

By Wick van Kouenhoven

A. & M. is trying "something different" in setting up the new "Looking at America" graduate series, in order to provide its engineering graduates with a better background in cultural and social aspects of life today. A survey of other engineering schools shows that the necessity of broadening the background of engineers is recognized by leading institutions and many different solutions are now in use.

The A. & M. requirements are for most engineering courses, five semesters of English (one of which is in public speaking), one semester of government, and one of economics. Non-technical electives often result in adding one semester each of government and economics.

Massachusetts Institute of Technology, generally considered to be America's top engineering school, has about the same amount of cultural and sociological subjects as A. & M. At M.I.T. the required curriculum includes two semesters of English, two semesters of Government, and two semesters of Economics.

However, M.I.T. in an effort to turn out technologists with a better awareness of the world and how it got in this mess, encourages its future students to enroll in a liberal arts college and spend three years there before entering the great Cambridge institute.

Tech has made cooperative arrangements with about a dozen such colleges—all of them with strong science and mathematics departments—whereby students take three years of liberal arts there, two years of engineering at M.I.T., and receive two degrees in five years—B. A. from the liberal arts college, the appropriate B. S. from the Institute.

California Institute of Technology, now regarded as our No. 1 science school and a top-drawer engineering institute, has made

the inclusion of certain broad humanities electives a definite part of their policy. The institute states in its catalogue that a few technical courses had to be sacrificed in order to do this, although most other engineering schools "accord little more than a gesture of recognition to the liberal arts."

During the first year at Cal Tech, there are full classes in both English and History. However, the class in history may be taken during the sophomore year instead. In any event, a comprehensive examination in both subjects must be passed at the end of the sophomore year.

**More English**  
Additional English is carried through the junior year, and during the senior year humanities electives must be selected from Philosophy, Ethics, or Literature; and social science electives from Current History, U. S. Constitution, Economics and Business Law. (Incidentally, Cal Tech uses the grade-point system.)

Another institution checked by the Batt's researcher is the University of Michigan, whose engineering school was the first in the middle west. There a double dose of English is taken the first year, and economics throughout the second year. A single semester of English is taken in either the third or fourth year, and a number of non-technical electives are required, some of them being in the field of humanities.

Purdue, which is the Indiana land-grant school and might as easily have been named Indiana A. & M., requires English through the first year, but exempts from freshmen English those who are in the upper third on the orientation exam. An English speech class and an economics class take one semester apiece in the sophomore year. During the junior year, a non-technical elective is carried each semester, from English, Psychology, Government, History or Economics.

**Concrete Effort**  
In establishing a definite program of postgraduate work in the humanities for engineers, A. & M. is making a concrete effort to solve one of the gravest problems confronting technical schools. Whether or not the plan is successful depends on the number of graduates who are willing and able to carry on that plan of study, after leaving the campus and starting to dig for a toehold in the industrial world.

A parting note: the problem of how to give a complete education in four years is not limited to technical institutes. Many liberal arts schools find that the amount of work in such a field as social science is so vast that their students come out with only a vague smattering of the physical sciences. It is hard indeed to turn out a fully educated graduate today!

## Hughes Honored By County Supers; Taught 49 Years

William L. Hughes, for 49 years a teacher and for 29 years head of the Texas A. & M. College Department of Education, was honored recently with a cash gift and the admonition "Take a vacation or buy a new suit—if you can find one" by the Association of Texas County Superintendents and Supervisors, an organization he founded in 1924.

Born in Williamson County, Texas, March 1, 1877, Hughes was educated in Howard Payne College, the University of Texas, and Texas A. & M. College, receiving his B. A. from Howard Payne in 1920, a B. S. from A. & M. in 1921, and his Master of Science



William L. Hughes

degree from Texas A. & M. in 1922.

He began his teaching career in the public schools of Williamson County at the age of 20 and in 1920 came to College Station to organize and head the A. & M. Consolidated School. Two years later he joined the College Staff as head of the newly created Department of Education.

Seeing a need for a permanent organization among the county officials of Texas' public schools, he organized that group in its first annual meeting in 1924. Since that time, this group has met at Texas A. & M. College each year, missing only 1942-43 because of the war.

In 1928, he was elected president of the Texas State Teachers Association, in which he holds a life-time membership. In September, 1945, he retired from active leadership of the Department of Education, but continues to teach in that department.

After Taps . . .

