

### Seven Days a Week . . .

Kiest Lounge is at last open to Aggies the whole week round. The Battalion has occasionally taken the responsible authorities to task for failing to make this move sooner. The waste of space which could easily be put to use could never be condoned on a campus as crowded as ours.

Now, under pressure of the YMCA Council, the Lounge has been opened for the daily use of students in the new area. A record player, chess and checker sets, and magazines are there, waiting to be used. Comfortable, attractive furniture and adequate reading lamps adorn the three main rooms.

It's to no avail for us to cry, "Why wasn't this done years ago?" What we can say with impunity is that the opening of Kiest Lounge daily instead of for occasional week-ends presents a challenge. If the Lounge is used constantly, and the privilege is not abused by defacement or destruction of the furnishings, promoters of more such recreation spots about the campus will have firm ground to argue upon.

Let's use the Lounge, and treat it right.

### Narrowing The Gap . . .

Though we haven't got more than a beachhead on the shores of perfect faculty-student relationship, a sharp salient was driven into the enemy lines Saturday night at the Slipstick-Pitchfork Follies at Guion Hall.

The performance of the student troupers on the variety show was no more than to be expected from makeshift material and inexperienced showmen, and the jokes we had heard before. What really stole the show was the faculty band, with faculty members tooting horns and saxes, with our revered dean of engineering beating out the shaky rhythm on the skins.

Hurrah for this! say we. The profs got just as much enjoyment out of their performance as the audience did. It's hard to think of your prof as an inhuman lecture machine, intent on flunking you, when you've seen him giving his all to "Beer Barrel Polka."

### Bumpety-Bump! . . .

Of all the gripes and groans heard at A.&M. today about faulty conditions on the campus, there exists one very legitimate complaint which cannot be parried, but seems rather to be ignored.

The deplorable state of repair of many streets and roads over the campus is indeed a black mark against us. Even the smallest of Texas communities seems to have a better system of street repair and maintenance than does one of the nation's foremost engineering institutions.

There is little doubt that A.&M. has a road construction program worthy of praise. The modern two lane extension of Farm Highway 21 and the similar Bryan-College cut-off are fine examples of highway engineering.

But consider the streets surrounding the New Area, the cross-campus series of chug-holes serving as a thoroughfare between Farm Highway 21 and the College Park residential section, and the streets in the laundry area.

The contrast between these two conditions makes it quite apparent that our maintenance program is not measuring up to par.

Indeed, while we are reaching for the clouds and envisioning modern highways of years to come, we are brutally stubbing our toes in the chug-holes of our present day streets.

### Merchants of Light . . .

"Harvard College pays me for doing what I would gladly pay Harvard for permitting me to do." The words are George Herbert Palmer's—the great translator of Homer, and professor of literature and ethics at Cambridge a generation ago. The voice is that of any college instructor in his first year of teaching.

What happens afterward is a long story. It has been told many times by good men from Plato and Marcus Aurelius to Roger Ascham and, most recently, Jacques Barzun, perhaps the most engaging teacher in America today. All of them have been wise and eloquent. In none of their accounts, however, is the sum of the teacher's life broken down into bread-and-butter language.

But in a world where nothing is had for nothing, teachers, like any other human beings, must eat, however high their thinking and low their living. They must occasionally buy shoes, see a doctor, educate their children, and even own a book. Unlike others, however, they must not make a noise about it. Teaching is a calling, not a trade. In the priesthood coin of the realm is never mentioned.

So teachers have not yet got around the central inhibition of their common soul—to admit openly that teaching is merely another means of livelihood in which, probably more than in any other profession, they learn to labor and to wait. If while they wait, "they learn in suffering what they teach in song," it's good for their souls.

I say this in no mood of bitterness, with no intention of condemning college administrators alone. Whether they are privately endowed or publicly supported, colleges in the end belong to the people. What goes on in colleges will go on as long as people are more alarmed about the shortage in domestic help than they are about the hundred thousand teachers the nation needs. What goes on in colleges will continue to go on as long as people feel that it is more important to pay \$20 a day to those who tend their plumbing than those who mold the character of their children.

But the trouble lies deeper than the blindness of the people to the dangers of such a state of affairs. The problem is complex. At its root lies an alarming failure of educators in administrative posts to recognize their twofold responsibility to the people at large and to their own staffs. They have failed to show how indispensable higher education is to the immediate welfare of the nation.

L. Ruth Middlebrook  
in The American Scholar  
(To be Continued)

## The Battalion

The Battalion, official newspaper of the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas and the City of College Station, is published tri-weekly and circulated on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday afternoons.

Member  
Associated Collegiate Press

Entered as second-class matter at Post Office at College Station, (Aggield), Texas, under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

Subscription rate 4.00 per school year. Advertising rates on request.

