

The Battalion

STUDENT WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

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Texas A. & M. College

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Wake Up . . . Seniors

During the past several years it has been conceded by all that the Seniors have dropped more and more in the background as leaders of the college and have left the administering of discipline of the undergraduates to either the Commandant's office or other officials of the college. This conditions has been lamented by a few who really have the interest of the school at heart and who consider it an honor that the authorities should vest in them the enforcement of college regulations, but, I hate to admit, far too many seniors wear their boots and buttons only to show and do not consider them as a cloak of authority which is their rightful heritage.

The general idea prevalent among the Seniors of the campus is that the good will of the underclassmen must be maintained if they want to be popular. They are apparently losing sight of the fact that they were intrusted with the task of assisting the college authorities in carrying out the regulations and thinking only of how they can gain favor and popularity with the underclassmen by shirking their duty.

To those Seniors who have taken this attitude, I say, "if any junior, sophomore, or fish is narrow minded enough to criticize you for doing your duty, then you are not losing anything when you lose the good will of that person." Everyone respects a strong man either physically or mentally. In this case, physical strength is not required. All one needs is a determination to carry his part of the load and not be stopped by a little adverse criticism by a few narrow minded persons.

The Commandant's office this year is willing to give the Senior Class full rein in enforcing regulations but in doing this, they expect us to take charge with a determination to do the thing right.

It is time—and past time—for Seniors to wake up and throw off their cloak of indifference; to take the reins and lead, rather than stand in the way and be trampled roughshod because of having insufficient courage to stand up for what is theirs.

What Price Attention . . .

Every year there is brought to the attention of every conscientious Aggie the matter of proper and gentlemanly conduct in public places, notably the theatres here at College and in Bryan. At these places there are always a number of men, students at A. and M., who insist on attracting attention to themselves by unduly conducting themselves in a rowdy manner. Such actions are certainly to be condemned.

The motives of these persons are difficult to comprehend; perhaps they have a misguided sense of egotism, and feel compelled to draw notice to themselves to satisfy that egotism. If this be the case surely they can curb that desire or at least attract attention in a less distasteful manner. It may be that their roidness is simply the overflow of an abundance of spirit and enthusiasm; this surplus of energy could certainly be directed along more lucrative channels.

Whatever the reasons for these actions, the fact remains that unfavorable impressions of A. and M. students are made on a great many people, which is distinctly detrimental to the reputation of the college. The public no longer expects college students to be boisterous and rowdy; such actions have been relegated to the rah-rah days of a decade ago. Today college students are expected to be college men and act accordingly. They should control their baser natures and show a consideration for the rights of others.

Every A. and M. man should make it a matter of personal pride to conduct himself at all times in a manner that will reflect creditably upon his school. The situation can obviously not be remedied by disciplinary action on the part of a few persons; it remains for the individual to take it upon himself as a duty to be performed for the gratification of his pride and the reputation of his school.

Courtesy On The Highway . . .

In many previous issues of the BATTALION articles have appeared dealing with the ethics of "hitch-hiking." The subject matter of those editorials have been presented from the viewpoint of both the hitch-hiker and the motorist. Since the motorist is usually on the other side of the fence this editorial will deal with his viewpoint. This writer is acquainted with the hitch-hiking procedures only as they are conducted by members of the A. and M. Cadet Corps so the following discussion will necessarily center itself around that aspect of the art.

Most of the students who depend upon the sturdy thumb and the grace of God to furnish them free transportation to neighboring cities cannot understand why each motorist who passes does not avail himself of the opportunity to have his trip brightened by the company of the hitch-hiking cadet, and when a motorist does not heed the threatening thumbs and the commanding cries of "Houston," "Bryan," "Dallas," etc., he has the back of his neck peppered with ejaculations and split infinitives that would put the saltiest sailor to shame. If he should happen to stop to give some cadet a lift, the chances are that when the swarm of "thumbs" have climbed in he is sorry he stopped in the first place. And cadets expect the same victims to come back for more punishment. Most of the motorists who pass up and down the highway by the college are regular travellers of this particular beat and one dose of this kind of Aggie "courtesy" is enough for them. They do not bite twice and a potential ride for some courteous Aggie is lost forever.

Aggies should have a code—a code of the highway that should include all those little courtesies that a motorist desires in the man he stops to help out. When we learn to give the other man the benefit of the doubt, to display a mite of courtesy, and to respect the rights of our tourist hosts, the possibilities of our thumbing opportunities will increase tremendously.—C.W.W.

BACKWASH

By Junior Canis

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

By Eli Barker

To an Aggie, a weekend is a short duration of recreation, preceded by seven days of anticipation and followed by a suitable period of recuperation.

