

# The Battalion

STUDENT TRI-WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

Texas A. & M. COLLEGE  
The Battalion, official newspaper of the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas and the City of College Station, is published three times weekly, and issued Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday mornings.

Entered as second class matter at the Post Office at College Station, Texas, under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

Subscription rates \$3 per school year. Advertising rates upon request.

Represented nationally by National Advertising Service, Inc., at New York City, Chicago, Boston, Los Angeles, and San Francisco.

Office, Room 5, Administration Building. Telephone 4-5444.

1942 Member 1943  
Associated Collegiate Press

Sylvester Boone Editor-in-Chief  
**TUESDAY'S STAFF**  
 Andy Matula Managing Editor  
 Ben Fortson Editorial Assistant  
 John H. Kelly Business Manager  
 Conrad B. Cone Business Manager  
 LeVelle Wolf Reporter  
 Robert Ornick Reporter  
 Claude Stone Reporter  
 B. A. Ross Reporter  
 D. A. Leva Reporter  
 Fred Mangot, Jr. Reporter  
 Jack E. Turner Reporter  
 John H. Wirtz Circulation Manager  
 Maurice Zarr Circulation Manager  
 D. W. May Editorial Advisor

**ARMY ENGINEERS STAFF**  
 H. P. Bradley Editor  
 Ed Babich Associate  
 D. K. Springwater Associate  
 Bill Martin Associate  
 M. J. Kaff Associate  
 K. W. Parsons Associate

**ACTD STAFF**  
 Alvin B. Coater Editor-and-Chief  
 Jack E. Shaw Managing Editor  
 Fred J. Rosenthal Associate Editor  
 Alan E. Goldsmith Associate Editor  
 Jas. H. Kizlar Squadron One Editor  
 Joseph E. Platt Squadron Two Editor  
 George A. Martin Squadron Three Editor  
 Bill Peters Squadron Five Editor

## The Batt as a Paper . . .

We of the Battalion staff are at last getting results from our efforts, and it is gratifying to find that so many read the paper. There was one way to find this out, and this was by "bleeding". Apologies are due certain parties so now we make them.

It is hard work going down to the office three times a week, but we do it for the fun of it, and to see that you Aggies get to read a paper every other day. There is one "bleed" that we would really like to make, however, and that is the fact that we are shy of reporters. Some of you Aggies "bleed" because the Batt doesn't have any Aggie news in it while we "bleed" because there is no news to put in it and then no one to write the news up when we do get it. There should be no kick from the Aggies on our price of \$1, (formerly \$1.50) and the lack of Aggie news when you won't even help out on the writing of any of the news we do put out. Let's spend a dollar, get the news first hand, and stop the "bleeding". What do you say?

## American Agriculture May Solve Tung Oil Import Problem Caused by the War

Washington, D. C.—The trend of agriculture in the United States may be materially changed in at least one important respect as a result of the success of the paint, varnish and lacquer industry in largely surmounting the awkwardness occasioned by the shutting off by the Japanese of the large volume of tung oil previously imported, mostly from China, which in 1937 totaled 174,884,803 pounds, by the dehydration and use of castor oil.

"The Wall Street Journal", in a recent survey of development in the growing of the castor bean plant by American farmers forecasts the likelihood that in 1944 American production may catch up with the demand and become established as a new source of income in American agriculture, and a permanent source of supply for the paint, varnish and lacquer and other large industries which use castor oil.

While domestic tung oil which has been found superior in quality to the Chinese product is being successfully produced to an increasing extent in some suitable sections of the southern part of the United States, the estimated production of domestic tung oil is only about 6,500,000 pounds from the 1942 crop, equivalent to about 3.7% of the 1937 importations. The natural growth of the tung tree is so much slower than the growth of the castor bean plant that even with increased plantings of tung trees, a good many years would have to elapse before sufficient quantities of domestic tung oil to meet the needs of American industry could be produced. On the other hand, castor beans, it is stated, may be grown in every state. They are an annual crop except in the tropics where the plant may reach an age of thirty years, and in southern Florida and the southern tip of Texas where in some years they escape killing frost so that it is not necessary to replant them. Castor bean plants grow from six to thirty feet in height, the tallest being found in the warmer regions.

Previous slowness in development of the castor bean crop in the United States has been attributed to American inexperience

with the crop and difficulty in obtaining the proper kinds of seed. In recent years, some progress has been made in developing uniform dwarf types of castor plants which might be harvested by combines, similar to the way in which grains are harvested.

In 1940, the Texas Power and Light Company conducted a castor bean growing program which resulted in yields of from 350 to 1,500 pounds of castor beans on generally heavy, black, limey, clayey soils of north and central Texas.

Eight states — Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas, Missouri, Illinois, Kentucky, Tennessee and Indiana — are included in the 1943 program, with a total of 10,000 acres compared with 8,000 acres in 1942, when Texas planted 3,000 acres of the total. If the 1943 season is favorable, it is anticipated that a stockpile of castor bean used sufficient to plant 500,000 acres in 1944 may be obtained.

