

THANKS!

The A. & M. Mothers Club of San Antonio is to be highly congratulated on its farsightedness and public-spiritedness in contributing the sum of \$100 to the fund being raised for assistance to the A. & M. Library.

Most Aggies have long recognized the needs of our Library. But no one has ever before done much about the situation. Adequate funds are not provided by the State Legislature for the Library to operate on properly. On \$30,000 or a little more a year, as compared with the \$100,000 or more the libraries of many land-grant colleges not as large as this one get a year, the Library has for years had a hard struggle trying to maintain the building and staff and equipment and to purchase scientific works and journals and encyclopedias. It is almost impossible for it to secure enough copies of the most popular works. Its stock of 70,000 volumes is a god one—the best that can be purchased on the money allowed—but it is deplorably small compared to the quarter of a million copies that the University library has.

The Cushing Memorial Library being in such a desperate financial condition, the San Antonio Mothers Club has taken a forward step and come to its rescue. This is only the latest public-spirited act of this Club. It gave the first \$100 to the Union Building fund, and has contributed to a number of other worthy projects for A. & M.

It is to be hoped that the 14 other Mothers Clubs of Texas will follow the fine example the San Antonio Club has set.

COLLEGE GROWS

Economists all over the country may not come right out and say that American business is on the better side, but to one seeing College Station for the first time, it would surely be his viewpoint that business in this city, which is only a few months old, is better than the average city of its size to be found anywhere in the United States.

A huge building program is now going on at the college proper as well as the surrounding incorporated sites of College Station. New residences in College Park, Oakwood Addition, and other residential sections are being begun every day; to such a degree that the lumberman, electricians, plumbers, and other workers concerned with a building program should find College Station their Utopia.

Even though College Station is newly incorporated, it is growing by leaps and bounds. A student who was graduated from A. & M. only a few years back would hardly find the surrounding area of the college recognizable nowadays.

TEXAN OUT OF STEP

The Daily Texan of late has been using some terms in reference to Aggies which have not been flattering, to say the least. Included are such terms as "Boy Scouts," "soldier boys," and some which are not even that pleasant.

Imagine how embarrassed Texan Editor Pat Daniels must have been when he read this paragraph in his own newspaper:

"Dr. J. A. Fitzgerald, dean of the School of Business Administration, declared (before a legislative committee) that as an officer of the University he thought The Daily Texan's "attack on A. & M. disgraceful." He declares that The Texan was flooded with propaganda and presented a distorted attitude on the question.

"The boys of A. & M. are the flower of Texas manhood," he said."

VILLAGE PHILOSOPHER

Somewhere, either in reality or in the realm of the imagination, you have seen the perfect picture of the town philosopher who just sits and whittles in the village store. If you were to ask him what he does when he is not whittling, he would say that he just sits.

You sometimes wonder if he doesn't have the right idea after all. He never seems to go hungry, and he's always the center of attraction in a group. Maybe too few people forget to stop a moment and just sit. And when you really come to think of it, what would the majority of people do if they were asked to suddenly stop whatever they were doing and sit down to think a moment. The debutante would mentally go over the guest list for her theatre party. The business man would no doubt get out his pencil and paper and figure his income tax, and the housewife would plan the next day's menus. None of them would, you may be sure, just sit idly, and perhaps doze.

Life has become such a complicated affair that

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there is no time to enjoy the things that give living a purpose. Goethe said, "Every day look at a beautiful picture, read a beautiful poem, listen to beautiful music, and if possible, say some reasonable thing." None of these things could be done if you were not to stop the hustle and bustle of living long enough to idle a moment.

—THE BELLS

THE TEXAS B. A.

We Texans take not inordinate pride in our state—its size, its breadth of character, its splendid birth in heroic sacrifice, its growth from little to much. We have never felt there is anything about Texas itself of which we need feel ashamed. Rather we think that Jefferson Davis voiced an eloquent truth when he said to old Hood's Texans in the Army of Northern Virginia: "The men of other states have their reputation to make but the sons of the Alamo have a reputation to maintain."

As to education, we Texans have a great thirst for it, a bit bitterly flavored by the recognition that in the limited time in which we have had to work, barely a hundred years of history, and with the limited means at our disposal, we have not yet gone as far forward as we would. With enlightenment, a heritage from our first fathers, we have opened education wide to all. Our constant striving is to make the opportunity one of quality as well as of quantity. We grant you that a degree from the University of Texas is not the full equivalent of its counterpart from Harvard or even of similar degrees granted by the State Universities of Michigan and California. We are not proud of that, we Texans. We state it simply as a fact. And we bend our energies to fulfilling an earnest hope that in the near passage of time no youngster with a degree from our university or its sister senior institutions need fear comparison with an award of learning elsewhere gained. We Texans are accustomed to look forward, not back.

