

Listen up

Questions raised on quantity of campus lighting

Editor:
TAMU presently stands on an aesthetic threshold. While its surrounding cities and its own edges are inundating themselves in a mercury vapor glow each night, the central part of the campus has for the most part been quietly lit. New planning, however, threatens to change this.

While I realize being able to see the stars at night is not essential to human existence I do rather enjoy it, and the fact that mercury vapor lamps light the sky as well as the ground does indicate a high level of waste. It seems to me that a university should be able to find an alternative to further light pollution. If the old incandescent lighting system must be replaced rather than simply augmented, then let the choice be at worst like the globes near the library. If the university truly wishes to lead the way to the future, the next step will be the removal of the mercury and sodium vapor lamps that presently disfigure the edge of the campus, and their replacement with a less wasteful light source.

A university, after all, should be a place where students can distinguish between night and day.
Terence P. Yorks

Editor:
Re East Pakistan, your front-page articles of 12 May and 2 June: I have read these with considerable interest, as I lived in East Pakistan for seven years. The danger expressed by Kam-

aluddin Hyder is very real. The response by M. Akram Zaki claims that it is a "family quarrel" and "no outsiders have any right to intervene."

In any civilized nation, if the master of a family abuses, tortures and kills members of the family, the Law provides for a court to remove these members from the control of the master for their own safety. The process is even swifter if the "family" is artificial.

This is the situation in East Pakistan. It is time for the United Nations to force West Pakistan out of East Pakistan, and in fact to arrange for this country to become the independent nation of "Bangla Desh."

Since Pakistan was created in 1947, West Pakistan has bled East Pakistan economically and now literally. The religion of Islam has not been enough to bind these widely separated areas, because the people are of different cultures; they look different, they eat different food, they speak different languages. In short, they have nothing in common but the desire for survival.

But West Pakistan with its guns (largely U.S.-supplied) has spent the foreign exchange from jute grown only in East Pakistan to develop primarily West Pakistan. Now, in a simulated move toward democracy, West Pakistan has ambushed East Pakistan. Next (watch the news, as it leaks out despite strict censorship) comes starvation and disease in

the land of the Bengali, with deaths possibly in the millions. West Pakistan would not regret the reduction of the population of East Pakistan from the present 75 million to a total smaller than the 60 million of West Pakistan.

There can never be any reconciliation between the Bengali of East Pakistan and the Punjabi and others of West Pakistan. Refer to the "Mason Report"—the report by three Harvard Professors of Economics, which begins and ends by saying that East Pakistan (Bangla Desh) will inevitably be free.

The tragedy, however, continues as long as West Pakistan controls. Short of armed interference, the only leverage is economic: the United States should stop every kind of aid right now until West Pakistan quits Bangla Desh. Hopefully, other nations capable of giving aid will act likewise. Preferably, action by the United Nations will begin to solve the problem.

Kindly note this: My good friends in my 7 years in Dacca included West Pakistani as well as East Pakistani. If I lose the friendship of any of them for the stand I take, I am sorry, but the Bengali cause is the just cause. The militaristic and cruel present Government of West Pakistan must answer to the free world. It is concealing the true answers through statements from its embassies and through deliberate restriction of any objective reporting on the situation in East Ben-

gal.
Yes, 200 Aggies are indeed in danger. And their country, presently under martial law, will be rescued by far-left Communism unless the free nations act now to establish desired democracy. Pakistan must be West Pakistan only. The eastern portion must be Bangla Desh, an independent nation. When that is accomplished, then let us help them both, but separately.
R. E. Vrooman

Editor:
In my last letter, which you so kindly published, I took Capt. Hornstein to task over what I and many others feel is the apparently callous manner in which foreign students are treated on campus. In order to not be construed as entirely negative in my outlook, I would like to propose that the University do something constructive with regard to the war in East Pakistan.

First, would it not be feasible for the Aggie amateur radio station to "patch in" with the American Embassy in East Pakistan and thereby process requests from our Aggie Pakistani students about their relatives and families? I know, from my own personal experience, that the US Army, through an activity called MARS, can relay long-distance phone calls from Vietnam to hams on the West Coast who then place long-distance phone calls to other states and "patch" the radio message into the phone line. I think

that would certainly ease the minds of some Indian and Pakistani students and could easily be arranged.

Second, if that could not be done, I am sure the American Embassy in Pakistan has an Army attache with access to the Signal Corps radio network. The calls I outlined in the paragraph above could be processed in a like manner. And, surely, A&M's military contacts—in the shape of Hornstein—could easily snip through the red tape that, no doubt, exists. Lastly, why don't the foreign student advisory office personnel organize a "relief fund" for the refugees and families of Pakistani Aggies? In fact, I suspect a sizeable portion of the Association of Former Students are from India and Pakistan. I am sure that the Aggies would be eager to assist their fellow Aggies in this time of aggression in East Pakistan.
B.D. Trail '62

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Rep. Bill Presnal reports

Many bills receive little public notice

With the regular session of the 62nd Legislature at a close, it is interesting to summarize the past five months. During the course of the session many reports are made on the progress of the major bills and other bills that draw keen interest from citizens all across the state.

Consequently, there are hundreds and hundreds of bills acted upon by the Legislature which receive little, if any, recognition. Many of these bills are important.

This column is a brief summary of some of the proposals I carried in the House of Representatives during the 62nd Legislature.

Another bill on which I expended much effort is the proposed constitutional amendment concerning state employees holding a local elected office and still drawing state salary. This measure passed both houses of the Legislature during the last week of the session. It will be one of seven or eight proposals submitted to the people in the general election in November 1972.

I also obtained passage of a bill authorizing the Board of Di-

rectors of Texas A&M University to levy student fees for the operation of the Student Center Complex. A&M requested the authority to levy fees because the Legislature does not appropriate revenue for this type of expenditure and additional financial support for the new Student Union Building will be necessary. This bill has been signed by the Governor.

A bill that may be a step in a partial solution to the state's welfare problems is one that provides for a uniform accounting and reporting system of welfare spending. Reporting welfare expenditures was studied by the Senate Welfare Study Committee.

A Senate interim committee found that both counties and cities are expending local funds on welfare programs inclusive of services to the medically needy. These efforts are not currently reported to the state and no uniform system of accounting exists.

There is no means of knowing how many tax dollars are being going into welfare efforts other than those expended by the state.

The federal government only matches state funds or funds

channeled through the designated state agency. Hence hospital districts, city and county tax dollars are primarily being expended without any matching support from the Federal government.

This bill, which has been signed by the Governor, will provide for the recording of all funds spent on welfare so the state can receive federal matching funds for every dollar that is spent by the state. I carried this bill in the House.

A bill that already has received the Governor's signature authorizes all state agencies to make advance payments to federal and state agencies for merchandise when the advance payment will expedite delivery of the merchandise.

I sponsored this bill in the lower house at the request of the Texas Association of Senior College and University Business Officers.

Another bill which I sponsored in the House was S.B. 942. This has been passed in both houses of the Legislature and it provides for instruction in the general field of marine resources at Texas

A&M University's campus at Galveston.

The Battalion

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