

The Battalion

STUDENT TRI-WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

Texas A. & M. COLLEGE

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Memorial Flag - - -

The World War I service flag which has been in place in the rotunda of the Academic building has finally been torn from its place of rest. The flag was put up in the early 1920's which means that a few more years would have marked a quarter of a century that it has stood in a place of honor to honor the Aggies who were in the first war and to honor the Aggies who died for the freedoms that we are again fighting for. The Memorial flag had blue stars to mark the part that each Aggie played in the first war. The gold stars represented the Aggies who died in the war. The flag has been a symbol and tradition to all Aggies who have come here to school, and it is the freshmen class that had to learn the number of stars in the flag.

Due to the age of the flag, it has been deemed that a new flag must be hung in the place of the old one because the other one is too old to be rehung in its old place. A new flag is needed and should be purchased to be hung in place of the old one. There may not be any chance of getting a new one up until after the present war is won, but it is something for one of the past or present Aggie classes to think about. It would be a nice gift for one of the classes to give such a gift to the college.

--CHAFF--

Gleaned from Reading Uselessly

Professional politicians have taken quite a drubbing at the hands of certain factors in the past few years—in fact such a drubbing that it is hard to find a politician, professional or otherwise, who will admit that he has any connection, professional or otherwise, with democracy's favorite past time. Not so in the case with Pennsylvania's stout-hearted Senator Joe Guffey who is in Texas performing some as yet unannounced duty in the Lone Star State. When asked what his mission was in Texas the chairman of the Democratic national senatorial campaign committee declared it was purely a business trip. "What kind of business?" a reporter quizzed. "I'm only in one kind of business," Guffey replied, "that's politics."

Odds with ends: The best place to find a helping hand is at the end of your arm. . . The door to opportunity is heavy but a strong push will open it. . . Men commonly according to their inclination and imbibed opinions, but generally act according to custom. . . Common sense is the knack of seeing things as they are, and doing things as they ought to be done. . . He who has no inclination to learn more will be very apt to think that he knows enough.

Even from horrors of depths of a bloody war, Americans have a knack of keeping up their sense of humor: A group of engineers of the Chemical Warfare Division, specializing in the gentle art of laying a smoke screen, have adopted as their theme song, "Some Gets in Your Eyes."

The Knickerbocker Weekly, admirable American edited and published magazine for Hollanders in this country, reports that those unfortunates from the conquered countries of Europe who have been conscripted to work in German armament industries have been officially designated by the Nazi party as "guest workers."

Despite all their looting, the Germans are now on a plane diet.

Rhur theme song these days should be Smoke Gets in Your Eyes.

New Guinea pigs should be available for postwar experimentation.

Man, Your Manners

By I. Sherwood

A custom acts as sort of a measuring stick for the way a particular thing is done. Customs give us confidence that we are doing things right because others have done them or are doing them in the same manner; they have been established by usage and have lasted because they make for a pleasanter life or orderly procedure for doing things.

Farmers, Doctors, the Army and all types of trades people have their customs; in each case observance of which identifies an individual from these groups; the farmer exchanges implements or help in seasonal work; in the medical profession the general practitioner sends his patients to a specialist on question of diagnosis; the stock broker uses signs in the stock exchange—all of these customs appear to be of a voluntary nature.

In the Army, customs are the positive things to do—and taboos—things not to do. Army customs take on the force of law as indeed they are—the Common law. The breach of some of them would stamp the offender as ill-bred or ignorant, but there are some that violation of which would call for punishment or disciplinary measures.

Have you ever seen an Army officer walking under an umbrella? It isn't likely that you ever will—no one seems to know why—it is a taboo.

A. and M. has always been a military school, but its cadets have had some free and easy customs—of their own making—far from military; when these young men enter the Service, some Army customs may give them a jolt.

Something to Read

By Dr. T. F. Mayo

Toward Understanding Our Problems

If one hundred Aggies and Service Men would read these five books and discuss each of them fully with at least five people, the level of social intelligence of this whole section would rise to an appreciable extent. Incidentally, local conversation would become decidedly more interesting. Here are the five: Try three of them at least. **The Engineers and the Price System**, by Thorstein Veblen.

There is a fundamental conflict of interest between (1) Engineers, who are trained for maximum production; and (2) Owners, (financiers), whose aim of profit sooner or later makes them hold down production. This throttling of production, Veblen says, is the real sabotage of industry. And it is not sporadic or accidental. It is inherent in the profit system. (This, by the way, is the basic thesis of practically all recent criticism of capitalism: Chase, Dreher, etc.) In this conflict, the interest of the public (consumers) coincides with that of the engineers. Both want abundance. The interest of the financiers in profitable scarcity, therefore, is anti-social. Veblen half-ironically suggests that the control of industry should therefore be vested in a "soviet of technicians."

