# Battalion EDITORIALS

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THURSDAY, APRIL 29, 1948

"Soldier, Statesman, Knightly Gentleman"

Lawrence Sullivan Ross, Founder of Aggie Traditions

## Let's Be 'Superior' ...

Today and Friday, A&M's standing as a military school goes on trial. The annual federal inspection will be held during the twoday period. Corps members were excused from classes today to participate in extended drills before the inspecting team from Fourth Army headquarters.

For 25 of the last 26 years, A&M has achieved "exdellent" ratings on the annual inspections, for which corpsmen have been privileged to wear the "blue star" on their right sleeve.

This year a new ranking, that of "su-perior" has been introduced and will be awarded to only the upper 10 percent of the schools in the Fourth Army on the basis of the results of the federal inspections. As there are approximately 30 schools under Fourth Army jurisdiction, only three will be eligible for the new distinction.

All of which puts a far heavier burden on the students of A&M—corpsmen and veterans alike—than has been the case in the past. Last year, although achieving "blue

total than two primarily civilian colleges in this area—LSU and Oklahoma University. To merit the "superior" standing this

star" standards, A&M had a lower point

year will require the effort and cooperation of every student now on the campus. The "superior" rating offers a challenge which we can't afford not to accept. To corpsmen, it means alertness, and sincere effort. To veterans it means willing cooperation in the one way they can help in a federal inspection -by refraining from wearing parts of military uniforms which may give inspecting officers the erroneous impression that they (veterans) are part of the corps.

It's a big order, witnstanding the eyes of a dozen army officers whose one aim is to find mistakes. But, it's not too big an

The corps, which has made rapid strides in military proficiency in the last two years, has the ability to earn the new superior rating. Veterans can do their part by lending a helping hand when needed.

We have what it takes. LET'S DO IT!

## Are Honor Students 'Exclusive?' ...

In today's Letters to the Editor, Franklin H. Mikell raises some questions concerning national scholastic honorary societies. Mikell disagrees with the Battalian's editorial advocating the establishment of such organizations on the campus, and there is no doubt that many other students have similar, questions in mind.

After delying through many reports, constitutions and by-laws of the societies, to make sure of our statements, we find definite answers to the most important question: Would honorary societies form an exclusive group not in keeping with A. & M. policy?

bership is not only limited to scholastically qualified students but only to a small quota Zeta requires a unanimous vote of all active of these?" Mikell asks. "Something in the members for admitting candidates. order of thirty or forty of the top two-fifths of the class will be allowed to join," he adds. The report of the Student Engineers' "the way it works out practically, it's a pret-

Council recommended that five scholastic honor societies be established on the cam-The societies proposed for A. & M. are

the Phi Eta Sigma, for freshmen; Tau Beta Pi for engineers, Phi Kappa Phi for arts and sciences, Alpha Zeta for agriculturists, Sigma Xi for graduate students and instruc-According to Baird's Manual of Ameri-

can College Traternities, only the eligibility requirements of Alpha Zeta, the honorary agricultural society proposed for A&M, approach the conditions mentioned in Mikell's letter. Up to 40% of the senior class of students majoring in agriculture and a smaller percentage of juniors are eligible for national scholastic honor societies.

membership. Tau Beta Pi, engineer's honorary society proposed for the campus, will admit up to one-eighth of the jumor class and one-fifth of the senior class of students under the Dean of Engineering. Phi Eta Sigma, the freshman society, accepts all freshmen who quanty scholastically . .

certainly more than "thirty or forty." "Why hasn't it been stated that any member of the selected group can "black- peeping into the private life of language. ball' any prospective members purely for personal reasons?" One society (Pni Lta Sigma) accepts members automatically; Tau Beta Pi requires a majority vote of all active members; Phi Kappa Phi will elect members by a three-fourths vote of the active mem-"Why hasn't it been brought to the at- bers; prospects for Sigma Xi are elected to tention of the student body . . that mem- membership by a vote of three-fourths of the active members present. Only Alpha

> ty democratic manner of selecting members." He added that only in extreme cases were prospective members "blackballed"; petty grievances held by a member were aired in meetings of the society, thus giving other members a chance to speak for the man up for membership. Only men recognized as unfit for such honors were barred, he concluded.

> Frankly, we don't really know if national honor societies will raise scholastic standards at A&M. But the recognition afforded members, the personal satisfaction derived from membership, and the higher academic standing of A&M in the eyes of employers . . . . all have convinced us that our school needs

## : Letters to the Editor

HONORARY FRATERNITIES? Editor, The Battalion:

To the best of my knowledge Texas A&M has never been a: school that advocated or permitted to exist exclusive organizations sanctioned by the college of

is not only limited to scholastically Gueeks on this campus and they qualified students but only to a are pretty well known all over the small quota of these? Something; world without having to swing a on the order of thirty to forty of key on a watch chain to impress the top two-fifths of the class will anyone. be allowed to join. Why also hasn't to join a man these frats will raise the scholashas to be selected by the members tid average here or is this one of and unanimously elected by all before he can join? Why also hasn't against it as it stands now. fore he can join? Why also hasn't it been stated that any member of the selected group can "blackball" any prospective member purely for

personal reasons? These and other undesirable traits haven't been stated as yet in your editorials. I am highly in favor of any national organization that includes all Aggies who meet scholastic re-

quirements on merit alone, but I any type among the undergrad-unters on its campus.

