

### Room Rent Increase? . . .

One of life's economic mysteries may be found in the announcement that room rent for the coming semester has been raised. This is merely a small item in a nation-wide inflationary trend, but it deserves some investigation.

During the war years, when student enrollment was at its lowest ebb in many seasons, room rent was raised 100%—from twenty dollars to forty dollars per semester. This was supposed to be a wartime exigency, and reduction was promised as soon as there was a return to normalcy. After the war, student enrollment increased to a decent level, so the Administration reduced rent. Not back to the previous figure, however, but to thirty dollars—a 25% reduction.

After this semester had started, a refund was declared for all those living three in a room. Evidently our landlords awoke to the injustice of charging the same rates for both two in a room, and three in a room. But now that has been revoked, and a new universal increase will go into effect in January.

Try as we might, we couldn't quite figure out why such a raise is adequately justified. Surely payments on the new dorms have not increased. Janitors' salaries haven't risen that much. Dormitory upkeep is pretty much of a fixed cost proposition.

Can it be that the College is attempting to cash in on the present-day pseudo-prosperity by jacking up rents? The American is always more willing to accept changes when reasons motivating them are explained.

### Whiz, Bang, Boom! . . .

Crash, bang, whoosh! No, that's not sound effects for the battle of Iwo Jima, or the bombardment of Monte Casino. It's the sound-track for any recent night in the dormitories at A. & M. Christmas is coming, and for many generations past Christmas in the South has meant firecrackers.

But there are now on the campus many men who have been listening to "firecrackers" for the last four Christmas seasons—the kind of firecrackers that are intended to maim or kill—and who are understandably sick of that kind of noise.

The Batt has received a letter from such a one who remarks "I don't like to be or be a joy killer, nor to cast slurs on anybody's character, but please, won't the gentlemen who ENJOY listening to the sound of simulated gunfire kindly take their firecrackers and such explosives somewhere outside the dormitories? I suffered from combat fatigue, was treated for it, but I'm not well yet. I personally would appreciate it if the lovers of bangbang would quit setting off 18-in TNT crackers in the hallways."

Says the Battalion: Amen!

### Aggieland Forever . . .

There are cold words and hot words. There are words that stir you up and words that leave you indifferent. In the English language there are many sets of words, one of which will have all the emotional connotation of poetry, while the other has no more appeal than second-hand chewing gum.

For instance, take the words "Aggieland" and "College Station." Aggieland is a word full of fire, a word of enthusiasm, a word that makes you snap to attention and puts butterflies in your stomach. But the designation "College Station" has little meaning. It brings to mind not the A. & M. College of Texas, but a little railroad station at the West Gate.

Almost every state in the country has a town with a name similar to College Station. Pennsylvania even has two: State College, where Penn State does business, and Collegeville, where Ursinus College functions. But there is only one Aggieland.

The Kerr Bus Co. has taken a step of which we greatly approve, painting the illuminated destination-signs on their buses "Aggieland," rather than College Station. Not only do we approve, but we wish the Southern Pacific, the Missouri Pacific and the United States Post Office could be persuaded to follow that example.

Think how much better news dispatches would look in the Houston Post or Dallas News if the date line read "Aggieland, Dec. 13 . . ." instead of the cold "College Station." Think how much better it would sound on the Sunbeam to have the conductor call out "Aggieland—all out for A. & M. College." Think how much more alluring letters would look, arriving at TSCW, with the cancellation mark boldly proclaiming "Aggieland, 9:00 p.m." Think how it would sound coming over your radio, "Station WTAW, Aggieland, Texas."

Whoop it up, Aggies! "Aggieland Forever."

A STICK-UP MAN IN BABIES' CLOTHING  
The Pittsburgh Press headlined recently: DIAPER THIEF LEAVES 150 BABIES WITH NO PLACE TO GO.

## The Battalion

The Battalion, official newspaper of the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas and the City of College Station, is published semi-weekly and circulated on Tuesday and Friday afternoons.

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"FISH" BLOTTO

SAY, MAGARKIN, HAVE YOU HAD YOUR CLASS PICTURE MADE FOR THE 'LONGHORN' YET?

