TUESDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1947

"Soldier, Statesman, Knightly Gentleman" awrence Sullivan Ross, Founder of Aggie Traditions

### Paradoxical Christmas 47

Christmas time, that season of traditional merriment and well-wishing, is approaching and at A. & M. as elsewhere throughout the United States people are in a festive mood. Editorial writers have in times past been able to proclaim a world wide "Merry Christmas", but this year not even the gayest of radio commercials has heralded the coming of a "season of good cheer" for all the earth.

Though Christmas is thought of as being the children's time of year, the little ones of Greece will not be gaily anticipating a visit from St. Nicholas on Christmas Eve of 1947. They will be wondering if papa will return from the hills alive. They will be wondering if the wealthy and "generous" people of the United States will send more wheat for the winter breadlines. They will be wondering if little "Dione" with bulky head and warped limbs can survive the ravages of malnutrition.

What of the merry tots in the rest of the world? In Germany where the fable of "Kris-Kringle" and the use of the Christmas tree were born "die kinder" are cold and hungry.

They suffer under the shadow cast by a mortal who tried to replace Christ in Christmas celebration honors, and failed horribly.

Poverty and starvation hover throughout the world. Yet we at Aggreland, who long ago became deafened and insensitive to the woes of an ailing civilization, give but little thought, and less thanks, for the prosperity and well being that surrounds us.

Christmas decorations are going up in dormitories, and in campus homes, including the pre-fabs. Freshmen are singing carols. The outward signs of Christmas are clearly visible.

What of the inward signs? How many of us realize what a grim Christmas this is in many parts of the world, and want to do something about it? (Such as was done by the students here in the clothing drive last week.)

There are probably more Aggies with broad minds and generous hearts than cynics would have us believe. Perhaps this paradoxical Christmas will open the eyes of others to our responsibilities, as well as our joys, in these weeks of holiday celebration.

"Blue Star", symbol of military excellence.

was not without its brighter moments—a

thrilling 21-21 tie in the rain with Arkansas,

ers at Texas Christian,

in the latter's history.

"Spike" White.

### What a Year Was This...

The coming of Christmas, 1947, marks the passage of perhaps the most eventful single year in A. & M. history. A review of the nine school menths of 1947 would necessarily have to cover a myriad of subjects, from the serious to the ridiculous, athletic, scholastic, extra-conricular and finally, administration-student relations

1947 saw the Aggies rally to edge Texas for the Southwest Conference track crown; and Texas, in turn, upset A, & M. for the conference swimming title. The year watched an indignant Cadet Corps stage a midnight march in protest to the Administration, the subsequent entrance of the Veteran Student Association into the fray and the ultimate culmination of the row, which had rown to state-wide proportions, in a senate investigation.

And the grand old year has seen internal disputes, of an athletic nature, directed at football coach Homer Norton, flame that is once again blazing after simmering during the past gridiron season. During the year, A. & M. regained the

#### Christmas Jeers 'Twas the night before Christmas and

all through the house Not a treature was stirring, not even a

For the Chairman was off somewhere gathering flata On anarchists, Communists, thisa-and-

thata: When out of the night appeared sixbelly-achers: The National Association of United Toy-Makers.

They accosted the Chairman with dire complaint:

"... This foreign intruder, this Nicholas Saint! Come to our

rescue, our industry fails: He cuts down our profit by reducing bur sales!"

The Wheels of Committee proceeded to churn:

"Where does he get all this money to burn?

him say.

Illegal war-profits? This over - sized

gremlin!' "I know", cried the Chairman, "It's gold from the Kremlin

And then, with a shout, he was off on his "Our nation is threatened!" the six heard

He rounded up Congressmen; all raised "This crimson-cloaked demon! He must

may never see the like of it again.

In the chambers of Congress they sat

The arrival of Nick on his journey - illfated.

The contempt charge was hung by the chimney with care, And then, in the wink of an "aye", he who is not his wife. He is a fight-

was there. Surprised and bewildered Saint Nick in which he seems to be an ana- the Veterans Administration imtook the chair.

"I've elsewhere to go!" they heard him

"Enough of your lip! We'll not tolerate And we'll judge on you fairly . . . . . . . you Communist rat.'

"What's your REAL name? Aren't you foreign by birth?

Why the red garments? And what are they worth? Three hours of this and the witness battle-against greater odds than broke down;

with the clown!" They dragged Santa off; now the question

Wholl give the presents? Kins Kringle's

And there he will rot, found guilty of

And there he will die, and this is the reason: By our Constitution, he wasn't inten-

For throughout all the clauses No Santa was mentioned.

-Tulane Hullabaloo

# The Battalion

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HALF A GOAL

BETWEEN THE BOOKENDS . .

## 'Years of Locust' Gives One Feeling of Home and Kinship

By MRS. WILNORA ARNOLD Readers' Adviser

Mead & Company, 1947.

