Battalion EDITORIALS

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 9, 1947

A Look at California U.

It's a relief to turn from the troubles of the Texas state colleges to those of another state system. Recently both Time and the Saturday Evening Post have carried articles on the whopping-big University of California and its 40,000 students. The articles tell how the size of the institution worries its

top executives.

But considering what a scholastic reputation Cal has (one of the top four in the country) and how free they have been from the sort of trouble that has dogged our Texas institutions for years, we sometimes wonder of the California system of one big uni-versity work better than our Texas system of several unrelated schools?

of several unrelated schools?

There are plenty of objections to such a change, which would unite Texas U., A. & M. Tech., TSCW, NTSC, and perhaps others into a single administrative unit.

But at least under such a unified system we might be spared such paradoxical rows as the present difficulty over the College Building Amendment. If Tech were the West Texas branch of the University, it would be impossible to fight the college system as a whole, in the name of the part. But would West Texas really be willing to give up its separate school, even though Tech benefited by the change?

No Aggles could be expected to vote for a system which would make A. & M. a branch of the University in truth, instead of in law, as at present, And so it goes. The

of in law, as at present. And so it goes. The idea of a unified Texas state college system is probably just a pipe dream. But looking at the University of California, (which includes UCLA, Santa Barbara College and Davis Agricultaral School as branches) we are sometimes dubious about the advantages of our own system. of our own system.

Here is how Time dramatizes the size-problems of UC.

"In the open-air Hearst Greek Theater at Berkeley, Calif. one day last week, 8,000 new students sat waiting. As the warm sun beat down on them, the band blared out Hail to California. A huge, hearty figure strode on stage. Robert Gordon Sproul, president of the nation's largest university (41,451 full-time students), began to speak. As everybody had known he would, he struck just the right note.

"I hope you will not take this personally," he said, "but I think that there are 10,000 too many of you. You would all be happier if somehow the 10,000 could go elsewhere. But whether you belong here or not

I welcome you."
(Wonder what would happen if an A. & M. president addressed an entering class in words?)

Most experts rate California's faculty in the nation's top four, along with Harvard, Chicago and Columbia. Among Cal's galaxy of scientific stars: Nobel Prizewinner Ernest O. Lawrence, inventor of the cyclotron; Glenn T. Seaborg, discoverer of plutonium; and-until recently-Physicist Robert Oppenheimer. Among its strongest suits: physics, chemistry, engineering, history, agriculture, music.

The predominance of the sciences at Calis no accident; it is much easier to persuade legislators of the tangible benefits of relegislators of the tangible benefits of re-search in plastics or potatoes than of the value of knowing about Yeats and Keats. That attitude is not peculiar to legislators; it is shared by many of the faculty, by the overwhelming majority of California un-dergraduates—and by most Americans. Re-marked one history major last week: "You're made to feel that if you aren't tak-ing both physics and chemistry, you're wast-ing valuable space."

Some university presidents have dictatorial powers; the president of the University of California is only a prime minister. His educational program must win the approval of the Academic Schate, a powerful faculty body that pre-dates Sproul's regime, and makes California one of the most democratically run universities in the U.S. cratically run universities in the U.S.

No new courses or departments can be added, no dean appointed, no new professor called, no academic budget instituted, without Senate action. Says Sproul with a grin: 'The faculty can't be driven. It can only be

persuaded." Sproul is, of course, a profes

persuaded." Sproul is, of course, a professionally persuasive man.

The 16-man Board of Regents (appointed to 16-year terms and by custom reappointed for life) own the eight campuses, hire & fire university presidents, spend the legislature's appropriations as they see fit.

Sproul thinks it would help if every baby were awarded a bachelor's degree at birth; that might satisfy those interested only in the prestige of a college education. A good many others, he suggests, should be shunted off to junior colleges and vocational schools, to be given the education they really want and are fitted for. That would leave the university free for what Sproul considers its real responsibility: the specialized work of the junior and senior years, graduate and professional schools, for exceptional students.

"From the president of a state university, that is a bold proposal," says Time.

