

Battalion Editorials

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TUESDAY, JULY 25, 1950

Your Vote is Your Voice . . .

Residents of Brazos County who, with democratic ideals in mind, ventured to the polls for the Democratic Primary elections Saturday are to be commended not only for realizing their duties as voters in this state, but carrying them out to the extent of a visit to the polls.

Unfortunately, only slightly more than one-half of the residents voted. Of the 8,500 voters who had paid their poll tax and were qualified to have their say as to how our government should be run, 3,000 failed to fill in their ballots.

With only slight opposition in most of the races and little extensive campaigning, the declining voting percentage was to be expected. As compared with voting at a similar election two years ago, balloting

propped by almost a thousand votes. Regardless of the lack of electioneering opposition, excepting in one or two positions, county residents who thought enough of their governmental duties to pay their poll taxes should have taken advantage of their opportunities by placing their votes along with those of their neighbors Saturday.

Though seemingly small, each vote carries with it much meaning. It signifies a desire of the voter to have a voice in the government, as well as convincing the candidate and his opposition that the residents of his community, district, or state have supreme confidence in his ability to serve as their representative and their leader.

Stored Food and Lower Prices . . .

What to do with the enormous food surplus stored in caves and other natural refrigeration storehouses throughout the country is presently plaguing our Agriculture Department and will, if not solved soon, play a part in the stability of our economy.

In an attempt to retain price support levels, the government has stored millions of dollars worth of perishable poultry and dairy products such as butter, cheese, dried eggs and milk, acquired under price-support programs. What to do with these products before they deteriorate and go to waste is a question needing an answer.

Secretary of Agriculture Brannan met with the House Agriculture Committee yesterday to get their views and suggestions on the problem.

Congress several months ago spurned a plan sponsored by the Secretary to put perishable foods on the market at natural price levels. Under the Brannan Plan, if prices averaged below levels deemed fair to farmers, the government would pay the difference to the producers. Under the present system, the government is maintaining a floor under prices by purchasing that portion of the supply which would pull prices below the support level.

The latter plan has been followed, and is responsible for the large surplus now on hand. With the Brannan Plan, the

food items would be placed before the public for consumption at a lower price instead of implying a higher consumer price and storing the foods.

The government now owns roughly \$250 million worth of surplus poultry and dairy products. What the government will do with these enormous surpluses depends upon the outcome of Brannan's meeting with the committee. Arguments of the foes of the Brannan Plan propose that the Secretary sit tight and hold the surplus for possible war usage.

Several of the industries fear that the temporary reduction in prices of some articles might result in a consumer reaction against the product when government stocks were disposed of and prices return to current price support levels. Others fear that some of the articles may have deteriorated in quality and effect future consumer buying.

The government will continue paying money to the producer to retain a price level, but whether the government will continue storing these items and keep the consumer prices up instead of lowering them within the consumer's budget, depends upon the action of Congress. Unfortunately, Congress will apologetically shake their head and continue storing up food instead of letting consumers pay lower prices.

Education and Boring Books . . .

The older generation, more familiar with the classics than its younger contemporaries, has registered a mild but salutary defense of the "most boring books" listed by Columbia University Press. The complete list includes the Old Testament, a fact which may be a sidelight on the times.

An elderly student of the great literature of the past, which has fallen into ill-favor in the atomic age, raises the point that dullness of the classics may be due partly to inept teaching. No doubt, youths are forcibly fed literature as well as morality at an age too immature to relish either, but this introduction is necessary to the appreciation of later years. The teaching of classics to an older generation was

before the era of painless education, but it paid dividends later.

A dissenter from the Columbia Press listing made the cogent observation that the wisdom of the ages, couched in imperishable poetry and prose, should be useful to a world that has become enmeshed in war, dislocation and other material pitfalls. She suggested that our concern should be directed, not so much at "dull classics," but rather at the national malady of boredom and the tragic effort for escapism.

A knowledge of classics could also be of value in winning prizes on radio quiz shows.

—Fort Worth Star-Telegram

Confidence in the way they handled their stories and an old friendship with two foreign correspondents and General MacArthur served as the basis for the General's granting them permission to re-

turn to the Korean war front. Army personnel had previously banned the two reporters. The General also refused to impose formal censorship on dispatches of correspondents.

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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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. Personal attacks will not be published. The editor reserves the right to edit any letter for clarity and brevity.)

I'D BAKED A CAKE . . .

Plagued with severe stomach cramps, I feel it my duty to question the culinary integrity of your society editor, Miss Betty Potter.

An inmate of the Air Force ROTC Camp at Kelly Field, I have found a balm for my epicurean soul. Miss Potter's blueprints for feasting at least until her last recipe for a cake designed to save the appetite during the cold, horrendous months from October till March.