This is the story of Old Dade, and of the men and women of the launched a "let's be friends" policy with the neighboring farms and villages THERESE by Francois Mauriac. whose lives were changed because (Translated by Gerad Hopkins.) other Southwest schools which went over well with everyone except some two-percentthey had known him. Their story, Holt, 1947.

although admittedly not a raving success, understanding novel. of Arts and Sciences students; the Batta-lion's jump from a tri-weekly to a daily paper and a treshuffling of odrainistrative offices. and love.

All in all it's been quite a year. A. & M. Simon Shuster, 1947.

Millen Brand, as he demonstrated in "The Outward Room", is a overwhelmingly human that they and courage that redeem her huseem almost larger than life sizelike a giant closeup on the screen, viewed from a first row seat. Such a character is Albert Sears.

He is a hard and uncompromising adapt himself to circumstances. He through Therese eyes. is a frontiersman by birth and in which he is forced to live. He is a finds himself in love with a woman

A real estate war brings a Negro family, the Manhursts, to live in date that it is notified and not remakes them the victims of mob actually acquired a dependent. terror. Albert Sears is not a believer in Negro equality. Nevertheless, he finds himself drawn to Tom Manhurst by the stubborn honesty and harsh backgrounds they have in common. And on behalf of Tom Manhurst he does he ever encountered in his frontier past. Rough hewn, unbending, and The Chairman then shouted: "To jail with little grace, Albert Sears is an oddly reassuring figure in a world of soft compromise and slick

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TODAY

THRU SATURDAY



one of Caldwell's best, recalling THE YEARS OF THE LOCUST the tragi-comedy of God's Little by Louis Grace Erdman. Dood, Acre, Tobacco Road, Tragic Ground and the best of his short stories. Dade Kenzie was a big man, In Molly Bowser, Caldwell has wise and prosperous, so sure of created one of his strongest and

human, and yet amusing figure.

set against a background of the For more than ten years Fran-1947 has also seen a football season which rich bottomlands and rolling hills cois Mauriac concerned himself of Missouri, makes a warm and with the creation of a character-Therese Desqueyroux, a woman THE YEARS OF THE LOCUST who, in his words, typifies "that is a simple story; but as it un- power, granted to all human bea revengeful 24-0 drubbing of previously folds through the richness and di- ings, no matter how much they unbeaten Baylor and a valiant but losing versity of its characters, it increas may seem to be slaves of a hosbattle against one of the finest SMU's teams es in complexity, like life itself. tile fate, of saying 'NO' to the In its pages one feels the pulsing law which beats them down." Four rhythm of the seasons and of man, aspects of this remarkable woman In fields other than athletic in nature, of lives interwoven and dependent are now brought together to form 1947 has produced other advances, the birth on each other, unaffected by the a rounded portrait in THERESE, of the Commentator, bi-monthly publication hysteria of our teeming cities. Best superbly illuminated by Mauriac's

and a reshuffling of administrative offices that the author has expressed her early life, dramatically climaxthat sent W. L. "Penny" Penberthy to the through the atmosphere of a small ed by her trial for the murder of Dean of Men's post and the taking over of community, knit together by their her husband. Then follow two the reins of Student Activities by C. G. regard for a man they all respect shorter episodes of her subsequent days in Paris, and the last, entitled "The End of the Night," tells of ALBERT SEARS by Millen Brand, her last days and nights. With the penetration into the human heart for which he is famous, Mauriac lays bare the soul of a "bad" wonovelist who creates characters so man, who yet has inherent dignity

> manity. The presentation of the character of Therese is done so effortlessly that the reader is scarcely aware that he is reading a novel. He is man, unwilling, in fact unable, to present as he sees the world

### spirit, loathing the crowded, restricted life of the eastern city in Payments Increase stern, old-fashioned moralist, yet When VA Notified

Veterans acquiring dependents ing spirit, but he finds no target after entering training under the for his anger against the world GI Bill as single men should notify mediately so that an adjustment And then comes the Manhurst may be made in their subsistence

Payments are increased on the a white neighborhood, and then troactive to the date the veteran

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# Female Feline Firefighter Flurries Down Firepole; Fondly Frequents Flaming Fires

It once was thought that cats could do little else than purr, meow, and lead nine lives. But now cats seem to be getting smarter.

Take Tapper for instance. Tapper is the mascot and life-time pal of the firemen in one of Boston's suburban fire stations. Not content with the usual firehouse mascot chores of lying under the pinochle table or riding on top of the hook and ladder, Tapper has invented a new

When the fire bell rings and her friends starts clamoring down the pole, Tapper is not to be outdone. She climbs down the pole too.

She hops on, wraps all four paws around the brass pole and sets sail. She can go to blazes with the best of them.