## Midnight Mailman Hurries Late Letters On Their Way

That man who goes slipping from dormitory to dormitory after taps is not a second-story worker, out to steal what few valuables A. & M. students possess. It's Bill Huddleston of the Midnight Mail. Of all campus activities, the Midnight Mail is probably the least publicized. But it is a valuable service to students whose families live in Houston, Dallas, Fort Worth or points beyond.

In every dormitory there is a special box—not a U. S. mail box but a concessionaire's—in which mail may be deposited up to 10:30 at night, for a small fee. This mail is collected by Huddleston every night except Saturday, and turned over to postal officials on the midnight train. The letters are delivered unsorted, but postal clerks on the train sift them out. By the time the midnight special has puffed up to Bremond, south-bound letters had been separated, and are transferred to the Houston-headed mail train.

Under this system, a boy may write a letter to his dad in Dallas at 10 in the evening, and have the letter get to home or Dad's office in the first morning mail, a few hours after writing. As most letters are written in the evening, after the post-offices are closed, this means a saving of a whole day.

During regular sessions, with so many cadets writing to Tessies at TSCW, most of the "dating" is done via the Midnight Mail. When a big prom is coming up, Huddleston is the nearest thing to an Ag-

## Additions to Teaching Staff Announced by Departments

Names of seven new additions to the teaching staff of A. & M. College were announced this week. Dr. Paul J. Woods, of Champaign, Illinois has been added to the staff of the Department of History as an assistant professor, according to Dr. S. R. Gammon, head of the department.

Dr. Wood received his Ph. D. from the University of Illinois in 1941, and until recently was serving as a major in the 3rd Armored Division in the European Theater of Operations.

Dr. John H. Hill of Marshall, Texas, has been added to the staff of the Department of History as an assistant professor.

Dr. Hill received his Ph. D. from the University of Texas this year, and has been an instructor there while doing his advanced work. He is an ex-serviceman and is specializing in European history.

Philip Goode, former Dallas attorney and insurance executive, has been added to the staff of the Department of Economics, according to D. F. B. Clark, head of the department.

Goode is a native of Fisher County, Texas, and is a graduate of both the S. M. U. Law School and the S. M. U. School of Commerce. He will teach economics and business law.

Stillman A. Sims, formerly of Marble Falls, Texas, has been added to the staff of the Mathematics Department, Dr. W. L. Porter, head of the Department, announced.

Sims received his Master of Arts degree from Texas A. & M. College in 1940, and was an acting instructor in mathematics during the war. He formerly taught in public schools at Marble Falls, Mexia, and Kennedy.

Dr. John A. Daum, formerly of 5840 N. 29th St., Omaha, Nebraska, has been added to the staff of

the Mathematics Department.

Dr. Dean received his Ph. D. from the University of Nebraska in 1940, acting as an assistant instructor while doing his graduate work. He served in the armed forces for over three years. Derwood Timmons, of McKinney, Texas, former Air Force Major and holder of the Silver Star; and James Mangrum, formerly of University of Oklahoma and an ex-malaria control officer in Japan and the Pacific, have recently been added to the staff of the Department of Biology at Texas A. & M. College, Dr. C. C. Doak, head of the department, announced.

Mangrum, graduate of Duke University, from Gatlinburg, Tenn., recently returned from service with the Army, during which time he attained the rank of Captain. His field is parasitology, and he was formerly associated with the Fisheries Institute. His wife is a former assistant professor of physical education at O. U. and is an expert dog fancier, being considered an authority on cocker spaniels.

Timmons, who took his M. A. at Texas A. & M. College in 1942, is a former bombardier with the 15th Air Force in Sicily and Italy. Specializing in plant ecology, he taught in the public school in Quero before leaving for the Army. His wife is presently a senior at TSCW and his baby daughter is "practice" baby in the TSCW home economics cottage, where home ec students learn by doing. Timmons holds the Silver Star, the Air Medal, and Presidential Citation.

## Auditions for "H.M.S. Pinafore" Start Tonight

Tryouts for the Gilbert-Sullivan operetta, H. M. S. Pinafore will be held tonight in the old assembly hall at 8 o'clock. It is hoped that all parts may be cast tonight and all students who are interested are asked to come out.

The symphony orchestra of 26 pieces is in rehearsal already and Bill Turner, leader of the group, states that still more musicians can be used.

The musical, sponsored by the Aggie Players, Singing Cadets and A. & M. Symphony orchestra, will be presented toward the end of the summer.

## Harnden Named All-American

Art Harnden, Texas A. & M. track star, has been named on the All-American Track Team by the National Collegiate Athletic Association.

Harnden has hung up a fine record running the 400 meter and the 440 yard events in several intersectional meets this year.

