

Battalion Editorials

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FRIDAY, JANUARY 13, 1950

Student Aid Fund: A Friend in Need . . .

A little known loan fund existing on the campus and available to students is the Student Loan Fund administered by Dan Russell, head of the Rural Sociology department.

This fund is one of several funds that students may draw on in times of hardships. The Student Aid Fund is peculiar in that it serves students who need money to pay for medical or dental aid above that covered by their hospital fees.

The unique feature of the Student Aid Fund is that students borrowing money set the times they will make payments. No interest is charged on the loans.

Dr. Russell cited an example of one of the loans made several years ago. A student borrowed around \$50 for dental work,

but he said he couldn't pay for five years. On the exact date of his loan five years later, Dr. Russell received a letter containing the man's check—for the dental money borrowed, and a few dollars extra.

To raise money initially for the fund, several sports events were staged by students. A freshman football game, a sophomore football game, and other contests between classes and groups, and individual contributions have brought the fund to \$1,400.

Such funds as this, though never used by the majority of our students, are comforting to have. They are sort of aces in the hole: If we need their help, we know it is available to us.

Case History of the Political Pastor . . .

Politics can extend to many fields, especially in Oklahoma.

In that state, interest is mounting in the coming race for U. S. Senate, now held by one Elmer Thomas. One of the most popular men in Oklahoma since Will Rogers has tossed his hat into the ring—The Reverend Bill Alexander is running.

Alexander has approached religion with a much more broad frame of mind than has been seen in many years. He has advocated and installed for the younger generation pool tables, bowling alleys, and other forms of entertainment usually frowned upon from the pulpit.

Speaking five or six times a week throughout the state and often in Texas, Alexander has developed a following equalled by few in the state of Oklahoma.

Whether this following will follow him in his debut into the field of politics re-

mains to be seen. Opponent Thomas has gained much unfavorable publicity during his tenure of office, yet probably still controls enough votes in Oklahoma to make the race a hard one for the victor, whoever he may be.

As yet, we have not encountered enough material to formulate opinions on Alexander as a representative of the people, but we have read and heard much of the incumbent, Thomas. Thomas has brought, while he was in Europe, much unfavorable comment from the inhabitants of that continent, obtained by moves a more polished and more considerate representative would not have made.

We are looking forward with much more than mild interest to the outcome of the senatorial race of the state just to the North.

From Large Estates, Little Holdings Grow . . .

In England 24,000 acres is quite a plot of land. And for one man to own it is a holding equivalent to many sections of Texas ranchland.

The Earl of Harewood, nephew to King George, is the landholder of such vast acreage in England, but not for long.

The Earl has announced that he will be forced to sell his estate because of high income taxes. Thus, another great estate in England will be broken up into small holdings in socialist Britain.

After hundreds of years of great disparity between rich and poor, Britain has decided at the polls to level-off wealth and redistribute it. Immensely high taxation on incomes has forced many such sales as the Earl of Harewood. Whether this taxation will destroy initiative among the able in Britain is a condition not yet manifested in Britain.

Whatever the outcome, Britain has embarked on an experiment in government that has met with notable failures in other countries. Perhaps the British feel that they can profit by the mistakes of other countries who have adopted the socialistic path of national existence and failed. Maybe the British feel that they won't make the same mistakes.

In this country we must adopt a wait-and-see attitude. Some Americans have jumped to the conclusion that British soc-

ialism is a bust, and these Americans cry out that this nation is pursuing a political and economic course too closely paralled to the British.

Other Americans appear ready for socialism, even are hastening it along the way.

We need to always keep in mind that what Britain does is her own business. We may observe her decisions, but they do not necessarily have American application.

Britishers who espouse socialism for their country claim that they are striving for the same political and economic equality that democracy in its literal form promises. They are seeking to do this without sacrificing personal freedoms or inalienable rights of the individual.

Attainment of this state of national development seems, from our perspective of several thousand miles overseas, impossible. We will still find it almost inconceivable for men to believe that economic and political equality can be attained without suppression of many individual freedoms. If the British find that they have enslaved themselves to a tax load that stifles any personal incentive whatsoever, we can only envision their government turning into a political dictatorship.

Should this develop, the British will undoubtedly still claim "There will always be an England," but we don't see how.

The Battalion

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News contributions may be made by telephone (4-5444) or at the editorial office, Room 201, Goodwin Hall. Classified ads may be placed by telephone (4-5224) or at the Student Activities Office, Room 209, Goodwin Hall.

