

The Battalion

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

By Walter F. Goodman, Jr.

After being in this scrape now for better than ten months it appears that we are really approaching total efficiency. Of course there are isolated instances of gross inefficiency over the nation but considering the amount of work being done it is really a remarkable thing that there isn't more inefficiency. The President on returning from his unprecedented war-time swing around the country stated that he was well pleased with what he'd seen in the various war industries and what he heard from the many people he'd talked to in various walks of life.

In fact, according to the President, the chief location of inefficiency and dilly-dallying was right in Washington. From the recent stink raised by the self-centered private interests and blocs in congress over First Executive's request for ceilings on farm produce, this isn't hard to understand.

But fortunately we have a war President who really seems to have an insight on what should be done to try to keep the nation on as even a keel as possible during this war; seeing the course developments were taking in our legislative bodies he had gumption enough to tell them that if they didn't create a law that would effectively do what was necessary in his opinion, he'd take the situation into his own hands and get the ball rolling. So sensing the sincerity in the President's voice, Congress backed down, made a few concessions, and manufactured a reasonably acceptable bill which the President signed and put into effect with alacrity.

With our nation in its most desperate straits since its creation we can be thankful that our leader is an individual of strong determination and unwavering will when he knows that should be done to better the general welfare of the nation.

Probably in periods of great national emergencies like the present one, we find democracies at their least efficiency and often rather cumbersome. But from the showing this particular democratic nation is making, I'm sure that even this criticism is greatly minimized. For all that it really seemed to take was the unselfish will to win and we were off, to stop only when the question had been settled, in our favor.

Without a doubt the Seventh was the blow that brought us from our lethargy completely to put these hundred and thirty-odd million freedom-loving people shoulder-to-shoulder to free the world of all the ever growing undesirable inhabitants that it was becoming crowded with.

Without a doubt we can say that our way of life is worth fighting for and under it we are fully capable of collecting ourselves to successfully defend it.

Red Battle stamps his foot, and nations feel the shock.

This Collegiate World

ASSOCIATED COLLEGE PRESS

Examination of 10,000 English test themes of junior college students has convinced Dr. Harvey Eagleson of California Institute of Technology that they constitute an "amazing and unutilized source of information on American home life and opinion." For him they are the "poll of all polls" on what Mr. and Mrs. John Citizen are thinking and doing. "A poll published recently," Dr. Eagleson said, "revealed that the majority of Americans are not in favor of double movie features. 'I knew that two years ago.'"

A few of the facts Dr. Eagleson has established from reading themes:

The radio has become the chief source of entertainment and popular education.

There is a growing boredom among housewives.

The family income is inadequate for comfortable and civilized living.

The American public is becoming increasingly tolerant and liberal in its religious views, but church going is declining.

Taste in interior decorating is decidedly improving.

Knowledge of proper dieting is increasing.

Dr. Eagleson said the themes reveal that housewives are becoming bored because modern devices have so speeded and simplified housework among all classes that the housewife has hours of leisure for which she has not been educated or prepared. Dr. Eagleson believes the students of junior college represent a perfect cross-section of American social and economic life; that they are adolescents without ideas and opinions of their own and that in their themes they voice largely what they have learned at home.

War never leaves where it found a nation.

It is a wise child that knows its own father.—Homer.

government. Under the American system it is not the government which shapes the public mind but the public mind which shapes the government. The duty of government has been assumed to be the duty of reporting to the people any facts in its possession which the people might require to enable them to reach a sound judgment and informal opinion.

That this American system presents certain difficulties, no one who has given the matter any thought will doubt. One difficulty is the difficulty of drawing the precise line between government reporting to the people and the function of the press. The press, in the first few months of this war, as throughout the last, has evidenced a very considerable uneasiness on that subject.

BACKWASH

By Jack Hood

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

Best Tale . . .

. . . on the Baton Rouge trip is George Grimes and Marvin James story.

Spurred by a wild hair, the two Aggies wrote the sports editor of a Baton Rouge paper and asked for (almost demanded) tickets to the Aggie-L. S. U. game. . . just as if sports editors had a habit of dishing out free tickets. As an afterthought, the boys added that he might as well line them up a couple of good dates, too. . . nothing but eye-fillers considered.

Nothing happened, so George and Marvin went home for their between-semester's parole. Then, things began to look up. . . apparently, the sports editor published the story because the governor's wife sent word that the boys would be showered with tickets, dates and lodging in no less than the governor's mansion. George contacted Marvin via long distance phone, and they hit the road for La.

From there, the story may be imagined. . . but the boys had a time they will never forget.

The Aggeland . . .

. . . played the first all-university dance at T. U. Friday night. . .

