

# The Battalion

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

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## Welcome Fish!

The Corps of Cadets extends a welcome to the new men of A. & M. The process of becoming an Aggie essentially is founded on a friendly, democratic spirit. The bonds of fraternity and friendship thus formed become more priceless with the years as attested by the loyal host of true Aggies extending now around the world.

To the hundreds of new Freshmen, who this week took the first step leading to membership in this mighty Aggie fraternity, the hearty welcome of the entire Corps and the staff of Texas A. & M. is extended. Whatever you may have been before you are now in the Corps—a potential Aggie, a future fighting member of the "TWELFTH MAN." Welcome, Fish, good luck!

## Ho Hum! Summertime?

"Summertime an' the livin' is easy," may well be true in song—but certainly not of going to college. The factors contributing generally to discomfort during summer sessions are numerous; heat and sweat, insects and vexatious living conditions; the natural languor that comes with the summer months plus the absence of some of the normal features of college life. All of these may lead a fellow to an unhappy frame of mind unless he can "grin and bear it."

A little weather never has and never will stop the Aggies. The Corps should move forward quickly into regular organization, militarily, by classes, by clubs and in line with a full scale program of activity and student life.

Participation in intramurals, in student activities, in all Aggie activities is urged—is expected of every Aggie. The fall season, with all the gray color of football, will be here before we know it—if we stay busy.

So don't let a little Brazos sunshine get you down, ole Army. Remember the sun shines on all alike. When you think of how you sweat—remember that prof of yours still has to go home after class and mow the yard.

## Let's Get Together . . .

State institutions of higher learning, facing the prospect of their first peace-time enrollments since 1941, should feel much assurance in the appropriation bill for educational institutions passed at the recent session of the Texas Legislature.

Broad general provisions plus the adequate salary allowances should enable institutions to meet the increases in enrollments expected in the near future as victory over Japan becomes more and more a reality.

One disappointment to all institutions however, was the failure to provide assistance for urgently needed buildings. In the case of A. & M., Senate Joint Resolution 18 was defeated by a narrow margin; hence, the proposed bond issue from revenues from the Permanent University Fund will not be possible.

The defeat of this amendment was due largely to a lack of cooperation among the colleges themselves, evidenced in the insistence of some state institutions that they be permitted to share in the Permanent University Fund, presently allocated one-third to A. & M. and two-thirds to Texas University.

The needs of schools other than Texas and A. & M. are no less important to them than the pressing needs on the campus of Aggieland and at Forty Acres. A. & M. believes these needs should be met, immediately and fully.

The answer to the problem of all schools, however, is a cooperative attitude, a joint appeal to the wisdom and integrity of the Legislature, and a firm insistence on the respective rights of the schools themselves.

It is to be doubted that any school would benefit from a division of the Permanent Fund. What likely would result from spreading the fund would be a general weakening of the entire system of higher education in Texas. Schools other than the University and A. & M., now in a position to demand that their building needs be met by an appropriation from the general revenue fund, might find they had made a poor bargain.

## PENNY'S SERENADE

By W. L. Penberthy

In any well-rounded sports program there are at least two kinds of sports; namely, team and individual. In the team sports the participants must team up with their fellow-players in an effort to attain a common goal—victory over the opponent. We feel that participation in team sports develops such characteristics as co-operation, teamwork and unselfishness in the players who take part. I feel that individual sports like swimming, track, boxing, wrestling, etc. also have fine character-building values in that they teach self-reliance. The individual who takes part in these sports is "on his own" and his success or failure depends upon his own efforts—he has no teammate to help or hinder him.

Many of us are "on our own" for the first time in our lives and as is the case in individual sports, our success or failure will depend on our own performance. However,

even though we be "on our own" there are certain choices we can make—two of which I think are very important. First, we can choose our associates and along with this choice may go happiness and success, or unhappiness and failure. I know in sports we tend to seek the level of the performance of those with whom we play, and I feel that the same is true in the case of people with whom we associate. We can choose associates who will be a blessing to us and whom we will love and cherish the rest of our lives, or we can choose those who will be a millstone around our neck and whose acquaintance we will regret having made. Second, we can choose how we spend our spare time. We can spend it taking part in wholesome worthwhile activities that will make us better citizens or we can spend it doing things that tear down rather than build up. Both of the things I have mentioned are of our own choosing.

It has been my observation that a pretty good way to find out just what kind of a person a man or woman really is, is to find out the kind of people with whom he associates and how he spends his spare time.