Represented nationally by National Advertising Service, Inc., at New York City, Chicago, Los Angeles and San Francisco.

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### Medicine . . .

## 'Thiouracil' To Get Fat Faster

By Science Service

NEW BRUNSWICK, N. J., May 12—A sure-fire country joke, back when Grandpa was a boy, told of the old farmer who accidentally spilled his wife's bottle of Anti-Fat into the slop he was getting ready for the hogs—and then couldn't understand why they didn't put on weight.

Now it looks as if that old gag is going to be reversed, by giving hogs medicine that will make them get fat quicker on less corn. The medicine is thiouracil, a drug that checks the action of the thyroid gland. A really active thyroid is the gland that gives people (and sometimes pigs) that Cassius-like lean and hungry look.

Scientists at the New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station here added a little thiouracil to the rations of ten 200-pound hogs, and kept ten others on the same rations but without the drug, as controls. After 38 days the group of hogs that got the thiouracil gained a total of 610 pounds, as compared with a 470-pound gain by the control group.

The greater weight gain was made economically, too. The thiouracil group ate 524 pounds of feed for each 100 pounds of gain, while the controls used 723 pounds of feed for each 100 pounds of added weight.

Thiouracil is not on the market yet, but farmers who want to try it, once it is available, are warned not to use it on young pigs; it will stunt their growth. The best time to use it is during the last 45 days of the fattening period.

## Helicopters Lay Pipelines

By Science Service

FT. BELVOIR, Va., May 10—Helicopters demonstrated their ability to lay pipe lines in "impossible" places at an Army Engineer Corps field day here today. Since modern armies move more on their gasoline tanks than on their traditional bellies, a place for the "windmill planes" in keeping tanks, planes, trucks and jeeps supplied seems assured.

Two types of pipe were accurately dropped by two helicopters. The first was a three-inch hose of solvent-proof synthetic rubber. Five hundred feet of this was stowed in a special container under the helicopter body, the outer end attached by a line to a small anchor. When the anchor was dropped the line pulled out the hose, which was laid out straight as a string in a matter of seconds. This type of temporary pipe line can be used for getting urgently needed fuel across rivers, narrow canyons and other difficult obstacles.

The second is a more permanent type, made of 20-foot sections of aluminum tubing six inches in diameter. The helicopter carried 12 of these in two bundles, which it dropped to the ground while hovering at a height of about ten feet. A ground crew assembled the sections, uniting them with a newly designed clamp that requires only two bolts. The sections are amazingly light for their size, weighing only 60 pounds apiece. One man can easily lift and carry one of them.

Gasoline pipe lines played an important part in the recent war, especially in the campaigns through France and the Low Countries and into Germany. However, the weight of the steel sections, which had to be moved by truck, was a severe handicap. About 80% of the effort expended by the Engineers in getting pipe lines laid went into building roads for hauling materials. With the new featherweight pipe, capable of easy air transportation, this difficulty should not recur.

## Spectrometer Will Aid Isotope Study

By Science Service

WASHINGTON, May 12—Newest tool for scientific study of radioactive isotopes is a beta ray spectrometer developed at the National Bureau of Standards here.

The new spectrometer has a magnetic lens which can form images with electrons sent off by a radioactive material. Beta rays are high speed electrons, negatively charged particles which are a part of all atoms. The instrument also will aid in the study of gamma rays, the short, powerful X-ray-like radiations which are more penetrating than beta rays.

First research job for the beta ray spectrometer at the Bureau of Standards will be in measuring the penetrating power of gamma and beta rays from the radioactive isotopes now available to scientists from chain-reacting piles.

## Shreveport Club To Hold Final Meeting

The final meeting of the Shreveport A. & M. Club will be held at 7:30 p.m., Thursday in Room 205, Goodwin Hall, according to Ralph Segall. Plans for a mid-semester party will be made; all members are requested to attend.

## : Letters to the Editor :

### TWO WRONGS NOT RIGHT

Dear Editor:

Considering the situation of A. & M. in the light of one who might be sitting on the sidelines, I find that there are two wrongs on each side of the student-administration fight. The students seem to have gone off half-cocked in making their accusations and voting to ask for certain resignations, as well as voting "No Confidence" in the administration in general. The administration is on its side of the fence has gone about its worthy duties with the attitude that it could do no wrong and that students were to take orders and not ask questions.

Each side has rights and is right to its basic concepts. However, the methods employed in presenting the cases were such that each side had the opportunity to cloud the issue by pointing out the fallacies of method of their opponents.

Each side is rebelling against the methods used by the other and rationalizing by condemning the ends.

A.&M. should be tops, co-ed or not. But cross-purpose work is not making the situation any better. Each side must give a little in order to make ends meet. The students, if they will, can become better informed on matters concerning their welfare here. The administration, if it will, can give a little and thereby make up for lack of tact by looking at this thing from the standpoint of the student.

