

# EDITORIAL

## Governor or Dictator?

There were two conflicting schools of thought existing when the present constitution of the United States was adopted. One extreme, represented by Alexander Hamilton, proposed a strongly centralized form of government in which the public would have little power. The other school, founded by Thomas Jefferson and represented today by the Democratic Party, favored a government "for the people, of the people, and by the people" and to whom the source of governmental power constantly reverted. Reviving this old argument, Griffenhagen and Associates, "experts" employed by the Joint Committee of the Texas State Legislature to conduct an investigation of Texas educational institutions, realizing the growing tendency for strongly centralized government, recommended the organization of a state government along the lines of the one planned by Alexander Hamilton. The proposed plan is that the people of the state shall elect a governor who shall have the sole power of appointing two-thirds of the public officials of the state. By this proposed plan, the governor would have a cabinet patterned after the cabinet of the President of the United States.

No matter how honest the governor under this regime, the tendency for him to abuse this power would be too great. It would place in his hands a means for perpetuating himself in office. Unrestricted by a similar plan to the federal civil service, the governor would have more power within the state than the president exercises throughout the land. With no proposal or mention of a civil service there would be no safeguard against open use of the "spoils" system. Such an autocracy within a democracy cannot stand. With a civil service within the state this plan would have its evils, but without civil service the plan is impossible. With the centralization of so much power in the hands of one individual it is a certainty that ultimately the power would be abused.

## Coeducational

The Battalion noted with interest an article written by W. A. Ortolani, '24 which was carried in the last issue of the Texas Aggie, ex-student publication and mouthpiece of that organization. In this writing Mr. Ortolani set forth his ideas pertaining to the advantages that A and M College could benefit from by making the school co-educational. Since this subject is one of intimate debate with the students of the college, members of the ex-Aggie organization, and the people of Texas, we are passing it on to our readers.

The writer began, "One of my ideas is that A and M College should be made co-educational. Almost invariably the first argument advanced is the one that the social problem which would be created by such a change would be a disgrace to the school. It is with this argument that I have the least patience. Now I will leave it to you to say whether or not the boys who are now at A and M or who will be there in years to come are from homes where the moral standards are lower than the homes of all the other boys in the educational institutions of the state. I do not think that A and M has ever been a dumping ground for the 'unwants' . . . ."

"Practically all of these boys are gentlemen when they come to college, but if A and M were co-ed they would not go through four years of forgetting their table manners and the conduct of a gentleman in the presence of ladies or even of other gentlemen. It is a brave soul who will take a girl to a meal in the mess hall or to a show at the Assembly Hall . . . . If a co-educational system would not affect some changes for the better in the above instances mentioned then I do not know a thing about the influence that women will exert on men."

"Another argument presented by ex-students of the past is that they want to keep A and M like it was in the good old days and along with such an argument there is usually a dream of a son or sons to one day follow in the footsteps of their father and 'raise hell' in the same dormitory. I don't know why the same ex-students haven't raised the roof because there is going to be a good state highway right by the school, or because the authorities have been trying to get the college streets out of the mud, put steam heat and running water in the dormitories and to make a long story short, keep the college a modern institution in every respect. These same men are apostles of progress in every line of human endeavor but their Alma Mater. They want to keep A and M like the "good old days" and have been so selfish in their sentimentality that they have in many instances unthoughtfully retarded the progress of the school they love so well."

"I do not advocate that the curricula be enlarged to make a university of A and M to attract the feminine student . . . . I believe that A and M can stay in the realms of the agricultural and mechanic arts and return to the State of Texas 100% more on its investment by making its courses and facilities available to men and women alike."

## Saturday Nights

A transitional age is in evidence at this school. Recent undercurrents and murmurings of revolutionary ideas came to a definite head Monday night when the Senior Class voted to submit a petition to the authorities allowing all underclassmen to go to Bryan on Saturday evenings. This same petition embodies a majority ruling whereby the underclassmen will be allowed to remain at the crops dances until midnight.

Such a proposal probably is beneficial to underclassmen for it is true that so far their social life has been neglected. The senior class expects the full cooperation of every underclassman in preventing the abuse of these privileges. Every student needs social relaxation of some form and this Saturday night freedom has been designed to possibly serve as a safety valve for pent-up emotions.

It is assumed that the Bryan Traction Company will cooperate insofar as it is possible to provide sufficient transportation for all cadets desiring to visit Bryan on Saturday evenings. As yet this proposal has not become a college regulation but a petition upheld by the Senior class has been submitted to the college authorities for ratification.

## Campus Personalities



ERNEST LANGFORD

Ernest Langford, head of the department of architecture, was born May 30, 1891 at Ballinger, Texas. When he was three years of age his family moved to Burnet County and settled in the little community of Briggs where his youthful days were spent.

When sixteen years of age, Mr. Langford with his family, moved to Bertram, also in Burnet County, and there completed his high school education in the Spring of 1909. The following Fall found him registered as a freshman in A and M College. Before registering he was informed that his high school was not an affiliated one and that he would have to take entrance examinations. The exams were soon passed however, and he was received into the fellowship of the college. Mr. Langford roomed in old Ross Hall for four years and knows its traditional "tears" and "bull-pens". He received his degree in architecture with the class of 1913.

After graduation he was employed for two years as an architectural draftsman in Austin. During this time he married Miss Lela Velma Davidson, his sweetheart since college days. Mr. Langford returned to A and M College in the Fall of 1915 as an instructor in the drawing department, teaching subjects in the architectural department along with this work. In the Fall of 1919, he went to the University of Illinois as an instructor in the department of architecture of that school and at the same time began work on his master's degree. He received this degree in June, 1924, and remained only one year longer as a member of the staff, returning to this school in the Fall of 1925 with the rank of professor in the department of architecture. Four years from that date, in the Fall of 1929 he was made head of that department.

