

Telephone System Too Long Overdue

After several years of careful planning, and delay, Texas A&M's long-awaited and long overdue campus telephone system may be a reality within the next two years.

Recent action by the Board of Directors authorizes completion of installation of a \$50,000 Centrex phone setup by the fall of 1968.

A four-digit concept will permit students living in one dorm area to contact those living across campus, thus relieving a situation long a sore spot in campus communications.

A second advantage will permit easier accessibility to professors' offices. Each prof will have his own number and thus be reached by direct dialing, a simple technique that will bring tears of joy to the eyes of long-suffering students who have had to endure secretaries and long minutes of waiting while trying to flag down a prof.

One area greatly affected by the system will be the Housing Office, which will be able to immediately reach a student's room instead of having a runner deliver a message. This will undoubtedly save considerable time in emergency situations as well as normal delivery operations.

One drawback to students will be the absence of long distance calls, which will be permitted only if the calls are collect or if the caller has a telephone credit card. There is no reason, however, for the university to assume the red tape involved in tabulating, billing and collecting for long distance calls.

The proposed cost of \$15 per semester is nominal and in the long run much cheaper than a monthly telephone service charge.

There is even an out for students who cannot or will not pay for telephone service. Leggett, Milner and Mitchell Halls will not be equipped with phones.

Many other schools have been using the "new" system for several years, and A&M has been somewhat negligent in allowing such a basic ingredient in student convenience to be overlooked for so long.

The system was originally scheduled to begin functioning in the spring of 1966, but space problems and assorted complications forced postponement.

Now the project is earmarked for completion in the fall of 1968, when the new library (whose basement will house phone system headquarters) will hopefully be finished.

For all the delays, the convenience may well overshadow the long wait.

CADET SLOUCH

by Jim Earle

Penrose B. Metcalfe



"Really, I hurt myself playin' touch football, but everyone thinks I'm th' hero of Splash Day!"

Muster Speaker Expounds On Variety Of Subjects

"I think A&M should set a maximum enrollment, then build facilities to handle that number," says 1916 graduate Penrose B. Metcalfe.

The recent Muster speaker discussed the course of A&M and higher education in Texas in an interview Monday, and remained true to form, speaking just what he thought, compromising with no one.

"A&M is going ahead, there's no question about that," the State Board of Education member said, "but I think we need to stress quality more, quantity less. I don't know exactly what maximum number should be set, but I'd say we're approaching it rapidly now. The Century Council set the goal of excellence, but they didn't but the bit about setting a top enrollment, though that's what I believed then and I still do."

"I think the Coordinating Board is all right. I was in the House in 1933 and was one of three sponsors of a bill to do the same thing. But we couldn't get it out of the committee. We passed it, but couldn't get it onto the floor."

"What we wanted to do was place all the state schools under one board of directors. We proposed to do away with the first two years at Texas and make it a "senior" university with the last two years of undergraduate work and a graduate school offered.

"I convinced them that A&M, because of the military program and all, should remain four years undergraduate and still keep its graduate courses. We wanted to reduce some of the four year schools to two, make them junior colleges, then the student could transfer to the senior university."

Anyway, it never got through," he noted.

"But I still believe that you have to coordinate. You have to limit some schools and coordinate them with others when the taxpayer's money is involved. That's one thing I learned in my 16 years in the legislature, you have to be thrifty with the people's money."

When asked about the question of coeducation at A&M, Metcalfe said:

"The Century Council, of which I was a member, first took the stand of a strong Corps and very limited coeducation. We explored all the possibilities along that line, but later had to change it. I don't think coeducation is going to do any harm; besides, you can't fly in the face of modern ideas."

"I think A&M is improving all the time, and the graduate school is just an indication of that growth and of school excellence in general. The greatest improvement in the last few years has been the tremendous upgrading of the instructional staff from top to bottom."

"I see Texas A&M in a place of its own in the future. Now there is an overall trend of re-

duction of agriculture in its relative importance in instruction but in the next few years agriculture in this country must be better paid or it will be forced to import foodstuffs and fiber.