## BACKWASH

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

By Junior Canis

HO HUM . . . Summertime and living, Brazos County style, ain't easy. Junior Canis wags the disapproving tail at those lucky stiffs back home for the summer—nothing much to do but sleep late, eat home-cooking, go on beach parties and drive the ole man's car. Pretty soft stuff, uh? As ole Pap Canis once said, if you've got the sugar you can cast your bread upon the water and it comes back Tootsie Rolls.

Orchards to J. B. Kearby and Johnny Spragins for a neat little hitchhike to San Diego and return with plenty of time for home cooking and a taste of California delight under the stars (?). Ditto to Verne Scott, who has Cowtown buzzing cousins over his recent visit.

Missing at registration—the annual yarn about selling some Fish bottling rights to P. L. Downs Natatorium. Hear about the guy who brought the old man along to see that he didn't get cheated by upperclassmen? The old man ended up paying Sonny's radiator rent for the full four years—and getting a receipt in full signed by J. Surber??

A solid rumor is making the rounds that there's gonna be a mid-summer all-corps week-end, including a big name orchestra for a Friday nite dance—plus Aggieland Orchestra playing a stage show and dance on Saturday—plus Tessyites—plus gals galore—Tell us more—tell us more.

Speaking of Aggieland Orchestra, "Hot Licks" Bill Turner already has the gang rehearsing. The line-up: regular members from last year—F. D. Prater, trumpet; Pete Mayes, trumpet; C. L. James, sax; Ray Herrera, tenor sax; and R. S. Parker, bass; new members trying out, Jay Grubb, piano; J. V. Pike, drums; Francisco Montemayor, alto sax; H. T. Baxter, trumpet; G. P. Webb, trumpet; G. C. MacKenzie, trombone; J. B. Doakes, alto sax; Jim Wheeler, alto sax; Clyde Bone, trombone; P. B. Wells, tenor sax; Don Simpson, trumpet, and C. B. Langham, alto sax.

POEM DEPT., by the Poet Lariat

Letter Home  
Oh father dear,  
On getting here,  
I find it costs to be a scholar,  
Room rent, tuition, books, you know—  
Please send me fifty dollars.

Reply  
My precious son,  
My little one,  
Your story doesn't tally,  
The mon you say you spent for books,  
I know—you really spent on Sally.

SOLID - - SOLID - - SOLD.  
Don't miss Bill Turner's jamboree, jointly sponsored by Student Activities and Guion Hall. Time—Wednesday night after chow; Place—Guion Hall; Whatisit—jive by Aggieland Orchestra, Songs by the Singing Cadets; gals, gals, gals, gals, gals.

## :: Your City ::

Here begins a series of articles about the city of College Station, its municipal government, monetary receipts and expenditures, its facilities for school and utility purposes, and a discussion of what the future should hold for the residents of this community.

This first installment may be labeled "background", as it is intended as a curtain raiser for the material that is to follow each week in the Battalion.

Without a Texas A&M College there would be no city of College Station as the city has grown up solely to serve the needs and interests of the College and its faculty, staff and students. Therefore, one should know something of the development of the College to understand and appreciate the formation of the local municipal government and the city of College Station which it serves.

Founded in 1871  
In 1882 the Morrill Act became law, setting aside portions of the public domain to be used by the states for instruction in agriculture and the mechanic arts, to which later was added military science. Texas accepted the act in 1886 and state law created the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas in 1871. The college locating commission chose a site of 2416 acres donated by the citizens of Bryan and Brazos County.

Succeeding state legislatures passed appropriations for the construction of class rooms and dormitories for the students, and administrative quarters for the faculty and staff. Dwellings were erected on the campus to house instructors and administrators. That was the beginning of College Station as a designation on the map of Texas, in the files of the U. S. postal authorities and as a stop on the railroads and other transportation systems serving the community.

Until comparatively recent years there were facilities in plenty to supply residential demands. Tipping of the scales on this situation through a combination of circumstances brought the city of College Station into being.

Campus Center Shifts  
When the enlarged building program was inaugurated by the College in the early 1930's it was found that expansion in some logical portions of the campus was blocked by residences, many of which had housed the same faculty and staff members for several decades. In the years 1934 to 1938 College enrollment had leaped from about 3000 to over 6000. Early in 1939 construction was begun on a new dormitory and mess hall area some distance from the heretofore center of college life.

Faculty Leaves Campus  
For several years members of the school's board of directors had discussed passage of an order removing faculty and staff members from the campus, tearing down the houses they occupied and adopting a master landscaping plan, as well as setting up a planning commission to pass on the site and kind of future construction. On Sept. 2, 1939 the board adopted such an order, giving the families that had to move until Sept. 1, 1941 to acquire living quarters elsewhere. Only those individuals who held positions requiring constant presence close to the business of the college or to the student body were allowed to remain on the campus. (To be continued)

## :: Good Neighbors ::

BRAZIL . . . BIG NEIGHBOR AND GOOD FRIEND

In Brazil, geography is important. Her advantages and disadvantages, her accomplishments and problems, her relationship with the rest of the world never get very far away from her physical conformation. Her area comprises about 4,000,000 square miles. The land is vast—greater in area than that of the United States—comprising half of South America.