A story of Mr. Langford's life is a story of architectural achievements. His prizes have been many and his efforts have been worthy. In a national competition held in the Summer of 1923 by the Chicago Tribune he won a mention and his design was presented in that paper. In the Fall of 1925 he won a \$400 cash prize for his entry in the White Pine Competition. In collaboration with H. N. June, a former college architect, Mr. Langford designed and had full charge of the construction of the Kyle Field stadium. He has been connected either directly or indirectly with many other existing structures on the campus. In 1931 he designed the Key Demonstration Home which is located on the campus just east of Guion Hall on Throckmorton Street. This home was designed as a model farm home and was sponsored by the Extension Service of A and M College. It was later presented in the Ladies Home Journal as one of their 1932 home patterns and was selected as one of a group of typical houses for the farm and village by the Committee on Farm and Village Housing of the "Conference on Home Building and Home Ownership" called by President Hoover. At present Mr. Langford is a

## Plans Under Way For Sixth Annual Engineer's Dance

Plans for the sixth annual Engineers' Ball, which is to be held in the Memorial Gymnasium here Friday night, April 7, nine until two, are well under way, and the committee in charge of arrangements has prepared a complete program of entertainments. Music for the occasion will be furnished by the Campus Serenaders and according to latest plans of the committee, the dance will be preceded by a banquet in the Mess Hall for the Engineers and their ladies. The Gym will be decorated with Engineer insignia and will be lighted by a battery of colored spot-lights.

Special features of the evening's program include a floor show of three novelty acts and dances honoring seniors and their dates.

Committee for the dance consists of J. R. Gill, Paris, business manager; J. W. Wilson, Dallas, secretary; H. K. Smith, San Benito, and T. J. Palm, Waco, decorations.

## Intramural Handball Championship Won By "B" Artillery

By defeating Battery "F" Field Artillery in a recent match, Battery "B" Field Artillery won the intramural handball championship for the second consecutive year.

H. C. Stefani and Johnnie Mitchell, members of the championship team, have won the intramural doubles championship for the past two years and were also Southwest Texas Junior Champions while attending Ball High School in Galveston.

Members of the championship team include Herbert Cartwright, Galveston; O. S. York, Galveston; P. E. Morris, San Antonio; B. F. Tansil, Dallas; C. E. Reichardt, San Antonio; Johnnie Mitchell, Galveston; and H. C. Stefani, Galveston.

member of the American Institute of Architects and is interested in the promotion of architecture both in local and foreign fields. He is intensely interested in the social and physical sciences and carries out his interests in campus activities, being a member of the Student Welfare Committee and of the Student Activities Committee.

Mr. Langford is an asset to this college as a member of the faculty but more than that can be said of him. As a student he has been where we are now and is one of us at heart. His quiet, unassuming manner, coupled with a positive, wholesome, and generous outlook toward life makes him a man we are glad to call our friend.

## IDLE RUMORS

Was C. A. Dickey, cadet major of the Coast Artillery, mortified when he returned from Bryan Saturday night without what he went there for? Very. Old Mess Hall snooper Dickey was acting Field Officer of the Day, Saturday, and had the brilliant idea of going to Bryan in search of non-regulation and unauthorized visitors to the fair city. Late that night he was returning with quite a long list of victims, but the trip proved a fiasco in the end as he lost the list. Witnesses say that his face was as long as the list turned in for demerits by that ambitious Charley K. Leighton. It was a morti-fine day for the military prominent.

This week's presentation of the leather medal goes to John J. Gates.

## Plans For Annual Cotton Contest Near Completion

Examinations To Be Given During Two Weeks Following April 15.

Plans for the annual cotton contest, winners of which will be sent on an inspection tour of the principal cotton centers in the eastern part of the United States, and in Europe, are nearing completion, according to an announcement last week by Allan E. Bryant, Corsicana, president of the Agronomy Society.

Beginning April 15, and extending over a period of two weeks, a series of ten examinations will be given entrants in the contest. These examinations will be given by different professors, and will cover the grading and stapling of cotton, benefaction of cotton fabrics, cotton marketing, diseases of cotton, cotton production, cotton botany, cotton machinery, the genetics of cotton, cotton insects, and textiles of cotton from the consumers' point of view.

To date, fourteen men have announced their intention of entering the contest, three of which will be selected as winners.

es, one-buttoneer in "B" Company Infantry. Last week while Johnny was home in Houston, he followed the urge inaugurated by old father Noah and over imbued of potent vintages. While touring the town under the influence of this inspiring liquid, J. J. got out, locked his car, and started a tour of some sort. Returning to the car, still more strongly affected, Johnny tried to get in the car but was unable to insert the key in the lock. The ever resourceful Gates boy was not stumped, however, and picked up a monkey wrench, smashed the window, and unlocked it from the inside. Yes, he Gates the leather medal.

Casual observers have noted that for the past week or so, Doc Hinton Handley, Jr., has been paying arduous courtship to a campus lass nightly. Monday night he was still pursuing this same young dame and Tuesday morning Doc was sporting a bandaged eye around the campus. He claims this was the result of concrete splashing in his eye. Maybe he was trying keyhole tactics—if so he should see use for the proper form. Maybe we're Hinton too broadly, though.

While riding on the Bryan-College bus last week, there came to our attention the advertisement of one cafe in Bryan. The name had one cadet inserted in its place. The finished product was "Eat At the T. D. Owens Cafe." Here now, "Scrapiron", what will Jimmy Flynn and Gipe Sebastian say? We're oven them more recognition than they're getting out of this.

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