Curley and the boys got a swell write-up in the Daily Texan—headlines: Aggeland Band Jives Tonight at Union Dance—Farmers to

Million Volt X-Ray Units Used in War Material Plants

More than 40 portable million-volt x-ray units are now in actual operation or soon to be placed in service in industrial plants making important war material, such as turbines, airplane crankshafts, etc., according to W. F. Westendorp of the X-ray division of the General Electric Research Laboratory, Schenectady.

A year ago, said Mr. Westendorp, only one such unit was in use, though several elaborate and fixed million-volt X-ray outfits had been placed in hospitals for cancer therapy. Equipment is used for radiographing parts made of steel and other metals, ranging from ¼ to 8 inches in thickness. These X-ray pictures, made with exposures of only a few minutes, clearly reveal any hidden defects, which may then be chipped out and repaired. Without such examination, the defects could not be detected.

Since some of the largest castings which are examined may weigh tons, and are of a wide variety of irregular shapes, he stated, it would be extremely difficult to position them easily and rapidly for radiography with a fixed installation such as the original hospital unit. Consequently the portable unit, completely enclosed in a metal tank three feet in diameter, four feet in length and weighing 1500 pounds was developed. In a plant already equipped for moving large steel castings, this can be handled easily, and moved rapidly into the most convenient position for the best result.

Three factors, he said, made possible such a compact and lightweight unit. These were the multi-section X-ray tube, the new "resonance" transformer, and the use of gas for insulation.

X-rays result when electrons are hurled against a metal target, and they are more penetrating the faster the electrons are made to move. High-speed electrons, in turn, require high voltages to produce them. But instead of applying the million volts in one dose, the tube of the new unit is made of twelve sections, to each of which about 85,000 volts is applied, making a total of a million. Development of the ferroic seal, for holding glass and metal tightly together through a wide temperature range, made this tube possible.

The resonance transformer eliminates the iron core which must be placed at the center of the coils of wire in a common transformer. Thus, the X-ray tube itself may be placed in this convenient position, resulting in great saving of space.

Careless acts and failure to detect new hazards have resulted in fires.

Bird's Eye View . . .

There's something different about the war every day. Everyone marveled at the famous "shark's eye view" story of Ensign George Gay, '40, in the battle of Midway.

But few men had had the pleasure (or displeasure) of observing a battle from a radio antenna pole, as did Tom Banks, '31, at the Pearl Harbor stab-in-the-back. Mr. Banks who has just returned from Hawaii after spending two years in assisting with the construction of beam stations for Pacific clippers, was up on a pole the morning of Dec. 7, and watched the progress of the battle for several hours.

Sweepings . . .

It's rumored, from a good source, that Jack Kimbroff will be sent here to teach Infantry bull text soon. . . Unique football sign is the one that has a pure simple slogan, with a p. s. "Let's see you make something nasty out of this." . . . A sports "expert" got his wires crossed and picked LSU over the Aggies last Friday. . .

Outdoor Lighting Also Goes to War

Outdoor lighting equipment is playing an important part in the war effort. Not only is it valuable to the various military branches, but private industry, ordnance plants, munitions factories, and public utilities are all protecting their properties with outdoor illumination.

War production was taken over by General Electric factories without delay, since standard designs fitted the specifications in government orders. Many specialized designs were created for Army and Navy work. Cruisers and ships of the Merchant Marine require special floodlights, approximately ten to a ship. All Army airports will soon be equipped with portable floodlights for use by the working crews in repairing airplanes. Special vaporproof lights have been developed for use in the "igloos" where ordnance plants store power. The Marines use a special signaling searchlight which must pass a shock test equal to the explosion of a torpedo hitting a ship.

Danger of the war emergency will lead woodland owners to "slaughter" their timber lands has been pointed out by J. D. Pond, assistant extension forester at Cornell university.

If you're an average co-ed you spend 1,176 hours or 49 days before a mirror during your four college years.

Meat Rations Need Not Cause Protein Deficiencies Here

Secretary Wickard's announcement that this country will experience meat rationing within a few months will mean fair sharing of the nation's supply and should not bring hardships to anyone.

"We'll be on shorter meat rations than we have been recently, but we have enough meat and other protein foods to keep American families well nourished," says Louise Bryant, specialist in home management for the A. & M. College Extension service.

To make meat go farther, she suggests that homemakers use more of foods which are plentiful and less beef and pork. Fortunately, there's an abundant supply of protein foods. Supplies of cheese are at an all time high, and there are more chickens than ever before. Although beans are not exact substitutes for meat, they make a good nourishing dish, the specialist says. Beans, too, are plentiful.

