

# The Battalion

STUDENT WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

Office, Room 5, Administration Building, Telephone 4-5444  
Texas A. & M. College

The Battalion, official newspaper of the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas and the City of College Station is published weekly, and circulated on Thursday 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.

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## Hazing . . .

It's initiation time for some fraternities, and of course that brings up the perennial subject of hazing.

First, let us say that hazing is a fine thing. It's that phase of initiation that binds the fellows together closer than brothers. It is the memory of those little trials and tribulations suffered by all alike that gives each brother "the subtle but invincible conviction of solidarity . . . that binds brothers to each other, that binds together all fraternities." (With apologies to Joseph Conrad.)

Really, hazing is a noble thing. It reminds us strongly of the custom of the noble Red Man in selecting the braves. Before the Indian lad could become a brave, he had to prove his courage and endurance and virility. He must fast for seven days or let the tribe beat him for hours with buffalo thongs or eat rotten horse flesh or go through some other such test of manhood. The Apaches had a unique test of piercing the flesh of the breast of the would-be (pledge) brave, tying leather ropes through the holes, and letting men or horses drag him over the plains until the flesh broke or he became unconscious.

One of the current tricks of fraternity hazing is to dress the pledge in outlandish girl's clothes, take him twenty or thirty miles on some Godforsaken road at night, and let him out for a nice little stroll back to town. Very amusing and much more civilized than the customs of the Red Man.

Then there's another trick of taking the pledges to the basement for a tobacco juice spitting contest. They have two benches. On these the pledges are seated, half on one side and half on the other, facing each other. Each pledge is given a plug of tobacco and told the object and rules of the game. The object is to spit in the other fellow's face, and the rules are that you can't guard your face with your hands or move your head the slightest bit. Very amusing and much more civilized than the custom of the Red Man.

But one of the best tricks is to give the pledge three kinds of laxatives all at once. The best combination is five tablespoonfuls of castor oil, a large glass of concentrated hot salts solution, and five or six pink pills. Oh boy, is this funny! Just hang around about an hour and you'll die laughing, but more that's only the beginning. Then for the next three days you feed them on asafodita and pea salad seasoned with garlic. Of course they can eat whatever else they want, if they want anything else, but the rule is that they must eat a certain amount of the salad each meal. On an empty stomach, naturally this comes up, but they can have some more if they get hungry between meals. Very amusing and much more civilized than the customs of the Red Man.

Great sport this fraternity hazing. Great Sport!  
—The Daily Texan.

And some people speak of "hazing" at A. & M.! Thank Heaven we haven't any of the above-described foolishness here.

## Modern College Ideas . . .

College student leaders of the midwest, at a meeting conceived in freedom and dedicated to greater student influence in administrative affairs, have set up a new program of undergraduate action.

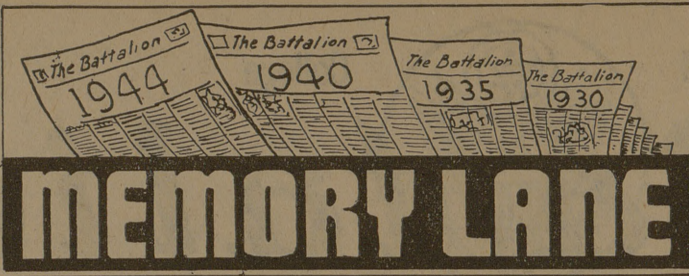
"How Can College Help the Student to Function More Effectively?" was the central theme of a two-days conference held lately at Bradley College, in Peoria, Illinois. Taking part in the meet, which represented one of the first efforts of college students to get together to solve their own problems, were the University of Chicago, Principia, Armour Tech, Wheaton, Illinois Wesleyan, Knox and Bradley.

Conclusions and recommendations reached by the conference included the following:

1. Class attendance should not be compulsory except in those few courses where the nature of the subject demands it, such as languages, mathematics, etc. If a professor cannot make classes interesting enough that students will attend voluntarily, he should be discharged.
2. Class attendance should not directly affect grades.
3. All college programs should require survey courses designed to provide an understanding and familiarity with general principles and materials involved in the "core of knowledge" which befits an educated person.
4. There is validity to offering survey courses both before and after specialization, so long as they are taken before graduation.
5. There should be curricular freedom beyond the required survey courses.
6. Academic and vocational work can best be handled as separate departments of the same institution, so that each department, each individual, can contribute to the function of the other and to the function of the university as a whole.
7. A knowledge of the so-called cultural subjects, such as music, art and literature, is absolutely essential to a college education.

