

The Battalion

STUDENT TRI-WEEKLY NEWSPAPER
TEXAS A. & M. COLLEGE
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Something to Read

By Dr. T. F. Mayo
The War and Your Education (II)

Having been asked to specify ways of making the war educate you for better instead of for worse, I suggest the following:

Learn to analyze people's motives (including your own). Military life displays human character more nakedly than ordinary decorous civilian existence. Try to fit yourself by reading and by thoughtful observation to understand why people feel, think, and act as they do. Good preparatory books are Overstreet's "About Ourselves" and "Let Me Think," J. W. Watson's "Ways of Barbarism," and R. A. Howden's "The Man in the Street and the New Psychology."

Learn to discern the workings of social forces: economic conditions, class traditions, family habits, political systems, military life by mixing all classes together intimately will probably provide you with the best opportunity of your whole life to understand how the forces of economic class, social tradition, and family habit shape and color personalities. Don't let any prejudice that you may hold against the economic classes above and below your own, prevent you from sympathetically studying people with backgrounds very different from yours. (As to books to read in this connection, I am ashamed to say that I can't think of any good ones. Somebody ought to write one.)

Learn all about new places and peoples, both in this country and abroad. After all, even though the U.S.A. may be the best country in the world and Texas the best part of the U.S.A., there is no land or section which has not something to teach Americans and Texans. Never miss a chance to get acquainted with a decent foreigner or non-Texan American. And for heaven's sake don't approach him (or her) in a contemptuous or condescending frame of mind. Learn to understand and sympathetically tolerate customs and standards, sincerely followed, which may be strange to you, even though you may naturally not choose to follow them yourself. Remember that what would be absolutely wrong and foolish for you, a Texan, may not be so wrong or foolish for other kinds of people.

Read inquisitively whenever you can. The American fighters in this war are better provided with books than fighters have ever been. Use them, and use them not altogether for "escape" reading.

Above all, this war experience can teach you, if you want it to, how to adjust yourself vigorously, efficiently, and cheerfully to projects and conditions over which you have no control, without losing your individuality and becoming herd men. Perhaps it may help to remember that the war won't last forever, and that you have a long civilian life to live afterwards. You will be shaping and coloring the self with which you've got to live for a long, long time. It is possible, if you go about it right, to make the war, in some degree, "educate" that self well.

This Collegiate World

What's this—three South American continents instead of one? That's what the latest map of South America reveals.

The map, it must be explained, is that of a University of Cincinnati paleogeographer who, after studies over the past five years, has drawn the first complete picture of the face of South America as it appeared some 250 or 300 million years ago. The studies and the map are the work of Dr. Kenneth E. Caster, Cincinnati assistant professor of geology and fellow of the graduate school of arts and sciences.

In that Paleozoic area great seas covered South America in the region now marked by the Andean mountains and spread widely across southern Brazil and the Amazon valley, Dr. Caster finds. Instead of one immense triangular land mass as it is now, South America was then made up three great land masses separated by wide seas. Dr. Caster's map shows these ancient continental areas extending far into the regions now the Atlantic and Pacific oceans and Caribbean sea.

Dr. Caster also holds that seas covered large areas of South America for hundreds of millions of years and, he believes, the present aspect of the continent came into being only a few thousands of years ago.

Mathematics Dictionary, first book of its kind, has appeared from the Digest Press, Van Nuys, its authors being Dr. Glenn James, associate professor of mathematics at the University of California, and his son, a graduate of the university, Robert C. James, now teaching fellow at the California Institute of Technology.

