

Battalion EDITORIALS

Page 2 WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21, 1948

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

First Runs Become Reality . . .

First-run movies in College Station are no longer a dream but a reality. Witness:

"Song of Love" at the Campus. This picture, now being shown at the Campus Theatre, broke records at the Radio City Music Hall not long ago, and is being shown for the first time in Brazos County. It is the first M-G-M production to be premiered at College Station, and a special advance screening was given for local leaders in musical activities.

"Life With Father" at Guion Hall. Certainly one of the top films of the year, it is now being shown here at road-show prices. Some Aggies have been a little startled at seeing \$1.20 posted on Guion's window for the evening show, but this picture will probably not be seen at lower prices for a year or more. Most Aggies apparently have figured that it is worth while to pay full price for a fresh picture rather than cut-price for

an oldie, judging from the long lines that have formed at Guion's box office.

Both pictures contain performances that make candidates for Academy Awards—Katherine Hepburn in "Song of Love" and William Powell in "Life With Father." Usually we don't see Academy Award pictures until long after selections have been made. This year we are ahead of the parade.

Not quite 13 months ago, in our "resolutions" editorial in *The Batt*, we hoped for first-run pictures in College Station. A month ago, reviewing those resolutions, we marked that one as "not yet accomplished, but soon will be." Now we are scratching that one off the score pad as finished. Congratulations to both Ben Ferguson, operator of the Campus Theatre, and Tom Puddy, manager of Guion Hall. Let's have many more of the same!

'School of the Future' . . .

A credo for engineering schools was given by Dr. W. V. Houston, president of Rice Institute, at the annual meeting last week of the Texas Society of Professional Engineers.

Said Dr. Houston: "When we come to write the catalogue of the engineering school of the future, I hope we may be able to say that its object is to provide the students with such an understanding of mathematical and scientific principles that he may learn his profession quickly, and contribute to it effectively, and to provide him with that understanding of basic science and human re-

lations necessary for him to take proper place in this rapidly-changing world."

It would be hard to improve on that statement. And by substituting the word **biological** for **mathematical**, one could write an objective for agricultural schools.

Dr. Houston speaks of this statement as for the engineering school of the future. How close does our present school come? Other schools may be deficient in mathematics or basic science. Our own weakness, which must be overcome in the future, is in human relations. The "Great Issues" course, to begin next month, is the first step toward the "school of the future."

Help For Course Repeaters . . .

A new system of handling repeaters, which will be introduced by the physics department this coming semester, holds out hope for many bewildered souls. No longer will repeaters in Physics 203 (a headache required for engineering and science) have to hear the same lectures over again (a process which doesn't necessarily work any better the second time than it did the first).

Taking a clinical approach, the physics department will have all repeaters in special classes which can speed rapidly over the easy parts, learned the first time, and go slowly over the rough spots. By not requir-

ing lab on the second go-round, but using that time for extra problem classes and troubleshooting sessions, the department has undoubtedly made it possible for more repeaters to succeed on the second attempt.

If these special classes work out as well in practice as they do on paper, we hope the idea will spread to other departments. There are quite a few classes, fundamental to other studies, which must be mastered before a student can go further. There is no easy way around such courses. But this new system meets the failing student half way, and disproves the old idea that teachers want to "flunk all they can."

A wedding account in the *Atlanta (Ga.) Journal* said about the bridegroom: "On his maternal side he is descended from the Lands of North Carolina and the Rocks of Virginia." Salt of the earth, so to speak.

Something new in the wallpaper business is a design showing sheep jumping over fences. The name: "Insomnia."

Johnny, Get Your Gun! State Lifts Hunting Ban. *Pittsford (Pa.) Mercury.*

The whole idea of economics can be reduced to just one sentence: "There is no free lunch."

From the Bryan (Texas) Eagle of January 15 comes this classic "Wanted" ad: **RABIES** or children to keep in my home during the day or at night. 2215 Echols or call 2-8804.

Thanks just the same, we'll take the children.

Regarding the distillers' place in the campaign, the *Hinton (W. Va.) Daily News* headlined: "Whiskey Heads Air Grievance at Meeting."

Bulletin for lushes . . . The Darbury Room in Boston has a revolutionary new price policy — \$1.25 for your first drink and 25¢ for each one thereafter.

: Letters to the Editor :

GRADING SYSTEM

Editor, *The Battalion*: Much is being said and printed lately concerning student's grading of their professors. A situation, just as important as this, which has not received much attention or attention, is the way professors grade their students.

In math courses there is usually only one answer to a problem, but in other courses (especially English) there may be a variety of answers. (In other words, there is more than one correct or good style of writing.)

Recently, an instructor told his class that a group of English instructors were given three papers to grade. The grades given on the papers ranged from F to B+.

I personally know students, who were at the Annex last year who would make an A in English 103 under one instructor the first semester and an F or D under another instructor the next semester (in English 104). There, of course, is a difference in the subject matter of the two courses, but surely not the difference the grades indicate.

I have heard instructors say (in so many words), "John Doe, I personally like your writing—you seem to write just the way I have tried to teach all my students to write."

