THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1948

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

### Czechoslovakia Gone Again

Has Czechoslovakia "had it" again? The little country that was deserted by its European allies at Munich time emerged for a brief while after the end of the war, only to fall under Communist control this week. The one island of resistance to Marxism east of the 'iron curtain' is gone.

What can we do about it? Nothing. The Marshall Plan will be too late, much too late, to help. But the fate of Czechoslovakia is warning of what may sappen to other countries unless we are able to make the Marshall plan more than just talk.

Frail President Eduard Benes has finally capitulated to pressure from Communist Premier Klement Gottwald and accepted a new calinet composed mainly of Communists and left wing supporters. He had been threatened with a general strike if he refus-

Twelve anti-Communist members quit the cabinet in protest against Communist grasping for supreme power. Benes until yesterday had refused to seept their resignations.

Thus the strategic land joined Poland, Yugoslavia, Albania and the former enemy states of Hungary, Roundilla, Bulgaria and Eastern Germany in the Communist realm east of a line from Stettin to Trieste.

Czechoslovakia, the heartland of the old continent, was created from Austria-Hungary at American insistence after the first World War. Since the last war, the United States has poured a total of \$243,603,138 into the country in the form of the American share of UNRRA, lend-lease and loans from the Export Import Bank

The German Chancellor Bismarck once commented that the nation which controls Bohemia, which is a part of Czechoslovakia, controls Europe.

Silence appeared to be descending on the land, whose seizure by the Germans nine years ago was a curtain raiser to the second World War.

again a center of tension in Europe," said

And what if she had seen those glories fade, pleted construction of the set for the members of the organization hedda Gabler. The set has been not taking part in the production "Now only nine years later, Prague is Paris "Perhaps there is not much time. It is time that the people of the world return to peace making, to collaboration, to filling the gaps between the nations. We want peace, but not peace without liberty."

### Misspelled? . .

When a typingraphical error occurs and a word is misspelled, that's not news. But when a typographical error occurs and a -word is spelled correctly, that's news. That's what happened to the Yuma (Ariz.) Daily Sun's spelling column editor in a recent issue and he is still answering the phone, explaining it all.

To create interest in a forthcoming spelling contest for students, the Sun has been printing a daily column containing three words, one of which is misspelled.

But a proofreader corrected the misspelled word, the paper hit the street and the phone started ringing.

The Gorman (Tex.) Progress, makes the wint that everybody in a small town knows the news but reads the paper to see if the editor gets it printed right

Headline in New York Times: "See No Men's Wear Drop.'

A four-column line on a Valentine's Day story and a one-column head in the same type in the Fifth column gave this effect in the Raleigh (N. C.) Times "Roses are Red, Violets Are Blue; Yep, It's Valentine's Day Wreck Kills Two."

### Snake Handling . . .

great many will feel the State Senate showed good sense in noting to let snakehandlers handle snakes without threat of arrest. This vote, it strikes us, is an intelligent venture in applied psychology.

Doubtless few persons who watch with clear eyes a display of snake-handling as a religious ritual fail to see the exhibitionism in it; that is, the impulse to show off. It is the sort of thing that is sharpened, given a greater bravado, when eyes, either curious or inciting, are turned on it. Nobody could imagine one of the snase-cultists prowling

Tom Carter, Ted Cepeland, Truman G. Martin,
G. C. Munroe, C. C. Trail, James E. Nelson,
Otto R. Kunze, J. C. Falls, John B. Singletary....Reporters

What liberty the Czechoslovaks retained appeared to be disappearing. Movements in and out of the nation were sharply curtailed. The western border was tightly sealed; Czechoslovaks were forbidden to leave the country "under any circumstances," the U.S. Army at Frankfurt, Germany said. How many Americans were stranded there was not known.

The Social Democratic Party, a balance of power group which has swung back to the Communists, issued a proclamation denying a split in its ranks. The pro-Communist Zdeneck Fierlinger, who was premier before Gottwald, emerged as head of the party.

The interior minister announced for the third time it had discovered a revolutionary plot. The opposition Slovak Democrats were accused. Opposition newspapers were being throttled or placed in hands of Communist sympathizers. Communist "Action Committees" barred opposition ministers from their offices, ran their newspapers and helped the security police clamp control over postoffices telephones and telegraphs.

rested. However, no street fights were re- College Station. ported.

cized events in the land.

