

The Battalion

STUDENT WEEKLY NEWSPAPER
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Texas A. & M. College

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You Are Potential Aggies . . .

This issue of the BATTALION is being sent to many high schools in Texas to be distributed to those boys graduating soon. It is so designed to take the place of a bulletin or message to each graduate that he may familiarize himself in a small way with the everyday life of A. & M. This paper can do no more though, for it can not properly inform him of the countless intangibles associated with Aggieland which have so distinguished A. & M. from other institutions of learning.

But let's go back to the beginning of this unique phenomena that we may better know and understand the traditions and principles for which this college is so famed.

In a very unimpressive initiation, A. & M. first opened its doors in 1876, intent on specializing in a curriculum primarily dedicated to Agriculture and Engineering. But only six pioneering hopefuls registered for the first semester. This necessitated the declaration of a six week holiday where upon the indignant faculty and a handful of students vanished into the back country, corralling prospective students. When once again the college doors were opened the registration chart listed the names of forty enrollees; a very humble beginning but a determined one.

The years passed and still the college rolls increased and the fame of the Texas Aggies was spread to the four winds. Then disaster struck in Europe in the form of the first world war and A. & M. rolls were depleted as more and more men who had proudly worn the AMC's on their collar left the campus to bring fame and glory to themselves and their school in the bitter mud and cold of France. Fifty-two of those who laid down their books to fight for their country never returned to pick them up. Though they lie now in Flanders Field their spirit and memory are vivid and alive in the school they loved so well. They have not been forgotten.

Normal, peacetime living returned once again and life at Aggieland began anew. The years rolled by and with the passing of each year the fame of A. & M. grew. The undefinable Spirit of Aggieland became entrenched deeper and deeper in the hearts and minds of those who came in contact with it. More and more high school graduates were consistently drawn to the campus until a peak enrollment of almost eight thousand cadets was achieved in 1942. With this enrollment A. & M. had grown, attaining national prominence as an institution of learning. Scholastically, the College ranks at the top. In the Military Science Department, A. & M. surpasses all, having furnished more officers to the army than any other school, including West Point. More than sixteen thousand former students have answered their country's call to the service and of these over thirteen thousands are officers. The record speaks for the school.

Aggies are a proud lot, and rightfully they should be. Everyone is conscious of the record that has been made by Texas Aggies in the present conflict. Twenty-nine graduates are now generals, including General Bruce, inventor of the Tank Destroyer and General George F. Moore, defender of Corregidor. Other distinguished former students include Ensign Gay, sole survivor of Torpedo Squadron 8, and Captain Johnny Hilger, Bomber pilot who participated in the first bombing of Tokyo. Also, of the nine Texans who have been accorded the nation's highest honor, the Congressional Medal of Honor, three were Texas Aggies. All three received the award posthumously. They are representatives of the thousands of Aggies now engaged in this total war.

But they were just high school graduates such as you before they came to the home of "The Fighting Texas Aggies"; before they had instilled into their senses all of the rich and magnificent qualities that A. & M. embodies. They were a little dubious too before they stepped on the campus to confirm their doubts, but they stayed, enduring their ups and downs, and when they left the campus after four long years they were real Aggies. And they wouldn't have traded those four years spent at Aggieland for any price. An Aggie has that feeling.

You are potential Aggies. Make the most of it.

The Henry Culp Affair . . .

In their initial conference meeting of the season last month a Texas u. baseball squad defeated the Aggie nine 14-0. Winning pitcher for the Longhorns was Henry C. Culp, twenty-eight year old discharged veteran. Last week, Bruce Laver, sports editor of the Houston Post, unearthed evidence proving Culp to have pitched professional baseball during 1937 and 1938 in Texas and Arkansas leagues.

This evidence was submitted to conference faculty representatives in Dallas Saturday and the result was the complete exoneration of Texas u. officials. The committee allowed the result of the game to stand as before despite the ineligibility of Culp, who pitched the entire game.

It seems strange indeed that an incident such as the above mentioned should be treated so lightly by officials representing the Southwest Conference. This athletic conference made up of the seven Texas institutions of higher learning is regarded as one of the finest in the nation and each year it produces some of the outstanding athletes and teams of the sporting world. Yet, conference officials allow such a disgusting, demoralizing infringement of conference rules to go practically unnoticed. What is the destiny of the league if such practices are allowed to become a casual occurrence?

