

The Battalion

STUDENT WEEKLY NEWSPAPER
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Texas A. & M. College
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Aggies, Give Your Dimes . . .

Infantile paralysis isn't choosy—farm children are just as susceptible to it as city children. That's why America's rural families have their own particular stake in the work of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, whose annual March of Dimes provides funds for skilled care and treatment of polio victims even in the remotest rural areas.

Once again, last year, poliomyelitis stalked our country. More than 13,000 cases were reported. Hardest hit were Tennessee, Utah, Illinois, Virginia, New York. Epidemics struck at farm and city indiscriminately. The National Foundation disbursed more than \$1,000,000 in emergency aid to epidemic areas, in fulfillment of its pledge that "no victim shall go untreated for lack of funds, regardless of age, race, creed or color."

Poliomyelitis is one of the most expensive diseases known to medicine. Not only must many victims of past epidemics receive continuing care, but each year's outbreaks add new names to the steadily growing list. Hospitalization for a single patient costs more than \$2,500 a year. Some cases require continuing care for several years. Few families can meet the cost of extended polio treatment.

Eight years ago, the late Franklin D. Roosevelt created the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis in fulfillment of a growing need for an organized fight against polio and a "General Staff" to direct that fight. Basil O'Connor, personal friend and former law partner of Mr. Roosevelt, has been the Foundation's president since its formation.

Epidemic action and epidemic aid are the more obvious and dramatic aspects of the National Foundation's work. Everyone who has come through a polio epidemic knows this part of the organization's work. But there is another less spectacular and less familiar aspect: Science.

The Foundation, in its eight-year history, has appropriated \$7,673,113 for research and education. In 41 universities, medical schools, and laboratories, men of science, working under Foundation grants are seeking a preventive and possible cure for infantile paralysis.

Physicians, nurses, physical therapists, medical social workers and others are constantly being trained in modern methods of treating poliomyelitis and readjusting its victims to useful lives. A constant program of education is being carried on by means of booklets, leaflets, radio, movies, to bring the facts about polio to the families of America.

The fight is costly, and the cost increases as the National Foundation expands its activities; and as each succeeding epidemic adds new names to the growing list of patients for whom chapters must provide care, in many cases for years.

Half of all contributions to the annual March of Dimes conducted by the Foundation is retained by the local chapter for special equipment, hospitalization, transportation, treatment and care of polio patients. The other half goes to the national organization for research, education and emergency aid in epidemics.

This year for the first time the March of Dimes is being conducted without the living presence of the man who founded the movement and who is its symbol. It is a fitting memorial to our late President, of whom it can be said, as it also can be said of many others throughout the United States: "It did not conquer him!"

A Step Forward . . .

City Council and the city administration took a long step in the right direction recently as they re-scaled electric power rates for domestic consumers to a schedule comparable to that of other cities. College Station housewives now pay for their electricity at the same rate as do those in Bryan, for example, with the exception of those who live in the area served by the Rural Electric Administration.

The result is a saving of approximately \$300.00 per month passed on to domestic users of electrical power. The average customer will find his bill reduced by only about 50¢ per month—but much more important is the significance of the step in placing the city on a more favorable basis as "a good place to live."

It would be unjust to congratulate ourselves upon this improvement in our civic life without pointing out that the reduced rates are due primarily to a corresponding reduction in the rates charged the City by the producer of the power, Texas A. & M. College.

There still remains the matter of bringing our rates into line for commercial users of power. According to well informed sources, rates for commercial consumers will be re-scaled to conform to those of our sister city of Bryan within the next three or four months or as soon as Bryan has put into effect a contemplated change in business rates. We await the change with full confidence in our city administration and City Council to act in the best interests of the community.

Support The . . .
VICTORY
Clothing Drive

BACKWASH

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

By The Collaborators

Snow, snow, beautiful snow . . . well, at any rate the campus had a minor blizzard that lasted for an hour Tuesday afternoon. What was white was pretty, and what wasn't was icy slush. Still, we heard of some sophs who were rolled in it with much pleasure and abandon by their fish. But that ain't all . . . when the wet wetheds thought all was over and were traipsing back into the dorm, an overhead attack by some more freshmen armed with plenty of iceballs leaned out of second story windows and pelted the sophs, but good. Oh, cruel, cruel world.

