

The Battalion

STUDENT TRI-WEEKLY NEWSPAPER
Texas A. & M. COLLEGE
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Looking Ahead...

In this world of war we are living in, it is very difficult for young men, especially Aggies, to look forward to very much other than a few years of Army service. Ahead of each of you, at the end of that Army service, lies in our minds a blank void—a wall so high, so strong, so dark, that very few of us bother to think about how we are going to get over or through it when the war is over. The war is probably far from being ended, but it is not a good idea for us to just sit down every now and then and think—to take an inventory of ourselves, our abilities, our possibilities?

A few months from now, you may be in the thick of battle many thousands of miles from here, many millions of miles away from making a living for yourself, your wife and your family—such an idea won't enter your mind. In the first place, you'll probably be too busy to give it much thought, and secondly, you'll probably not want to have to think about it.

Someday, though, you will have to face it, and what better time can be found than now—now when you still know a civilian world, when the price of eggs and butter means something to you—now while your mind-view is unwarped by battle and senior officers?

Take stock of yourself today. Could you leave school tomorrow and get a job in your major field of study? Can you face the post-war world of screaming economists and parading politicians, of bureaucracy and messeracy? Think now about what you'll do then, work out a plan of attack, and when the world once again stops this bloody battle of power and brutality, you will at least have a firm rock on which to take the first step.

The Sunday Sing...

Lat Sunday night, a small group of boys went in the Assembly Hall to the first meeting of Singing Cadet Director Richard Jenkins' Sunday Sing—an hour-long session of singing old, favorite hymns. They didn't really expect it to be much fun, but they thought it might break the monotony of a dreary Sunday.

When Director Jenkins told them the next one would be the last for that time, almost everyone of those boys begged him to go on a while longer—they were having a good time and didn't want to stop just when everybody got warmed up.

That group was small compared to some that the Assembly Hall has seen, but if the idea, the sponsor, and the boys that were there Sunday night have anything to do with it, the Sunday Sing sessions will be the biggest thing around here before many more weeks go by.

Everybody sings, every body can pick the songs they want sung; boys, girls, men, and women raised their voices to the rafters and sang, sang, sang. A quartette from the Singing Cadets gave a beautiful rendition of an old Negro spiritual, and Jenkins himself sang a solo. All in all, it was wonderful. It was church without the praying, the preaching, and the dressing-up, and the boys liked it.

The Sunday Sing wasn't created to compete with the churches, but to provide those boys who do not go to church on Sunday night, a congenial get-together where the music of God could be sung together. And yet, instead of being stiff and unpleasant, it was fun—the boys liked it, and so will you. Seven o'clock each Sunday night in the Assembly Hall.

"Quotable Quotes"

ACP

"Extreme remedies are very appropriate for extreme diseases."—Hippocrates

"To famous men, all the earth is a sepulchre."—Thucydides

"Dogmatism is puppyism come to its full growth."—Douglas Jerrold

"The ugliest of trades have their moments of pleasure. Now, if I were a gravedigger, or even a hangman, there are some people I could work for with a great deal of enjoyment."—Douglas Jerrold.

Latin-America

At a Glance

By Guillermo Moncada, Jr.

Don't be surprised if by the end of this year, some of us Latin-American students will be able to thumb it home for any holiday vacations we might get (we hope we get). In other words, the Inter-American highway running from Alaska to the tip of South America will be completed and ready to be traveled on by Christmas time. It won't be uncommon to ask a passing motorist the whereabouts of his destination and get a reply something like this, "I'm going as far as the Panama Canal, if that will do you any good?" The highway through Central America is now an all-weather road and at present it's being paved. About two hundred miles on the other side of Mexico City, you can ride on a smooth paved wide enough to let three cars pass at one time.

The Department of Agriculture of this country is carrying out its plans for the establishment of a number of agricultural experiment stations throughout Central and South America. Not very long ago an expert in swine production was through A. & M. and stated that a score of men with experience in different branches of agriculture were to be sent down on or about the first of next month. These men will train students in the national universities of these countries to manage the experiment stations. At the end of a period of time when it is felt that these students have had the sufficient amount of training in running the stations, these men will be assigned to other countries where further training of men is in plan. These experiment stations will enable these nations to develop those agricultural resources which are most needed.

