# Battalion Editorials

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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 1950

## The Former Students and Opportunity Awards . . .

we had the opportunity to attend a meeting on the campus of the officers of more than 100 A & M clubs from throughout Texas and the neighboring states. We listened to their discussions, heard their speakers, and were able to see the goals which they are setting for themselves.

Much of the conversation centered around sports and how the Former Students Association could help keep A&M athletics on the comeback trail.

Ranking equally with athletics as a conversation topic was the program of Opportunity Awards. This program was begun in 1946 with ten scholarships. It has grown amazingly. Last year almost 11,000 contributions swelled the scholarship fund by more than \$94,000 making 1949 a record year. This year, according to E. E. McQuillen who administers of Aggieland.

During the recent final exam period the program for the exes, an even higher number of contributions is anticipated.

> In June, the first 13 Opportunity Awards winners will be graduated in the class of 1950. They will be the advance guard of hundreds of Texas boys who will attend A&M because of the work and the sacrifice of the Aggie exes and their friends. Perhaps the time will come when any well qualified and deserving high school graduate who has an earnest desire to attend A&M will be able to do so because of their efforts.

> We can think of no other activity which could better illustrate the collective ambition of A&M men than a program designed to give to the boys of Texas an opportunity to come to A&M. To us, if we can ever give a concrete example of it, this program represents the true Spirit

#### The Fire Cracker With a Half-mile Radius

In the same light that only a Paris could produce an Eiffel Tower, only the United States could manufacture a hydrogen bomb. Isn't the H-bomb the biggest and best bomb ever developed, and isn't it only in America where the biggest and best are the rule rather than the excep-

Four years ago the world was agog over the now-fire-cracker sized, already outmoded, atomic bomb which exploded over Hiroshima. Even in America there was a brief ripple of consternation. The rest of the world thought the atom bomb was fearful, dreadful, inhumane; Americans only regarded it as another example of American scientific and technical genius.

Such ideas as "an atom bomb will destroy all buildings in a half-mile radius" were quickly absorbed into American thought processes, and some of our people even measured the size of cities by the number of atom bombs that would be required for their destruction. Now, long seasoned to thinking in terms of square miles of destruction by a single explosion, the announcement of the theoretical pos- gen bomb.

silibities of the destructability of the hydrogen bomb (1,000 times that of the atom bomb) has been taken in stride by the American public.

"Shucks, they use atom bombs to setoff them hydrogen bombs," a farmer was heard to remark. The hydrogen bomb has made the atom bomb as antique in proportion as the 1950 model automobiles have made the Model "T".

Still, behind this flippant talk of the super-bomb's strength, there lies the prickly thought of what destruction could be wrought on the United States by another country if the dueling weapons were H-bombs and they chose to shoot first.

To regard the potentialities of the hydrogen bomb lightly would be like laughing out in church. Yet, we cannot wrap ourselves in the mourning clothes of fear and gloom while anticipating the worst.

War or peace, with or without the Hbomb, or A-bomb, or guided missile is no more close or remote than before their development. If war is to erupt again, it will do so-come high water or the hydro-

## Missouri, Mud, Eggs, and Boards . .

red turned, Nor hell a fury like a woman Why she went aground he wouldn't say partment of the Navy during the time its 45,000 ton battleship Missouri was stranded on a mudbank.

The "Mighty Mo", as the battlewagon has been nicknamed by the public, came to rest on the equally mighty mudbank Jan. 12. From that time until yesterday she successfully resisted every effort to pull her out into the channel. And, to make matters worse, divers reported that the ship on which the Japs signed the surrender pact had developed several holes in her outer hull.