But not everybody loves the "one big school" idea. Patriotic citizens of Southern California are hot for separating U. C. L. A. from its sister at Berkeley. Sproul modestly disagrees with the general verdict that "the University of California is held together by me alone." His principal argument for keeping the state's colleges in a single system is to avoid expensive duplication. To keep Southern California happy, Sproul has helped make young and lusty U. C. L. A. a strong school in its own right. Now growing at a faster rate than Berkeley, U. C. L. A. has its own football team, its own alumni association, will soon have a \$7,000,000 medical school.

Like Harry Truman at the Army-Navy game, Bob Sproul roots for both sides at the annual U.C.L.A.-Cal game. He always gets a big cheer when he ceremoniously swaps seats at the half. (a custom that would be advisable if A. & M. and T. U. should ever be united.)

That's the story on California. Does it hold any suggestions for us, or not? The floor is open for discussion.

PERSISTENCE and the help of God turned a \$100 trick for B. M. Atkinson, Louisville (Ky.) Times columnist.

Atkinson submitted a 200-word story to the Saturday Evening Post Postwar Anec-dotes column. With it he wrote a letter say-ing, "This is the honest-to-goodness truth." The anecdote came back with a rejection slip. Immediately he returned it, again accompanied by a letter assuring them it was the honest-to-goodness truth. Again it came

For the third time, Atkinson returned the story, this time with a letter saying, "This

is the honest-to-God truth." Within a week he received the \$100

THE 25th anniversary number of Lino-

type News tells this story:
William Wrigley was riding with a friend
on a train from New York to Chicago. Said
the friend: "Your gum is known all over the world. Why don't you save the millions of dollars you are now spending on adver

tising?"
Wrigley pondered a second, then asked:
"How fast is this train going?"
"About 60 miles an hour," was the an

"Then," asked Wrigley, "why doesn't the railroad company remove the engine and let the train travel on its own momentum?"

PUBLICITY Department of American Broadcasting Co, in Hollywood tells this one:

"Rivalry between radio columnists often is grossly exaggerated... When Walter Winchell whipped his 15-minute newscast over the ether waves he got a flash on the rescue of a boy who had been feared kidnapped. It came a few seconds too late for him to use it, so he rushed to Louella Parsons in mid-broadcast and she scooped the nation on the news."

THE Centralia (III.) Evening Sentinel has a standing head, FELICITATION, over birth notices. But one day recently, the newly born were listed under: TODAY'S LIVE-

THE CAT ALWAYS COMES BACK

Texans in Washington . . .

A. & M. Supplies Personnel For U.S. Agricultural Dept.

military activities is the agriculture department.

Charged by law with acquiring and distributing useful information on agricultural subjects, the department engages in research and educational programs and administers laws relating to the production and marketing of foods.

The early years of the Franklin D. Roosevelt administration, in the 1930's, saw a great expansion of its functions to aid farmers who had been hit simultaneously by the depression and droughts.

These included soil conservation, farm credit and rural electrification programs.

farm credit and rural electrification programs.

Texans always have been prominent in the agriculture department.

Among those who have served
there previously are Dr. Seaman
A. Knapp, one-time resident of
Houston, founder of the Extension
Service; Chief Justice of the U. S.
Court of Claims Marvin Jones,
once congressman from Amarillo,
who officiated as War Food Administrator, and Grover Hill of
Amarillo, who was Undersecretary of Agriculture during the
war.

war.

Those from the Lone Star State who currently hold down some of the top jobs in the department in-

the top jobs in the department chide:
Jesse B. Gilmer of El Paso; head of the Production and Marketing Administration; H. H. Williamson, an assistant chief of the Extension Country who formerly directed Service, who formerly directed that work at College Station; J. C. Dykes, assistant chief of the soil conservation service and largely responsible for the operations of that agency. Dykes is a native of Dallas, a graduate of Texas A. and M. and before coming to Wash-

ington lived in Fort Worth.

Texas A. and M. College, as would be expected, has been a steady source of top-flight careep personnel for the department for decades.

decades.

Williamson is of the class of '11
and is the current president of
the National Capital Texas A. and
M. Club. Arthur L. Roberts, '30,
of Weatherford and in the production and marketing division's
cotton section, is secretary of the
club.

