

**DISTINGUISHED MAYOR**—With minutes of the last city council meeting before him, Mayor Ernest Langford sits at the head of the council table at a meeting in College Station City Hall. Langford has been mayor since 1942.

**College Station**

**Scattered City Surrounds A&M**

The city of College Station almost completely surrounds the island of state property that is A&M College. The city's three main sections, which aren't connected to each other, are each on a different side of the college.

The oldest section is to the south, past the new area dormitories. It was to this location that professors moved when the college's accelerated building plan pushed them off the campus in the early 1930's.

**Houses Moved**

Many houses were moved bodily at this time and put down in their present location.

This area has four subdivisions, College Park, the oldest, Breezy Heights, West Park, and Oakwood. It is an area of winding, tree-lined streets. Some of the streets divide to go on both sides of a tree that was growing in the path of the street.

Across Highway 6 from East Gate is the largest section of the city. College Hills, Woodland, Ringhoffer, Kelley, and Cooner Additions are also the newest and the fastest growing. Like the other sections, College Hills has several parks for the convenience of the residents.

**Well Known Street Names**

The streets in this section are named for well-known men of the college: Walton, Puryear, Kyle, Milner, Foster, and others.

The third section is behind North Gate. Composed of Boyett and Tauber, this section has most of the city's churches. It also has

**Most Residents Are Employees**

Mayor Ernest Langford estimates that less than 50 families in College Station are not connected with the college in some way.

Almost the entire population either teaches or works at the college, or operates business establishments for those who work for the college.

"Even when a man has retired from the college, he naturally comes back here to live," Langford said.

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**Mayor Langford Began First Term in 1942**

By HARRI BAKER  
Battalion City Editor

Not many cities can boast of having the same mayor for 10 years—but College Station can and does.

Ernest Langford was first elected in 1942. He had been on the city council since the first one organized when the city was incorporated in 1938.

Why does he devote so much time to his city? "Everyone has to have a hobby," he says. "College Station is mine."

He has been head of A&M's department of architecture since 1929, but the people of College Station think of him mainly as a civic leader.

This indicates a double personality, because thousands of A & M men, past and present, think of him as a great teacher.

**Fulfilled Dream**

Teaching is the fulfillment of a dream for Langford. When he was a boy in Bertram, he himself says he "never knew anything but a hammer and a saw", but from that basis has developed an architectural ability that he has been able to pass on to his students.

Possibly because his father was a building contractor, the boy was

a competent carpenter even before he entered A&M in 1909. After he was graduated, he did routine work in an architect's office in Austin.

In 1915, he was offered a job here, teaching drawing and a few architecture courses.

**Area Housing Is Scarce**

The College Station area has an acute housing shortage. Incoming professors and married students say it is almost impossible to find a place to rent.

On the other hand, prices for buying a house are down considerably. House prices here are almost five thousand dollars below prices for comparable houses elsewhere in Texas.

No new housing projects are planned for the immediate future.

In 1919 he went to the University of Illinois, where he received his masters degree in 1924. He returned to A&M the next year, to be made head of his department four years later.

The quality of Langford's teaching is measured by the fact that he has many students in his department who are not architecture majors. They take courses such as the History of Architecture for electives.

Should Know Architecture  
Langford believes that everyone should know something about architecture, if only to develop an ability to appreciate life. Also, he believes in helping his students as men, to grow up with an eagerness to accept life and its responsibilities.

But what of the future of Mayor Langford and College Station? He says, "The town will grow, but I personally would like to see it stay a college town, with the restful atmosphere that only a college town can have."

**Clubs Emphasized In College Station**

Clubs and organizations, ranging from chapters of national federations to informal bridge clubs, round out College Station's social life.

Service clubs for men include the Lions, Kiwanis, and Rotary. The women have the A&M Garden Club, a Daughters of the American Revolution chapter, and the College Social Club.

Many clubs are jointly Bryan and College Station, like the Art Group and the United Daughters of the Confederacy.

Instead of PTA organization, College Station has the A&M Consolidated Mothers and Dads Club, open to all parents with children in Consolidated School.

the distinction of being the location of the City Hall.