All the previous goes to show that a consistent grading system is needed very badly. How such a system could be contrived, would be a major problem, but there are enough people here who have the ability and who are interested in giving the students a fair deal to work out such a plan. Aren't there?

WILLIAM BROWN, '50

The Battalion

The *Battalion*, official newspaper of the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas and the City of College Station, Texas, is published five times a week and circulated every Monday through Friday afternoon, except during holidays and examination periods. During the summer *The Battalion* is published semi-weekly. Subscription rate \$4 per school year. Advertising rates furnished on request.

News contributions may be made by telephone (4-5444) or at the editorial office, Room 201, Goodwin Hall. Classified ads may be placed by telephone (4-5324) or at the Student Activities Office, Room 209, Goodwin Hall.

All-American Member of the Associated Press

The Associated Press is entitled exclusively to the use for republication of all news dispatches credited to it or not otherwise credited in the paper and local news of spontaneous origin published herein. Rights of republication of all other matter herein are also reserved.

Entered as second-class matter at Post Office at College Station, Texas, under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

CHARLIE MURRAY, JIMMIE NELSON Co-Editors
Vick Lindley, Farris Block, Duke Hobbs, J. T. Miller, David Seligman, Mack T. Nolen, Louis Morgan, Kenneth Bond, A. D. Bruce, Jr., Howard Spencer, Tom Carter, Fred Capeland, Thomas G. Martin, Wire Editor, Managing Editors, Feature Editors, Feature Writers, Columnists, Reporters, Sports Editor, Sports Writers, Cartoonists, Advertising Manager, Advertising Assistants, Circulation Manager, Selection Editor

ON THE CAMPUS



Gentlemen, I think we have a leak in the department. The students seem to be getting their final quizzes before we give them.

On The Screen . . .

Little Miss Twinkle-Toes' O'Brien—'Unfinished Dance'

By Dave Seligman
THE UNFINISHED DANCE (Guion, ThFS). Punctuated with many human interest touches, this Technicolor production of drama in the dance would give Little Margaret O'Brien's newly discovered talent for ballet full play in numerous ballet sequences including "Swan Lake" and "Holiday for Stings."

A little dance pupil's misguided adoration for a lovely ballerina causing a rival star dancer to be crippled is the plot of the movie. The cast includes some new names in the film world, but they turn in superb performances; Cyril Cusack, Karin Booth, and Danny Thomas support Margaret. While having appeal for ballet fans, the general run of Aggies will not appreciate this movie.

FUN ON A WEEKEND (Queen, ThFS). Light and amusing fare

is this fast moving comedy. Eddie Bracken and Priscilla Lane are both stranded youths at a swanky Florida resort who bluff their way into fortune and happiness in a laugh-provoking screenplay. Helping to keep up a merry pace are an eccentric pianist, who is outraged at interruptions from his audience, and a great Dane with a desire to chew the legs off articles of furniture.

THE FABULOUS DORSEYS (Campus, ThFC). This is a tuneful vignette of the lives of the Dorsey brothers, Tommy and Jimmie, in their respective rises to fame. Starring the leads are the Frieres Dorsey playing themselves and getting support from Tom Blair and Paul Whiteman. While the music and acting are above average, the meagerness of the screenplay drags the picture down low. (Full review given previously.)

Petitions Taken For History 308

Students interested in registering for History 308, Constitutional Development, should sign a petition for the course at the history department office, Room 211, Academic Building, Dr. S. R. Gammon, head of the department, announced Saturday.

Although the course is normally offered only once each year, a number of students have expressed a desire to take the course this spring, Dr. Gammon explained.

If ten names can be secured, History 308 will be offered on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays at 9, he declared.

A&M Researcher To Talk in N. Y.

"Live Loads for Highway Bridges" will be the subject of a paper presented by H. K. Stevenson at a meeting of the ASCE in New York City January 22.

Stevenson, associate professor and research engineer of the civil engineering department, has based his study on the grouping of heavy trucks in traffic.

The ninety-fifth annual meeting of the ASCE is being held in the Commodore Hotel from January 21 through January 24.

Other men attending from A&M are Dr. S. R. Wright, head of the civil engineering department and Dr. A. A. Jakkula, engineer with the Engineering Experiment Station.

Merit System Sets Exams for Feb. 28

The Merit System Council, which serves as a "clearing house" for positions in the Texas Employment Commission and the State Department of Public Welfare, will hold open competitive examinations on February 28 for positions now open in both agencies, according to Charles Gaudiner, director of the Merit System Council.

Positions to be filled by the Department of Public Welfare consist of field worker, child welfare worker, and senior child welfare worker, junior stenographer, and key punch operator. Openings existing in the Texas Employment Commission are for interviewers, claims examiners, technical draftsman, clerk-typists, stenographers, and clerks.

Gaudiner pointed out that application to take an examination must be made on an official application blank, which may be obtained by writing the Merit System Council, 868 Tribune Building, Austin. "The closing date for submission of applications is February 7, and applications postmarked after midnight on the closing date will not be considered," he added.

