

# Harrington Began Teaching in 1924 As Instructor in Chem Department

(Continued from page 1)

sure there are no more Harrington boys coming out of A&M."

In the summer of 1946, Dr. Harrington was appointed Assistant Dean of the College at the A&M Annex and served in that position until the following year when he was named Dean of the School of Arts and Sciences.

Advancement was again rapid and he jumped to the post of Dean of the College, the job to be held while preparing to assume the duties of his new position.

Dr. Harrington was nominated for the presidency by Chancellor Gibb Gilchrist of the A&M College System after a year of careful study of qualifications of men from all over the country available for the post. The Aggie-Ex won the unanimous approval of the Board of Directors.

Previous to announcing their choice for president, the Board of Directors listed the qualifications desired. In the words of Board Vice-President John Newton, these were—"He must be a man of outstanding character, a teacher and educator with the ability to lead; a man who can deal harmoniously with people and, if possible, a man with a Doctor's degree.

"He must be a capable administrator, preferably have a southern background, and not be over

fifty years of age," Newton concluded.

Board member C. C. Krueger, speaking after the selection had been announced, said, "We spent a whole year looking throughout the nation for the kind of man we wanted for the next president of A&M and we were proud that it was to A&M we finally turned to find him. We have every confidence that the college will make great progress under his leadership."

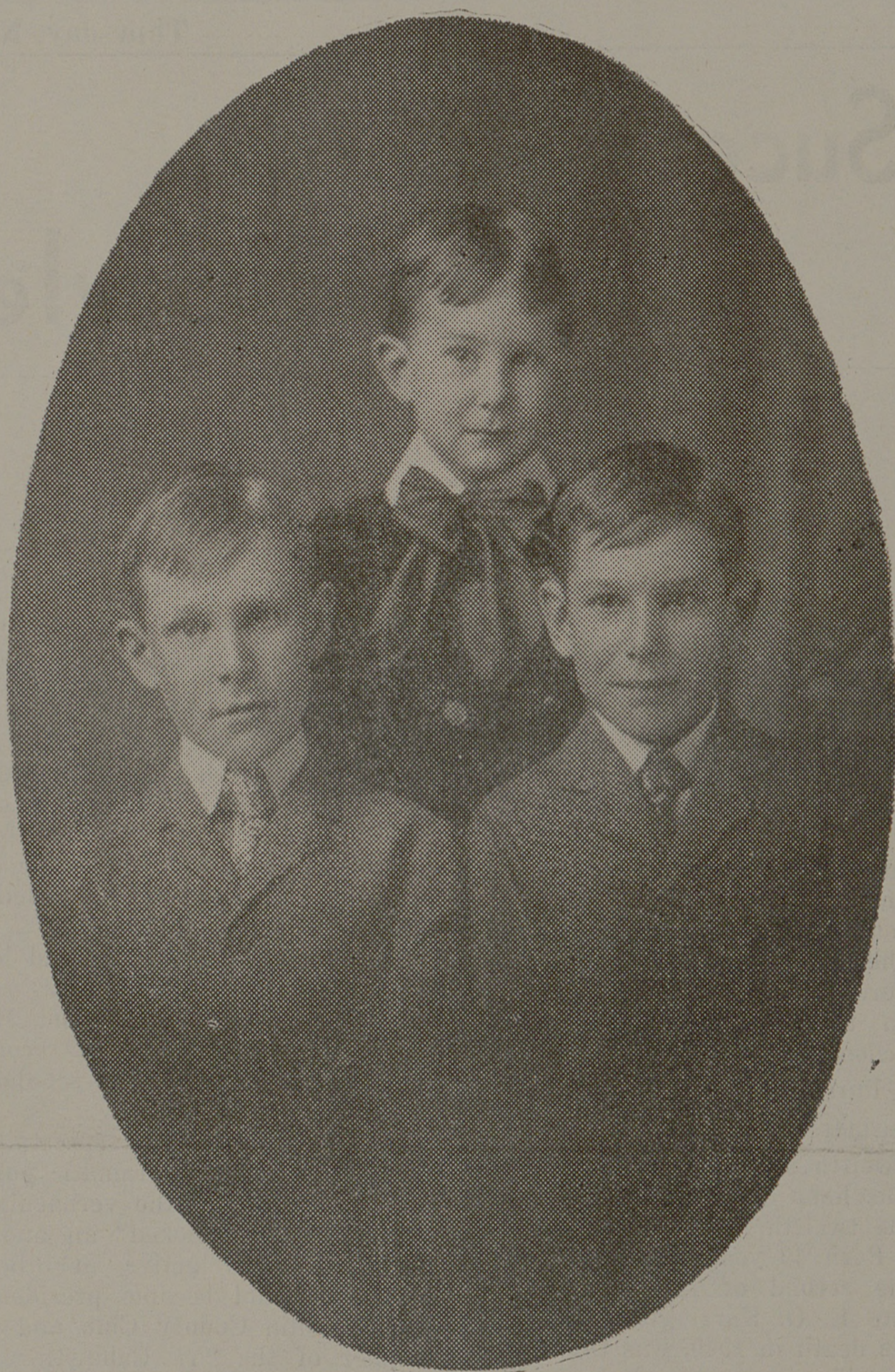
President Frank C. Bolton had this to say of his successor: "It is with genuine pleasure that I learn the board of directors has chosen my associate, Dr. M. T. Harrington, as the man to whom I am to hand over the reins of the college when I retire to modified service . . . Dr. Harrington and I have worked together for A&M for almost a quarter of a century, and I am pleased that I will be able to relinquish the leadership of the college to such capable and experienced hands."

