Battalion Editorials

A Man With A Swimming Plan . . .

About this time of the year when the weather starts getting hot, the student's thoughts turn toward getting cool, and naturally they think of going swimming—outdoors.

An indoor swimming pool is fine, especially in the winter, but in the summer it doesn't quite fill the bill. So, for the A&M student it's the Bryan Country Club, the clay pits, —or Fish Lake.

In Fish Lake near Easterwood Airport may be found the ideal solution for the outdoor swimming problem. Although it is surrounded by lillies and underbrush, sweltering Aggies haven't let that stop them. Almost every day you will find several of them there enjoying the pleasures of the outdoor life. Other students take their wives and dates there for Sunday afternoon picnics.

All in all, it offers a pleasant spot, near the college, for students to have an outing. But the striking thing is, that with just a little effort, it could be a much more pleasant place.

The place could be cleaned up and made into an ideal picnic area. The weeds could be taken away from around the edge of the pond and a platform built in the center and the result would be an excellent "swimming hole."

Since the college seems to be concerned with recreation, especially during the summer months, this would be a good place to spend a few dollars for improvements.

The initial cost of the operation would naturally be somewhat larger than the continued upkeep. A road of some sort would have to be constructed in to the area and the underbrush would have to be cut away. A few boats there would also provide an excellent form of exercise for relaxing students.

As it stands now, the place has unlimited possibilities. If the movement could get started, maybe the lake could be restocked with fish for those who like this sport.

Combining all these we would have a place for swimming, picnicing, fishing, boating, and various other outdoor sports.

We feel sure that the student's are behind such a movement. So the only other question that remains is "Can we get it done?"

Interesting Information from TSCW . . .

The following are excerpts from the TSCW Daily Lass-O's front and editorial pages concerning their new corps trip set up. (front page quote).

Scheduled for Oct. 15 in Fort Worth, the Corps Trip will be a one-day affair with activities planned here at TSCW for Friday night and chartered buses running to and from Fort Worth for the girls and their dates.

The main pre-game events will be an all-college dance here on Friday night, especially inviting Aggies, and a midnight yell practice on the campus following the dance. The students' dates will be housed free of charge by the College that night and Saturday night also if they desire.

In Fort Worth, the College will provide a large headquarters room in the Texas Hotel where students may meet their friends and dates and leave their bags. The school will also reserve rooms where the girls can change their dresses. For returning to Denton, the chartered buses will start leaving Saturday night at convenient intervals, with the last ones coming back after the all-college dances there are over.

Although students will not be compelled to return on Saturday night, the College will assume no responsibility for chaperoning a weekend trip. And the one-day plan, which was used until the Corps Trip was resumed after the war, has the advantage of being less expensive, easier on the students and better for maintaining the standards of the College. (end quote).

(Editorial quote): The plan is not intended as a restriction on the students. It is not even made compulsory. It is worked out for the benefit of the student body as a whole, and if carried out by the students in the spirit in which it was planned, the Corps trip will become a credit to the school more than a possible blot on its name.

The Corps Trip is a tradition which is one of the strongest ties with our brother school, A&M. The TSCW students welcomed the resumption of this special trip after the war, and the old one-day program was abandoned. Then the program began to get out of hand. After this year's trip to Dallas, parents and students complained about many of the things which went on in the hotels in Dallas. And the College realized that it could no longer take responsibility for a weekend of entertainment when it was clearly impossible to provide adequate chaperonage.

Each student must feel responsible for the reputation we want TSCW to have, for the whole group is judged by the conduct of its individual members. This plan will make it easier for us to uphold our standards and maintain a reputation which TSCW deserves. (unquote).

The Passing Parade . . .

This encouraging note from Atlanta once more restores our faith that no matter how wrong and inhumane and unthinking a people may be, they will eventually, by degrees, correct these faults. (AP quote).

No longer will this capital of the Ku Klux Klan allow the hooded order to wear masks in public.

The city council voted unanimously yesterday to outlaw masks except for holiday celebrations such as Halloween.

(End quote)

Now just to help the KKK's along, we should let them wear their little bed sheets and masks for one holiday a year—All Fools day.

The Battalion

"Soldier, Statesman, Knightly Gentleman"

Lawrence Sullivan Ross, Founder of Aggie Traditions

The Battalion, official newspaper of the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas and the City of College Station, Texas, is published five times a week and circulated every Monday through Friday afternoon, except during holidays and examination periods. During the summer The Battalion is published tri-weekly on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Subscription rate $4.30 per school year. Advertising rates furnished on request.

