added to it to make it a pretty good one.

Members of the Press club gathered around yon festival place to present W. C. Stone a little memento with which to remember them when he goes to his new post at Stillwater.

Postal officials are recommending that if you want to send Christmas packages to armed forces outside the United States you gotta' mail early. When they say early that is really what they mean too. To get them there by the twelfth month and twenty-fifth day they must be in the mail in October, not November or early December.

It seems as though the Coast Art Seniors got wised up to the fact that they are supposed to wear undershirts out to calisthenics in the morning.

On one of the recent cavalry overnight hikes one of the seniors in the group decided he would test the guard and see whether or not he was awake and on his toes. He was! The senior got a konk on the noggin with a club.

### Gay Makes Life . . .

Ensign Geo. H. Gay whipped out with a cover picture on LIFE this week and a nice story inside. The story gives some interesting facts about his flight for which he is now famous.

For those who like riddles here are some. If you think you can solve them write the solution on a penny post card and mail it to box 2402, College Station and the names of those sending in correct solutions will have their names published in a future issue of The Battalion.

### Riddles . . .

Assuming that the distance from New York to Chicago is 900 miles, which of two speeding trains will be nearest Chicago when they meet? The train leaving Chicago is traveling 600 miles per hour and the one leaving New York is traveling 300 miles per hour. Slide rule calculations are barred from the solution of this problem. (Hint).

King Boney once reached the point in life when his chief chancellor died and he was confronted with the problem of selecting a new one. He called together all the wise men in his realm and gave them a series of quizzes. The beginning of the modern quiz program, no doubt. He narrowed the group down to three men and to decide between them he performed the following test.

He carried the three men into a dark room and told them that he was going to paint a spot on each of their foreheads, either red or black. When the lights were turned on the men were to raise their hands as soon as they saw two other men who had black spots on their foreheads. The man seeing two black spots was to keep his hand up until he knew the color of the spot on his own head. When

the lights were turned on all of the men raised their hands and in a few minutes one of the men lowered his. How did he know the color of the spot on his head and what was the color of the spot? In solving the problem remember that these men were very wise and consequently anyone who solves the problem must be very wise also.

## New Electron Micro Technique Found

Plastic films one five hundred thousandth of an inch in thickness, equal to about a tenth of the length of yellow-orange light waves, have been found best by General Electric scientists for revealing details of metal surfaces under the electron microscope. Such instruments magnify these details as much as 20,000 times, far greater than the useful limit of the ordinary optical microscope. These micrographs have already revealed important knowledge about metals used for war material.

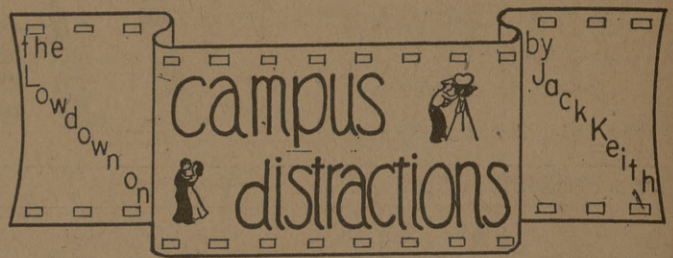
A full account of the technique by which these films are made and used is published in the July issue of the "Journal of Applied Physics," in an article by Vincent J. Schaefer and Dr. David Harker, of the General Electric Research Laboratory. They perfected the method which is basically similar to one that Mr. Schaefer used as a hobby to preserve snowflakes and frost patterns.

After the metal sample is polished and etched for a few seconds with acid, it is dipped into a dish containing a solution of Formvar, a plastic, in dioxane, a commercial solvent. The authors point out that it is necessary to do this within a few minutes after the sample has been etched and dried. Otherwise an infinitesimally thin film of grease or other contaminating material may start to form, and this affects the quality of the results.

Schaefer and Dr. Harker find that the exact thickness of the Formvar film is important, and this can be regulated by the strength of its solution in dioxane. Very thin films, about a millionth of an inch, do not show much contrast in the final electron picture. This seems to be because the film both on top and bottom follows the hills and valleys of the metal. Thus it is all nearly equally transparent to the electron beam. If the film is as thick as 1-250,000 of an inch, contrast is also poor. Then the difference in the film between the hills and valleys is slight and all parts of the film offer nearly the same difficulty to the passage of the electrons which take the place of the light waves in the ordinary microscope.

Best thickness is around a five hundred thousandth of an inch. These are just thick enough to make the top of the film level, while the bottom reproduces the hills and valleys. To the neglect of previous experimenters to appreciate these factors, the two G-E scientists attribute the failure of others to obtain satisfactory electron micrographs by films stripped directly from metal specimens.

Juke Box Prom Saturday . . . 85c



The latest JUKE BOX PROM on the social calendar for this summer is scheduled for tonight in The Grove. As in the past, informality and coolness will be the main objective of the prom, with music of all the best known orchestras now being played from records. Price of admission is only 35 cents for the three hours of cool entertainment between 9 and 12 o'clock tonight.

Michele Morgan, Hollywood's newest discovery from France, is co-starred with Paul Henreid in "JOAN OF PARIS". Henreid, a British actor, has been in Hollywood making pictures for only a short time also. These two refugees turn in a suspenseful, entertaining movie in "Joan of Paris."

The story tells of the attempt of five British fliers to escape from Nazi-occupied France after being forced down there. Henreid is the only one unable to escape to England. He finally takes shelter in Michele Morgan's room and persuades her to tell Thomas Mitchell, a priest friendly to the Free French, where he is so that a getaway bay be effected. The couple are caught and meet a tragic fate.

The movie is a combination of life, love, hatred and death combined to produce fine entertainment. The two foreign stars are excellent in their parts, along with May Robson, as a British, and Thomas Mitchell as the friendly priest.

### WHAT'S SHOWING

At Guion Hall  
Saturday—"Fingers at the Window", with Lew Ayres, Laraine Day and Basil Rathbone.

At THE CAMPUS  
Saturday—"Sweetheart of the Fleet", with Joan Woodbury and Brenda and Cobina.  
Midnight Preview—"Joan of Paris", with Michele Morgan and Paul Henreid.

**VICTOR AND BLUEBIRD RECORDS**

BE CAREFUL IT'S MY HEART . . . Bing Crosby  
HOLIDAY INN . . . Bing Crosby  
CROSSROADS . . . Vaughn Monroe  
ALL THOSE WONDERFUL YEARS . . . Gene Krupa

**HASWELL'S**  
Bryan

MOVIE  
**Guion Hall**  
SATURDAY  
1 p. m. — 7 and 8:30

LEW AYRES — LARAINÉ DAY  
BASIL RATHBONE  
in  
**"Fingers at the Window"**

Orchestra News Cartoon

COMING  
Monday -- Tuesday -- Wednesday  
The Story That Thrilled Thousands  
**"King's Row"**