

Pass in Review! . . .

A. & M. is still a military college, despite all internal dissension. Proof was available on the drill field Wednesday afternoon, as the corps marched by in review, followed by rumbling motor-artillery units and snorting tanks. As the white-helmeted Aggie band played and army training planes dived, something of the old "butterflies in the stomach" feeling returned to Aggies who have grown more accustomed to the bellyache. The flags, the flashing sabers, the brown senior boots, were something out of a half-forgotten past, and a welcome momentary relief from the discordant present.

And best of all, Col. Meloy has ordered five rams removed from every senior's record, on the strength of the review! The Cadet Corps is on the way up again.

Press Freedom . . .

After three years of study, a special commission examining the present state and future prospects of the freedom of the press has made its findings. The study was financed by Time, Inc. (\$200,000), and the Encyclopedia Britannica, Inc. (\$15,000).

Funds were disbursed through the University of Chicago. Neither the donors, nor the university, had any control over or assumed any responsibility for the progress or conclusion of the commission's inquiry.

At the outset the commission determined to include within its scope the major agencies of mass communication: the radio, newspapers, motion pictures, magazines, and books. (In the report "press" refers to all these media.)

The 13-member commission confined itself in this study to the role of the agencies of mass communication in the education of the people in public affairs.

According to the committee, freedom of the press is in danger—mostly from the press itself.

The report says that the danger to freedom of the press results from the economic structure of the press itself, partly from the industrial organization of modern society and partly "the failure of the directors of the press to recognize the press needs of a modern nation and to estimate and accept the responsibilities which those needs imposed upon them."

Some of the committee's comment follow: "Our society needs an accurate truthful account of the day's events. We need to know what goes on in our own locality, region and nation. We need reliable information about all other countries. We need to supply other countries with such information about ourselves.

"We need a market place for the exchange of comment and criticism regarding public affairs. . . .

"These needs are not being met. . . .

"When we look at the press as a whole . . . we must conclude that it is not meeting the needs of our society."

This failure of the press the commission terms the greatest danger to its freedom.

"When an instrument of prime importance to all the people is available to a small minority of the people only, and when it is employed by that small minority in such a way as not to supply the people with the service they require, the freedom of the minority in the employment of that instrument is in danger."

"The moral right of free public expression is not unconditional. Since the claim of the right is based on the duty of a man to the common good and to his thought, the ground of the claim disappears when this duty is ignored or rejected. In the absence of accepted moral duties there are no moral rights."

"To protect the press is no longer automatically to protect the citizens or the community. The freedom of the press can remain a right of those who publish only if it incorporates into itself the right of the citizen and the public interest."

Five requirements for freedom of the press are listed in the commission's report:

- 1—A truthful, comprehensive and intelligent account of the day's events in a context which gives them meaning.
2—A forum for the exchange of comment and criticism.
3—A means of projecting the opinions and attitudes of the groups in society to one another.
4—A method of presenting and clarifying the goals and values of the society.
5—A way of reaching every member of the society by the currents of information, thought and feeling which the press supplies.

The bias of owners gets a going over in the report as one of the major shortcomings of the press, along with deliberate distortion of news.

"The agencies of mass communication are big business, and their owners are big businessmen." American consumers prior to the war paid mass communication establishments \$1 out of every \$27 spent for all goods and services.

Advertising by big business was listed as another link connecting big business and the press.

Upper-bracket ownership and big-business character headed the list of the short-comings of today's American newspapers, "with brilliant and honorable exceptions."

In searching for possible solutions, the commission says that the press itself must "take on the community's press objectives as its own objectives." It holds that self-correction is better than outside correction, "so long as self-correction holds out a reasonable and realistic hope, as distinct from lip service to piously framed paper codes."

The commission advances the opinion that "government may and should enter the field of press comment and news supply, not as displacing private enterprise, but as a supplementary source."

The Battalion

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

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Sincere Investigation . . .

It is apparent that the legislative committee investigating the A. & M. situation is sincere in its attempt to uncover the facts behind the outbreak of anti-administration feeling. With a lengthy list of subpoenaed witnesses waiting to testify, their job should continue for several more weeks, and hearings on the campus may become a virtual necessity.

Senator Fred Harris, chairman of the committee, has completely reversed his pre-hearing opinion that the whole outburst is merely a question of "students sticking out their tongues at the teachers". This reversal was occasioned by testimony, by VSA secretary Ed Fisher, recommending a change in the statutes in regard to appointment of directors, a change which would obviously demand action by the Legislature.