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Battalion Poem Contest

When clouds give forth precipitation,
There is no place like College Station.
Mud and slush and streets so sloppy,

Sneak Preview . . .

Turner Stages One Night Stands in 'Three Musketeers'

By ANDY DAVIS

The Three Musketeers (MGM) staring Lana Turner, Gene Kelly, June Allyson, and Van Heflin. (Guion Sat).

This technicolor version of Alexander Dumas' classic has everything one could ask for, including action, suspense, romance a la Turner, and humor a la Kelly.

With Gene Kelly as the acrobatic swordsman, D'Artagnan, Lana Turner, as the notorious Lady de Winter, Van Heflin as Athos, and June Allyson as Constance, "The Three Musketeers" get off to a start with a bang.

The Kings men or the musketeers take it upon themselves to keep Richelieu, Vincent Price, from dragging France into a bloody war with England. But with Lady de Winter in the game, mixing business with pleasure, staging one night stands, their tasks are made difficult.

Lady de Winter is finally captured in England, but manages to escape, after murdering Constance and the Duke of Buckingham, the Queen's lover. D'Artagnan swears revenge for Constance death, and makes good his threat, when Lady de Winters head is sheared from her body from the blow of a sharpened axe. After Richelieu is removed from office, the musketeers are given free range of France to do what they please.

The sword play and roof top jumping is fast and furious, with Gene Kelly supplying most of the action. The cast is outstanding and the film is tops from start to finish.

Letters To The Editor

OUTFIT BLOC VOTING

TO the Class of '51:

Sometime next week the sophomore class will hold an election of officers for next year's junior class. The object of this election, as is the prime importance of every election, is to choose the best man for the job. Many outfits, however, have banded together with the idea of putting their men into office regardless of who else is nominated. As a result, the whole class is divided into three or four "blocs," butting their heads against each other.

It matters not if the man wears Air Force brass, marches with the Cavalry, or lives in Bryan, he's still an Aggie—an Aggie in the Class of '51!!! If he can take the pieces of our disunited class and mold them into what we want—the best class that has ever gone through A&M—he's the man for the job and the man we want!

The vote should be made by secret ballot and not by count of heads in a mass meeting where everyone sits with his outfit and votes the way the outfit does. The idea of this unit patriotism is perfect for sports and competitive drill, but when it reduces the democratic right for an individual to vote as he pleases, for whom he pleases, it begins to reek with the kind of politics you would find in fraternities and certain "Universities"!!

When you vote next week, don't think of "X" Company this, or Y Flight that!—think of the Class of '51.

Name Withheld by Request

Practical Joke Fatal

KILGORE, Tex., May 6 (AP)—Donald Whittington, 18, was fatally burned yesterday as the result of some good-natured horseplay.

Whittington and a friend were tossing buckets of water on each other at a local establishment.

But one bucket happened to contain gasoline. The companion threw the gasoline on Whittington, and sparks from a welding machine ignited the youth's clothing.

He died in a hospital last night.

Blue Bonnet Farm Funds Not Okeyed

The State of Texas will not grant A&M the necessary funds to continue operations on its vast 17,000 acre Bluebonnet Farms near McGregor, according to State Senator James E. Taylor, finance committee chairman.

The legislature plans to refuse to grant any money whatsoever, according to Taylor; the House and Senate have already refused the necessary appropriations for the new proposed experiment station facilities of which the Bluebonnet Farms is one.

A&M accepted the deed to the vast Bluebonnet spread from the War Assets Administration, promising to develop it into a many-sided crop and livestock experiment station.

Secretary of Agriculture, Charles Brannon visited the farm yesterday, and it is believed that the Federal Government is considering furnishing the necessary money for keeping the farm in operation.

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Boyle's Column . . .

Woman Heads Largest Tile Contracting Firm in U.S.

By HAL BOYLE

NEW YORK—(AP)—Mrs. Mary Crocetti, who loves to putter about the kitchen, has the biggest ceiling problem in America today.

She is a plump, pleasant woman of 50 who operates a $1,000,000-a-year business, one of the nation's largest tile contracting firms.

Her workmen now are installing clay tile on the twin ceilings of the new $80,000,000 tunnel that will link Brooklyn and Manhattan.

"They are the longest ever installed in the United States—9,117 feet," she said. "That will take about 3,200,000—all set by hand."