## What's Cooking

Thursday, June 27

7:30 p.m.: Students Rainey-for-Governor Club, YMCA chapel.

7:30 p.m.: Club Scouts, Pack 102 regular meeting at A. & M. Consolidated School Gym, Parents and friends invited.

8:00 p.m.: Tryouts for "H. M. S. Pinafore" at Assembly Hall.

8:15 p.m.: Musical concert at S. F. Austin High School in Bryan. Tickets on sale at door.

7:00 p.m.: Meeting of Navy and Marine corps air personnel in "Y" chapel. Plans for a party will be discussed.

Friday, June 28

3:00 p.m.: Open meeting of College Station Community Chest Committee. Y. M. C. A. Everyone invited.

7:30 p.m.: Ex-Servicemens Club Meeting, Sbsia Hall.

Monday, July 1  
7:00 p.m.: Try-outs for College Station water polo team at Downs Natatorium.

Tuesday, July 2  
7:30 p.m.: Special meeting of the Camera Club in basement of Guion Hall to discuss plans for a picnic.

## Vets Plan Big Barbecue On July 4 Holiday

Transportation to Be Furnished; Event Free To Active Members

Remember the days, long ago, when you ran amuck at Fourth of July picnics and barbecues? The old folks sat around the barrel while you kids fell in the lake. Watch yourself this Fourth, for you are the old folks now and the Veteran's club is throwing the picnic.

Thursday, July the fourth, there will be a picnic and barbecue for all active members of the veterans club, their wives, and their dates. Potato salad, barbecue, and refreshments will be served. There will be soft drinks for the children. Transportation will be furnished. Two buses will leave from behind Sbsia, one at 4:30, the other at 4:45 p. m. A third bus will leave from the county court house in Bryan at 4:45 p. m.

Admission is free, but is restricted to active members of the Veteran's club. Membership cards will be on sale at the entrance to the grounds.

The celebration will be held at the American Legion Post Hall and Park located on the Madisonville Highway. Everything is free.

## Vaughn Named City Manager; Starts July 1st

Former Instructor in Engineering Dept. of College; Was Marine Capt.

Effective July 1, 1946, Francis Vaughn, former researcher for the A. & M. College Engineering Experiment Station, will become city manager of College Station, Lloyd D. Smith has resigned to go into the furniture and hardware business here.

Vaughn, who was an instructor in Civil Engineering at A&M from 1940 to 1943, is a native of Hartford, Kansas and a graduate of Hartford High School. He received his B.S. Degree in Engineering from Kansas State College in 1935. Prior to joining the faculty at A. & M., he served in the Construction and Planning Division of the Kansas Highway Commission.

From October, 1943 till January, 1946 he served as a captain in the Marine Corps in the Pacific theater of operations. Upon being assigned to inactive duty, he returned to A. & M. and was engaged in research on column design at the Engineering Experiment Station. He and his wife and three boys live at 300 Bolton Drive, College Hills.

## J. Frank Dobie To Speak In Guion Hall Next Week

J. Frank Dobie, most famous living Texas writer, will speak on his experiences at a meeting in Guion Hall Saturday, July 6, at 7:30. The lecture is sponsored by the Ex-Servicemen's Association, but is open to all who wish to hear the foremost authority on Southwestern history.

For many years a member of the faculty at Texas U., Dobie won the Pulitzer Prize with "Coronado's Children," the story of the early Spanish explorers in Texas. Many other books of his have been on the best-seller list, especially the most recent, describing his experiences as a guest lecturer at Cambridge University, England. He was so popular in England that Cambridge did not want him to leave, but he returned

to Texas a short time ago. His dispatches from England, describing life in the "tight little isle" during the war and afterward, were widely printed in U. S. newspapers.

Dobie was the first to point out that Texas does not need to go to ancient Greece for architectural designs to ornament buildings. That idea has been carried out in the newer A. & M. college buildings, such as the Animal Industries building with its grill-work of old ranch-brands, and the similar grill in the main reading-room of the library here.

Dobie also has a national reputation on as a philosopher and a thinker on educational problems. He has been described as "more like Will Rogers than a traditional university don."

## Electron Meeting Draws Students From Far Places

EE-Physic Departments Open Graduate Seminar; Will Run Three Weeks

"Physicists' physics" is a good description of the conference on electron and iron ballistics now in session on the A. & M. campus. Researchers are present from as far away as Delaware for the three-week seminar on operation of electron microscopes and mass spectrometers. The course is one of the most advanced science classes ever to be given at A. & M., and the two lecturers are among the nation's leading authorities on their subjects.