When Venice, long - time republic, fell to the Austrians more than a hundred years Players. These signs were one of immediately to construct the fire- Clarke Jr., of the Rod and Gun Club here, reported ago, William Wordworth wrote a sonnet that the visionary methods of putting place. The task is now complete today that he had found, in one of his cage traps, poignantly expresses our feelings today, reading the news of Czechoslovakia's capitu-

Once did she hold the gorgeous East in fee And was the sufequard of the West; the worth

Of Venice did not fall below her birth, Venice, the oldest child of Liberty. She was a maiden city, bright and free; No guile seduced, no force could violate; And when she took unto herself a mate, She must espouse the everlasting sea. Yet shall some tribute of regret be paid When her long life bath reached its final day; Men are we, and must grieve when even the

shade Of that which once was great is passed away.

alone through rattlesnake country to find a reptile and indulge in solitary communion with its poison.

And it has been noted, as one of the senators said in debate on the repeal bill, that part of the exhibition is defiance of the law as well as of the actual venom. They go singing to jail, Senator Jasper commented, martyrs in the eyes of their fellow cultists, in the rare cases when authority, prodded or taunted, bothers to enforce the law which says snakes shall not be handled in public.

In short, a law of this kind makes snakehandling everybody's business, gets the thing in the newspapers, creates an audience. The audience is not only on the spot but is all over the country, either gaping at the sight or, at every flare of publicity, asking how VA \$380 Million Kentuckians get that way. For their information we should suggest that it is not an exclusive Kentucky practice, but the mark of a universal human trait of attention-loving. Until we get around to defining as a crime the persuasion of the emotional, the immature, the too-easily persuaded person, perhaps oblivion is the best treatment.

-Louisville Courier-Journal

A typo in the story on the Lynbrook, L. I. recluse sisters made it appear in the Rochester (N. Y.) Democrat & Chronicle, "spinster sinsters," and a subscriber wrote in: "I agree with you it's a sin the way those spinsters were living."

From our Bandera correspondent came this little classified ad clipped from the local

newssheet: "WANTED—Man with peg leg to mash potatoes, PDQ.—Apply Sarge,

Bandera Cafe.' The Ogden (Utah) Standard-Examiner federate veterans); Indian wars, first serve basis as long as the

carried this ad: "WANTED-Furnished apt. for veteran attending college and wife."

# The Battalion

The Battalian, 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 hilidays and examination periods. During the summer The Battalion is published semi-weekly. Subscription rate \$4.30 per school year. Advertising rates furnished on resuest.

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

All-American

Member of The Associated Press

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Member the Act of Congress of March 3, 2870. CHARLIE MURRAY, JIMME NELSON. 

Maurice Howell Grady Griffin

Grady Griffin

Sam Lanford, K. J. Marak, Larry Gray

Cart Howard

James DeAnda, Andy Matula, Zero Hammond,

Hershell Shelby

Circulation Managar

Joe Trevino, Harry E. Ross

Photo Engravers

The score cards were sent here to be graded under National Rifle Association rules.

Members of the team were: Robert G. Cox, Dewey Ray, Sam W.

Smith, Russell T. Cook, and Doninto towns and up on the porches of houses. Joe Trevino, Harry E. Ross

Chicago, Los Angeles, and San Francisco.

IMAGINARY OR NOT. IT'S FRIGHTENING



"A Vision of Greater Things

### Ingenious Devices Used In Advertising Hedda Gabler'

By JAMES E. NELSON

Those little posters you see over the Campus are not po-The police flashed arms, raided and ar- litical posters. Hedda Gabler is not running for Mayor of

These ingenious little reminders are the work of the Russian newspapers prominently publi- Publicity committee of the Aggie Players. John W. Laufenberg, chairman of the committee, was awakened one night by the vis- place would be needed. Two mem- out of a lighted fireplace at the guests, he found his ion of greater things to be done in bers of the committee, H. Darwin friends looking at him with suspiciously raised eye-

Many other steps to further ad-

and properties committee.

The construction committee unend of the coming week, according mented.

be painted soon.

"Lighting facilities used in the showed it to Mr. Ford's friends, then released it in vance the advertising department Elizabethian Era would put the the woods. The eyebrows came down. of the group have been put into one in Assembly Hall to shame", OVER-SIZED TANK effect by Laufenberg and his as- said the members of the lighting committee. With this, thought in Other groups and committees of mind the members of the committee the Players that have advanced in and George Dillavou, director, set the methods used and results act forth on a plan to remedy the sitcomplished are the Construction untion. A draft of the materials submitted and from latest accounts is meeting with approval.

"This is the first time in the der the supervision of J. Howard This is the first time in the Davis, chairman, has already com- history of the Aggie Players that with speaking parts have snown Hall and should be painted by the this much interest," Dillavou com-

If you happen to be passing the New set fixtures have been ing- Assembly Hall some night and hear provised by the committee. It was the clammer of hammers, drop in discovered, upon reading the set and join the members of the group fixtures for the play, that a fire- in the basement.