Then there was the visitor who told a first-year kaydet that he would like to see somebody with a little authority. Says the fish, in all sincerity, "Well, I have about as little authority as anybody, what is it you want?"

We heard of someone, an M.E., no doubt, whose alarm clock had failed to get him out of bed in time to make his eight o'clock class. He got so mad that he slammed it down on the floor. And when an ex-cockroach tumbled out in a maze of gears, mainsprings, etc., he muttered, "No wonder the thing wouldn't go. The engineer was dead."

Backwashin' around . . . Even under the most distressing circumstances, Aggies prove their superiority over Bears, teasippers, et al. The Baylor "Lariat" shows this to

be true in the following: "A picture of the shaved Aggie being led by Baylor men (ha) to the pep rally was first place winner in the Round-Up snapshot contest . . . The picture was taken by Jim Eastland, senior Bible major . . . We wonder just how far back he was. And another bit of information for all of you Baylorites who seem to have forgotten it—A&M 19, Baylor 13.

And from the ever-faithful copy furnisher, The Daily Texan, we notice that in recent issues the letters to the editor's columns and the editorialists have been going lemon and tea on the "fra-ority" problem. No one seems to be getting anywhere, which is not at all unusual at the U. of T.

The Longhorn is the Aggies' memento of his days of college life. One cannot be published unless all Aggies cooperate whole-heartedly with the editor and his staff. This has not been done in two sections especially. They are "Senior Favorites" and "Vanity Fair." The editor, engraver, and publisher have been gracious enough to extend their time schedules to allow for more of these pictures to be turned in. If there are still not enough, the sections will be dropped without reservation. So, come on, you seniors, do more than just talk about your women, and show them to us in the Longhorn this year. They can't all be that bad, to hear the bull you shoot about those weekends at places Aggies go.

College Museum Obtains New Exhibits And Curator---Parks

New curator of the A. & M. College Museum is H. B. Parks who was transferred from the Agricultural Research at San Antonio in September, 1945.

Mr. Parks is also botanist in charge of the S. M. Tracy Herbarium, which now has about 100,000 specimens that can be used by the plant student. There also are large numbers of identified plant specimens yet to be mounted and given permanent labels. During the last three months many specimens were loaned to other institutions for study, and in the same time 224 plant specimens have come in for identification.

Classes and individual students are daily visitors to the Herbarium and Museum. Many returning service men are botanists, and others became interested in plants during their stations over the world. Hearing about the Herbarium from Texas Aggies in the services, these men stop off at College Station for information on plants, or to ask where they can contact botanists near their homes.

Future work of the Museum has necessitated a change of objectives. Instead of fixed exhibits, the new policy will be for exhibits of the visual education type to afford instruction to supplement that given in classrooms and laboratories. The materials are secured from all sources available, and are designed

to show the work of the section of Texas A&M College which has asked for or aided in making the exhibit. The task of rearranging fixtures in the building for the expanding work is not complete, but already six new exhibits have been presented.

In the Wild Life Alcove of the Museum, the display of Foods of the Migrating Birds has been replaced by Winter Foods for Birds and Small animals. A beautiful exhibit of colored plates of paintings by Louis Agassiz Puertes of Abyssinian Birds and Mammals as well as a large poster of the common fish of the United States and Canada in color are worthy of study.

A second installment of Poisonous plants show those species said to be less important by the Ranchmen. A new case, Indian corn Relatives, gives by actual specimens and photograph an introduction to those near relatives of corn and of the method of investigating their relationship by hybridization. A second new case might be entitled "Where Our Wild Life Goes". It is a collection of almost nine hundred shotgun shells. This collection was made from a tract of land four by ten miles near San Antonio. The shells range from ten gauge to 410 and represent all of the Ammunition Companies. The shells date from 1863 to the present year.

ACKERMAN EXHIBIT OF PICTORIAL PHOTOGRAPHS GOES UP AT LIBRARY

The George W. Ackerman Exhibit, a collection of 72 pictorial photographs, went on display at the Texas A. & M. College library yesterday. The photographs will be on display through January 25, according to Paul S. Ballance, college librarian.