Jub.
One of the oldest agriculture department employes is Charles Burmeister, Tilden, Tex., who car

LAST DAY "Swell Guy"

SONNY TUFTS

DUKE

here shortly after graduating from

ONE NIGHT ONLY SAT., OCTOBER 11TH T.C.U. Collegiate Night North Side Collseum FORT WORTH AGGIES ARE INVITED
TO ATTEND
Bring Student Identification 9 'til 1—\$1.80 per person (tax incl.) Sponsored By STUDENT COUNCIL — TEXAS CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY

Starting Sunday A New **POLICY** for the **Queen Theatre**

Just What You've Asked For

Hollywood Round-up . . .

Actors Plan To 'Red Hollywood'

Red Hollywood'

By Bob Thomas

Hollywood, A group of prominent film actors, directors, writers and producers is organizing for a campaign to combat congressional assertions of the "Communist influence in Hollywood."

Initial meeting of the organization, as yet unnamed, was held this week at the home of Director William Wyler, Academy winner for "The Best Years of Our Lives."

Speakers declared something should be done to offset the congressional hearing this month at which charges of communist activities in the movied are expected to be aired. Many Hollywood names have been called to testify before the House Un-American Activities Committee.

The new group plans to give the public "a truer picture of socialed political influence in Hollywood." Among those attending the first meeting were Wyler, Director John' Huston, Katharine Hepburn, Gene Kelly, producer Jerry Wald, Melvyn Douglas, Writer Emmet Lavery and others.

"Arch of Triumph," after almosa a year of edging, is expected thit the mittor's screens in December. The delay was due to a site of the food-net are with the source of the congressional hearing this month at which charges of communist activities in the movied are expected to be aired. Many Hollywood names in the proper than the pr

Arch of Triumph, after almost a year of edging, is expected to hit the nation's screens in December. The delay was due to a difference of opinion between director Lewis Milestone and enterprise boss Charles Einfeld over the state of the country o

prise boss Charles Einfeld over treatment of the story.

The cold season has hit town. Dick Powell and Irene Dunne just got over their sniffles and returned to work. Now Joan Crawford and the four kiddies are alling ... Note to Robert Mitchum fans: your here will do a lot of singing in "Rachel" . . Elizabeth Taylor Joins Greer Garson and Walter Pidgeon in "Speak to Me of Love", Lis plays Greer's daughter. A. and M. in 1908 and plans to retire next year. He is in the livestock branch of PMA. His brother, Gustave Burmeister, also is a vet-eran department employee, handl-ing foreign agricultural statistical information. information.

A Texan who gained distinction as head of the experiment station at A. & M. years ago, Bonney Youngblood, now is in charge of research programs at experimental stations throughout the country. His duties take him on inspection tours of these stations from time to time to coordinate and direct research activities.



TODAY & FRIDAY

and direct research activities.

Other ex-Texas Aggles here in the agricultural department include: Ernest J. Holcomb, Cleburne and College Station; W. Carl Holley, in PMA's farm labor branch, who once lived in Mineral Walls and Cuero; T. Lee Gaston, Gainesville; Maurice R. Cooper, Center, and C. L. Mimms, Spur, both in the bureau of agricultural economics; John P. Cunningham, Edinburg, and Walter L. Scott, Kemp. her note



DOROTHY HART CINECOLOR COMING: PREVIEW Sunday — Monday GUILTY ... OF ROMANCES | BUT WAS



Cattle Feeder Gets \$60,000 -Combat Attacks Of Should He Stay in Business?

"That makes it cost me \$516, not ounting the hay it eats or my own overhead and labor costs," he said. "Nor does it include any interest for my money."

But such a steer, if sold on the present high Chicago market of about \$36 a hundredweight, would fetch him only \$504.

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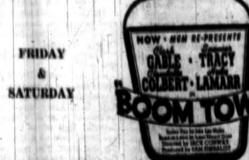
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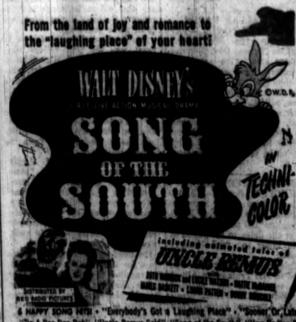
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SUNDAY - MONDAY



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