

# The Battalion

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

By I. Sherwood

Maybe you didn't notice that the Battalion was without "manners" last Thursday. The writer ate fish served up in a "swanky" manner—ate it with "gusto," but it was spoiled, and fish when spoiled can deal one more misery than anything else in the field of foods—the writer knows.

Fish is a tricky food; it can be so tender and yet often full of bones. To remove bones from the mouth, do not hide behind your napkin, use the thumb and index finger letting the rest of the fingers screen the mouth—do a swift, neat job of it.

Large fish are usually cut up and served in portions called a fillet; halibut, however, is often served as steaks. Salmon, also, is sometimes served as steaks in very large portions.

A small fish, the proper size for one serving, is usually served whole with the head and tail on. It takes a great deal of courage to eat a fish while it gazes up at you with a glassy stare. (I've heard of putting a piece of bread over the fish eye.)

Shrimp served as a cocktail may be broken into convenient-sized bits to be eaten. If they are served in their shells, they are picked up in the fingers "shelled," dipped in the sauce, and bitten off as convenient.

Oysters served as a raw cocktail must be eaten whole. Dip the oyster into the sauce and eat all at once.

*There is many a boy here today who looks on war as all glory, but boys, it is all hell. You can bear this warning voice to generations yet to come. I look upon war with horror.—Sherman.*

## War Comments

By Walter F. Goodman, Jr.

After nearly a two-month suspension of major hostilities it appears that perhaps the world is about to see some action in North Africa. We have had substantial information that the North Africa Corps of Rommel has been considerably reinforced and to such an extent that perhaps it is nearly twice the size of its former proportions which was something better than 50,000 men. The British have been very reluctant to put out any information about their recent acquisitions of men and material so we have precious little to base any assumptions we might make as to the present force of the British in Egypt.

However, one important clue has come to the fore in relation to the British in Africa which is the changing of the command from General Auchinleck to General Alexander. Gen. Auchinleck gained a little dispute when the Germans made their sudden successful eastward drive into Egypt but onto this evidence we can't base the complete reason for the change of commanding officers. General Alexander has a very brilliant record noted for his driving unremitting tactical methods and if the British are desirous of making a new attempt to regain their lost territory no better man could be chosen to carry out the mission—of course with no direct affront to Gen. Auchinleck.

The latest reports bring news of German offensive actions in the southern part of the El Alamein-Qattara line but they were anything but extensive or decisive in nature. This may very reasonably be the first hint of the expected German assault but we can't be too sure; for all we know of Gen Alexander it is very probably that the initial action will come from his camp. Undoubtedly the British are determined to hold their lines and go only forward or westward. And realizing that their best defense would be an offense right now, it won't be unexpected to see the British start their own battle in the near future to put Rommel on the defensive.

The undominatable Russians are still fighting their history making battle and doing a meritorious piece of work which every ally can well be thankful for. Today the Russian winter is less than two months off but whether the staunch Red forces have the equipment and numbers to repel the Axis forces until this time and then on through the winter, is a very current and crucial question which only a little more time will tell. But in the interim Russia's sympathizers are not being idle. The question of a second front still hangs in the balance but while it is in suspension other forces are diligently at work. We refer to the daily stories of American and British bombing planes over Germany and German occupied territory which from all reports are taking a devastating toll on Axis manufacturing. This is welcome news but is it of great enough significance to tell on the German drives in Russia and Egypt? Of course the desired and hoped for second front would be the answer to Russia's prayers but I'm still very skeptical of any such action in the current calendar year. Consequently, the allied cause must rest on the wings of our bomber pilots over Germany and on the shoulders of the courageous Russian soldiers and townfolk who have left their shops to reinforce their lines in the most recent crisis around Stalingrad.

*Nature will answer faithfully if we interrogate her—but not if we interrogate ourselves.—Captain E. K. Calver.*

*The relation of land to sea changes, and a place does not always remain land or sea throughout all time.—Aristotle.*

*Nature is not to be commanded, but be obeyed.—Francis Bacon.*

## PRIVATE BUCK . . . By Clyde Lewis



"One crack out of you, Buck, an' you're gonna be sorry!"

## BACKWASH

By Jack Hood

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

### Congratulations . . .

. . . to the Aggieland Orchestra for landing the Fitch Band Wagon spot for September 13. And thanks are in order for the votes and support given the band all over the state. Aggieland Bands of the past few years have tried in vain to land the spot, but "John Q. Public" proved to be the only one that could get the job done.

### Coming Up . . .

This week-end will bring the Soph Ball, Friday night, entertaining the 2-year men and guest Seniors, and the Barnyard Frolic, Saturday night, with Curley Brown's boys dishing out samples of real network swing. The Frolic is always a rollicking, rowdy, down-to-earth session . . . it rated a two-page spread in a national picture magazine last year.