The captain, W. D. Brown, was taking the battleship down Chesapeake Bay to the sea when she went aground. It was

"Heaven has no rage like love to hat- his first trip on the monster as skipper. scorned," or, we might add, like the De- other than it was a series of "unusual and unfortunate" circumstances. The weather was good, the sea was moderate, the visability fine. But aground she went and astray she stayed for more than two

> We always figured the navy would eventually get the Missouri off her muddy resting place and we imagine that in time the ship will be made as good as new. But even if the outcome of the mishap will turn out to be bright, we wouldn't want to trade places with Captain Brown for all the scrambled eggs on his cap visor. You see, even with the Mo out of the mud, he's due for a session with a board—a board of inquiry, that is.

I fell in love with a girl named Kay; Then Edith came in view.

I found, though, that 'You cannot Have your Kay and Edith, too.'

## The Battalion

"Soldier, Statesman, Knightly Gentleman"

Lawrence Sullivan Ross, Founder of Aggie Traditions

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

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. Durings the summer The Battalion is published tri-weekly on Monday, Wechesday and Friday. Subscription rate \$4.30 per school year. Advertising rates furnished on request.

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## Russia Demands Hirohito Trial For War Crimes in Note to U.S.

Washington, Feb. 2 (AP)-Russia demanded today that Emperor Hirohito of Japan be tried as a war criminal on charges involving bacteriological warfare.

The demand was made in a note delivered to Secretary of State Acheson by Soviet Ambassador Alexander S. Panyushkin. It was understood the Soviets were also distributing the note to the other members of the 13 nation far eastern commission. That is the top policy making body for the Japanese occupation.

The note, which has yet to be made public, reportedly asks for war crimes trials of four other Japanese in addition to Hirohito. Their names were not immeditely made known.

While the precise nature of the Soviet charges against Hirohito and the four other Japanese for the alleged crimes of which the Japanese officers were convicted at Khabarovsk.

Diplomatic authorities speculated that the Soviet move was designed to serve two Communist propaganda purposes:

#### Letters

(All letters to the editor which are signed by a student or employee of the college and which do not contain ob-scene or libelous material will be pub-Persons wishing to have their withheld from publication may such action and these names

PRAISE FOR EVERYBODY Student Publications Manager And Editors The Battalion:

Thank you for your promptness came today. I think the editorial staff and reporters do a splendid

It was my pleasure recently to see the Aggie cagers defeat Arkansas in the DeWare Field House. Almost as gratifying as the victory itself was the sportsmanlike conduct of both teams and the student body. It was delightful to watch an exciting, close game wherein there was no arguing with the referees, heckling the opponents while making free throws,

tetc.
These discourtesies are prevalent in most college games nowadays and ruin the contests for fans like myself, who deplore such breeches in decorum.

Mrs. Sarah DeWitt Waco, Texas

1. To distract attention in Japan from repeated insistent demands made by Gen. Douglas MacArthur, as allied occupation chief, and by the American government for return to Japan of several hundred believed to have been taken by

the Russians. 2. To try to put the United States in the position of keeping the emperor from being tried as a war criminal and use that maneuver as anti-American propaganda in Communist China and elsewhere in Asia.

The United States has followed the policy of making a distinction een Japan's military leaders and the emperor insofar as crimin-al responsibility for Japan's part

#### **County Bond Sales** On Decrease in '49

The people of Brazos County invested \$705,918,75 in U. S. Savings Bonds during 1949, according to the annual sales report received to-day by Judge A. S. Ware, county Savings Bonds chairman, from Nathan Adams of Dallas, state chairman. This compares with sales of \$750,080.00 for 1948.

Of the 1949 total, Series E, the so-called "people's bond" accounted for \$507,618.75, as compared with \$527,755.50 E bond sales in 1948. Series F and G sales were \$198,300.00 as compared with \$222,324,50 in 1948.

Total sales for the entire state were \$191,499,089, as compared with \$196,448,280 in 1948, Adams declared that sales last year were highly satisfactory in view of economic trends and because of a 3.9 per cent increase in the sale of E bonds, from \$139.591. 216 in 1948 to \$145,114,738 in 1949. Series F and G bonds accounted for \$46,384,351 of the state's sales total last year.