If any reader managed to get past that poor display of wit, it might be well to give him a nice round of applause for being able to take it on the chin and still keep fighting.

In the future any irregularity concerning this article may be straightened out by contacting Room 212 of Dorm 9 on the top bunk. (My room-dog won't waste his time reading this stale line, and he'll never find out that it is his bed which all the enraged readers have been directed to.) This last remark is for the benefit of all students who are taking Chem. 101, or have taken it, and have learned about H₂O and some of its physical properties.

Now that all formal business is finished, it is only right that something on the lighter side be mentioned. But there is a certain story going around which is hanging on my conscience, and it must be gotten off my chest.

It seems that an Aggie went to the hospital with the complaint that he was unable to sleep at night. The doctor's advice was for him to

eat something before going to bed each night.

"But, doctor," the patient reminded him, "two months ago you told me never to eat anything before going to bed."

The medical man blinked, and then in full professional dignity replied, "My boy, that was two months ago. Science has made enormous strides since then."

Everything turned out for the best though because as soon as the Aggie resumed his class attendance and dropped his daylight sleeping, he returned to normal. It seems that some of the lectures disturbed his naps in class to such an extent that it was absolutely nothing for him to sleep at night once more.

Tessie Tid-Bits . . .

It seems that Joan Ferrell was elected president and Nancy Casey vice-president of the student body at TSCW. Then Iris Doyle and Marcille Hook were elected president and vice-president, respectively, of some group called the WRA. I'm from Arkansas on that one, but it seems that New Deal politics has crept into our sister school. However, WRA might be a radio station or could even stand for Women Running Around. It's all very confusing.

PENNY'S SERENADE

By W. L. Penberthy

There are a great many thrills in connection with a position such as mine where we see a great many things happen while our students are engaged in wholesome competition. Occasionally we are disappointed by the conduct of an individual but for the most part we are pleased and thrilled by the way the men perform under pressure, the way they play the game, by their attitude toward the other members of their team and those of the opponent, by the way they take breaks, and by the way they take victory and defeat. Participation in competitive sports really shows the man for what he is.



I got a big thrill out of a little incident that took place in the championship game in our Intramural Touch Football. J. R. Wade threw a pass to Jim Wible. The pass was well thrown but due to

the fact that about three of the opponents were trying to intercept it, the pass was a difficult one to handle but Wible made a fine catch. While the men were going into the huddle for the next play Wible said, "Nice pass J. R."

We all appreciate modesty and unselfishness. We like to see successful people give credit to those who have helped them and for the most part we have to have some assistance to have success. We like to see the coach of a team give the credit for a good season to his assistants and to the members of the team. If things go wrong we like to see him take the blame.

Unfortunately there are too many people worrying about whether or not they will get the credit for the things they do. Credit is always forthcoming for a job well done. In my opinion we should be more concerned about how we will get the credit. We must live with ourselves and as long as we know in our own hearts where the credit belongs that is all that is necessary.

AGGIES IN ACTION

FIGHT IN TEXAS AGGIES

CLASS OF 1940

Lt. Webb Lipscomb, '40, was killed in an airplane crash somewhere in French Morocco on February 23 according to word received in College Station by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. S. A. (Doc) Lipscomb. At the time of his death Lt. Lipscomb was a transport pilot engaged in operational flying for the ATC.

Lt. Lipscomb was a member of E Field as a student at A. & M., graduating with the class of '40 and immediately thereafter entering the armed service with the field artillery. He received wings as an aircraft observer at Brooks Field, Texas, and later received pilot training at the Pecos Army Air Field.

In addition to his parents, Lt. Lipscomb is survived by his wife and his grandmother, Mrs. L. A. Webb, all of College Station, S. A. (Doc) Lipscomb is a graduate of the Class of '07 and presently is an active member of the Board of Directors of the Former Students Association.

CLASS OF 1941

Lt. Paul G. Haines, Jr., '41, was killed in action in Germany on February 24, according to word received here by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Paul G. Haines, Sr. At the time of his death, Lt. Haines was a member of a light tank battalion with the U. S. Ninth Army.

As an Aggie, Paul Haines was a member of D Cavalry. He was a lieutenant colonel in the corps, manager of Town Hall, was represented in Who's Who and held numerous student honorary positions.

Lt. Haines had been overseas since December 1943 and fighting in Germany since last October. In

addition to his parents, Lt. Haines is survived by three brothers, H. Keith and Lamar Haines, also in the service, David Haines and a sister, Mrs. E. T. Haines.

CLASS OF 1945

Silver Taps for Pfc. Harry C. Robison and wedding bells for Lt. Joe L. Buford, Sgt. Louis E. Buck, recent visitor to the campus, was awarded the Purple Heart for wounds received in France. If you want to write him he is in the Hammond General Hospital, Modesto, Calif.

