

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.

Member

Associated Collegiate Press

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An Editorial . . .

(It is the policy of The Bryan News to invite guest editorials from time to time. The editorial appearing below was written for the News by President Gibb Gilchrist and is reprinted with the permission of The Bryan News—The Editor.)

It is time for a real, heart-to-heart homefolk discussion about how we are getting along. Remember, this is one man's opinion but it is based on a sincere interest in the advancement of Bryan, College Station, and Brazos County as a whole.

Bryan and College Station are both good, substantial Texas cities, peopled by real folk interested in their homes, their churches, their cities, their county, and their state, and willing to do their part. Are we going forward as we should? It seems that more aggressive, courageous, and unified action toward a better all around community is needed. By unified is not meant blind adherence to the ideas of any man or group of men, but is the writer alone in the belief that too much attention is being paid to a minute percentage of our joint citizenship, suspected at times of indulgence in monkey-wrench operations?

The A. & M. College is the major enterprise of this community. It is a great institution. Barring corruption or downright apathy or inefficiency, is it too much to ask that every person interested in the advancement of the institution get behind its objectives—as declared by those in authority—and help achieve them? With the same exceptions, and without implication, is it too much to ask that our public bodies, our public officials, our newspapers, our luncheon clubs or other semi-public or semi-official organizations or groups be equally generous? There should always be argument and there can be differences of opinion, always healthy if openly expressed, but sometime, somewhere along the line, somebody or some board or commission in constituted authority must say, "That is the way". There is no limit to what this institution can become with wholehearted support of its declared objectives. The Association of Former Students of this institution is already pledged to these objectives.

Each community might well ignore its own sniper contingent, leaving the vast majority of our citizens who are simply too busy to be mad about anything, free to go forward jointly toward bigger, better, and publicly-declared objectives. The suggestion has been made previously, but why not a county-wide committee of forward-looking men and women in addition to existing civic organizations to plan for greater community growth, more satisfying relations, and more progress all around? Starting with the writer, let's all look under our own hats.

REMARKS

THERE IS	TO YELL	RESPECT FOR
ONE THING	AND WHISTLE	A. & M.
THAT AGGIES	AND CAT CALL	IN THE
ARE NOTED	BEFORE AND	EYES OF
FOR AND	AFTER THE	OUTSIDERS
THAT IS	ACT IS	BUT SHOULD
FAIR PLAY	ONE THING	SEE TO
AND COURTEOUS	BUT TO	IT THAT
CONDUCT	YELL AND	THE PERFORMERS
TO OUTSIDERS	WHISTLE AND	ON WEDNESDAY
AND OUTSIDERS	CATCALL	NIGHT AT
ARE WHAT	DURING THE	GUION HALL
THE PERFORMERS	ACT IS	AND ANY
AT GUION HALL	ANOTHER THING	OTHER NIGHT
ON WEDNESDAY	AND	ANYWHERE
NIGHT ARE	IT IS	WHERE AGGIES
AND THEY	NOT RIGHT	MAKE UP
EXPECT TO	AND	THE AUDIENCE
BE TREATED	THE CORPS	ARE PAID
WITH RESPECT	SHOULD NOT	THE RESPECT
WHEN THEY	LET A	TO WHICH
ARE PERFORMING	FEW INDIVIDUALS	THEY ARE
AND	LOWER THE	ENTITLED

BACKWASH

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

By the Collaborators

Is there a certain period in your life when you feel definitely inferior? Do you marvel at your stupidity after having gone to school for six and one half weeks and in this period having been able to pass almost no quizzes at all? Do you closely associate this with lack of intelligence on your part? Few of us do. By the way of rationalizing, "Backwash" will now offer a theory which has been advanced by more learned men than it is our privilege to be. Thusly: Human beings are definitely lazy. Some, more so than others. That's the way it is and always will be. Aggies are human beings. Now all you have to do is sit in your "hole" and brag about what you could do. So the next time you become dejected or downhearted about your courses, just remember that you are just a little tired and have been all your life and you are not just plain dumb! In case you derive a multitude of satisfaction from the above dribble you can safely say that you are not the original mental midget, but perhaps just his first cousin.