So it is with something of a shock that we hear our Legislature importuned to lessen the requirements for the degrees of bachelor and of master of arts, as if the lordly pronouncement of the two houses can bestow learning or their dictum make of the shadow the substance.

That this may be a part of the muddled thinking of our age and nothing new at all may be all too evident to university faculties now. For they have seen in the public school system children pushed along to high school matriculation and sometimes to graduation with no sure foundation in the basic subjects of which their need is great. Annually they have seen many hundreds of Texas youngsters dropped from colleges that they never should have entered. The Legislature is asked to terminate the dropping process but to do nothing about the lack of preparation. We are to provide a degree that can only be a degree in the Pickwickian sense of no degree at all.

The "Texas B.A.!" You can imagine how they will say it. A Texan seeking an educational post elsewhere will be ashamed to claim the origin of his degree. Our educational accolade will be one with a beer baronetcy, a shallow pretense to merit as this will be to learning.

—DALLAS MORNING NEWS

On National Affairs

BY DR. R. P. LUDLUM
MORE ON SPAIN

The monarchy of Alfonso XIII was replaced in the spring of 1931, in an entirely bloodless revolution, and a republic was instituted. The government of the republic has changed three times since 1931—or, as we say in the United States, there have been three administrations. The first administration, 1931-1933, was a liberal one. It framed an excellent constitution for Spain. Religion was disestablished, compulsory education provided for (Alfonso's Spain had had the second highest rate of illiteracy in Europe—45%), woman suffrage established, divorce made easy, and labor promised some participation in the rewards of industry. In accordance with this constitution, the administration set about all manner of reforms, cutting down the overgrown power of the church, trying to provide land for the peasants, retiring extra army officers, and so on all along the line. Unfortunately, the administration consisted of liberals and intellectuals who were not politicians, and their reforms, while well-intentioned, were not carried far enough.

The liberal government gave way to a Rightist (conservative) one, which lasted, in various combinations, from 1933 to February, 1936. This administration was an oppressive, reactionary one. It tried to undo all that its liberal predecessor had done. When the socialists revolted in desperation, they were crushed with the loss of 1,400 lives. Opposition to the administration was put down by terror, and by 1935 some 30,000 opponents were in jail.

The third administration of republican Spain is the present Loyalist government, although the present administration differs somewhat in membership and composition from its original in 1936. (I am writing on Tuesday; of course there may not be a Loyalist government by the time this appears on Friday.) This administration was elected in February, 1936. The preceding, Rightist administration lost in a close vote in that election: 4,838,449 votes to 3,996,931. The winners made up a Popular Front, or Left, or liberal government; but they were not a socialist or communist group. Of 478 members of the parliament, only 16 were Communists. The Cabinet had not a single Socialist or Communist in it. The backers of this Popular Front administration include many political groups—republicans, liberals, democrats, socialists, communists, anarchists, and syndicalists; and many classes—the freemasons, most of the clergy, most of the landless, most of the peasants, most of the workers, most of the middle class, and most of the intellectuals.

This administration was formed in February, 1936, and the revolt against it began July 18, 1936. Franco's supporters are the feudal aristocrats, 95% of the army, the officer class, the monarchists, the Fascists, the politically minded Catholics, some of the industrialists, and part of the police force. The division, therefore, is quite plainly democracy against autocracy.

PREVIEWS and REVIEWS

BY RAY TREADWELL

Assembly Hall, Friday night, 6:30; "Kentucky Moonshine" with the Ritz brothers, Tony Martin, and Marjorie Weaver.

A 20th Century-Fox picture, produced by Rarryl Zanuck from an original story by M. M. Musselman and Jack Lait, Jr., with Lew Pollack and Sidney Mitchell furnishing the music and lyrics for such hits as "Moonshine Over Kentucky" and "Reuben, Reuben, I've Been Swinging".

The picture again brings to view the often reshaped hillbilly theme made popular by Bob Burns acoons ago and since then worn out by every studio in Hollywood, with the net results that the story turns out to be as antique as the mountaineers themselves in spite of some grand song hits by Pollack and Mitchell and atmosphere drawings by Paul Webb, hillbilly artist

for Esquire. Marjorie Weaver of "Sally, Irene and Mary" fame turns in a gallant try in the picture which is her first leading-role film, but in spite of her efforts she is practically mired down by the obsolete musical mountaineer story and the stale cracks of the Ritz brothers who appear in this picture to be more like a trio of amateur night hams than the stars of "Life Begins at College," which was their only accredited front-page finish in spite of innumerable starts; so this picture is no exception to their general rule. Slim Summerville turns in the average performance but at that it is far superior to the pitiful efforts of Tony Martin who is only a tinsty copy of some of the first rank musical type stars, and who has never been more completely shown up than in this attempt.

