

The Battalion

STUDENT WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

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Texas A. & M. College

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Pan American Day

Pan American Day is a day to symbolize the common bonds which unite us in a world in which cooperation for mutual benefit is our main object.

It is an occasion for calling to mind the contribution of the American republics to good understanding among nations. The countries of the Western Hemisphere have a well developed system of international relations—unity of the Americas. To the American republics, peace is something far greater than just the absence of conflict. It involves cooperation and mutual assistance in the solution of social and economic problems. From this mutual assistance have grown great results: the standard of living has been improved, the health level raised, and the productive capacity of the people greatly increased.

The Latin American countries contain more than 120,000,000 people of varying tongues, customs, traditions. But all of them share with the 130,000,000 people of the United States a love for liberty that has never died in the Western Hemisphere. That sentiment is perhaps the strongest bond between them. It has led all the 20 Latin American republics to contribute, each in its own way to the war effort of the Americas.

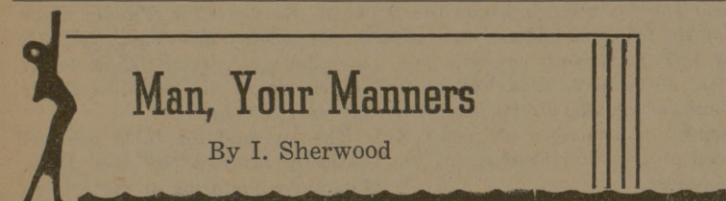
Juan Bautista Alberdi, a great Argentine patriot, and philosopher of the democratic ideals among nations was perhaps the first prophet of this inter-American solidarity which now prevails throughout the whole Western Hemisphere. He was one of the first to dream of hemisphere cooperation, now known as the Good Neighbor Policy instituted by President Roosevelt when he came first to the presidency back in 1932. At that time Mr. Alberdi's dream did not crystalize, the way he wanted. During that time there was an era of misunderstanding, and arbitrary attitudes both to the north and south of the Rio Grande, an era in which there was resentment between the Latin American countries and the United States, but now that vision of Alberdi has come true. The Americas are united in a strong bond of cooperation and mutual understanding.

Simon Bolivar and San Martin, two of the greatest political leaders of Latin America, two men who still provide inspiration to all the Americas, were responsible for carrying the dreams of Alberdi toward achievement. Through their leadership the Americas were brought together. They started the flame that later was to spread throughout the whole hemisphere, not as a conquering mission but by bringing together millions and millions of people—different in customs, language, traditions—into a mutual assistance and understanding, removing all the suspicions that they had long entertained regarding the United States. A good deal of the misunderstanding has been corrected, and a change in national policy has been adopted.

As soon as war broke out in Europe, the Americas called a conference in order to discuss the problems facing them in case the war should extend to the Western Hemisphere. That conference, which was held in Panama, was one of the first steps toward cementing the whole Americas into one unit. They worked harmoniously at that first union and from that conference came their desire to maintain their security and peace and to help each other through the economic crisis by reciprocal trade agreements.

Then the war continued its course, but this time the security of the Americas was threatened. Once more a conference was called. This time it was held in Havana. Here the representatives of the Americas pledged to protect the Western Hemisphere against invasion or control by non-American nations, and in this conference the Latin-Americans abandoned their prejudices and became more united. Then came the brutal aggression of Japan against the United States and again the security of the Western Hemisphere was in danger. A third conference was called in Brazil, and the Rio De Janeiro Charter was drawn up. In this charter the 20 American countries reached a wide hemispheric agreement, mobilizing human and material resources of the Americas to keep aggression from our shores and cooperating as equals in building a better peace.

The foundations for essential inter-American solidarity were thus laid in a series of conferences among the diplomats of the different republics. The work of these statesmen was an expression of the desires and interests of the people.—Ruben R. Caro Costas, Latin-American Student from Puerto Rico.