Flight Officer Robert C. Ward has been awarded the Air Medal for "exceptionally meritorious achievement while participating in sustained bomber combat operations over central Europe."

Paced by Second Lieutenant Bradford N. Ashcraft, Weatherford, Texas, flyer, 12 P-47 Thunderbolt fighter-bomber pilots took a heavy toll of German transport, buildings and factories along the banks of the Rhine. They destroyed at least 8 buildings, three of which were large warehouses, two factories, five locomotives, 15 goods wagons, 10 trucks and strafed 20 barges setting one on fire.

"Ashcraft did a topnotch job," said First Lieutenant Gus W. Allen, San Angelo, Texas, who led the Ninth Air Force, famed "Pioneer" fighter-bomber pilots. "He carried on a one-man war of his own with excellent results. He blew up two large factories at Neuenhr, four trucks, several freight cars, and a locomotive and some other stuff."

Lieutenant Ashcraft said, "The Germans had a lot of stuff along both banks of the Rhine and we just went from side to side strafing and bombing. The factories

BETWEEN THE BOOK-ENDS

By Edna B. Woods

"The duration and six months"—two nouns, an article, an adjective, and a conjunction. Yet, achievement of that phrase is the goal of a hundred and thirty million Americans. Over eight million Americans will see the green light for individual enterprise with its achievement; for eight million Americans, six per cent of our total population, will be war veterans. Half of that number will have served overseas. Perhaps, you'll be one of them. If you are selfish enough to suppose that you owe nothing to these men and women, or if you think to admit your debt of gratitude takes care of your obligations effectively, you may soon learn that these veterans, if for no reason except their numbers, will demand attention. These recent books on the subject merit more than a passing glance.

They Dream of Home by Niven Busch is fiction. It's the story of five Marines who lived, thought, and fought together in the Pacific theatre. It's a good story, lively and full of action, for its characters are men only recently tempered in jungle warfare. Sgt. Earl Watrous, their mainstay, is too old to be useful in combat, according to the new commanding officer in their area. But, Matt Klein—about thirty and Jewish, Cliff Harper—only twenty, but with two years combat duty to his credit, William Tabeshaw—an Indian, and Perry Kincheloe—a Negro who lost both legs in battle, all have medical discharges. All five of the men wear the Silver Star.

Cliff Harper suffers a nervous disorder. His basic stability is his confidence in these four men and himself as a group, with Sgt. Watrous giving orders. Since they were successful in combat, Cliff reasons that they can do all right at home as long as they stick together. But as the five men reach San Francisco, each is drawn into pattern of living similar to the one he pursued before the war. Sgt. Watrous soon discovers that his eldest son, with a lucrative defense job, acts as head of the household. Acting as nursemaid for his baby grandson is not a satisfactory substitute for the Sergeant. The Indian, not inclined to return to the reservation, has an excess of energy, too much discharge money, and not enough common sense to control either. Matt Klein married immediately before he went overseas. On his return he was unable to locate the comely missus and suddenly realized that his only attraction was his monthly allotment. Perry Kincheloe faced

the painful job of adjusting himself to the life of a total invalid, dependent on his mother. Mr. and Mrs. Harper couldn't quite become accustomed to the idea that Cliff was no longer a boy. Cliff's high school sweetheart had wanted to marry Cliff before he left, but there wasn't time. Unable to get it out of her mind, Pat eventually married an Air Corps lieutenant, because he was a "nice guy" and she liked him.

The ex-Marines arranged to take care of Perry comfortably. Matt Klein buried his sorrows in the operation of a meat market. The Indian continued to cause trouble. Sgt. Watrous left home and sought work in a war plant. And Cliff at the suggestion of his parents, enrolled in college. But Cliff wasn't

at ease with the college crowd; in fact, participation in college sports were almost reinous. He left school and went to live with Sgt. Watrous.

They Dream of Home is a thoroughly logical story. Some of the difficulties of adjustment may seem exaggerated, but injuries which made them unfit for military life are also detrimental in civilian life. A fast moving story, easy to read, and entertaining, *They Dream of Home* makes the problems of rehabilitation of veterans clear. Mr. Busch's conclusions are optimistic.

Dixon Wecter's most recent book, *When Johnny Comes Marching Home*, is a study of the veterans of wars in which the United States participated.

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AS THE WORLD TURNS

By Dr. Al B. Nelson

Advances on all battle fronts have been recorded in the news of the past week. THE CROSSING OF THE RHINE by the troops of the American First Army took first place in the news of the week, but the Russians are now reported to have CROSSED THE ODER River thirty or more miles from Berlin and to be massing several armies for an all out attack on the German Capitol. In the Philippines the news continues to be good, with landings reported on several additional islands including Mindanao. On Iwo Jima the Japs have been compressed into two major pockets where the process of extermination continues. A CHINESE OFFENSIVE has resulted in the recapture of a major airbase recently lost to the Japs, and of a great extent of the old Burma Road, which had been in Jap hands for several years.



