

Battalion Editorials

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WEDNESDAY, JULY 12, 1950

Preview of A Coming Attraction . . .

It was a real pleasure to share with you in yesterday's issue our recent photograph of the new bowling lanes in the Memorial Student Center. When our photographer laid the picture on the Managing Editor's desk, staff members quit their typewriters for a better gander at the results. The same happened when the engraving for the presses was returned from the lab in Foster Hall. As is true with a majority of students on the campus, most of our staff members hadn't toured the Center so the new lanes caused a lot of favorable comment.

We anxiously look forward to the Center's opening day. The acclamations of approval motivated by the new bowling lanes will probably be multiplied a thousand fold because we can assure you the entire building is just as pleasing to the eye as the sample in yesterday's paper.

From time to time, we'll give you more pictures of the new building as a sort of preview to opening day. When you have something as good as the MSC promises to be, it's too good to hold off advance notice.

An Unfamiliar But Welcome Sentiment . . .

We heartily agree with Governor Allan Shivers in his evaluation of the beginning of a decent state hospital program as the most significant step taken by his administration. The Governor reviewed his year in office Monday in announcing his platform for reelection. The revamped state hospital system was long overdue and it is to the Governor's credit that he took such an active part in supporting it.

But together with the review of his administration and recognition of the need for increased public service programs, Governor Shivers sounded a note heard far too seldom in present-day administration. Speaking of the rising cost of public services, he said, "Our efforts to provide more and more of these necessary services in the State of Texas must be tempered with the sober realization that we must not attempt more good than the state's economy can bear."

"The upward trend in state spending," the Governor continued, "must be checked

by a trend toward greater efficiency of operation—and that means greater economy of operation in our state government. The distinction must be made between those things that are essential and those merely desirable."

There are many who pay lip service to such sentiments. But there all too few who, like Governor Shivers, are willing to see those sentiments expressed in action. His creation of the 600-man Texas Economy Commission is an indication of his policies. Those others who neglect the fundamentals of sound economy hold within their glittering promises the level. We must realize that we must pay for all we receive. Consistent overspending weakens any economy and the political body that economy represents. Carried too far, that body faces economic ruin. We would like to see such sentiments reflected in the program of our federal government. There is needed not only economy but a more equitable balance of expenditures based more on need and less on votes.

Doesn't Anyone Here Like Oscar? . . .

To readers of the Saturday Evening Post, a story on the front pages of Tuesday's newspapers must have looked like a congressional endorsement of Post political leanings. The news story told of a stinging defeat for the Truman-sponsored plan for a new department of health, education and security. The house voted down the proposal 249 to 71. Presumably the new department, if approved, would have been given to Oscar Ewing who now heads the Federal Security Administration.

The tie-in with the Saturday Evening Post comes this way. In a recent issue of the magazine there was an article entitled "The Man the Doctors Hate." Subject for the story—which was written as though the Post sided with the doctors—was Oscar Ewing, one of the administration's leading exponents of compulsory health insurance.

The Post reviewed Ewing's career and emphasized his unpopularity with many Washington officials. Republican and Democratic. According to the magazine, if Ewing's name is connected with a piece of legislation it is doomed for defeat. That

was the result of a previous attempt to create a Department of Welfare with Ewing as possible head. And, to the overwhelming tune of 249 to 71, that was the latest rebuke for the man labeled as the "most tactless man in Washington."

In addition to sponsoring compulsory health insurance, Ewing is pushing hard for a big increase in Social Security benefits. It was the FSA head who said for the benefit of a radio audience that expansion of the social security and inauguration of compulsory health insurance might require a federal payroll tax of from 15 to 18 percent exclusive of income tax. And he is also the man whom the Post credits with the admission that "politics is my hobby, and a more fascinating hobby no man ever had."

Yesterday's news report said the defeat of Truman's latest attempt to create a new Welfare Department was a House expression of lack of confidence in Ewing. We hope such an interpretation is true, but we also hope it is an expression of congressional lack of faith in socialized medicine, the inevitable goal of the administration's present efforts.

Seen over the holiday weekend: hundreds of hungry, over-sleeping students looking for a place to eat. Nearly every eatery in College Station was closed.

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 during the regular school year. During the summer, The Battalion is published four times a week and circulated every Tuesday through Friday afternoon. Subscription rates \$2.00 per semester. Advertising rates furnished on request.

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STAY AWAY FROM OUR DOOR!



Interpreting the News . . .

Russia Effective In Slanting UN Status

By J. M. ROBERTS, JR.
AP Foreign Affairs Analyst

With United Nations prestige in Russia reported dropping fast as a result of the Kremlin's vicious attacks on the Security Council and Secretary General Trygve Lie in connection with Korea, speculation over whether the Soviets will ever return to the council halls has been heard.

The Security Council is now being described in Russian propaganda as "half wrecked," and merely a tool of the U. S. State Department. The nations which joined the United States in calling for action against the Korean Communists are called "bloody fools" and "a coalition of imperialists and beasts of prey."

