

The Battalion

STUDENT BI-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 twice weekly, and circulated on Tuesday and Friday afternoon.

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

Subscription rate \$3.00 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.

Member
Associated Collegiate Press

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

Calvin Brumley... Editor S. L. Inzer... Sports Editor
Dick Good... Managing Editor Backwash W. Canis... Backwash Editor
Alfred Jefferson... Managing Editor Dick Osterholm... Amusements Editor
Henry Holgin... Intramural Editor
Reporters: Eli Barker, B. J. Blankenship, S. K. Adler, R. L. Byrnes, L. H. Callahan, James Dillworth, Ernest Berry, Teddy Bernstein.
Student Reporters: Henry Ash, Louie Clarke, W. M. Cornelius, Edwin Mayer, John Mizell, Harold Phillips, Damon Tasson, D. L. Mitchell.

Old Buildings . . . Traditional Air

Remodeling, repairing, and refinishing has been taking place in several of the buildings on the A. & M. campus for the last several weeks and as a result many of the class rooms and buildings provide a much more suitable atmosphere for study and learning than they formerly did.

Many of the buildings are old but are still of service and will be for many more years if they have good care taken of them. Old mellow buildings, when preserved carefully, take on an air of stateliness which adds to the dignity of a campus. As they grow older they give off a glow of tradition which is shattered by newer, flashier buildings.

As A. & M. grows it will be necessary to build more new buildings to take care of the growth but also the old buildings should be kept in good repair and in use to lend an atmosphere of solidness to Aggieland. It takes two things to keep these buildings in service.

They must be taken care of and not abused. This is primarily the students responsibility. Repairs of things caused by age is the responsibility of maintenance men. By cooperation A. & M.'s traditional buildings may be preserved and at the same time money that would ordinarily be spent for replacements can be used for growth.

For Meritorious Service . . .

During the summer months and the early part of the fall semester the cadet officers of the class of '44 and '45 served faithfully and provided the invigoration that brought the cadet system back to life at A. & M. The time is too near at hand for any one to judge with proper perspective the benefit which A. & M. and the Aggie Corps received from the ambition, initiative and perseverance of these men but one thing stands out. These men have never been given any official recognition for their services.

When they were relieved of their official duties last fall they left a chronicle of events behind them which will be hard for any future set of cadet officers to equal. Before they took command of the corps there was very little student leadership exhibited and until they re-established cordial relations between the A. & M. administration and student body there was no mutual understanding of the problems of either side.

During the summer months this staff of officers maintained the most efficient discipline that A. & M. had had in a long time. Relations between the military personnel and the student officers was completely free from bias or suspicion by either party. Administrative heads and cadet officers worked and acted together and although they did not always see eye to eye there was certainly a harmonious working relationship between the two.

No person except those intimately connected with the corps can know how they appreciated and commended the efforts and activities of those cadet officers that are now retired. They left their duties quietly but when they left they also left a smooth running machine for future cadet officers to run and build around.

These men, there are about 30 of them, have not received the traditional engraved commissions signed by the president. Is this intentional or is it an oversight?

Hand Me My Shootin' Arn . . .

Recently Colliers published an article entitled "Civil War in Texas" with the reference pointing to the squabble over academic freedom which has been steaming at Texas university. Texas is washing her linen but her neighbors are watching and many are getting the impression that the great educational institutions of which Texas and Texans are so proud are nothing more than crude homespun colleges and universities.

The problem has come up and there is nothing left to do but solve it as quickly as possible with as little stink as possible. But it must be solved quickly. Texas university is a part of Texas representing Texas and anything which hurts the University also harms Texas. Texas university is in grave danger of being hurt.

If the advocates of academic freedom are whipped in this fight that ideal of all educated people will not be doomed in Texas but it will have suffered a setback which will require many years of patient work to rebuild. Who are these people that are struggling to suffocate academic freedom in Texas? Do they know what they are doing?

Perhaps there is confusion as to the meaning of academic freedom. It does not mean those things that are immoral or unclean or contrary to the religious, political, social, or economic beliefs of the people. Rather it means freedom to seek the truth.