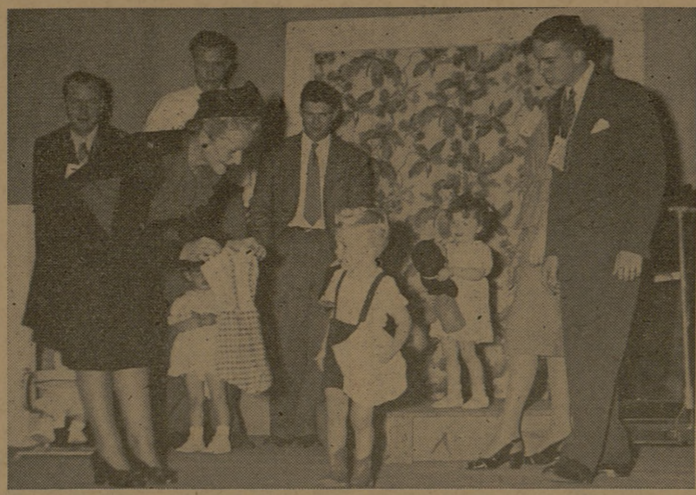
THE DEADLINE IS THE FIFTEENTH—SAY, YOU'RE NOT LISTENING TO ME!

OH, I ALREADY GOT MINE. I WUZ JUS' ADMIRIN' THE PROOFS—NEVER REELIZED JUS' WHUT A HANDSOME DEVIL I WUZ—

WHY, YOU CONCEITED JACKASS—THIS ISN'T YOU—YOU GOT SOME-BODY ELSE'S PICTURE BY MISTAKE!

KILJOY!

### Diaper and Doll Parade



MARTIN B. MARX, Aggie papa, watches his son, KING BILL, presented a gift by MRS. R. H. HARRISON at the Diaper and Doll Parade held last Sunday afternoon.

### Santa's Pack has GIFTS Galore

Special to The Battalion — Far North Correspondent

Remembering his appointment with old Santa, the Battalion correspondent wearily made his way through the snow to the little log cabin which served as Saint Nick's headquarters.

Though his face was numb with cold, our reporter rapped loudly on the door. Saint Nick in his gruff voice, yelled, "Come on in, I have troubles enough now."

Looking up at the heavy oaken door creaked on its hinges, Santa's face turned a livid red as he recognized his visitor.

Santa rushed to the door. Waving his arms madly, he said, "Get out of my sight immediately. You have betrayed my secrets. Who gave you authority to tell all the world about my plans?"

Our correspondent assured Santa that he had nothing to do with telling the world of his secrets. He blamed it all on the Battalion staff and assured Santa that he would never associate with that group again.

Saint Nick, in his usual fashion, started talking gifts again. "I like to see gifts go where they will do the most good," he chuckled. "To Battalion Associate Editor Charles Murray goes the legal power to hold mascot elections any time he pleases."

"My sympathies go out to Harry Boyer who has housing problems galore. Heaven help him when he starts moving veterans and their families out of Hart and Walton. I reckon I will send him some strong arm men to keep him from being murdered in that fiasco. I have trouble bossing my wife around and I don't get to give many orders. When he starts ordering that many women around tempers are bound to flare."

"Many of my Aggie-land friends seemed very much perturbed about the conversation-making ability of their yell leaders. I am sending each of the five yell leaders a Joe Miller joke book."

"One of my recent letters came from a man who signed his name as 'The Senator.' He wanted some big name bands. I think he intends going to New York City to run for office. Frankly, I believe he is wrong in thinking that orchestra players will cast their vote for him. I later found that man was Joe Skiles."

"A house divided against itself cannot stand. Before you can divide, you must first have a house. To Sid Smith, president of the Veterans' Club, I will bring members. Reports reaching me say that memberships in that club are about as popular as a skunk at a singing convention."

"I won't tolerate waste in any form. The west is widely noted for its great rodeos, and I hate to hear of all those roaches in Casey's going to waste. Think of all the entertainment they might furnish if placed in a rodeo arena. Brides and saddles it will be."

With that much info with which Santa had supplied the Far North Correspondent, he was on his way back to Aggieland.

### Facts Concerning Hospital and Equipment Clarified by Group

This week the Hospital Committee made an investigation of the college hospital. The committee is a part of the student government set up at the beginning of the semester under the direction of the dean of men. Members of the group are G. B. Wilcox, Dr. J. E. Marsh, J. W. Rollins, Col. C. S. Meloy, and W. L. Penberthy representing the faculty and staff; E. D. Ord, E. A. Gordon, and H. E. Robards, veteran students; and Tommy John, Don Farrell, and Jim O'Connell military students.

