

The Battalion

STUDENT BI-WEEKLY NEWSPAPER Texas A. & M. College

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

Calvin Brumley... Managing Editor... S. L. Inzer... Sports Editor... Dick Goad... Managing Editor... Backwash Editor... Renyard W. Canis... Backwash Editor... R. L. Byrnes... Intramural Reporter... Alfred Jefferson... Managing Editor... Amusement Editor... Teddy Bernstein... Reporter: Ed Barker, B. J. Blankenship, S. K. Adler, R. L. Byrnes, L. H. Callahan, James Dillworth, Ernest Perry, Teddy Bernstein... Student Reporters: Henry Ash, Louie Clarke, W. M. Cornelius, Edwin Mayer, John Mizell, Harold Phillips, Damon Tassos, J. C. Long.

We're Not Apologizing!

In the January 4th issue of the Thresher, Rice Institute's weekly student newspaper, an editorial and a news story were printed concerning the painting of a statue on the Rice campus. Both these articles accused the Aggies of doing this.

A large front page headline stated: "AGGIES PAINT RICE STATUE SECOND TIME". The main facts of the story follow:

"Last Friday night, 29 December, a group of vandals, presumably Aggies, paid this campus an unexpected visit. The anonymous visitors smeared the statue in several places with white enamel. . . . This was the second time the Sharecroppers have displayed their artistic talent which marks the tomb of the founder of the school. . . . Dr. Pattie, Professor of Abnormal Psychology, is investigating possible motives. . . ."

Written in orange crayon on the copy of this paper which was sent to an Aggie freshman by some unidentified Rice student was: "Remember the 20th". On this date the Aggie basketball team is scheduled to play Rice at Houston. One can only surmise as to what the implications of this message are.

In the editorial also run in that paper, the writer says, "We didn't even know for certain who did it. . . ." He goes on in a highly derogatory manner saying that, "Any large group . . . draws its bad lots, although A. & M. seems to have exceptionally bad luck year after year." Many more remarks are made concerning the quality of Aggies, and their bad conduct.

Perhaps the Thresher's accusations are true. If so, A. & M. should apologize for this unsportsmanlike action. But when even the Thresher admits that it does not know for certain that the dirty work was done by Aggies, no one should expect the Aggies to beg forgiveness. To say that Aggies are capable of desecrating graves is to make a serious accusation. Most editors would think twice before printing libelous statements in their papers without conclusive proof. Yet the Thresher has assumed that the damage was the work of A. & M. students without any basis but a previous act, and even that has not been positively proved to have been committed by Aggies.

Perhaps the boys from the Institute should apologize to the Cadet Corps. Or maybe they should have the professor of abnormal psychology figure out why the editor of the Thresher immediately jumped to the conclusion that this vandalism was the work of students from A. & M.—A. C. J.

Forever Forward . . . Progress Takes Work

It is nearly time for a group of seniors to leave A. & M. It is nearly time for a new group of men to become cadet officers and leaders of the corps. It is time that these juniors that will be taking over soon begin to think about the responsibility that will rest on their intellect. They must begin to think in terms of the entire cadet corps rather than themselves or their class.

There is no way of forecasting the problems that will present themselves to be solved. Very few would be foolish enough to attempt to prognosticate the events of the next semester. Naturally enough there will be the routine duties of disciplining the new students and completing the disciplinary training of old students. Drilling the cadets and providing the machinery for smooth running organizations will be another of the routine jobs. There will be much individual work that will require patience to complete properly. All of these things are routine however.

It takes no exceptional person or group of exceptional persons to make a cadet corps run smoothly. Ordinary men can handle ordinary jobs. They can accept the precedents set by those that have been before and coast along easily if they do not wish to progress.

But let a group of student leaders plan for progress, plan for improvements, then it requires work, ingenuity, intelligence, cleverness, and shrewdness. When any group begins to show signs of wanting to change the prescribed method of doing things they run into opposition. Perhaps the opposition is right but they are not always infallibly right.

Here is the big responsibility for a group of leaders. When they plan they should plan wisely and carefully so as to be ready for any opposition that may develop. They must make sure of what they want. They must make sure that they are right. Then they must not rest until they have gained their objective.

Perhaps new ideas will not always be completely adopted but those in responsible positions will realize with time that nearly all matters of government and administration are a combination and a compromise of ideas. Sometimes the compromise will be stronger than either one of the ideas alone but an alert group of men will first make sure that this is true and take precautions lest they be compromised completely out of their original idea.

