

Battalion Editorials

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MONDAY, MARCH 20, 1950

I Never Thought of This Campus Being Pretty; . . .

Overheard from one of our campus visitors this past weekend, "What a beautiful campus you have." Her next remark was just as complimentary, "Our campus is not near as beautiful as A&M's."

Her date, upon hearing this burst of enthusiasm and praise for our campus, looked out over the green stretch of grass, trees and buildings near the Administration Building and observed, "Yeh, I guess it is. I just never thought of this campus being pretty."

Most of us have about the same attitude as this Aggie—we take the campus for granted and never really notice its beauty until someone not associated with the college points it out to us.

Now that spring is bursting forth to give leaves to trees that stood bare and desolate-looking through the winter months, patches of grass to bald, oft-times muddy spots in campus yards, and flowers to beds where no beauty, but the beauty of broken dirt, has dwelled since late summer last year.

By noticing the natural beauty of our campus, and observing that many of our buildings are beautiful, like the Aggie did this weekend, we experience a new sense of pride for this Aggeland.

It is a pleasure to bring guests to the campus when we are sensitive to the attractions of the campus, and can point them out—and have our visitors remark, "What a beautiful campus you have."

Compatible with this pride is the desire to preserve in the highest form, the natural and material beauty of the campus. Scratched marks on clean walls, broken or scuffed and scratched furniture in well equipped rooms, defacements on buildings bestowed by unthinking students—these are unsightly consequences of lack of pride and of unwillingness to cooperate in preserving things placed here.

The college B&CU Department is responsible for keeping the campus and college facilities in good condition; let us help keep it beautiful.

Comes Now, The Greater Houston Social Register . . .

Houston-and-environs' counterpart to A&M's "Who's Who" the great Houston Social Register, was shipped to this post office last weekend by its publishers.

Brazos County placed 294 out of 5,000 names in the Register.

That's pretty good considering Brazos County is 90 miles from Houston. And it's a great distinction, too. Commented the Bryan News in a front page sub-head: "This area has most names outside Harris County."

Conspicuous in the Register are names of Brazos County people included, and those omitted. Many expected to make it, did; many surprise names were there, too. And just lots of names generally considered Social Register material got lost somewhere in the shuffle.

Bases for selection to the ranks of the elite were carefully described in the Register's preface: "Selections were generally based on the followings:"

"Families with long and distinguished social records.

"Families who have used their properties or positions to enrich the arts, sciences and culture of the community.

"Families who have made outstanding

contributions to the community over a period of time.

"Families whose background and history are closely interwoven with our social structure.

"Those individuals whose talents have made noteworthy contributions to our culture and manner of living."

Who buys the Social Registers? The people who are in them, for one—excellent decorations for end tables. Door to door salesmen also buy them to learn of prosperous potential customers. And newspapers purchase them, too.

The newspaper by checking people's names against the Social Register will know how to play a story on somebody. If the person is "in the book" then it's headlines and pictures—catering always to the elite, you know. If his name is not among THEM, his newsworthiness then would depend on what he DID rather than who he is.

Like flying saucers, 23-inch little men, and rocket ships to the moon, social registers are not to be taken seriously.

At \$10 bucks a throw, the publishers of such a collection of names will drag in \$50,000 from social registerites alone.

For New Zealand's Leopard, the 'Grand Manner' Death

New Zealand's leopard gained a more heroic death than Oklahoma City's stupid beast that fell for a mickey finn, was dragged humblingly to his zoo pit, and died a lingering death of a day or more.

Army Captain H. B. Conway killed the New Zealand leopard at the range of six feet. He emptied a magazine full of tea gun slugs into the spotted cat. As a result she died in no time at all—or perhaps even sooner.

Not blessed by making a bazzare escape as did the Oklahoma, New Zealand's

leopard ingloriously escaped through a hole in the fence.

Where thousands of Okies fearlessly beat bushes and stalked shadows for several days, only 40 New Zealanders—soldiers, police, zoo attendants, and civilians—were in on the two day hunt.

Our observation: New Zealand being a rather small island is not as large as the state of Oklahoma. Consequently, not as many people are needed to hunt leopards there as in Oklahoma.



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.)

INFORMATION REQUESTED

Editor, The Battalion: After reading the letter which appeared in the Battalion of March 16, certain questions arise in our minds. We feel that we are not in a position to offer any definite comment on the matters which are currently being discussed by the board of directors for the reason that no report has been made on their meetings.

We feel that we are entitled to some information other than the rumors which circulated in the corps area, so we propose the following questions to the editors of The Battalion.

1. Is there at the present time any plan under discussion to make any change whatever in the status of the Corps of Cadets?

