

Battalion Editorials

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WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 4, 1950

A&M--Your College for Your Benefit . . .

Today A&M enters its 75th year as Texas' oldest state college. During this period, the school has become one of the outstanding higher-learning institutes in the nation.

Much of the credit for building a great A&M goes to its faculty and staff, its former and present students, and the various state administrations. Yet, in a larger sense, the people of Texas are responsible for the college's success.

It has been a success and will continue to be great heights. We sincerely believe that A&M has still to reach the zenith of its glory—that the best days have not passed, but are yet to come.

Nearly everyone connected with the college can spout impressive facts and figures to show the magnitude of A&M. Largest military college . . . stretching over thousands of acres . . . huge physical plant . . . large student body . . . colorful Corps of Cadets . . .

The TEES--To Aid Working Texans . . .

Members of the A&M Board of Directors in their meeting at San Antonio Saturday received and were well pleased with the annual report of the Texas Engineering Extension Service given by E. V. Williams, vice director of the Service. The reception given the report was to be expected, for the activities of the Service this past year have been of an exceptional nature.

Established in 1919 shortly after the passage of the Smith-Hughes Act which provided for Vocational Education, the Extension Service has since made steady progress in its field of endeavor. The Industrial Division, formerly known as the Industrial Extension Service, deals mainly in conducting extension courses in cooperation with the Industrial Education Service of the State Board of Vocational Education.

The Industrial Division philosophy is "To offer in any place in Texas, to any group of people employed in industrial or public ser-

But, to us, A&M is more than that. It is a school where the "poor boy" has an even start with everyone else, where almost any student who "has what it takes" can prepare himself for a full and wholesome life. This and many other factors add up to a great college.

Upon several occasions during these 74 years, citizens of the state of Texas have had just cause to wonder if their money was being spent wisely here. But in every instance, these same citizens have allowed their faith to remain unshaken and A&M has proved itself worthy of that faith.

Now, as A&M begins a year-long celebration of its anniversary, Texans have a rare opportunity to view the college at its best. We're going to be putting our best foot forward proudly this year, not in an effort to overshadow the college's shortcomings, but to show the state exactly why they, too, can be proud of A&M.

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Chinese Reds Fear Industrial Power Shut-off

By FRED HAMPSON

Hong Kong, Oct. 3.—(AP)—Why is Communist China apparently so worried about the 38th parallel in Korea?

Undoubtedly one reason is the Yalu River hydroelectric power grid built by the Japanese to supply industries in both Manchuria and Korea.

Now that South Korean troops have crossed 38 and the Communist regime of North Korea seems about to collapse, the Chinese Reds see possible interruption of power to their vital Manchurian industries.

Presumably the Chinese Red view is this:

If all Korea is unified under the United Nations the all-important Yalu River power dams will pass into hands considerably less friendly.

Unification Feared

The fear of such a development could explain the many threats Chinese Communists have made to intervene in the Korean war—threats which appeared efforts to discourage U.N. forces from driving into North Korea.

Red China's premier Chou En-lai said Sunday in a speech observing the first anniversary of the Communist government of China that his country will not "supinely tolerate seeing their neighbors being savagely invaded by imperialists."

This is the background of the Japan-built power dams of the Yalu which forms the boundary between Manchuria and Korea.

After Japan's defeat in World War II these dams passed first to the Russians, then to the Korean Reds.

Later, when the Chinese Reds drove the Chinese Nationalists from Manchuria, the dams continued under the operation of the North Koreans.

Power Important

As the Chinese Communists launched their big program of rebuilding Manchuria's industries, Yalu power was of vital importance. It presented no particular problem so long as the dams remained in the hands of friendly Korean Reds.

In the overall picture, Red China would seem to have little to gain by involving herself in the Korean war.

Still, she cannot afford to lose the major source of power for Manchuria, Communist China's main industrial area.

Whether this power is worth risking war is a question yet to be answered. But the Chinese Communists are very touchy about Manchuria.

Why? Manchuria is the only territory they hold where a modern industrialization program might succeed. They have made tremendous effort there.

Failure Possible

Some observers say: If the Chinese Reds fail in Manchuria, they fail everywhere.

The Manchurian power problem is an outgrowth of the Korean war that was not foreseen—an embarrassment not so much for Russia as for Red China.

It is like the interposing of the American Seventh Fleet around Formosa—also an unforeseen development and one which embarrasses Red China more than Russia.

This has prevented the Chinese Reds from carrying out announced plans to invade the Nationalist-held island this year. And the Reds cannot say their revolution in China is complete until they "liberate" Formosa.

In fact, the Chinese Communists seem to be taking such a beating out of the Korean war that many an observer out here wonders how much longer they will be willing to take the rap for Moscow's miscalculations.

Official Notice

CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES: Any student who normally expects to complete all the requirements for a degree by the end of the current semester should call by the Registrar's Office NOW and make application for a degree. This deadline applies to both graduates and undergraduate students. Those who have not already done so should make formal application in the Registrar's Office immediately.