In government there are three things that must be done. Ideas and plans have to be worked out. The ideas have to be made authoritative, and the laws and regulations have to be carried out. The last is the least difficult.

It requires one kind of intellect to formulate plans and it takes another kind to get those plans accepted. The success of the latter depends to a large extent upon the first but this is not always the case. These matters must be weighed carefully before any movement is begun.

Those men that have the responsibility next semester and the semesters to come, those men that will be new on an old job, those men that guide the lives of the cadet corps have been given a heavy trust. Every Aggie-Ex is depending on them to keep A. & M. the finest and greatest school in the world. The people of Texas will depend upon them to administer the rules and regulations that the people themselves have laid down. Last, the new cadet officers will have a responsibility to themselves not to make costly mistakes in the administration of their duties.

BACKWASH By Renyard W. Canis

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

"NOT QUIT LIKE IT used to be." Those were the words of Marine Lt. Ralph Rothman, '44 when he visited the campus yesterday after having spent some time in combat in the South Pacific. He did say however that, "the old buildings looked good as I was coming up the drive but the place looks a little vacant."

Threshings

PREPARE FOR A deep laugh old army. It seems that some wise old Owls that nest in the tree of Rice Institute have blamed the



Renyard

Aggies once again for putting a bit of preserver, paint, on some of their scenery. Well, shur and begorra, that is a shame. They blame the Aggies. Wrathfully they blame the Aggies because they have no proof of who did the work.

Official corps trips are out of season but maybe there is ample justification for one about the 20th. Honor has been done dirt to.

With This Ring

IN THE RING she will kiss. Yes, in the ring she will kiss that Aggie with the Senior Ring on. Whoops. Get out of here bird

Man, Your Manners By I. Sherwood

In public buildings never stop to talk in the doorways, aisles, or passageways so that others will have to walk around you. Withdraw to one side so that you will not be an obstruction.

When entering or leaving a public building the ordinary rules and courtesies prevail. Ladies always precede men through doors but the gentleman always opens the doors.

In the case of revolving doors, the lady enters a compartment first, the gentleman grasps a partition and regulates the speed, and then enters the following section. In the lobbies or corridors of an

dogs. Tonight is the night. Tonight we love. Accentuate the apposite.

Music By Request

THE LAST FEW DAYS there has been some Latin-American Music played over the mess hall loud speaker system. Some Aggies have been doing considerable bleeding about this. There are several students in A. & M. from South of the Border and they requested authorities that some of their music be played. Through channels the order went to the operator of the sound system. And that is why Aggies have been eating to the accompaniment of La Cucaracha and little jumping beans.

Observations

HE HAD A parachute chest. Gently floating down . . . Bryan 400 is a bit more scarce now than they were during the summer but Jack Palmer and Jesse Martin are still successful. . . . Grady Jones and his whizzing auto have left school. . . . Several other guys are leaving school. Hmmm. . . . The labor shortage has hit Aggeland. Maids are surely hard to get. . . . Graduating seniors are sweating those last minutes. . . . Freshmen know how many days it is until Mister graduates. . . . What we need around here is heated park benches.

Explained at Last

FOR A LONG TIME Backwash has been puzzling and wondering who Mitzi Brown was. That name appears on the north side of the water tower. Don't have to wonder any longer. It's not a person but two.

The first name belongs to a girl named Mitzi with a last name like little or something and the other belongs to a freshmen named Brown.

PENNY'S SERENADE By W. L. Penberthy

In all probability the first race we ever heard of as youngsters was the famous race between the Tortoise and the Hare. This race was won by the tortoise, who was a steady plodder, while the hare was an overconfident "flash in the pan" sort of fellow who figured he could do a little loafing and still win the race.



Of course the lesson to be derived from the story is one of perseverance and attention to duty and it was meant for children, but in my own case I can still learn a lot from the story. All of us have found out

that we can make better time in a car by driving steadily at a moderate rate of speed than by driving fast between towns but stopping at every town for a coke. The hare learned that same lesson in his race with the tortoise.

In our daily life we see a great many of our fellow men who spurt by us in different ways and maybe we are prone to be a little envious that we don't have what it takes to be able to make such a spurt but I have observed that steadiness and dependability are mighty good traits to develop. They will carry us through in a great many instances long after our fellow man has lost his spurt. The boys who do the spurring often get the headlines and the writeups but the steady dependable boys are the ones who get the job done.

