



Potts Talks Sense To Troubled Ags

With a friend in every county in Texas, Dr. Richard C. Potts finds it easier to talk with homesick youths making their first bid for an education at A&M.

"I see a lot of boys homesick and wanting to quit," said Potts, associate dean of the College of Agriculture.

"But because of the long time I've been here, I know somebody in every county. By talking about someone in a boy's own area, I get him talking and find out more about his problems," he added.

POTTS, WHO joined A&M in 1936 as an agronomist, finds no student is too big to "spank" and often does, academically speaking. As a result he is loved and respected.

His interest in students earned him the Faculty Distinguished Achievement Award for student relations in 1964. Three years later he received the Distinguished Service Awards from the State Association of Young Farmers of Texas for outstanding service to Texas youth.

POTTS IS highly concerned with faculty-student relations and thinks they are at an all-time high in the college. He attributes the sound footing to faculty members interested in their students.

Back of it all, perhaps, is the unique philosophy of Potts who maintains an open door policy toward students.

"By the time a young man gets to A&M he isn't a failure," emphasized Potts. "I never see a failure."

Admitting some students do leave school, he observed that "this is a relative sort of thing."

"In my own philosophy of working with young people I ask myself a question, 'Suppose this boy was my own son—how would I want him treated?'" Potts said.

ALTHOUGH POTTS directs all faculty-student programs, he places the success of the program on his faculty advisors "who handle their own programs."

"I don't tell them how to do it. They're mature men," he said.

"I've always got faculty members on a waiting list to serve as freshmen advisors," he noted. "They do it because they want to. This is the key."

Potts also divides students among faculty members on a "common interest" basis.

"For example, a student interested in animal science is assigned to an animal science professor. We get both together," he said.

Professors share their office and home telephone numbers with students' parents through letters, creating closer bonds between the university, students and families, he stressed, adding, "Again, they do it on their own."

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LARGE KITCHEN
 Using the wide open spaces of his mobile home kitchen, Lewis Holmes, Fort Worth senior, prepares a meal. The kitchen comes fully equipped with stove, sinks, and refrigerator. Its size would match most apartment kitchens. (Photo by Mike Wright)

Mobil Living

Students Bring Homes

By MIKE WRIGHT

While most Aggie residents give up the comforts of home in a dormitory room, some day students bring their homes to school with them.

Several mobile trailer parks surrounding the A&M campus

provide students with not only a space to park their mobile homes, but also quick access to the campus.

Most students either own their trailer or are purchasing it, via the monthly payment route. A few are kept by individuals for

rent. Campus students pay close to \$600 a year in room rent, board and room deposit fees. In four years, a student will have spent approximately \$2,300 for room and board on campus.

Excellent mobile homes are available for under \$1,500. A student will use it for four years and when he graduates, the student can usually sell it for the purchasing price. But, the student has the chance to be repaid while at school.

If the student does not wish to cook in the trailer, there are boarding houses in Bryan which offer "all you can eat" meals for a dollar.

Rent for a trailer space at the Bryan-College Station trailer park ranges from \$20 to \$35. The trailer park usually supplies water.

Peace and quiet is a key to living in a mobile home. The parking space is usually surrounded by trailers occupied by other students, traveling people, occupants who just like to live in mobile homes. And in many parks, the noise is held to a minimum.

There is a lack of privacy in a residence hall or dormitory room. Any minute friends can unintentionally interrupt studying and sleeping with noise visits.

But in the mobile home, privacy is cut down considerably by the fact that the trailer is some distance from the campus. This fact also, however, makes a car essential for travel to and from school.

If a student is wise, the cost of college education will be his tuition, fees, board, utilities (electricity, telephone, gas, etc., depending on the trailer and student) and gasoline.

Living in a trailer is not roses. The occupant learns to think small and conserve space. The low ceilings and shorter beds can make it rough on tall people. But they can be worked out by arranging the trailer to house a larger bed.

Also at the present time, trailers are the best for every student. Renting them in this area as they are built.

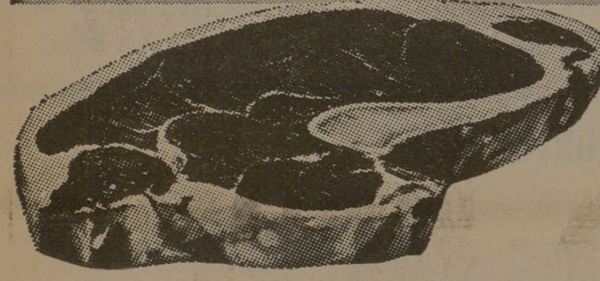
The problem of communication with campus news is also highlighted since usually the whole student is not spent on campus by a student.

Mobile home living may not be the best for every student, but it will provide some with an excellent place to study, sleep, and while attending college.

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