

Welcome, to Both the Old and the New . . .

If you have ever been on the A&M campus before in your life, there is little need for us to say that you are welcome here.

From year to year, A & M's football fortunes may vary, the enrollment may rise and fall, and a war may even upset some of its fringe habits, but one thing will always remain as a truism—A&M is one of the friendliest places in the world.

Every freshman, since the school's establishment, has been urged, sometimes even warmly urged, to do two things above all others: meet as many people as he can and to speak and be friendly toward every person he sees.

Over a period of 73 years the practice has paid off. In their relations with each other, and the public at large in business associations, A&M men have made rapid strides, many times far out of keeping with their business ability, simply because they got along with their associates.

And no matter how varied their age difference nor how far removed their business and social interests in life, two Aggies will always have a strong bond of friendship. We have never fallen into a bull session with an Aggie ex in which he failed to recount the time an older ex got him a place to stay, steered him into a job, or, more than that, gave him that greatest of confidence builders; the statement that, "If there is anything I can do for you, just let me know."

That spirit can neither be bought nor measured in terms of, that green stuff issued by the treasury department.

So to all of you people coming onto the campus for the 1949-50 semester . . . whether you be new students or old . . . we say, "Welcome."

You old students know what we mean by the expression. And in four years it will mean a great deal to you new students as well.



This landmark of the college presents a far different appearance to returning students this year than it has in years gone by. The redecorating job survived the ravages of the Texas heat better than did most of the students who attended the summer session.

Town Hall, Acquaintanceship With Fine Music . . .

A couple of weeks ago the story reached us about the Aggie who was invited out by his boss for supper. This Aggie had to follow the lead of his boss's wife in choosing what silverware to use on certain dishes. He felt rather clumsy and ill at ease.

The conversation began to drag because the Aggie and his boss had little in common, except the work at the office. But after a while the wife, probing for a subject of conversation, mentioned that she liked good music. The only thing that the Aggie knew of good music or fine entertainment were the programs he had attended on the campus during the Town Hall season.

He mentioned that he had heard Gladys Swarthout last spring. Miss Swarthout was one of the boss's wife's favorites. Immediately they had a common talking point.

As the Aggie later recalled the experience, he said that from then on there seemed to be a change in attitude his boss held toward him. The fact that they both

had at least a small measure of cultural appreciation gave the Aggie a much greater opportunity for success and advancement.

This is what the Town Hall series attempts to do. The top talent in varied fields of entertainment is brought to the campus for the student body to attend. Over a period of four years, you, as a student, get the opportunity to become acquainted with the very best in the light classical and classical music field. Last year Gladys Swarthout, Alec Templeton, the Don Cossack Choir, and Phil Spitalny were on Town Hall programs. This year Joseph Szigeti, the Robert Shaw Chorale, the Houston Symphony Orchestra, Burl Ives, and Frankie Carle are booked for Town Hall performances.

Not only are the programs entertaining in themselves, but they help develop appreciation for fine music and elevating entertainment.

We recommend your attendance to this years Town Hall series.

The Memorial Student Center, A Contribution . . .

On the main campus just south of the Drill Field, bricklayers are building walls around a large reinforced skeleton of a building. Drawings of the building show neat architectural lines, and the new building's directors promise many services and facilities to be provided for the student body. This building being carried midways through construction is the Memorial Student Center.

Nobody in authority will commit himself, but rumors have it that the Center will begin operation in mid-1950. So, by the time you reach the main campus, there'll be a brand new Student Center for you.

As a student body, we've not done much to get the Center for A&M. The former students started the ball rolling several years ago with a substantial donation, and the state legislature followed that up with an appropriation of around \$1.5 million.

Those of us on the main campus have not grown very hepped up about the Center, it was just given to us. We didn't buy any bricks at \$100 each; we didn't kick in on any donations; we haven't donated a penny.

But sometime during this coming school year we are all going to be asked to help out on the Center.

There's enough money to build the building, and enough even to put furniture (of a sort) in it. But there are a number of things that our Center will need that, unless we help buy it, the student body will have to do without.

A building like the Center, with all its planned facilities will take more money than has been appropriated. We want to put nicer furniture in it than present funds will provide. We want the best, and we can get the best if we are willing to contribute some of our personal money for it.

Sense of Duty and Pride in School Are Spirit of A&M

The railroads, highways, airplanes and cattle trails leading to College Station have taken a real pounding this past week as thousands of Aggies, old and new, began their trek to school. Those of you coming to A&M for the first time no doubt are wondering what the next few years will hold, but your immediate concern probably deals with what kind of school this A&M really is.

You may have heard of some of our customs and ceremonies. Surely you know something of our Muster Day from listening to your radio and reading your newspapers. Then, too, you perhaps have heard of our annual "Turkey Day" bonfire which precedes every football game with Texas University.