When A. & M. teams take the field they should be able to believe that they will be competing against teams who are restricted to their category and men who are authorized to compete under conference regulations. Otherwise, a degrading aspect will be inserted into intercollegiate competition which will destroy the whole purpose of the program. Conference officials and not sports writers, should make it their responsibility that such subversive acts do not occur, or ever need to be feared!

A. & M. lost the ball game to Texas but this was not the stinging blow. The fact that underhanded elements contributed to the defeat has cast a shadow on the game and the record of Texas u. that a casual exoneration by conference officials will never erase.

It is surprising that Aggie coaches have allowed the affair to be settled in such a gloved-hand method.

BACKWASH

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

By Junior Canis

To the Prospective Fish
Many of the high school students receiving today's edition of the Batt will eventually wind up in the long registration lines in front of the Administration Building come June 4. To these prospective Fish today's column is devoted.

As you future Kimbrough's and Thomason's will soon learn after spending a few moments on the campus, A. & M. is not like any school you've ever been to before. It's just a little section of the United States with its own quaint but endearing customs and a mode of life that has always bewildered many. Although still bewildering to a few who don't know why boys come to an all male school and who can't understand why certain traditions can be so deeply instilled in the hearts of Aggies, A. & M. still remain as it has always been, a man's school.

But, you don't have to take my word for it, just scan the record made by A. & M. graduates.

Fish Tips
A high school visitor to the campus recently was invited to have lunch in the mess hall. He was as surprised as you will be when he heard his former high school buddies talking in such terms as, "Here comes the gum shoe with more gun wadding," "Shoot me the lube," "What's the cuss today?" "Pass me a shovel of sawdust and a glass of sky." No, he was still sane and his ears weren't deceiving him. What's it all about? Just a little old Aggie slanguage. It will seem strange to you but so did it seem strange to thousands of other men who came to A. & M. for the first time. And oh, yes,

it isn't just idle chatter either. That is, if you still care to eat. You'll have to know these terms men if you want to make use of your appetite. Here are a few of them: Beans, artillery; hot-cakes, blankets; catsup, blood; meat, bull neck; eggs, cackle; milk, cow; dessert, cuss; black pepper, dirt; butter, grease; bread, gun wadding; gravy, lube; salad, rabbit; syrup, reg; salt, sand; sugar, sawdust; pepper sauce, shotgun; spoon, shovel; water, sky; lemon, sour; carrots, sunshine; toothpicks, timber; potatoes, spuds; mustard, baby; pickles and onions, sour rabbit; macaroni or spaghetti, worms; and a cup, china. Also well for the freshman to know are a few other terms associated with certain aspects of life at Aggieland. These include: Dusty, an Aggie short in stature, built too close to the ground. Feather-legs, one who uses chicken practices. Cadence, the Freshman's Bible. Dean's Team, list of students passing less than ten hours of work; candidates for one way corps trips. Bird dog, the third party of "three's a crowd." Bleed, to gripe. Bull, The, that rarely seen individual whose existence shadows and knows our every move, the Commandant. And, oh yes, the Bryan 400, that select group of Bryan's feminine society which allows itself to be dated only by Seniors. This group has been depleted slightly lately.

No, I know these terms didn't come from Webster's Dictionary, but they're included in every Aggie's vocabulary. And take my advice and learn them before you come down here. It will improve first and second year cadet relations.

PENNY'S SERENADE

By W. L. Penberthy

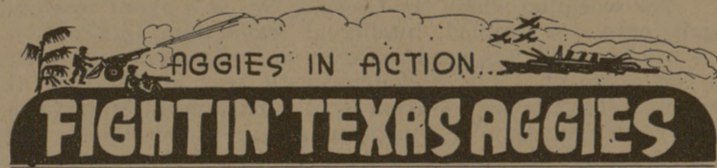
The summer I graduated from high school one of my classmates applied for a position at a factory in my home town. When asked what qualifications he had he proudly stated that he was a High School graduate. Nowadays employers do not ask if their prospective employees are college graduates, they ask where he received his degree.