Several Fish sneaked into the Post

Office, lest they be caught listen-

All eyes remained fixed upon

the traitorous juke box, even after

the record stopped playing. The juke box blushed cherry red, but

the color changed to green as the

his ears refused to believe. And

Always after a catastrophe has

occurred, historians seek to place

the blame and, if possible, bring

the culprit to justice. In this in-

stance, it has been ascertained that

an employee of the Bryan Music

Company committed the offense.

But just which one is still a mys-

supply lasts, with the line forming

Rabid Fox Found

On A&M Campus

Because a rabid fox was found

lead on the campus this week, Dr.

A. A. Lenert, head of the Veteri-

nary Medicine and Surgery depart-

ment has warned owners of pets

The fox was found by James E.

Rose, Dallas sophomore, near the

on his way to a PE class. At first

ing to such propaganda.

stares grew darker.

### Outsider Puts 'Eyes of Texas' On Bistro Juke-Box; Near Riot

By JEFF CHEEK

Spoons dropped into warm coffee, Jaws dropped. Never before had such silence reigned in Ye Old Campus Corner Cafe and Coffee Shoppe.

An English prof sat chewing his thumb, muttering, 'Ain't that H---." A battered five year man did likewise. substituting "isn't" for "ain't."

## Texas Vets Cost For Fiscal Year

WASHINGTON, Feb. 26 - (P)-Veterans' Administration expenditures in Texas totaled \$380,189,143 during the fiscal year ended last

On that date, a report by the there, sandwiched between Lawagency shows, payments or bene- rence Welks' "To My Sorrow" and fits were going to 128,778 living Texas veterans and to dependents was Trny Hills' "The Eyes of of 28,218 deceased ex-service men. Texas. fits to living veterans during the year totaled \$79,101,977, and to de-

pendents of deceased veterans, \$18,-The report showed that on last June there were in Texas these veterans of the various wars re-

ceiving compensation or pension World War II, 101,959; World There is a general feeling that War I, 20,911; regular establish when the offender has been un-

ment, 2,333; Spanish-American earthed no class discrimination will War, 3,552; Civil War, none (Tex- be observed in meting out justice. as provides pensions for its Con- It will probably on a first come,

There were dependents of 296 to the right. Civil War deceased veterans who received a total of \$142,509 during the year; 180 dependents of Indian War veterans received \$93,270, and dependents of Mexican War veterans received \$3,080, (There were only 47 remaining dependents of Mexican War veterans, and no

other state had more than four.) The VA spent \$1,056,617 buying automobiles for disabled Texas veterans during the year.

### Pistol Team Wins Penn State Match athletic department when he was

The A&M pistol team won its first match this week by defeating fit," according to Rose. Coming by Pennsylvania State College, 1250 to 1166, Lt. Col. F. R. Swoger, who dead. He brought the carcass to its in charge of the sixty. vertising service. Inc., at New York City, is in charge of the pistol team, and the dean of men's office, which turned it over to the Veterinary

The firing of the match took place at the individual schools and Medicine hospital. The animal was the score cards were sent here to sent away for analysis, and was

Trampling Out the Vintage

## College Professors Among Worst Drivers On the Road According to Nebraska Survey

By LARRY GOODWYN

You might have guessed it in the course of past the river's edge and loaded it aboard a barge, which driving experience, but in case you haven't heard, carried it across.

professors—college professors, no less—are among if that had failed, the engineers had planned to seal the tank and float it over.

At least that's the report of Ken McCaw, field representative for the Neraska State Safety Council,
"We find two kinds of poor drivers," he told a
college group. "Those whose IQ's indicate they can't read the road signs, and others whose IQ's are above

"College professors are in the latter group. Inrestigation indicates the professors at the steering wheel permit their thoughts to dwell on matters

#### other than driving." RUMORS ARE DYING

Clayton, N. M., An autopsy held here to determine the cause of death of Ben Davis, 55, was interrupted when Davis himself walked into the proceed-

The body which was the subject of the autopsy was found in a snowbank yesterday near Clayton. Authorities believed the man had frozen to death while trying to get help for his stalled car. First reports said Davis had been found dead

by Gaston Wiley. It turned out that the body was that of Wiley, a 61-year-old Mount Dora rancher. Davis walked into the autopsy and said he was told by a neighbor, that he had been reported dead. He explained that he and a companion, Ben Black, had been stalled in their car during the snowstorm, but made it to their homes safely.