You may know of Silver Taps, our "Aggie lines" which can be found in every Texas town, and the friendly way we greet each other.

But there are other sides of life at A&M of which you may not yet have heard. Things such as belonging to the close knit organization which we make up. That will come with living as we do in close, personal contact. You will have the opportunity to form friendships that will last far beyond the few short years that you are a student here. And you will participate in or witness the activities of the military department which are so much a part of A&M.

You will learn to know and take pride in the history of A&M, the world's largest military school, which stands ready to offer you the best in modern education. Perhaps you might think from the way we talk that studies are of secondary importance, but you will learn that we make good use of the vast physical plant that is A&M. You, too, will have the opportunity to do the same with these almost unlimited facilities.

You will take part in the many traditional ceremonies that occur throughout the school year. You will learn to speak our language, to take an active interest in our affairs, and to share our common interests. And with your sharing of our lives you will develop a respect for this college and for the men who made possible your attendance here.

And gradually the real reason for our pride in being Aggies will become apparent to you. It is not only because we have one of the most outstanding schools in the world or that we turn out some of the best trained college graduates in the country. But it is a pride in being a part of a vast body of men who have shared common experiences, and who have dedicated a part of their lives to making their own school a better school so that others might have an opportunity to share in the unequalled experiences that can be had at A&M.

When you know that pride, when you have developed an appreciation for the work of those men who went before you and a sense of responsibility for those men who will follow you, then you will know as we do the true meaning of The Spirit of Aggieland.



Jacques Abrams will be one of the feature attractions of the 1949-50 Town Hall series.

Senate Heads A & M Student Government

One Student Senator will be elected by each battalion at the Annex, Keith Allsup, chairman of the Student Senate Election Committee, announced today. The Student Senate is the student governing organization of the campus comparable to the United States House of Representatives.

Last year three Senators were elected by the three freshmen battalions at the Annex and one Senator, from the veteran group. In addition to the Senators elected by the battalions and veterans, the Freshman Class vice-president, by virtue of his office, became a member of the Senate.

The Student Senate is composed of 43 members. These members are elected by the following methods: each dormitory and housing area on the main campus elects one member; vice-presidents of the classes (Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior) are members; and a number shall be elected at large to bring the total Senate membership to 43.

Senate Officers The Senate elects from its own membership the Senate officers—president, secretary, and parliamentarian. Every Senator is a member of one of the nine standing committees. From time to time special committees are appointed.

Once a month the Senate meets to discuss the matters of student government under consideration. Committee reports and recommendations are heard, and new business is discussed. For the past two years the Senate has been organized. It concerns itself with matters of general student body importance. It acts in an executive capacity for the student body both on and off the campus. The Senate serves as a liaison organization between the faculty, the student body, and other colleges in matters relating to student activities.

These nine Senate committees

serve in the following capacities: The Executive Committee (7 members) concerns itself with all matters of student life which are not specifically handled by any other committee. An example of the Executive Committee's jurisdiction is the subject of the identification cards which are being issued this Fall. The original discussions were begun by the Executive Committee.

The Social Committee with five members works with the Director of Student Affairs in planning the college social program. Social representatives requested by other colleges to represent A&M are chosen by the Social Committee.

The Welcoming Committee also with five members is responsible for maintaining cooperative relations with other student bodies and outside groups. This past year A&M was chosen by other schools in the Southwest Conference as being the most sportsmanlike.

The Sportsmanship Award was won only after much work had been done by such groups as the Welcoming Committee. The Welcoming Committee journeyed to other campuses during football season last year and officially invited the other student bodies to our campus. Also the committee operated information booths on the main campus during football weekends here.

Election Committee The Election Committee (five members) handles all campus-wide elections except those held within the classes themselves. This committee sets election rules and recommends to the Senate qualifications for the various campus offices.

Four Senators are elected to serve on the joint student-faculty Student Life Committee. This committee is comparable to the United States Senate. All policy affecting measures passed by the Senate must be submitted to the Student Life Committee for their consideration and approval before

they are finally presented to either the all-faculty Academic Council or the College Executive Committee.

Two members of the Senate are chosen to serve as a Publicity Committee. They will release news stories on Senate activities.

The Mess, Hospital, and Exchange Store Committees are joint student-faculty committees which serve to recommend improvements of service by these College operated facilities.

Candidates Freshmen desiring to become candidates for the office of Student Senator must file a petition of candidacy with the Dean of Students at the Annex, W. G. Brangale. These petitions of candidacy may be secured from his secretary.

Filing for candidacy must be made within the first ten days of school. Elections will be held either near the end of the second week of school or early in the third week.

