

The Battalion

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845-2226

Cloudy
and
wet

Friday — Cloudy. Northerly winds 5-10 mph. High 52°, low 46°.

Saturday — Partly cloudy. Northerly winds 5-10 mph. High 63°, low 38°.

Nixon favors a devaluation of U.S. dollar

ANGRA DO HEROISMO, Aires (AP)—President Nixon announced today his readiness to devalue the dollar as part of a revaluation of world currencies.

In a communique concluding their summit conference here, the American chief of state and President Georges Pompidou of France said: "In cooperation with other nations concerned, they agreed to work toward a prompt realignment of exchange rates through a devaluation of the dollar and revaluation of some other currencies."

The agreement could mean an end to the international monetary crisis. Devaluation of the dollar would mean a new price for it in terms of gold. Since the '30s Washington has said an ounce of gold was worth \$35. Meantime, the free market price of gold has reached around \$43 an ounce. Devaluation would not mean that the dollar had any less value in domestic trade in the United States. The main effect would be in dealing with central banks of other countries, many of which maintain hoards of dollars as reserve currencies.

With other principal currencies revalued—the trend has been up-

ward in such currencies as those of Japan and Germany—the effects on trade could be beneficial all around. At least that is the hope of governments and their banking authorities.

The Nixon-Pompidou statement said the realignment of parties for the world's principal monies "could be accompanied by broader permissible margins of fluctuation around the newly established exchange rates."

No figures were mentioned. Nixon started back to Washington after the communique was announced.

At the same time, the dollar dropped in Paris and Switzerland in relation to French and Swiss currencies. "Nobody wants to buy," one dealer in Paris said.

The dollar was offered on the commercial market there at 5.51 francs, down from a floor level of 5.5125 francs maintained lately.

Nixon emerged from the meeting and told newsmen before departing for Washington that "significant progress on the problems of the international monetary situation" was made.

Pompidou, speaking after Nixon, said: "I think we have well prepared the next meeting of the

Group of Ten and that we will have brought constructive elements to the solution of the problems."

The Group of Ten is made up of the 10 richest non-Communist nations. It meets this coming weekend in Washington.

The joint statement said:

"The two presidents are also aware of the importance of trade for a lasting equilibrium of the U.S. balance of payments."

Pompidou confirmed that France, together with governments of other member countries of the European community, is preparing the mandate which would permit the imminent opening of trade negotiations, the statement added.

The announcement said the mandate would permit the imminent opening of negotiations with the United States in order to settle short-term problems currently pending and to establish the agenda for the examination of fundamental questions in the area of trade.

This appeared as a concession by Europeans to U.S. demands for lower trade barriers on a number of products, especially agriculture products.



DRIVER RICHARD PETTY went to victory Sunday in the running of the Texas 500 at the newly opened Texas World Speedway south of College Station. Petty won only after

fighting for the lead several times. (Photo by Hayden Whitsett)

Adams wins council election

Homer B. Adams, a College Station businessman, won the vacant seat on the College Station City Council in the special election Tuesday.

Finishing second was Mrs. Clara L. Sandstedt, third was Bruce N. Clay, and fourth was Robert A. Knapp.

Clay was the first TAMU student to ever run for a City Council spot.

Adams received 447 votes with 268 from Ward I, 145 from Ward II, and 34 from Ward III. Sandstedt received 338 votes with 189 from Ward I, 143 from Ward II, and six from Ward III. Clay received 191 votes with 108 from Ward I, 66 from Ward II, and 17 from Ward III. Knapp received a 98 total with 63 from Ward I, 35 from Ward II, and none from

Ward III.

Adams is 48 years old and the owner of Adams Transfer and Storage Co. He has received a B.S. degree from TAMU in accounting and has served one term on the city council already.

The election was held to fill

the vacancy left behind by James Dozier, who was forced to resign because of a court ruling that state employees may not hold public office. Dozier is a professor at TAMU.

The election was marked by two different conflicts involving

TAMU students. Bruce Clay, a senior in business, was initially not allowed to run in the election because he had no real property, a requirement for candidates in the College Station charter. Clay filed suit and the city officials placed his name on the ballot.