Naturally the truth is not always found on the first try but neither is every business man successful in his first venture. There will be mistakes and these mistakes will hurt but it is not better to be occasionally hurt by a mistake and profit by the stimulation thus given than it is to let the truth remain hidden under a blanket or rotten, putrified contaminated, pussey ignorance.

Those people that are smothering under their own shell of self-conceited ignorance and loudly crying out against academic freedom are destroying those things which provide stimulation to progress.

The issue in Texas has been blurred by personalities but now it is bigger than any man or any seven million men. It is as large as the entire field of knowledge, as large as the vast unexplored fountains of information waiting to be tapped by experimental research. It includes science, religion, economics, sociology, psychology, physiology, philosophy, and all the other fields of learning which have made man's lot better in the world.

These people that are against academic freedom, are they ignorant of what it is or are they afraid of the power of truth? It was academic freedom that founded the United States, it was academic freedom that discovered the sulphur drugs, it is academic freedom that Christmas can believe in and worship Christ, it is academic freedom that makes the bodies and the souls of men free. Academic freedom and freedom, if not synonymous, are dovetailed.

BACKWASH

By Renyard W. Canis

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

AFTER 10 DAYS of playing, sleeping and anything else there was to do nearly 2,000 Aggies returned to the campus this week pretty well washed out. It is rumored that the hospital is overflowing with recuperating Aggies.

Dead Hometowns

MOST OF THE GUYS coming back from their little home towns report that they found them pretty nearly dead or if not dead, breathing but barely. As New Year's Eve was on Sunday night many of the little towns had no celebration. But the big towns—wow! Where were the Aggies? Where there are Aggies there is hope and life.

Tips From Canis

ONCE A MAN leads a woman to the altar, his leadership ends. . . . A charming woman without a heart can make a fool of a man

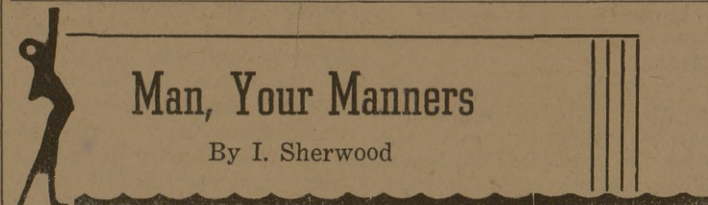


Renyard

without a head. . . . The liquor shortage has helped many an Aggie live up to his New Year's resolutions. . . . The girl who exercises stoops to contour. . . . You're a complete failure if you are a success at dodging work. . . . It's a sign the honeymoon is over when a couple on the sea of matrimony run into squalls.

Pure Silk . . . Yum

E. E. McQUILLEN, secretary of the Association of Former Students, has a Jap battle flag which



Man, Your Manners

By I. Sherwood

Happy New Year and please resolve to have even nicer manners in 1945 than you had in 1944.

Nice Manners should not be associated only with a particular place or time; they should be used all the time, every day. There isn't a situation that doesn't call for a knowledge of what-to-do or what-to-say. However, unfamiliarity with a precise rule of etiquette will be forgiven if your manner is courteous and considerate.

First on your list to do this new year is to write your thank-you notes for your Christmas gifts, for the pleasant time you had as a guest in someone's home; write your father and mother and tell

H. Mustain '36 and B. A. Hochmuth '35 took from a Jap or Saipan in June of last year. It is pure silk and was originally white with the red disk which is supposed to represent the rising sun sitting sort of lop sided in the center.

Thought just occurred that the way to clean out the Japs in a hurry would be to recruit an army of women and promise them all the silk Jap flags they could capture to use in making silk stockings.

Three Rivers Way

HOBART SIBLEY lost his first name over the holidays or at least he traded it in on a new one. To all his friends he is now "Sugar" Sibley.

The name came from Three Rivers, a town somewhere in Texas. With so many rivers around "Sugar" will have to remember that water dissolves sugar.

Aggie At Huntsville

JOHNNY LEJEUNE kept the Aggie tradition alive by making sure that there is always an Aggie present when something comes off at any college. Sam Houston State Teacher's Col. had its Alcalde, yearbook of the school, coronation December 16. Johnny represented A&M and escorted Annie Gwinn of TSCW.

