

The Battalion

Lawrence Sullivan Ross, Founder of Aggie Traditions
"Soldier, Statesman, Knightly Gentleman"

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Dr. Mayo Tributes Continue

The sudden death of Thomas F. Mayo ended a distinguished career as a citizen, scholar, author, lecturer, and teacher.

His last spoken thoughts were characteristic. He was concerned about his class work, notices to his kinspeople, and the trouble he was giving the kind friend who was with him at the end.

Some facts of Dr. Mayo's life that only old-timers remember: for some years he taught a popular survey course in world history, was active in campus dramatic work, founded the Junto Club, and all this while was a first-rate teacher of English and a librarian whose good work is still felt.

During the eight years in which he headed the Department of English, he toiled unceasingly to maintain standards and make the work of the department effective. He was relieved of administrative duties at his own request to give his full time to teaching. His teaching was never better than during the last two years.

Dr. Mayo brought to his class work the manners and spirit of a gentleman, a sense of humor, a vast and intimate knowledge of literature and history, a rare gift of fitting and beautiful speech, a lively interest in his subject matter, and a genuine concern about the welfare of his students. He was never too busy to welcome them to his office, and did some of his best teaching in friendly conversations with them. He gave thousands of students the key to great books, and encouraged good reading and sharp, critical thinking.

He was a good librarian because he loved and knew books.

Dr. Mayo was a good tennis player until tennis became unsafe. After that his buddies were walking, music (at first hand or by way of phonograph records), good company, and pleasant conversation. He was a sociable and warmhearted man who loved good company and made himself good company; and he kept his friendships in good repair. Incidentally, he had a fund of good stories (of which he was not the hero) and told them well. And he did not drag his stories in by the ears; they fitted their context.

He had thousands of friends—whom he deserved by being a loyal and helpful friend. Some of his most devoted admirers were colored people who found him a just and generous employer and a kind friend when they were no longer working for him.

He has been buried in the Arlington National Cemetery beside his father, Colonel John P. Mayo, and his mother, whom he cared for so well during the last twenty years of her life. No mother ever had a better son than Thomas Mayo.

George Summey, Jr.

Thomas Mayo could have achieved a distinguished career in any college or university in the country. By deliberate choice, reviewed and reaffirmed from time to time, he spent his life as a teacher at the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas, achieving such distinction as only a great teacher is granted.

It was no accident that the College he chose to identify himself with is a Land-Grant College. No man understood more thoroughly or accepted with more unwavering faith the philosophy of the Land-Grant College movement. He never tired of insisting that in a technological age we must provide—

as the Morrill Act declared—"a liberal and practical education" for the students who are to assume leadership in agriculture, engineering, and the sciences. If it seemed at times that he overstressed the liberal at the expense of the practical, it was only because he saw so many of the rest of us over-stressing the practical at the expense of the liberal. Before his death he was to see American industry beginning to redress the balance.

As a member of the faculty who for some years accepted administrative responsibilities as head of a large department, he never confused ends and means. He believed as firmly as President Eliot of Harvard, in the words of the inaugural address of 1869, that "the only conceivable aim of a college government in our days is to broaden, deepen, and invigorate American teaching in all branches of learning." Through his example and encouragement, many a young instructor came to understand what it means to be a teacher, and some of his older fellow-teachers had their understanding focused on essentials.

His own teaching over nearly four decades was a broad, deep, and vigorous as he could have asked of any colleague. We will never know how many students of the college he led to make of their education a liberalizing experience. Even the number who speak of his influence to the rest of us are a remarkable company. These students are his memorial, the only one he would have wanted.

J. P. Abbott

My acquaintance with Dr. Mayo began the day he arrived on the A&M campus. Starting on a casual fraternal basis, it quickly ripened and deepened when, on more intimate acquaintance, I came under the charm of his attractive personality and could begin to appreciate his superior scholarship, the wide range of his interests and his enthusiasm for them, in short, his intense joie de vivre. In his youthful years I was associated with him quite intimately. It was only natural that he was my choice for best man at my wedding, and just as natural too that he was glad to fill that part. His sudden removal from our midst comes as a great shock to all who knew him and I certainly never expect to see another person fill the void that has been left in A&M life by his untimely demise. No one can estimate the extent to which he influenced and enriched the lives of his students and all others with whom he came in close contact.

It is doubtful if any one statement has ever been made more frequently and more generally about any member of the A&M staff than the one so often heard about Dr. Mayo—that he was "a born teacher," to which I would like to add two words—"and helper." Looking back over the year in saddened retrospect in search for what might be the most outstanding of the many different facets of his very active life, I would surely give first place to his constant desire to be helpful. I can truly say that if anyone, in whatever station of life, ever called on Thomas Mayo for assistance and did not get it and with reasonable promptness at that, it never came to my attention. How he ever succeeded in doing so much for others while doing so much of what he hoped to accomplish for himself, has ever been occasion for admiring amazement on my part.

C. B. Campbell

Tennis Being Taught As Summer Program

The A&M summer tennis program is rolling again this summer. There are 67 students signed up for the class, said William M. Dowell, instructor.