My fine dad, Penberthy who made many sacrifices so that I could have an education, held that a college education prepared one in such a way that he was ready and waiting when an opportunity presented itself—I think he had it well figured.

We hear a lot of talk these days about supply in connection with the waging of the war. An army can move only as fast and as far as its supply lines will let it, and then it has to call a halt until it can accumulate enough supplies to enable it to make another advance. It must be prepared.

I am of the opinion that such is the case in our individual lives. We need preparation in order to go places in this world and the individual who attempts to succeed without the preparation gained through a college education is at a great disadvantage. As in the case of the Army, we can stretch our supply lines just so far and then we must call a halt and do a little catching up in the way of increasing our knowledge in our particular field. I never saw a person who knew too much about his particular vocation.



Muster In Italy

Texas A. and M. College Alumni Club members of the Mediterranean Theater of Operations in their 1945 Muster program in Italy paid tribute to Aggie soldiers who have died in action.

Committees for the Muster included Colonel Henry S. Robertson, of Syracuse, New York, class of 1912, honorary chairman; Col. Manly B. Gibson, San Francisco, California, class of 1917, honorary chairman in charge of refreshments; Colonel Jack E. Finks, Austin, Texas, 1925, chairman in charge of attendance, assisted by Lt. Col. L. E. Wood, Bryan, Texas, 1923, and Lt. Col. George D. Smith, Jr., San Antonio, Texas, 1930.

Among the others present were Lt. Col. M. C. Engel, San Antonio, Texas, class of 1929; Lt. Col. Kurt H. Welgehausen, Houston, Texas, 1929; Lt. Col. J. W. Hull, Sonora, Texas, 1935; Major D. W. Williams, College Station, Texas; Major John W. Upchurch, Mart, Texas, 1934; Major John A. Worley, Dallas, Texas, 1934; Major H. E. Meisell, Gainesville, Texas, 1936; Major Larry Crow, Waco, Texas, 1938; Major R. L. Dalley, Texarkana, Texas, 1922; Major G. A. Ralls, College Station, Texas, 1934.

And Captain George T. Young, Fort Worth, Texas, 1922; Capt. J. A. Pranglin, Pearsall, Texas, 1932; Capt. Fred W. Lillie, San Antonio, Texas, 1933; Captain W. J. McBride, Falfurrias, Texas, 1942; Lt. G. U. Mueller, Kenedy, Texas,

1927; Lt. Joe E. Carstens, Houston, Texas, 1938; Lt. R. R. P. Brauchle, San Antonio, Texas, 1938; Lt. Leroy W. Shane, Star, Texas, 1942; Lt. Alex J. Mayer, Henderson, Ky., 1943; Lt. R. M. Stacey, San Antonio, Texas, 1943; Lt. Charles G. Sones, Houston, Texas, 1944; and Private Joseph L. Moody, Nashville, Arkansas, 1946.

Two visitors present were Col. Douglas W. Lawley and Major Aubry Nathan, both of San Antonio, Texas.

CLASS OF 1946

SILVER TAPS: Pfc. Luther Marney Tillery, paratrooper of the 82nd Airborne Division, was killed in action in France on March 14.

Lt. Huie Lamb, of Abilene, now with the 8th Air Force, is wearing the DFC and the Air Medal with six Oak Leaf Clusters.

Sgt. Jack E. Turner is now at the AAF ORD, Greensboro, N. C. A/C James A. Luscombe, of Anne, recently received his wings from Blackland AAF at Waco.

Sgt. James W. Cooper is in OCS at Fort Benning, Georgia.

Lt. Frank E. Price, Jr., is with the 207th AAFBU, Biggs Field, Texas.

Pfc. Charles W. Read, Jr. reports that he is somewhere in Germany. A/C Joseph P. Mueller has been transferred to the USP school at Chapel Hill, N. C.

Clarence Hunter, S 2/c, of Uvalde, has reported to Columbia University's Midshipman School.

Glen C. Richardson is now stationed at the USNTC, Great Lakes, Ill.

BETWEEN THE BOOK-ENDS

Francis J. Smythe, minister of the First Christian Church in Bryan, contributed this review in the observance of Religious Book Week, May 6-13.