Henry Wallace, new Secretary of Commerce, continues to claim that he can organize the country to provide jobs for sixty million people after the war. This would mean post war employment for more people than are now working in the army and navy. To do this Henry must plan to draft some of the housewives and children who are now unemployed and force them into postwar labor gangs in order to reach the grand total he has announced. The Supreme Court, for the present, refused the government's petition to review the lower court's decision in the Montgomery Ward case on the ground that the petition for review was filed before the lower court decision was rendered. The Hollywood movie industry is threatened with a major strike which has already tied up work in several studios and seems to be spreading in spite of the fact that union authorities have denounced the strike as unauthorized. The Japanese homeland has been blasted by additional large scale super bomber attacks on Tokyo, Nagoya, and Osaka. Twenty-four square miles in the heart of the three big cities has been burned out according to the latest report. The army reports that only four planes have been lost in the course of the last three raids.

A. S. T. P. Excerpts

ASTU — 1st Co.
By Frank LaCamera

Spring fever has once again invaded A. S. T. P. blood streams. According to Dr. I. Kureall, the only known remedy is outdoor exercise. In order to minimize the effects of this epidemic, baseball and tennis teams have been organized. The baseball team is under the supervision of Lt. Otis Cardwell with Bill Freeman covering the coaching duties. Fifty-five men reported for the first practice, but this number has since been reduced to twenty. The team works out daily and during weekends on a field which is being prepared adjoining the Aggie diamond. G. I. volunteer engineers, who also work on weekends, furnish the labor for the construction of the new field. Activity thus far has been confined to warming up exercises, batting and fielding practices. Manager Edward Cushman states that the team is shaping up fairly well and should be ready for play next month. Some of the members with previous college experience are Bill Freeman of Clarkson, Jackie Lowe of Louisiana Polytech, Marvin Mayta of California Tech, Garry Cooper of John Hopkins, Bill Plant of the University of Connecticut, Byron Parshall of Michigan U., Al Stetter of Columbia, Marvin Cohen of Illinois Tech, and Morris Rosenthal of Texas Tech. Other members are Sgt. Henry (Joe DiMaggio) Wendrycki of Brooklyn sandlot fame, who is also helping with the training, Robert Rapp, Louis Oddo, Archie Broodo, Fred Goodwin, Ed Swire, and Ken Faylor, from the 1st company, and Tom Robbins of the 2nd Company. Bob Athey is assistant manager. It is hoped that games can be arranged with the Aggie team and other college nines as well as nearby service teams.

Bob and Fred Lewis are acting co-managers and co-coaches of the tennis team which is not yet fully organized. Eighteen men are seeking positions on the four-man team. Of these men Seymour Grubel, three time winner in Irvington, N. J. tournaments and runner up in the New Jersey state boys' tournament, appears most likely to land

ASTU — 2nd Co.
By Bob Frisby and Dick Agruain

"In the spring, a young man's fancy turns . . ." It's not spring yet, but fancies are turning in an orthodox manner here in the second company. The passbook in the orderly room was at the point of overflowing until the monthly grades came out.

Gene McCormack has a tete-a-tete with his girl friend every night, although she lives in Oklahoma. Quite a feat, I'd say. Ask Gene about it. He'll tell you, he's a very honest, straight forward kind of fellow. We call him the wolf in chaplain's clothing.

"Don't you ever take a bath, Davilla?" was the question floating around in dorm three recently. We were wrong in our opinions as to what the source was, but the hydrogen sulfide odor was definitely there. Lo and behold, it seems that Davilla was saving some choice eggs, "aged in the shell," to hurl at some likely target. He just waited too long.

Several days ago Walter Hall was offering five to one odds that the war would be over in Germany Friday, March 9. Well, Friday found Walter collecting his winnings—the war was still over in Germany.

Richard Bates has lately been caring for two tiny rabbits in his room. While constructing an imaginary canal through a field east of the campus, civil engineering student Bates found the two little creatures nesting in the grass, and his maternal instincts were aroused. After a short and violent struggle, Bates managed to "bring 'em back alive." They're only five inches long, but remember, Bates, two are enough to look after. Big oaks from little acorns grow.

A berth. Prospective opponents are the Aggie and University of Texas racquet swingers. Since matches are not likely to be scheduled before next term, the team will have a good chance to develop into a fine outfit capable of bringing new honors to the campus A.S.T.P. unit.