

BATTALION EDITORIALS

Philosophy And Humanities

The recent decision by the Board of Directors to ask the Texas Commission on Higher Education to approve the establishment of a Department of Philosophy and Humanities within the framework of the College of Arts and Sciences should provide encouragement to those persons interested in the growth and development of A&M as an institution of higher learning. In the twentieth-century, with all its strides in the scientific and literary spheres of civilization, it behooves every intelligent person to attain an understanding of the men and ideas that form the cornerstones of the modern world.

Today is the era of emerging science, and the term emerging is not incorrect when one encounters the enthusiastic scientist optimistically proclaiming that only the surface of man's pool of ability has been scratched.

The full potential of science only made its appearance some 30 years ago. Before that time, with the exception of a few excellent institutions such as the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, scientists were on the whole regarded by the layman as impractical types, who lived with their heads in the clouds.

Presently of course, the scientist is the national hero and the focal point for countless federal aid, and private endowment. That is only right, for without a healthy crop of scientists we would be in sad shape, both culturally and defense wise.

As one of the key points in the nation's space effort, the Houston area is pinpointed for the birth of countless new industries. Subsequently the surrounding universities of the area are logical institutions in which to create new sources of skilled scientific manpower. We at A&M of course have benefited heavily with the result that we now have facilities second to none in this part of the nation.

Unfortunately in the past we have been sadly lacking in adequate liberal arts facilities. Those involved in the liberal arts must have often gazed jealously at the financial aid and the physical resources available to the sciences.

Now the trend has apparently changed.

The Board of Directors of A&M University knew full well that without a rounded College of Arts and Sciences, an important function of a university would be lost.

'Tough' Legislation

TPA—An already "tough" job faced by Texas lawmakers in the 59th Legislature will be complicated even more by "issues of high emotional content," Lt. Gov. Preston Smith feels.

These issues, according to the lieutenant governor, include: proposals to legalize parimutual betting on horse races, sale of liquor by the drink in eating establishments, control of oyster shell dredging on the Gulf Coast, an oil and gas "pooling" bill, further controls on water pollution, repeal of the poll tax and another proposed constitutional amendment to guarantee equal rights to women in property and business management.

"The Legislature will need a

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combination of many virtues if it disposes of all the important and controversial legislation laid before it." Lt. Gov. Smith told approximately 250 mayors and councilmen gathered in the capital city for an institute on municipal problems.

Three major "musts" confront the Legislature next year, Smith said. These include: deciding the future course of higher education, financing education and "other vital state functions", and legislative redistricting.

Legislators are busy with maps and population tables, trying to see how the new court rules on legislative apportionment affect them. One plan in general circulation involves the Texas Senate. It envisions slicing up the four big-city counties of Harris, Dallas, Bexar and Tarrant and attaching the slices to present senatorial districts which tough them.

This plan would give all present senators except two a chance for re-election, if they can get the votes in the portions of the big cities assigned them.

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THE BATTALION

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Members of the Student Publications Board are James L. Lindsey, chairman; Delbert McGuire, College of Arts and Sciences; J. A. Orr, College of Engineering; J. M. Holcomb, College of Agriculture; and Dr. E. D. McMurry, College of Veterinary Medicine.

The Battalion, a student newspaper at Texas A&M is published in College Station, Texas daily except Saturday, Sunday, and holiday periods. September through May, and once a week during summer school.

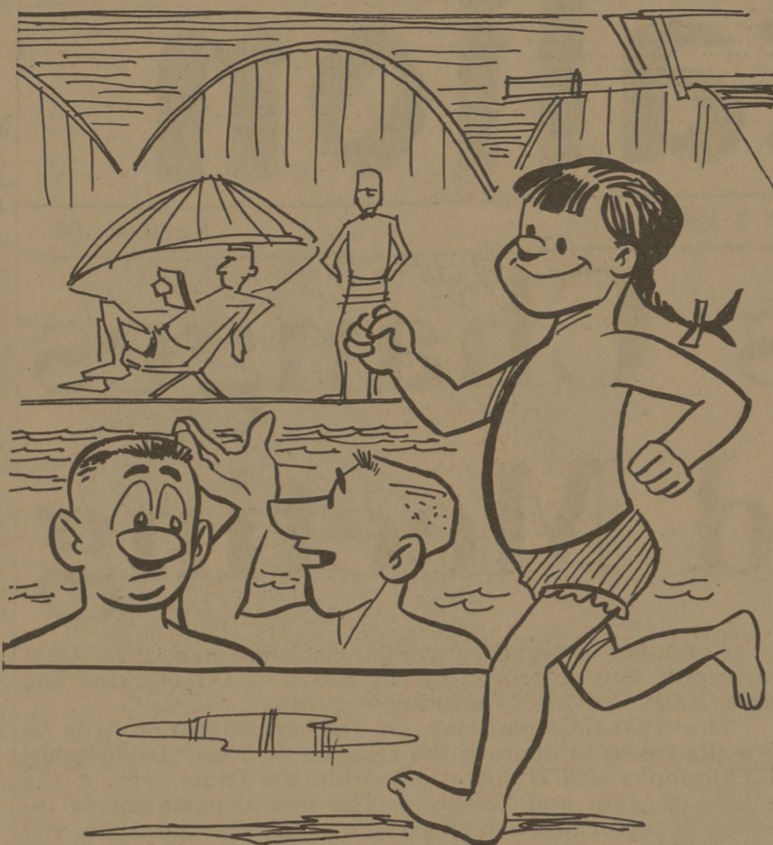
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Second-Class postage paid at College Station, Texas. Mail subscriptions are \$3.50 per semester; \$6 per school year, \$6.50 per full year. All subscriptions subject to 2% sales tax. Advertising rate furnished on request. Address: The Battalion, Room 4, YMCA Building, College Station, Texas.

