



"With university status and coeducation, it seems only fitting that I come out with a 'new look' too!"

TAES Veteran Of 38 Years Will Retire At End Of August

Dr. Kate Adele Hill, a 38-year veteran with the Texas Agricultural Extension Service, is retiring on August 31. The widely known and respected extension worker began her extension career as home demonstration agent in Cameron County in 1925.

She was transferred to the headquarters staff in 1929 to begin 21 years of service as a district home demonstration agent in four different areas of the state, involving 187 different counties. In 1951 she was named studies and training leader for the state and in 1958 was transferred to the position she now holds, reports analyst. She is responsible for the filing, distributing and analyzing of monthly and annual reports submitted by the county extension workers of Texas.

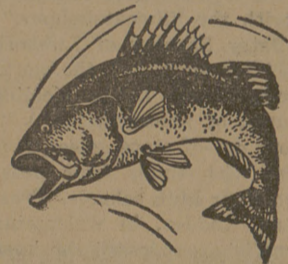
The retiring veteran is a native of Travis county but did her growing up on ranches in Kerr, Schleicher and Tom Green counties. Her

parents were the late Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Hill, and her grandfather, Sam H. Hill, along with his son established in 1903 one of Texas' earliest herds of purebred Angus cattle.

In announcing the retirement, Director John E. Hutchison, Texas Agricultural Extension Service, said "Dr. Hill has served with distinction on every assignment and has made many outstanding contributions to the literature dealing with Extension Service work.

"Her leadership abilities are widely recognized and she has been a moving force in the development and maintenance of the Regional Extension Summer School at Prairie View A&M College. She has taught in seven of the 14 annual sessions and last month was presented a plaque by this year's students in appreciation for services rendered. They came from eight states and five foreign countries."

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VAN CONNER EDITOR
J. M. Tijerina Photographer

TREATS LITTLE KNOWN PERIOD

Professor Writes 'After San Jacinto'

The "little known and largely unwritten" history of Texas-Mexican frontier relations from San Jacinto to the Republic's waning days has come to light in a new book by a A&M history professor. The author is Dr. Joseph M. Nance, head of history and government, who began collecting material for the book, "After San Jacinto," shortly after receiving his doctoral degree in 1941.

"After San Jacinto" deals with Texas-Mexican relations from 1836 to 1841. It is the first of three volumes which will take the story

down to the annexation of Texas to the United States.

THE AUTHOR describes his work as neither fiction nor textbook, but rather "an objectively written and thoroughly documented book for those students of Texas history who really want to know what happened."

Hobart Huson of Refugio, who has worked extensively in South Texas history, said "Professor Nance's book is an exceptionally outstanding historical work. It has been thoroughly researched, intelligently digested and splendidly

and entertainingly written."

The book contains pictures and four historical maps. The maps, incidentally, were done by the author's wife, Mrs. Eleanor H. Nance, who has prepared illustrations for several publishing houses.

The Lone Star State's past before the Civil War has long been of special interest to Nance, and his many years of research into the period revealed a lack of reliable published material. The situation was impetus for "After San Jacinto."

"THROUGH MY study of Texas

history, I realized that nothing of significance and dependability had been done on the Southwestern frontier from the time the Mexican army withdrew from Texas to the end of the Republic," the professor said.

"The foolhardiness of the Mier Expedition always fascinated me, and I was determined to see why such an expedition could take place and write an objective history of it," he added.

"As I got deeper into the story, I realized that the background was very important. So I decided to

write as full, as possible the history of the Texas-Mexican frontier relations after San Jacinto using primarily original materials on both sides and using the study as objectively as possible."

IN SUMMARIZING the Nance said the withdrawal of Mexican armies from Texas beyond the Rio Grande early June 1836 was the signal for loyal Mexicans in the Victoria-Goliad-Refugio area and the region between the Neches and Rio Grande to abandon their homes and property for the safety of northern Mexico.

Although the historic border of Texas was the Neches River, the state's First Congress in 1845 the Republic arbitrarily set the Rio Grande as the dividing line.

In time, many of the Mexicans returned to their former homes but were soon driven out by the "cowboys" who raided into the area below the Neches. The region was counter raids by Mexican units and by brigands.

More bad feeling was brought by invasion threats from Mexico by participation of Anglo-Texas in the Federalists Wars of 1834 and the assistance of Texas efforts of the northern Federalists to establish the Republic of Rio Grande in 1840.

— Sound Off —

Editor's Note: James Ray, a senior English major from Conroe who wrote the letter below, is one of four Aggies participating in Peace Corps-type activities abroad this summer. He plans to send a series of these letters on his work in Africa to The Battalion.

Dear Friends:

Our flight to Nairobi, Kenya via an Air France 707 jet was just perfect. We spent an hour at the Orly Airport in Paris but did not get to go into Paris. We flew over Alexandria just before dawn and saw the outline of the coast along the city's waterfront by streetlights. We landed in Cairo to dispatch a Crossroads group assigned to Egypt just in time to see a beautiful sunrise over the desert which borders the Cairo airport. The Cairo airport is very beautiful and an interesting mixture of ancient and modern Egyptian architecture. The government troops around the airport prevented any thorough tour during our hour layover there. It seemed very suspicious to us.

As we took off from Cairo we passed over the pyramids and attempted to photograph them from about 10,000 feet. The desert and the Nile Valley provided some very interesting patterns and contrasts which held our attention until clouds obscured them. Incidentally, the clouds also provide interesting captivating patterns from 40,000 feet, which was our cruising altitude for most of the trip. We arrived in Nairobi to be greeted by a representative of Kenya Prime Minister Kenyatta and a curious group of transient Africans at the airport. With a Polaroid camera, provided by the Polaroid Company, and a few balloons we quickly won a great number of friends among the African children and their parents.

Except for the great predominance of black-skinned people of Africa there was little to remind us that we were several thousand miles from the U.S.A. It is still hard for us to realize this. I don't know exactly what we were expecting, but whatever misconceptions we had (and there were many) are rapidly disappearing. The educational level of the people, of course, is far below that in the U. S. but not as low as most of us expected. In fact, in common sense and straightforwardness

many Africans surpass many Americans.

From the Nairobi airport we were transported by bus to the YMCA where we forced down our first African meal. Actually the food looked very good — not much unlike American food — but we had had an Air France breakfast less than three hours earlier and were not very hungry. The next item on our agenda was an afternoon session at the USIS office in Nairobi which was about as useful as the meal at the YMCA. Having had

only about six to eight hours sleep in the last 2½ to 3 days most of the group drowsed through the propaganda. The Information Service officer recognized the situation and let us off after only 30 minutes, setting the world's record for brevity for this type of "group welcome." By this time all the East Africa Crossroads groups which shared the 707 flight to Nairobi had separated except our group and a group going to another part of Africa. We spent the night at the Limaru Con-

ference Center about 20 miles south of Nairobi. Most of us were tired to realize that this was our first night on the African continent. There was no celebration, I can guarantee! Most of us went to bed before 7 p.m. We were to rise at 5 a.m. Tuesday to leave for Kampala, Uganda.

So until later, James E. Ray
p.s. For anyone wishing to write, the aerogramme air letter form is the cheapest and the fastest form of communication to Kisiizi.

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