Certain facts concerning the equipment, staff, procedure, and regulation of the hospital were learned in order that the group will be able to understand the problems of this institution to which they are authorized to make recommendations. Also included in the program of the committee is its cooperation with the hospital staff in devising operational procedure and in establishing logical policies.

According to the findings of the committee, the hospital has a capacity of 150 beds and a staff composed of two full-time doctors, eleven nurses, a superintendent nurse, and two technicians. Meals for the patient are prepared by the hospital staff under the direction of a dietician.

In return for the hospital fee assessed as part of the fiscal payment, a student is entitled to the following medical services: treatment and hospitalization for all minor illnesses and injuries; first aid, laboratory tests, and physiotherapy treatments; examination and diagnosis; treatment and hospitalization for major illnesses and injuries without additional cost except a major operation and extra medicine; examination and minor treatment for the eyes, nose, and throat; dental X-ray, examination and minor treatment; and the furnishing of unit commanders, house mothers, and individuals with medical supplies on request.

Several administrative regulations are in effect at the infirmary

What's Cooking

FRIDAY, December 13  
7:30 Marketing & Finance Club special meeting. Room 312 Ag Building.

SATURDAY, December 14  
7:30 p. m. Baptist Young Peoples party, First Baptist Church.

SUNDAY, December 15  
1:00 p. m. Mask & Foil Club, Gym. A. B. Rodner, Houston Pro, to instruct.

7:30 p. m. Aggie Wives Circle, Xmas Party, President's home.

TUESDAY, December 17  
6:00 p. m. Spanish Club picnic. Members meet on steps of YMCA.

7:15 p. m. S A E, A S M E, & I Ae S, Physics lecture room. D. H. Levin, Consolidated Aircraft, speaks on "Influence of Jets and Turbines in Aircraft Design".

8:00 p. m. Palestine Club, Room 303, Acad. Bldg.

By Pete Tumlinson

## Letters

HOUSTON REPLIES

(Below is reprinted a copy of a letter from E. D. Kilman, Editor of the Houston Post, to Lee W. Thompson, Jr., in answer to a recent manuscript which Thompson sent to the Post.—Ed.)

Dear Mr. Thompson:

Your letter to The Post regarding the alleged ostracizing of Rice girls for having dates with Aggies is interesting.

However, you misrepresented the fact in one of your observations—inssofar as it applies to The Post—on a subject on which I happen to be informed, and I am wondering whether your other statements on matters on which I am not well informed are equally erroneous.

You said: "The newspapers of Houston seem to form their editorial policies around the fact that every reader of Houston newspapers is a 100% died-in-the-wool Rice fan whenever a controversy or football game involving Rice is treated." I have had charge of the Post editorial page for four years—which probably is longer than you have been interested in the subject—and to my knowledge this paper has never taken an editorial position or formed an editorial policy in any controversy involving a Rice-Aggie football game. If you think you can find any instance where it has, during the period I mention, I will make you an attractive proposition to cite it.

Furthermore, while I can not say this positively, I think The Post has had about as many editorials favorable to A.&M. as to Rice Institute during the past four years. You might have to spot me one or two or three on this, but I can recall having written numerous editorials complimentary to A.&M., as you can confirm by asking my good friend Dr. Gibb Gilchrist or Dr. T. O. Walton, his predecessor. I say this as one who personally roots for Texas in football games, against Rice or A.&M., because my only child went there. I would have been proud of the opportunity to make either of the three schools my alma mater, but didn't have it.

I share with you the desire that relations between Rice and A.&M. improve; but just now I am considerably disturbed by reports which have come to me of grave injuries done to A.&M. freshmen by hazing. And since you are concerned for the welfare of A.&M., I would be glad to have such information as you can give me on this subject, in connection with an inquiry I am making into the subject.

Sincerely,  
E.D. Kilman,  
Editor.



### Throw Away Clocks Listen for A'Boom'

Aggies will soon be awakened from now on by a large "boom" instead of the customary sound of the bugle. A 3" field artillery gun has been placed in the new arena on the campus and will be fired at reveille and retreat.

