

The Battalion



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Telephone 845-2226

CS Postmaster Recalls 31 Years Of Change

By GARY MAYFIELD
Battalion Special Writer

In July, 1937, a young man started to work as a dispatch clerk for the United States Post Office of College Station. Today, 31 years later, Ernest Gregg is serving his eighth year as postmaster.

During this time mass technological developments have taken over, and Gregg has witnessed several vast changes in postal operations.

PROBABLY THE greatest of these developments is the air lift, which has been in operation for a year now. With this new meth-

od of transporting six-cent letters by air, Gregg said that "almost every post office in the state receives next-day delivery."

He noted that regular mail leaves College Station three times a day—at 6:20 p.m., 8:20 p.m., and 9:20 p.m. A letter in the drop-box by 5:30 will be shipped out with the 6:20 mail. Other drop-box deadlines are 7:45 and 9 p.m. He added that 6:20 mail should reach its destination almost anywhere in the state by the next day.

ANOTHER CHANGE Gregg noted is the decline of trains operating mail service.

"They've done away with most train service," he confirmed. "We used to carry all mail to the depot for the trains to pick up. Ten years ago there were 3,600 trains operating mail. Now there are a little more than 500."

Gregg paused for a sip of coffee and his hazel-grey eyes beamed as he recalled the time-consuming train routes and compared them with the present truck service and sectional centers.

"AT FIRST when we had trains, one could leave Dallas with mail at 4 a.m.; it took 12 hours to reach Houston," he continued. "It had to stop at every station along the way. Now trucks take six hours and stop only at Corsicana, Waco, Bryan, and Conroe."

This reduction of time is due mainly to dropping the mail off at sectional centers, he explained, which "satellite" the mail to the surrounding community post offices.

During the course of these changing years, Gregg grew up with the post office. Born in Bryan 55 years ago to the late Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Gregg, he was tenth of 13 children.

NOTHING CAME easily for the Gregg family, and young Ernest had to work most of his life.

"Mom and Dad both died when I was young," he recalled. "It was pretty tough going; my older brothers took over the house and kept it going for nine years. We had one sister there for three years, but other than that it was just us boys."

After graduation from Stephen F. Austin High School in 1933, Gregg had planned to attend Texas Technological College.

"MOST JOBS offered 25 cents an hour," he smiled and the soft glow of his face lit his eyes once again. He continued.

"I had made arrangements to go to Texas Tech; I had saved a little money, and a fellow up there promised me a job in a service station. Then the grade came in."

This was the score of his civil service exam he had previously taken. So he went to work for the post office instead of Texas Tech.

The old post office was situated on the railroad near the old depot at West Gate. Just before Gregg began work the firm moved to its present location in 1937. The size of the building was doubled in 1962.

This same year the post office building was moved Gregg married the former Miss Leila Moehman, also of Bryan. They have raised two daughters and two sons, one of whom graduated from A&M; the other, from Yale University.

Gregg and his wife now live at 706 Inlow.

ding a number of calls at once," said Weston, "and will really be of assistance to those students living off campus."

Weston noted that the following rules, adopted by the Student Senate, would be in effect:

ALL ANNOUNCEMENTS made over the new communicator must be of interest to the entire student body or to a large portion of it. This would include such things as yell practice, athletic events and ticket sales, special events, or Silver Taps.

Announcements that are not acceptable include hometown club meetings, dorm notices, Corps administrative notices, or others the directors feel are not generally appropriate.

The new system is located at the Memorial Student Center in the Student Programs office. All announcements should be printed legibly on a form obtainable there and turned in at the programs office the day before they are to be made.

Announcements should be as brief as possible and will be accepted for the day only. Consecutive announcements will not be accepted.

THE ANNOUNCEMENTS will be approved by one of three directors. They are H. W. Gaines, MSC adviser; Robert Boone, Singing Cadets director, and Weston. Actual recording will be done on a daily basis between 9 and 10 p.m. the day before by Alpha Phi Omega. Recordings Friday will include announcements for Saturday and Sunday. The system will be turned off at noon Saturday.

"If a student calls in the middle of the announcements, all he has to do is keep listening after the last announcement and the tape will repeat itself," Weston noted.

On days where there are no announcements, a thought for the day will be used "to keep the tape from being silent," Weston said.

University National Bank
"On the side of Texas A&M."
—Adv.

Taped Announcement System Added To Campus Telephones

The A&M student body can now receive the announcements for the day by telephone, according to Logan E. Weston, general secretary of the YMCA.

"All a student has to do is dial 845-6311," he announced Wednesday.

This new communications system is tied into the campus Centrex system and updates the university announcement system. The updating is required by increasing student population and bulletin board limitations.