KNOW YOUR COLLEGE

BY BILL MURRAY

An organization that's "different" is the Cosmopolitan Club—probably the most international and unusual club on the campus, and certainly one of the most interesting.

Its extremely worthwhile objectives are the elimination of whatever prejudice and misunderstanding and lack of knowledge native American students at A. & M. may possess for and about foreign students, and the substitution, in place of these, of increased knowledge, understanding, and friendly relationships between the two groups of students.

The membership of this club includes students from all over the globe. This year there are members from Mexico, Puerto Rico, Cuba, Aruba (West Indies), India, Egypt, Panama Republic and Panama Canal Zone, England, Venezuela, China, Japan, Poland, Peru, Colombia, Hawaii, the Philippines, Costa Rica, Salvador, Ecuador, and other countries.

But the membership is by no means limited to foreign students. Fully as many American as foreign students are members. Anyone can enter the club who wants to. This club is one of the easiest clubs to join and to remain a member of, of any on the campus. It is one of the very few that collect no dues or membership fees of any sort; for it is sponsored and maintained by the "Y" as a Y. M. C. A. activity.

Starting with the principle of better understanding between foreign and native students, its scope is unlimited. There is scarcely any topic that cannot be discussed at

the meetings, which are of the widest variety and of a very informal nature, so that all members may at all times feel no hesitance in voicing their opinions.

A somewhat surprising fact about this organization is that, despite the mixture of nationalities of its members, its meetings are held in the utmost friendliness. In general the meetings consist of speeches on world affairs, and talks and open forum discussion about our own and foreign countries and customs and events. Very interesting was the friendly debate and discussion that took place between the Japanese and Chinese members of the club following the outbreak of the Sino-Japanese War.

Among the many people who take an interest in the club and help with its activities are Mr. and Mrs. M. L. Cashion, J. G. Gay, Mr. and Mrs. V. K. Sugareff, Dr. and Mrs. George Summey, Jr., Dr. John Ashton, R. E. Clark, and W. A. Owens.

Chairman of the Cosmopolitan Club Committee this year is Alvin Goodstein. Members of the managing committee are P. J. Stach, T. G. Hall, J. F. Fouts, Gilbert Michalk, F. M. Kahn, and Jerry Butler.

The club has high hopes for the next semester's activities. One of the first moves will be a drive for membership to make it one of the largest clubs on the campus. At present it numbers around 175 members. Anyone is welcome as a member, and in interest of meetings anyone would certainly be well repaid for his attendance.

COLLEGIATE REVIEW

If you would like to know how it feels to be a college president, Dr. Ralph Cooper Hutchison, of Washington and Jefferson College here, has composed his conception of the job.

Dr. Hutchison, who was graduated from Lafayette in 1918, says: "It is the greatest job in the world. To have constant and permanent contact with the fine and tempered minds of an outstanding faculty, to live among these choice students at the time of their vibrant activity and maturing aspirations, to go to and fro among the achieving alumni of a great college and to work with the kind of men who are trustees here is all that any man could ask for a happy, inspiring life experience.

"But the job has its drawbacks. The college president is likely to starve to death in the midst of plenty. He lives with fine minds, but has no time to listen to them. He lives in a world of books, but

cannot read them. He dwells among students when he hungers to know, but he is chained by his responsibilities and they by their decent consideration of him and their juvenile fear of 'apple shining.' He lives a life of abundant praise, abundant criticism, abundant loyalty, abundant fun, abundant everything. But he is like a donkey which starved to death between two stacks of hay."

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What's Showing

Palace, Thursday, Friday and Saturday, "Paris Honeymoon" with Bing Crosby, Franciska Gael, and Shirley Ross.

Palace, Saturday night preview, Sunday, and Monday, "That Certain Age", starring Deanna Durbin. Assembly Hall, Thursday and Friday, "Kentucky Moonshine", with the Ritz brothers, Tony Martin and Marjorie Weaver. Benefit of the Rifle team.

Assembly Hall, Saturday afternoon, 12:45, "Thanks for the Memory", with a cast including Bob Hope, Shirley Ross, and Charles Butterworth.

Assembly Hall, Saturday night 6:30, 8:30, "Fast Company" starring Melvyn Douglas and Florence Rice.



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