

NEW GOVERNOR

Today W. Lee O'Daniel is being inaugurated as governor of Texas in the most colorful ceremony ever to be staged in Texas.

Mr. O'Daniel's career has been one which puts Alger heroes to shame. Starting his life handicapped financially and lacking in higher education, Texas' new governor worked his way through a business school before entering the commercial world.

The phenomenal success he has met with in business is well known to everyone. In Louisiana and Kansas, before coming to Texas, Mr. O'Daniel made a name for himself as an organizer of business.

On the lips of everyone during the gubernatorial campaign last summer were tales of his success in the floor industry in Texas. Starting his work in Texas working for "the other fellow," Mr. O'Daniel decided to enter the industry on his own, offer the public a new product and attempt to build an enterprise of importance. This he did.

His "homely" philosophy appealed to 500,000 Texans, enough of them to win him the governor's chair in the first primary.

Of course Mr. O'Daniel has made and will make mistakes all human beings do. But in face of his great success in business, his popularity with the people of Texas and his sticking by campaign promises, we all owe the new governor our support in attempting to carry out the aims which he set and which the people of Texas approved.

EDUCATION BUDGET

The Board of Control's recommendation to the Legislature for expenditure on higher education in Texas during the next biennium speaks for itself. The Board notes that it has exercised its own estimate of legislative wishes by reducing the total requests made by the Board of Education by some 7.5 per cent, a comment that may occasion no enthusiasm on the part of that body. For it is a logical assumption that the Board of Education asks for the institutions under its supervision more than it is expected to receive, it follows that in addition to a cut by the Board of Control another may be anticipated in the Legislature.

Approximately \$20,000,000 is recommended for higher education for the next two years. Of this amount, practically half goes to all activities of The University of Texas, Texas A. & M., and the Junior A. & M.'s, the remainder being divided among twelve senior state schools.

That lengthy table of figures speaks eloquently for the multiple unit character of our present higher education program. The division of the proposed appropriations, logical enough in endeavoring to carry out the most practical plans for university and college schools under present theories, is silent witness, too, to the inadequacy of support for all of the many schools, support that would place all of them in the first rank.

The biennial scramble for the available state funds will probably continue for many years to come, certainly until Texas turns resolutely to the business of planning a complete system for its higher schooling in order to get the best results at the least expense.

—DALLAS MORNING NEWS

KEEPING ORDER

This year an attitude toward underclassmen has been taken by seniors which is leading to some disastrous effects. We refer to the failure to keep underclassmen in their rooms in accordance with college regulations.

No one deplors more than we do the necessity of telling freshmen and sophomores just what to do and when to do it. However, it seems that some members of these two classes are not content with confining their actions to decent limits when they are indulging in "extra"-regulation activities.

We suggest that cadet officers do all in their power to prevent A. & M. from being given too bad a name around this county by enforcing the regulations concerning the hours during which freshmen

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and sophomores are supposed to be in their rooms.

Several incidents lately have shown clearly that at least some of the members of these two classes will not conduct themselves decently when the regulations are not enforced. It would be far better, of course, if the bearing down could be only upon these individuals. But that is impossible.

In addition to the bad representation of A. & M., there are undoubtedly some in the group who should be putting their time in study.

Commandant Moore has pointed out the impossibility of having all the places around the college "policed" by O. D.'s and has said that maintaining that regulation is within the authority of cadet officers. We believe the authority should be used.

EDUCATION SYSTEM

We have been aware that there is something radically wrong with our school system for a long time. The sarcastic indictments of it coming from H. G. Wells, the terse criticisms of Alexis Carrel, the dogmatic assertions of Henry C. Link, and the swashbuckling disregard of educational precedent on the part of Robert M. Hutchins have helped to pound deeper into the public consciousness an ever growing suspicion that higher education is not higher education.

Now that suspicion has been confirmed by a piece of scientific research that leaves no room for further doubt. The recent report of the Carnegie Institute for the Advancement of Teaching, which covered the activities of over fifty-five thousand students, disclosed some astounding facts.

First, its tests indicated that far from showing progress, some college students actually showed intellectual retrogression during their courses.

Second, the amount of knowledge and mental alertness possessed by various individuals seemed to bear no relationship whatever to their position in school. Many freshmen were far superior to seniors who were planning to graduate from the institution in which they (the freshmen) had just enrolled.

Third, many teachers were discovered to be considerably below the intellectual level of the people whom they were supposed to be teaching.

All this shows that we have suffered from a lack of constant critical examination of the ends of higher education and the coordination of means in order to attain those ends. Our system of schooling must undergo some profound re-adjustments before they will be prepared to meet the needs of a dynamic and changing society.

—Utah Chronicle

Dr. T. F. Mayo's Column

In a brand new Library book on "Micropedology" (weird title!), I found the following passage. It intrigued me, and I pass it on to you:

"How does the soil appear to human beings? It looks like a more or less plastic mass, in most cases somewhat drab in color . . .

"If we were of the size and if we had the manner of living of the microorganisms, our answer would be quite a different one. Perhaps we should say: The soil is a huge system of many-shaped cavities, which are built of glassy material, partially clear and colorless, partially intense green, red, yellow or brown, almost entirely transparent, seldom translucent and only infrequently opaque. In the cavities active organisms are to be found, in some only few, in others very many, according to the size, climate, and food conditions of the various cavities . . .

"In microscopic dimensions the soil is not just a mass, but a whole world. We are able to get an idea of what we know of this world if we think of it in terms of our world translated down to microscopic dimensions. All its towns, villages, houses, church towers, trees, men, and animals would be visible only by the use of a good microscope. We could not have known very much about it if we had not lived in it ourselves. It would appear to us as does the soil, quite like a mass. Naturally, then we cannot treat this soil world en masse if we wish to know what is actually going on within it."