Do you feel definitely run down after having consumed vast quantities of alcoholic beverages? Does a room hazy with cigarette smoke affect your vision? Little has been said about this subject and perhaps little should be. We feel that Dr. Gallup should get on the ball and investigate the cause for some people's ability to be more successful "stumblebums". After all you might be a potential drunkard and never know it. It probably should be in the form of a psychological questionnaire. We have questionnaires of all sorts which enable us to determine just about everything which is of no particular importance. With this little instrument severe mal-adjustments could be corrected with a minimum of effort. Then you too could be the life of the party, or just another drunken bum in a shroud of iniquity.

BATTALION PROPAGANDA:

A man who was too stingy to subscribe for his hometown newspaper sent his little boy to borrow the copy taken by a neighbor. In his haste the boy ran over a \$4 stand of bees and in ten minutes looked like a warty summer squash. His father ran to his assistance and, failing to notice the barbed wire fence, ran into it, ruining a \$5 pair of trousers.

The old cow took advantage of the gap in the fence, got into the corn field and killed herself eating green corn.

Hearing this racket his wife ran out, upset a four-gallon churn of cream into a basket of little chickens, drowning the entire batch. In her haste she dropped a \$35 set of false teeth.

The baby having been left alone, crawled through the cream into the parlor, ruining a brand new \$25 carpet.

During the excitement the oldest daughter ran away with the hired man, the dog broke up two setting hens and the calves got out and chewed the tails off four fine shirts on the clothes line. MORAL: SUBSCRIBE TO THE BATT!!!

DID YOU KNOW?

That five years ago the Battalion ran an article about American college students as to the brand of tobacco that they preferred? Why doesn't someone sample public opinion once more and find out what they smoke now? It might be shown that many now smoke ragweed, coffee, grapevines, opium, and what have you. A small and select group who knows someone who has a relative working in a cigarette factory may still smoke "tailor made" coffin nails.

That the Aggies are to invade TSCW campus August? So says this week "Lass-O".

The Aggies will invade the campus August 11, when the Singing Cadets and the stage band will be here for the weekend. The Cadets and orchestra will give a performance here on the campus and the orchestra will play for a dance.

Many Aggies are expected to be here for the weekend, but students may invite other servicemen and friends too. Invitations will be sent to nearby army camps and airfields.

The Cadets and Orchestra will be housed in Camps during their stay on the campus.

Lets all see to it that there is a sizeable contingent on hand to take part in the festivities.

That Aggies and Tessimites used to write to corresponding box numbers? This might be a good way to get to know some women in Denton. It is also a good way to get some mail.

WAKE UP AND LIVE

Why doesn't the freshman class wake up and start making plans for a big freshman ball? There are certainly enough freshmen on the campus to have a highly successful dance. The freshman ball is probably one of the outstanding events of the year. "Backwash" suggests that you, the officers of the freshman class, call a meeting in the near future and get together on something and contact the Student Activities office as soon as possible. Come on, freshmen, talk it up and get the little girl friend started on making her plans to come down. How about August 3rd with a Corps Ball the night after?

P.S. Did YOU see those new bathing suit pictures in LIFE magazine last week? "YEEOW!!!"

BETWEEN THE BOOK-ENDS

By Edna B. Woods

EARTH AND HIGH HEAVEN

"Montreal society is divided roughly into three categories labeled 'French,' 'English,' and 'Jewish,' and there is not much coming and going between them, particularly between the Jews and either of the other groups; for although, as a last resort, French and English can be united under the heading 'Gentiles,' such an alliance merely serves to isolate the Jews more than ever." Most of the story of EARTH AND HIGH HEAVEN by Gwethalyn Graham Brown takes place in this setting.