Something to Read By Edna B. Woods

"To do the right thing at the right time" is an art, cultivated not inherited. And everyone, consciously or unconsciously, desires that art. For to handle every situation easily—to speak the right phrase to a new acquaintance, to ask for a date properly, to make a satisfactory introduction—is an invaluable asset.

numerous invitations to various and sundry affairs, and who is always in demand as a lady's escort. In short, mastery of the social graces, is the surest bid for popularity. Being polite is an outward display of respect, and a genuine interest in people is the first principle. Caution: Company manners are a shoddy excuse for the real thing.

Invariably, the person who possesses the social grace is the one who never lacks company for a personal venture, who receives

Books Received By College Library

General Reading:

- A Surgeon's Fight to Rebuild Men; the autobiography of Dr. Fred H. Albee.
There Will be Bread and Love, by Robert P. T. Coffin.
Defoe, by James Sutherland.
The Lost Battalion, by T. M. Johnson and Fletcher Pratt.
Navies in Exile, by A. D. Devine.
D Day; what preceded it; what followed, by John Gunther.
State of the Nation, by John Dos Passos.
Consumer Problems in Wartime, by Kenneth Dameron.
Our Invisible Friends, by Maurice Allen.
Earth and High Heaven, by Gwethalyn Graham.
By Valour and Arms, by James Street.
Live for Tomorrow, by Ralph W. Sockman.
Fifty Great Games of Modern Chess, by H. Colombeck.
Living Musicians; biographical and critical sketches of living virtuosos, edited by Davis Ewen.
Short Stories from the New Yorker; a collection of sixty-eight notable stories.
Reading in General Education, edited by William S. Gray.
So You're Going South! by Clara E. Laughlin.
The Other Side of Main Street, by Henry Johnson.
First Aid in Emergencies; eleventh edition, by Eldridge L. Eliason.
Everyday Things in American Life, by William Chauncey Langdon.
Poetry and the Modern World, by David Daiches.
The Art of Walt Disney, by Robert D. Field.
Social Sciences:
America Unlimited, by Eric Johnston.
People on Our Side, by Edgar Snow.
The WPA and Federal Relief Policy, by Donald S. Howard.
Science and Man, edited by Ruth N. Anshen.
Religion of Tomorrow, by John E. Boodin.
The Good Society, by Walter Lippman.
Organized Labor and the Negro, by Herbert R. Northrup.
A Short History of American Democracy, by John D. Hicks.
Peoples of Southeast Asia, by Bruno Lasker.
The Latin American Policy of the United States, by Samuel F. Bemis.
What Russia Wants, by Joachim Joesten.
The New World Guides to the Latin American Republics, editor E. P. Hanson.
The Road to Teheran; the story of Russia and America, by Foster R. Dulles.
The Rest of Your Life, by Leo Cherne.
Contemporary Italy; key to the Italy of today and tomorrow, by Count C. Sforza.
The German Army, by Herbert Rosinski.
The Plough and the Sword; labor, land and property in fascist Italy, by Carl T. Schmidt.
The Coming Struggle for Peace, by Andre Visson.
You and Your Congress, by Volta Torrey.
The Geography of the Peace, by Nicholas J. Spykman.
Engineering and its Sciences:
Empire of the Air, by Matthew Josephson.
Photographic Emulsion Technique, by T. Thorne Baker.
Gun Collecting, by Charles E. Chapel.
Boatbuilding; a complete handbook of wooden boat construction, by Howard I. Chapelle.
The Birth and Death of the Sun, by George Gamow.
America's Treasure, by W. Maxwell Reed.
Industrial Radiology; second edition, by Ancel St. John and Herbert R. Isenburger.
English Church Craftsmanship,

The Lowdown On Campus Distractions By Teddy Bernstein

Guion—Friday and Saturday at Guion Hall is a double feature. Showing will be "The Heat's On" with Mae West, Victor Moore, and William Caxton. Mae West and William Caxton try to persuade Victor Moore to give his "holy rollers" to a show. This is not a new type for Mae West.

Lowdown: A pretty good picture, if you are out of your mind. Second is "Hey Rookie" with Ann Miller, Joe Besser, and Hal McIntyre and band. The story of the life of a Army private. The show is strictly dance and song musical.

Lowdown: A good picture if you like to watch Ann Miller dance. Prevue Saturday night and Sunday at Guion is "Andy Hardy's Blonde Trouble" with Mickey Rooney, Lewis Stone, Fay Holden, Herbert Marshall, and Bonita Granville. This is a story of how Andy goes off to college, and encounters double trouble when he meets two blondes. Andy solves the blonde's troubles for them in his usual efficient manner.