Free university planned; 10 courses to be offered

A "Free University" at A&M is being planned by the Student Senate and the MSC Council.

The "Free University" will be a program of Liberal Arts type courses which will be taught at night by A&M professors, according to Layne Kruse, Student Life Chairman of the Student Senate. No credit, grades or examinations will be given and attendance will not be required.

"It gives the student a more well-rounded curriculum without pressuring him," Kruse said.

A general meeting of all those interested in taking a course will be held the first week in February. At this time the instructors, along with the students, will determine suitable meeting times and places.

The "Free University" is offering 10 courses and may expand to include a course in judo and one in music appreciation.

Gourmet cooking, taught by

Bill Fore, will examine the pleasures and pitfalls of good eating.

Candlemaking, decoupage and ceramics is a general course on handicrafts in which students bring their own work to class and receive advice from experts.

Albert Schweitzer's Philosophy of Life explores his love for nature and how it reflected on his way of life. The course will be taught by Dr. Manuel Davenport.

Philosophy Discussion will be a free-wheeling discussion group led by Randy Purham which will have films and outside speakers. Topics will range from ethics to politics to contemporary moral issues as well as the classical problems.

In Revealing Revelations, Pastor Hubert Beck will give the student a non-denominational look at a controversial book of the Bible, Revelations.

Dr. R. D. MacFarlane in Chemical Theology will give an inter-

pretation of existing religions of the world in light of the quantum theory. The question "Is God a Wave Motion?" will be examined.

Political Ideology in the Post-Industrial Society will be a discussion led by Dr. Elis Theros of political trends that are now developing in America. Alienation, the conflict of generations, communism, socialism and ethnic movements will be explored.

A course in Reading Skills will be offered to give speedreading training for improvement in study skills and better comprehension and retention.

In addition two courses from environmental design professors will be taught. They will include subjects ranging from art to self-awareness to metal work and handicrafts.

Suggestions and new ideas concerning the "Free University" are welcomed at the Student Senate office, 845-1515.

Refrigerators are available on campus

University approved refrigerators may be ordered by students living in dormitories capable of having the additional load.

The refrigerators, which will rent for \$40 a semester, may be ordered by calling Joe Hughes at 845-1108. Hughes emphasized that the orders must be placed now as they will order only as many as requested. A \$10 deposit will be taken.

The only dorms allowed refrigerators are civilian dorms 14-22. These are the newer ones. Corps dorms and older civilian dorms will have to wait until their electrical capability is increased.

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

Indians advancing on Dacca, battle going against Pakistan

Pakistani political leaders conceded Tuesday that West Pakistan had lost control of the tide of battle in East Pakistan as the guns of India's advancing forces set fire to Dacca. Radio Pakistan said Indian bombs struck the house of the provincial governor, who resigned and sought Red Cross asylum.

In Karachi, heads of the seven political parties that constitute Prime Minister Nurul Amin's United Coalition, said: "The situation at present is that there is no liaison between West and East Pakistan."

They appealed to President Nixon and Communist China's premier, Chou En-lai, "to urgently arrange for practical help to Pakistan" in its war with India.

With fighting reported seven miles from Dacca, the Indian navy said it had given Chittagong a devastating air and sea pounding and set ablaze parts of the city, East Pakistan's most important port.

In New York, Justice Abu Sayeed Chowdhury — head of an unofficial delegation of the Bangla Desh rebels — called the resignation of government officials in Dacca "a great moment of the birth of a new nation." He added: "Dacca has been lib-

erated." The U.N. Security Council, stymied three times by Soviet vetoes of cease-fire proposals, continued its efforts to act. Britain and France took the initiative in compromise negotiations.

Inside beleaguered Dacca, Lt. Gen. A. K. Niazi, East Pakistan's military commander, claimed he would fight to the last man if necessary "for the sacred soil of Pakistan." A doctor there said more wounded were flowing into hospitals "than we can deal with."