Almost any book on race relations attracts attention, partly because international developments have brought race problems to the peoples' attention and partly because personal prejudices awaken an interest that objective thinking fails to do. Books of fiction with central themes built around a race situation are usually accepted or rejected wholeheartedly by the reader. Last year, Lillian Smith's STRANGE FRUIT was such a

book. Its story, which was based on Negro-White relations, was without a doubt the most sensational book of the year. While EARTH AND HIGH HEAVEN deals with a milder problem—that of racial-religious distinctions—it is a better book as far as writing is concerned. Also a member of the "best seller class" EARTH AND HIGH HEAVEN is a thoughtful, sensible story and singularly interesting novel.

Erica Drake, whose name denotes her highbrow Protestant English background, is the favored child and daughter of Charles Sickert Drake (his children call him "Charles"—which indicates the sophistication of the story), president of the Drake Importing Company. Erica departed from the orthodox tradition in her family, when during a low point in the Drake financial holdings, she took a job doing the society page of a local paper. Even so, Erica and her father, who is handsome, powerful, and highly intellectual, are the best of friends; each thorough-

ly enjoys the company of the other.

The conflict begins when Erica meets the thirty-three year old lawyer, Marc Reiser, at a cocktail party. Charles Drake on introduction affects a rudeness heretofore unrealized in his character; possibly the action is Freudian in origin. The story progresses simultaneously with the heightening of the conflict. Erica becomes the victim of two opposing forces. Marc, of middle-class Jewish background, as well as Charles, is convinced that even though he loves Erica, marriage will only magnify their problems. His reasoning is based on a feeling of inferiority; Charles', is based on a feeling of superiority.

Most of the characters are well done. Erica, her mother, her sister Miriam, and Marc are real people. Charles is so intense that the sudden change in his character is not anticipated and hardly justifiable. Marc's brother David—a country doctor—is quite intelligent and thoroughly practical. Through him, the author expresses herself—her genuine, fair, and certainly idealistic philosophy.

EARTH AND HIGH HEAVEN offers entertainment in a good story, material for thought through its conflicting ideas on a serious theme, and a plot which reads naturally and well, including some very nice descriptions of the beautiful Canadian woods.

:: Your City ::

BY W. L. HUGHES

Sixth of a Series

HISTORY OF A. & M. CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL: PART I

Many years ago the Texas Legislature created an independent school district of the A. & M. College campus—a district which consisted of some 3500 acres of land and buildings valued at approximately \$3,500,000. However, since the property belonged to the State of Texas, it was not taxable; and a school district with no taxable property, except for a small amount of personal property, will not support a school. Another factor which made it possible for the campus people to have anything like a modern school was the small number of children, there being only 30 or 40 of them on the campus. Consequently, the campus people sent their children to Bryan to school.

In 1917, the Smith-Hughes Act was passed by Congress appropriating funds for the teaching of agriculture in public schools. A. & M. College was designated as a teacher-training institution, and under authority of the act certain funds were made available for preparing teachers of agriculture in the public schools. This created the problem of a training school for giving prospective teachers some practice teaching in agriculture. But the college had no public school and one was needed and must be provided.

In 1920, Dr. W. B. Bizzell, President of the College, with Professor Martin L. Hayes, head of the Department of Vocational Teaching, conceived the idea of establishing a school on the campus for the purpose of meeting this need and at the same time of meeting the needs of the campus people for a public school. Many problems had to be solved before this could be realized, more particularly that of adequate finances and the further problem of bringing together enough children to create a satisfactory school unit. Finally, through the efforts of Professor Hayes, the State Board of Education was persuaded to grant rural aid sufficient to justify the establishment of the school. The college also furnished material assistance, and Dr. Bizzell made available \$25,000 for the construction of a school building. (In this connection it may be of interest to record that the \$25,000 had been appropriated by the Legislature for the construction of a new home for the president of A. & M. College, but this did not solve the problem of the requisite number of children for a satisfactory school unit.)

In order to solve the problem of bringing together the required number of children, Professor Hayes conceived the idea of making the school a rural consolidated school by taking in sufficient ter-

ritory adjoining the college property to afford sufficient pupils to insure an ideal organization—that is, a teacher for each grade. This fact alone created the very serious problem of transportation—that of getting the rural children to and from school. When the rural districts were assured transportation for their children, Professor Hayes and County Superintendent Eck Smith succeeded in getting common school districts 2, 6, and 13—all adjoining the campus—to agree to co-operate in launching the new school.