2. If so, is the Cadet Corps to be given any opportunity to express their views or opinions on the subject, or is it to be presented as an accomplished fact following a closed session of the board of directors?

3. If such a plan is under discussion, on what grounds is a change justified? As we are directly concerned, we are entitled to an opportunity to answer any charges made.

We realize that the answers to these questions may not be available to our college newspaper. If such is the case, we want to know why they are not. If however a plan is under discussion, we do not want to be deceived by a definite statement, yes or no.

If we are to have to fight to preserve the corps, let's start now. Give us the reasons for a change and a chance to present our side of the case.

Robert A. White '50
K. C. Smullen '50
A. C. Jordan '50
Phil Parker '50
W. C. McMillin '50

(Editors' Note—We have no recent, concrete information on this subject. At least we are guessing, but here are our personal answers to your questions.

(Question one—The A & M Board of Directors is the only body which could answer this question and its members would have to answer it as a group, not as individuals. It is our opinion that next Fall the Freshmen will be separated into their own units. We believe this will be the only major change which will be made in the status of the Corps of Cadets.

(Question two—The Student Life Committee of the Board of Directors has met twice on the campus within the past month. This committee has questioned—to obtain the Cadet viewpoint—the following students and former students: cadet companies of 45-46, 46-47, and 49-50; Senior Class presidents of 46-47, 48-49, and 49-50; the presidents of the Classes of 51 and 52; two present company commanders; the head yell leader of 49-50; and the president and vice president of

the Association of Former Students.

(At every Board of Directors meeting there is a "closed" or executive session as well as an "open" or public session. Most major A&M System business is handled during the "closed" session.

(Any announced decision by the Board of Directors is "final" or, as you put it, "an accomplished fact," short of countermanding legislative action.

(Question three—Again we say the Board of Directors is the only body which could say whether any change is under discussion and, if so, upon what grounds a change might be justified.

(Judging from conversations we have had with many of the students and former students who were interviewed by the Board's Student Life Committee we believe the student viewpoint is definitely being considered.

(We would like to make this comment on your statement as to the unavailability of answers to The Battalion. No person on this campus is empowered to speak for the Board of Directors. Neither is any individual member of the Board empowered to speak for the Board as a whole. Therefore, official answers to your questions are not available to anyone at this time.

(The next Board of Directors meeting will be coming Friday and Saturday in Dallas. Both co-editors will be present at the "open" session and The Battalion will carry a full report of all board action.

MODEL PLANE PROBLEMS

Editor, The Battalion: As occupants of the A row of College View, we have a complaint to make.

Every clear afternoon we must either leave College View or be run stark-raving mad by the people who fly their model airplanes behind our apartments. Our babies can't sleep through all this noise and as far as studying goes, we must never make plans for that on a clear afternoon.

There must be some other place the guys can go to fly their planes, but if there is no other place we wish they would stop flying them completely.

It's awful to have to listen to that noise all afternoon. We would sure appreciate it if the people who are flying these planes would stop.

Signed:
Donald Ray Beasley '48
H. F. Weaver '50
L. T. Smith '51
C. L. Leinweber '51
R. L. Allen '44
M. H. Brown '43
T. M. Robinson '52

Official Notice

NOTICE TO AGRICULTURAL FRESHMEN

Any agricultural freshman student planning to major in Dairy Husbandry has an opportunity for \$200 annual training scholarship offered by the American Guernsey Cattle Club.

Any student interested should call Prof. A. L. Darnell, Office Phone 4-5324 or residence phone (in evenings) 4-1234 for appointment and additional information.

SKYWAY SHOWS AT 8:45 - 9:15

DRIVE-IN

Tonight - Last Nile
Maureen O'Hara and
Paul Christian in
"BAGDAD"

LFL ABNER Him?

LFL ABNER IS A KNEE MAN? - SO ANY CHANGE THAT EXPOSES HIM ON MINE - EF IT KILLS ME.

YO!!

Friends gather 'round Now that you've found.

HEINE'S BLEND

TOBACCO PIPE TOBACCO

SULLIVAN TOBACCO CO., 48 Franklin, S. P. Calif.

From Where I Sit . . .

New MGM Musical Doffs Reality, Dons Exuberance

By HERMAN C. GOLLOB

On the Town (MGM) starring Gene Kelly, Frank Sinatra, Betty Garret, Vera Ellen, Jules Munshin, Ann Miller (Palace)

Anyone who has ever expressed the desire for a screen musical comedy which like those of the stage, drops all pretense of reality,

quite taking itself seriously, and carries its audience into the bright and wistful, rather-never-world of melodious fantasy would profit by a visit to the Palace, where MGM's brassy and exuberant "On the Town" a film adaptation of the Broadway hit, is enjoying a three-day run.

