

THE BATTALION

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

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STARS IN SERVICE



BRIGADIER GENERAL LAVERNE G. SAUNDERS, DECORATED 5 TIMES FOR HIS BOMBING OF THE JAPS!

IN HIS WEST POINT DAYS SAUNDERS DID JUST AS GOOD A JOB OF STOPPING ARMY'S FOOTBALL FOES FROM HIS TACKLE POST-AND-YOU-CAN-HELP-UNCLE SAM STOP HIS FOES TOO BY YOUR 3rd WAR LOAN BONDS

BACK THE ATTACK WITH WAR BONDS

U. S. Treasury Department

The Lowdown on
Campus Distractions
By David Seligman

"The Phantom of the Opera" is hilarious comedy evident in some predecessors, its overall fun content suffer due to the rapid, sustained flow of dippy dialogue and gags. The funsters are supported by the silent era will flock to see this new version, expecting to squirm in their seats. They will be surprised. Music lovers will go wondering what Nelson Eddy and Susanna Foster can do in that strange atmosphere. Universal has blended a fine musical spectacle into a suspense-laden story with magnificent production values in color. Both the singing principles stand out brilliantly. Claude Rains plays the phantom role and does a fine job of it. Edgar Barrier, as a French detective, also stands out. The version shapes up as an extraordinary blend of showmanship values.

The Lowdown: It rates "A" time everywhere.

"Hit the Ice" comes to Guion for Thursday and Friday. Globous Lou Costello and his indispensable foil, dead-panned Bud Abbott, made this as their last before the former was forced by illness to temporarily retire—and never were the Maharajas of Mirth in better form. In fact, many fans will vote this their all-time best. While it may be lacking in the peaks of

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Aggieland's Singing Cadets . . .

Another night of entertainment was furnished Aggies, servicemen, and local residents Tuesday night when the Singing Cadets of Aggieland appeared on the stage of Guion Hall as Town Hall's third feature. With songs, traditional Aggie, patriotic, and negro, the program was put on for the enjoyment of all who were in attendance and no one left the theatre without a pleased and satisfied look upon his face. The Cadets, under the direction of Euell Porter of Bryan, had their show so arranged that the absent people missed one of the best programs to ever be presented on the campus of Aggieland.

Town Hall has always put on features that have been enjoyed by the entire audience, no matter what kind of entertainment the people desired. This year is no exception, as seen by the remaining programs. With the first three dates, that is, Bidu Sayao, Carmen Amaya, and the Singing Cadets, off the record, Town Hall has five more that should be just as good as those past. Richard Crooks, Joseph Dunninger, the Philadelphia Opera, Zino Francescatti, and the Houston Symphony will conclude the Town Hall season for 1943-44.

Man, Your Manners
By I. Sherwood

Nothing displays good taste or the lack of it, as much as the choice of gifts. The choosing of them should give genuine pleasure, especially, if some thought is given to their selection. "The thought behind the gift is as important as the gift itself."

A young man may use some originality in selecting gifts for young women, but there is a standard list that he is supposed to use. It includes: flowers, candy, books, and such, but he may choose vanity sets, make-up sets, costume jewelry or if she is the athletic type, he may choose golf implements (if they can be had) or a tennis racket; the war will limit the selection this year.

Don't go into a store to buy a gift without a definite idea in mind. Busy salespeople are helpful but their ideas are impersonal and you may come away with entirely the wrong thing.

If a young man is engaged to a girl, he may with propriety give her personal and expensive gifts. Times being as they are it should not be amiss to give her a war bond this Christmas, if he is to be married soon. He would be unwise to embarrass her by giving her gifts far beyond the limit of his purse.

OPEN FORUM

Editor's Note: The following article is from the Lass-O, T. S. C. W. paper. It is reprinted in full just as found. The author of the poem is S-Sgt. L. D. Holmes, class of '43 although he attended only two years. Coming from Mexia, he majored in Agricultural Administration; he completed the years 1939-1940 to 1940-1941 before entering the Air Force.)

From a foxhole in Tunisia comes this greeting of Christmas cheer. Written by a typical boy "over there" who writes gayly while he bites his lips, this bit of "rhythmical tripe" was sent to Gloria Brown, freshman liberal arts major, from the mud-hole of S-Sgt. L. D. Holmes, 17th Bombardment Group, AAF.

Holmes, formerly an Aggie, included a gift of Tunisian handiwork—a small pink handkerchief which he had made and in the corner embroidered "Tunis 1943," with a hand obviously more skilled for machine guns than needle work. His original poem follows:

SEASON'S GREETINGS AND STUFF

Tis the month before Christmas and I'm going mad,
All my cards should be mailed and there are none to be had,
I've searched the whole neighborhood—I've really worked hard,
But if there's one thing they ain't got, it's a Christmas card.
So I have no alternative—what could be worse?—
I'll sit in my foxhole and write my own verse.

North African Christmas is not quite the same;
S.Sgt. Holmes
17th Bombardment Group, AAF.

But whatever is lacking, the spirit is here,
We'll celebrate Christmas with plenty of beer,
And what I'm sending with this rhythmical tripe,
Is the same old greeting to smoke in your pipe—
May your Christmas be merry and your New Year gay,
And may I be home by the end of May.

3801st Sparkles
By Jack Mondo

Morpheus is a good thing, but it can be overdone. As Peoples' exhibit 'A' we submit the stellar cast of Messrs. Roth, Bado, Youngman, Gutierrez and Nakaki. This quintet insists that (1) the Lord did NOT make the night too long and (2) the Bugler used a mute on his horn that fateful morning. Both appeals were turned down by 1st. Sgts. Staggs and Fulton. Result: five weary gentlemen autographed

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