

Editorial Favors . . .

In our daily jaunts over the campus we meet with a lot of odd and peculiar characters, but the ones that bother us most are those who are always wanting us to say something "nice" about someone, who everybody knows is not such a wonderful guy after all.

Our buddies become quite provoked when they fail to see these wonderful write-ups concerning their friends, cousins, brothers, or ole ladies and for those who really do insist on having stories lauding their friends published, we have made up the following rate card, which we trust will not be considered too exorbitant. We will not deviate from the price, but we hope to donate a certain percentage of our earnings toward bounding an asylum for those feeble-minded persons who believe an editor has a soft snap.

- For telling 1,000 Aggies that Joe Doaks, promising student from Buffalo Gulch, is an energetic studious young chap, when he really shows promise only in "horizontal engineering" . . . \$ 2.75
- Referring to one as a hero and a man of courage and one who stands by his convictions, when everybody knows he is a moral coward and would sell out for a dime . . . \$ 4.13
- Referring to some gossip female as a one time "Belle of Aggield", an estimable lady whom it is a pleasure to meet and know, when every man on the campus would rather see Satan coming . . . \$ 8.10
- Lambasting the daylight out of all students who frequently make the trek across the river, at the behest of local dry forces . . . \$ 6.77
- For referring to some gallivanting fellow who sweated out freshman week in 1931 before packing of home, as a True Aggie, a friend and aid to the institution, and a living inspiration to present day students . . . \$3,475.23

More Aggie Journalists? . . .

Journalism school at A. & M.? Why not? The greatest shortage in the journalism field is of exactly such writers as A&M is best equipped to train—reporters and editors who write about agriculture or engineering or science, and really know what they are writing about.

There are many misconceptions about what a school of journalism is, and what courses are taught. Students who have sweated through an engineering course, so loaded with technical subjects that they get a bare minimum of other classes, tend to think that journalists carry about 18 semester hours of writing for four years, plus History 306 and Economics 403. But that is not the way journalism courses are planned.

For those who have a natural liking for writing—and nobody else should enter journalism—the purpose of college training is not so much to learn how to write as to get a thorough knowledge of the matters one is to write about. For most journalism students, who will be occupied in political, cultural and business developments, history, economics and cultural subjects are most important. For the technical journalist, such as A&M might train, the larger part of their classes would deal with agriculture and rural sociology, in one field, or engineering and science in the other. About 8 semester hours in each semester of the three final years would be enough of technical journalistic subjects.

A Choice . . .

We have a choice. The machine can be so used as to make men free as they have never been free before. We are not powerless. We have it in our hands to use the machine to augment the dignity of human existence. . . . We can choose deliberately and consciously whether the machine or man comes first. But that choice will not be exercised on a single occasion surrounded by spectacle and drama. We will move from decision to decision, from issue to issue, and you and I and all of us will be in the midst of this struggle for the rest of our days.

We cannot master the machine in the interest of the human spirit unless we have a faith in people. Lilienthal

Nemesis of Texas City Is Still Considered Useful

Ammonium nitrate, the usually harmless aid to agriculture, is the basis of several explosives. Amtol, a mixture of ammonium nitrate and TNT, is a powerful explosive used extensively in the last World War. Great heat and shock evolve upon the detonation of Ammonal, a mixture of fine aluminum powder and ammonium nitrate. To ammonium nitrate is attributed the initial explosions which resulted in the devastation of Texas City. It is the same agent responsible for the comparable devastation of Oppau, Germany in 1926. The fact that it contains oxygen in chemical compound makes its storage and transportation dangerous since it needs no outside source of oxygen to result in a violent expansion. In fertilizer mixtures, however, it is relatively harmless.

But its practical uses far outnumber its disadvantages. Nitrous oxide, familiarly known as "laughing gas" can be made from heating ammonium nitrate at relatively low temperatures. The chemical is rapidly coming into use as a fuel for internal combustion machines when mixed with anhydrous liquid ammonia. It is reported as being used also as a fuel for the new ram-jet or rocket type engines, usable because it provides its own source of oxygen, the same reason that makes its handling dangerous.

As far as is known, no ammonium nitrate is manufactured in Texas City. Normal production in America is over 100,000,000 pounds annually.

The Battalion

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World Bank . . .

Putting World Back on Feet

By A. D. Bruce, Jr.