For the first time in Oscar only knows, plot becomes merely inconsequential in a musical and serves only to tie the music together neatly and orderly.

With the carefree, boisterous energy of a gang of eight year olds playing cops and robbers, the cast lets down its hair and has a helluva good time as it prances through such whimsical and delightful nonsense as bursting into a dance on Times Square, in the Museum of Fine Art, atop the Empire State Building, and in the middle of seemingly orthodox conversation.

The zany and unorthodox script, brimming with slapstick shenanigans and ribald romance, has a familiar theme and familiar routines which have been given a robust and enervating treatment by co-director Gene Kelly.

Three sailors (Kelly, Sinatra, Munshin) have a 24-hour leave in New York City, and set out to paint the town red. In the course

of their visit, they meet two beautiful, man-eating damsels (Garret and Miller) who take over Munshin and Sinatra and join Kelly in his search for Miss Turnstiles (Vera-Ellen).

He finds her, she reciprocates his feeling of love at first sight, they overcome the usual hardships that greet young lovers, and all ends happily.

Kelly has injected his sprightly and dramatic imagination into the dance routines which are executed with corresponding verve by he, Miss Miller, Vera-Ellen, Munshin, and Sinatra.

Particularly vivid (pardon the nauseating cliché, but its getting late) were the "Miss Turnstiles" routine and Kelly's ballet sequence with Vera-Ellen.

If you plan to see "On the Town," arrange nothing serious for afterwards. It'll wear you out, but pleasantly so.

Ag Engineering Field Trip Will Tour Valley

Fifty-seven agricultural engineering seniors are planning to make a field trip to the lower Rio Grande Valley during the week prior to the Easter Holidays. Roy C. Garrott, professor of Agricultural Engineering, said this morning.

Student headquarters in the Valley will be at the Weslaco Experiment Station. Men making the trip will be quartered in barracks at the Experiment Station and in the Cortes Hotel in Weslaco.

Faculty members planning to make the trip are Fred R. Jones, head of the Agricultural Engineering Department, and Professor Garrott.

Tours Scheduled

The field trip will include tours of the Weslaco Experiment Station, the irrigated farms in the Elba and Edcouch areas, the Holt Experiment Company at Weslaco, the United Irrigation Company head at Mission, the Frank Reising Company at Edinburg, some of the irrigated farms which have been planned by the Soil Conservation Service, the Cameron and Hidalgo County Water District Number 9, and the Central Power and Light Company at San Benito.

Students planning to make the tour are W. F. Allison, J. W. Baker, S. H. Barnes, W. D. Bellah, B. W. Bickham, L. W. Boern, B. E. Booth, A. G. Brahm, E. C. Brown, L. R. Burch, C. M. Bussey, R. E. Callender, W. R. Clay, S. D. Edwards, D. W. Elliott, J. Franklin, M. L. Fulbright, O. Gonzales, M. W. Gordon, and B. R. Greenwood.

Other Students

Other students planning to make the trip are J. E. Hodges, T. O. Hodges, R. Huffman, A. M. Hurd, B. M. Killingsworth, O. R. Kunze, L. L. Lomax, D. J. Longserre, Y. E. McAdams, M. McGregor, G. H. Miller, M. K. Mobley, C. B. Modisett, W. B. Newsom, and H. P. O'Neal.

A final group of students who will make the trip are C. Rathmell, F. C. Repper, G. C. Schrank, B. L. Shaw, L. W. Shiller, J. R. Skeen, E. W. Smith, H. R. Smith, T. E. Smith, J. E. Stockton, G. Stubblefield, W. C. Tate, N. C. Tread, R. W. Walsh, I. C. Ware, B. J. Welch, and M. M. Williams.

PALACE Bryan 2-8879

TODAY thru WEDNESDAY

Come on everybody, let's all go ON THE TOWN!



Songs! Kisses! Fun!

M-G-M presents TECHNICOLOR

GENE KELLY FRANK SINATRA BETTY GARRETT ANN MILLER

ON THE TOWN JULES MUNSHIN VERA ELLEN

HEAR THESE TOP TUNES

"New York, New York", "Miss Turnstiles", "Yachtin' on the Bay", "Come Up to My Place", "Main Street", "You're Awful", "On the Town", "Count On Me"

QUEEN

TODAY - TUESDAY

HERE'S THE REASON THE MOST WILD!



Joan DAVIS THE TRAVELING SALESWOMAN

By Al Capp

The Battalion

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

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