

## GI Bill: A Blessing, But....

CADET SLOUCH by Jim Earle

Since both the House and Senate have passed Cold War GI Bills, it is time for institutions that will handle the educational aspects to evaluate possible effects on themselves.

A&M, after World War II and Korea, experienced tremendous growth due to an influx of veterans completing their education under GI Bills. After the second World War alone, this university underwent a growth of almost 40 per cent in three years.

Most college and universities today are suffering overcrowded conditions in both class and housing facilities due to the "baby-boom" following the war, and are raising entrance standards to limit enrollment. That this condition does not exist at A&M makes it an attractive institution for the veteran.

The provisions of the new bill provide \$100 a month for single veterans up to 36 months (four school-years) for full-time education and \$150 monthly for married veterans. This will apply to more than 2.5 million men, including 250,000 now residing in Texas.

A&M can expect an even larger slice of this student pie than some other universities for reasons that have attracted students in the past — including low cost, high scholastic rating, especially in fields that many veterans will want to enter, and the uncrowded conditions.

This increase in the student body will be both a blessing and a curse to A&M, at once boosting the drive to academic prominence, compounding old problems and creating new ones. It will add likewise to the economy of College Station-Bryan, but will also make demands on the area's developers.

At present, there is ample classroom

space and laboratory facilities, but with a large influx of veteran students, half-filled rooms could become overcrowded and present dorm construction plans would have to be altered.

On-campus eating facilities are probably adequate for some years to come as larger percentages seek meals in the surrounding communities, shifting some responsibility for furnishing modern eating establishments from A&M to private business. An expansion of some sort would be imperative.

Apartment complexes presently under construction in nearby areas to house a growing married-student population would be inadequate, especially if dormitory expansion cannot keep up with that of the student body. The policy for off-campus permits for single students would require liberalization, and a whole new question would face the administration: Controlling off-campus students.

If the influx is great, the two cities near the University will be faced with a greater demand for services such as sewer, water and street construction and maintenance, while private companies will be faced with servicing more telephones and meeting demands for more electric power. This will in turn create new jobs for the area, providing it with more funds to plow back into development.

These examples are merely indicative of the problems and opportunities the new GI Bill will bring to the A&M-College Station-Bryan complex. Properly faced and managed, they could furnish the final boost needed to insure A&M new prestige and a greater ability to serve the people of Texas.



EARLE FEB 66

"Stay out of th' graduate parking lot!"

## Purely Personal

By Dani Presswood

Call to Quarters was still some 30 minutes away in Dorm 14, but the inhabitant of room 414 had already hit the books when I knocked on the door.

His name was Dan Wimberly, and upon entering I couldn't help but wonder how he ever got any studying done with the picture he had propped on his desk.

"That's Cindy. She lives in Fort Worth," he informed me, as if that was all the explanation needed.

Dan, a 19-year-old pre-law student, hails from Redlands, Calif., where both mountain and beach are but a few hours distant.

"Last summer three of us spent 10 days hiking through the Sierra Nevadas," he recalled. "We slept in the open and fished the mountain streams for trout."

"We felt a closeness to Nature," he reminisced. "It gave you a funny feeling to walk through country that was untouched by human hands."

An avid sports fan, Dan spends much of his summer leisure at the beach. Although he surfs on occasion, his favorite pastime is skin diving, a hobby he took up a few years ago.

"I wouldn't say California girls

have better morals," he replied. "They just seem to be freer and wilder than Texas girls. On the whole California's teen-agers and young adults are more extroverted."

As a sophomore in Squadron 1 Dan has his sights on a military career after graduation.

"My father is a colonel in the Air Force, and he and his friends were high on A&M," he revealed. "That's why I decided to come here."

He feels the Corps and the spirit of the students make A&M unique and that coeducation would hurt the school.

He is also opposed to the non-compulsory Corps because freshmen attend A&M without knowing or practicing Aggie traditions and he believes this has hurt the Corps-civilian student relations.

When I questioned Dan about his major dislike concerning A&M his disliking reply was social life, or rather, lack of one. His remedy? "Move Sam Houston State to College Station."

You know the saying. If you can't take Mohammed to the mountain, bring the mountain to Mohammed.