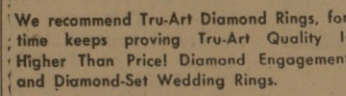
The gun was very difficult to secure from the government, and any breakage of parts will almost mean purchasing a new gun, according to Col. Guy S. Meloy. Col. Meloy also stated that there will be a cleaning detail to work on the gun every day—a hint to the freshman!

## DIAMONDS

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YOUR TIME  
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WATCH REPAIRING  
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### YOUNG COUNTY CLUB PLANS PARTY FOR WICHITA FALLS

Plans for a Christmas party were made at a recent meeting by the Young County Club. Members voted to have the party at the Club Weisman in Wichita Falls.

All Young County Aggies are invited.

Quion Hall

FRIDAY and SATURDAY "THE HOODLUM SAINT"

— With —  
William Powell and Ester Williams

— Plus —  
"RIVER GANG"

— With —  
Gloria Jean and John Qualen

Special FREE Show Sat. Morning at 10 "THE GREEN PASTURES"

Marc Connelly's Clasic Play

25¢ SHAVES YOU for 3 months!

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Fine Guns Since 1870

THE EXCHANGE STORE  
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THE ONE AND ONLY... RUBINOFF AND HIS VIOLIN

RUBINOFF PLAYS:  
Rhapsody in Blue (first performance as a violin solo)  
Intermezzo (brand new arrangement)  
Don't Fence Me In (played in two new different styles)

PRESS RAVES:  
Rhapsody in Blue Sensational St. Louis Dispatch  
Intermezzo Heavenly New Orleans Item  
Don't Fence Me In Solid Dallas News

TICKETS

CANADY'S PHARMACY JUNIOR CHAMBER OF W.S.D. CLOTHIERS COMMERCE, SEC., A. M. WALDROP CHARLES HOTEL LACKS AUTO STORE HOLICK'S BOOT STORE

25¢ SHAVES YOU for 3 months!

THE ONE AND ONLY... RUBINOFF AND HIS VIOLIN

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15TH—3 P. M.  
STEPHEN F. AUSTIN AUDITORIUM—Bryan

## PENNY'S SERENADE

By W. L. Penberthy

This is the time of the year when we go to scratching our heads for Christmas gift ideas for our friends and loved ones. In normal times this is always quite a chore for most of us, but it is really a problem during these days of shortages and inflated prices. Then, with some of us, it is just naturally hard to think of and purchase gifts for different occasions.

It is unfortunate that we think of giving only at Christmas time and on other special occasions. Some of the happiest people I know practice giving little gifts throughout the year. It is also unfortunate that when we think of giving we think of material things, because I feel that we can give more real pleasure and happiness through giving a little of ourselves each and every day we live.

I know of no better gift than a smile and a cherry "Hello." It has the same effect through the rest of the year that "Merry Christmas" has at Yule Time.

Another gift that is priceless is a word of praise or a pat on the back. This is a gift we too often fail to give, and one that is very often appreciated more than any. I have known cases when a word of commendation would bring forth the best in a person when all other means failed.

A third gift that is everlasting is a word of encouragement. We all get "down in the dumps" and get discouraged, and to have our friends give us gifts of encouragement means more to us than any material gift could possibly mean.

The gifts mentioned are not rationed; there is no scarcity; they cost nothing, and they give pleasure to both the giver and the receiver—what could be finer!

A fine Holiday Season to Each and Everyone of You.

PALACE  
PHONE 2-8879  
BRYAN, TEXAS

FRIDAY and SATURDAY  
Gary Cooper in "The Plainsman"  
PREVIEW SAT. NIGHT, SUN., MON., and TUES.  
Robert Young in "Claudia and David"

CAMPUS  
Opens 1:00 p.m. Ph. 4-1181

THURSDAY—LAST DAY  
Three Little Girls in Blue  
in TECHNICOLOR 20  
— With —  
Jane Haver and George Montgomery

FRIDAY and SATURDAY

TOUGH... TRIGGER MAD... and Terrific  
ALAN LADD  
His gun's still for hire, in "Lucky Jordan"  
A Feature Picture with HELEN WALKER  
Mabel Paige - Sheldon Leonard - Marie McDonald

Sat. Preview (11:00 p.m.) SUNDAY and MONDAY  
Linda Darnell  
— In —  
"Summer Storm"  
(A First Run Picture)

THE ONE AND ONLY... RUBINOFF AND HIS VIOLIN

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