Dr. Ladislav Marton of the division of electron optics, Stanford University, and formerly with RCA, is lecturing two hours daily during the first two weeks of the course, discussing the electron microscope. During the second week, Dr. John A. Hipple of Westinghouse Research Laboratories, will begin a daily discussion of the mass spectrometer developed by Westinghouse (one of which is in regular operation at A. & M.) Dr. Hipple's lectures will last through the third week.

The conference is sponsored jointly by the Electrical Engineering and Physics departments, and is supervised by the heads of those departments, M. C. Hughes and J. G. Potter.

## NAVY-MARINE CLUB

There will be a meeting of all Navy and Marine corp air personnel in the "Y" chapel Thursday, June 27, at 7:00 p.m. Plans for a party will be made at this meeting.

## Technicolor Tower Is Chief Landmark of A. & M. Campus

by John Holman

The chief landmark of A. & M. is not the dome of the Academic Building, nor the quartz-crystal tower of the Geology Building. It is the technicolor water tower that rears its flaming flanks between the M. E. shops and the Textile building.

The artistic efforts of hundreds of Texas A. & M. College Cadet Corps freshmen, who venture to the top of the 140 foot steel tower in the dead of night to smear in varied color paint the name of their ROTC company, have made this water tower a rainbow-colored monument to the city water works.

Over 80 legible inscriptions grace the round-bottomed countenance of this portly, silver tank, mostly names of Cadet Corps organizations, but including some female names painted by amorous Aggies who thought the best way to prove their love would be to climb a 140 foot steel ladder, hang at death's edge with a bucket of paint, and heroically write with loving tenderness, "Louise."

College Station's water tower was erected in 1920, and since then, painting the name of one's military organization upon, re-

gardless of college regulations to the contrary, seems to be traditional. The less-courageous merely climb to the tank catwalk and dabble timidly, but the bolder cadets seem to achieve a measure of greatness by hanging on ropes from the top of the tank and stroking on their masterpiece in the relatively hard-to-get-to upper parts of the 152,000 gallon cylinder.

Leading the field in number of inscriptions is "H" Company Infantry, which has four of various sizes and colors. Second with 3 each are "C" Troop Cavalry, "F" Company Infantry, "G" and "A" Batteries Field Artillery. Largest inscription is the six-foot-high "BAND," followed closely by a large "C" inclosing a pair of smoking cross-cannons of the field artillery. Somebody named Tom evidently leaves somebody named Lulu, because there it is—"TOM PLUS LULU"—on the east side emblazoned in 2 foot letters.

And what does the college think of all this? Some say it is an eye-sore, regulations say "No," but B. D. Marburger, head of the College's building and utilities department, says "We paint it about every 6 years."

## Hot Debates on Food, Shelter, At Vets Meeting

The largest number of students ever to turn out for an Ex-Servicemen's Club meeting thrashed over the problems of food and shelter last Friday. Hot and vigorous debate featured the presentation of both subjects.

(For a summation of questions asked in regard to the Sbsia and Duncan mess hall cafeterias, see the editorial "The Problem of Food . . ." in this issue.)

The investigating committees which reported to the meeting are continuing their operations. Club officials were authorized to ask the Veteran's Administration district office for assistance in solving the problem of how to eat within the limits of a subsistence allowance. The club authorized a committee to check over the books of the mess-hall cafeterias. A report was also given on the three-in-room plan. Another meeting will be held tomorrow at 7:30 p.m.

## "Woody" Varner Back In Army

Durward B. Varner has relinquished his position as assistant dean of men to go back into the Army on active duty with the Quartermaster Corps. Varner left the middle of this week for Chicago where he will attend the University of Chicago, and complete the requirements for a Ph. D. degree. As yet the Office of Dean of Men has released no information concerning who will succeed Varner.

## Night Classes in Biology Labs Are Campus Innovation

Night classes, something new in the annals of Texas A. & M. College, have been inaugurated by the College to relieve over-crowded laboratory facilities during the summer term.

Common on such campuses as the University of Houston and Southern Methodist University, night classes have never before been necessary at A. & M., so are being watched with interest by both students and members of the teaching staff.

When asked whether this school-by-night plan would carry into the regular fall and winter terms, Dr. C. C. Doak, head of the Biology department, said, "It may not be feasible, considering the manner in which the Cadet Corps is organized, but if the demand for laboratory facilities is great enough, I shall recommend night classes to the Academic Council as a solution to the classroom problem."

"We need a new building for our science classes, and I understand we are high on the program when classroom building is done, but it may not be wise to construct classroom facilities to match a post-war peak."