\* \* \* \* \*

The Battalion agrees with these ideas, in the main. Modern colleges are adopting them more and more. A. & M. has adopted some of them, and in our opinion, should adopt the rest.



## Memory Lane

One Year Ago:  
General: 250 new ASTRP cadets arrive on campus . . . Art Padilla, president of the Corpus Christi Club calls meeting to discuss dance . . . "Demon" F. Johnson chosen valedictorian . . . Battalion Staff plays host to Tessyite news writers . . . Gen. Geo. F. Moore to receive honorary degree in Law.

Longhorns ready for distribution. Sports: Aggies play Baylor in last home game of the season; score 5-1, Aggies. . . Bill McMahon stars in tennis meet with T. U. and Rice . . . Fred Wolcott stars in Rice-Aggie track meet, possibilities of being high point man in conference. . . Rizer to pitch for Aggies in freshman game with T. U.

Five Years Ago:  
General: Bill Becker named editor of 1940-41 Longhorn, Paul Haines to be manager of Town Hall and Jack Nelson will head the Infantry Band . . . 10,000 visitors expected for Mother's Day celebrations on campus . . . Maj. Gen. W. C. Baker to present best drilled platoon with famous Baker Trophy. . . George Smith says

## AS THE WORLD TURNS

By Dr. Al B. Nelson  
The German phase of the war is over at last. Any Germans who continue fighting after the formal surrender are out-laws according to international law and may be shot without mercy the moment they are caught. The great problem of the allied forces in Germany is not only to restore order, but to try and punish the individuals responsible for the murders, torture, and other violations of international law, the laws of humanity and of decency.



The British can now begin the long task of reconstruction in the wake of the enormous damage done by German bombs and the later flying bombs. Always in the past England has risen above her disasters and has once again confounded the false prophets who said that the British Empire had come to an end. If England and the United States can find true leaders and statesmen who will keep the two great nations united in their future actions, the world may see peace for a much longer period than has been used in the past history of the world.

Baseball has a new Boss. Sena-  
tor "Happy" Chandler, of Kentucky, is the new ruler of baseball, and will resign his post in the Senate in order to accept a salary of \$50,000 as the Czar of the baseball leagues.

Hitler's body has been found according to one report which has come out of Russian occupied Berlin. It is impossible to know, at the present time, whether or not this statement is true. If found to be true the Russians can probably tell how he died, in battle or as a suicide.

## FIGHTIN' TEXAS AGGIES

By J. L. Everett  
CLASS OF 1947  
Cpl. Carlos A. Ritcher is in the USAAF at Boca Raton, Florida. Shelton F. Prator, F-1/c, is stationed at the naval station at Shoemaker, California. Eddie A. Richard, S-1/c, has been transferred to San Diego, California. Pvt. W. A. Von Schoeler, Camp Crowder, Missouri, is in the "branch immaterial" group taking an auto-mechanic's course. Cpl. Wallace L. Hackler is a field artillery radio operator and is now stationed somewhere in Germany. Pvt. Lloyd W. Schuhmann has entered the air corps and is stationed at Sheppard Field, Texas for basic and classification. Pvt. Carl C. Thrift has gone overseas. S/Sgt. John T. Estes has been awarded the third Oak Leaf Cluster to the Air Medal for "meritorious achievement". He is a tail gunner on a B-17 flying fortress of the 95th Bombardment Group. Pvt. Alva G. Walsh is now taking his basic training at Sheppard Field, Texas. Lt. William L. Pietzsh has taken a post overseas. Pvt. Robert G. Pritchett is stationed at Camp Hood, Texas. Harold L. Benson, A/C, is at Navy Pre-flight School, Athens, Georgia. He reports Leonard E. Brock is

# CAMPUS DISTRACTIONS

By J. L. Everett  
Playing Thursday, Friday, and Saturday at the Palace in Bryan will be "Bring On The Girls", with Veronica Lake, Sonny Tufts, and Eddie Bracken. This is a Technicolor musical about the world's richest young man who can never be sure people aren't nice to him just for his money. When he enlists in the Navy, his lawyers send along a junior member of the firm to protect him. He keeps his wealth hidden from the boys but almost falls for a scheming cigarette girl, until Cupid sets his course in the right direction.