"The system is capable of han-

All-Student Dance Planned Nov. 16

The Civilian Student Council will sponsor an All-University Dance Nov. 16 after the Rice game, announced Larry Schilhab, Weekend Committee chairman.

The dance will be in Duncan Dining Hall from 8-12 p.m., and will feature The New Breed Soul. The band has its own special effects in the form of a light show. "The band is very, very good," said Schilhab, "and I'm sure that they'll provide great entertainment for all comers."

Tickets will sell for \$1.50 per couple. Civilian students with dormitory activity cards may pick up their tickets free from their dorm presidents. Cadets may purchase tickets from their first sergeants.

Residents of university apartments may pick up their tickets from Don Taylor, U-1-L Hensel, 846-3963; John Bendele, A-1-Z College View, 846-3091; or Richard Anderson, O-C Southside, 846-3117.

Day students, other than those in university apartments, may obtain their tickets from Schilhab, 306 Redmond, apt. 242A, 846-5248.

"Tickets may also be purchased at the door," said Schilhab. "We are hoping for a good turnout."

Fringe Parking Lot Areas To Get Lighting Facilities

By DALE FOSTER
Battalion Staff Writer

Texas A&M is on its way to providing parking-lot lighting in fringe parking areas, cutting through red tape that has stalled the project for two years.

Many campus thefts and acts of vandalism have occurred in these unlighted areas and Campus Security Chief Ed Powell believes they can be partly attributed to the lack of proper lighting facilities.

The idea of providing "daylight" at night in these areas has been tossed back and forth for two years among the university administration, A&M Board of Directors, Texas Transporta-

tion Institute, Campus Security, student groups and others.

"I AM PLEASED to report that President Rudder has acted favorably on the Civilian Student Council's resolution concerning parking lot lighting . . . he shares your concern about this problem," Joe Buser, special assistant to the President stated in a recent letter to Civilian Student Council President David M. Wilkes.

Buser added that a research project by the Texas Transportation Institute has been completed, and the firm of J. W. Hall Engineering has started plans and specifications for additional lighting.



WORK CONTINUES

Workmen maintain a steady pace on the central administration building of the Southwest Veterinary Toxicology and Livestock Insect Research Laboratory. The new unit, located across the road and north of the College of Veterinary Medicine, will be the largest of an 11-building research complex.

Town Hall Taking 'Supremes' Poll

Would you be interested in watching the top female vocal group of 1968 perform? Texas A&M has the opportunity to be the only school in Texas to host the Supremes, the top stars of the Motown sound.

Louis Adams, Town Hall chairman, said because finances of Town Hall are dwindling, his committee will conduct a poll today to determine whether the students will be willing to attend the concert.

The poll asks whether the students would be willing to pay \$2.50 to 3.00 for general admission seats, and whether the students would attend the concert Jan. 11.

The polls will be conducted in Sbsa Dining Hall, Duncan Dining Hall, and the Memorial Student Center. Deadline to answer the questionnaire will be Friday.

"Originally the A&M Board of Directors asked Mr. Rudder to get TTI to make the study," noted Associate Dean of Students Benjie A. Zinn. "TTI finished their study about two weeks ago and turned it in to President Rudder."

"AS I UNDERSTAND it, the Board doesn't meet until later this month and has to pass on any bids in order to award a contract," Zinn said.

Some questions have arisen as to why the \$9 student parking fee is not applied to lighting the lots.

Chief Powell said all parking fees, in addition to parking fines on campus, are used to build and resurface lots because the state has refused to allow appropriated funds to be spent on parking facilities.

IN THE PAST YEAR the Law Hall, U. S. Department of Agriculture and Corps freshman and sophomore lots have been resurfaced. In addition new parking spaces were built between South campus Lots 31 and 48 and Areas 5 and 8 near the cyclotron.

Until a contract is awarded, the Campus Security and student precautions are the only deterrents to potential thieves. Regular night patrols, a high number of arrests and public awareness are present safeguards against property loss and damage.

"When the lot along the west side of the campus was started, I wrote a letter to Mr. Zinn stating that lights be ordered and installed," commented Chief Powell. "Before the lot was finished, I sent another."

POWELL SAID THAT the area is being patrolled, but thefts are also occurring in other places, particularly Lots 24 and 40 of the Corps of Cadets parking area on the south side.

"Two tall standards and lights have been installed on Lewis Street between the two lots, but there are bases for three," the security officer said. "Due to an increase in number of cars and freshmen parking in the grassy area beyond the southernmost lot, we have requested an additional light on the other base to raise lighting by 50 per cent since the electricity is already there."

"On the west-side lighting, the TTI has said that it has sufficient temporary lights for the area between Joe Route Blvd. and the USDA Building," he added. There are not enough to go below the swimming pool.

