

Battalion Editorials

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MONDAY, MAY 2, 1949

A Midsummer Night's Nightmare . . .

This weekend College Station citizens got a preview of a coming attraction.

No one thought very much of the approaching opus. Several people were heard to remark that they were darn glad they weren't going to be around to see it. Others said in resigned voices that since attendance was mandatory in their cases, they supposed they'd have to make the best of it. Nobody really found anything good to say about the production.

The approaching attraction is, of course, that famous A&M summer.

At the dances over the weekend its impending presence was felt. Wilted collars, perspiring faces, and a decided reservation among the jitterbugs heralded the approach of the sweltering season.

Grade pointers in the library and report-sinking students in Guion Hall were heard muttering among themselves about probable expense involved in air conditioning those two student haunts. One Aero, on the steps of Leggett, was heard loudly proclaiming the possibility of setting up a wind tunnel at the North Gate, nailing down all driftable material, and aiming it South.

Among those students obliged to remain here for summer school, preparations reached the feverish stage. They pored over degree plans in search of subjects taught in buildings with southern exposures. House masters reported that demands for corner rooms went up 126% and that west-facing rooms could be had cheap.

Clothing stores replenished their stock of "T" shirts, sun glasses, and bathing trunks. Sun burn medicants replaced chap

stick-on the drug counters and a local tavern was seen repainting its sign proclaiming the cooling beverages to be found within.

All over A&M the preparations had begun. The population settled down, apprehensive but resigned, to sweat it out as best they could. They were secure in the knowledge that although there is nothing like a College Station summer, the entire city always manages to pull through it somehow.

One student tried to be philosophical about it. As he humped over his drawing board, weighting his papers down before the inadequate breeze of his small fan, two drops of perspiration fell from his brow onto the fresh ink lines. As they spread and discolored, he reached for a blotter and sighed.

"In Dallas" he said, shaking his head, "there is a Turkish Bath that would charge you two and a half an hour for this."

His roommate regarded him with a cool eye before going back to his schedule book. "In that case" he said, "my time should be worth a small fortune. I have a choice between welding and steam lab this summer."

A June graduate from down the hall had been leaning on the door jamb, taking it all in.

"I'll think about you guys" he said, polishing his ring on his shirt sleeve, "when I'm having a cool one in my air conditioned office this August."

When we left they had chased him up a tree in front of the dormitory and were trying to persuade him to come down and save them the trouble of getting an axe.

Dixiegop: Its Rise and Fall (We Hope) . . .

A new and strange herd of little political beasts have been sighted on the Washington scene. Some report the animals as having the heads of elephants and the bodies of donkeys; others swear they have donkeys' heads and elephants' bodies. What ever their appearance, we are coming to know of them by the name Dixiegops.

A Dixiegop is a little political critter that holds to the ideals of the Dixiecrat, votes with the Republicans, and runs on the Democratic ticket. These funny looking little beasts have migrated from the southern United States. Several have been reported from as far west as Texas.

These little creatures are a pathetic lot. They run on the Democratic ticket because they know they could not other-

wise get elected. They hold to the Dixiecratic principles because their capacity for broad thinking is restricted by the South's and particularly Texas' prejudiced shortsightedness. And they vote with the Republicans because Republicans have taken sympathy upon the poor little animals and promise them all sorts of nice things if they vote right.

What to do about these Dixiegops is causing many in this country grave concern. Those of us who have raised one in our own backyard are surprised at the product of our labor. We can't decide if he is a vermin or a precious playful little fellow.

We get sad thinking that many of these cute little animals will get killed at the next election.

The Passing Parade . . .

One of our sports writers read this news story from Austin, and triumphantly announced that it confirmed all his worst suspicions about that city. (AP quote)

A theory that a special kind of nutritional deficiency plays an important role in causing cancer, mental disease and other mystifying maladies was advanced today by a team of Texas researchers.

Dr. Roger J. Williams and two colleagues of the University of Texas suggest-

ed that allergies, arthritis, cardiovascular (heart) disease, multiple sclerosis, alcoholism and drug addiction may also fall within the same category.

Their theory is based on the results of a free-for-all booze party they threw for some rats and mice in a laboratory down in Austin. (end quote)

"Aha!" crowed our writer, "even the rats throw parties at the University!"



CONFLICT!

Letters To The Editor

CLAIMS POLICY CHANGE

To A Texas Aggie:

Very soon there will be a policy change at A&M.

The state legislature, the board of directors, all the officials (including the Chancellor), the faculty, and the chief of campus security will say to us—Well, Aggies, we are the "Powers that be," but because you have a spirit which is not manifested at any other school in the world, we must change our attitude about a few things. If you can prove to us in an intelligent manner where we are wrong, we, having open minds, will do whatever is right and work toward a better Aggeland.

Am I right, Ole Army?

Landon L. Gault.

P. S. Again, Mr. Editor, are you afraid to print this?

(Editors' note: We'll print any

of your letters as long as they are signed and free from obscenity, but we wish that you would explain this policy change to us. We haven't heard about it.)

WILL SIGN PLEDGE

Attention Comrade Gault: Bring your pledge around; I'll sign it and get ten Aggies to sign it to your one who refuses.

Your letter to the Batt of April 27th seems to have attained the height of animosity. If you have nothing to hide, why be so obstinate?

D. J. Allbright '50

SAM Wives Will Hear Family Affairs Talk

Mrs. Eloise Johnson, advisor and specialist on family affairs; will be guest speaker at a meeting of the SAM Wives Club tomorrow evening at 7:30 in the YMCA, according to Mrs. J. T. Williams, president.

