

Newsweek Story Classes A&M As Big 'Tin' College

By DAVE COSLETT

AGGIELAND'S got callers a 'comin'. That's the word from last week's issue of Newsweek which foresees "heavy pressure" on all military colleges during the next year or so.

The magazine, in an article entitled "West Point Producing Soldier Statesmen As Military Colleges Face Biggest Boom," sees enrollment gains at A&M and similar colleges unlike anything known since the critical days of 1942.

The article itself is concerned mainly with new methods of training at the three academies—West Point, Annapolis and the Coast Guard Academy. It mentions eight other military colleges only slightly.

These eight it calls the "tin colleges," explaining, "In Army slang they are called 'tin' to differentiate the 'brass,' or top officer personnel, which traditionally comes from the official schools."

Condescending that the civilian schools are especially recognized by the Pentagon for their strict military training, Newsweek names them. They are A&M, VPI, Clemson, The Citadel, VMI, Norwich University, Pennsylvania Military College and North Georgia College.

Commenting further on the eight, the magazine has this to say: "The 'tin' colleges, whose enrollments now total some 13,000, could expect the pressure on them to get heavier. Since the schools require virtually all male students to take ROTC and live a military life in uniform, the recent Senate draft bill grants the ROTC men of these eight colleges the same deferments as service-academy students. The House bill, up for an early vote, contains the same provision. And the 100 regular and 400 reserve Army commissions that usually go to these eight schools will be more than doubled this June."

An especially significant point in the article concerns student drop-outs. The Coast Guard Academy has a 50 per cent mortality rate, Annapolis 25 per cent and West Point 20 per cent. "At the eight tin colleges," the article says, "drop-outs are much lower, with Texas A&M's 11 per cent usually high." Deans, please note.

The article concludes, "Training for peacetime governmental service as well as possible war command has put a tremendous responsibility on the military academies and colleges. Out of a wave of applicants they had to choose not only the good men, they had to pick the best—and give them the best education for all eventualities—to wit, 'Operation Statesmen!'"

Cadet Colonely has heir apparent. Any mention of West Point quite naturally brings to mind ideas of military aristocracy. Seems we have a new slant on that locally. And it rather perplexes those on our staff with a bent for inventing unusual titles.

Most of you readers probably remember an introduction in one of our September issues to Mrs. A. D. Martin, "The First First Lady of the Corps of Cadets." The title seemed most apt for the only young bride ever to claim A&M's Cadet Colonel of the Corps as her spouse.

Eye Strain and the Switch to Khakis. Biggest change on the campus, today, of course, is the switch to summer wardrobe. With that comes the inevitable eye strain to determine whether that cap braid is gold or plain black. Best solution to that is the universal greeting urged before on these pages.

And, with the return to khakis, we enter a new month—the next to last one of this school year. Don't ask me where the other months went. I haven't figured that out, either.

At any rate, it won't be long until we can ascertain the truth in the Newsweek production. Those of us, however, who are in the last stages of Rose Hall "formitus" will have to rely on the returning ones for the scoop on that. Someone has plans for us—plans that include a little mixing with that "top officer personnel."

Let's hope we don't find the "brass" corroded.

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You Should Know the Answers

What is Purpose of MSC? What Does it Do?

Today The Battalion presents the first in a series of articles designed to give the student greater insight of what the Memorial Student Center has to offer him. The writer and the editors hope, through this means, to both answer the questions in the minds of Battalion readers concerning the MSC, and provide a basis for better understanding.

The next article in this series will deal with MSC clubs and committees and a third will explain how the MSC is financed.

By BILL AABERG
Battalion Staff Writer

WHAT is the nature and purpose of our Student Center? Through what means does the Center endeavor to accomplish its purpose?

These are questions only vaguely understood by most students, but they are questions the student, who is the prime recipient of everything the Center does, should be able to answer. To better benefit from the facilities of any student center one must know how the center can help him and how he may aid his center in its work.

Suppose you were visiting in your hometown on a weekend and you mentioned the MSC to some of your friends. If they asked you point blank, "What do you mean 'Student Center'?" what would you tell them? Could you define the MSC?

A Definition for MSC

Many English professors tell us you can't really use a word unless you can define it. This might be applied to the MSC. A good definition of a "college union" is found in Edith Humphrey's handbook on campus community centers, "College Unions," and reads as follows:

"The term 'college union' implies an organization and a building. The organization, ordinarily composed of students, faculty, and alumni, is an informal educational medium for individual and group self-discovery and expression through a broad program of social and cultural recreation adapted to the leisure-time interests and needs of the college community. The union building is the community center—the physical instrument for implementing the objectives of the organization and for facilitating a community life."

Even now, with the MSC in its "kindergarten" stage, Humphrey's definition applies to our building and organization.

One of the main purposes of the Center is to transform A&M from a "place of learning" to a "home of learning."