From Jungle to Civilization  
Topographically, the land divides into four regions. The largest is the basin worn by the Amazon river with its two hundred odd tributaries. This flood plain of the Amazon is made up of jungle—savagely and virgin. Human life there is almost impossible. Above the flood plain, on firm land, nature is more hospitable. The hardwood forests, typical of higher tropical jungle, admit the sun.

Here the climate divides itself between heavy tropical rains and a dry season. In a whole this Amazon basin can be cleared and worked. It is 2,225,000 square miles of Brazil.

In the rich and hospitable hilly country of the southern part of Brazil and the narrow, fertile coastal strip from Porto Alegre northward to Recife are concentrated the most important cities, the railroads and highways, the productive capacity and the wealth of this country. Here, on less than 30 percent of the land live ninety-tenths of the nation's 41,400,000 people. The climate is excellent and stimulating.

Portuguese Plus Makes Brazilian  
The people are a well stirred mixture of many races. The base is Portuguese. To this base have been added several strains of Ger-

## BETWEEN THE BOOK-ENDS

Edna B. Woods

Libraries are operated in order that many people may have the advantages of using and enjoying books, newspapers, pamphlets, and recorded music. To ignore this opportunity is to deny yourself a privilege of great financial wealth and at the same time to shun the wealth of knowledge and pleasure that can be yours through the use of the library. The College library not only offers the key to individual development; it cooperates with the various departments of the College by putting books on the Reserve Book and Required Reading shelves to aid in the preparation of your assignments.

The idea of shelves, stacks, and floors filled with books may be terrifying, but a visit to the A. & M. College library will soon dispel that terror. Attractive reading rooms, carefully selected collections, and staff members on hand to answer your questions give the Library an atmosphere of comfortable vitality.

For instance, on the first floor is the Newspaper room, furnished with comfortable chairs and convenient tables. The Library subscribes to more than thirty newspapers, most of them Texas papers, which are placed on wooden racks daily and which may be read at any time a student has a few minutes to stop in the Library. The Library is open from 8 AM until 10 PM—Monday through Friday; on Saturday it is open from 8 AM until 4 PM, and on Sunday, the

Library is open from 2 PM until 10 PM.

Also on the first floor is the Periodical Room in which are kept the current issues of more than one thousand magazines. Located as it is, close to the door on the ground floor, this is an ideal place to spend a few minutes or hours each week. Here are your old favorites—Time, Life, Readers Digest, and Esquire, and here also are some excellent magazines with discussions of more serious problems—New Republic, Nation, and the Atlantic; they suggest excellent subjects for speeches and for term papers. Other than the general reading magazines, however, there are technical magazines on practically every course taught—Engineering News Record, Aviation, Veterinary Journal, and Agricultural Engineering.

Most of the 110,000 volumes in the Library's collection are available at the Main Loan desk on the second floor. Display cases near by contain books of special interest; one of them, kept up to the times, contains books about the War and International problems. On the second floor also is the Reference Room where one may go to find information or facts about anything in which he is interested. The Browsing Room on the third floor furnishes comfort in the form of easy chairs, and smoking stands, and furnishes pleasurable reading in the form of three thousand books located on the open shelves which line its walls. Recent popular books on scientific sub-

jects, books on radio, travel, and medicine, besides all the fiction books which the library owns are here. You may browse as long as you wish, without interruption. You may read here, or you may take your choice to read at home by charging it out at the Reserve Book desk in the room adjacent.

In 1937, the Carnegie Corporation gave the A. & M. Library a remote control phonograph, a small collection of records, and several hundred books (some of them scores) about music and musicians. After being played continuously for almost eight years, the phonograph needed a complete overhauling. In the next few weeks it will be back in the Music Room ready for use. The Music library of eleven hundred classical records is kept at the Reserve Book desk. Almost one hundred composers are recorded in the collection. It is interesting to know that Beethoven and Tchaikowsky have been without exception more popular than any other composers in the past three years.

The A. & M. College library is your Library; its staff is here to serve you and to help you get the most from your college years. Library rules and regulations are necessary to protect you as well as to protect your brother Aggie, next year.

Use the Library, respect its property, and suggest books you would like to read by dropping the titles and author's names, your name and address in the box provided for student requests on the first floor.

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as desperate battle rages for  
vital Japanese island.

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\* semester: \*  
\* Saturday and Sundays \*  
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