Concerning the addresses lately this campus. Aggieland has always Concerning the editorials lately been a campus where a man was appearing in "YOUR" paper, why hasn't it been brought to the attention of the student body in terms as fairly written as the influences could do little to buy glowing reports I have been reading of late that the by-laws of these "honorary" fraternities spetiment out some pretty good men cifically stipulate that membership is not only limited to scholastically only to a pre-pretty well known all over the

FRANKLIN H. MIKELL 44

NOT "FOR NOTHING"

Editor, The Battalion:

Re: Mr. Halff's letter concerning Polson and Fisher's representing Aggie veterans at "Operation Bonus". There are two things I'd like for Halff to understand. First, if he wouldn't have wanted affirmative representation at Operation Bonus, he should have utilized the ballot in the Batt two days be-fore the delegates left. He should have voted "No," as I did for various personal reasons.

Second, I want him to under-stand that if the proposed bonus is passed, that only those who did nothing."

Always remember, Halff, "nothing is too good for the boys who were at the front." And that's just what we got, NOTHING, and it was too good for us!

RALPH GREENBERG, '46

# The Battalion

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BETWEEN THE BOOK ENDS ....

## **Old Farmer Bromfield Lures** City Dwellers to the Farm

By LOUIS MORGAN

MALABAR FARM by Louis Bromfield. Published by Harper and Brothers, New York. Price \$3.75. Publication date April 28, 1948. "Malabar Farm" carries forward the story of Louis Bromfield's life on an Ohio Farm which has been reclaimed and made to bloom through new farming methods and soil conservation. It is, in many ways, a continuation of this earlier book, "Pleasant Valley."

Beginning with a letter to a Sergeant on Okinawa, the book covers a period of one year on Malabar Farm — September, 1944, through August, 1945. About onethird of the 405 page book is made up of extracts from Bromfield's personal diaries. This gives the reader the not-too-decent thrill of another person.

Bromfield discusses his own beliefs on the right and wrong ways to farm. Included also are his tastes, his reading habits, his family, and his neighbors. Along with an account of farming methods used at Malabar and the results obtained, Bromfield the terrifying fertility of his dogs, and the consternation of the herd bull removed from his harem. He makes drama of the seeding of a field, the blooming of a once barren hillside, or the creating of a farm pond.

Bromfield recommends farming a a wholesome way of life for the

Dr John S. Caldwell Optometrist Caldwell's Jewelry Store

Bryan, Texas

city dweller and discusses the perils of famine threatening great areas of the world, even touching

The author of countless articles on politics, agriculture and soil conservation, plus books on economics, government, and natural resources, Bromfield presents his material in an understandable

Illustrations for the book were made by Kate Lord, who also illustrated "Pleasant Valley."

(Bromfield has been heard on the A&M campus as a lecturer several times.)



NOW LAST DAY Deanna Derbin "I'll Be Yours"

Tomorrow "JOHNNY O'CLOCK

## PRESSING **CLEANING ALTERATIONS**

AT THEIR BEST - AT

CAMPUS CLEANERS

Over The Exchange Store

Look Your Best It's Good Business! & VARSITY Barber Shops



I'm so happy to find a really wonderful place to eat . . . and it's so conven-

> A.&M. GRILL North Gate



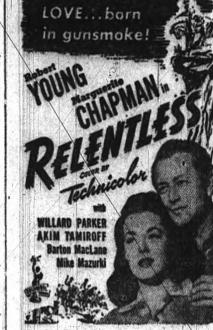
## Meat Packing Head Speaks to Seminar

The organization of the Houston Packing Company was W. W. Bailey's subject in a speech which he made here last Monday to the Animal Husbandry Seminar.

Bailey, class of '36, said that the plant had been in operation for 51 years. He discussed four different ob opportunities for college men nterested in the packing industry. Bailey is the general superin-cendent of the packing company.

NOW SATURDAY

-Features Begin-1:40 - 3:45 - 5:50 - 7:55 - 10:00 • FIRST RUN



NEWS - SHORT BUGS BUNNY CARTOON

SATURDAY PREVUE SUN. WEDVESDAY

WAYNE . FONDA . TEMPLE FORT APACHE

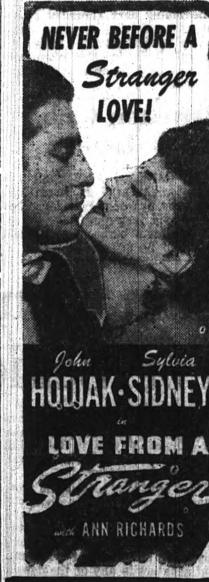
"The Miracle of the Bells" "To the Ends of the Earth" "Alias A Gentleman" "Scudda Hoo! Scudda Hay!"

# Palace

**NOW until SATURDAY** 



NOW SHOWING



OFFICE A SET LA

Features—7:30 - 9:1

Deanna Durbin Tom Brown

"I'LL BE YOURS"

M-G-M's TOP-THRILL MELODRAMA! THE ARNELO AFFAIR

(and what an affair it was!) JOHN HODIAM - GEORGE MURPHY FRANCES GIFFORD

DEAN STOCKWELL - EVE ARDEN Screen Play by Arch Oblate. • Directed by ARCH OBOLER Produced by JERRY BRESSER • A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Picture

TWO GREAT FEATURES



RICHARD MARTIN





DONALD MacBRIDE and BEVERLY SIMMONS



Next Tuesday - Wednesday - Thursday

M-G-M'S THRILLER WITH A NEW KIND OF KILLER! JAMES DUN TOM TULLY : SAME LEVERIE
Screen Play by frederick healing design (See )
Screen Play by Transaction (See )
See (See )
See