Ackerman is in charge of the photographic section of the Extension Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture, with headquarters at Washington, D. C. He is one of America's outstanding photographers and has visited every state in the nation on assignment. He last came to Texas in 1936 when he spent two weeks working with county agricultural agents and home demonstration agents in West Texas.

The collection is of special interest to amateur photographers and students of photographic technique. Ackerman's work is characterized by a wealth of detail and excellent composition. He was a pioneer in the now common technique of backlighting and few have ever achieved the perfection of one of his early photographs, "Hen-pecked", which is included in the exhibit.

The photographs now on display are duplicates of those prepared by Ackerman at the request of the Smithsonian Institute. The collec-

tion came to Texas A. & M. from the University of Wisconsin and is to be shipped to Maine University after the showing here.

Arrangements for bringing the exhibit to College Station were made by Miss Laura Lane, editor of the Texas Extension Service, while in Washington six months ago. Bryan and College Station residents are invited to visit the exhibit during the regular library hours.

NOTICE

The BATTALION cannot publish any unsigned letters. Requests will be granted for the initials only to be used, but the writers' full names must accompany the letters. Anonymous letters are in the office most of the time, and some of them should surely be shared with the rest of the Corps.

LOUPOTS
WHERE YOU ALWAYS GET A FAIR TRADE

Between the Book Ends . . . Is There a Farm in Your Future? Then Read These Library Books

By Edna V. Burkhardt

"The greatest fine art of the future will be the making of a comfortable living from a small piece of land." Abraham Lincoln.

"Back to the farm," is a solution offered by more than a few persons for the housing shortage, re-employment confusion, and post-war difficulties in general. But according to Paul Corey in BUY AN ACRE (1944), the New Frontier in America will be spread around our cities for a radius of fifty to a hundred miles, within commuting distance of factory and business. While Mr. Corey doesn't propose this movement as a panacea for all the coming social and economic problems, he does see it as a worthwhile venture for the average family. After presenting these ideas in his preface, he uses the next 204 pages—the remainder of the book—to discourage the dreamers and wishful agrarians who visualize brooks and swimming pools instead of chicken coops and fertilizer. BUY AN ACRE is down-to-earth, practical, and convincing. Mr. Corey makes it clear that to get a home in the country with no more than a minimum to go on is a step by step program, and each step must lead to the next. It requires saving at least five dollars a week, and during one step, involves living in a chicken house.

The author admits that if you can read through BUY AN ACRE without your desire for a home on the land fading, then you'll get there—before too much time has passed. BUY AN ACRE is written with clarity and good sense, and may be read in an evening.

Ladd Haystead, the author of FARM FOR FORTUNE and vice versa (1942), is of the opinion that the literature of agriculture, which encompasses publications of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, the 48 states' departments, and experiment stations, is more voluminous than that of practically any other subject. The pitfall lies in the predominance of propitious rather than realistic information about farming and farm living under normal conditions, that is, "when a living must be made out of the farm and not for the farm, as the wealthy do it."

FARM FOR FORTUNE is offered as a handbook for city farmers, attempting to answer the questions most frequently asked by those planning to go a-farming.

"Play Night" Will Be Held at High School Gym Tonight

The second "play night" of the school year will be held at the A. & M. Consolidated School gymnasium tonight from 7:30 until 10:00. The affair is sponsored by the City Recreation Council.

Hosts for the party will be members of the Consolidated student council with members of the Recreation Council acting as chaperones and sponsors. Chosen to assist as sponsors are Mr. and Mrs. O. C. Copeland, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Potter, Mr. and Mrs. Luke Patrollella, Mr. and Mrs. E. E. McQuillen, and Mr. and Mrs. M. T. Harrington. Other representatives will be Gordon Gay, director of the City Recreation Council; Mrs. G. W. Schlesselman, chairman of the council; and Miss Joyce Patranello, chairman of the Recreation Division of the High School Council.

pointing out a few ways to evade trouble. It is written in more detail and with more dignity than is BUY AN ACRE.

FIVE ACRES AND INDEPENDENCE, revised and enlarged edition (1942), by M. G. Kains is more complete than either of the previous books, being a practical guide to the selection and management of the small farm. It is especially useful as a reference book. In 334 pages, FIVE ACRES AND INDEPENDENCE discusses such problems as drainage, water supply, wind-breaks, cropping systems, grafting fruit trees, etc. Its value is increased further by a 50 page appendix containing tables, graphs, charts and diagrams of concrete data; an excellent index makes it easy to use.

