

## Battalion Editorials

Page 2 FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 1954

# It's Been A Full Summer

QUITE A FEW changes have taken place since the spring semester ended.

Some of them affect all Aggies, some affect a few Aggies, and others are just interesting.

Probably the most important of all was the July action of the board of directors making military training optional at A&M.

This will give the corps of cadets a chance to prove that it can stand on its own feet, without having to force people to belong.

It will also give the civilian students a chance to have a better program of their own.

THE STUDENT LIFE organization has been shifted around into a more practical arrangement, eliminating most of the causes of friction in the past.

The new set-up has a good man in each job, with the functions of each department clearly outlined.

THE TT'S ARE BACK, let back in on a sudden, insufficiently explained action. Something sounds fishy, but then there's always something fishy around the TT's.

Looks like the college doesn't particularly mind having secret fraternities around, no matter what their own rules say.

THIS YEAR is going to be a rough one for hazers, if the start is any indication. A cadet has already been denied readmission to school for hazing freshman.

And this was for mental hazing—"bracing" and "wild-cattling." Of course, the cadet was out of uniform, not supposed to be on the campus, and reportedly "under the influence of intoxicating beverages" at the time.

If the college keeps this up, maybe this year will see the end of all forms of unjust hazing at A&M, and freshmen will be treated like people.

This doesn't mean "make it easy on them;" it means make it hard on them, but make it sensible discipline, on military lines, as a military organization should.

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

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THERE HAVE been some personnel changes too. Many good men have left, including two deans, Howard W. Barlow, and John R. Bertrand.

Perhaps this is one of the greatest dangers facing A&M. It's not the spectacular kind of danger; it's the kind that creeps up on a school.

A college can be only as good as its teaching and administrative personnel. If A&M keeps losing good men at all levels, it won't survive long.

Maybe we ought to treat teachers as well as we're going to treat the freshmen. Teachers are people too.

AND, OF COURSE, the usual summer clean-up, paint-up, fix-up has been going on. Dormitories and classrooms have been repainted and repaired, and some of the parking lots have been enlarged and improved.

Two-count 'em—two new gyms are about ready to open their doors, one a big fancy coliseum, and one a physical education gym. With DeWare field house and the Little Gym, we ought to have about enough gyms. Anyone for classroom buildings?

SO THERE HAVE BEEN many changes. But it's still essentially the same old school. All of the changes won't sit well with all the students, but they all warrant careful consideration.

Before you make a decision on their worth, and above all before you decide on any action, think about it carefully, weighing all the factors and considering them in the light of what is best for Texas A&M.

The school deserves that much consideration.

## Military

(Continued from Page 1)

Morgan said he believed the new plan would strengthen the corps, because it would make membership voluntary.

Under the military optional plan, all freshmen and sophomores have the option of taking military science. In the past, all freshmen and sophomores who were physically qualified or not veterans had to take military.

Junior and seniors, who are under advanced contract status still have the option of either accepting or rejecting the advanced contract.

If a freshman or sophomore wants to get out of the corps, or drop military, after registration, the procedure will be the same as dropping any academic work.

The drop will have to be approved by the commandant, and the student will take a F in military science, if he drops after the last day for dropping classes.

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