

European Education System Has Only One Annual Exam

(Editor's Note—This is the fourth in a series of articles on European conditions written by Mr. Davis. The writer was the winner of the European Travel Award last year.)

By DAN DAVIS

How about going to school where there is only one exam a year? Attendance at class is not required, and the students live in comfortable suites complete with kitchens and liquor closets.

It sounds like an Aggie's dream of heaven, but this is the general plan followed by European universities.

UNDERLYING this superficial difference between American and European universities is a basically different idea of the purpose of higher education. European educators believe students actually come to college to acquire an education and merely provide a medium or opportunity for them to acquire that education.

Exams are not for the purpose of forcing the student to study, but merely to check his progress. One exam a year is all that is given and it is a compre-

hensive exam over everything the student has covered during the year.

IF THE EXAM is failed the first year, the only use to which the exam is put is that of an indicator of the points on which the student is weak. Only if the exam during and after the sophomore level is failed is expulsion considered.

This plan of education isn't intended for the type of mass education on the college level that is practiced in this country. Only a small percentage of Europeans attend colleges and this is primarily a result of the prohibitive cost of higher education.

It is virtually impossible to attend a European university unless one has a scholarship or is from a wealthy family. This is exemplified by the fact that of England's 50,000,000 population, only 80,000 are enrolled in institutes of higher learning.

IN COMPARISON, Texas has approximately 75,000 students in college from a population of between 7 and 8 million.

Students in Europe occupy a much higher social position than those of this country. Governments quite often subsidize the students to such extents as paying half their board and even giving them large reductions in their railroad fares. Rather than being looked upon as a "young, irresponsible college kid", they are regarded as the hope of the nation.

Social life is not nearly as extensive among European students as it is among their American counterparts. A high percentage of European students are as unfortunate as the Aggies in that they too must attend lectures that are completely devoid of the belle femme.

INTERCOLLEGIATE sports are not emphasized as much as in this country. Professional athletes take the place, to a large degree, of intercollegiate sports.

Many of the European students look upon American colleges as marriage factories rather than seats of higher education. The prevalent opinion is that they are much better educated than their American counterparts.

'Still Formidable Adversaries'

Political Pot Boils After New Hampshire Primary Vote

Washington, March 13—(AP)—Political opponents of President Truman and Sen. Taft ranked them today as "still formidable" adversaries despite the New Hampshire presidential primary victories scored by Sen. Kefauver and Gen. Eisenhower.

Kefauver, Tennessee Democrat, upset Truman in Tuesday's granite state contest. And Eisenhower swept over Ohio's Taft on the Republican ticket.

"Say what you want about Harry Truman, he's a fighter, especially when he's hurt—and he'll fight now," said Sen. Aiken (R-Vt.).

Aiken is anti-Truman. He has not announced his choice for the GOP presidential nomination.

The Vermonter predicted last month Kefauver would "beat the tar" out of Truman in the New Hampshire primary.

"Kefauver did just that all right," Aiken said today, "but now he's got a man (Truman) who must be fighting mad and the going will be rougher."

As for Taft, Sen. Ives (R-NY)—who is backing Eisenhower against the Ohioan for the GOP presidential nomination—declared: "Don't anyone think for a minute that Bob Taft is out of the race. On our side, we aren't taking anything for granted. That July nominating convention is still a long way off and anything can happen in politics."

defense forces, Eisenhower commented that "any American who is honored by so many other Americans considering him fit for the presidency should be proud, or, by golly, he is no American."

Wary Kefauver, weary from two weeks of New Hampshire campaigning, told a news conference here late yesterday that "victory in one primary is not a sure sign of success in others."

"I still have a long, hard, uphill fight and it is going to take a lot of work... by my supporters over the country... I think I have come a long way since January 23 when I announced I was in this fight to the finish and that is my position today."

The lanky, soft-spoken Tennesseean said he will enter or has entered nine other primaries and will campaign in all of them. He listed contests in Florida, Illinois, Ohio, California, Wisconsin, Nebraska, Maryland, New Jersey and Oregon.

Disappointed Taft, campaigning in Texas, said he was "a little disappointed" about his showing in New Hampshire. He had counted on winning at least four of the 14 GOP delegates and said he had been "expecting a horse race" in the preferential voting.

Truman declined to comment on his defeat by Kefauver.

However, the President's press secretary, Joseph Short, said at the little White House in Key West, Fla., that Kefauver's victory would have absolutely no effect on Truman's decision on whether to seek re-election.

Short added that Truman had said so himself.

Sen. Humphrey (D-Minn) said it was a "political mistake" for Truman to have decided to enter the New Hampshire primary—after first declaring that presidential preferential primaries were "eye-wash."