Man, Your Manners

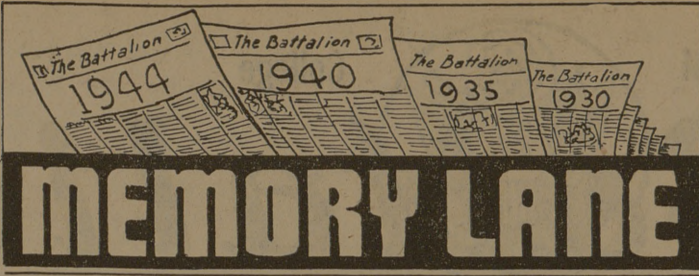
By I. Sherwood

Telephone Manners: When you call over the telephone to give news of interest to a friend, who you find, is not at home, you may leave a message for him to call you. But if you have called to get information or ask a favor, it is more polite to say "I'll call again." Do not refuse to give your name if it is asked for.

If the one answering the call does not give you a clue as to who he is, and you do not recognize his voice, it is best for you to ask if this is 2-1101 or ask for the one you wish to speak to or say "May I ask who is talking, please?" Never say "Who are you?" If you get a wrong number, remember that it is not the fault of the party who answers; you really owe them an apology.

When you are on the answering end of the telephone, put a smile in your voice. The proper thing to do when you pick up the telephone is to give your number or name. As soon as you hear who your caller is, greet him.

It is the caller's place to bring the talk to a close; but when a young man calls his girl, he waits after he has given his message for her to indicate that she has nothing more to say. Endless conversations can be quite a bore to the one who does most of the listening.



By L. H. Calahan

ONE YEAR AGO
General: Corps goes into summer uniforms . . . Watson Keeney, Burl Ervin and Albert Houtz sing for Dallas Muster . . . Miguel Dorante plays guitar at Bryan Rotary Club program . . . Freshman and Sophomore courses only to be offered in summer semester.

Sports: Burditt and Burch star for Aggies in games against T.U. . . . Bob Fretz scheduled to hurl for Aggies against Rice . . . Billy Jordan, King, Ludwick and Deere in One-Mile Relay at T. U. Track meet.

Showing: "Dr. Gillespie's Criminal Case" at Guion, and Jean Arthur and John Wayne in "A Lady Takes A Chance."

FIVE YEARS AGO
General: Junior election to be held soon . . . Tom Harris heads Cavalry . . . Russ Morgan to play for Senior Ring Dance . . . Daphne Jeanette Salois represents Aggies at Texas Bluebonnet Carnival . . . Gene Barr weds Waco girl.

Sports: Ned Ewing presents comic dives in aquatic carnival . . . "Red" Ballow given praise for fine work as short stop this season . . . Paul Ketelsen performs beautifully on high board at swim meet.

Showing: At the Assembly Hall, "Geronimo". "The Hunchback of

Notre Dame" in Bryan.

TEN YEARS AGO
General: Cal Hubbard resigns as head line coach . . . M. L. Cashin announces bowling alley ready for use . . . W. R. Langston named president of Accounting Society . . . 278 Seniors are candidates for graduation.

Sports: "Zimmie" Randow stars for Aggies in Track meet at T. U. . . . Norman Branch hurls for Aggies against T. C. U. . . . Aggie pistol team defeated by Oklahoma, Cornell and Harvard.

Showing: Pat O'Brien and James Cagney in "Devil Dogs of the Air", at the palace and Jean Parker in "Sequoia" at the Assembly Hall.

FIFTEEN YEARS AGO
General: George Fix, president Junior Class, urged all Juniors to attend Prom . . . B. E. Nowotny named captain of the Band . . . Robert L. Gerbert heads Battalion newspaper . . . P. L. Downs contest to be held soon.

Sports: Aggies win first conference track meet with Emmons taking two firsts . . . Frank O'Bannon named captain of tennis team . . . Fred Shaw hurls for Aggies against Baylor in conference opener.

Showing: "Billy the Kid" at the Assembly Hall, and "Dishonored" at the Palace in Bryan.

PENNY'S SERENADE

By W. L. Penberthy

Last week at Sunday School I heard a reading entitled "The Touch of the Master's Hand." The reading was one concerning a very old and seemingly worthless violin that was being auctioned along with some household goods. The bid started at one dollar and went slowly to three. At this point in the auction an old man with white hair walked up to the auctioneer, took the old violin and after tuning it, played a very beautiful tune which brought out all of the fine tone qualities of the instrument. Upon completion of the tune the bid went to one thousand dollars and finally sold at three thousand. It was

the "touch of the master's hand" that had so greatly changed the worth of the old violin.