U. S. private investors are about to be asked to start taking over the job of putting the world back on its feet. Up to now, taxpayers have had the job, because the U. S. Government itself has been financing world recovery, partly on a loan basis and partly on a relief basis. Beginning this summer, investors are to be offered securities of the new International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, and the Bank is to make recovery loans abroad out of the proceeds of these sales.

The U. S. Government, thus, is about to bow out of one important phase of foreign lending. This Government will continue to make big loans in cases where the aims are more political than economic. Also, the U. S. Export-Import Bank is to make smaller loans as needed to stimulate this country's world trade. But for long-term recovery loans, in cases where U. S. political interests are not involved, foreign applicants are being referred to the International Bank. That is the job for which the Bank was set up under the Bretton Woods Agreements.

Already loan applications before the Bank add up to \$2,310,000,000 and others are on the way. However, until the Bank is able to get some money from the U. S. investment market, it is likely to hold the total volume of loans below \$700,000,000.

The process of how the Bank will work is briefly this: A loan is requested by one of the Bank's 43 member governments. Say the French Government asks for a loan of \$500,000,000. Along with the application, the French Government files complete statements on what the money is to be used for—rebuilding factories, buying locomotives in the United States, laying in raw materials, etc. The French also file details on their recovery plan, and show that the loan they seek is essential to that plan. The Bank, after thorough investigation, might approve the whole amount at once or only part of it, leaving the rest to be considered in later.

Securities are issued by the Bank, if it develops that there is not enough money already in the Bank to finance the loan to France. The securities will bear whatever interest the market demands, and will mature in 10 to 25 years. The loan is made with the proceeds of the securities sale. It is not paid out in a lump sum, but is merely set up by the Bank as a line of credit against which the French Government may draw as needed for specified projects. The Bank tells the French in detail what those projects can be, and no others can be paid for out of the loan.

The loan is repaid over a period of years, say 20 to 25 years, with interest and commission for the Bank of 1 to 1 1/2 per cent. The theory being that the projects the French undertake with the loan will create enough earning power so that they can repay both the principal and the interest without running the Government short of dollars. As France repays the loan, the Bank builds up its own obligations when due, using any extra dollars for additional loans abroad.

If France defaults the Bank draws on whatever dollars it has on hand, including the reserve fund it has built up through its own profits, to pay off its obligations. If that is not enough, the Bank calls on member countries to pay in their proportionate shares of the dollars it needs to make its securities good. The loss, if any, is borne by the Bank or its member governments, not by the investor. Each member country holds back 80 per cent of its subscription to meet any default on a Bank loan. The private investor, thus, is protected by the fact that 43 member countries stand back of the Bank's obligations. Furthermore, the Bank cannot lend more than its capital and surplus. With that

Am I Going Crazy? . . .

'Americans Too Worried About Mental Diseases'

By Science Service

If you have ever thought: "Am I going crazy?" here is reassurance:

Americans worry too much about mental disease, Dr. C. Charles Burlingame, president of the Institute of Living, formerly known as the Hartford Retreat, warned today. And we may be developing a "national schizophrenic personality."

People are bewitched by psychiatric jargon and see mental disease in perfectly normal emotional swings. Unless this dangerous preoccupation is stopped, Dr. Burlingame told the board of directors of Connecticut's oldest hospital, thousands of Americans will be looking for help from mental specialists.

The vast majority will never have the opportunity to get within speaking distance of a psychiatrist, even to be reassured that they have no budding serious mental disease. There are only 4,000 psychiatrists to take care of advising all the worried people in the country, and only 2,500 of these are certified by the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology.

"We have been talking a good deal about taking a leaf from the book of the tuberculosis and cancer movements," said Dr. Burlingame, "preaching that mental illness must be attacked, like tuberculosis and cancer, through a national alertness to early psychiatric disorders."

But the man who thinks he may have signs of tuberculosis or cancer can get a physical checkup promptly. The person who fears he has mental symptoms is not going to be so lucky.

Explaining the developing of a possible "national schizophrenic personality," Dr. Burlingame observed that "schizophrenic" means "a splitting of the personality," and Americans are split between group generosity and individual selfishness.

"On the one side, we, as a nation, are extolling the need for love and light and philanthropic kindness around the world, while on the other side we, as individuals, are basing our entire existence on the precept of 'What can I get out of it?'"

