

School Superintendents Present Special Problems

Reynolds' Rap

by Mike Reynolds

A team of newsmen from the Houston Chronicle is slipping about the campus this week trying to discover just what goes on inside the Aggie mind, and what the Aggie does during the average week.

After spending a weekend surveying the situation surrounding social life in Bryan-College Station, one of the men was prompted to ask what his senses had already told him:

"What would the Aggies do if this place was completely dry and they couldn't drink beer?"

The discovery that Aggieland holds very little in extra-curricular activities for students will come as no surprise to those who have trod the walks of our campus for any length of time.

That everybody knows the situation is apparent if one will attempt to stand in the middle of the parking lots for student cars on Friday afternoons and Saturday mornings after drill.

There has been mentioned, in various quarters, a program to more fully acquaint the high school students of the state with the true picture of student life at A&M.

No doubt this program grew in the minds of administrative heads after they discovered that nearly all Texans still think that everyone at A&M is in the Army, that all students wear a uniform and that a student's day begins with Reveille and ends with Taps.

Obviously, there are those at A&M who would like to maintain

this disguise as a military school. Even more obviously, to those looking to the future when A&M will be a full-fledged multiversity, this vision is one that must be quickly dispelled.

But, if the military austerity is thrown aside, what remains? Just what the newsmen from Houston could see for himself — nothing but places to drink beer.

Before officials begin to show the social life of A&M, they should make sure that A&M has one to show. Too much of the social life available to Aggies is found in Denton, Houston, Austin, Waco, Dallas, Fort Worth and other cities containing coed universities and colleges.

If the merchants and businessmen of Bryan-College Station are so happy to see the enrollment of students here increase and include the names of females now, it is time that a new type of merchant appear in larger quantities — those that exist for the student and not off of the student.

It is time that fresh men with fresh ideas come forward to build fresh businesses — eating establishments, places for social entertainment and a variety of others — and produce a fresh atmosphere that is more conducive to luring high school students to the Brazos River Bottoms.

True, a great responsibility for the growth of the university lies with the university itself, however, the community carries the next largest load.



"Do you think this letter would get to her if I addressed it to 'The Rangerette, Third From the Right?'"

Bulletin Board

TUESDAY Band Wives Club will meet at 7:30 p.m. at the home of Mrs. Charles Kuenemann at C-8-Z College View. Semper Fidelis Society will meet at 7:30 p.m. in Room 105 of the Biological Sciences Building. Association of Graduate Students' Wives will meet at 8 p.m.

in the Social Room of the Memorial Student Center. American Meteorological Society will meet at 7:45 p.m. in Room 305 of Goodwin Hall. Dr. E. J. Dyksterhuis from the Department of Range and Forestry will speak on "Mid-Continental Isohyets, Water Shortage and Utilization of Non-arable Lands.

Sound Off

Editor, The Battalion:

The uniqueness of Texas A&M is gradually being eradicated by those advocates of "increased enrollment and coeducation at any price."

"Quantity rather than quality," appears to be their paradoxical utterance. They beseech us to revolutionize the school to attract more students, including females, in order to enrich and enliven the social atmosphere at Texas A&M, but at the same time they admonish us to strive for excellence with the cautionary statement "a different type of man is needed today."

We are told it is time to consider the quality of education at the same moment we are exhorted for not striving to increase the enrollment of the school with utmost speed.

No one can deny that times are changing or that new and different types of demands are placed on one and all every day, but one can question the need for "a different type of man."

Haven't Aggies, symbolized by the spirit of the Twelfth Man, always been taught to accept victory and defeat gracefully, and to always strive for victory over all adversaries whether in business, defense of our country or on the athletic field?

I contend that a "different type of man" is not needed but that the same caliber of student Texas A&M has produced in the past, and will continue to produce in the future, is needed: The individual who accepts the responsibility of meeting the needs and requirements of his country and has the perseverance to overcome despite persistent obstacles.

I also contend our school is not "potentially great" but is truly one of the country's outstanding universities and I believe it will continue to produce men of quality that will meet our nation's future needs.

I hope the Board of Directors will deem it necessary to study several alternative and submit to the students and exes a portfolio outlining all proposed changes to be made — and specific reasons, pro and con, for making A&M "just another coed university."

Tentative questions to be answered are: 1. Why, after an experiment with non-compulsory Corps (1953-57) did the board revert to compulsory Corps?

2. Will girls really attend A&M rather than other universities located in much larger cities than Bryan and College Station, which already have established programs attractive to females?

3. Will the presence of coeds really enhance the quality of education?

To be coeducational or not to be coeducational, that's the question gentlemen.

Whatever the eventual outcome, I hope, as I'm sure all Aggies do, that we all will have a school that can be boasted of and one that will continue to produce "Men of Quality."

David E. Pierson, '63

Editor, The Battalion:

This is my 5th year at Texas A&M University; I have something important to say.

Thursday night I attended "open house" at Texas A&M Consolidated Jr. High School. It was a refreshing experience to observe the school kids perform.

They were naive enough to have faith.

They sang an arrangement of the Pledge of Allegiance, and their faces were radiant. They were patriotic — those crazy kids! In all of its apparent simplicity, their Pledge of Allegiance was plainly beautiful and in context with their faith.