Please don't ask me why this passage intrigued me. Partly, I think, it gave me a little of that sense of wonder at the strangeness and complexity of quite familiar things like mud, a sense of wonder which when sufficiently intensified makes nature poets out of otherwise harmless citizens. This particular bit about the soil recalls a far finer piece of writing on the same subject by old John Burroughs, the great naturalist. He called it "The Divine Soil", and it is to be found in his book, "Leaf and Tendril". Here is part of it:

"I long ago convinced myself that whatever is on the earth and shares its life of the earth, and, in some way not open to me, came out of the earth, the highest not less than the humblest creature at our feet. I like to think of the old weather-worn globe as the mother of us all. I like to think of the ground underfoot as plastic and responsive to the creative energy, vitally related to the great cosmic forces, a red corpuscle in the life current of the Eternal, and that man, with all his high-flying dreams and aspirations, his arts, his bibles, his religions, his literatures, his philosophies—heroes, saints, martyrs, sages, poets, prophets—all lay folded there in the fiery mist out of which the planet came. . . .

"The lesson which life repeats and constantly enforces is 'look under foot'. You are always nearer the divine and the true sources of your power than you think. The lure of the distant and the difficult is deceptive. The great opportunity is where you are. Do not despise your own place and hour. Every place is under the stars, every place is the center of the world. Stand in your own door-yard and you have eight thousand miles of solid ground beneath you, and all the sidereal splendors overhead. The morning and the evening stars are no more in the heavens and no more obedient to the celestial impulses than the lonely and time-scarred world we inhabit. How the plant thrills and responds to the heavenly forces and occurrences we little know, but we get an inkling of it when we see the magnetic needle instantly affected by solar disturbances."

And while we are reeling off these "ain't-Nature-grand!" passages, we may as well go really Victorian and end with a bit from a forgotten poem of Tennyson's. Let's see if it hits you as it did me when I stumbled on it the other night:

"The music of the moon
Sleeps in the plain eggs of the nightingale."

History Repeats But In A Way That's Not So Funny!



PREVIEWS and REVIEWS

"Too Hot To Handle" produced by Lawrence Weingarten. Directed by Jack Conway. Based on a story by Len Hammond. Screen play by Lawrence Stallings and John Lee.

Cast of Characters
Christ Hunter Clark Gable
Alma Harding Myrna Loy
Bill Dennis Walter Pidgeon
"Gabby" MacArthur Walter Connolly
Joselito Leo Carrillo
Parsons Johnny Hinds
Hulda Virginia Weidler

The story "Too Hot To Handle" is a fast moving epic of the life of a good newsreel man. The part played by Clark Gable is that of the newsreel man. He does a better job of acting in this picture than he has ever done before. It is a role that suits him to perfection.

Myrna Loy, an able assistant in regard to holding up the feminine lead of the picture, shows her heels and climbs another ring in the ladder of fame.

Clark Gable and Myrna Loy, as daredevils under fire, provide thrills romance and action-packed drama in "Too Hot To Handle". Action gets off to a flying start in Shanghai, War, aviation thrills, the quest of a lost flyer in the jungles and the crack up of Miss Loy's plane, are among the rapid fire details of the new picture. The Gable-Loy combination figures in an even faster than "Test Pilot" picture. There is a hoax accusation and love dawns amid a melee of excitement.

COLLEGIATE REVIEW

HARVARDMAN GORDON M. BELIEVE IT OR NOT, THE

Riggs claims he isn't the Hercules of collegeland—but he proved he at least had a Herculean sense of humor when he made that statement. In case you haven't heard about Gordon M., you'll lift your eyebrows a notch or two when you learn that he can twist an iron rod into the shape of a pretzel barehanded. Listen to him:

"Of course I do knot up an iron bar now and then and I have lifted four men weighing more than 600 pounds, but I don't think I'm much stronger than the average college student. I put my fist through that wall over there, but the plaster must have been kind of soft."

Yes, just like that, he wins our plaster pusher gonfalon!

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Bryan

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THE EXCHANGE STORE

"An Aggie Institution"

What's Showing

Assembly Hall Tuesday and Wednesday: "Too Hot to Handle", Clark Gable, Myrna Loy, Walter Pidgeon and Leo Carrillo (Reviewed to-day).

Palace Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, "Kentucky", Loretta Young and Richard Greene.

DR. G. S. FRAPS, CHIEF OF the A. & M. College Experiment Station chemistry department, and state chemist, has accepted an invitation to present a paper entitled "The Relation of Nutrition to Live Stock Production" to the animal husbandry section of the Southern Agricultural Workers Association in New Orleans, La., on Feb. 1. Dr. Fraps has been re-appointed general referee on fertilizers for 1939 by the Association of Official Agricultural Chemists.

UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO word-technicians have been working for a long time now on a new American-English dictionary, and they've come across a couple of facts that may be of interest to you. For instance:

They've found that use of the word "co-ed" was first made in 1893, and first got recognition in the old "Independent" in 1907 in this sentence: "The fellows in a body may laugh at the co-eds yet they rarely fail to open or close a door for them." Maybe that is meant as a bit of a left-handed etiquette lesson for us, too.

And the "college widow" is given recognition with this definition: "A 'college widow' is the unfortunate young woman who, having been the pet of several college generations without making a single permanent capture, at last finds herself deserted of admirers, and with faded charms, falls out of sight and memory."

AT THE ASSEMBLY HALL

GREAT STARS OF "TEST PILOT"
is a thrilling drama of the lives of newsreel cameramen . . . by the author of "The Big Parade"



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