An education should and in most cases does add the touch that makes us a much more valuable individual to our community and country. In cases where the education fails, there may be many reasons but I feel that in the main the chief reason is that the student fails to apply himself to the extent that he gets the maximum of what the institution has to offer. Some institutions have better ratings and reputations than others, but the fact that some of the best men in our country graduated from institutions we never heard of leads me to believe that it isn't so much the school but the zeal of the student in trying to acquire the most of what the school has to offer morally, spiritually and intellectually.



By Dr. Al B. Nelson

Poland is still the stumbling block in the way of complete cooperation between the three great powers. Russia refuses to carry out her agreement by which Poland would be permitted to form a government composed of all the major factions in the country and press dispatches state that Winston Churchill intends to air the situation thoroughly in the British House of Commons.

Pan-American Week is being currently observed throughout the Americas. Through co-operation in the present struggle for world liberty the independent nations of

the Americas have achieved their greatest degree of unity of action and therefore their greatest degree into the common efforts (very reluctantly, however, and Pan-Americanism is stronger than ever before.

Berlin is only fifty miles in front of the American forces as this goes to press and before you read this statement they may be in the outskirts of the German Capitol. The capture of Berlin will not mean the end of the war in Europe but it will be a major milestone passed.

No Foreign observers will be permitted at the San Francisco Conference. So-called neutral nations that requested this privilege have been definitely notified that they will not be permitted any part at all in the conference, even as onlookers.

Many things are rationed during wartime but courtesy is not one of them.

Keep no more cats than will catch mice is a good thought to apply to a salesman.

A barking dog is usually a sign nobody's home.

Dead men tell no tales, but there are a lot of tales told on dead men.

Be quick to jump at opportunity—slow to jump at conclusions.

What happened to all those guys who promised the war would be over in 1944.

The thoughtful boy friend will always remember his girl's birthday—but forget her age.

BETWEEN THE BOOK-ENDS

(These reviews of Texas books and notes about Texas authors are continued from last week's issue.)

When "regionalism" in literature is mentioned, we in Texas think at once of J. Frank Dobie, or, of late, George Sessions Perry. Yet we often overlook the recent work of the late Colonel John W. Thomason, Jr. (U.S.M.C.). A Texan of an old-line Confederate family, Colonel Thomason was born at Huntsville in 1893, and attended Southwestern University and The University of Texas before going to New York to study art.

His studies were interrupted by his enlisting, in 1917, in the Marine Corps, in which service he was to remain all his life. But he capitalized on his early life in Texas and his acquaintance with the "old settlers" of the Huntsville area to produce his last two books, *Gone to Texas* (1937) and *Lone Star Preacher* (1941). These works are regional writing of a very good quality, and they are enlivened by Colonel Thomason's drawings. He seems to have profited from his

art studies, for many of his illustrations possess the elusive appeal of characterization which has brought fame to Stan Mauldin's "Up Front" drawings.

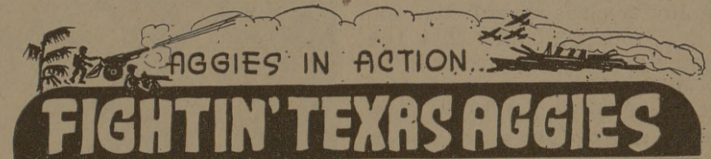
Colonel Thomason's books are marked by his mastery of the storytelling technique and by his ability to describe folk and places in terms which are at once imaginative and accurate without exaggeration. But it must be admitted that this very unwillingness to exaggerate "Texana" causes him to lose the support of the rabid Texan regionalist who feels that no writing about Texas is complete without the element of "Texas brag". However the discriminating reader who longs for authentic regional material cluttered with too many tall tales will find Colonel Thomason's books good reading.—Harry L. Kidd, Department of English.

We are inclined to become accustomed to commemorating historic events and to honoring great men of the past. This is commendable but we should not forget to recognize the significance of the works

of the great among our contemporaries. Among the younger living Texans who will certainly be remembered by coming generations is the young writer, Dixon Vector. Mr. Vector was born in Houston in 1906. Little is recorded in regard to his early education. It probably differed not at all from that of any other young Texan of his time. In 1925 he took the B. A. degree from Baylor University with highest honors. He later added two degrees from Yale University and spent two years as a Rhodes Scholar at Oxford.