#### **Pearson Gets Post** With AEC Branch

Dr. Paul B. Pearson, former dean of the A&M Graduate School, has been named chief of the biology branch of the Atomic Energy

Pearson, now a native of Oakley, Utah, will do work in the AEC's division of biology and medicine.

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# Jolson Back Again AGGIES\_ Still In Good Voice

olson Sings Again (Columbia) starring Larry Parks, Barbara Hale, and Ludwig Donath (Queen) In 1947 the bobbysoxers of America, those nauseous blots up on the entire female sex, crowned

a new singing idol with wreaths of impassioned screams, amorous gurgles, and chauvinistic fan club which deluged radio stations with requests for his and only his re-

Strangely enough, the object of their affection was Al Jolson, singing rage of the 20's and early thirties, and it was Columbia's technicolored "The Jolson Story which not only introduced him to the present generation but gave the old timers a chance to see the man they claimed as "The world's greatest entertainer." Old and oung joined in a mass exodus to the nation's box offices sending

gate receipts soaring.
"The Joison Story", while not
a model of factual biography had a script that was cogent and highly creditable melodrama. Show business, with its fairy tale, Cinderella core, offers fruitful material to the capable scripter, and Sidney Buchman was quick to exploit it in the first Jolson saga.

But not so in its sequel, "Jol-son Sings Again," which has been playing to overflow crowds sinc its arrival at the Queen earlie this week. Buchman's story is uneven for the most part, too artificial and soap-operaish. Only-in the first few reels does the follow up match its predecessor.

Jolson fans, however, will not

be overly concerned with plot dis-crepancies. They go to hear Al sing and sing he does in his throaty and passionate sob, making memorable "Toot Toot Tootsie," Chi-"Sonny Boy," etc., his natown," infectious delivery inciting audience emulation as it always has

The story itself takes up wher "The Jolson Story" left off, with Al singing in a night club and Julie walking out because she realizes he can love nothing but show business.

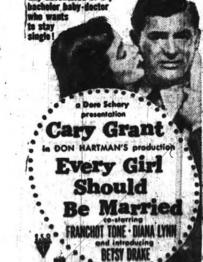
Al goes back to Broadway, driving himself beyond endurance in an effort to forget Julie. When this doesn't work, he goes on on epicurean binge as a medium of forgetting the past. It takes his mother's death and the war to set Al on the right track again; he agrees to entertain American troops abroad, is stricken with a fever overseas, and is sent to convalence in the

Here he meets army nurse Bar bara Hale, a practical and phle gmatic miss who nurses through a recurrence of the fever which costs him a lung, marries him, and in her efficient, easy-going way, engineers his come-

Seen again as Jolson, Larry Parks is equally as good this time as the last. His performance super-confidence and exuberant extroversion that is so much the Jolson personality.

Hale exudes a freshness and radiance which should chivvy her up the pin-up ladder, William Dema rest is his same brash self, and Ludwig Donatth absconds with a generous helping of scenes as Can-to Yoelson.





SATURDAY ONLY

ed the technical methods employed in the making of "The Jolson Story." And we enjoyed the song excerpts from the parent film; as far as we're concerned, nothing Jolson sings can surpass "Mammy or "April Showers" or "Swanee.

Far above the average musical biography, "Joison Sings Again" will disappoint none of the minstrel man's coterie, and may add some new sheep to the fold.

Prince of Foxes (20 Century Fox) starring Orson Welles, Tyrone Power, and Wanda Hendrix (Pal-

What should have been a melo-drama bristling with the intrigue, adventure, and romance that was so much a part of the Borgia era it depicts turns out to be a torpid, routine costume picture weighted down with anti-climaxes and performances which reveal more cari cature than character.

Even the spectacle number—the all too familiar storming of the castle walls-makes it appear as if the director had seen too many Cecil B. DeMille pictures, especially "The Crusades," and tried to duplicate them.



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