An Indian spokesman said 47 Americans remained in Dacca.

Radio Pakistan was silent on the fighting around Dacca, but reported Pakistani air raids on the western front, 1,000 miles across India. India said two Pakistani planes were shot down on that front over Srinagar, capital of the Indian State of Kashmir. A New Delhi spokesman reported an Indian plane was shot down in a dogfight over Srinagar.

Defense Minister Jagivan Ram told the Indian Parliament "it is our hope" that East Pakistan will be conquered soon, but gave for the first time a breakdown of what the cost was in 10 days of the fighting.

The totals were 1,978 of the

Indian forces killed, 5,025 wounded, 1,662 missing and 41 warplanes lost. He did not have figures for Pakistani losses except for more than 4,000 troops captured and 83 planes shot down.

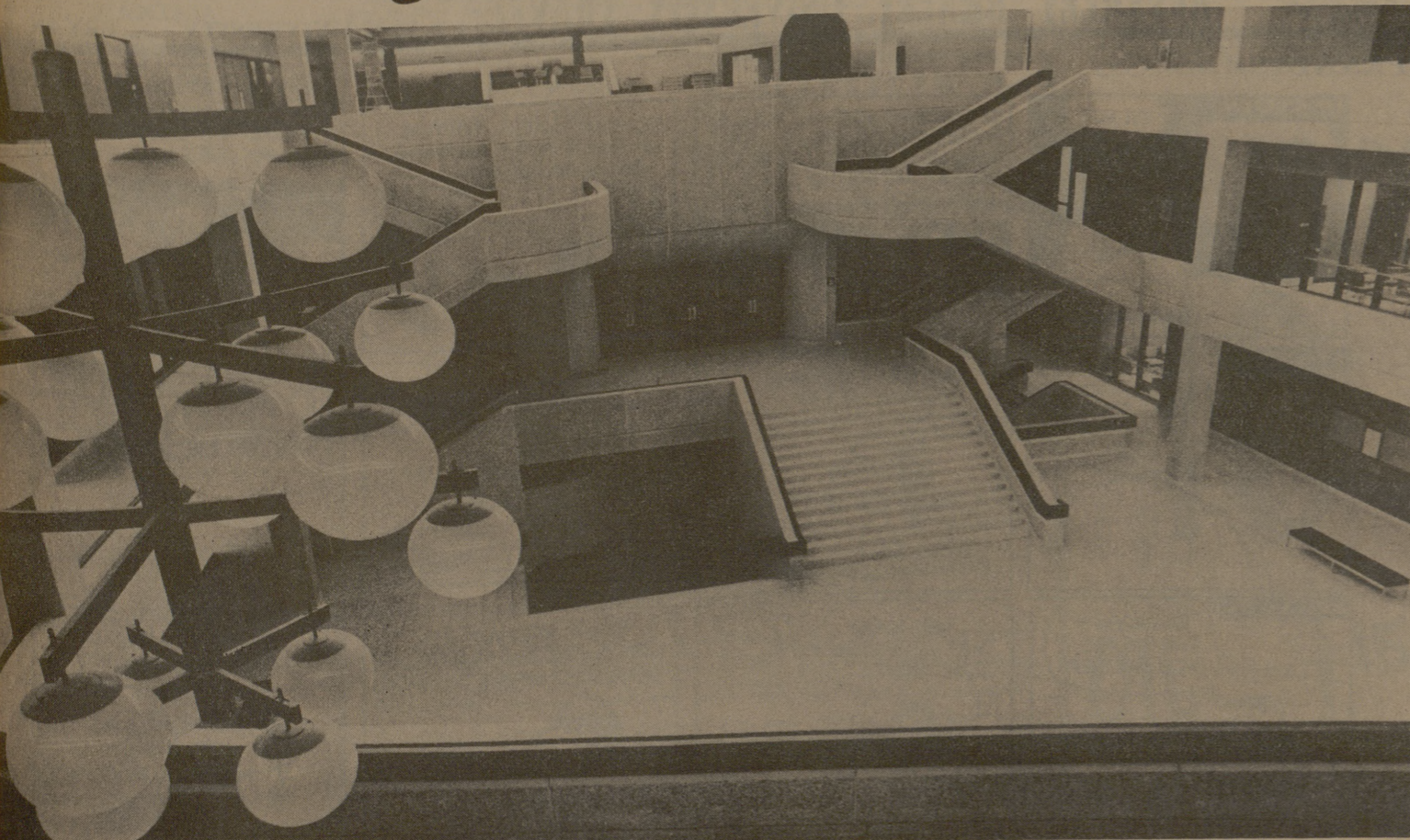
Indian troops were marching on Dacca from the northwest, east, northeast and backed by tanks, against a thinned Pakistani army, bleeding from casualties and with whole units cut off. Indian intelligence sources said 15,000 to 20,000 Pakistani troops may be in Dacca, their numbers swelled by stragglers. About 80,000 Pakistani troops are believed to be in the province.