Lowdown: A very good picture. Monday and Tuesday at Guion is "Salute to the Marines" with Wallace Berry and Marilyn Maxwell. This is a story of the typical slapstick comedy. Lowdown: A good funny picture, but that is all.

Campus—Showing Friday is "Sarong Girl" with Ann Corio. You will like this, if you like a strip tease artist. A racy picture made to order for Aggies. Ann Corio is the Strip Tease Queen of the Police Gazette.

Lowdown: Bow-w-w-wang. Showing Saturday and Sunday is a double feature of "The Sullivans" with Anne Baxter, Thomas Mitchell, Selena Royle, Edward Ryan, Trudy Marshall, John Campbell. This is a heroic show of the lives of the five Sullivan brothers who met heroic deaths when the USS Juneau went down in the battle of the Solomons.

Lowdown: A darn good show. Also showing is "Isle of Forgotten Sins" with John Carradine, by F. H. Crossley. Russian Mediaeval Architecture, by David R. Buxton. The Land Divided; a history of the Panama Canal and other Isthmian canal projects, by Gerstle Mack.

Agriculture and its Sciences: The Book of Bulbs, by F. F. Rockwell. Modern Roses II, by J. Horace McFarland. Gardener's Handbook, by L. H. Bailey. Four Seasons in Your Garden, by John C. Wister. Green Enchantment, by Rosetta E. Clarkson. Thoroughbreds, by C. W. Anderson.

Landscaping the Home Grounds, by L. W. Ramsey. Biography of the Earth; its past, present, and future, by George Gamow. Vegetable Gardening in Color, by Daniel J. Foley. Ploughs and Politics, by Carl R. Woodward.

Campus

Opens 1 P.M. — 4-1181 THURSDAY and FRIDAY Ann Corio — in — "SARONG GIRL" — plus — BUGS BUNNY and FOX NEWS

SATURDAY ONLY Double Feature "The Sullivans" — with — Ann Baxter

— and — "ISLE OF FORGOTTEN SINS" SUNDAY and MONDAY

"CASANOVA BROWN" — also — CARTOON and NEWS

Gale Sondergaard, Sidney Toler. Two deep sea divers find the gold there is on a scuttled ship, only to be robbed of it by the men who scuttled the ship. Nature intervenes and the whole island is washed away.

Lowdown: A fair picture, but nothing out of the ordinary. Showing Monday at the Campus is "Casanova Brown" with Gary Cooper, Thersa Wright, and Frank Morgan. The story of a poor fellow who thinks he isn't liked by women, but in reality the women chase after him. He asks about every girl he sees to marry him and to his dismay they all accept.

Lowdown: A real good picture. Palace—Showing in Bryan this week is "And Now Tomorrow" with Alan Ladd, Loretta Young, Susan Hayward, and others. Emily Blair wealthy New England girl, becomes afflicted with deafness. Alan Ladd, a young doctor "from the other side of the tracks" in Blairs-town, effects a cure when all others diagnose the case as hopeless. Emily falls in love with him, which makes it easier to take the discovery that her sister has been carrying on a secret romance with Emily's fiance.

Lowdown: A very good picture and a mark of progress for Alan Ladd. Sunday and Monday in Bryan is "Canterville Ghost" with Charles Laughton, Robert Young, Margaret O'Brien. A modernized version of the Oscar Wilde story of a good-natured ghost in search of a hero to free him from the curse that keeps him on Earth. The story is that Army man Robert Young and his buddies visit an old English castle and find this ghost.

Lowdown: A picture of strictly good entertainment.

LOUPOT'S A LITTLE PLACE --- --- A BIG SAVING!

Guion Hall

Phone 4-1166 ADMISSION . . . 9c & 20c IS STILL . . . Tax Included Box Office Opens at 1 P.M. Closes at 8:30 PREVIEW SATURDAY 9:45 and SUNDAY

ANDY HARDY'S BLONDE TROUBLE

M-G-M's leap year comedy!

LEWIS STONE MICKEY ROONEY FAY HOLDEN SARA HADEN BONITA GRANVILLE JEAN PORTER KEYE LUKE and HERBERT MARSHALL Directed by GEORGE B. SEITZ

— and — Phil Harris Musical MONDAY and TUESDAY

SALUTE TO THE MARINES

— with — Wallace Berry Marilyn Maxwell in technicolor!

PALACE PHONE 2-3879

Friday and Saturday "AND NOW TOMORROW" — with — Alan Ladd Loretta Young

Preview Saturday Nite Also Sun. - Mon. - Tues. "GHOST OF CANTERVILLE" — with — Charles Laughton