Drooping at the mouth (the city pound laid claim to me on the grounds of hydrophobia) I eagerly assembled the ingredients prescribed in Miss Potter's column. Unfortunately, immediately after sampling the results, my large intestine entered its valiant combat with its tiny brother, and before

long, my entire digestive tract was involved in the fracas.

The Mayo brothers are bewitched; my physician is bothered; and I'm bewildered.

Could that recipe possibly have been intended as a humorous satire on Betty Crocker? Or is Miss Potter actually a diabolical scientist straight from Saturday serials, intent on destroying mankind and setting up a zombie race with which to rule the universe?

Gasconely yours,
Herman C. Gollob
Gourmet, 8th Class

(After receiving your letter in the late of the evening, we have been constantly at a loss to alleviate your internal condition. But just as we were trying personally to bake the cake, our ever-faithful society editor turned up with the solution, to wit:

(One basic ingredient was omitted from the recipe (a typographical error, naturally), while another line called for tablespoons instead of teaspoons.

(On today's back page you will find a small story explaining the slight mix-up to all of our readers.

(We are referring you to Mrs. Herschel Burgess, cake-baker de luxe, for further proof that the cake—when mixed correctly—will produce results which Duncan Hines might recommend.

(To aid you in your recovery, we are sending you, free of charge, one copy of the Medical Home Journal.—The Editors)

A&M Unit Leading QMC Rifle Team

Fort Lee, Va.—(Special)—A&M College's M-1 rifle team won first place in the M-1 rifle competition Friday by the deputy commander of the Quartermaster ROTC summer camp, Col. Roy C. Wall.

The A&M group won first place in the M-1 competition and second place in carbine out of the 32 colleges represented at the camp. Alabama University won first place in carbine competition.

High men for the A&M team were William P. Moss and William C. Schuhart, who had average scores of 178 of 195 possible points.

Average overall score for the Aggies was 153.3. A trophy for first place and a plaque for second place were presented Sunday at the camp's Final Review. Tentative plans have been made to display the awards in Ross Hall on the A&M campus.

Regenbrecht Goes To Cedar Rapids

F. M. Regenbrecht, extension swing ballhandman at A&M, left today for Cedar Rapids, Iowa to attend the National Duroc Congress.

G. G. Gibson, director of the Texas Extension Service, said that Regenbrecht will participate in the Type Conference at the Congress. Purpose of the conference is to assist in standardizing and harmonizing the ideals and objectives of all persons working with a swine improvement program.

Regenbrecht will go to Springfield, Ill. from Cedar Rapids where he will attend the National Hampshire Type Conference. He will return to College Station on August 3.

WTAW Radio Program

- 12:15—Big League Baseball
- 2:00—Sportsboard
- 3:00—Manual Scoreboard
- 3:30—Rings
- 3:45—Student Body News
- 5:15—Showers of Blessing
- 6:00—The Frontier story
- 6:15—Supper Club
- 7:30—High Off
- 8:00—Texas Page 9 Home
- 8:15—W-TAW Roundup
- 8:30—Today in Agriculture
- 9:00—Coffee Club
- 9:30—News of Agitation
- 10:00—Hebrew Christian Hour
- 10:30—Morning Special
- 8:00—Concert Hall
- 9:30—Homesick Harmonies
- 9:45—Bob Elderly
- 10:00—Cook Magazine
- 10:15—Music for Wednesday
- 10:30—Morning Minutes
- 11:00—Bryan News
- 11:30—Church News
- 12:00—Texas Page 9 Home
- 12:15—Big League Baseball
- 1:30—Sportsboard
- 2:00—Manual Scoreboard
- 2:30—Rings
- 3:00—Student Body News
- 3:30—United Nations
- 3:45—Aggregation Youth
- 4:00—Supper Club
- 4:15—Family Worship Hour
- 4:30—Supper Club
- 7:30—High Off

A&M's 75 Years of Progress Lauded by Dallas Ex-Student

Sunday's edition of the Dallas Morning News carried in its special "education section" a full-page advertisement on A&M, sponsored by a group of Dallas former students of the college.

We think it would be very worthwhile for the present-day students of A&M to read the story told in the advertisement. For that reason, The Battalion is reprinting the contents of the page.

The headline on the story began "... at the lowest possible cost, an education which is at the same time thorough, liberal and practical." A headline lower on the page read "... A Texas Venture in Education—State's First Tax-Supported College Dedicated to Equality of Opportunity for All of Its Sons."

The story began "Governor Richard Coke stood on the steps of the newly-completed Main Building and addressed the crowd which had gathered for the ceremonies inaugurating the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas.