The new president lives in the executive home on the campus first occupied by Lawrence Sullivan Ross. He has one son, 11-year old John Norris.

An active man in community affairs in College Station, he has served on the city council and on boards of various community organizations.

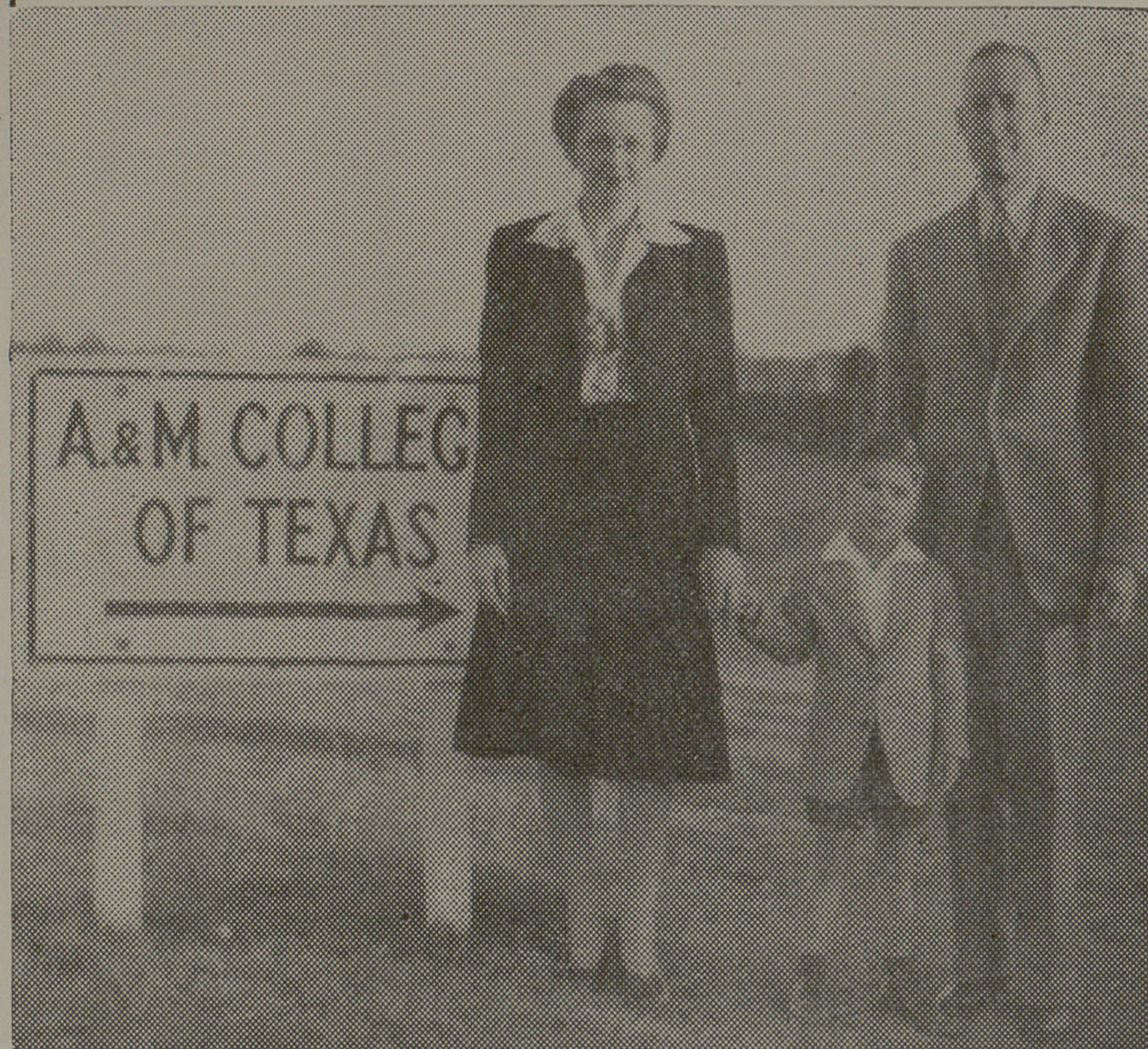
Both he and Mrs. Harrington (See next page)

## The Harrington Boys



Young Tom was the uncertain one with the frilly bow tie. Flanking him are his two older brothers, T. C., (left) now a Plano businessman, and E. E., later deceased.

## The First Family



President and Mrs. Harrington had long been residents of the college and of College Station when this snapshot was taken in December of 1943. John Norris, center, is now 11 years.

## That Traditional Twelfth . . .

The year was 1922. And The Longhorn, A&M yearbook, had on its pages the picture of one Cadet Captain Marion Thomas Harrington, later to become the twelfth president of Texas A&M.

Elsewhere in the book, though, was another story—one telling of the defeat of Centre College 22-14 in a New Year's Day grid battle. The game with the "Praying Colonels from Danville" was supposed to be a one-sided affair. All odds were against the Aggies.

Our squad was riddled with injuries. And half-time found us trailing.

Yet, at the end of the game, one of the nation's keenest football critics said, "If there ever was a team that played perfect football it was Texas A&M."

A large part of that notable victory can be attributed to one

man—E. King Gill. Gill was not a member of the team. He had played football before, but that day he was just one of many Aggie spectators.

At half-time, with their reserves completely gone, the team turned to Gill who came down from the stands, suited out and finished the game.

Thus was the famous Twelfth Man—a student body always behind the team and always ready and willing to help the team on a moment's notice—born.

It seems a bit significant that the same game from which came the original Twelfth Man counted among its spectators that day the future twelfth president of A&M—and the first member of that Twelfth Man student body to assume in later years the leadership of the school.