"He had everything to lose and absolutely nothing to gain," said Humphrey, who is entered in Minnesota.

nesota's March 18 Democratic presidential primary as a "favorite son" candidate. Humphrey has said he will throw the support of the state delegation to Truman if the president runs again.

Wrong Move Sen. Anderson (D-NM) also called it a "wrong move" for the president to have agreed to run in New Hampshire.

"He doesn't need a single primary vote to get the nomination if he wants it," Anderson said, "he can get it by a wave of his hand. I hope he doesn't enter any more."

Truman changed his mind and went into New Hampshire after being told the party organization's slate of delegate candidates would be forced out of the picture if he didn't run.

Some of the president's intimates privately made no effort to hide their own anger at New Hampshire party leaders who persuaded Truman to allow his name to remain on the ballot after he had said he would ask its withdrawal.

"It is always a mistake when the President is persuaded to do something against his own political judgment," one said.

Aiken said Truman's defeat "indicates the people of New Hampshire and everywhere are fed up with corruption in government."

The Vermonter said Taft was defeated by Eisenhower "because he is affiliated with the most reactionary element of the party—his stuck with them and they lose votes for him every time they open their mouths."

Battalion Editorials

Page 2 THURSDAY, MARCH 13, 1952

It's Up to Us

ALMOST 800 Texas high school seniors will begin arriving on the campus tomorrow for the annual High School and Sports Day programs, which will be held Saturday.

During their brief stay at A&M, these boys will have an opportunity to tour the campus, visit their friends, eat in the mess halls, and sleep in cadet dormitories. They will see the kind of life an Aggie lives by actually participating in the students' schedule.

A&M has the reputation of being one of the most friendly, if not the friendliest, schools in the state. Visitors to our campus are delighted to find the atmosphere of welcome which prevails in Aggieland.

Saturday will be one of the biggest days of the year for many of the visiting students. Some of them have never seen A&M. Saturday could also be the day when these boys definitely decide in which college they will enroll for their higher education.

A great part of the students final decision will be based on the reception they are given and how they are treated during their stay. We can make that day a happy one for them and thus virtually insure their enrollment in A&M next year, or we can turn the visitors' minds in an opposite direction.

It's up to us.

War Gave Dabbs Chance To Use His College Training

By WAYNE DEAN Battalion Staff Writer

Perhaps, in this present world unrest and turmoil, you have wondered what the Army would do if it were to find it had inducted a college professor.

If so, you probably have definite ideas as to what sort of jobs he should be assigned to accomplish. But don't be too hasty. Take the case of Dr. J. A. Dabbs of the

modern languages department, for example.

In 1940, when the 36th Division was called to active duty, young Lieutenant Dabbs, fresh from eight years of studying languages at the University of Texas, found himself in the rush. He trained with the division in the states before their embarkation.

But when he packed his gear for what he thought to be a long ocean

cruise, he was soon surprised to learn that the government had other ideas as to his future.

Chosen For Training

He had been selected for training at the Military Intelligence Institute. For months he and about 100 others were prepared for their new job as members of an interrogation team. After completion of their training, they were sent to Iran, where it was believed that German planes were dropping infiltrators.

It was there that Dabbs got his first view of the Russians, because it was they who barred the way to the mountains where the Germans were located.

This mission failed, the team returned to the states.

Sent To Japan

At the close of the war in the Pacific, Dabbs, then a captain, was sent to Japan with the team. From his duty here, he went to Korea. For several months he served with the military government there.

In 1947, about the time of the German war trials, Captain Dabbs, who speaks German fluently, found himself at the Berlin Document Center, studying evidence which was to be used in convicting Germany's top war criminals. The following year he was discharged from the Army and two years later he joined the modern languages department at A&M.

He received his BA, MA, and PhD from the University of Texas, where he spends summers studying old Spanish documents recently purchased by the university.

Dr. Dabbs, who is married and the father of one child, lives in Bryan.

Backward Glances

Memories of Past Years From the Files of The Battalion

20 Years Ago Today

A Houston magazine commended the Cadets on their yelling ability. From the Houston "Gargoyle" dated Feb. 21, 1932 came the following remarks:

"The loudest thing in America today is the A&M Cadet Corps, in full cry and enclosed within the echoing confines of its own gym during a basketball game (with the Rice Owls)... Thundering, deafening, it rises from thousands of rugged young throats, and hits your ear drums with the power to stun."

The article went on to say that it was even worse in the old tin roofed gym.

10 Years Ago Today

Corps seniors were allowed to remove the ROTC patch from the left shirt pocket.

The reason for this was "that when Aggies enter the Army it will not be desirable to have the dark traces that is left by the patches." There were only three restrictions for seniors on wearing the patch. It had to be worn on any official occasion, Federal inspection, and the blouse.

