

Battalion Editorials

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MONDAY, APRIL 3, 1950

Recording the 'Spirit' and the 'War Hymn' . . .

Saturday night we sat in Guion Hall and heard one of the most enjoyable concerts presented on the campus this year. The Aggieband Orchestra and the Singing Cadets put on a one-hour-plus performance that drew enthusiastic applause and words of praise from more than 1,000 persons who were in the audience.

We wish everyone could have heard the concert, particularly the last two numbers. As usual, Bill Turner and his musical groups closed the show with songs of A&M. Saturday those songs were "The Spirit of Aggie Land" and the "Aggie War Hymn." However, this time the orchestra and the Singing Cadets presented for the first time a new arrangement of each song. As Turner said, they hoped to record both of these arrangements if the students like them.

It would be impossible for us to de-

scribe these arrangements here. We can only tell you they are "production" numbers modeled after the arrangements used in the movie "We've Never Been Licked." Both the orchestra, particularly the brass section, and the Singing Cadets are used to their best and most effective advantage. The final results in both cases are fine. Needless to say, the arrangements are far superior to those found on the present recordings of our two best-known songs. They are something we have needed.

Make a note to attend the next combined concert of the Aggieband Orchestra and Singing Cadets. Undoubtedly the new arrangements will be presented again. If the student body likes them, then maybe we can get the wheels grinding that can line up a recording company which will wax the new renditions.

Trends From Prof Rating Sheets . . .

Candid remarks and evaluations put down by students several months ago when grading their professors have been assorted, tabulated, and the results given to individual professors. Without disclosing any of the confidential matter of the grading sheets, two of the college's deans have answered some of our questions regarding trends shown in the prof ratings.

One of these trends, the deans reported, was that students registered in small departments enjoy more satisfactory professor-student relationships than students attending classes in large departments. The personal factor enters the scene, and it is only good logic to realize that the smaller the classes and the more classes attended under one professor, the better acquainted students will become with these professors. A closer man-to-man relationship is built up and the student becomes more than a name in the grade book to the professor of a small department, and the professor becomes more than another stumbling block to graduation to the student.

Working together with personal interest in learning and teaching is the foundation stone for these reported good relationships enjoyed by students and professors in all departments. In most of the larger departments, education of students becomes an assembly-line process with consequent impersonal attitudes developing in the minds of both students and professors. Professors in these larger departments were more harshly graded by students than they graded professors teaching them in small sections.

Another trend reflected in the results of professor grading sheets was the improved relationship of professor to stu-

dent felt by senior students over that enjoyed by freshmen and sophomores. The senior usually spends the greater part of his class time this final year in courses taught by his own department. These advanced courses require a closer relationship between professor and student, and by working together over common problems they have greater appreciation for each other's points of view.

Senior students have largely overcome their original fears of being classified as "apple polishers" and "teacher's favorites". They seek help more earnestly their senior year, realizing that if they "don't get it now they might never get it."

The pleasant and personal relationships enjoyed by the students and professors in small departments as compared to the impersonal and not-always-objective relationships apparent in the larger departments might well lead us to the hasty conclusion that large departments should be broken down to smaller units. However, the large departments are generally responsible for building the foundation of knowledge which all students must gain before specialized studies begin. The evils of large departments are one of the prices that must be paid by an institution the size of A&M.

After foundations have been built, students and professors in succeeding courses in all departments—large and small—develop good relations through working together.

The much publicized inadequacy of student-professor good will was shown to be vastly exaggerated by this year's grading sheets. The "great barrier" between student and professor is, in most cases, either a misunderstanding or an illusion.

★
Though there is no cop behind me,
I dare not attempt to speed;
Six-year Bobby here beside me
Has just learned how to read.

★
His heart did a trick
As she sat upon his knee.
And he broke out in a sweat
For she was a bumble bee.

The Battalion

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

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AND POTATOES



Lookin' Back

From the Battalion Files of 15 Years Ago

A 1935 Battalion reported that Texas University was trying to install an ROTC unit. TU officials had requested a cavalry troop and had been turned down. They then turned their efforts toward obtaining a field artillery outfit.

Student opinion at forty acres was against ROTC. A two column headline in The Daily Texas said, "Student Disapproval Mounts Against Idea of Artillery Unit."

Austin YMCA and YWCA leaders and several University churches also joined the student campaign to discourage adoption of any ROTC units.