**HUTEL BANDIT IS CHOOSY** 

Frank Stander, night manager, and Albert Petrucci, a guest, were standing at the desk of the Village Hotel, at 4:25 a. m. when a man came in and demanded their wallets. He got \$45 from Mr. Stander's and \$6 from Mr. Petrucci's, then demanded Mr. Stander's wrist watch. He examined the watch carefully, Mr. Stander told police, and then handed it back. "It's too cheap," he said. He escaped.

SINGED SQUIRREL IS PROOF ALLENDALE, N. J. When Hadley Ford told friends how a meeting of the local Boy Scouts of America committee was broken up at his home in Brookside Avenue here because a squirrel charged the field of public relations for the Hodges and Cliff Hodges, set out brows. "Nice story, Hadley," they said. Herbert the productions in front of the publand the fireplace is scheduled to a squirrel with fur singed off his body and tail, obviously from recent contact with a fire, Mr. Clarke

ST LOUIS-The story about a man who built a boat too big to get out of his basement is no longer funny to officials of a St. Louis boiler factory.

The company completed a steel tank 50 feet long and 15 feet in diameter. Then they found it was Committee, Dighting Committee, needed to improve the lighting was too large to pass over any of the bridges crossing the Mississippi River to the Illinois plant where it

After a conference of engineers, two solutions were proposed. They moved the tank by truck to

ICE UPON CAYUGA'S WATERS AURORA, N. Y. Students at Wells College here were excused from classes by proclamation of Richard R. Greene, president of the college. The reason? Lake Cayuga has frozen over and a long standing tradition demands no classes when that happens. The lake has previously frozen over in 1934-1918, and 1912.

#### DUNKERETTES

New York Industry is going to do something for dunkers.

smarting all these years under the Emily Post pronouncement that if you must dunk, please, please, don't put all of the doughnut in the coffee at once.

The Donnt Institute announces an abbreviation

in product as well as spelling. It says: "Bakers throughout the country will soon introduce a newly patterned half donut called dunkerette which is to be used for the express purpose of those lovers of the dunking art who still feel they must comply with the norms of etiquette." So now you can dunk and keep up your norm.

#### TOWN GOING TO THE GIRLS

AURORA, Ill, The young women take over this city of a most 50,000 persons on Feb. 27. This is the fourth Leap Year Celebration Day here. A "primary" has already been conducted, and Stella Seraphin, twenty-three; Margaret Benson, twentyfour and Dakcocque Middleton, twenty, have been nominated to become mayor city clerk and treasurer, depending on the total number of votes each gets in the "election" Monday and Tuesday. Fourteen women aldermen will be chosen, and a female fire and police department will be set up. Men are liable to arrest simply for being bachelors and can be fined silk stockings or other feminine accessories for the offense.

#### THE FRUITS OF SCHOLARSHIP.

"Learning" isn't half-bad a 72-year-old retired professor has decided. A common love of scholarship led to the remance of Prof. Reginald Hall Johnson of Pittsburgh University with a 26-year-old chem-

Prof. Johnson, who retired in 1945 after 30 years in the department of modern languages at Pitt, will be married Saturday to Althea Ruth Lowe pert teacher at Margaret Morrison Carnegie College. Their friendship began when both were on the

Pitt faculty and their courtship often was conducted over books, Professor Johnson said. We stadied together," he explained. "She is a scholar and so am I. We have many interests in

#### SEEING THINGS

TODAY

The ve got a new drink in Hollywood these days - the Optical Cocktail. Two lasses and you make a spectacle of your-



Opens 1:00 p.m. - 4-1181 LAST DAY

"The Fabulous Texan'

Wm. Elliott Catherine McLeod

John Carroll Features Begin-

1:30 - 3:35 - 5:45 - 7:50 - 10:00 Cartoon - Sport Reel - News

FRIDAY — SATURDAY

"Brute Force" NORTHWEST OUTPOST

Coming I'VE ALWAYS LOVED YOU

A booted senior, fortified by a couple of hastily-downed doughnuts, tottered over to the machine Mine Som THE SWORDSMAN now turned purple, to verify what

DALACE

Watch For Them

TODAY THRU SAT.



SAT. NIGHT PREVIEW



resent ARGOSY PICTURES HENRY FONDA DOLORES DEL RIO PEDRO ARMENDARIZ J. CARROL MAISH - LEO CARRILLO WARD BOND - NOBERT ARMSTRONG JOHN QUALEN . Screenplay by DUDLEY RICHOL Directed by JOHN FORD Released through

RKO RÁDIO Pictures



And Another Great Show This Week-End SUNDAY and MONDAY