MSC Is Part of Aggie Living

When the building first opened, students marveled at its plush beauty and were very proud, but the fact remained the Center was a building with a name, but not a heart. However, as time has passed, what was once just a building with a name has become a part of Aggie living.

As one senior put it while in the coffee shop between classes, "I don't see how we did without it for three whole years." The MSC has become a campus home for Aggies.

In our campus home may be found many direct recreational and educational facilities such as the browsing library, piano room, music room, photography facilities, dancing instructions, club meeting rooms, and many other things which may occupy our leisure time. There are other benefits derived from the Center, indirectly.

One of the most important of these comes from the national and inter-national meetings and conferences held on our campus in the Center.

MSC Makes Us Known

Many top executives, who ordinarily have little or nothing to do with interviewing and hiring college graduates, attend such meetings and notice our friendly "Howdy," our school spirit, and become acquainted with the type of graduates produced at A&M. Here is an example of just such a thing.

The president of one of the largest manufacturing companies in the world attended a conference here recently. He was on the campus only a short time but was so impressed that he instructed one of his executives, an Aggie-ex, to interview some graduating seniors and to try to get at least three prospective A&M graduates lined up for positions with his company.

In the Center the students see exhibits that are educational and entertaining by means of the window exhibits in the corridors of the main floor. Some stop to examine, others merely glance, but all have the chance to samples of art, photography, pottery and ceramics, and industry that they otherwise would see only by attending special exhibitions. An average five thousand people pass the exhibits daily.

The front desk of the Center was planned and designed to function as an information center for the campus and is already acting in that capacity to a great extent. On hand at the desk are telephone directories of several large cities, a Texas Almanac, campus directories, campus guides, and a daily and weekly schedule of events. The desk also handles incoming mail for clubs which regularly hold their meetings in the Center. The MSC aids the college students and student family financially by employing 110 students and student wives who earn approximately \$6,500 monthly.

Beauty—For a Better Graduate

Many thousands of dollars were spent to make the MSC noticeably luxurious. This was not done just to make a show or to spend more money. Modern beauty and luxury were emphasized to help produce a more suave, debonair graduate who will be equally adapted to meet all classes of people any place, anywhere.

Although more students are coming to realize the benefits of the Center, those who do not understand why the Center was built or what it is for are still too great in number.

A pamphlet explaining the functions and policies of the MSC will soon be made available to students and others. Reading the pamphlet will help the student, through a better understanding, to enjoy the benefits of the Center.

We see the MSC in the light of recreation for our leisure time, a meeting place for the student clubs, a place for education through the varied exhibits and the many clubs in which a student may learn a useful hobby, as an aid in future employment, and as a means for building greater personal self-confidence.

Battalion Editorials

Page 2 MONDAY, APRIL 2, 1951

New Voice for A&M Students

THE BRYAN Chamber of Commerce last week took what may prove to be a very significant step toward improving relations of the A&M student body with the Bryan community.

The Bryan Chamber has named the president of A&M's Student Senate an honorary ex-officio director and invited him to attend the group's meetings twice monthly.

In a letter to The Battalion, N. Leslie Kelley, Jr. manager of the Bryan C of C, said, "I can assure you that it is the most sincere desire of the Bryan Chamber of Commerce to cooperate and work with the students of Texas A&M College, and we hope that the President of the Student Senate on our Board of Directors will assist in main-

taining a harmonious and favorable understanding that will last through the years."

We thoroughly agree with Manager Kelley and the Bryan Chamber of Commerce.

And The Battalion encourages Student Senate President Bill Parse to take every advantage of this move to better relations with Bryan.

Since it will likely be impossible for the president to attend all the meetings, we suggest that a suitable alternate be appointed so that the student body will have a voice in all matters affecting A&M College.

Thank you Bryan Chamber of Commerce, we appreciate your interest and the opportunity to be represented.

Bagley Hall Needs a Nameplate . . .

IS IT Bagley Hall, Building M, or Textile Building?

The Board of Directors have made it officially Bagley Hall, but most students still call it the Textile Building and a large cardboard sign on the door reads "Building M."

At its last meeting the Board named the building Bagley Hall in honor of John B. Bagley, who headed the Textile Engineering Department here for over 30 years. The department was abolished in 1939.

The Board of Directors on recommendation of President Harrington have seen fit to honor Professor Bagley by giving the building his name.

To carry out the wishes of the President and Board of Directors The Battalion suggests substituting a sign reading "Bagley Hall" to replace the one now over the door. And work should be progressing on some sort of permanent name plate for the building.

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.