For more than two centuries New England agriculture showed the influence of Indian methods.

Trampling Out the Vintage . . .

No Time to Write Letter? Try This Method Of Prolific Indiana Writer Who Uses Rolls

So you haven't got time to write the folks? Too many finals to bother writing the girl friend in Dallas, Houston, or Cedar Springs?

Brother, what you need is a little more of the Reynolds Technique.

Clinton Reynolds of Bloomington writes letters by the yard. His latest tome covered 10½ feet of shelf paper 13 inches wide. He refilled his pen five times to author 3,000 words on subjects ranging from the Bill of Rights to a trip to Missouri. Writing time: Five hours, fifteen minutes.

But this is not the most verbose epistle composed by the prolific penman. Back in 1942, he got off an 18 footer to a brother in the service.

Reynolds buys shelf paper in 36 foot rolls to carry on his correspondence which is just a hobby with him.

He says everybody should write more often.

"DAMNABLE IF YOU DO, BUT YOU CAN

Speaker Martin, Republican, Massachusetts, ruled that the word "damnable," while "harsh," may be used in the House debate. But he expressed a hope that the members won't.

Rep. Rankin, Democrat, Mississippi, objected when Rep. Celler, Democrat, New York, had termed "a damnable statement" a reference by Rankin to troubles between Jews and Arabs in Palestine.

Martin said he was unable to find the word any where in parliamentary reference books and hence could not rule that it could not be used.

IT'S GOOD THEY ARE ELECTRIC

Customers who patronize Robert Lehder's Pita-dilly Restaurant Bar will soon be able to get a free



shave with a glass of beer. Lehder said he has arranged to have electric razors installed at the bar.

"Now there won't be any more excuses about gulping down the last drink and running home to shave," he said.

Mirrors will be provided but bartenders will be forbidden to shave the customers.

"Strictly self-service shaves," said Lehder.

REVELATION OUT

Miami Police Chief Philip R. Short is ready to hand the old heave-ho to any gal detected on the resort city's beaches in one of the much-publicized "Frenchie Riviera" bathing suits.

Short banned sale of the too revealing suits in Miami. Asked to describe them, he laughed and replied:

"I couldn't do that, but they wuz awful scanty."

As to the "legitimate" suits, reaching the necessary lawful limits in body coverage, observers reported they had nothing new except the price tags—bigger and fancier than last year.

Shell Egg Graders Meeting Jan. 27-28

A shell egg graders short course under the sponsorship of the poultry department and the Production and Marketing Division of the United States Department of Agriculture, will be held at the College January 27 and 28. Professor E. D. Parnell of the poultry husbandry department, has announced.

Practice in grading work with the United States Department of Agriculture will constitute a greater portion of the program.

This short course, an annual affair, is set up to qualify official shell egg graders for buying plants in Texas and other southwestern states.

Poultrymen are welcome to attend, Parnell said. However, the school is primarily planned to meet the needs of official graders.

There will be no registration fee.

GUION HALL

TODAY ONLY

"STALLION ROAD"

with RONALD REAGAN ZACHARY SCOTT ALEXIS SMITH

Also News — Shorts

THURSDAY — FRIDAY — SATURDAY

"The Unfinished Dance"

(in technicolor)

MARGARET O'BRIEN CYL CHARISSE KARIN BOOTH

SUNDAY — MONDAY



WALTER WANGER presents *Susan* See **HAYWARD-BOWMAN** *Marsha* **EDIE HUNT** *Albert* **ALBERT**

SMASH-UP The Story of a Woman! with **CARL ESMOND** **CARLETON YOUNG** **CHARLES D. BROWN** A UNIVERSAL INTERNATIONAL PICTURE

Produced by WALTER WANGER—Directed by STUART HEISLER—Screenplay by JOHN HOWARD LANSON—Associate Producer: Martin Gabel—Additional Dialogue by Lester Kligman—Original Story by Dorothy Parker and Frank Cavett

Campus

Opens 1:00 p.m. 4-1181

Visit **A&M GRILL** HOME COOKED FOODS

Open 5:30 A.M. 'till 11 P. M.

QUEEN

LAST DAY

"Escape Me Never"

—with— **ERROL FLYNN**

STARTING THURSDAY

"Fun On A Week-End"

—with— **EDDIE BRACKEN**

PALACE

PHONE 2-8879

TODAY THRU SATURDAY

CAN YOU USE A LOAD OF LAUGHS?

SAMUEL GOLDWYN presents **DANNY KAYE - VIRGINIA MAYO** and THE GOLDWYN GIRLS in

"THE SECRET LIFE OF WALTER MITTY"

BORIS KARLOFF - FAY BARKER - ANN RUTHERFORD

Produced by SAMUEL GOLDWYN - Directed by NORMAN Z. MALEDON

ATTENTION SENIORS!!

Let Us Store Your Furniture, Footlockers, Baggage, Etc.

BURGESS - PUGH

Home Builders & Suppliers

Burgess-Pugh Warehouse

Ph. 4-1182

Southside M.P. R.R.