A vast synthetic rubber program is to be launched very soon in Brazil because the production of pure rubber is not enough to supply its local consumers and the Allies at the same time. This nation has its own men to start this program and the machinery will be acquired from its own mills. This means that no more machinery will be imported from the outside world and Brazil at present can hold its own as having one of the richest supply of iron in the world yet undeveloped.

During the past year or so there has been noticed a considerable increase in the number of students from the Latin American countries coming up here to study cotton-cultivation and production. Of course, there is only one conclusion as to this happening—that our countries have started cotton production in large scale. Already Peru, Ecuador, and several other nations have made bids in the markets of the world to be considered as keen competitors in the export of cotton.

The effect that the war situation has taken in Mexico City is certainly the opposite of the one this country is going through. There is no rationing of any item in the country at present, but Coca-Cola, butter, chewing gum, sugar, coffee, etc., can still be had in the capital as long as you have also the do-re-mi to pay for them because prices have advanced a little. Naturally, the real feeling of sacrifice cannot be seen in this country yet, although Mexico definitely knows that the United Nations are going to win this war.

But on the other side, the people of this great country are ready to give up anything, from their candy to their lives, if the instant comes up. Experts predict that tire and rubber rationing is on its way, but they know not when. The government is piling wartime taxes on gasoline yet the people do not complain. Why complain when the know their sacrifices, however small they be, are for a good cause? All in all, Mexico now is a nation that could be proud of its people and its people's government.

Pop's NAVY POP-OFF...

That rumbling vibration and the choked foghorn tell me that the north-bound is halting to take away my younger pals—the kid who mastered Code so quickly, then daily encouraged me to keep on trying for a word or two more per minute than I could record—that red-haired, half-bald young man who once sold accounting equipment but most recently called the Marine cadence in that indistinct jumble—the Minnesota farm boy who was everybody's he-man favorite—the other room-mate who had that pleasing voice and the continuous snore like an Oklahoma cyclone—and the smooth kid who talked me out of my lash-ropes when at the last moment he found that some buddy had borrowed his—the "chow-hound" who always and so rudely grabbed the "bull-neck" platter before I could—that piano-pounding fellow from Frisco or thereabouts—the half-pint who had fewer years and more Code-words than all legal limits specify—that part-Indian with the stalwart, graceful step and affable "Hello"—the grinning youngster who received Code with his left hand but sent it with either—the short little guy who knew how many sour notes that each famous orchestra made in their recent programs—and the loud rascal who called me "Pop" until I learned to like it and him too—well, they are all gone. Their average age is half of mine—just between you and me, I've never let them know what real amusement they have been to us—perhaps some of them may write me short letters—I'd like that too.

Yep, my boys are gone—and if I were a praying man, I'd ask the Lord to be merciful to their opponents—my kids can dish out chow, fun, or bloody punishment to Axis snakes!



Contributed by the American Society of Magazine Cartoonists.

BACKWASH Tommy Gould

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

Defense...

About two weeks ago the Rockdale Reporter (Rockdale, Texas) made the remark in its editor's column that it didn't see how we got away with the kind of jokes printed in the Battalion magazine. He now knows that every joke in the Batt is taken from some other college magazine (most of which are co-educational schools). However, the Dallas Morning News' State Press column had this to say about the Reporter's statement:

"W. H. Cooke in the Rockdale Reporter claims that in a recent issue of the Battalion, published by students at Texas A. & M. College, he was unable to find a humorous story in the magazine 'tame enough to print in this great family journal. I don't see how those boys get away with it.' The Battalion probably needs no defense against the charge of printing risqué and naughty jokes, but State Press imagines that in a school as much a part of the army as A. & M. the standard of humor is a little broader than would prevail in the sewing circle of the Ladies' Aid Society."

Foreign Fables...