Mrs. Crocetti talked shyly of how as a widow she had made a success in an industry dominated by men.

"Being a woman is no handicap," she smiled, "because I have such a reliable group of men working under me.

"My husband and I both worked on Italian language newspapers here a quarter century ago. But my husband opposed Mussolini at a time when many people still favored him."

Forced to enter another field, her husband, G. M. Crocetti, became a tile contractor. Upon his death she took over the business.

"I don't do much of the contract work. I like to do the collecting. It's more fun," she said.

Those in the industry say, however, that Mrs. Crocetti is a shrewd and capable executive who knows every detail of tile contracting.

"One of the biggest problems is to keep the tilesetters happy," she said. "They are skilled craftsmen, and they are as temperamental as any artist.

"They work in teams—a tilesetter and his helper. And we call them 'husband and wife.' A good team is something like a happy marriage. They want to stay together.

"But if the team quarrels and the two men don't work well with each other—well, one of them has to take a trip to Reno."

About 75 per cent of the tile setters are of Italian descent.

She has three children. One son teaches sociology. Another is a graduate student in psychology. Her daughter, Emma, 17, is in college here.

"The only one in the family who wants to go into the tile business is my three-year-old grandson," she said. "He wants to drive a truck for me."

Semester's Final Edition Of 'The Engineer' Off the Press

The April copy of "The Engineer" is hot off the press. Incidentally, this is the last publication for this semester and editor Donald N. Brown and staff have done a commendable job.

Since it is primarily a magazine for engineers, two staff men, R. W. McDaniel and Jess D. McIver, have pooled their efforts and dug up the history of surveying. This might be of some interest to the engineers taking 300 S this summer. It seems that some eager beaver on the Nile started the whole scheme of surveying about 200 B. C. Only in those days no chains were available to measure distances. Ropes were used and surveyors were called "pedonaptaers," or just plain rope stretchers.

C. C. Schwab contributed an article on the problem of parking troubles in our cities and towns. He says that many people work to earn money to buy an auto, but after buying it, they have to rely upon street cars and busses because traffic congestion is so great in large cities most of the time that many people don't drive to do shopping.

Inasmuch as water is common to everyone in daily life, Joel Stephens Fort Worth City Water Department Director, amplifies upon the importance of conserving it. Use of water for commercial and domestic purposes is increasing daily all over the country, and means for its conservation must be found.

Since Einstein cooked up the theory of "Relativity" math profs have been talking about it. The Engineer goes them one better. They have written about it. Starting out with a simple formula and an airplane traveling in two directions or making two trips or something, and with the wind blowing, writer James S. Hanna Jr. ends up in step (5) of his calculation with a four-tiered formula after squaring equations (8) and (9). The plane is lost in a cross wind with the pilot eating a lettuce and tomato sandwich or something.

Not to leave out the lighter vein poop, page eleven carries the introduction to "Smollet and the Powerful Serum." One bemuddled Aggie student (presumably an engineer) has just failed another Physics quiz. But one of the profs has a solution for his troubles. His magic serum will give Smollet power to work all math, physics and chemistry problems. In fact he will even be able to "square the circle," so the prof tells him. Smollet drank the magic potion and practically drove the dean mad. He passed a quiz. But it was too much for him, so he prevailed upon the potion mixing prof to give him the antidote.

Get your copy of The Engineer and see for yourself. It is a pretty good publication.

Job Calls

INTERVIEWS

(1) May 10—Fidelity Union Life Insurance Company, Dallas, Texas, will interview men interested in insurance sales work.

(2) May 11—Celanese Corporation of America, Clarkswood, Texas, will interview men trained in chemistry for research work.

(3) May 11—Timber Structures, Inc., Dallas, Texas, will interview civil and architectural graduates for sales work in Dallas.

ENGINEERING

(1) There is an opening in the Texas Highway Department, at Groesbeck, Texas, for a civil engineer.

(2) Arma Corporation, manufacturers of percision mechanical and electro-mechanical instruments, has openings in their research and development department for men trained in mechanical and electrical engineering and physics.

TEACHING

(1) Opening available for an instructor of industrial arts at New Braunfels.

SUMMER WORK

(1) Shneider Products Company, makers of household plastic products, has openings for boys for summer work in sales work.

(2) Southwestern Bell Telephone Company, Dallas, Texas, will have four openings in Tyler and six at Waco for summer work. The men selected will be assigned to craft work, relating to the conversion to dial service in the named cities.

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