"If every American family had a cheese dish instead of pork chops more often than usual, or chicken instead of steak, the pressure on beef and pork supplies will not be so great," Miss Bryant suggests.

Other ways of making meat go farther include serving more stews and hashes. It is a good idea, too, to save all trimmings both of fat and well-flavored lean tidbits. Meat bones may be saved for making soup. Here are other helps: Always keep meat clean and cold so none will go to waste from spoilage or poor flavor. Cook meat according to cut and fatness, and with moderate heat. And, finally, use different seasonings in meat dishes for variety.

To train replacements for hatchery men lost to the armed forces, Iowa State college recently offered a hatchery operators and managers short course.

Endowed with the income of a fund of more than \$100,000, the Charles Fremont Dwight Institute for Promotion of Human Genetics is now in operation at the University of Minnesota.

To be "right-eyed" makes reading easier, according to Dr. H. R. Crosland, associate professor of psychology at the University of Oregon.

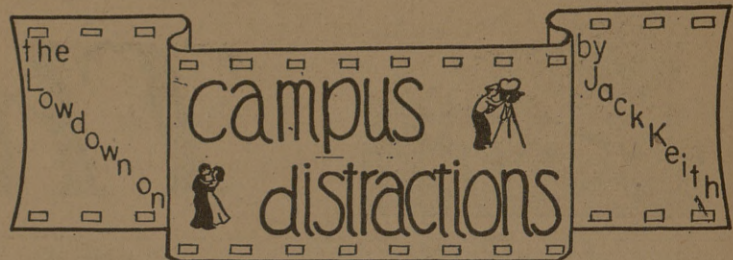
Blind Winifred Moore, 23, and Rex, her shepherd dog, receive sheepskins together from Mississippi Southern college.

Radio Repairing

STUDENT CO-OP

COMPLETE BICYCLE REPAIRING

STUDENT CO-OP



A musical comedy with Alvin Roy furnishing the music and Bert and Patsy Kelly furnishing the comedy is featured today and tomorrow as one of the attractions at the Campus Theatre. The movie is called "SING YOUR WORRIES AWAY."

The show never rises above being just average entertainment, but as such, its worth viewing. The story has a couple of gangster night club owners trying to get their hands on a million dollar inheritance of which Bert Lahr is part owner. Romantic parts are played by Buddy Ebsen and Dorothy Lovett. Alvin Roy and the King Sisters are worked into the script for some nice musical scores.

The Lowdown: just average.

Evidently, "DR. BROADWAY" showing as the second feature at the Campus, was written to play up the two main characters, Macdonald Carey and Jean Phillips. It's supposedly a gangster melodrama, but it turns out to be so simple for the audience to figure the next move that it's neither melodramatic nor suspenseful.

Dr. Broadway, played by Mac-

Donald Carey, gets in trouble with the law while befriending a convict whom he helped to convict. It looks bad for the young doctor until pretty Jean Phillips, whose life he had saved, steps in and helps him out of his jam. As might be expected, more can be said for Carey and Miss Phillips than can be said for the story.

The Lowdown: cop and robber-ish.

Your reviewer balks at reviewing "SERGEANT YORK", playing a return engagement this week at Guion Hall. So much has been said about the picture that it is a familiar story in the minds of most Americans. The story of the Tennessee hero of World War I, so ably portrayed by Gary Cooper, is one that should not be missed by any American. In fact, we suggest that you see it again if you've already seen it.

The Lowdown:—Top notch entertainment.

WHAT'S SHOWING

AT GUION HALL

Tuesday, Wednesday — "Sergeant York", with Gary Cooper and Joan Leslie.

AT THE CAMPUS

Tuesday, Wednesday — "Sing Your Worries Away" with Bert Lahr and Patsy Kelly, also, "DR. BROADWAY", starring Jean Phillips and Macdonald Carey.

Campus

Box Office Opens 2 P. M.

TODAY - TOMORROW DOUBLE FEATURE

"Sing Your Worries Away" with JUNE HAVOC PATSY KELLY ALVINO RAY and Orchestra

3:07 - 5:39 - 8:11

"Dr. Broadway" with JEAN PHILLIPS MACDONALD CAREY

2:00 - 4:30 - 7:04

Also "DONALD'S GOLD MINE"

TUESDAY - WEDNESDAY

Extra! Battle of Midway in Technicolor, photographed under fire by Commander John Ford.

President Roosevelt personally requests the theatres of America to show this film to the American people that we may know what our boys are doing and realize that THIS IS WAR.

MOVIE

Guion Hall

Tuesday-Wednesday—4:30-8:00 P.M.

One of the Best Pictures of the Year

GARY COOPER

in

"Sergeant York"

— COMEDY —

SHOWING AT POPULAR PRICES