All students who did not turn in Identification Cards or have photographs made for one will report to the Photographic and Visual Aids Laboratory from 8 a.m. until noon and from 1 p.m. until 5 p.m. daily from Oct. 2 through Oct. 6 and from 8 a.m. until noon Oct. 7.

As soon as the cards are ready for distribution, notice will be given in The Battalion as to the procedure to follow.

Bennie A. Zinn
Assistant Dean of Men
For Student Affairs.

Each Graduate student is required to suggest the names of members of the Graduate Faculty whom he wishes to serve on his committee early in his first semester. The committee is to meet and consult with the student and outline a complete course of study for his graduate degree before the end of the eighth week of his first semester. This is designed to insure that the student, the committee and the Graduate School know what is to be required of him. The student may then follow a logical and well balanced program each time he registers thereafter.

The necessary forms and any suggestions and help needed may be obtained by calling at the office of the Graduate School.

A student wishing to register for any term after his first term of graduate work must bring his copy of his official graduate course of study to registration with notations on it to show the courses already taken and the grades received.

Ide P. Trotter, Dean
Graduate School



Behind 'Iron Curtain' . . .

Congressman Penetrates Russian Strength, Armor

By Thomas A. Reedy

Berlin, Oct. 4.—(AP)—An American congressman has pierced Russia's Iron Curtain in Germany and returned undetected with an eyewitness account of new Soviet baby tanks and jet planes.

The adventure was reported by Rep. Thurmond Chatham (D-NC), who came to Berlin with a group of legislators touring U.S. defense points in Europe.

Chatham in an interview described a 50-mile Jeep ride into the Soviet zone, which bristles with 250,000 Russian troops. He visited a new airbase and an infantry tank command.

A westerner on such forbidden territory is vulnerable to arrest and possible shooting as a spy.

New Planes, Tanks in Production

Chatham told this story: He recognized the Russian, in civilian clothing, in a west Berlin nightclub.

"He threw his arms around me and we had a good talk. He asked if I would like to take a trip with him and I accepted."

The next day the Russian took Chatham to the Soviet sector of Berlin, put on the uniform of a senior Red army officer and took a jeep from the Russian motor pool.

He barked his way through half a dozen checkpoints, explaining his American companion as a friend from one of the east European satellite countries.

At an airfield completed only six weeks before, Chatham said he saw new jet planes with sweptback wings that looked to him as sleek and fast as the latest American types.

At another base, he said, there were about 20 tanks built lower than anything he had seen while in combat in both world wars—about three feet high but armed with long guns.

Chatham speculated the tanks might be almost immune to ordinary fire from weapons which could not lower their muzzles enough to aim at the low tanks.

The drivers, the congressman conjectured, probably lie prone to operate the tanks.

Soviet Faith Shattered

Enroute, Chatham said, the Russian gave him these personal opinions—

1. The Soviets have lost face in Asia over the Korean war.

2. The Kremlin drive to bring about Polish-East German friendship under Communist rule has failed so far.

3. "Every one-legged German would carry gun against us (the Russians) now."

Chatham said he saw thousands of Russian soldiers in uniform bringing in the harvest. The officer, he said, explained this as a measure to maintain discipline in an army cooped up mostly in compounds and barracks.

The congressman said he was told the Soviet occupation army was paid mostly in East German marks which come out of the vassal East German government's treasury and are written off as occupation costs.

At the end of the trip, Chatham said, the Russian donned civilian clothes again and brought the congressman back to the west. The Russian, he added, was richer by cigarettes, chocolate and nylon stockings when they parted.

Until recently this Russian-born scholar was editor of the "Soviet Press Translations" published by the Far Eastern and Russian Institute of the University of Washington. These translations, widely used by government and other analysts of Soviet affairs, reveal among other things what the Kremlin really worries about. The big worry for the past two years, Spector thinks, has been to keep Red China friendly and to get Russians interested in Asia, especially Red China.

Spector says that in 30 years of following the Russian Press he has never seen the Soviet government devote so much effort, money and attention to Asia. Soviet scholars have written up the

past and present of Asian countries for Russian readers, and have seen to it that representatives works of Russian culture have been made available in Chinese, Korean, Mongolian, Japanese and recently in Arabic.

He says Stalin is "de-Europeanizing" Russia, cutting all possible ties with the West, and trying to replace them with new ties in Asia. The importance to this task is suggested by the report that when Vice Premier Molotov was relieved as foreign minister early in 1949 he was assigned expanding Soviet influence in Asia.

"Russia is casting her lot with Asia," says Spector, "especially with the China of Mao Tze-Tung."

Thousands of Chinese students are in Russia, many Russian students are in Red China. Perhaps a million Chinese workers are in Siberia. They may not like it, but they are learning to speak Russian, and learning Russian methods.