In His Steps
By Charles M. Sheldon

The famous best seller *In His Steps*, by Charles M. Sheldon—a Congregational minister and editor for many years of the "Christian Herald"—was first written as a serial, and was published in a religious weekly, while the author was pastor of the Central Congregational Church of Topeka, Kansas. Because of a defect in the copyright, the novel was declared without legal ownership. It was published by some sixty or more publishers in America and abroad, thus giving the story a very wide circulation. Over three million copies were sold in England alone, and the book is reported to have greater circulation than any other book except the Bible. It has been translated into twenty-one languages, and is being widely used by church groups, and by college students in its drama form, even today, forty-nine years after it was written.

The author, presumably still living and in his eighty-eighth year, has published many other books and articles, including a later book entitled, *In His Steps Today*. Charles Sheldon was born in Weelsville, New York, in 1857. Among the other pastorates which he ministered to was the above mentioned church, with which he was affiliated for twenty-three years. It was out of his practical experience as a minister that he wrote this immensely popular book about a minister, the Rev. Henry Maxwell, who determined to answer the challenge of Christianity's practicability by leading his congregation in taking for an entire year this standard of action, "What would Jesus do?" The results were startling! The subsequent experiences of the fifty or so who volunteered to take this motto constitute one of the most inspiring Christian novels ever written. The basing of Christian discipleship on this premise created a spiritual revolution in the life of Henry Maxwell and in the group that followed him in the pledge. The profound and soul-shaking results of that simple question and its literal application can hardly be anticipated by the most thoughtful reader. Few people would subject themselves to this literal testing of their Christianity as the principals in this novel did. Too many are satisfied with their own limited definition of Christian discipleship to ask themselves, "What would Jesus do in my place?" To do so involves a spiritual up-heaval! This book has qualities in it that stir the souls of men, because it puts the fundamental principles of Jesus' teachings into practical application. The problems and experiences of Rachel Winslow—church soloist, Virginia and her brother Rollin Page, Edward Norman—the newspaper man, Alexander Powell—railroad man, Milton Wright—storeman, Dr. Donald Marsh—President of Lincoln College, Dr. West—physician, and many other members of the First Church in Raymond, along with various other ministers and townspeople involved in this grand experiment, make one of the most exciting and inspiring literary experiences the reader will ever have.

"I'll go with Him all the way"? My wife died four months ago. I'm glad she's out of trouble. My little girl is staying with a printer's family until I find a job. Somehow I get puzzled when I see so many Christians living in luxury and singing, "Jesus, I my cross have taken, all to leave and follow Thee" and remember how my wife died in a tenement in New York City, gasping for air and asking God to take the little girl too. Of course I don't expect people can prevent every one from dying of starvation, lack of proper nourishment and tenement air, but what does FOLLOWING JESUS mean? These words of the dying tramp burned like fire into the memory of the minister and those present. They were never to be forgotten, and they provided the theme of this story—the story of a minister and a church challenged to live the Christ-like life! It has been this book that has popularized the grand criteria of modern Christianity for the individual, "What would Jesus do?"

The romantic element in the

story is provided by the consecrated and gifted young choir singer Rachel Winslow—who gives her life and talent to help in the services of the Gospel Mission down in the Rectangle (saloon-area of Raymond), and Rollin Page—the rich young society idler, converted in the Mission, and by Filicia Sterling and Stephen Clyde—a young couple who give their lives to working in the Settlement House (a project of two Raymond ministers) situated in the most wretched part of town.

This is all the result of Henry Maxwell's movement to get his church and the town of Raymond to follow in Jesus' footsteps. The book is a real adventure in Christian thinking and deserves to be read by every person who claims to be a follower of Jesus Christ. One can read far and wide without coming upon a tale of Christian living more pregnant with meaning for this day than *In His Steps*, by Charles M. Sheldon. 30,000,000 copies that have been read bear the greatest testimony possible to the worth of this book.

AS THE WORLD TURNS

By Dr. Al B. Nelson
President Truman has fired the Federal District Attorney who prosecuted the Pendergast gang and sent Pendergast himself to prison. You and I are entitled to wonder whether or not this means the return of what is left of the old gang to complete power in the State of Missouri.