"ORIGINALLY those cars with green parking stickers (Freshman and sophomore civilian dorm students) had to park, in part, to the south of Joe Route. They were all later moved northward because of a lower than expected number of cars with maroon

stickers (dorm students) that get the spaces nearest the dorms.

"In some instances there have also been daytime thefts. On Oct. 28 a student reported parking in the Guion Hall Lot at 8 a.m. his two-way radio was stolen."

Chief Powell added that an increasing number of arrests has also helped. A man has been specially assigned to investigate thefts, acts of vandalism, and any other criminal activity.

"SERGEANT GOSSETT is real good at his job," he said. "This position was made available just this fall by the last appropriation. In addition the overall force was beefed up by four men."

"Although we make every effort to insure the safety of student vehicles and property within the vehicles, we can not guarantee against any loss," noted Gossett.

"On the apprehension of lawbreakers, we need to have more public participation; cooperation between staff and security offi-

(See Parking, Page 5)

Great Issues Will Present Czech Forum

Great Issues will present a three-speaker program on "Czechoslovakia 1968" in the Memorial Student Center Assembly Room Tuesday at 8 p.m.

Dr. William R. Smith, head of the Department of Psychology, will be the featured speaker. His wife, Betty, who accompanied him to Czechoslovakia last summer, will speak from a woman's viewpoint.

The two were in Czechoslovakia conducting an exchange program for world businessmen and industrial leaders.

Jeanna Chastain of College Station will speak of her experiences as an international exchange student to the Iron Curtain country, program chairman Ron Tefeller related.

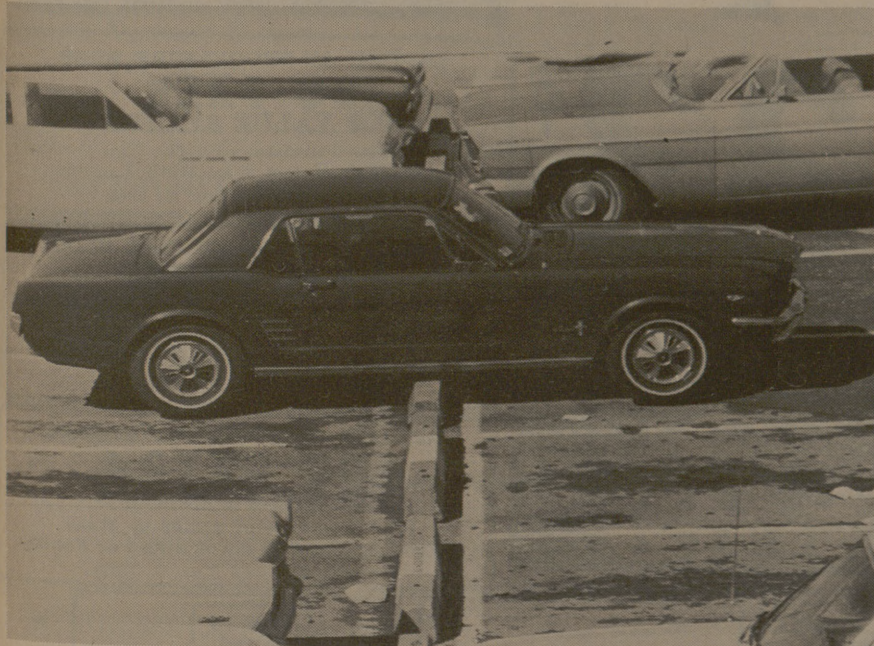
"The program will be divided into 3 areas which will concern the students, cultural aspects, and the economic and industrial conditions of Czechoslovakia," noted Pete Coffman, committee host for the program.

"The program will approach these subjects by time periods — before and during reform and after the Soviet invasion.

Aggies with activity cards will be admitted free. General admission tickets for patrons and faculty and staff are \$1.50. A season ticket costs \$5.00.

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Chivalry Seems To Be Alive And Well At Aggieland



HIGH CENTER

A Battalion photographer happened onto this perplexing scene during the noon hour Wednesday in the staff parking lot north of the Services Building. The driver, a female staff member, had somehow driven over one of the dividing curbs and was unable to get up enough momentum to lift the rear wheels over.



SCOPING OUT THE SITUATION

Minutes after the driver abandoned her car to find help, two students appeared on the scene. Here they check under the auto to see how much room remains between the curb and the undergirding. A plan was in the making.



UP AND OVER

As the car's owner and a friend look on, the two students (plus a third passerby) boost the car over the hump as a fourth helper drives. Minutes later, the girls were on their way with the car still unscathed. (Photos by Mike Wright)