Against this background, Spector feels that America does not educate enough Americans, well enough, about Asia. Nor he thinks is the American story presented to Asians in the terms they could most easily grasp.

He believes that, in the long run, "the future of America is tied up with the Orient even more than with Europe."

"If we failed to profit from what happened in China, we should certainly learn our lesson from what has taken place in Korea," says Spector.

The Soviet Press, he notes, carried on May 10, 1950, a P'yongyang dispatch which gave the timetable for the "liberation" of all Korea.

From the City Desk . . .

Electric Rates May be Lowered



By Joel Austin

Maybe by Monday night the people of College Station will know just what they will be paying for electric power in the future.

Delay in acceptance of the bids which have been received by the city council has been due to the recent meeting of the A&M Board of Directors in San Antonio.

Chancellor Gibb Gilchrist had asked the council to withhold action on the matter until the board met in the Alamo City last weekend. It seems as though Gilchrist was under the impression that the college might lower its rates, thus making it unnecessary for discontinuance of the present contract for electric power between the city of College Station and A&M College.

Our reporters who covered the Saturday morning session of the Board in San Antonio said that nothing was mentioned about electricity for College Station while they were there.

We have checked with several people who were at the closed meeting of the board Friday night and they assured us that nothing was mentioned there either.

Mayor Ernest Langford said yesterday that if nothing is heard from the College administration concerning a decrease in rates by the next council meeting (Monday night, October 11), the council will not wait any longer to act on the matter.

Dr. F. C. Bolton is currently studying the proposals made to the city by the Brazos River Transmission Electric Cooperative, the Gulf States Electric Corporation, the City of Bryan, and other. He will report in the near future to the City Council, and will, in all probability, make recommendations to the group as to what action they should take in awarding a new contract.

News About the City . . .

● We were riding around in College Hills yesterday and noticed that the fire plug which has been mentioned in this column several times heretofore is now free of all its pretty flowers and bushes.

Although the lonely fire plug stands in the middle of the yard as a dull, drab spectacle, it nevertheless will offer firemen quicker and more efficient operation if fire should break out in that area.

We realize the owner's feelings about the matter and we feel sure that he hates to lose a cedar tree that has probably been there for quite sometime. But in removing the tree and flowers, this person has also helped to assure himself and his neighbors that if and when fire breaks out, the tap can be reached quickly and easily with little loss of time.

● Building in College Hills Wooded Area is still going strong. Seems like a new house springs up here and there every day. Ran Boswell, assistant city secretary, didn't have the total on building permits issued during the month of September yesterday, but when the amount is totaled, it should be quite large.

● Workmen are busy today digging ditches and laying pipe for the new water and sewer lines being installed by the city in the College Hills Wooded Area. This job will help to alleviate much trouble experienced by these people in securing adequate water supply and a better form of sewerage disposal.

In Passing . . .

Today is a big day for the citizens of College Station as well as the college itself. For with A&M's celebration of 75 years of progress, the city itself will also be celebrating something in addition to A&M's anniversary.

The citizens of this city may be thanking their lucky stars that there is such a thing as A&M and, as an outgrowth from the college's limits, the City of College Station. For had it not been for

A&M, chances are this city would not exist.

So as you return to your home or place of business, think about what the college stands for in the every day life of any local resident, and be thankful that you are part of this growing city. College Station people are working together with A&M student, faculty, and administrative groups to make A&M one of the highest type institutions of learning in the United States.

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The Battalion

Lawrence Sullivan Ross, Founder of Aggie Traditions

"Soldier, Statesman, Knightly Gentleman"

The Battalion, official newspaper of the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas, is published five times a week during the regular school year. During the summer terms, The Battalion is published four times a week, and during examination and vacation periods, twice a week. Days of publication are Monday through Friday for the regular school year, Tuesday through Friday during the summer terms, and Tuesday and Thursday during vacation and examination periods. Subscription rates \$6.00 per year or \$5.00 per month. Advertising rates furnished on request.

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 (4-5324) or at the Student Activities Office, Room 209, Goodwin Hall.

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L'I'L ABNER

Dance, Fool, Dance

By Al Capp

SURPRISIN' SMITH IS TH' NICEST FELLA IN TH' WORLD!! HIS FEET BIN POUNDED TO A JELLY BY THEM DOGPATCH DANCIN' GALS—AN' YET HE GOES ON DANCIN'—WIF A SMILE!!

AH'D BE DEE-LIGHTED 'N DANCE WIF YO' MRS. CLODDOPPER!!

THANKS!! YO' IS BRAVE!!

BR-R!!—MAH BLOOD'S RUNNIN' COLD AT TH' SOUND O' HIS FOOT-BONES BEIN' MASHED!! AN'—YET-HIS FACE SMILES!!

IT'S AS THOUGH HIS FACE DON'T CARE WHUT HIS FEET IS SUFFERIN'—

With Local Color Illustrations by Frank R. Stock

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