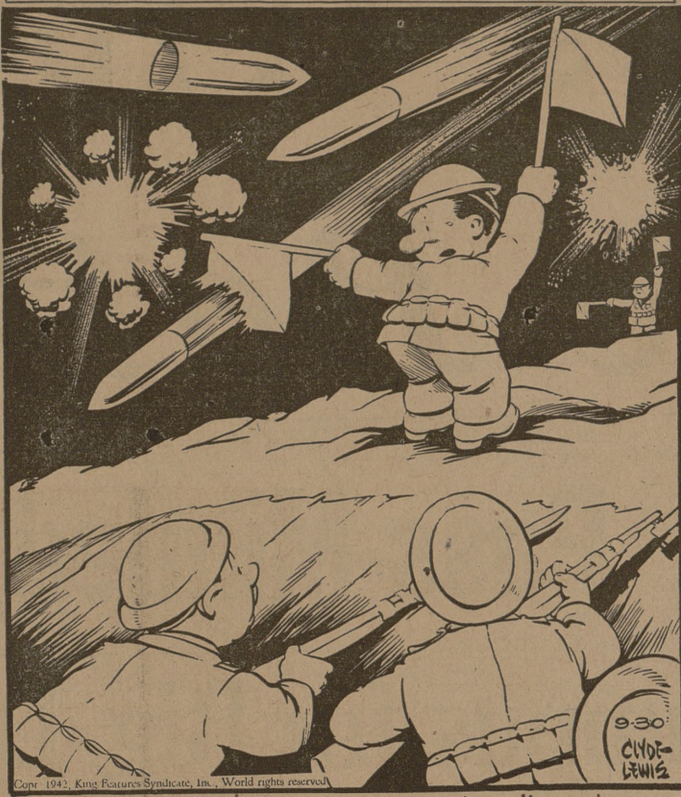
As long ago as 1858, says Dr. Glenn James, a dictionary and encyclopedia of mathematics appeared, but there has been no such handy book as a dictionary. Spending 12 to 14 hours a day, the authors wrote some 6,000 definitions.

The meaning of the basic mathematical words and phrases, and all terms of arithmetic through calculus and the technical terms involved, are covered in the 280-page book. Algebra, geometry, trigonometry, the mathematics of finance and integral calculus are represented, with a wealth of explanatory drawings, formulas and tables.

Some time before his death, he had stamped his likeness upon a little boy.—Dickens.

For some must follow, and some command though all are made of clay!—Longfellow.

PRIVATE BUCK . . . By Clyde Lewis



"I better quit now, fellows. I just got an impediment in my speech!"

BACKWASH By Jack Hood

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

By John Holman
On Main Street . . .

... Tonight Dallas will undoubtedly pull up its belt a notch and heave a sigh of sorrow as the Aggies very carefully pick the little city apart piece by piece, rockin' and rollin' around like so many flies on a crumb of cake . . . in short, fair fellows, Ole' Army's comin' to town!

Nacherly, the main attraction is the little head-busting fracas in the middle of Ownby Stadium that will begin this afternoon at 2:30 promptly. And let me repeat Jack Hood's tip—don't try to walk out to S. M. U.—it is six miles from downtown. You had better take a bus, streetcar, taxi, or what-have-you, but walk only if you will miss the game if you don't.

From TSCW . . . Comes word about the little shin-dig the juniors of "M'lady's" school threw for the boys from the Brazos wearing their serge for the first time. They say, 'twas damp out in more ways than one, but that everyone was at least "calm" enough to leave the walls in the buildings and not uproot all of the campus' lovely vegetation. . . . And speaking of hearing tales, did you hear the one about the girl who asked her fellow, "Is my face dirty or is it my imagination?" The boy replied, "I don't know about your imagination, but your face is clean!" (Whew!)

This Issue . . . Of the Batt is being delivered to you on the streets of Big "D"

Jokes . . .

... both good and bad turn up around here ever so often. Which reminds me of the farmer's daughter who had just returned from college. The old man asked her how much she weighed. She said, "I weigh 140 pounds stripped for gym." The farmer looked at her sort of queer-like and demanded, "And just who in hell is Jim?"

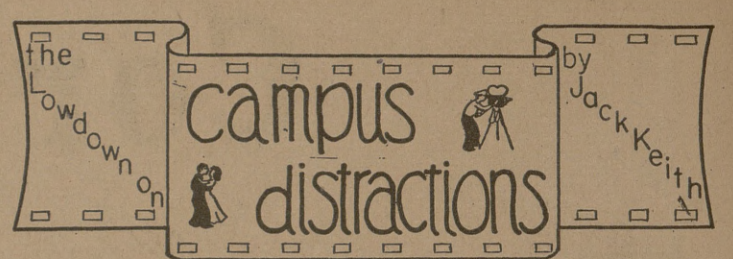
Musical Meanderings

By BILL MURPHY

With Aggies leaving every few minutes for Dallas the campus is rapidly becoming deserted, and to those Aggies who are 100% Aggie and will follow the team, win or lose, this column is respectively dedicated. In Dallas this week end it seems that the finest entertainment available is being provided for Aggies and their dates.