DEER, AND COSTLY,

When a 200-pound deer ran into his automobile and was killed in Rowley, Mass., Norman G. Fitzpatrick, of Augusta, Me., was pleased although a garageman said it would cost \$200 to repair his car.

"Back in Maine," he explained, "when this happens, you keep the venison and the state must pay for the damages to your car." He was reminded he was in Massachusetts, however, where the deer goes to a state institution, and you pay your own. Mr. Fitzpatrick's smile faded.

#### REALLY ARE "FIGHTING IRISH".

The "Fighting Irish" of Notre Dame are really more Irish than any other nationality, the Lujacks, Zontini's and Bertelli's notwithstanding. Of the sixty-seven men on the 1947 varsity squad, twentyone of them or 31% are of Irish descent. Closest to the Irish group are the Polish boys. The varsity numbers fourteen lads of Polish descent in its ranks.

HENPECKED OR STUDIOUS

Dean Arthur H. Hughes, of Trinity College in Hartford, Conn., said that students whose report cards are mailed to their wives get higher grades than those whose cards are sent to their fathers. Married veterans averaged 78.8 percent in their 1946-47 grades, Dean Hughes said; single veterans himself he was almost arrogant, most unforgettable people, trium- 76.3 and non-veterans, none of them married, 74.1 yet as simple as earth.

THREE FOR ONE

A bird in the hand may be worth two in the bush to most hunters, but J. E. Isenhart of Denver managed to get all three with one shot while pheasant

Isenhart reported to State Game and Fish Officials that while hunting near Fort Collins, Colo., he flushed one hird and shot it. His dog, going to retrieve the hird surprised a second bird and caught it. A third bird, startled by the proceedings, flew up nearby and broke its neck against a farm building. Isenhart inserted a new shell, pocketed the loot, and continued operations.

GRATITUDE

A stranger walked into a Newark, N. J. tavern operated by Mrs. Anna Vikizecite at 25 Ferry Street recently and asked her if she would bandage his

He ordered a whisky and beer. She provided that. He ordered four quarts of beer to go out and she set them up. She finished by giving him \$18.80 change for his \$20 bill, and he left.

Later, she looked at the \$20 under a light. It was counterfeit.

On The Screen . . .

## 'Life With Father' in '80s Was Stuffy, Formal, Funny

tral American neighbor, this pie LIFE WITH FATHER (Queen, ture has bundled in it a quadrangle WTh). Father (William Powell) is of entertainment: singing of Dick the archetype of the absolute fam- Haymes, dancing by Vera Blen, ily monarch of the '80s—a man not dashing Cesar Romero, and witty inclined to take any lip from the Celeste Holm. Almighty Himself. But there's an The story as in most musicals innocence about his tyranny which not much but there's some enloyxcuses the kind way everybody ment in watching Haymes feels toward him.

Mother (Irene Dunn) is a gentle the daughter of a native and his and guileful soul with great skill at winning victories by passive resistance. There are four sons each with a different shade of red hair. Great care was taken by the producers to give Technicolor fidelity to the original Clarence Day. His appearance, especially his red hair, Dorothy Lamour (back before the was made under the supervision of new look left the sarong high and Playwright Howard Lindsay and

Mr. Oay's widow. "Father" was put on the screen when the play was already a success. It was filmed like a success: it has the glitter, the good humor and the adroitness of a success. It is a success!

CARNIVAL IN COSTA RICA (Guion, TWTh). A gay light comedy filmed in Technicolor in the beautiful scenery of that little Cen-

Lack's Auto Stores

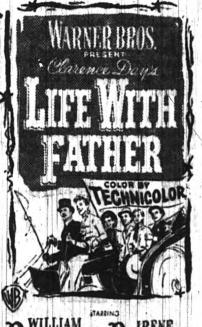
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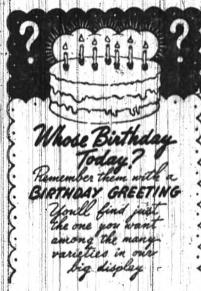
EDMUND GWENN - ZASU PITTS Pirected MICHAEL CURTIZ

ADMISSION:

Matinee Nights

this is his newest film. For accent and atmosphere Marlene Dietrich is his "femme fatale." At times the story looks as if it

were played for laughs, but toward the end it gets melodramatic and suspenseful Well-worn through the war years the theme is the preconflict plotting and brutalities of the Nazis and attempts of the British to shatch the German poison gas formula,



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WE HAVE WHAT YOU NEED IN . .

American visitor, woo Miss Ellen,

JUNGLE PRINCESS (Campus

TW). Ray Milland is getting a run

of this area, but here is one of his

dry) Milland stars in jungle love

er junglewriters' fans will get

kick out of this the rest of you

GOLDEN EARRINGS (Palace

TWThES.) Milland is back again-

Edgar Rice Burroughs' and oth-

first pictures. Playing

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FRIDAY-

SATURDAY

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