Wives of Management Engineers are cordially invited to attend and bring a guest, Mrs. Williams said.

Official Notice

AGRICULTURAL STUDENTS

The U. S. Department of Agriculture needs professionally trained men interested in a career in that department. I have just received a copy of U.S.D.A. Miscellaneous Publication No. 475, entitled "Opportunities for Career Service in the United States Department of Agriculture." This publication gives information regarding fields of work, nature, and terms of employment. Interested students are invited to inspect this publication in my office.

Clas. N. Sheardson, Dean of Agriculture

AGRICULTURAL STUDENTS

All agricultural students who are currently enrolled in their fourth semester at A. & M. and all transfer students who plan to register for Summer School this summer will be required to present their approved degree plans when presenting their assignment cards for approval at summer registration. Students who have not completed their degree plans should check with the head of their major department as soon as possible.

Clas. N. Sheardson, Dean of Agriculture

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Sneak Preview . . .

'Joan of Arc' Worth Seeing Even At Road Show Prices

By HERMAN C. GOLLOB

Joan of Arc, starring Ingrid Bergman and Jose Ferrer (Sierra Pictures, Walter Wanger production) (Queen).

Joan of Arc, currently showing at hiked-up, road show prices, is one of the year's most gratifying screen experiences. The splendid and blazing pageantry of the production make it visually exciting; the force and fluency of the script, adapted from the original Maxwell Anderson play and transferred to the screen with honesty and appeal by a top-notch cast, give it dramatic fervor and make it well-worth hearing.

The technicolor cameras have been put to vivid use by director Victor Fleming. They capture with stirring results the pomp of French court life and the epic quality of the Battle of Tourelles Fortress in the siege of Orleans. Fleming's battle scenes can take equal footing with those of C. B. DeMille; the high prose of historical extravaganzas.

As to the cast and its worth, it may be said that two performances in particular are worthy of mention. Ingrid Bergman as Joan surpasses her brilliant, poignant performance as Maria in "For Whom The Bell Tolls." Hers is a beautifully compelling characterization, which reaches dramatic heights in the battle and trial sequences. Incidentally, Miss Bergman can boast one of the most expressive faces in Hollywood. Joining her in delivering a smash performance is Jose Ferrer as the timid, vacillating, witty Dauphin. Ferrer displays bell-clear enunciation and an all-round deftness with the spoken

word. A product of the stage, Ferrer is now "wowing 'em" with his performance as a tramp in the "Tin Whistle."

The story of Joan of Arc is familiar to nearly all who at some time or another have awaited through a course in world or English history. Joan, the peasant girl from Domremy, hears voices which bid her to free France from the English invaders. She goes to the Dauphin and persuades him to let her join the army and save Orleans from English seizure. Atop a white charger, Joan, in white armor, inspires the French with her courage, and saves Orleans. Next, she has the Dauphin crowned Charles VII at Reims; and not long after she is captured by the Burgundians and sold to the English. Unaided by the Dauphin, who has chosen to forget the services she has rendered him, Joan is tried and burned at the stake for witchcraft. The English invasion of "Joan of Arc" is a dramatic event to remember for some time.

Shanghai Not Yet Cut Off By Reds

SHANGHAI, May 1.—(AP)—Shanghai's peril mounted today, but indications that it was cut off by rail from the rest of China proved erroneous.

Railway officials announced that trains still were running from Shanghai to the supporting city of Hangchow, 121 miles southwest. They said that night trains had been halted, however, and that led to reports last night that no trains were running east of Hangchow, 62 miles southwest of Shanghai.

At the same time, the Telecommunications Administration announced that telephone service had ceased to Kunshan, about 35 miles west of Shanghai.

Communist troops last were reported moving east slowly on this westward approach to Shanghai.

The report that the railway to Hangchow still was open in so way diminished the threat to Shanghai's land lines to the south.

Minneapolis Holds Student Seminar

The fifth annual Student Industrial Seminar will be held June 18 to August 27 at Minneapolis-St. Paul, Minnesota.

Seminar sponsoring committees are composed of Twin City religious leaders, labor union officials, representatives of industrial plants, social agency leaders, college faculty members, and civic club leaders.

If advance arrangements are made with the students' college and the Seminar Director, college credit may be received for participation in the seminar.

Applications may be secured from Student Industrial Seminar, North Central Area YMCA, 30 South 9th Street, Minneapolis 2, Minnesota.

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DAUNTLESS MAID: Wounded at the Battle of Tourelles Fortress, Joan of Arc directs her captives, DeMetz (Richard Derr) and poolegry (Ray Teal) to carry on in "Joan of Arc". Miss Bergman is starred in the title role of Victor Fleming's lavish production in color by technicolor. Walter Wanger produced, and Victor Fleming directed the Sierra Pictures drama.

ADMISSION
Matinee — 30c Night — \$1.30
Special Admission for Students at all times
50c Children 50c

Clark Is Hired By Houston CC

Harold E. Clark, Ag Ed Senior from DeLeon, will start work immediately after graduation in June as agricultural writer and farm radio editor for the Houston Chamber of Commerce.

Clark is the second student to go into radio and journalism work in Houston this year. Jack Timmons is radio farm director for Station KLEE.

After graduation from Comyn High School, Clark attended the University of Texas on year. Following three years of service in the Air Corps he attended John Tazewell College and entered A&M in 1948. He is an active member of the Collegiate FFA Chapter, chairman of the FFA camera club, and a member of the radio club. He has contributed several articles to The Agriculturalist.

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The Battalion
"Soldier, Statesman, Knightly Gentleman"
Lawrence Sullivan Ross, Founder of Aggie Traditions

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