Very few facts of a pertinent nature have come to light in Austin. The primary conclusion which may be drawn from all the testimony is that the VSA has little, if any, real evidence of financial skulduggery on the part of the administration. That they have personal objections against the president and his aids is plainly seen. Whether this can be used as a basis for the president's removal is a matter of conjecture, for personal objections never stand up as well as evidence of illegal operations.

Another fact of note to arise is testimony confirming suspicions that outside influence played a part in the VSA demand for Gilchrist's ouster. Former prexy Dr. T. O. Walton was named as the source for some of the "questions" asked at the VSA meeting which resulted in demands for the ouster of Gibb Gilchrist, his predecessor. Both Walton and "secret files" allegedly in his possession will be subpoenaed, according to Senator Harris.

We repeat our assertion that only facts—startling facts—will impress the legislative committee and the people of Texas sufficiently that action will be taken to remove President Gilchrist.

Houston Symphony Concert Well Received by Audience

By Mack T. Nolen

The Houston Symphony Orchestra presented a program of classical and semi-classical music in Guion Hall Wednesday night to an audience which applauded both the treatment and the selection.

Johann Strauss' "Voices of Spring Waltz" opened the program. Rossini's stirring "William Tell Overture," which Conductor Ernst Hoffmann explained is definitely not a horse song, no matter what the Lone Ranger says, followed next.

Miriam Formann, the wife of ex-Aggie, Jack Formann, appeared as soloist of the evening, singing the "Violetta Aria" from "La Traviata" and "Depuis Le Jour" from the opera "Louise." The beautiful Mrs. Formann, in good voice though not spectacular, was returned for two encores, "One Kiss" and "Song of Songs."

Ludwig Van Beethoven's Fifth Symphony, the famous "V" for Victory Symphony which enjoyed widespread popularity during the war, was heard in its entirety following the intermission. The orchestra handled this well-known opus with excellent taste.

Three encores were given by the orchestra in the uncomfortably warm auditorium. They were Bocharini's lilting "Minuet," "Promenade" by Anderson, and John Philip Sousa's "Stars and Stripes," which was played as well as it has ever been played. The audience begged for more, but the heated hall and a time-schedule prevented any further presentations.

This performance will be the last appearance of the Houston Symphony at A&M with Ernst Hoffmann conducting. Mr. Hoffmann has resigned from the direction of the group, effective at the end of the current season. Next season the podium will be filled by various guest conductors.

The Houston Symphony has grown under Mr. Hoffmann's direction from a nondescript amateur organization to a nationally known and respected symphony orchestra. To Mr. Hoffmann goes high credit for this accomplishment. His absence will be keenly felt.

The size of the crowd at the concert again proved conclusively that classical music is appreciated here at A&M. More of the same is in order.

97% of College Students Read School Paper

College students across the nation find their own school paper good reading as disclosed by the National Advertising Service. Ninety-seven and two-tenths per cent of all college students read their school paper, ninety-one and four-tenths per cent read the school paper regularly, and seventy-six and two-tenths read the school papers from cover-to-cover.

In a survey by the NAS, it was found that sixteen per cent of the total mentions were given to Life, ten percent to Reader's Digest, ten per cent to Time, and seven hundredths of one per cent was given to Saturday Evening Post. These were the four top ranking magazines mentioned in the survey.

The service also found that college students are independent in their choice of brands, make frequent purchases of many products, and pay above the average prices.

In the same survey it was found that the average college student listened to the radio for fifty-five minutes during the day and one hour and thirty-six minutes during the nighttime. The survey shows that only thirty two per cent of college radio sets are used during an average evening and only seven per cent are in use during the choice 8 to 10 block of time. The reason for this was found to be the dormitory and fraternity restrictions on the use of radios after 8 p. m.

Finding Errors . . .

Treasury War --- Tax Evasion

By H. W. Spencer

Many U. S. money lovers are due for a big surprise with the compliments of the Treasury as its army of some 27,000 agents shall be giving the recently filed income tax returns extra-special study. This year more unreported incomes and unjustifiable deductions are expected than ever before.

Last year's Treasury's crackdown turned up 1 1/2 billion dollars in additional revenue. Agents are expected to do much better in the current purge against the bereaved U. S. taxpayer. This means that larger numbers of taxpayers will have to show that their expense accounts are not padded, that claimed dependents are allowed by law, that costs for expensive hobbies were not written off as business losses, and that the whole story of their capital gains is shown in black and white by their tax returns.