The classes start at seven a.m. and last until nine a.m. five days a week. There is a two-dollar fee for the six weeks that the classes last. Dowell said there will probably be another six weeks' class following the one now in session.

The ages of the students range from eight to seventeen years, but there is no age limit for taking the classes.

The big thing that most of the students are looking forward to is the junior olympics, which is to be held in Houston on August 2, 3, and 4. There will be a qualifying

regional meet during the latter part of July to see who is to represent this region in the olympics in Houston.

Two New Staff Members Join Cushing Library

It has been announced by Mr. Robert A. Houze, head librarian, that two new professional librarians will join the Cushing Memorial Library Staff this summer.

Miss Virginia B. Parks, a native of Georgia, will report July 12th to become the senior cataloging librarian replacing Mrs. Joy S. Baker. She comes to us most recently from Camp Rucker, Alabama, where she was librarian of Post Library No. 2. Prior to that she was army librarian at Ft. McPherson, Georgia.

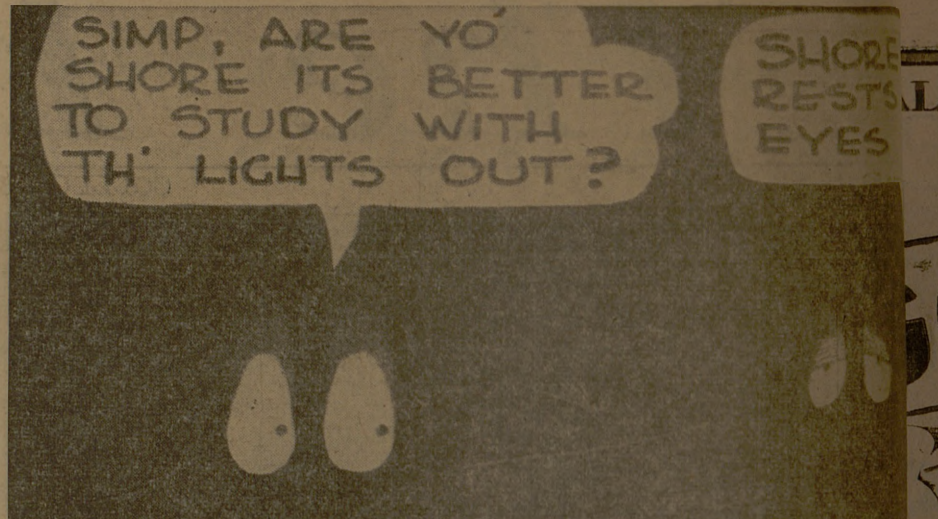
Miss Parks received her B.A. degree from Randolph-Macon Woman's College, Lynchburg, Virginia, and her degree in library science from Emory University at Atlanta, Georgia. She has also done graduate work at the University of Chicago Graduate Library School.

Miss Kimbrough Alexander, a native of Mississippi, and a graduate of Mississippi State College for Women, Columbus, Mississippi, began work as Junior Cataloger on June 15th. She received her degree in library science from Mississippi State College for Women in May of this year.

Local Reservists To Attend School

Sixteen reserve officers from the College Station area will attend the command and general staff school at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, July 11-25.

Two of these officers, Clifford M. Simmang of the mechanical engineering department, and Paul J. Woods of the history department, will be instructors at the school.



What Are The Duties of the District Judge

The Grand Jury of Brazos County

... Is Selected By A Jury Commission That Is Appointed By The District Judge

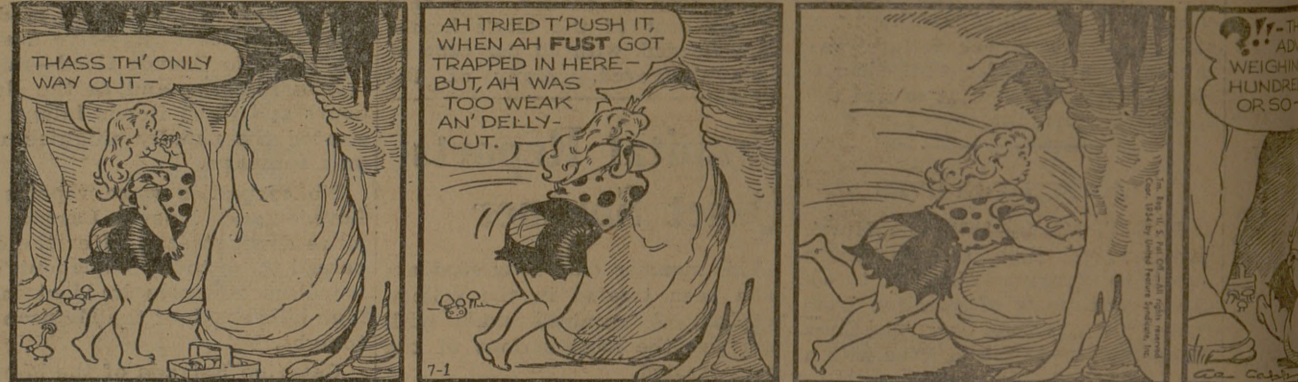
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VOTE FOR DAVIS GRAHAM

For DISTRICT JUDGE

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