JOHN WRIGHT, Editor
Cloviss McCallister, News Editor

CADET SLOUCH by Jim Earle



"See what I mean—we've had 'em for years, so why make a fuss over topless bathing suits now?"

The Big Agricultural Game; U.S. Versus Soviet Union

By JOHN G. McHANEY
Economist — Texas Agricultural Extension Service

We have a great country; we are better fed, better clothed, and better housed than any other country in the world. Our economic system and our agricultural economy have played a major role in this development.

Extensive research, educational programs through the land-grant colleges and universities, and the system of free enterprise, plus an abundance of natural resources, have done much to shape the role of agriculture in this country.

Our mammoth agricultural production and our agricultural economy are unmatched by no other nation in the world, including the Soviet Union.

The United States is blessed with a favorable agricultural climate and tremendous land resources while in the Soviet Union, climate is a much greater limiting factor than soil or land resources. Russia has a much shorter growing season.

Although the Soviet Union has nearly seven times as many people in its farm labor force, our farmers are much more productive. In 1959 one farm worker in the U. S. supplied himself and 23 other Americans with food and fiber while in the Soviet Union, one farm worker supplied himself and only three others with these items.

In Russia 45 percent of the total labor force is in the farm labor group in relation to only 11 percent in our country.

Labor inputs in agriculture are extremely high in the Soviet Union due to lack of capital. This condition results from channeling capital into industry rather than into agriculture. Labor is also inefficiently managed and utilized.

Farm machinery in the Soviet Union is scarce. In 1961 there was only one tractor for every 432 acres of sown cropland compared with one tractor for every 66 acres of such land in the U. S.

NATIONALIZATION

A great majority of our farmers and ranchers own and operate their land. In the Soviet

Union all land is nationalized and the operational unit is mostly the large collective farm or the larger state farm. State farms, where workers are paid regular wages, are constantly increasing.

Although most of the farming is controlled by the government, there are still a few traces of private farming scattered about on the Soviet landscape. These are the tiny private plots that collective and state farm workers and other workers are permitted to maintain.

Having only about three to four percent of the sown cropland in the country, these private plots produce no less than 30 percent of the total agricultural production. The bulk of the agricultural commodities produced on these holdings are high value products such as meat, milk, eggs, potatoes, and vegetables. Private farming, however, has declined considerably in the last two decades.

LARGE FARMS

Soviet farms are gigantic when compared with U. S. farms. Our average farm in 1960 was 302 acres and had an average of 84

Underworld Languages

By BOB GASSAWAY
SAN ANTONIO, Tex. (AP) — Inhabitants of the underworld communicate in their own language which has a mystifying flavor to outsiders, called "squares," who try to make an honest living.

Yet some of the underworld words eventually slip into the stream of daily conversation. Such words as "cop" and "fuzz" mean policeman to the average American. In the underworld, where they were spawned, these words generally have been replaced by "heat" and "The Man."

A police informer has long been known as a stool pigeon. Now he is a snitch, one of the most hated elements of the underworld.

Characters of the criminal world normally have little respect for women, whom they call "hides." A "broad" is a "hide" sought for purely pleasures, but if a little bit of romance enters the picture or "scene," the "board" becomes a "chick."

When an agreement or "deal" is completed, "it goes down."

Police officers frequently borrow from the underworld vernacular.

For instance, undercover narcotics agents often buy drugs from a peddler as a prelude to

filing charges against him, and have regular officers arrest the man later. When an agent does this, he "buys and walks off." If the agent's car is recognized by his quarry, it is "heated up." When police arrest a man, or

"thing" as they call him, the criminal could say "the heat fell on me." The "thing" probably would say he "copped a fall," after he is sentenced to jail or "the joint" as prison is sometimes known. Police officers will explain they "ran some paper" if they used a search warrant.

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