An interesting side light is shed upon Vector as a young college student by an incident related by one of the professors who taught him in his undergraduate days. The professor had learned of a library that was for sale in a nearby town. Having decided to look into the matter, he asked Mr. Vector if he would like to go along. The student replied promptly that he always liked to see books.

(See BOOKS, Page 4)



CLASS OF 1944

Lt. Wm. G. Pritchett reports several other Aggies in his battalion. They are located at present somewhere in France. S/Sgt. Robert C. Sims writes from somewhere in Belgium. Lt. Melvin R. Mirick is in Eastern India. He reports that he, Lt. William A. Wright, and Lt. Edward W. Roeder, '45, are together and have been together since entering the service. Cpl. Carson M. Russell is located somewhere in Belgium. Lt. William F. Graves was wounded in action in Luxembourg in early January, but has returned to duty with his outcast. Lt. Robert J. Ridgway is in the Philippines, and reports having had quite a few interesting experiences. Capt. William G. Buzbee is serving as Bomb Disposal Officer for a division somewhere in Italy. Thomas R. "Tommy" Sessums is Engineer for Black, Sivalls & Bryson, Inc., Oklahoma City, Okla. Lt. Donald J. Rutan is the youngest first pilot in the European Theater of Operations and recently completed his tour of duty in the ETO.

CLASS OF 1945

Lt. Harlan T. Flynn has been awarded the Combat Infantryman's Medal and two Bronze Stars. Pvt. Jack O. Elliston has been reported missing in action. Sgt. George H. Golman, reported missing in Belgium since December 17, is a prisoner of war of the Germans. Lt. William P. Warner is somewhere in France. Pfc. Bryon Stenis is in Burma. Lt. Kleber Trigg, somewhere in Germany, found quite a few Aggies on the boat going over. Lt. Ralph H. Durham is in India. S/Sgt. Chester L. Sinclair has returned to the States for a furlough after duty overseas. Ens. Tommy Winn has been reported missing in action after a plane crash in the Pacific February 7. Sgt. Henry A. Schlittler is stationed somewhere in England. Lt. Edgar H. Cook reports keeping plenty busy at his location somewhere in Germany. Lt. B. J. Stahlman is on duty in France.

CLASS OF 1946

Cpl. Howard Dye, Jr., is somewhere in France. Lt. Arthur R. Buckner is stationed at Cherry Point, North Carolina. Lt. Horace T. Ardingier is assigned to Randolph Field, Texas. Pvt. James C. Wallis is now receiving training at Camp Shelby, Mississippi. Alvin H. Bauman S 2/c is at the Naval Training Station at Gulfport, Mississippi. Sgt. Alonzo L. Scott, Jr., was recently wounded in action. S/Sgt. Jack C. Combs is somewhere in England and reports Ben Lain is somewhere in France. Lt. Curtis T. Strong, Jr., has been awarded an oak leaf cluster to his Air Medal for "meritorious achievement", while participating in bomber combat operations over Germany and enemy occupied Europe. Ensign Thomas R. Gould has been transferred to the Naval Training Station at Hollywood, California.



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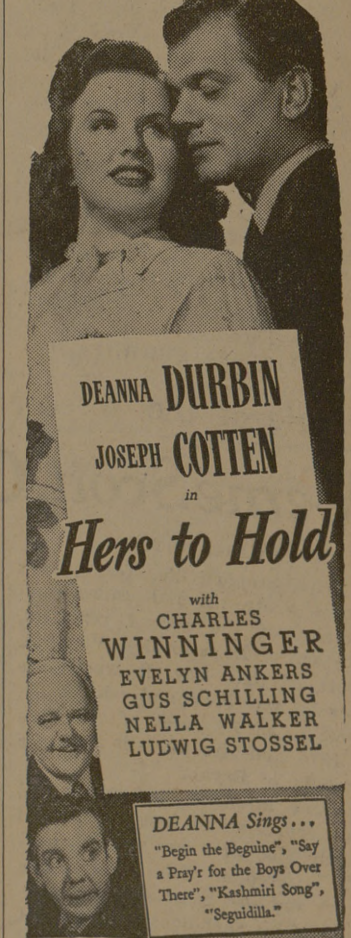
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