These tales are being told and circulated by the underground patriots of the occupied countries of Europe. Such stories as these help keep up the morale of the oppressed people:

1. After an attempted bombing of Hitler in the Munich Brauhaus became known, the following notices appeared in the windows of several butcher shops in Prague the next morning.
"There will unfortunately be no lard or pork today as the swine wasn't killed yesterday."
2. A German teacher asked a Luxembourg school girl to name one of her country's great rulers and without hesitation she replied, "The Grand Duchess Charlotte." Hacked, the man asked sarcastically, "And who fled, leaving the people in the lurch?"
The whole class answered in chorus: "HESS!"

Bull-Texan...

This one was told in an Infantry senior m. s. class yesterday:
Seems there was an Infantry company in formation somewhere in Africa. The company's platoons, of which there were three, had about 40 men each in the first two, but only two men in the last. When someone remarked about how unusual it looked, the captain said, "Oh, don't worry about that two-man third platoon—they're from Texas!" More truth than fiction, as battle records show.

Short Shorters...

Somebody is putting the squeeze on somebody else around here from what I can find out. Seems the Short Shorters are raking in everyone. They probably don't know it, but the original Short Shorter's Club is composed of only those persons who have flown the Atlantic ocean! Wonder how many guys around here right now have done that?

Goldfish Owners...

Will be interested in this easy method of determining the sex of their pets. It must be borne in mind, however, that the test is an exacting one and must be performed with the care and completeness

of a research chemist. Measurements should be carefully taken. If you obtain a false result, you can blame it only on inaccuracy on your part.

First, with a great deal of care, remove your goldfish from its domicile remembering to place him (or her) immediately in another receptacle full of water. Failure to do this may prove disastrous.

Then, very carefully, measure the amount of water that the bowl usually holds. Remove 4.6337% of this and add a mixture prepared as follows: 2.76 parts of concentrated sulfuric acid, 9.7 parts of mess hall ketchup, and 1.4 parts of 20-weight motor oil.

Carefully place Oswald or Nellie—(you'll find out which in just a minute) in this mixture. If he floats to the top, he is a boy; if she floats to the top, she is a girl.

Perkins Takes Over Senior Cavalry Post

Lieutenant Colonel Ralph Perkins, formerly with the Adjutant General's Department stationed at the Eighth Service Command headquarters at Dallas, has been assigned to the Cavalry Unit here, according to Staff Sergeant Malcolm Thomas, sergeant major.

Lieutenant Colonel Perkins arrived here to take over the duties of Cavalry senior instructor, succeeding Lieutenant Colonel Carrico, transferred to Fort Bliss.

Aggies Complete Three Months Run Of Axis-Blasting

Three ex-Aggies were among the aerial Axis-blasters who today completed three months of bombing operations over target areas greater in size than all Germany. The Aggies were Second Lt. Lee A. Dolberry from Abilene who attended A. & M. from 1936 to 1939; Second Lt. Carrol G. Henry, from San Angelo; Second Lt. Nowlin D. Collier, from Robstown, Texas.

A triple threat to the Axis was revealed today with the announcement that the three classes of "Hell from Heaven Men," graduated simultaneously from the schools of this vast bombardier training area are "the largest in the history of the Army Air Forces."

That was the statement of Col. John P. Kenny, commanding officer of the Midland Bombardier School, which today awarded commissions and bombardier wings to its fifteenth class of experts in the use of the secret American bomb-sight. Big Spring and San Angelo graduated its fourth class.

More and more of the bombardiers' training in the West Texas Bombardier Triangle now is conducted under similar combat conditions. Practice bombing is now done extensively from high-powered Vega Venturas, which have been widely used by the British. Practice bombing missions are planned and carried out exactly as they would be in the fighting fronts. Targets are the models of real battle front objectives—German and Japanese ships-of-the-line, factories and airfields.

Many new methods have been developed to better prepare the student bombardiers for the conditions they will encounter in actual combat. Others are under way. In addition, veteran bombardiers returned from the fighting fronts throughout the world have been appointed in advisory capacities at

The Lowdown on Campus Distractions

By Tom Journesey

Highlighting the campus distractions for the middle of the week is a stage show at the Campus. This is the first time in quite a while that a vaudeville troupe has appeared on the stage of one of the theaters here as an extra added attraction to the regular motion picture. This extravaganza is called "PRIORITIES OF 1943," and features loads of novelty acts, songs and music with plenty of showgirls, and a small band. The show will be put on right from the stage of the Campus theatre lasting 45 minutes.