5 Years Ago Today

Miss Joann Dobbs was elected queen of the Agronomy Society's Thirteenth Annual Cotton Ball and Pageant. The King of Cotton for the Ball was Eugene Vacek. The following letter, probably

intended for a syndicated advice column was found in the post office box of a reporter for The Battalion:

Dear Advice Editor: I cannot make up my mind about which girl I should marry. One is beautiful, smart, a good cook, and her father has eight million dollars. She is crazy about me. The other is rather plain, has an impediment in her speech, is cross-eyed, but her father is an embalmer and will handle my case free when I die. Which one should I choose?

J. K. B. N.

The reporter's answer was a famous quotation from Longfellow: "Life is real, life is earnest, and the grave is not its goal." He also advised this person to marry the rich one.

LETTERS

Editor, The Battalion:

Is The Battalion published in the interest of the students? What could be of more interest daily than the shows playing at all theaters in the Bryan-College vicinity?

If it is because only a few buy the advertisement that they aren't published, why can't we sacrifice a little money and space to publish them free in the interest of the students?

Thank You,

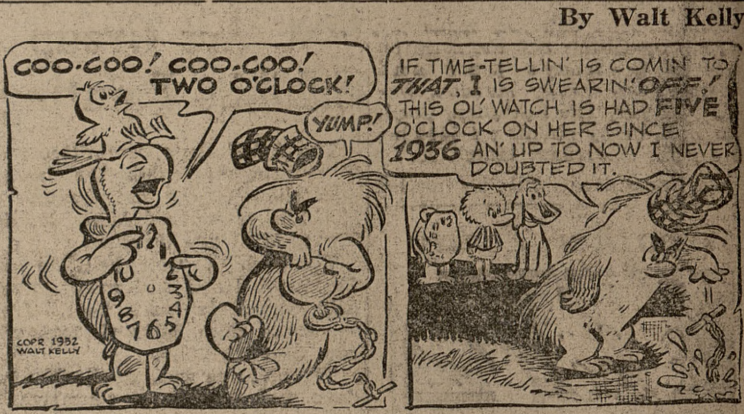
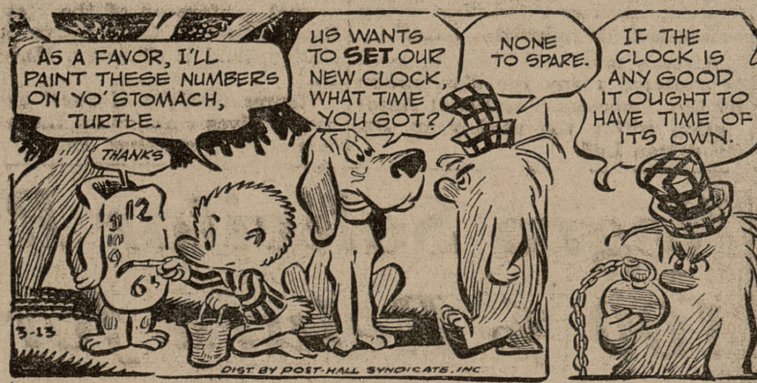
Howard C. Allison, '53
George Martin, '54
J. L. del Rio, Jr., '54
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Bill Carpenter, '53
Arthur Johns, '53

P. S. We don't work for the theaters.

Local Health Unit Reports 100 Cases

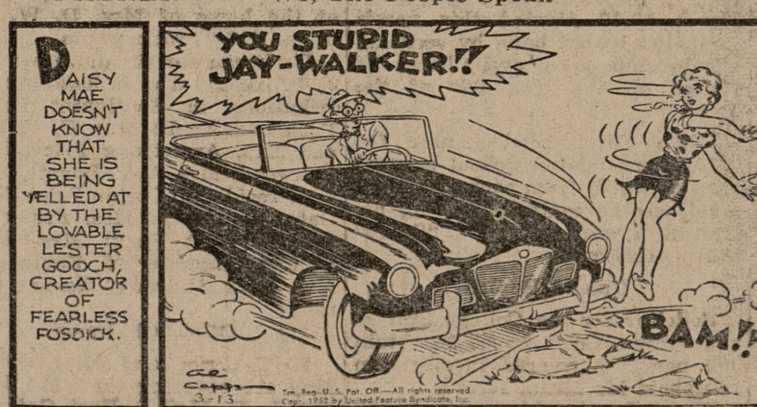
The Bryan-Brazos County Health Unit has released the morbidity report for the week ending March 8. There were 100 cases of illness reported in the area.

POGO



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We, The People Speak



The Battalion

awardee Sullivan Ross. Founder of Aggie Tradition. Soldier Statesman. Knightly Gentleman.

The Battalion, official newspaper of the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas, is published by students 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 examination and vacation periods. Subscription rates \$8.00 per year or \$5.00 per month. Advertising rates furnished on request.

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