

Become Involved (You Are Anyway)

If one reason might be given for the existence of "Big Government," that reason, we think, would have to be the decision on the part of otherwise good men "not to become involved."

Men and women are elected to public office by people, and they are responsive to the wishes and desires of those who elect them. They are dependent upon the electorate for ideas, advice, and direction. And they are going to be more responsive to those who put them in office than they are to those who opposed them. This is a simple truth which too many people either refuse to recognize or tend to ignore in evaluating the performance of our elected representatives in the Congress and in the state and in the cities and towns across the country.

If you helped to elect a man to a position where he is charged with expressing the wishes of his constituents, let him hear from you — frequently. For we cannot imagine a more lonesome person anywhere than the man or woman occupying the position of a lawmaker who never hears from the people who put him there.

We are going to have government, you may be sure of that! But whether you have good, effective, efficient government is going to depend, in large measure, upon the kind of communication existing between the electorate and the elected.

We are all involved in the business of government, and we are all contributing to the end result in one way or another.

If our involvement is passive, then we have abrogated our responsibility as citizens; and we cannot, by any stretch of the imagination, consider ourselves as having contributed anything of value to the administration of the public's affairs if things should turn out well.

If, on the other hand, things should turn out ill, there is no way we can escape our part in such turn of events, for our passivity was a contributing factor to the outcome.

The man or woman who lets his interest wane as soon as the ballot is marked or the lever is pulled has discharged a very minute percentage of his responsibility as a citizen, for citizenship is a full-time job; and the overtime can result in rich rewards as well!

We are already involved. Let's make it count for something of value during the year ahead. — Official publication of the East Texas Chamber of Commerce

Mansfield Predicts 'Society' Changes

By JACK BELL
WASHINGTON (AP)—Senate Democratic Leader Mike Mansfield of Montana predicted Wednesday that President Johnson will limit his requests to the new Congress largely to improvements and modifications of exist-

ing "Great Society" programs. Mansfield, who conferred with Johnson by telephone this week, said in an interview he does not look for the President to make any sweeping new proposals in a State of the Union message expected to be delivered personally before Jan. 17.

"I expect the new session of Congress to be devoted primarily to the correction, modification and amendment of the laws the last Congress passed," Mansfield said. "I don't think there will be any sweeping new presidential proposals."

"WE SHOULD exercise oversight over the programs which have already been passed. We should assume the degree of responsibility that is inherently ours to see that the laws we have passed are carried out efficiently. "We know what the legislative intent is and we must see that it is carried out. We should not permit our responsibility in this respect to be delegated to the executive departments."

Mansfield predicted that Johnson will carry out his announced intention of trimming back domestic expenditures by \$3.5 billion in the current fiscal year ending next June 30. He said Congress should help.

"WE SHOULD take the bull by the horns, face up to the necessities of the times and put these spending cuts into effect," he said.

RADIO

(Continued From Page 1)
in radio to qualify for membership. Few members go into the radio field after graduation, but many maintain their amateur status.

Unusual contacts are frequent for W5AC radio operators. They chatted this week with a University of Oklahoma researcher involved in sleep research at the South Pole.

Treasurer Robert McKinzie of Corpus Christi handled a phone patch for the Association of Former Students just before the A&M-TCU football game this fall. President Royce E. Wisenbaker spoke with an A&M delegation in Mexico City.

A&M Hams have talked with operators in more than 100 countries this year. They have confirmation cards from Russia and other Iron Curtain countries.

When energetic W5AC operators want to add color and clarification to their call letters, they say "This is Whiskey Five Alpha Charlie calling . . ."

THE BATTALION

Opinions expressed in *The Battalion* are those of the student writers only. *The Battalion* is a non-tax-supported nonprofit, self-supporting educational enterprise edited and operated by students at a university and community newspaper.

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"Roomate, there's something we need to talk about!"

Sound Off

Editor's note:
The following letter was received recently by President Earl Rudder in response to a letter sent to T. J. Barlow (Class of '43) of Houston upon being named president of Anderson, Clayton and Company.

Dear Mr. Rudder:
Thank you very much for your kind letter of December 1. Like most A&M men, I have a special feeling about what the school did for me. Starting as a freshman in the corps and progressing through the senior year is so nearly a carbon copy of life's work that it is a shame we cannot convey the message to

young men while they are still young. It is a matter of sacrifice, hard times and gain with time and experience leading up to the final year when responsibilities increase but so do rewards. The corps at A&M is the best place I know to teach such a lesson—and this is where we have an advantage over other schools, not in the books.

Thanks again. I appreciate your taking the time to write.
Sincerely,
T. J. Barlow

Debate Team To Compete In Two Meets

Texas A&M debate teams will compete in two tournaments in January, announced Carl Kell, debate coach.

James Byrd of Houston and Robert Peek of Jacksboro will compete in the 27th debate tournament at Millsaps College in Jackson, Miss., Friday and Saturday. The A&M sophomore and freshman won second in the junior division of the recent Harding Invitational Tourney.

Jan. 27-28, Byrd, Peek and another team to be announced will be among teams from 60 institutions in the 1967 Mardi Gras National Invitational at New Orleans.

Tulane University conducts the tourney, which includes teams from Berea College, NYU, Emerson, Florida, Cal Tech and the U. S. Merchant Marine Academy. Six Texas Schools entering teams are A&M, Rice, San Jacinto, Texas Lutheran, Baylor and West Texas State.

Hospitality Group To Host Reception In Student Center

Texas A&M international students will meet President and Mrs. Earl Rudder at a reception Wednesday at the Memorial Student Center.

Sponsored by the University Hospitality Committee, the 7 to 8:30 p.m. reception will be in the MSC Ballroom. Miss Sadie Hatfield is Hospitality Committee chairman.

A&M has 633 foreign students from 58 countries. The majority of the record international enrollment comes from India, Mexico, Pakistan, China and Tunisia.

Association Head To Visit Architects

Dr. E. D. Rosenfeld, president of the American Association of Hospital Consultants, will visit Texas A&M's Research and Graduate Center Monday.

James R. Patterson of A&M said Dr. Rosenfeld will review the research and make recommendations. Patterson is project director for a Public Health Service research program to make patient care buildings more adaptable to changing demands.

Dr. Rosenfeld also is president of E. D. Rosenfeld Associates Inc., New York.

A&M's Research and Graduate Center is a division of the School of Architecture.

Water Course Set

A Water Laboratory Technology course is scheduled Jan. 23-27 at James Connally Technical Institute in Waco by Texas A&M's Water Utilities Section.

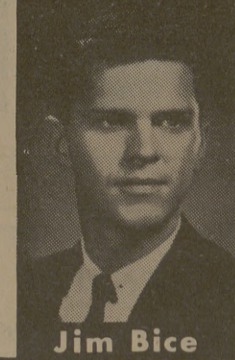
Chief Instructor Leon Holbert said 20 water superintendents, chemists and laboratory technicians will receive 40 hours of instruction and laboratory practice.

Purpose of the course, Holbert explained, is to impress class members with the value of water analysis and interpret results.

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PEANUTS



By Charles M. Schulz