If its "Cafe Society" you like you may hear Ligon Smith and Orchestra holding forth at the Century Room with a fast and smooth floor show, and over at the Baker you will find one of the finest floor shows in the country headed by Myrus, a real wizard of mental telepathy, and the soft music of Joe Sudy and his band. If you just want to dance, let me recommend the official Aggie Corps Dance at the Adolphus, probably in the spacious Grand Ballroom. For those that love the hot, and I mean hot, Abe's and Pappy's have a torrid negro orchestra and review, but don't go unless you intend to see the floor show. Ditto for Jack Pepper's Log Cabin Club.

A brand new night spot opened recently on Main Street that should prove to be O.K.—Showtime with Shanty Morell's orchestra providing the music. This is a swell place to spend an evening if you don't want to spend much money. Other hot spots include the Sky-Vu, the Sylvan Club, the Night-spot, and the Aggies favorite—the Pirate's Cave; however, if you want to find most of the Aggies Saturday night, you will probably find them at the Plantation or Lou Ann's out on Greenville Avenue. If you still don't like these suggestions then why don't you go to the circus? Ringling Brothers & Barnum Bailey will be on hand out at the show grounds on Oak Lane.



Although most of you who read this won't be anywhere within miles of College Station, the local theatres will be doing their business on their same old corners this week for those few unfortunate souls who have to stay here buried deep in the mud of the Brazos.

Still under the influence of Guion Hall's "Mrs. Miniver" and the stirring "Eagle Squadron" still showing at the Campus, it is hard to come down to earth again and dig up the low-down for you, but we'll do our best.

Current in the columned halls of Guion is the 108 minute musical comedy "Navy Blues." There's nothing subtle about this one. Warner Brothers quite apparently set out to make a rough house musical with the navy as a background, using gags as broad as the side of a barn and pounding them home relentlessly by way of making certain the objective never sails off, or over, its mark. So Jack Oakie slaps Martha Raye around; Martha slaps Oakie in return and both beat on Poor Jack Haley. The whole story is feather like and goofy. Telling it fast, it deals with bets among the gobs over victory in gunnery practice, how Oakie and Haley get the navy's prize gunsight on their boat and flounder through this and that in order to cash in the bets they've made. Moves fast, but is slowed down very pleasantly by some snappy musical numbers. Ann Sheridan is fair in the romantic end, Jack Oakie, Jack Haley, Martha Raye, Herbert Anderson, Jack Carson, Richard Lane, and others complete the cast.

The Lowdown: Still worth staying sober to see.

In Bryan the Palace has another goodie, making the decision of movies this week end a stiff one to pick from. "Somewhere I'll Find You" is the story of a war correspondent, his brother and the one girl, with the story spread out all over New York, Indo-China, Manila and Bataan gives Clark Gable and Lana Turner the basis for a film that just can't miss. Robert Sterling, Patricia Dane and Reginald Owen complete the cast. The Lowdown: Worth walking to see.

Ex-Aggie in Air Corps Tells Experiences in British Isles

(From San Angelo Standard)

Lt. Chase Holland, administrative officer with the U. S. Air Forces in England, has found out the new secret weapon of the British allies. They have a certain bomb that plays "Deep In the Heart of Texas," and when a crowd gathers around to listen, it explodes and kills them all. He thinks the funniest sight he has seen over there was four Scotchmen standing on a corner singing "Deep In the Heart of Texas."

The San Angeloan who has been in Ireland, Wales, Scotland and England in the month or more he has been there, has written interestingly to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. I. J. C. Holland of San Angelo. Going on American rations was an item worthy of note since he got two eggs for breakfast that day, "really quite a treat." Excerpts from his letters follow:

"Almost all our transportation around the camps is by bicycle, and we have been having all sorts of three-point landings, slow rolls, etc., and I came riding out of a driveway, up the right hand side of the road (which is the wrong side) and much to my horror, I was face to face with a 10-ton truck. I sat back on the brake, but the brakes are on the handlebars. The truck looked pretty solid, and the barbed wire fence looked pretty rough, so I did a loop, an Immelman turn, and a couple of Schendells, and headed back in the opposite direction. From then on I have remembered where my brakes are and which side of the road to ride on.

"Howard and I took a horseback ride yesterday, just for a little relaxation. The English horses are just like American horses, and don't mind what accent you use. "I have really been working hard since we reached our new station, which is more like a country club. It has a huge dining room, a library, a billiard room, tennis courts, and a lawn that looks like something you see in the movies. The food is plentiful, but nothing to brag about. We get plenty of potatoes but they are seldom boiled. We have fish and French fries very often and I have taken up the art of tea sipping, because the coffee tastes like burned pecan shells.