## Touring Canadian Dance Troupe Provides Refreshing Evening

By LANI PRESSWOOD

With the fleeting elusiveness of a northern breeze, Les Feux Follets brought a breath of fresh Canadian air to the campus and then drifted down the road to parts unknown.

The colorful National Dance Ensemble of Canada played to a small but appreciative crowd in White Coliseum Tuesday night as the first Town Hall presentation of the semester.

On their first American tour, the 65-man troupe put on a lively, entertaining show which extended to several encore numbers.

The most impressive feature

of the production had to be the spectacular, widely-varied costumes. From the opening number to the grand finale, the group filled the stage with color.

Ten related interludes were presented, weaving the theme of a "Canadian Mosaic." This mosaic was composed of the strikingly different peoples which have populated Canada from her early recorded history to the present day.

A fast-paced episode dealing with the Indians of the Canadian Plains led off, and was followed appropriately enough, by an interlude of pioneers on the trail.

The night's biggest crowd-

pleaser, a suite entitled "The Gold Rush," came next. This rousing sequence began with a miner panning for gold, shifted to a group of saloon girls, progressed to the Charleston, and wound up with a fiery discotheque number which was as modern as a showroom Toronado.

Some superb dancing in bulky wooden shoes highlighted the next suite, billed "Old France In The New World." Then the show's first half closed out with a bang in a "European Settlers" routine which was performed with a Saber Dance gusto.

The show's second half tapered off slightly, but array of cos-

tumes continued to mount impressively. A "Hamatasa Ritual" and an "Eskimo Walrus Hunt" both failed to come off, although they did splash considera-

ble color into the proceedings. A beguiling, unhurried sequence of Irish and Scot dance numbers from Nova Scotian settlers perked up the show, as did a

toetapping, Indian-laden Caribou hunt. The finale was an infectious gay sequence called "Evening on the Shores of the St. Lawrence."

All in all, it provided a refreshing, well-spent evening with what may be our northern neighbor's best import since Canadian Bacon.

## THE BATTALION

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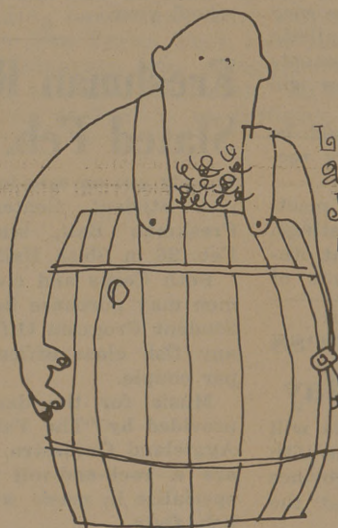
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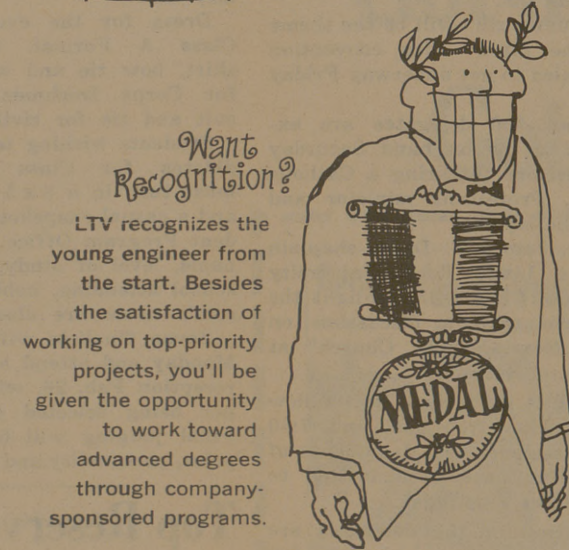
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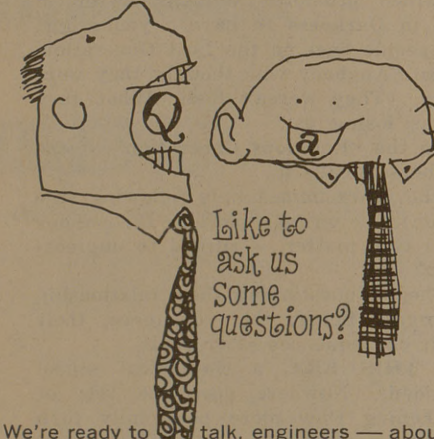
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## PEANUTS



By Charles M. Schulz

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