The Treasury's task is so prodigious that only about 3 percent of the returns of all kinds filed this year will receive audit. Of these about half are expected to produce additional revenue—some from honest errors, some for outright evasion.

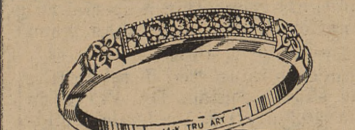
Those receiving the closest scrutiny will be, of course, the higher income returns. A \$25,000 return has a 50-50 chance of being audited, while in the highest groups practically every return is checked. Thus, the Treasury hits hardest where there is the best chance for retrieving big money.

In order to cope with the reudant low income returns spot checks are made, particularly in questionable cases. In addition, special local tax drives are announced and crackdowns are made where evasion seems likely. This usually frightens many evaders in to appearing voluntarily to get right with the Treasury.

These drives are concentrated primarily on the self-employed, since salaried workers have relatively little opportunity to evade. Farmers, professional and businessmen, service traders (taxi drivers, tailors, plumbers, etc.), or wherever there are no accurate records on earnings and expenses or where cash is received directly serve as plumbs for Treasury agents. Evaders are also spotted by agents in checking big cash transactions and by their watching resort centers, gambling houses and race tracks.

It is also interesting to note that the Treasury is adhering to one of Adam Smith's canons for a good tax; that is tax should be inexpensive to collect. Since the present drive started in 1945 the Treasury has been able to collect \$20 for every \$1 spent for tax enforcement.

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BUDGET TERMS ARRANGED

SANKEY PARK BRYAN

Have a Coke advertisement featuring a woman holding a Coca-Cola bottle. Text includes 'DRINK Coca-Cola', 'BOTTLED UNDER AUTHORITY OF THE COCA-COLA COMPANY BY BRYAN COCA-COLA BOTTLING CO.', and a list of events at Sankey Park.

Commissary Open Mon-Wed-Fri 3 to 6

The Student Commissary is now open on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, from 3 to 6 p.m. it was announced by Carey Clark, Jr., manager. Located in the rear of 214 Houston St. by the side of Kyle Field, the new store recently began operation on a cost-plus expense basis to provide students, especially married ones, with cheaper foods. Carey lauds his establishment with "Lowest prices in the state of Texas!"

Customers are asked to bring their own grocery containers because "the cost of paper sacks is so high that prices would have to be raised in order to furnish them with each purchase."

Engineer-Educator Plans 1-Week Visit

Col. Willard Chevalier, nationally-known engineering educator and speaker, will make his annual visit to the campus April 14-21, it was announced today.

Engagements already arranged for Col. Chevalier, who is executive assistant to the president of McGraw-Hill Publishing company, New York, include talks before the College Station Kiwanis Club on April 15, to all engineering students April 17, to students at Bryan Field Annex April 18, and to the engineering faculty April 21. A dinner-meeting with the Student Council also has been scheduled.

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PREVIEW, SAT. NIGHT— ALSO SUN., MON., and TUESDAY

LARAINÉ DAY — In — "THE LOCKET"

WEDNESDAY-THURSDAY FRIDAY and SATURDAY

FRED McMURRAY — In — "SUDDENLY IT'S SPRING"

Guion Hall Opens 1:00 p. m. Daily

FRIDAY - SATURDAY DOUBLE FEATURE

"AND THEN THERE WERE NONE"

SUNDAY and MONDAY

Advertisement for the movie 'Sister Kenny' featuring Rosalind Russell and Alexander Knox. Text includes 'SISTER KENNY with DEAN JAGGER', 'PHILIP MERIVALE • BEULAH BONDI • CHARLES DINGLE', and 'Produced and Directed by DUDLEY NICHOLS'.

Advertisement for PAL Hollow Ground razor blades. Text includes 'In sports writing at Texas A. & M. Paul Martin has the edge. . . That's why he is sports editor of the Battalion.', 'AND IN RAZOR BLADES PAL HOLLOW GROUND HAS THE "EDGE"', 'LONGER LASTING SMOOTHER SHAVING KEENER EDGES MORE ECONOMICAL UNIFORMLY PERFECT', and 'PAL HOLLOW GROUND BLADES ARE MADE IN U.S.A., CANADA, BRITAIN AND SO. AMERICA. SOLD THE WORLD OVER'.

Advertisement for the movie 'The Falcon's Alibi' featuring Tom Conway. Text includes 'The Falcon's Alibi with TOM CONWAY', 'RITA CORDAY • BARNETT ELISHA GREER • COOK, JR.', and 'Produced by WILLIAM WERNE'.

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