"It was October 4, 1876. Three or four hundred citizens and 'not more than 50 cadets were present, according to the Galveston News' correspondent's telegraphic report, printed the next day.

"The Governor and one other director and all six members of the college faculty completed the crowd. Thus Texas launched her first state institution of higher education.

"The aims which Governor Coke set out in his speech at the opening of the College have been the guiding principles on which A&M College of Texas has grown during the past three quarters of a century.

"It has undertaken the job of offering Texas boys the finest technical education available at a cost which bars no ambitious youngster from its benefits. It has always tried to go even further, helping any ambitious and capable youngster to overcome financial handicaps in his search for an education.

"At the time of its opening, the state provided a number of scholarships, tax-supported, for 'meritorious but impoverished young men,' appointed by legislators and members of Congress.

"This plan failed, being based on political rather than scholastic considerations. Immediately, however, the college board cut the cost to attend A&M to \$200 a year for all expenses—the figure at which only state students had been previously admitted.

"At that time they expressed publicly the hope that 'in the future poverty will no longer bar the

way of the poorest youth in the land who is capable of receiving a thorough education, and whose breast is fired with an honorable ambition to obtain it.' During the school year about to open, 240 Texas boys for whom 'poverty would have barred the way' will be enrolled at the A&M College of Texas under Opportunity Awards.

"These awards are four-year scholarships granted to Texas high school graduates on the basis of scholarship, character and need. They pay \$200 to \$400 a year, plus an opportunity for additional earnings and assure the winner of an opportunity for a college education. These awards are financed by the gifts of former students and other friends of the college.

"With this program, and with the lowest average cost of attendance of any major technical college in the country, A&M is fulfilling its first mandate from the people of Texas."

Lower on the page of the News was this headline, "As Texas Needs Have Grown, A&M's Services Have Expanded to Meet Them." The story went on: "From the sparsely settled pioneer state of 1876, where Texas were still killing buffalo for their hides and tallow and fighting off Indians as they pushed westward with their farms and ranches, Texas has grown into an agricultural and industrial giant which is one of the wonders of the world.

"A&M College has grown with it, expanding its facilities and adding new services, until it has become the center of a major statewide network devoted to teaching, research and extension in the fields of agriculture and industry.

"Over the years, as the need for services in these fields has risen, the State of Texas has created new agencies and added them to its A&M College. First was the Prairie View A&M College of Texas, a land grant college for Negroes, opened in 1879. The Agricultural Experiment Station was created in 1888, the Agricultural Extension Service in 1912. In 1941 the Engineering Experiment Station was created and in 1945, the Texas Forest Service.

"John Tarleton Agricultural College at Stephenville (now Tarleton State College) and North Texas Agricultural College at Arlington (now Arlington State College) became junior branches of A&M College in 1917. The Engineering Extension Service was added in 1942.

"As each new college was opened, it was made a branch of the main A&M College, while each

agency was designated a division. The president of A&M College was titular head of them all.

"In 1948, the entire group was organized into a System, under the direction of a Chancellor and each of the colleges and agencies assumed equal rank as a part of the whole. Each college now has its own president, each agency its own director, with all under the executive direction of the Chancellor, who is responsible to the Board of Directors.

"The amazing variety of activities carried on by this statewide system now runs the gamut from the poisoning of prairie dogs on the high plains to the fighting of forest fires in the piney woods, from the training of policemen in Dallas to the combating of Rhodes grass on the coastal prairies.

"Some five thousand scientists, teachers, extension workers and others are working throughout the state as employees of the System; more than 45,000 acres of Texas land are included in its campuses, forests and experimental farms.

"All of this stems from the original A&M College of 1876, with its two small buildings set on a wild dewberry patch on the banks of the Brazos, its faculty of six professors instructing an original student body of less than fifty boys.

"During the coming year this oldest of the colleges belonging to all Texans is celebrating the attainment of its 75th season with a series of events of interest to all citizens of this state. On October 4, ceremonies will be held on the campus to commemorate the actual start of the 75th year, followed November 9 by the formal inauguration of its twelfth president.

"Dr. M. T. Harrington, native Texan, and first A&M College graduate to be named to its presidency, will be honored by all Texans at that time. Other events throughout the year will bring nationally and internationally-known speakers to the campus, top-flight sports events, spectacular ceremonies and entertainments.

"The citizens of Texas are invited to visit this, their oldest state college, at some time during the Anniversary year, to see the institution which you have built on the foundations laid by your forefathers.

"In its present stature you will find a source of deep satisfaction in the promise for the future which its present growth holds, you will find a new hope for the future of Texas."

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