Personally, you can't beat the beautiful White Rock Lake for scenery and stuff. Thirty-Second Notes For the Aggies who would like to see some good entertainment the Pigskin Revue out at SMU is one of the finest shows of its kind in the country. Offered annually, it features this year many of the outstanding attractions featured fith "College Capers" that travel throughout Texas during the summer, such as Bob Banner and his orchestra, who was one of the bands the Aggieland beat out in a race for the Fitch Summer Bandwagon. It's good so don't miss it. Friday night—8:15 o'clock—McFarlin Auditorium out at SMU. Once again the Aggieland steps out in "Big Time" by playing the Sunday afternoon radio show "Time" sponsored by Interstate Theaters, Inc. This show will originate from Guion Hall Sunday afternoon the twenty-second and will be aired all over the Southwest by the Texas Quality Network. That's thirty for now so it's goodbye until I see you in Dallas.

WHAT'S SHOWING At the Campus Today only — "Eagle Squadron" with Robert Stack and Diana Barrymore. At Guion Hall Today only—"Navy Blues" with Ann Sheridan, Jack Oakie, Martha Raye, and Jack Haley.

Aggies on Parade

This week 6500 cadets have an opportunity to prove to the people of Dallas and North Texas that A&M is turning out officers who are mannerly and well disciplined, and who will always reflect credit upon their school and state.

Aggies are "marked men"—and the uniform you wear denotes you as one of a great brotherhood, and at the same time causes you to stand out and attract attention. The people of the state have their eyes on you today.

Careless or disorderly conduct on the part of one man can easily bring down on the school an unfavorable impression of the whole corps. Therefore let yourself be marked not only by the uniform you wear, but also by your personal conduct. Each man should strive to conduct himself in an exemplary manner, so that the mark of an Aggie may continue to be not the uniform, but rather his personal behavior and bearing.

Get out to the game and pull for the team, go out after the game and have a good time, but always remember that for all practical purposes, today the Aggies are on parade.

The Editoralists Wartime Aims

(An Editorial in the Minneapolis, Minn., Star Journal.)

The President says occasionally that he does not think newspapers have nearly as much influence as they used to meaning, of course the editorial columns. We think maybe he's got something there, and we'd like to help him say what we think he means—and applaud it!

More Americans read newspapers today than ever did before, and surveys indicate that more of those readers read the editorial page. But they have a lot of other avenues of information and opinion, too—the radio, and far wider diffusion of magazines—and books on current affairs, not to mention schools and pulpits and clubs increasingly concerned with current issues.

A generation or two ago and earlier, when the daily or weekly newspaper was almost the only source of contemporary information in the average American home, its editorial column was the only fountain of "expert" opinion available to many, except the cracker-barrel forum and the occasional visit of a political candidate or a lyceum lecturer.

In those days editorial columns tended naturally to develop and to thunder to (and for) followings which accepted their opinions as gospel and had few yardsticks to measure them against. The head of the house either swore by an editor's views or wouldn't have his cussed sheet around the house.

That isn't true to any great degree these days—which is all to the good.

No opinion is expressed from any quarter today that doesn't have to stand up against the challenges of other opinions and interpretations—in other periodicals, over the radio, in forum groups, and often from the pulpit.

In other words, the average American today makes up his own mind instead of depending upon someone to make it up for him. This editorial column, for at least one, has no aspiration to create a cult and wouldn't give a fig for a following which accepted its views blindly and without subjecting them to the tests of divergent opinion. But if this editorial column can have influence in the direction of tolerance and open-mindedness—if it and the page of which it is a part can bring information to controversy and can pry ajar new doors to the thinking of some of those who read it—and if, a good deal of the time, it can express views which make sense after other views have been read or heard and weighed, views which play some useful part in the shaping by readers of their own attitudes and decisions as citizens—then it fulfills its function.

It welcomes and encourages all the other means of public discussion which share and supplement its function—if only for the selfish reason that the more such means there are, the larger and more intelligent audience there is for all of them.

Campus Telephone 4-1181 LAST DAY "EAGLE SQUADRON" with ROBERT STACK DIANA BARRYMORE Also Stranger Than Fiction PREVIEW TONIGHT News Cartoon SUNDAY and MONDAY ARE HUSBANDS NECESSARY? A Paramount Picture Go In 10:00 and See Both Shows