The problem of securing a building in the summer of 1920, of securing teachers and transportation for about 160 children, was no small one. But with about \$13,000 rural aid and some \$5,000 furnished by the college, with the state and county apportionment, and the local taxes from the co-operating districts, the financial side of the undertaking seemed bright enough. Accordingly, the school board proceeded with the construction of a building and with the purchase of two Oldsmobile busses for transportation—and, for the record, that board was made up of Professor Hayes, Dean E. J. Kyle, and Professor E. J. Fermier, all appointed by the President of the College. A teaching staff consisting of the very best teachers available was invited to take over. This staff included all necessary teachers from principal to primary teacher, including a teacher of home economics and one for agriculture. The problem of organizing a complete school program, including transportation, was dumped into the lap of the writer. It was his job to organize the school—a task which was undertaken on September 28, 1920, when some 160 pupils presented themselves for registration. The school was opened in Guion Hall and continued to hold its daily session there until the new building was ready for occupancy. The new building was soon completed but when the school moved from Guion Hall we found ourselves utterly devoid of any equipment. The principal begged and borrowed from various departments of the college and in a few weeks A. & M. Consolidated School was on its way. It was the plan of the original board and the superintendent to make the school a model of its kind—that is, no teacher should have more than one grade and no grade more than 35 pupils. The teachers were to be the best obtainable. It was to be a case in which the job sought the teacher—not the teacher the job. A teacher's home, or teacherage, was provided, and living conditions were made as pleasant as possible.

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BOLIVIA . . . Country with Two Capitals

By Ruben R. Caro-Costas

Bolivia is a tropical country, surrounded by spectacular high mountains, dense jungles, and virtually uninhabited plains. Bounded by Brazil on the North and West, Peru and Chile on the West, and Argentina and Paraguay on the South, Bolivia finds herself encircled by five different countries and shut away from the Pacific.

For the past hundred years Bolivia has been involved in continuous strife with the republics surrounding her, for a chance to get a passway to the Pacific and over territorial claims. First of these wars was the "War of the Pacific" over disputed boundary lines between Chile and Peru and Bolivia. From this three-cornered dispute which lasted for about twenty five years, Bolivia lost the chance of getting an outlet to the Pacific which she so badly needed. This was followed by disputes with Argentina and Brazil in regard with the well known Chaco region. Bolivia lost much of this region out of this dispute. Then came the "Chaco War" with Paraguay over the lush land to the east. This was a region which was for years held jointly by the two countries, but with the outcome of this war Bolivia lost it almost entirely to Paraguay.

During those years of continuous warfare with her neighbors, Bolivia lost many of her sons, two-thirds of her original territory, and her access to the Pacific.

Geographically, Bolivia can be divided into three different regions.

There are the jungles, and low dry plains with typical torrid heat in the eastern two-thirds of Bolivia. Few of her 3,500,000 people live there. For the most part, they are concentrated in the Altiplano, two miles above sea level. Nowhere in the world, except in Tibet, does the main life of a country go on at such great heights, and Tibet's plateau is much more sparsely populated than Bolivia's.

Mountains of Silver

The Spanish Conquistadores, pushing down from Panama and inland through Peru in search of a rumored fabulous mountain of silver, not only found it but also found one of the oldest civilizations in the world. They found the ruins of a well developed communal state. Aqueeducts, moldering agricultural terraces, crumbling stone roads were among the signs of a well advanced civilization found by the Conquistadores. This civilization was that of the Incas, established around the twelfth century and believed to have been preceded by another tribe of Indians established as early as 200 A. D. These Incas were master engineers and had a telegraphic system, but did not know the wheel.

During the search for the fabulous mountains of silver which they actually found—one of the few instances in history that turned legend into fact—the Conquistadores founded Bolivia's first town, Paria, in 1535. Three years later another group founded Char-

THE BATTALION

-- SAYS --

BUY WAR BONDS