

# COLLEGE SEEKS FURTHER PROGRESS

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the band stand between 4:30 and 4:45 p.m. At the blast of a bugle, at the proper hour, groups of freshmen and sophomores emerged from every hall, clad in old clothes. A freshman, attended by a bodyguard, attempted the feat and the struggle was on. After a few minutes, the sophomores were successful in getting the cane to the guardroom, but then decided to give freshmen a second chance.

Reinforcements arrived and the battle raged for two hours, but without further success on the part of either side.

Things progressed successfully under President H. H. Harrington until 1908, when college activities exploded with a roar heard across the state.

Harrington had been at odds with the college physician and an elderly professor, when suddenly the student body went on strike.

After several days most of the students had gone home, taking their bags with them. One student, crossing the Brazos, was met at the river by his father with a shotgun. He returned.

Harrington resigned and was replaced by Col. R. T. Milner. Another student strike rocked the campus during Milner's reign over the dismissal of 27 students for hazing and the suspension of 466 others for insubordination.

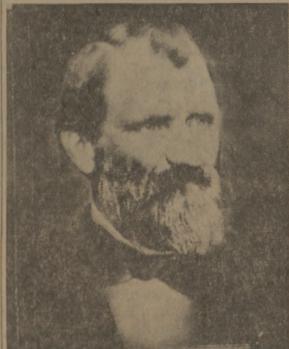
Again the Board of Directors supported Milner, but he, like Harrington, soon resigned.

Also in Milner's regime the celebrated "tent row" grew to large proportions and extended from the area now occupied by the YMCA Building to the present tennis courts and as far back as Mitchell Hall.

Prior to 1909 sentinels guarded dormitories during meals and the guard changed every morning. Also in 1909 A&M for the first

time became a military college recognized by the U.S. War Department.

Two tragedies enabled the campus to first take on its present appearance. In 1911 the mess hall burned and in 1912 Old Main was gutted by fire. Soon afterward



Thomas Gathright... first A&M president

khaki and olive drab. In 1922 A&M's best-known tradition, the twelfth man, was established at the Cotton Bowl game with Centre College. A student, King Gill, came out of the stands to suit up for action, thus prompting the practice of standing throughout all football games.

That same year, 1922, however, one of the college's darkest days occurred during the Corps Trip to Baylor. Fisticuffs broke out after the game, with one Aggie killed and the state militia called to quell the disturbance.

For many years after World War I students still lived in tents and shack-tents in front of the YMCA Building, known as "sheik city."

Law, Puryear, Walton and Hart Halls were soon erected to ease this problem, with another group of dormitories erected near the north gate during the 1930's.

The building program was just in time, for in 1939 the Aggie football team, led by John Kimbrough, copped the national championship.

This national title, coupled with the war buildup, filled all the new dorms to capacity. They have seldom been vacant since.

Meanwhile a little four-footed creature descended upon the campus and captured the fancy of the entire Corps of Cadets.

In her heyday Reville would romp in front of the band as it played during halftime. She was accorded more special privileges than many whose seniority was unquestioned and was made official college mascot.

She died in 1944 and was accorded military honors. Her grave is at the north entrance to Kyle Field, facing the scoreboard.

World War II also found A&M very much in the middle of U.S. defense plans. On campus, the

business of turning out officers was underway more than ever. Units of Navy, Air Force, Marines and the Corps of Cadets combined in a special dress parade, the likes of which has never been seen on campus before or since.

After the war, a San Jacinto "homecoming" was held on Kyle Field. Gen. Dwight Eisenhower, the principal speaker, paid tribute to the dead A&M servicemen and presented six Congressional medals of honor to former A&M students.

In 1948, the college Board of Directors formed the A&M College System, with A&M as one of the component units. The first chancellor of the system was Gibb Gilchrist. Dean F. C. Bolton was named college president.

The college celebrated its 75th anniversary in 1951 with several prominent occasions during the school year. A former student, Tom Harrington, was inaugurated president, with Gen. Eisenhower delivering the principal address.

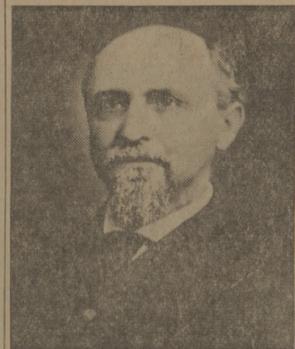
Also in 1951 the Basic Division was organized for freshman testing and guidance. This was the first such experiment in the southwest.

A&M students and faculty members celebrated Muster in a special way that year—the Memorial Student Center, the "living room of the campus," was officially opened and dedicated to those students who had died in World Wars I and II.

The Biological Sciences Building was also finished in '51, with construction beginning on the Richard Coke Building, Engineer's

Library and two other new engineering buildings.

Soon afterward the dream of students and faculty members for many years—a field house to seat the entire student body—was com-



Lawrence Sullivan Ross... saved face for college

pleted when G. Rollie White Coliseum was dedicated and officially opened.

Since then continued new buildings have been springing up on campus. Last spring the W. T. Doherty Petroleum Engineering Building was opened and next fall the Plant Sciences Building will be ready for use.

Other changes in general student life saw Corps participation first made optional and then again required. In the fall of 1959 branch Corps units and military science was abandoned and this

fall a third brigade was added to the Corps of Cadets.

A&M's thirteenth president was inaugurated in the spring of 1960—Earl Rudder. A reserve general and former A&M student, Rudder was the second "Aggie ex" inaugurated president.

During Rudder's regime continued growth has marked A&M's history. Enrollment this fall is the highest since 1949 and a Century Council has been established to study the college and suggest improvements for the next 15 years.

## FOUNDING

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dences for professors were completed.

In 1875, the first meeting of the college was held, and the presidency was offered to former president of the Confederacy, Jefferson Davis, who refused. Thomas S. Gathright took the job, and Texas A&M College opened its doors.

Opinions of the majority of solid, patriotic Confederate Texans when the college opened its doors were that it was "silly and Yankee-instigated." Since it featured military science and tactics, others called it a "nest for

a military aristocracy." But despite these criticisms, A&M opened with 40 students, six faculty members and four courses, Oct. 4, 1876.

## Reporters Sought For Batt

Would you like to write for The Battalion?

A meeting of all prospective Battmen will be held Thursday at 7:30 p.m. in the Battalion office, Room 4, YMCA Building. Anyone interested in reporting for the paper is welcome. The meeting is not restricted to journalism majors.

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Check your opinions against L&M's Campus Opinion Poll #7

**Who'd make the best wife?**

WOMAN EXECUTIVE  FASHION MODEL  NURSE  SECRETARY  TEACHER

**Is it better to marry in college-or wait till later?**

MARRY IN COLLEGE  WAIT TILL LATER

**How many cigarettes do you smoke a day?**

LESS THAN 8  8-12  13-17  18-22  OVER 22

Here's how 1383 students at 138 colleges voted!

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Executive	3.0%
Marry in College	15.4%
Wait till later	84.6%
Less than 8	20%
8-12	18%
13-17	13%
18-22	28%
Over 22	15%