### Mouthwashing . . .

Lt. Charles C. Malitz, '42, of Beaumont, is now stationed with a fighter squadron at Muroc Air Base on the West Coast. He recently married . . . Dick West, new Associated Press writer at

Dallas, gave the Aggie squad a good feature write-up, stating that while we have good material, we have a tough schedule . . . another writer recently compared Aggie-Ex John Kimbrough, playing with the Army All-Stars, with a charging tank (and ask the Redskins) . . . The Coast Artillery is still looking for a band . . . couldn't land Jan Savitt. Don Bestor is their present hope . . .

### It's An Idea . . .

The Battalion of 1917-18 had a Backwash-like column named "A Squalom of God by Knick". Author was none other than H. R. Knickerbocker, world-famous war correspondent of World War I, who attended A. & M. one year . . . and who was an all-the-way Aggie. At one time Knick's column concerned those all-important items, money and menu. Of these he said, "It is said that after the war Sbisca intends to stock up and feed the cadets on the remains of the conquered Deutschland. Buy a Liberty Loan Bond and keep meat on the table and ribs on the A. & M. Patriots."

### And . . .

Adeline Koffman, new female vocalist for the Aggieland, will not sing on the Fitch Band show . . . Fish Sullivan will do the vocals, as only one vocalist is permitted . . .

## Musical Meanderings

By BILL MURPHY

At this writing the Sophomores were still undecided as to which it would be Frances Beasley or the Aggieland, who would play for the ball tomorrow night; in fact, the class had split into two factions regarding the bands. The question is settled now, and regardless of the band, I happen to know that this is slated to be the largest Soph Ball in history, as advance ticket sales have proven. See for yourself.

A letter from an Ex the other day proved to be one of the biggest thrills in my life. It was from Jimmy Joy, one of the biggest bandleaders in the country and who is now playing an extended engagement at the Bismark Hotel in Chicago. Jimmy was leader of the Aggieland 'way back in the late twenties, and went on to say how much the Aggieland had advanced in the last ten or fifteen years. He ended the letter by wishing this year's edition of the Aggie-

land Orchestra the best of luck in the current Fitch Bandwagon Contest as well as through the coming years. These are the things that give you that warm feeling when you fall on that pallet every night and remind you of how lucky you are to be an Aggie, regardless of traditions. Freshmen—take notice.

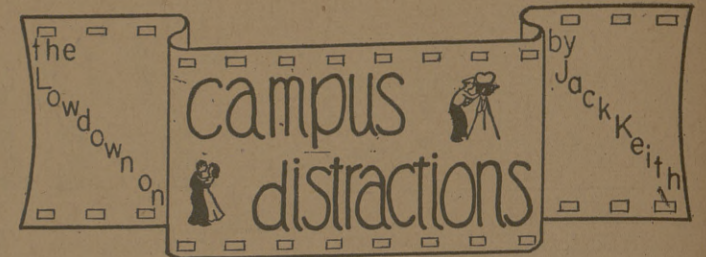
Thirty-Second Notes  
 Don't be surprised if Phil Harris and his orchestra show up in the next few weeks. Harris, who is now playing at the Majestic Theatre in San Antonio, last appeared here in '37 for the Final Ball, and had at the time one of the most potent little vocalists in (See MEANDERINGS, Page 4)

**A Loupot Trade  
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 Money Made**

**Sophomores - - Get Her Flowers for  
 Friday Night**

Have Your Order in by 4 P. M. for 6 P. M. Delivery  
 Due to Government Regulations We Can Deliver  
 Only Once

**BRAN FLORAL & NURSERY CO.**  
 Bryan Phone 2-1266



The whole Corps will dance to the strains of the Aggieland Orchestra Saturday night at the "Barnyard Frolic". It's strictly a non-reg dance, with nobody being admitted to the dance unless he (or she) looks like he's just off the farm. It's A.S.A.E., sponsored; price of admission is \$1.10.

There's lots of mountains, snow, dogs and excitement in "THE GIRL FROM ALASKA", showing today only at the Campus. It's the tale of a prospector, Ray Middleton, who is tricked into believing he killed a man while he had a "few too many" under his belt.

Making his getaway and attempting to get his fingers on to 9,000 ounces of gold that has been uncovered by a certain prospector up in the hills, he meets Jean Parker, who turns out to be the prospector's daughter he means to rob. As it goes in the story books, so it goes here. Ray falls in love with the beautiful girl from Alaska

and spends the rest of his time helping her elude his own partners in crime who have followed him into the hills.

The Lowdown: —the high spots are visual, not mental.

"SONS OF THE SEA" is the story of the growth of trans-Atlantic steamship travel from its earliest days. Made in England, the movie is perhaps a little too dramatic for the typical Aggie or the typical American audience.