America in Mid-passage, by Charles Beard. A history of the U. S. (social, political, economic, cultural) from the inauguration of Coolidge to 1937. Dominant trend recorded and underlined: From economic "individualism" toward social control of economic processes. **Income and Economic Progress**, by H. G. Moulton.

The clearest and most authoritative description (by the head of the Brookings Institution) of the way in which capitalism should be run by the capitalists. Thesis: Producers should constantly lower prices and increase production rather than cut production and maintain prices. (Read Stuart Chase's long review and critique in Survey Graphic about November 15, 1935). This book is an able plea for a sane capitalism.

Economy of Abundance by Stuart Chase: Technologically, it is now possible to produce plenty for all; economically, we live under a system which can thrive only on scarcity (i.e. the profit system). We must either throttle down our engineers (cf. Veblen), or control our financier-owners. At present, of course, we do the former.

The Unfinished Task, by Lewis Corey: Democratic freedom can be preserved and enlarged only by preventing the combination of economic and political power in the same group: We must therefore avoid: (1) privately owned monopolies and (2) a totalitarian state (i.e. (1) Fascism and (2) Communism). His solution is: Organizing all Natural Monopolies (e.g. power production, transportation, etc.) into "public corporations," which should be neither privately owned nor run by the Government. (The T. V. A. is an imperfect model. Corey's "public corporations" would be more independent of Government control than T. V. A.)

News item tells of a Texan who became an undertaker at 13. Cradle to the grave?

Photograph of an amphibian general shows no webbed feet. He's wearing G.I.'s.

These July night our home front raiders inaugurate a shuttle schedule between the ice box and the radio.

Spell it WAC after this. They're in the Army now.

FAMOUS CLOSE SHAVES By Barber Sol

U. S. AVEE-EAMON DE VALERA, IRELAND'S LEADER, PARTICIPANT OF THE 1916 EASTER REBELLION, ESCAPED THE FIRING SQUAD. HIS AMERICAN BIRTH, SAVED HIM.



URGENT NO DIRGE! CAPT. MARION CARL, MARINE, DOWNED BEHIND JAP LINES, ESCAPED WHEN FRIENDLY NATIVES NURSED HIM BACK TO HEALTH AND CARRIED HIM PAST ENEMY LINES—IN A COFFIN!

GRENAD-EAR! PVT. LEROY SAVATELLI, LEATHERNECK, FIGHTING ON GUADALCANAL, ROLLED ONTO AN EXPLODING GRENADE. HE FLEW SIX FEET INTO THE AIR. HE SUSTAINED MINOR INJURIES ONLY.

BARBER SOL SAYS: A GOEBBEL'S LINE AIN'T WORTH A DIME BUY BONDS EVERY TIME

BRANDINGS by DANIEL

Mess Hall courtesy—There are some types of courtesy used in the mess hall that should be mentioned here for the benefit of most of the summer students that aren't Aggies and have not yet become familiar with the Aggie way of doing things in the mess hall. The most important might be the order in which things are passed to the various members of the table. When anyone hollers "shorts" on some food, that means that he should have the food passed to him immediately following the person who is at time using the particular dish in question. Also, common courtesy tells us that when a per-

son asks for a certain food first, he should have that food passed to him as soon as it is put on the table. It is only natural for the person who asks for a food first to get it when he asks for it and not have to wait until it goes the length of the table before he has a chance to get any. Remember, men, that a person who is first to holler "shorts" gets the food before the rest of you do.

Being respectful—It has been a custom at Aggie land to treat Aggies and their dates or friends who visit them with respect due them. Complaints have been made relative to the fact that "wildcat" has

lets that it's Cakkie Foster. If so, let's hope he gets more dances with her this time than he did a couple weeks ago. Howell Northcutt Forman is quite a man. He keeps two women on the line at once, but that's not all, you should see the letters he gets from them. Whew! At almost any time any afternoon, Johnny "Romeo" Veien can be found in Milner's orderly room phoning his favorite pigeon, or is that plural? It has been calculated round these parts that 275849572 7/23 Deisler power are equal to one "Chest" Howard power. Anybody wanna argue?

A dusty named Hrnckirk has the red's on some people. Honest, men, he's not a frog. Rumor has it that Scott and Rodriguez were "setting 'em up" on Main Street in Houston last Saturday night. Feeling pretty good, boys? Ralph Griffin threatens to "rack it up" in San Antonio sometime soon. Has she got a friend, Ralph? We just dare someone to ask Art Graf how to spell "carbon".

Glimpses around the "Club" . . . Deisler teaching everybody calculus. Gibbons getting help in chemistry from guys who have never taken it. He claims that they aren't confused yet. Jud Strother ruffing out with some hot trumpet licks. "Jock" Knox smiling. Carter always in a hole. Alexander and Rollins always together. Eng beating up his roommate, First year Cadet Strotman going to play polo. Brough sleeping like a "Rooty-toot".