Lie Criticized

Lie, who was the only man Russia would consider for Secretary General, who recently received a friendly reception at the Kremlin and who has suffered much criticism from certain quarters which considered him "Russia's man," has been vilified recently in the Soviet Press in words which approach the extremes in publishable terms.

There are various angles to support speculation that Russia, never intending real cooperation in the world family, may consider that the game, the way she has been playing it at Lake Success, is up. Russia still likes to use the U. N. for propaganda, as witness her request that Gromyko's recent blast about Korea be distributed to all members. But it is noticeable that the request was transmitted direct from Moscow to the secretary, rather than through her delegation.

The delegation still is in New York, of course, but with only rare official contacts at Lake Success.

Many observers have felt all the time that Russia's agitation

Timm to Speak To Oklahoma Service

Titus R. Timm, extension economist of the College, left Monday for Stillwater, Oklahoma, to attend the annual meeting of the Oklahoma Extension Service.

According to the announcement made by Director G. G. Gibson of the Texas Extension Service, Timm will participate in the meeting by speaking to the group on "The Role of the Agricultural Extension Service in Public Problems Relating to Agriculture."

Timm is expected to return to College Station on July 15.

Official Notice

HAZELWOOD ACT EXEMPTIONS
Resident students of Texas who expect to register for the second term of Suburban School and claim an exemption from the registration fee under the Hazelwood Act should call by the Registrar's Office immediately to secure notice of exemption. Single students should state their exemption prior to registration on Monday, July 17 at all points.

H. L. HEATON
Registrar

Graduate School
William Gilman, Jr. candidate for the Doctor of Philosophy degree in Entomology will present the dissertation "Biology and control of the spider Mite, Tetranychus opulifer Banks and Tetranychus bimaculatus Harvey" Saturday July 15 at 9 am in Room 208 Academic Building. Interested members of the faculty of the Graduate School are invited to be present.

W. J. C. Gamm, Chairman

The following corrected have been made in the Schedule of Classes for the 1950 Semester Session.

ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING
Course 305—Electrical Machinery (4-0) 4
Section 1—Daily 11-12:15
Course 306—Electrical Equipment for Buildings (4-0) 3
Section 1—Daily 11-12:15
Section 2—Daily (3 weeks) 7-9:30

AGRICULTURAL SOCIOLOGY
Course 304—Rural Organization (4-0) 3
Section 1—Daily (3 weeks) 7-9:30

The deadline for filing applications for degrees for students who expect to graduate at the end of the summer session (August) is JULY 15. Any student who expects to complete the requirements for either a Bachelor's or Master's Degree during the summer should call by the Office of the Registrar immediately and file formal application for the degree.

On TU's Forty Acres . . .

Faculty Members Question School's Primary Function

By LYMAN JONES

A quiescent but nonetheless seething groundswell of bitterness among University of Texas faculty members may soon present UT administrators with a first-class headache.

This bitterness appears to be deep-seated and fundamental, stemming from a basic disagreement between teachers and administrators as to the University's primary function. Apparently it has been four or five years in the making.

Based on more than 50 interviews with faculty members (all of whom declined to be identified) and an examination of certain UT records, these appear to be the main facts around which the controversy revolves.

The teachers are charging: The administration, by an insistence on the production by teachers of scholarly papers or volumes, "is either deliberately, or by default, failing to perform the major function of a state university."

To implement this alleged failure, the teachers are further charging:

1. That the administration makes nearly all its recommendations for promotions in academic rank contingent on the individual's research output and scholarly production, "regardless of teaching competence."
2. That the administration has told some department heads "to pass the word along" to teachers coming up for promotions "to concentrate on outside (research and scholarship) work even if this means shunting teaching duties."
3. That the alleged insistence on outside work operates in favor of people in the scientific departments—in whose fields much basic research remains virtually untouched and where grants are available—and against those in the traditional academic fields of the arts, the humanities, or the social sciences.

4. That the administration, despite public pledges given that teaching loads would be lightened so that time would be available for outside work, "has consistently refused to do this and has in fact, avoided coming to grips with the problem."

Finally, the teachers charge that the disaffection is "rapidly becoming apparent to the students—in the area where it injures the University most."

Those leveling these charges emphasize that they do not oppose research or scholarship flatly—"per se" but they insist that the administration's "obsession with it as the only way the University can build its national prestige is perverted and one-sided in the extreme."

One associate professor, at UT for 15 years, puts it this way: "A state university—any state university—has a triangular function. It rests, so to speak, on a three-legged stool.

"The points of this triangle—the legs of the stool—are teaching, extension, research. And the most important of these for a state institution of learning is teaching—the education of the children of the taxpayers who support this institution."

"If this were a privately-endowed institution, we would still oppose such a course as unwise. But for a state university to adopt a policy of favoring one of its functions over another to this extent

is for it to stray entirely from a road from which it may not morally depart.