The background is Glasgow in 1837, with talk of ships, line mergers and financing filling most of the script. Meanwhile a romance develops between a girl and each of two brothers. Romantic leads (See DISTRACTIONS, Page 4)

**Campus**  
 4-1181  
 Box Office Opens at 1:00 P. M.

**PALACE**  
 PHONE 2-8879

THURS. - FRI. - SAT.

Lawrence Oliver  
 Leslie Howard  
 in  
**"The Invaders"**

PREVIEW—11 P. M. SATURDAY NIGHT

Diana Barrymore  
 Robert Stack  
 in  
**"Eagle Squadron"**

Also SUN., MON., TUE., WED., THURS.

TODAY ONLY  
**"Girl From Alaska"**

and  
 MUSICAL-SPORT  
 SCREEN SNAPSHOT  
 also

ADDED ATTRACTION  
 A Leo Seligson  
 Musical  
**MERRIE MELODIE**  
 TECHNICALOR WARNER BROS.

FRIDAY-SATURDAY  
 FREDDY MARTIN and his ORCH.  
 MAKES A NEW KIND OF HIT!

**THE MAYOR OF 44TH ST.**  
 RKO RADIO Pictures  
 Starring  
 GEORGE MURPHY - ANNE SHIRLEY  
 with William Gargan - Richard Barthelmess - Jean Merrill

FOR A PICTURE THAT  
 SHE WILL BE PROUD OF  
 Come By the  
**Aggieland Studio**  
 North Gate

For the Best of Foods  
 TRY OUR SPECIAL OPEN CHICKEN SANDWICH  
 STEAKS COOKED TO ORDER  
 COLD DRINKS OF ALL KINDS  
 WE SPECIALIZE IN SERVING THE AGGIES  
**M. and M. CAFE**  
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MOVIE  
**Guion Hall**  
 THURSDAY - FRIDAY  
 3:50 and 7:00 P. M. Each Day  
 Michael Redgrave and Valerie Hobson  
 in  
**"Sons of the Sea"**  
 COMEDY NEWS CARTOON  
 COMING SATURDAY  
**"MOKEY"**

## Penny's Serenade

By W. L. PENBERTHY

Since I have been connected with sports I have on many occasions seen players and spectators get mighty serious over the outcome of the simplest of contests. We all know how interested we can become in our varsity teams and their success soon becomes of major importance to us. When they win we are very exalant but when they lose it leaves us in the depths of depression. Whether we be a player or a spectator we too often lose sight of the fact that it is just a game and "somebody loses—somebody wins."

Some folks play games to win and derive pleasure only if they are victorious, others get their pleasure through the razzing of the officials or the players of the opposing side, or both, and then others get their fun through the sheer joy of competition. Surely competition is the "spice of life" and in as much as we are continually competing against other people and things the sooner we learn to be good competitors the more we are going to get from life and the more joy we will derive from our relations with our fellow man.

I like to see a player put everything he has into the contest and I wouldn't give a cent for one who didn't play to win; but I like to see evidence of enjoyment in the effort and no sign of any ill feeling toward the opponent. I like to see a player who plays according to the spirit of the rules and who refuses to take an unfair advantage of an opponent.

There are those who feel that in order for one to do his best he must dislike his opponent but some of the hardest matches I have witnessed in our intramural boxing tournaments have been between boys who, out of the ring, were fine friends and on a few occasions, room mates have fought in the finals and the bouts were really tough.

There are four of us in our department who like to get together for a game of handball once or twice a week and we would rather beat each other than anyone but we get our enjoyment through playing with those we love and not in the winning.

A young Frenchman by the name of Baron Pierre de Courbetin is responsible for the revival of the Olympic games as we know them today. He put what I consider to be the proper attitude into these words, "The important thing is not winning but taking part—the essential thing is not conquering but fighting well."

## This Collegiate World

ASSOCIATED COLLEGE PRESS

A Graphic history of the War, September 1, 1939 to May 10, 1942. By the U. S. War Department.

Maps and diagrams illustrating the distribution of the world's natural resources, "lifeline" trade routes and economics of production, as well as the military campaigns of the war. . . . Prepared from civilian sources of information. Corrections will be made when further data is available."

The Nazi chemical trust in the United States. 1942. By the National Policy Committee.

"I. G. Farben is the most powerful or-  
 \* \* \* \* \*

WAR . . .  
 The Government is bringing the problem of shortages to the college students' door by way of consumer conferences, co-sponsored by colleges and the Office of Price Administration. They are being taught to be cagey "conservers" as well as smart consumers. The Chicago area conference, March 2 through 7, in which 20 colleges participated, is a case in point.

Similar sessions are in the planning stage. Specifically those at Western Reserve, Vassar, Goucher, Denison and Central Y. M. C. A. There is a possibility two more area conferences may take place, one on the west coast and one in the mid-west.