Time to stop. First though, birds, start sniffing because Terrell got that date. So long, army. Let's win the conference.

Well, the editor asked for it. It's been suggested that someone in each dorm write up the latest gossip, news, bull, or jokes so that a few guys can read their names in the Batt. This was done in the hope that more fellows would become interested in the Batt as their paper and perhaps make the Batt more interesting, thus helping circulation.

Flash, the latest from Milner, and don't any of you "clubmen" feel slighted if your name doesn't appear here. It will be here sooner or later, and when it does you may be sorry so don't bleed. Just tell me you want your name in print and if your story won't get me kicked out of school, it'll be here.

"Cob" Terrell, soph prexy, just came in and said that he was going to phone for a date with the neatest treat in Bryan. Your columnist

Sun Stroke May Be Result From Too Much Sun Bathing

Following last week's suggestions for comfortable and safe living during hot summer days, Dr. George W. Cox, State Health Officer, today released a statement concerning the danger of over exposure to the sun.

"Sun Stroke is not thought to be due to the heat of the sun, but to certain direct effects of the sun on the human brain. It is likely to occur after the sun has shone excessively on the back of the head and neck," Dr. Cox explained. "This can be prevented by protecting the head and back of the neck from the sunshine," he added.

Dr. Cox asserted that exposure of the skin to the sun has some virtue since the action of the sunshine tends to kill the germs on the skin. Further, sunshine produces vitamin D for the fats in the skin and this product is absorbed and used by the body.

"In general the good effects of sunshine are not due to the heat rays but ultraviolet rays," Dr. Cox stated. "It must be remembered, however, that it is these same rays which burn the skin and extensive application of direct sunshine to the skin may produce painful and severe burns which actually may endanger life." The State Health Officer advises those who wish to obtain an extensive suntan to get it by slow degrees. Expose small portions of the skin to the sun for a short period of time.

The Lowdown on . . . Campus Distractions

By Ben Fortson

Today and tomorrow at Guion Hall is one of M-G-M's '42 hits, HER CARDBOARD LOVER, starring Norma Shearer, Robert Taylor, and George Sanders. This is the story of a pampered socialite who is madly infatuated with a play-boy. Miss Shearer plays the socialite and George Sander, the play-boy. Anyway,

been given to these girls when they come out of the mess hall or at other times around the campus. The "wildcat" might just as well be termed common yelling at the girls. Regardless of what you call it, it is as ill-mannered as any thing can be, and it should cease at once. This trouble has never been at Aggie land before, and it should not start now. The same consideration is given dates of freshmen as is given the dates of upperclassmen. What do you say, Aggies, let's stop yelling and whistling at the girls! Show Aggie visitors just what Aggie land is by treating them with courtesy that is due them.

At the Campus today, tomorrow, and Saturday is a picture as big as the state it is named for. TEXAS, starring William Holden, Glenn Ford, and Claire Trevor. The story concerns two boys who, on the verge of going to jail for stealing a hog, are saved by one Windy Miller. After a stage-coach holdup is staged the same two boys get the money from the robbers. They are caught with this money and are blamed for the stealing. Fortunately one of the passengers shows up and saves their necks. The two then set out on their different ways; one to enter into the cattlingustling business and the other to lead a clean simple life. Both fall in love with the same girl (Claire Trevor). There is a lot of bull about shipping beef from Kansas to Texas with an innocent dentist being the ringleader of the rustlers. Not until one of the buddies is killed as a hero can the story end. Naturally the surviving buddy marries the girl.

The Lowdown: A nice story for M-G-M; this could have been top-billing. At the Campus today, tomorrow, and Saturday is a picture as big as the state it is named for. TEXAS, starring William Holden, Glenn Ford, and Claire Trevor. The story concerns two boys who, on the verge of going to jail for stealing a hog, are saved by one Windy Miller. After a stage-coach holdup is staged the same two boys get the money from the robbers. They are caught with this money and are blamed for the stealing. Fortunately one of the passengers shows up and saves their necks. The two then set out on their different ways; one to enter into the cattlingustling business and the other to lead a clean simple life. Both fall in love with the same girl (Claire Trevor). There is a lot of bull about shipping beef from Kansas to Texas with an innocent dentist being the ringleader of the rustlers. Not until one of the buddies is killed as a hero can the story end. Naturally the surviving buddy marries the girl.

Explain, please—It is only fair to give reasons for changing ways of doing something when a change is made. The mess hall has adopted the policy of giving only one pint of "cow" per person each day. Heretofore, everyone has gotten a quart, but without reason, the quota dropped to what it is now. If there is a reason for this drop and an explanation is made, I am sure that the Aggies will accept it without murmur. Why don't you (the mess hall) make use of the speaking system at the next meal? It will save a lot of complaints on the part of the boys who are here.

The Lowdown: A show of the early days in Texas that any Texan should enjoy.

Guion Hall

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