"Agricultural costs have gone up out of proportion to what the farmer and rancher receives from his efforts. The consumer public has reaped the greatest benefit from all the research done in this field. So far it has not enabled the farmer to stay in business at the same static level while costs have risen."

"But back to A&M — it's changing, and it should, because America is built by progress. We are not going to stay in the land of the oxcart."

"I came to this campus 18 years ago this fall, and when I was a senior was a captain of a regimental staff. But what has made this place great is the standing together, the spirit."

"I think that today's youth is better than ever. Those beatniks and draft card burners are a very minute part of the overall picture, but they make a lot of noise. Minorities always make a lot of noise, but I keep my eye out on youth, and I feel today are the greatest."

Sound Off

Editor, The Battalion:

I have heard that the Administration is thinking of starting some fraternities on the A&M campus. What next?

When I heard that I thought of some of my friends at other schools, who were and were not members of fraternities and there is one thing they all agree on — fraternities are responsible for disunity among the student bodies.

That will be the only reason for trying to get fraternities on the A&M campus, for we have all heard the phrase "Divide and Conquer". The Administration has been trying to defeat the extreme unity of the student body ever since World War II. They have tried everything they could think of. The civilian students didn't live up to their expectation because they are Aggies. Then they tried to put the Army in Greens, and the Air Force in Blues and divide the Corps, but that was also defeated. Now they are trying to discourage the D&C's, but they couldn't run the Corps without them because there aren't enough contract people in the Corps.

What do Aggies need fraternities for? Hasn't Dean Hannigan got enough problems with the fish in the Corps crying on his shoulders? Does he also want to try and police the frat houses for hazing devices, booze, etc.? If

he thinks that the Corps is a headache, wait until he gets fraternities on campus. He at least has a hatchet over the Corps, but he will have none over the fraternities, at least not as big a one.

I have had many people (Teasips especially) tell me the one thing they admire about A&M is the unity and lasting friendships and the fact that the only thing that we need as an introduction is the ring.

Aggie frat-rats; it's enough to make an Aggie see orange.

Richard M. Green '65

The DuBois Clubs: A Red Youth Front

On March 4, Attorney General Nicholas Katzenbach instituted action against the DuBois Clubs of America to force them to register as a "Communist front" organization.

Since that time, in newspapers, on television and radio, the leaders of the organization have screamed loudly that they have no affiliation with the Communist Party, U.S.A., and that no one should register with the government, Communist or not.

The DuBois Clubs of America were organized officially at a convention in San Francisco June 1921, 1964. Among the leaders of the club, proclaiming even during the convention they were not affiliated with the CPUSA, were: Mike Sagarell, presently the national youth director of the CPUSA; Eugene Dennis, Jr., son of the late chairman of the CPUSA; Bettina Aptheker, daughter of the CPUSA theoretician, recent traveler to North Viet Nam and public proclaimer of Communism, and Carl Bloice, a member of the CPUSA, writer for People's World, the official CPUSA organ on the west coast and now editor of the DuBois Club magazine, Insurgent.

These clubs, if they can in any way be judged by their leadership, are most definitely Communist organizations. Their purpose is to deceive youth and adults alike into supporting Communist aims without apparently supporting a Communist organization. This air of respectability is what they are seeking when they loudly disclaim their Communist affiliation.

No one should be fooled.

GANT

BATISTE OXFORD HUGGER

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PEANUTS

GOOD GRIEF, IT'S STARTING TO RAIN

IN THE BIG LEAGUES WHEN IT STARTS TO RAIN, THE GROUNDKEEPER COVERS THE PITCHER'S MOUND WITH A TARP

WHAT DO I HAVE TO USE?

HANDKERCHIEFS!

THE RAIN WASHED AWAY MY PITCHER'S MOUND!

WHY DON'T YOU WRITE TO COMMISSIONER ECKERT, AND ASK HIM TO SEND YOU A NEW ONE?

YOU'RE NOT MUCH FOR TAKING SUGGESTIONS, ARE YOU?

By Charles M. Schulz