"The ultimate conclusion of such a policy, is pursued to its logical extension, is the turning of this university into a graduate and professional school for people in the sciences."

"I know that the administration has publicly stated that it opposes the turning of Texas' junior colleges into four year undergraduate senior colleges. But I can only consider this to be lip service paid to stop the permanent fund's division among all state institutions of learning."

"But even before this happens, the teaching faculty members who stay here will be demoralized and reduced to the stature of puppets, delivering the same lecture year after year, so that they will have time to do the research on which their jobs depend."

"Many men of integrity—particularly among the instructors and assistant professors—are leaving. And many more will leave in the future."

The administration has consistently declined to discuss specific salaries, promotions and discharges or resignations of University faculty members. Nor will it publicly acknowledge that any controversy exists.

Nevertheless the administrative point of view as regards the importance in which it holds research is well-documented.

Speaking to a General Faculty Council meeting Oct. 19, 1948, UT President T. S. Painter said:

"Two years ago I told this faculty that productive research was essential if the University of Texas was to rank in the first class and that during my administration the most important single criteria for promotion and advancement was going to be scholarly accomplishment."

"My conviction is that, nationally, any institution is rated by the competence and productivity of its scholars."

Speaking to new faculty members on the same day, Dr. Painter went on to say:

"You must not be overburdened either with classroom teaching or with committee assignments, although each individual is expected to do his fair share of this essential work, for a man has just so much energy and if he uses all this up in other ways, he will have none left for research."

Elsewhere in the same address, Dr. Painter instructed departmental budget councils—charged with recommending individuals for promotion—as follows:

"I urge the budget councils to use great care in sending up recommendations for advancement."

In case there is some doubt in your mind about a man's ability to make outstanding contributions in his field, it is imperative that

you not recommend him."

Almost exactly one year later, Oct. 11, 1949, Dr. Painter reiterated his administration's belief that the way to national prestige for the University lay in research and scholarship almost exclusively:

"Soon after I came into the president's office, I made it very plain to everyone that I would do everything in my power to stimulate and support researches on the part of our faculty and other staff members."

"The reason for this . . . was simply that if the University of Texas is to be truly one of the 'first class,' measured by national standards, our faculty must be made up predominantly of men—famed throughout the land for their productive and sound scholarship."

The whole controversy was underscored recently when the UT administration decided to recommend a change in the status of assistant professors under what the University calls its "up or out" rule.

This rule currently provides that, after four years of teaching, an assistant professor must either be promoted or given a terminal appointment. The administration now seeks and will recommend to the next regular meeting of the Board of Regents—July 14 and 15—that the four-year period be extended to six years.

The proposal was made largely (See FACULTY, Page 4)

Campus

TODAY & THURS.
Double Feature
FIRST RUN

—Feature No. 1—
Starts—1:35 - 4:25 - 7:10 - 10:00

Beauty on Parade

—Feature No. 2—
Starts—2:45 - 5:30 - 8:15

Geno and the Champion Mule Train

PLUS: CARTOON—NEWS

Kream-Kow Klub Asks Addresses

W. B. Anthony, sponsor of the Kream and Kow Klub, has requested that all club members who plan to attend the second six weeks of summer school leave their addresses with the secretary of the Dairy Husbandry Department.

They may then be notified of a meeting at which changes to the club's constitution would be made, he said.

During the last regular meeting of the club, it was decided that the members attending summer school would meet with Dr. I. W. Rupe to revise the old constitution and present the revised one to the club for approval this fall.

Experiment Station Receives \$300 Aid

A grant-in-aid of \$300 has been received by the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station from the Research Department, Sharples Chemicals, Inc., Wyandotte, Mich.

According to Dr. R. D. Lewis, station director, the grant is for cotton defoliation experiments to be conducted at the Lower Rio Grande Valley Station at Weslaco. The experiments are under supervision of W. R. Horsley, superintendent of the Weslaco station.

Bible Verse

"For GOD hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind."
II Tim. 1:7

LFL ABNER The Idiot Era!!

By Al Capp

—OUR CLAIMS US EARTH-FOLKS IS IN 'H' 'DOOT' ERM—'AN'—'YET—

—'P. WHY DO EARTH-BOYS HAVE TO KEEP 'EM ARRESTED THEMSELVES FROM GRABBING AND KISSING THE GIRLS THEY SEE? WHY?

—BE'CUZ TH' GALS WOULD HAVE 'EM ARRESTED THASS WAY?—

—BE'CUZ NICE GALS DON'T WANT 'T'BE GRABBED THEMSELVES UP SO CLITE?—

—THEN, WHY DO THEY GET THEMSELVES UP SO CLITE?—

—BE'CUZ THEY WANT 'EM TO WANT TO—

—A PERFECT EXAMPLE OF THE IDIOT ERA?—

—THASS INSULTIN' AN' WOULDNT' TRAVEL IN THIS NONEXISTENT 'FLYIN' SAUCE' EXCEPT IT'S SO CHEAP—