Of Purple Cows

"I never saw a purple cow, I never hope to see one; But I tell you, anyhow, I'd rather see than be one."

Tuesday afternoon on the way back from Dallas an Aggie saw a lady with purple hair (The Aggie was as sober as a judge but judging from the story of purple hair judges aren't very sober any more) and after exhaustive research (Asking every one he met if they knew the poem about a purple cow) the Aggie finally found it and was going to make a joke about the purple cow and the lady with the purple hair.

The poem didn't go like the Aggie thought it did so he couldn't make the joke.

SOMETHING TO READ

By Paul S. Ballance

Russia, our ally! Many are interested in Russia, and in these times it is not merely curiosity because Russia is actually our ally in the great world conflict.

During the summer of 1944 Eric Johnston, President of the Chamber of Commerce of the U. S., was invited to visit Russia and observe the way of life and habits of the Soviet people and their officials. William L. White, the son of the eminent Emporia Kansas editor, accompanied Mr. Johnston on his trip, and he has written two articles for the December and January issues of the Reader's Digest which are very enlightening and most interesting.

We all know that our mode of living, our standards of living and our whole economic and social structures are different from those of the Russians. Nevertheless, the comparisons are interesting. Mr. White does a very good job of showing the difference between a Democratic race of people and a Communistic race of people.

It is very likely that if one reads the two articles mentioned they will desire to read other books about Russia and her people. Needless to say, there are a number of new books about Russia, but there is one that is particularly interesting. The Growth of the Red Army, by D. F. White is not a definite history of the Red Army, but it can best be described as an analysis of how the Red army was organized and how it was affected by the conflicting situations through which it passed from 1918-1939 and how it was held together by common interests and organizational structure. Anyone reading this book will certainly realize that the Russian evaluation of the Red army was the correct one and that most of the foreign observers had completely missed the mark.

David J. Dallin, the author of Soviet Russia's Foreign Policy, 1939-42, has given us another well-written and thought-provoking book entitled Russia and Post War Europe. In the greater part of the book the author takes up the problems underlying Soviet policy, its principles, ideas, and theories, and the possible relation of Britain and America and the countries of Eastern Europe. In the latter part of the book the author stresses the particular war aims of Soviet Russia.

Both books mentioned here are informative, interesting and are recommended.

Thirteen Schools For Coast Guard Have Been Opened

More than thirteen Coast Guard training schools are now open to seventeen-year-olds, it was announced today.

Seventeen-year-old boys who are qualified may join the Coast Guard to train for Electrician's Mates, Fire Controlmen, Range Finder and Radar Operators, Fire-fighting Equipment Maintenance, Damage Controlmen, Radio Operators, Ship's Cooks and Bakers, Pharmacist's Mates and Sonar Operators. The four additional trade schools open are Gunner's Mate, Steward's School, Port Security School, and Signalman School. In addition to these schools, there are several restricted schools on which the Coast Guard is unable to release information.

The interesting and specialized training program is one of the several attractive points to enlistment at this time. Additional information may be secured by applying at the Coast Guard Recruiting Office, 1110-12 Irwin-Keasler Building, Dallas, Texas.

at your house? If not, don't complain, there are not enough of them to go around.

PALACE

PHONE 2-8879

Friday and Saturday

"I LOVE A SOLDIER"

— with —
Paulette Goddard
Sonny Tufts

Preview Saturday Nite
Also Sun. - Mon. - Tues.

"The Conspirators"

— starring —
Hedy Lamarr
Paul Henreid

The Lowdown On

Campus Distractions

By Dick Osterholm

Guion Hall features a double billing for Friday and Saturday. "Beautiful But Broke" with Joan Davis and Jane Frazee. A typical thrown together picture with not too much plot. Girl and boy meet each other, love, but no money. Third party has money and the swindle starts.

The Lowdown: Just a picture.

"Bermuda Mystery" is second on the same program. Starring in it are Preston Foster and Ann Rutherford. A little more excitement in this picture. Six buddies veterans of World War I put \$10,000 each into a pool which the survivors are to split at the end of ten years. Five of the six are murdered. Complications.