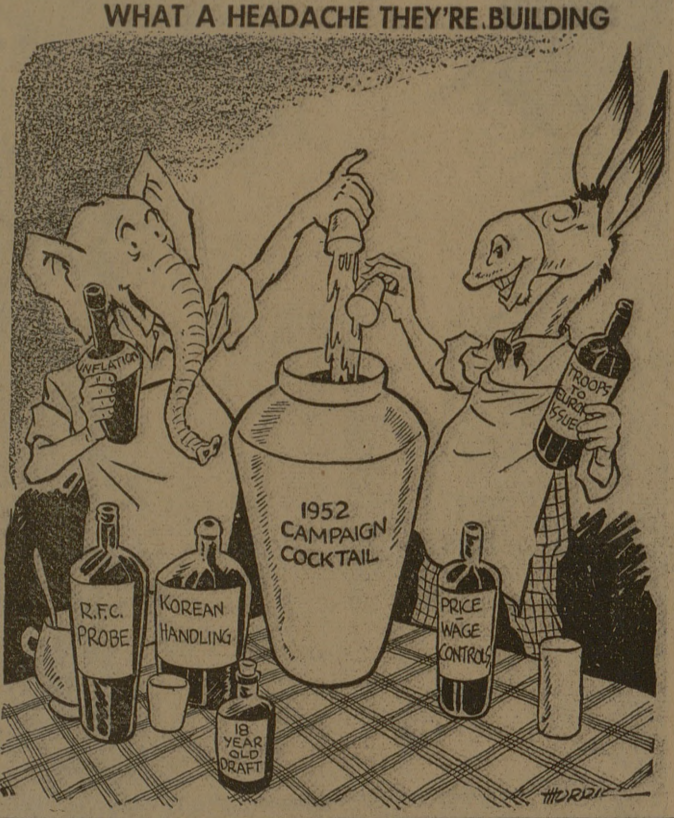
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Arts-Sciences Week Enters Second Phase

Arts and Sciences Week enters its second phase tonight with a speech by Felix Larkin, general counsel for the Department of Defense.

Friday night, Professor T. V. Smith of Syracuse University discussed "The Real Issue With Russia." His speech, sponsored by the Arts and Sciences Department, was made before a large audience of those attending the Texas Conference of College English Teachers held Friday and Saturday in the Ballroom of the MSC.

At a luncheon Saturday, Professor Smith spoke on "Philosophy and Poetry."

Rabbi Arthur J. Lelyveld of New York discussed "The Place of Religion in Civilized Society," yesterday at 4 p. m. in the MSC Ballroom. His talk was sponsored by the Department of Religious Education.

Tonight at 8 in the MSC the "Great Issues Course" will present Felix Larkin, general counsel for the Department of Defense who will speak on "Our Current Defense Problem."

"The School Plant," a discussion to be held in the Assembly Room of the MSC Wednesday night at 7:30, will be sponsored by the Departments of Education and Physical Education in conjunction with the Architecture Department. In addition to the discussion, a movie and several exhibits showing the building needs of public schools will be shown.

A banquet Wednesday night in the MSC sponsored by the Business Administration Department will honor W. C. McCord, president of the Southland Life Insurance Company. McCord will speak at the banquet which will begin at 7:30.

Bible Verse
AND WHEN they were come to the place, which is called Calvary, there they crucified him, and the malefactors, one on the right hand, and the other on the left. Then said Jesus, "Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do." And they parted his raiment, and cast lots.
—Luke 23: 33-34.

LETTERS

All letters to the editor must be signed by the writer and free from obscene and libelous references. Letter writers wanting their name withheld must make a personal request to the co-editors. No unsigned letters will be published.

General Palmer Pleased By 'Howdy' Custom

To the Cadet Corps: It was a great pleasure to be with the Cadet Corps last Saturday, (Military Ball Weekend). I was very impressed with the fine series of events which I was privileged to attend.

Your custom at A&M of each cadet coming up and introducing himself in a friendly and gracious manner, is one of the best things I have ever seen anywhere. I would like to see it spread to every school in the United States.

All young men should be taught to go up and speak politely to older guests and high-ranking visitors. I am so often embarrassed by the shyness and awkwardness of gatherings where I am invited to appear, that I can appreciate the value of this gracious custom of yours.

W. B. Palmer
Major General
Commander,
2d. Armored Division

Truman to Ask ECA Be Kept

Washington, April 2 — (AP) President Truman said today he will recommend to Congress that the Economic Cooperation Administration (ECA) be maintained on a "continuing basis to help carry out the programs essential to the security of the free world."

In a statement hailing the third anniversary of the Marshall Plan, the President said economic recovery in Western Europe has been "substantially achieved."

"However," he added, "with the present threat to world peace, new tasks have been imposed upon us. The free nations are now combining to convert their resources into military strength to preserve the peace and defend our freedoms."

A new ECA policy, announced Saturday by administrator William C. Foster, calls for supplying Europe not only money and materials for rebuilding its economy but also for expanding its capacity for producing arms and military supplies.

Under existing laws the big Marshall Plan agency is scheduled to close next April. Its operations have cost the United States \$11 billion.

L'I'L ABNER A Little Child Shall Lead Him



By Al Capp