A far-sighted Battalion editorialist in 1935 commented on efforts of the National Student Peace Mobilization organization to persuade American youth to refuse to participate in any form of military training. While approving all efforts to preserve peace among nations of the world, the 1935 editor cautioned, "Don't dissuade the young man of American from learning to carry a rifle or order a company. Without a defense we as a nation are lost, and the youth of America will have to do the defending if the time comes."

Official Notice

Thursday, April 20, is the deadline for payment of the final installment of fees for the Spring semester. The final installment including room rent, board and laundry is \$72.25. W. H. Holzmann, Comptroller

NOTICE TO ALL STUDENTS IN THE SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURE:
All students in the School of Agriculture will be excused from classes at 11 a.m. Monday, April 3, 1950, for the purpose of attending a lecture in Guion Hall by Mr. Allan B. Klime, president of the American Farm Bureau Federation, on the subject "Agriculture and Our Future." At 8 p.m., Monday April 3, Mr. Klime will speak on the subject "What Are Americans After?" presenting his side of his debate with Secretary of Agriculture Brannan on the present national controversy over the Brannan Plan. All agriculture students are expected to attend both lectures. Others are cordially invited.
Chas. N. Shephardson, Dean of Agriculture

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MARK THE GORILLA

From Where I Sit . . .

Campus To Present 'The Lawton Story' Easter Day

By HERMAN C. GOLLOB

At the invitation of hale and hearty Ben Ferguson, owner of the Campus Theater, we were among those present at the A&M Methodist Church Friday night for an advanced screening of The Lawton Story of "The Prince of Peace," which opens a three-day run at the Campus on Easter Sunday.

A cinecolored product of Hallmark Films, The Lawton Story tells of the late Reverend A. Mark Wallock and his famed Wichita

Mountain Easter pageant, a spectacle in which a cast of some 3,000 Lawton, Oklahoma citizens depict on the neighboring mountain slopes the life of Christ.

That portion of the film which concerns itself solely with the presentation of the pageant is highly inspirational to the people of Lawton and the late Reverend Wallock must go credit for the reverence, simplicity, and beauty with which they have handled "The Greatest Story Ever Told." Millard Coody's portrayal of Christ and Darlene Bridges' characterization of the Virgin Mary in particular bear the mark of sincerity; one finds it hard to believe that Mr. Coody and Mrs. Bridges are actually everyday citizens of Lawton.

Had Hallmark stuck to the pageant alone, instead of contriving as an introduction to the pageant a unctuous, moralistic story based on the late Rev. Wallock's devotion to the community, the effort would have been more effective.

Supposedly a professional company, Hallmark Films is amateurish in its attempt at artistry as a bunch of eight year olds playing "make-believe." Cast, direction, and script are painfully inadequate.

What's more, the film introduces another child actress—Ginger Prince, who makes Margaret look like Olivia de Havilland. Watching her perform, we got that same uncomfortable feeling such as engulf us when the next-door neighbor brings little Genevieve over to go

Practice Teaching Extended for Fall

Next fall agricultural education majors will do six weeks of practice teaching instead of two, Henry Ross, professor of the Agricultural Education Department, said today.

Plans worked at present call for one week during each of the junior semesters and two weeks during each senior semester, according to Ross. The juniors will spend their week in observing teaching methods while the seniors will actually carry on classroom discussions.

The academic classification advanced students will determine how much practice teaching time each student has remaining.

Bible Verse

So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.—Romans 10:17.

Letters

(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.)

"I LIKE EET!"

Editor, The Battalion:

These guys who mercilessly flog poor Hernian have no gregarious instinct. I like Mr. Gollob's column.

Robert M. Lane, '50

Wildlife Student Gets Iowa Fellowship Bid

James G. Greer, senior wildlife student from Granger, has been offered a research fellowship at Iowa State College, according to H. M. Harris, Head of the Department of Zoology and Entomology at Iowa State.

The fellowship carries a stipend of \$940 per year.

Greer will do research on waterfowl while working toward a Masters Degree.

Guion Hall

LAST DAY

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The roll in which Susan Hayward was nominated for the Academy Award

I Lied... I Loved... I Lost
—But I'm Not Ashamed!

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Susan HAYWARD
My Foolish Heart

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"Mutiny on the Bunny"
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