Although the bulk of castor beans used in the United States has been imported from Brazil, the plant was introduced into the United States by the Spaniards 300 years ago. As early as 1818, the beans were grown to a considerable extent in the Central West of this country. In 1879, Kansas produced a record crop of 766,143 bushels which glutted the market. That was long before the use of dehydrated castor oil in rapid-drying paint and varnish products, had been developed by paint chemists, plus the development of other important new uses of castor oil in other products, including plastics, linoleum, printing inks, raincoats, cements, dyes, yarn softeners, anti-freeze products, etc., and as a lubricant which will not freeze in Arctic temperatures. Also the stalks are highly valuable for various uses.

It is a far cry from the days when Americans' chief concept of castor oil was that of a bad-tasting medicine, which might also be used to oil the family buggy, to its new potential importance to industry and agriculture, which, to an important degree may help to safeguard and permanently strengthen the domestic economy of the Nation.

## --CHAFF--

Gleaned From Reading Uselessly

A few weeks ago Coke Stevenson, Governor of Texas, was sitting on the porch of the executive mansion in Austin looking across to the State Capitol, when a friend said, "Governor, don't you think it's about time you ran up the Stars and Stripes?" "Guess you're right," said the Governor, as he went to the telephone and gave the order. "I hadn't thought of it." So far the first time since the Civil War, the American flag flies above the Capitol along with — and it so happens, above—the Lone Star flag of the old Republic of Texas.

For some obscure reason, an official report discloses that forty thousand persons in Texas last year brought suit for divorce against their mates. By involving some simple gymnastics in arithmetic, this fact proves one out of every three Texas marriages ends in divorce. Nobody seems to know why. Wife-beating is prevalent.

Through wars and peace, depression, recession, prosperity and an odd assortment of states and stages the political economy of this world is heir to, Texas A. & M. continues to garner to its laurels a lion's share of glory — some from the oddest places. Stanley Walker writing in a recent issue of The New Yorker, told of an encounter on the campus of Texas University with Mrs. Cornelia Cooke Smith, curator of the O. Henry Museum in Austin. As Walker and Mrs. Smith were chatting about her favorite subject, the life and misfortunes of Sidney Lanier, a group of students walked by. The sly and erudite old lady shook her fist at the group and said, "There they go. Reds. Look at 'em. The place is full of such scalawags. Go over to Texas Agricultural and Mechanical College and you'll find some real men. Nineteen generals have come out of A. & M. But these fellows! Bah!"

Yarns about the antics and progress of movie stars in the service are legion. Some are genuine and some come from the well planned campaigns of highly paid press agents—but either way, here's one that's good for a laugh. Caesar Romero, who has joined up with the Coast Guard, was strolling around Hollywood Blvd. the other day nattily attired in his new nautical vestments. A friend quipped: "Ah, a wolf in ship's clothing!"

For a soft nation, we're unloading a lot of hardware on Axis Europe.

Russians are showing sudden interest in just when autumn leaves begin to fall.

## FAMOUS CLOSE SHAVES By Barber Sol

**MAXIM FOR LIBERTY!**  
AT 25, MAXIM LITVINOFF WAS SENTENCED TO SIBERIA. LITVINOFF NEVER GOT TO SIBERIA. HE ESCAPED DURING A MASS RIOT, ENROUTE TO JAIL.



**HARRY CARRIED...NAVY FLIER,**  
HARRY T. GIBSON FELL UNCONSCIOUS FROM HIS CRASHING PLANE. HE FLOATED TO SAFETY WHEN HIS PARTLY OPENED CHUTE ENTANGLED WITH ANOTHER PARACHUTER!



**BARBER SOL SAYS:**  
NOWADAYS YOUR ABC — WIN THE WAR EFFICIENTLY  
**DON'T BE AN ABSENTEE!**

**TELEPATHY? SAM GROSSMAN,**  
MENTAL TELEPATHIST, RAN FROM A STORE TO GREET AN OLD FRIEND. SECONDS LATER THE BUILDING COLLAPSED — KILLING ALL ITS OCCUPANTS!

## BRANDINGS . . . by DANIEL

Today comes a new style of writing, and here's hoping that it is liked better than the other style was. Bleeding isn't a very good way of accomplishing anything; explanations might be better. Let's see what can be done.

Traditions—Every school has its traditions, and Aggeland has them just as do other schools, although we sometimes think that ours are bedded deeper than those of other schools. A new bunch of Air Corps men arrived around dusk Sunday, and we hope that they get in the swing of things and find their new life an enjoyable one. One tradition that we have here is that of speaking of every person that we meet, regardless of who he is. We usually get a response from them, and we hope you do the same to everyone you may happen to meet. Speaking to people will leave them in better spirits while it will help you in that you helped them. Let's keep a cheerful heart about us, men, and we will all benefit from it.

Men on the campus—A very good feeling came over me at East Gate Saturday when I was "thumbing" it to Hempstead and two Sailors

came up and asked where the line began. The Aggies who were in line introduced themselves, and a nice conversation began. A truck came along with room for everyone. We spent a nice trip together with no hard feelings toward anyone. Why can't this be the way that we do all things? After all no one asked for the war, and we are going to be living together until after the war is over. We might as well be friends while the Axis is being whipped.