However, as things now stand, the students are "out for the administration's scalp". And the administration is doing everything to prove that the students are, after all, just kids who don't know right from first-base and must be led at all costs. The school, as a whole, is between a rock and a hard place. And it will be crushed if either side has its way. Its spirit will not be the proper spirit of cooperation that is necessary when men work with men.

So, forget scalp and rigid orders. Let the investigating committee go to the end of the gory road and take its decision and recommendations in the proper spirit. Then, work out the right thing for the school as men should work situations out: peacefully, around a table with sympathy and understanding on each side.

This will be hard for the stiff-necked people on either side to swallow.

Policies and personnel of both groups will have to be altered in order to meet the demands of school quality. Some men on either side may even be asked to leave their positions for the sake of peace and cooperation.

Is this not the workings of a democracy we hold so dear? Is it not the way to build a school? Long haired, impractical? Yes, it is, if you don't want to try it. Some would as soon swallow a brick as try this method.

President Gibb Gilchrist has been asked to step down. Now is the time to ask the officers of the Veteran Students Association to "step down". We do appreciate the good that the president and the officers have done, but we would also like to get this fight off personal ground and down to the facts. If these men left their positions and took their policies with them, the air would clear considerably. The facts would stand forth unclouded.

## 'Best Protection From Air Attack Underground' AAF

By Science Service

WRIGHT FIELD, Ohio, May 6—The best defense from air attack is underground. That is the verdict of Army Air Forces officials who have been studying Germany's underground aircraft production installations.

The Air Material Command said today that the Nazi had a total of 143 factories in production underground. Twenty percent of the German airplane industry, nearly 60% of the aircraft engine and jet production and virtually all of the V-weapon work were underground. Today, the German's installations underground are rusting, due to water seepage. They had other troubles with their underground factories, including noise absorption, gas proofing, dust control and others.

But AAF officials believe that with adequate planning, the underground installations could have protected German industry against any weapon used against the Nazi in World War II.

## Naval Reserves To Meet Thursday Night

A meeting of all Naval Reserve Personnel, officers and enlisted will be held Thursday, May 15, at 7:30 p.m. in the main lecture room of the Physics Building. Plans for participation in "Operation Naval Reserve" to be conducted nationally May 18-25 will be discussed and plans laid for an intensive drive to be conducted on the campus during this period.

Latest developments on the possibility of an active naval reserve unit for the Bryan-College area and information on summer cruises will be presented by Lieut. Tom Prickett, Jr., volunteer recruiting officer for this area.

## Air Future . . .

By Science Service

WASHINGTON, May 12—A space-saving hangar for servicing the giant airplanes that dominate today's skies has been designed by A. S. Miller, C. W. Frank and R. R. Hagglund, all of Minneapolis.

The design is predicated on the fact that most of the airplane parts that need servicing—engines, steering gear—are located forward. Accordingly, the building is approximately triangular, with vaulted roofs forming a kind of tight trefoil pattern. The forward ends of three plans are run under these three roofs, and sliding sectional doors run up to about mid-fuselage. The middle sections have semicircular pieces cut out of their free edges, which meet to form a circle around the fuselage. A soft blanket or curtain helps form a closer fit.

Separating the three hangar segments is a Y-shaped building consisting of three long arms mutually subtending angles of 120 degrees. This provides space for shops and administrative offices. The inventors point out that a new field with little traffic can start with one segment, adding others as conditions justify new construction. They also claim considerable economy in heating during the winter, and point out that

With the removal of those ideas, the school could settle down to wait for the committee's recommendations and then act as it should. A. & M. would grow to be the school it could be. Tops!

TOM DIETZ

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## Hangar to Save Space Designed

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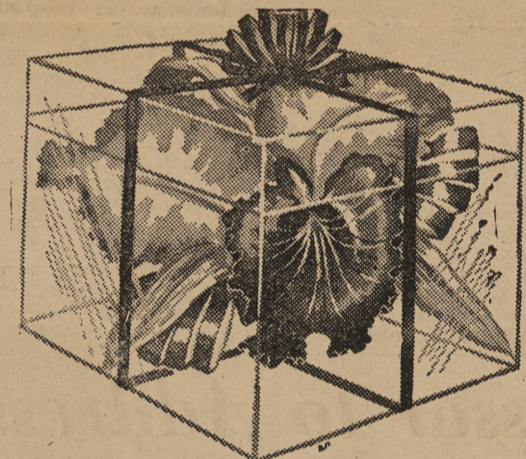
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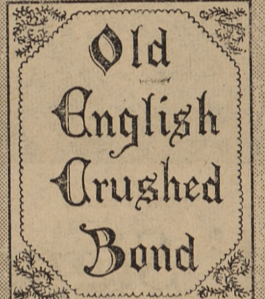
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