TWO BILLION ACRE FARM (1945), by Robert W. Howard tells the story of American agriculture from the time the first wilderness was cleared, through wars and peace-time, tracing the Grange movement and the development of

other co-operative organizations and pointing out the problems in establishing a fair place for the Farmer in the economic world.

Mr. Howard's experience as a newspaper man prevents TWO BILLION ACRE FARM from being merely a summary of historical fact. An interesting, lively, and informal history of the land, it reads swiftly and dramatically, preciously useful as a reference book. In 334 pages, FIVE ACRES AND INDEPENDENCE discusses such problems as drainage, water supply, wind-breaks, cropping systems, grafting fruit trees, etc. Its value is increased further by a 50 page appendix containing tables, graphs, charts and diagrams of concrete data; an excellent index makes it easy to use.

Robert Lawson's COUNTRY COLIC (1944) is a nonsensical book designed to amuse anyone who is slightly interested in country life and farming. Actually it contains 67 pages of definitions of such things as calluses, beetles, and poison ivy. The author defines COUNTRY COLIC as "being sundry remarks and observations concerning the joys, perils and vexations of Rustic Residence together with certain suggestions of a cautionary nature for the enlightenment and guidance of the inexperienced."

Veterans News . . .

By S. J. McConnell

MR. ZINN, veterans' advisor, will speak on matters vital to veterans' registration for the coming semester in a special meeting of the Ex-Servicemen's Club on January 21 at 6:30 p.m. in the Y.M.C.A. chapel. All veterans are asked to attend this meeting, which is of importance to all concerned.

WHO IS HE? HE'S . . . Eugene Howard, Class of '45. At present a student at Texas A. & M., Gene is studying to be a civil engineer. He hails from El Paso, Texas and is a graduate of Austin High School.

Formerly a pilot on a Flying Fortress and a member of the 8th Air Force, Gene is now president of the Ex-Servicemen's Club. He cordially invites all veterans to be his guests at the next meeting to be held at 6:30 p.m. on January 21.

TIME AND DATE for the Ex-Servicemen's dance will be 8:00 p.m., January 18, at the American Legion Hall. A big crowd is expected. Come on out, meet your buddies, and let's everybody get acquainted.

"THANK YOU" of the Week: TO JOHN B. PORTER for his May your married life be long work in behalf of the "Club." As and happy.

chairman of the committee handling the recent housing problem and a member of the current Entertainment Committee, he has given his time and labor unselfishly.

GOLFERS OF THE WEEK:

Fesperman, M. R. Johnson, Qualles, and Holcomb.

INTRAMURALS:

Volleyball started on the day of the "big move" from Hart Hall to Dorm 16. But Dorm 16 still had seven men out—M. Wood, Roy Gibbons, Tilson, Brown, Rougagnac, Utesh, and McConnell. They are proud to say that they won a hard-fought victory—by a forfeit.

THINGS WE NEVER EXPECT TO SEE:

SYFAN minus a cup o' dope. BROUN (with a U, not a W) without a "funny paper." CLASS OF '45 not planning a party. MAIL in the postoffice box. BONEWITZ in another "touch" football game. SPILLMAN or UTESH refusing to play "touch."

OLE' ARMY---

A. & M. IS ON THE MARCH!

LET'S GO out and bring in those new Aggies this next semester. You know who they are, and you can be the best salesman for Aggieland in your own home town.

YOU'LL BE DOING a double good turn—one for your home-town friends and one for A. M. C.

BRING 'EM IN, AGGIES — to the BEST SCHOOL IN THE U. S. A.!

J. E. LOUPOT, '32

Trade With Lou — He's Right With You

ZUBIK'S advises you to place your order now for

JUNIOR Blouses, Shirts, Slacks

in order to avoid any disappointment in delivery for the February term.

--- ALSO ---

WE HAVE AT PRESENT

SENIOR Ice Cream Material for Slacks and Boot Breeches

ZUBIK and SONS

UNIFORM SPECIALISTS

1896 — 50 YEARS OF TAILORING — 1946