The showing of the regular feature, "HAY FOOT", and the shorts take about 45 minutes, too, allowing CQ bound inmates to take in both distractions and still make the curfew, a complete showing of both the priorities and the movie being able to be seen right after supper tomorrow night. The stage show will also be run of course in the afternoon, with a general admission ticket for both matinee and evening performances costing 35 cents.

A little about HAY FOOT—it's a sequel to TANKS A MILLION, provoking mirth to all, especially those with any knowledge of military affairs and training, starring the Bombardier Triangle schools to make certain that the techniques of the bombardier training are constantly "one up on the enemy," officials disclosed.

Former Student Commissioned In Naval Air Corps

Jack Thomas Holland, A. & M. ex-student of Gladewater, Texas, was commissioned an ensign in the U. S. Naval Reserve at the Naval Air Training Center at Corpus Christi last week.

Ensign Holland volunteered for flight training last April. He was presented his coveted "Navy Wings of Gold" at graduation ceremonies where he received his designation as a Naval Aviator. He, and other members of the class were addressed by Rear Admiral Alfred E. Montgomery, U.S.N., Commandant of the training center.

Completion of the intensive training at the world's largest naval air station qualifies the graduates for duty with the fleet, or assignment as an instructor at one of the Navy's preliminary flight training bases.

The instruction at the "University of the Air" included numerous phases of aeronautics, as well as gunnery and bombing tactics, radio communications procedure, navigation and aerology, and a rigid officers training course.

WAR BOND QUIZ

- Q. Can Stamps of various denominations be placed in one album?
A. More than one denomination in an album greatly increases the work and cost of redemption. Please, therefore, don't mix denominations.
- Q. May a minor designate a co-owner or beneficiary?
A. Yes, if the purchase is made by the minor from his own wages or earnings.
- Q. Do I lose my investment if my War Savings Bond is lost, stolen, or destroyed?
A. Yes. Records of War Savings Bonds are confidential. It is not necessary for the Treasury to contact the beneficiary during the owner's lifetime. Only individuals may be named as beneficiaries. No associations, churches, or clubs may be so named.



Remember—the longer you keep War Bonds, up to 10 years, the more valuable they become.

William Tracy and Noah Berry Jr. In a nutshell the show has to do with three sergeants, a colonel and the latter's daughter and plenty of emphasis is placed on handling guns, crack shooting and all that.

The Lowdown — Don't miss a good laugh fest and stage show. Guion hall swings open her doors today and tomorrow to a crowd destined to see a not especially top-notch musical comedy, but one during which you can get a good laugh and plenty of wholesome enjoyment out of.

The show's PANAMA HATTIE, starring funster Red Skelton, Ann (Masie) Sothorn and comedian "Rags" Ragland. Noisy all the way, rowdy in some spots, and tuncful and funny in many spots, this version of an old Broadway play will certainly uphold the audience's faith in Ann Sothorn and Red Skelton.

Another attraction of the show as far as this reporter is concerned, is the appearance of "Dead-Pan" O'Brien, the songstress who never cracks a smile whether she sings Cole Porter's immortals (many of which by the way are in this show) or "Der Fuehrer's Face!"

The Lowdown—Solid stuff with humor.

WHAT'S SHOWING

At the Campus
Today and tomorrow "Hay Foot" with William Tracy, Noah BBeery Jr. and James Gleason. Also stage show, "Priorities of 1943."

At Guion Hall
Today and tomorrow, "Panama Hattie," with Red Skelton and Ann Sothorn.

Guion Hall

Phone 4-1168

TODAY - WEDNESDAY

PANAMA HATTIE
Starring Red HATTIE ANN SKELTON-SOTHERN
"Rags" RAGLAND - Ben BLUE - Marsha HUNT - Virginia O'BRIEN - Alan MOWBERRY - Dan DAILEY, Jr. - Jackie HORNER

Plus

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Box Office Opens 1 P. M.

TODAY - TOMORROW

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