The new subdivision near the circle, which is partly in Bryan and partly in College Station, is limited to personnel from Bryan Air Force Base.

**Business Districts**

Each section of the city has its own modern business district and shopping center, making each self-sufficient. Also, each district is a city government ward.

The city limits of Bryan and College Station meet off the north boundary of College Station, which limits growth in that direction.

But the city has unlimited areas toward the east and south, and if the past is any indication, College Station will take advantage of its opportunities and grow with the college.

**Local Recreation Program Offered**

For the benefit of people of all ages and sexes in College Station, the Recreation Council offers a varied program of social and athletic activities.

The city-sponsored council gives free instruction in all its activities.

Among the events are softball, square dancing, volleyball, picnics, swimming, and handicrafts.

**College Station On Safety Honor Roll**

College Station is on the National Traffic Safety Council honor roll for the year 1951.

No traffic fatality occurred within the city limits during the past year.

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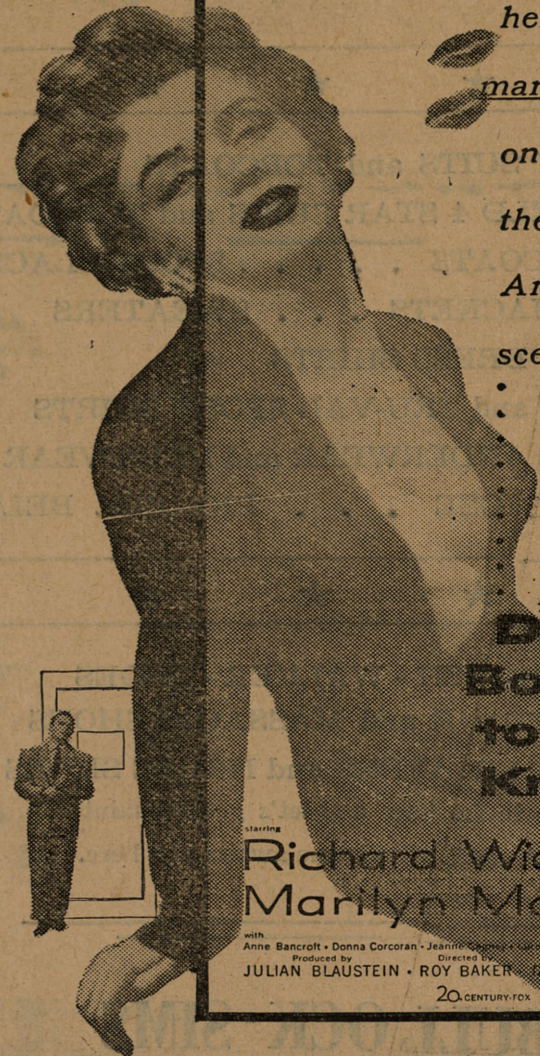
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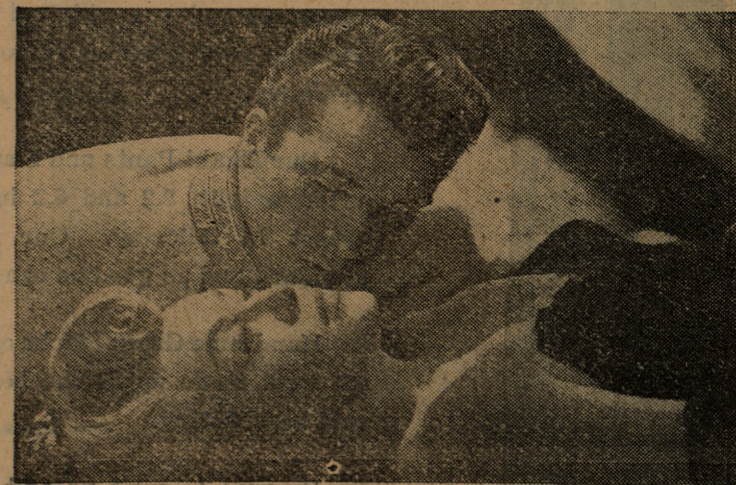
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