Peacetime Military training legislation has been laid aside by Congress until next fall, according to reports from Washington. This is an explosive subject and Congress may be expected to handle it with kid gloves until the individual members have time to feel out public sentiment.

The Double Cross has one more been handed to her allies by Russia in regard to Austria. An agreement had been made that the Allies would jointly organize a temporary Austrian government but Russia ignored her agreement, as

she had previously done in regard to Roumania, Poland and Bulgaria, and organized a government of her own choosing for Austria. This was done in spite of the fact that American troops liberated more Austrian territory than did the Russians.

The Pro-Nazi Franco government of Spain is still being appeased and supported with money and supplies from the United States. This policy causes democratic nations over the world to distrust the motives and the leadership of the United States.

Ireland is another "nation" which has been permitted to grow rich on the necessities of the United Nations in spite of the indirect aid given our enemies. Prime Minister de Valera made a personal call on the German Ambassador in order to express his regrets at the death of Adolf Hitler.

The Russian government has demanded that the Republic of Uruguay prevent its newspapers from publishing any articles critical of the Russian policies. The Government of Uruguay refused the demand.

: Student Reviews:

The movie, "The Keys of the Kingdom," is a religious movie, but regardless of your religious denomination you will enjoy every moment of this living story.

The movie begins at the end, you might say. Father Chisholm (the leading character as portrayed by Gregory Peck) has just returned from China to his native parish in Scotland. The story is unraveled from a journal which he wrote during his last days at the Chinese mission.

The story goes back to his childhood days. Francis Chisholm was the son of Scottish parents. His father was Catholic and his mother was Protestant. Because of his religious beliefs, his father was beaten. That same night Francis' father and mother drowned while attempting to cross a flooded river. Francis was then taken under the custody of his father's distant cousins, Ned and Polly. When Francis was ready for college, Polly sent him to Holy Well, a Catholic college, hoping that some day he would become a priest. Francis did not wish to enter the priesthood although he was a firm believer in his religion. His only intention after finishing college was to marry Nora, Polly's niece. During Christmas of his last year at college, Francis did not come home as he had planned to. Nora knew that Francis did not wish to become a priest, but yet Polly's influence on him was stronger than hers. When he did not come home on Christmas, Nora thought that Francis had been deliberately kept away from home by Polly. She realized that her chances of marrying Francis were now gone. As a result she lost control of herself and her emotions; and a baby was born to her illegitimately. She died as a result of the birth. This shocking incident changed Francis' mind and he decided to enter the priesthood.

He failed miserably at the seminary. He failed his first three curacies. Finally, he reached his goal and earned the title of Father Chisholm. As a priest, he was a failure. His attitude was somewhat different and his sermons were not up to standard. Once to a very stout lady who came to him for advice, he advised her to reduce as the pearly gates of heaven were not very wide. The bishop then decided to send him to China as a missionary. He was given the mission of St. Andrews in the province of Chekow. Prior to his arrival in China, the mission had been burned to the ground by some Chinese terrorists. Much to his surprise, Father Chisholm found that his job was not only to rebuild the mission and to revive the parish, but also to rid the Chinese of the idea that they could sell their souls to him for some rice or an equivalent sum of money. After years of hard work and sacrifices, he succeeded in rebuilding the mission. His kind and tender heart won the admiration of his Chinese followers and the nuns in charge of the school. That is, all of the nuns except one, the Mother Superior. Her arrogance was in direct contrast to Father Chisholm's humbleness and meekness. She could not understand why Father Chisholm worked like a Chinese day laborer, ate in the kitchen, kept his boots dirty and wore simple clothes. After a few years at the mission, she saw her injustice to Father Chisholm and went to him for repentance. After spending his lifetime in China, Father Chisholm came home. He had achieved and done more for the propagation of the Christian faith in China than any other missionary. Furthermore, he proved that with a little perseverance and hard work, you could overcome your drawback.

The "Keys of the Kingdom" is a religious movie depicting the life of a priest and his religion. If you haven't seen "The Keys of the Kingdom," make it a point to see it at your first opportunity.
R. Guerrero.
D. B. Cofer, teacher.