LOWDOWN: See it—it's good!!  
At Guion Hall Friday and Saturday the regular weekly double feature will be "The Hitler Gang" and "Paris After Dark". "The Hitler Gang", starring Robert Watson, Roman Bohnen, and Martin Kosleck, traces step by step the rise to power of Hitler and his henchmen from 1918 to the conflict they precipitated. The second feature, "Paris After Dark", starring Phillip Dorn, George Saunders, and Brenda Marshall, is the story of the underground movement to combat the Nazi war lords, and of a woman torn between two loves.

LOWDOWN: Too much war, but worth seeing!!  
The double feature at the Campus Friday and Saturday will be "Always A Bridesmaid" and "Yellow Canary". A lonely hearts club, sponsored over the air, is used as a front for a stock swindle. The picture stars the Andrews Sisters, Patrick Knowles, and Grace McDonald. The second feature on the bill is "Yellow Canary", starring Anna Neagle and Richard Greene. The story is about an English girl

Richardson; Pvt. W. H. Arrington, Jr.; Pvt. Frederick A. Fleming, Jr.; and Pvt. William A. Adair are all members of the same squadron taking basic training at Keesler Field, Mississippi.  
CLASS OF 1948  
Roy C. Potts, Jr., and his twin brother, Arthur N. Potts, recently left school to enter the military service upon reaching their 18th birthday. William R. Adams, S-1/c, is attending radio school at the U. S. Naval Training Center, Houston, Texas. A/S Aaron Schwartz has been transferred to Norman, Oklahoma.

who masquerades as a Nazi sympathizer to track down a group of Germans, posing as Poles, who plot to blow up a convoy.  
LOWDOWN: Second on the "bill" for the week-end.

"Practically Yours", showing at the Campus Sunday, stars Fred MacMurray and Claudette Colbert. This is a farce comedy dealing with the "trumped up" romance of a flyer, who returns a national hero, and because of a misunderstanding statement is believed to love a girl who used to work in the same office with him, but whom he scarcely knows. Forced to pretend love to preserve the public's ideal, they eventually fall for each other.  
LOWDOWN: Worth seeing!!!  
At Guion Hall Sunday will be "The Gang's All Here", starring Alice Faye, Carmen Miranda, and

Phil Baker. A romance between a soldier and a night club star is merely a framework for the lavish musical background provided by Benny Goodman and his orchestra.  
LOWDOWN: A fine show—see it!!!

"Roughly Speaking", with Rosalind Russell and Jack Carson, will begin at the Palace Sunday. Beginning in 1902, this story concerns a progressive minded woman whose blueprinted life didn't run according to plan. Married twice and mother of five, she runs the gamut of success and wealth, poverty and failure through several enterprises. When her grown family goes a way other than she had planned, she laughingly admits that though she didn't get what she wanted from life, she had a lot of fun trying.  
LOWDOWN: It's good—see it!!!

## Man, Your Manners

By I. Sherwood

The welcome guest is never tardy. The hostess will usually wait fifteen minutes for a tardy guest but it would not be fair to the others to wait longer.

When a guest arrives late for dinner he should go directly to the hostess, apologize and take his seat as quickly as possible. All necessary courtesies should be observed as quickly as possible so that the other guests will not be annoyed. He starts his dinner on the course being served to the others. He loses any dishes which have already been served.

Arriving too early can be pretty bad, too. You should time your arrival according to the type of party, the customs of your town and those of your host and hostess.

Five minutes to the hour is ample time.  
The welcome guest follows these rules:

- He is on time for every party and "date".
- He is a person on whom others can depend.
- He is prompt in the payment of all social obligations.
- Consideration, adaptability, and tact are the principal qualities of a gracious guest—one whom any host or hostess is delighted to entertain.

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Screen Play by Alan LeMay · Adaptation by Alan LeMay and Harold M. Sherman · Additional Dialogue by Harry Chandlee · All biographical material based on works owned or controlled by the Mark Twain Company, and the play "Mark Twain" by Harold M. Sherman · Music by Max Steiner  
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