An India spokesman in New Delhi said Indian advance units were six miles from Dacca, but an Indian army spokesman in Calcutta declined to say how close the nearest troops are to the capital.

A dispatch pooled by foreign correspondents in Dacca reported two correspondents went to the front at Demra, seven miles to the southeast. They found a ferryman crossing the Lakhya River carrying a Pakistani rear guard with Indian shells throwing up geysers in the water.

Mukti Bahini, the Bengali guerrillas fighting for independence, were operating close to Dacca.

New Engineering Center to house 7 acres of facilities



The new Engineering Center will be the "everything" building for many engineering students beginning next semester.

The center, which is located in the northeast corner of the campus, has 373 air-conditioned rooms, two lecture halls and an auditorium. The impressive \$10 million structure will house seven acres of teaching and research facilities. Each floor of the five-level building is larger than the area of a football field. The center is currently the largest building on campus and will be larger than the new Oceanography and Meteorology Building.

The Engineering Center is more than just a place to go to attend class. Between classes students can relax or study in the spacious third floor lounge. A vending machine area can be found there as well as on the first floor.

The auditorium, which can seat 350 people, will be available for general campus usage much like the Memorial Student Center Ballroom. The auditorium features padded chairs, carpeted walkways and a revolving stage. The two smaller lecture rooms have seating capacities of 131 each and have wood-grained detachable desks similar to those in Nagle

Hall's lecture rooms.

From the outside the center can be identified by a fountain and sunken maroon-paneled windows. The inside is characterized by tall doors, high ceilings and a tremendous rotunda-like area.

Offices in the center are spacious and have such conveniences as movable electrical outlets. Office and classroom walls are constructed so that bookcases and blackboards can be easily attached and removed.

In the building's basement is a 81-space parking lot. This lot as well as 46-space lot adjacent to the center will be used by the faculty and staff.

The halls of the center are striped with bold colors. The colors are a code which indicate to which engineering department certain classes, laboratories and offices belong.

Other features of the building include a nuclear reactor, a three-floor deep well and two-ton hoist that will be used by the Chemical Engineering Dept. and a human factors laboratory which will study human responses under certain stress conditions.

On Monday the Engineering Research Foundation and the Electrical Engineering Dept. of-

ficially moved into the center. Certain engineering activities at the Research Annex are scheduled to follow on Dec. 22, the Nuclear Engineering Dept. on Dec. 23 and the Mechanical Engineering Dept. on Dec. 27. The Texas Experiment Station in the current Engineering Building, the Chemical Engineering Dept. and the Industrial Engineering Dept. will also be relocated in the new center. Dean Fred J. Benson of the College of Engineering will have his new office in room 204, adjacent to the offices of the Experiment Station.

The mass relocation will hopefully be completed in time not to interfere with next semester's classes and labs which will be conducted in the building. C. H. Ransdell, assistant dean of engineering, feels that the move "will present no shock for the students."

None of the buildings presently used by the College of Engineering will be torn down. Their space will be used by other colleges of the university. According to Pieter Groot, administration service officer, the allotment of space from the old buildings will not be officially determined until later this week.