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Letters To The Editor

(All letters to the editor which are signed by a student or employee of the college and which do not contain obscene or libelous material will be published. Persons wishing to have their names withheld from publication may request such action and these names will not, without the consent of the writer, be divulged to any persons other than the editors.)

An Open Letter to Norton McDuff, '53.

Dear Mister McDuff:

So you're discontented with A&M and don't like the setup here? Well, we are certainly glad that you have decided what is wrong and have so capably suggested the remedy. It's marvelous that you have become so well versed in the functioning of this college, its faults, and the solutions to these faults in the four months that you have been here. However, we think that anybody that has been here considerably longer would not suggest such a radical change as is involved in your suggestion.

We realize that A&M has been here only a short time (since 1876, incidentally), but it has expanded and become renowned simply because it is a strictly masculine, strictly military school. And much to your disappointment, it is going to stay that way. You didn't come to an unknown place when you came here. Even so, it is not difficult to conform.

There's many other colleges with Petroleum departments and they all have girls; in fact, they're lousy with them. And we're sure that you could find one that could "resurrect your fallen spirit" and give you that "necessary, day by day, slow growing, everlasting friendship, which is the only type which makes for a happy married life." You won't find her here!

Although it may not have been your object to disagree with the present system, but only to suggest a change, in doing so, you have belittled a thing Aggies hold dear. You have run down the greatest axiom—that an Aggie is your buddy. Perhaps you should get acquainted and learn that we haven't quite reached the depths of moral perpetration that you are too sure of. And upon further association, it is quite possible that

you would discover that Aggies are the best friends you have.

Yes, your assumption is correct; a greater majority of Aggies than even you can assume will someday marry and, with all probability, enjoy a well rounded, happy family life just as the thousands of exes before them. And amazing as it may seem there will be no crippling complexes to alter their civic and social life. They'll be good citizens, not one-sided and biased as you so boldly put it. And more than likely, their sons will be Aggies.

You damn right, A&M is a great educational system. You think its facilities should not be denied the girls of the state and that they should have access to our school, our traditions and the atmosphere that has surrounded them so long. We don't think that way. Neither do the thousands of high school and grammar school boys who dream of coming to A&M someday. It would be more than a tragedy to take that dream away from them and the one afterward. With co-education, A&M would die.

In closing, we can reasonably assume that it is the corps and the spirit and not the feminine element itself that is most discomforting to you. Evidently you don't have much regard for the Aggie uniform—or much desire.

Disgustedly,

Roy D. Nance '51
Rip Stultz '51
Frank Thomas '51
Nick Deck '51
Dick Graves '51
J. W. Lambert '52
T. A. Goodwyn, Jr. '49
Jack Hallaway '51
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Munching of Chips May Be Prevented

By HAL BOYLE

New York—Do you know how to eat potato chips noiselessly?

A technique for munching them without sound effects is being publicized by the National Potato Chip Institute as a public service for 1950.

"There have been complaints that potato chips are too noisy to be served in theaters and at high society events—but that is wrong," said Fred Meyers of M & L S. P., Wis., institute president. "The noiseless method is to gently break the chip into two pieces and allow the halves to melt in your mouth. It's a great deal quieter than chewing celery."

Meyers says that potato chips, once a poor man's delicacy, have gone highbrow.

"They're now welcomed in the best eating places as well as the tables of high society. And they share the appetizer tray with rare cheese and caviar. That's really getting up the social ladder."

Potato chips have gone up the financial ladder, too. In 1936 the industry sold only 45,000,000 pounds. In 1948 it marketed 258,000,000 pounds for about \$250,000,000.

This year the industry hopes everybody will eat at least two and a half pounds of chips—and if they do it won't be peanuts. It won't be hay either.

The "chippers" hold their annual convention in Cincinnati next week, and I'm sorry I can't be there. They are going to pick a queen who will wear a crown made with 1,000 potato chips and a train of over 5,000 chips. Her throne will be completely covered with potato chips. And I'd like to see her sit down.

If she can do that without going "errrrrrrr-r-r-runch" well, there'll be no stopping the potato chip in 1950.

QUEEN

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Honeymoon Mixup

Hanover—After 24 years of marriage, a man living in Schweiburg, near here, divorced his wife to marry his mother-in-law, the "Hannoversche Presse" reported.



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