Student Election—Today is the day that the first semester sophomore yell leader is to be elected in the run-off. None of the three candidates were successful in getting a majority of votes so it has become necessary that a run-off be conducted. I predicted a total vote of 500 in the last election, and the total actual voters numbered 527. My predictions were about right, but there should have been more to vote than there was. The corps of 1700 might take a little more interest in the affairs of the campus and what is being done by casting more votes in the elections. Let's have a vote of at least 750 today. What do you say, army?

## Army Engineers

Stick Slips . . .

The orderly room has a pet headache ever since Edgar Wilson came into the company. There is some misunderstanding as to exactly what rank he holds. Come, come, Wilson, exactly what are you? Latest communique . . . Flennick has his alarm clock together again. However he still doesn't know when the darn thing is going to sound off.

Here's a suggestion . . . How about organizing a committee of some sort to provide some extra-curricular activities for the men. This committee could plan dances, picnics, parties or what have you to relieve our battered brains. Say Williamson, everybody is asleep! Drop that book, will you? Ah that's better.

Those Saturday morning baseball sound as though the boys are playing for blood. Don't worry it's all part of the game . . . It says here

And . . . if you bet a "coke" on the outcome of the game you had better handcuff yourself to whom-ever you are betting. That is your only sure method of collecting.

In closing I ask you all—Where were you when the lights went out?

## At Least He Will Know Who Is Boss

SEATTLE, Wash.—Harry F. Coulson, a sheet metal worker isn't one to complain about the competence of the helper assigned him at his shipyard job. The helper is Mrs. Harry F. Coulson.

The Lowdown on . . .

## Campus Distractions

By Ben Fortson

The Andrews Sisters really swing out at the Campus today, and tomorrow in Universal's latest HOW'S ABOUT IT, with Robert Paige and Grace McDonald.

## Sufficient Supply Of Diapers For War Baby Crop

WASHINGTON.—In the last speech before Congress recessed Thursday, the House received assurances from Representative Frances P. Bolton (Rep), Ohio, that there will be sufficient diapers for the bumper crop of wartime babies.

Mrs. Bouton advised that after she expressed alarm Wednesday over the possibility of a diaper shortage the War Production Board sent a representative to her with the information that 7,876,000 dozen diapers will be manufactured this year.

This, she said would be an increase in production of 64 per cent "while the baby crop has increased but 19.3 per cent.

The theme of the show is about a girl who writes verses for calendars (Grace McDonald) and a guy (Bob Paige) who puts words to music. Miss McDonald proceeds to sue Paige when he takes one of her original verses and puts a tune to it. What follows is a comic romance with plenty of the swing stuff put out by the Andrews Sisters and Buddy Rich and his band. Shemp Howard is good for a laugh of two also. Bob Paige is trying to go on his first vacation in years when the lawsuit comes up and so is naturally disgusted and ready to do almost anything to get it over with. But Miss McDonald has her eyes on more than Bob's money. Naturally they end up in each other's arms, naturally.

The Lowdown: Will take your mind off your worries.

At Guion Hall today and tomorrow is IT ALL CAME TRUE, starring Ann Sheridan, Jeffery Lynn, and Humphrey Bogart.

This is the story of a glamorous stage actress who falls in love with a song writer (Jeffery Lynn). Humphrey Bogart is in love with Ann, as well as is Lynn, but then who could blame either of them? Due to certain conditions, Ann needs Bogart's help and to do so, she must play up to him. She later sees this won't work and goes to Lynn.

The Lowdown: A story of early show days you are sure to like.



Dial 4-1181  
Open at 1 p. m.

Air Conditioned By Refrigeration

"PAT and EMILY" Appearing Daily Except Monday.

Today and Wednesday

The Andrews Sisters in "HOW'S ABOUT IT" with Robert PAIGE, Grace McDONALD, Shemp Howard, Mary Wickes, Walter Catlett, The Nation's No. 1 Drummer BUDDY RICH and HIS ORCHESTRA

— also —  
Cartoon — Short and Musical

Phone 4-1168

ADMISSION 9c & 20c IS ALWAYS

Tax Included

Box Office Opens 1 p. m.

Closes 7:30

Tuesday and Wednesday

Ann Sheridan, Jeffery Lynn, Humphrey Bogart

— in —

"IT ALL CAME TRUE"

— plus —

Selected Short Subjects

Thursday and Friday

Norma Shearer, Robert Taylor

— in —

"HER CARDBOARD LOVER"

— also —

Selected Short Subjects

## NOTICE!

SHAVE — HAIRCUT

— at —

AGGIELAND BARBER SHOP

## KEEP COOL . . .

On a Hot Day

drop in for a refreshing drink that's really cooling

— at —

GEORGE'S

Everything's Regular Now! Visit Us!

## Savings . . .

We Still Pay

CASH

For Books, etc.

THE STUDENT CO-OP

4-4114

North Gate