The tenure of office for Student Senator is for one year, from October seventh to October sixth. Last year notable achievements of the Student Senate were its efforts toward A&M's winning the Sportsmanship Award, recommendation of the use of identification cards, planning and presentation of the state-wide Muster Program and the Mother's Day Program, raising \$850 in the World Student Services Fund drive and sending half the money to Germany and half to Greece, and handling seating arrangements at home football games.

Over the past two years the Senate has grown from a new, incipient student government to an effective, recognized, and respected organization. Charles Kirkham, president of the Senate stated, "He said that every indication is that this year will be one of greater achievement for the Senate and thereby, a year of more service to the student body."

From Where I Sit . . .

Pleasure Seeking Fish Is Given Vital 'Orientation'

By HERMAN C. GOLLOB

To the Fish, who between the childish achievement tests which determine his ability to accomplish such inconsequential trivialities as memorization of the Einstein theory and translation of ancient hieroglyphics; and unctuous pep talks by a deceptively exuberant faculty who extol the advantages of the outdoor latrine, finds time hanging heavy on his fins, we dedicate this column, which we shall disparagingly refer to as the most vital part of his orientation.

Fish Jones, there is no need to languish in your tarpaper suite at the Annex the whole day through, twiddling your thumbs; or writing, with quivering lip and misty eyes, love letters to the gal with whom you have parted seemingly forever; troubling deaf Heaven with your bootless cries and otherwise beweeeping your outcast state. Treat yourself to that most economical and pleasurable of all annul antidotes and the surest cure for the blues, the zenith of all forms of diversion (with the exception of an evening in the cordial atmosphere of Uncle Ed's)—the movie.

I implore you to disregard the fallacious and dastardly rumors concerning the dearth of genuine, wholesome entertainment in the Bryan-College Station area. We are not, as those insidious defamers of our community declare, singularly destitute in forms of recreation.

Far from it, there are six theatres in this vicinity, and to clear up a misconception, "We've Never Been Licked" is no longer the feature attraction at them all. In College Station, we find two diversion dens, the Campus and Guion Hall. In Bryan, the pleasure emporiums number fully three—the Palace, Queen, and Dixie. And right in your own back yard you'll find the Rivoli (I believe it is still standing).

The Campus and Palace cater to first-run films as well as the popular reissues. There the current offerings of Hollywood's top companies are screened, and strange enough these theatres often receive films before those hot-beds of culture and crime, Houston and Dallas.

A somewhat erratic policy in entertainment offerings is followed by the Queen. Both Grade-A and mediocre films find their way to this screen, as do the first-runs and second-time-arounds. And western addicts may have their lust for horse riding and gun play satiated at the Dixie, which is noticeably partial to the talents of Johnny Mack Brown, Tex Ritter, and similar renowned wielders of the pearl handled six shooter.

Guion Hall is primarily a second-run house although it occasionally bills a contemporary attraction. At Guion, all the works of the English infidel, J. Arthur Rank, appear on occasions which are not too rare.

Last, and least, we have that droll little Annex establishment, the Rivoli. A&M's contribution to the barn theatres of our country. The absence of arm-rests on the seats could hardly be termed conducive to the full enjoyment of a film. The same may be said of the ventilation, which had its origin, beyond a doubt, in Cro-Magnon times.

But the movies aren't all we have to offer, Fish Jones. Several times during the year Town Hall, an admirable campus organization managed this year by Jarvis Miller, presents in concert the top musical personalities not only of this country but the world as well. Joseph Szigeti, the violinist extraordinary; Burl Ives the balladeer;

and Jacques Abrams, the young pianist virtuoso are among the talent which has been gleaned for the coming year.

Aggieland gives its answer to the Great White Way two or three times a year at Guion Hall when director George Dillavou presents the Aggie Players, an organization of local inception and comprised of students and members of the community with leanings toward the groans and footlights, in noted stage successes of past and present times.

The professional quality characteristic of previous player efforts makes way for substantial optimism on this year's attractions, which are as yet unannounced.

So hear up, Fish Jones. The grind is not so intolerable nor the entertainment so scarce that you can't take time to venture within the dark confines of a theatre and partake of the means of illusion it affords.



"Like your new Sener Boots swell, but I think my formal liked you better as a junior!"

The Battalion

"Soldier, Statesman, Knighly Gentleman" Lawrence Sullivan Ross, Founder of Aggie Traditions

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Table with columns for Managing Editors, Feature Writers, Sports Writers, Photographers, Advertising Representative, and Co-Editors. Lists names like Clayton Ralph Lewis, Dave Conell, etc.

Official Notice

ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING STUDENTS Students registering for first semester Sophomore work in Electrical Engineering will make their study plans in accordance with the curricula in the number 71 catalogue. All students who have advanced beyond first semester Sophomore work will follow curricula in the number 72 catalogue.