He urged a new appreciation of spiritual values and teaching children social responsibility through the establishment of "parentoriums". Those would be parent guidance centers, not necessarily related to sickness of any kind.

Examinations to Be Held for Jobs With Health Department

Competitive examinations for positions in the State Department of Health Laboratory and branch laboratories have been announced by the Merit System Council for the State Department of Health. These examinations are for public health laboratory positions, and will consist of evaluation of training and experience and an oral examination.

Positions for which examinations will be held, and their salaries, are: Junior Bacteriologist (\$143.50); Assistant Bacteriologist (\$172.50); Junior Chemist (\$143.50); Assistant Chemist (\$172.50); Junior Entomologist (\$143.50); Assistant Entomologist (\$172.50); Junior Immunologist (\$143.50); Assistant Immunologist (\$172.50); Junior Parasitologist (\$143.50); Assistant Parasitologist (\$172.50); Junior Serologist (\$143.50); Assistant Serologist (\$172.50).

Veterans preference will be allowed applicants who have been honorably discharged from the United States armed forces and who make a passing grade on the examination.

Application blanks may be obtained from Russel E. Shrader, Merit System Supervisor, Littlefield Building, Austin, Texas. All applications must be mailed before midnight May, 31, 1947.

limitation and the other safeguards under which the Bank is to operate, officials say the agency can ride out a long world depression without getting into financial trouble.

Butterflies, Moths Volumes Now in Library

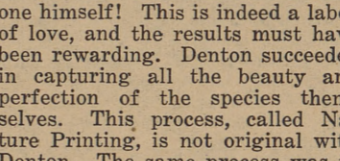
WILNORA BARTON
Reader's Adviser

The semi-rare edition of the two volume set of *Moths and Butterflies of the U. S. East of the Rocky Mountains* by S. F. Denton has been added recently to the natural history collection of the Texas A. & M. Library. This library's copy is one of a limited edition which features a very rare type of illustration—the transfers of the scales in natural colors of the species from life. In the preface the author explains, "The color plates, or Nature Prints, used in the work, are direct transfers from the insects themselves; that is to say, the scales of the wings of the insects are transferred to the papers while the bodies are printed from engravings and afterwards colored by hand."

The author had to make over fifty thousand of these transfers for the entire edition, and not being able to get any help to do the delicate work to his satisfaction, he collected and transferred each one himself! This is indeed a labor of love, and the results must have been rewarding. Denton succeeded in capturing all the beauty and perfection of the species themselves. This process, called Nature Printing, is not original with Denton. The same process was in use by 17th Century naturalists, but in subsequent years has become a lost art. Denton revived Nature Printing and experimented with it for some time before he used it in his work, which was published in 1900 by Bradlee Whidden of Boston.

Finch to Preach For A & M Methodists

Dr. W. S. Finch, Administrative Assistant and professor of Bible, Southwestern University, Georgetown, Texas will preach during the Sunday Morning Worship Service May 4 to the A. & M. Methodist Church on "The Call to the Christian Ministry".



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Hypnotic Tests Indicate The Extent of Suggestion

Hypnotism can be dangerous! Recent experiments by Dr. John G. Watkins of Welch Convalescent Hospital, Datona Beach, Florida, suggested that when hypnotized, some people might be made to commit murder.

In one of his experiments Dr. Watkins hypnotized a private and told him, "In front of you, you will see a dirty Jap soldier. He has a bayonet, and is going to kill you unless you kill him first. You will have to strangle him with your bare hands."

"The dirty Jap soldier" was a lieutenant colonel, head psychiatrist and director of the neuropsychiatric division of the hospital. Upon opening his eyes, the private crept slowly forward and with a flying tackle knocked the lieutenant colonel against the wall and began strangling him. Guards pulled the soldier off. "The dirty Jap" said that the grip had been "strong and dangerous".

Pointing out that the private did not violate his own conscience, because he thought he was attacking an enemy, Dr. Watkins said the private "was acting under an induced hallucination."

In other trance tests, Dr. Watkins, forced soldiers to divulge military information. "The controls," he explained, "were not as rigid as one would desire to establish firmly that criminal compulsions are possible, yet the combined weight of the evidence from the studies definitely favors that conclusion."

A & M Research Foundation Trustees to Meet May 20

Trustees of the Texas A&M Research Foundation will hold their spring meeting here May 20, Dr. A. A. Jakkula, Foundation executive director, announced today.



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