Friday night I saw I.T.S. Since when is sex, talent, since when is God, god; since when are women, men; and who are you to judge so? Shall we smile at one another a pessimistic, sick smile and clasp our hands as sheep, comforting our sophisticated, purposeless selves?

Does Normandy strike you as funny: You "hollow men"; you killers; you murder their faith — those crazy men.

I beg you — think. Bob Barsch, '64

Editor, The Battalion:

What kind of school do we give the Southwest Conference Sportsmanship trophy to? It's bad enough to listen to those Fightin' Texas Aggies get outscored without having to listen to the "good sports" at Texas Tech yelling "Poor Aggies" over the radio. I think a school that shows that type of sportsmanship hardly deserves to be elected the school showing the best sportsmanship in the Southwest Conference.

Although many people complain about the noise we raise during football games, how many times have you heard Aggies yelling "Poor Sips" or "Poor Ponies" just before the game is over. Or have you heard anyone berate another team here at A&M because they were being beaten by a superior Aggie team?

If that is the type of sportsmanship it takes to be a member of the Southwest Conference, then I propose that we withdraw saying, "Beat the Hell outta th' SWC!"

Stephen Lamkins, '67

Editor, The Battalion:

The "Candid Comments on Current Crisis" column of Feb. 19, 1965, concerning Religious Emphasis Week brought to mind the following recommendations for increasing the attendance to this excellent program.

If the University wants to sell R.E. Week to the students, the school must appreciate the realities of the market within which they deal. What good Aggie would prefer sermons to the fun and games or good bull of dorm life? Surely nothing could equal the joys of spirited rivalries between class and clique; the perfection of English speech in feigned madness, friendly banter or caustic repartee, or the rapture of listening to the "sons of the soil" musical classics. I am suggesting that the R.E. Week sponsors should analyze their consumer's behavior. Then, they would realize that the distribution of The Word could only be increased by more vigorous competing with the other events that pander to biological stimuli.

An initial step would involve a psychological design to enhance the packing of the spiritual product. The following examples of salesmanship might get to the soul in serge, the saint in the saddle, or the wonders of the wasteland. First, change the name of the event to Irreligious Relevance Revival, Intolerance Time, or Animal Appreciation Week. Proclaim that attendance is "verboten!" and list topics similar to the following: "God made Maggies," or "How Ya Gonna Keep 'em?" "Is Ranger the embodied "Aggie Spirit," or "is he simply the symbol of authority?" "Christ at Chow," or "Why are Eating Utensils Furnished?", or "Cowboy Hats are for Eating."

"Are non-regis irregular Aggies?" "Universal Acceptance of Ag-

THE BATTALION

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PEANUTS



AUSTIN (AP) — Six state special school superintendents presented a long list of problems to their governing board Monday, but boiled their troubles down to one thing — lack of Money.

And despite inadequate facilities in some instances, they said, Texas' mentally retarded students are getting better treatment than ever before.

"In one word, the key to our problems is money," said Edwin Killian, superintendent of the Denton State School.

Killian and the other five superintendents reported to the Board for Texas State Hospitals and Special Schools at its regular monthly meeting.

More money and more space are the pressing needs of the hospital system, the superintendents agreed.

L. W. Cain of the Abilene State School said the state has a good classification plan for its hospital employees, but not enough money to carry out the plan.

"We need," said Dr. Phillip Roos of the Austin State School, "more professional personnel, increased salaries for key administrators, a full-time research person and also to start thinking about a building program."

William Beaver of the Lufkin State School said his institution's problems are space — "we're in bad shape" — and the training of attendants, especially made attendants. He said the Lufkin school had a 51 per cent turnover last year in that category.

William Lawler of the Travis State School in Austin listed that

institution's problems as lack of personnel and space and the deteriorating condition of the buildings, "some 30 to 40 years old."

Speaking for about 10 minutes each, the superintendents stressed, however, the benefit the students at the schools are receiving.

Cain praised the religious program at the Abilene school while Killian said the Denton institution has 700 volunteer workers each month, and that 97 cent of the school's population showed marked improvement in only 9 days.

Busy Schedule Ahead For Texas Legislature

AUSTIN (AP) — Legislators opened the ninth week of their session today, with hopes of finishing debate on the criminal code bill, viewing spending plans and improving water safety laws.

Heavy committee agendas will keep lawmakers busy.

Rep. Ben Atwell of Dallas prepared to bring up his bill to broaden the water safety act by allowing game wardens to arrest violators; allow cities, water authorities and counties to zone for

swimming and fishing lakes under their authority; and increase registration fees.

The Senate Finance Committee is expected to send to the floor this week its version of a 1966-67 spending needs.

In committee action, legislators consider bills to add eight schools for mentally retarded children to the state system; to authorize medical school at Texas Tech and to create the Texas Constitutional Revision Commission.

Job Calls

WEDNESDAY The Proctor & Gamble Distributing Co. — chemical engineering, industrial education, industrial engineering, mechanical engineering, agricultural economics, business administration, economics.

Allen-Bradley Co. — electrical engineering, industrial engineering, mechanical engineering.

Air Products & Chemicals, Inc. — chemical engineering, chemistry, mechanical engineering, mathematics.

Howard, Needles, Tammen, & Bergendoff — civil engineering.

Rocketdyne — aerospace engineering, chemical engineering, civil engineering, mechanical engineering, chemistry, mathematics.

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