The Lowdown: A fair mystery picture.

Prevue Saturday night and Sunday at Guion is "The Heavenly Body" with Hedy Lamarr and William Powell. This is a light hearted comedy. A young astronomer is so busy with his planetary pursuits that his neglected wife takes up astrology and romancing with another man to wake him up.

The Lowdown: Not a recent picture but still in the "good" rating.

Showing at the Palace in Bryan, Friday and Saturday, is another comedy, "I Love A Soldier" with Paulette Goddard and Sonny Tufts. A comedy drama. A girl who makes up her mind not to let Cupid enter her life for the duration has it changed for her when a soldier lad captures her heart. There's a merry mixup of love complications that tangles up the picture.

The Lowdown: A comedy worth seeing for the lighter hours.

Starting with the prevue Saturday night and showing through Tuesday is "The Conspirators" with Hedy Lamarr and Paul Henreid. A picture filled with mystery, spies and danger. Danger and intrigue in Lisbon where Nazi agents plots are contained in this film of two member of the underground who conspired against fascists tyranny. It's the excitement of the picture that will fill you with thrills.

The Lowdown: A picture that is worth seeing. You'll enjoy it.

On the campus at the Campus, Saturday only, is another double feature. "Nothing But The Truth" with Bob Hope and Paulette Goddard. A successful business man makes a wager to tell nothing but the truth for twenty-four hours to his associates. He goes away on a week-end party and meets people, falls in love, almost ruins his business and makes history.

The Lowdown: Not the latest

LOUPOT'S

A LITTLE PLACE . . .

. . . A BIG SAVING!

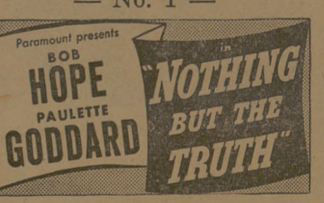
Campus

Opens 1 P.M. — 4-1181

SATURDAY ONLY

Double Feature

— No. 1 —



— No. 2 —

Lynn Merrick - Bob Crosby

— in —

"MEET MISS BOBBY SOCK"

— plus —

Ninah Bird Cartoon
(A Merrie Melody)

SUNDAY and MONDAY
BURLESQUE TO BIG TIME!



— also —

Disney Cartoon - Fox News

Hope picture but still worth seeing.

Second on the billing "Meet Miss Bobby Sock" with Bob Crosby (See DISTRACTIONS, Page 4)

Guion Hall

Phone 4-1166

ADMISSION 9c & 20c

IS STILL . . . Tax Included

Box Office Opens at 1 P.M.

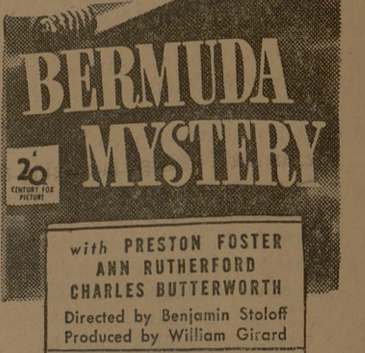
Closes at 8:30

FRIDAY and SATURDAY



Screen Play by Monte Brice • Directed by Charles Barton • Produced by Irving Briskin

— and —



with PRESTON FOSTER
ANN RUTHERFORD
CHARLES BUTTERWORTH

Directed by Benjamin Stoloff
Produced by William Girard

PREVUE 9:30 SATURDAY
and SUNDAY



WILLIAM POWELL
Hedy LAMARR
The Heavenly Body

with JAMES CRAIG
BRANIFF • O'NEILL • BYINGTON

MONDAY and TUESDAY
(January 8-9)

No Greater Love!



M-G-M's unforgettable romance!
The White Cliffs of Dover

starring
IRENE DUNNE
A CLARENCE BROWN Production
and with ALAN MARSHAL
Roddy McDOWALL • Frank MORGAN
VAN JOHNSON • C. AUBREY SMITH
DAME MAY WHITTY
GLADYS COOPER