

The Battalion

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

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A New Growth . . .

In times of indecision the tendency is for quick action untempered by the cool logic of thinking. Many things that are inherently commendable lose their quality of usefulness because they are brought about by revolution rather than evolution. The great almost indestructible Sequoias of California did not spring up overnight and neither did the lasting philosophies of life complete their growth in a few days.

The same principle may well be applied to the rebuilding of those things which have been destroyed because of the war or because some group saw in the war an excuse for the destruction of things which heretofore had been accepted as fine and enduring. A forest fire has swept across Aggieldand burning completely many of the things which the former students of this institution had built through many long years of thought and toil. Only the seeds of these things escaped. Many of these seeds are buried so deeply that never again will they sprout and flourish. Many others that again try to rise will be plowed under, buried to smother.

Two farmers are in the field. One is running his plow haphazardly through the forest of traditions and the other is carefully trying to nourish those things which are good. Both are determined to kill those things which are bad. If these two farmers would hitch their plows to the same tractor is it not likely that a new vegetation would grow which would be comparatively free of brush and undergrowth.

With the Ropes of the Past . . .

Post war planning is a subject which is being considered by the best minds in the country. Post war planning includes industry, marketing, transportation, society, education, foreign policy, farm policy, and every other phase of the economic, social and political setup in the United States. Conditions after the last war were a result of inadequate planning for conversion from a war time program to a peace time program. The policy this time is to plan sufficiently and coordinate the shift in such a manner that the change will take place smoothly and with the minimum of unemployment, upheaval, and confusion.

For many months the post war planning proceeded at a leisurely pace but with the developments in both the European and Pacific theatres indicating that the war will be over much sooner than expected post war planners are spending extra hours in order to get the procedure worked out for the eventful day of armistice.

It is a recognized principle that the nation, the states, and every institution whether it be business, social, educational, or political must have a postwar plan. Each organization has its own men working on a plan. Out of these sessions will certainly come many worthwhile suggestions but at the same time many of the ideas which will be advocated will be radical and unpractical. This is what interested persons must guard against.

Dead long ago was the idea of "what was good enough for my father is good enough for me" but even though dead that idea contains wisdom which should not be forgotten by those who are responsible for the continuance of the growth of the nation's institutions whether they be large or small. Many of the sweeping changes will appear to be the perfect solution to all of the problems but that conservative motto, "With the ropes of the past we ring the bells of the future," should be the guiding policy in any post war planning.

If the new ideas wipe out completely the knowledge and traditions which have been successful then each institution will be like a ship sailing into the horizon with a new skipper and with a new chart. The old charts will point the way and guide each craft whether a large steamship or a small row-boat across the reefs and into the safe harbor of success and plenty and satisfaction.

OPEN FORUM

In the past few months there has been a slight misunderstanding concerning membership in the Freshman YMCA Council. The idea of a number of Freshmen has been that membership in the Council was only for a select few. This is not the case.

When you fish entered, you filled out six white cards. One of these cards asked you if you had participated in Hi-Y work. In order to have a nucleus around which to build the Council, Mr. Cashion and Mr. Gay sent cards to fish who had professed their interest in YMCA work, inviting them into the Council. It has always been their intention that all fish interested in belonging to the Freshman Council should feel free to attend these meetings.

Mr. Cashion, Mr. Gay, the Freshman Council, and the Upperclassman Cabinet wish to extend a welcome to all Freshmen to become Freshman Council members. If any of you are interested, come on over to the main "Y" buildings after supper on Thursdays and get in on the fun.

G. C. Willman
President, YMCA Cabinet.

—SYMPHONY—

(Continued from page 1)

and a clever orchestral adaptation of "Turkey in the Straw." The first section will close with the overture to Strauss's "The Bat."

After the intermission, the second half will include the chertzo from Brahms' Fourth Symphony, and the Andante from Haydn's "Clock Symphony"—so called because the composer attempted to reproduce the ticking of the clock Big Ben, in the Tower of London. Then the orchestra will present two polkas; the "Perpetual Motion" polka by Strauss, so called because it has no ending and may be repeated as many times as desired, and the "Golden Age" polka, by Shostakovich, famed Russian composer of the "Fifth Symphony" that has received so much acclaim in the past two years. The concert will close with Enesco's "Roumanian Rhapsody."

Ernst Hoffmann is one of the outstanding symphony conductors in the United States. Director Hoffmann came to Houston in 1936 and has been in charge of the development of his musical organization for the past eight years. He began his career as a conductor during his undergraduate days at Harvard University, conducting the University orchestra.

Born in Boston, Hoffman is one of the very few American born conductors serving as the permanent director of a recognized American Symphony Orchestra. He went to Europe and entered the High School of Music in Berlin. Before returning to this country, Hoffmann became director of music at the Breslau Opera, the only American musician to fill such a position in the Old World.

HELP BRING VICTORY . . .

BUY WAR BONDS TODAY!

BACKWASH

By Renyard W. Canis

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

Tonight, tonight—ah! Tonight. It's Friday night and there are still a bunch of guys here. No-where to go this weekend? Naw, that's not the reason. Those guys in the first regiment have a bunch of dates down and what is the use of going a couple of hundred miles to see what is going to be right here to see walking down the street. Late dates too. Hmmm. Reckon there's a chance there Doc?

Main Attraction

Going down to the train station tonight just to see if someone might have brought a friend or two and maybe find you know who. Now I haven't got a date because I waited a little late but I might get one now even if I'm not sure how.

When they get off the train I'll ask one if she would fain take a chance and accompany me to the dance. I'm not a handsome lad but really I'm not so bad but slicked up with my "Buttons" I might run on to some Betty Huttons.

My intentions are good and I wouldn't be naughty if I could but I'm taking a date to that dance even if I have to shave and put on clean pants.

After I meet this girl and take her for a little whirl we'll go out after the ball and confidentially that's not all. I'll tell her about the lights in her hair and about the enticing perfume she wears. If this doesn't do the trick, and brother I mean quick, I'll tell her she is my dream and that she sends (See BACKWASH, Page 3)



Man, Your Manners

By I. Sherwood

Manners in public dictate that there is but one important rule to be observed in attending a symphony concert—or any concert for that matter. You are expected to maintain absolute silence during the performance of the different numbers. It hardly seems unreasonable to ask that a person who cannot keep quiet remain at home. A well-bred person does not call attention to himself in anyway in public, neither does he ruin an evening for a number of people around him by talking during a performance.

A person's genuine courtesy and consideration for others are nowhere more noticeable than in public places.

Emily Post says, "Consideration for the rights and feelings of others is not merely a rule for behavior in public but the very foundation upon which social life is built."

Fortunately there are a very few who are anything but well behaved. Most people take their seats quickly and quietly and are very much interested in being pleasantly entertained.

Performers are entitled to appreciation of their efforts, which is usually registered by applause. At a symphony concert applause is expected at the close of an entire number; the audience remains silent between the parts or movements of a single rendition.

PENNY'S SERENADE

By W. L. Penberthy

As spectators of athletic contests, we have witnessed a great many instances when the "tide of battle" was



Penberthy

changed by some little slip-up on the part of one of the teams. Maybe this was a fumbled ball, a n intercepted pass or a blocked kick but it resulted in the course of the whole game being changed with victory coming out what seemed sure defeat or vice versa. These little "slip-ups" are commonly called "breaks" and many are the defeats that have been blamed on the fact that the loser just didn't get the breaks or the winner got all of the breaks.

It has always been very noticeable to me that the hustling ball clubs are the ones that usually get the breaks because they are alert to take advantage of any and all mistakes made by their

opponent. They are quick to cover a fumbled ball, ever alert to intercept a forward pass and eager to block and recover all punts.

These clubs keep this pressure on for every second of the game and do not make the all too often fatal mistake of letting down when they think the contest has been won. Against a team of this kind the opponent cannot afford to make errors or to let down for even a fraction of a second. When the going is tough, they play just that much harder and victory is their usual reward.

I have been told that in the early stages of the Russian-German phase of the war that at one time the German army was within 25 miles of Moscow with nothing in their way to stop their advance, but they hesitated because of the fear of a trap. This may have been the little "break" that turned the tide of the whole war.

I have observed that the successful athletes and the successful people in life put the pressure on and keep it on until the job has been done.