

Graduates should contribute their best to society, Harrington says

A&M's mid-term graduates were reminded Saturday they have an obligation to contribute their best to society.

The reminder was offered by Dr. M. T. Harrington, who congratulated his best to A&M during his half century of service during which he progressed from in-

structor to president and chancellor.

Dr. Harrington, named president emeritus this fall after retiring from the university as coordinator of international programs, was presented the university's Distinguished Alumni Award following his commence-

ment address. The award is jointly bestowed by the university and the Association of Former Students.

Harrington earned his B.S. degree at A&M in 1922 and master's in 1927.

He addressed a record mid-term graduating class of 996,

including 71 students receiving doctoral degrees and 198 earning master's.

In later ceremonies, 125 of the graduates received military commissions and were addressed by Gen. John G. Meyer, Air Force vice chief of staff. The Army commissioned 85 of the students, the Air Force 36 and the Marine Corps four.

"All of you have, built in, a practical obligation to yourself and a moral obligation to society to contribute to society the best that is in you," Dr. Harrington told the A&M graduates. "This pays off in many more ways than one."

He pointed out a selfish person is motivated by desires that

concern his own welfare, while an intelligent person learns that the best thing he can do for himself is something good for those around him.

"If your opportunities have been greater, your experience more varied, if your horizon is thereby broadened, your perception keener, your vision and insight more clear, then your responsibility and obligation to give the fruits of your life is greater," the former A&M president emphasized. "Great gifts should make one humble and aware of his obligation to others."

General Meyer told the newly commissioned officers that one of the reasons this nation has not been involved in a world war since 1945 "is that we have recognized the very real role that military strength plays in keeping the peace."

"We now know that wars are prevented with strength and resolve — not weakness and wishful thinking," emphasized the top fighter pilot in Europe during World War II.

The general took issue with the "social hypochondriacs" who see this nation as a "sick society."

"I see us as a healthy and growing society, responding to the many challenges of the times," General Meyer remarked. "I know there are those who think they might be."

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Renovation of modern language labs completed

Renovation of a modern language laboratory has been completed to provide A&M students improved conditions for study of Czech, Russian, German, French and Spanish.

Improved acoustical characteristics, new equipment and more space were obtained in the \$30,000 expansion project. Vance and Tharmond was general contractor.

Each modern languages course requires from 4 1/2 to 50 tapes reproduced in class quantity.

Department-prepared master tapes enable students to hear the language individually in recorder-equipped sound booths, record sentences, playback for comparison with correct pronunciation and make corrections.

A new master console from which class-quantity tapes are pre-recorded enables an instructor to monitor a student selectively for examination purposes, the lab allows a student to record responses at his best.

"Acoustics are much better," the department head added. "Our people relax a little more and talk calmer. New earphones cut out adjoining booth sounds."

A workshop utilized by technician Earl Wiehausen was relocated and gained space from the renovation. Besides test and repair facilities, it contains a tape duplicator for student convenience or reproducing open reel or cassette tapes for other TAMU departments.

Students will use the renovated lab for classes and exams," Dabbs said. "Former facilities in another lab are available for student-free class preparation."

Language labs are open from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. weekdays and at special weekend hours. Class use is scheduled at 15-minute intervals from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays.

Modern Languages Department head Dr. Jack A. Dabbs said additional space for one of its Academic Building labs will enable addition of 11 sound booths, for a total of 74. The department enrolled more than 1,000 students this semester.

The renovated lab acquired about 30 per cent more floor space, carpeting, new acoustical tile, light and airconditioning ductwork, tape storage shelving and 32 new DuKane Monitor dual-track tape playback-recorders.

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Oceanography initiates second year of 'natural pollution' study

A&M's Oceanography Department has initiated its second year of Gulf of Mexico studies of the occurrence of natural hydrocarbons—often considered "natural pollution."

Dr. Richard A. Geyer, department head, said the research is sponsored by the A&M Sea Grant Program and 11 oil companies. The firms are Atlantic Richfield, Chevron, Cities Service, Conoco, Gulf, Humble, Marathon, Mobil, Phillips, Sun and Tenneco.

the rising salt, allow oil and gas which has been trapped below to migrate to the surface, he explained.

Tar lumps have been found within the sediments and staining shells at many sites. Three years ago tar was found in a core taken from the Sigsbee Knolls.

Since all of this hydrocarbon material that has been found in the sediment is lighter than water, Sweet emphasized it could not have sunk down from the surface but must have come up from a natural pool from below the sediments.

He said the major purposes of the project are to locate the source of the seeps, determine the nature and the amount of seepage and the chemical composition of the escaping material.

Drift cards are being used to determine current movement from the seep site in order to determine what happens to the oil once it is in the water. Sweet said some cards have been found along the Padre Island Beach and northward toward Louisiana.

High dissolved gas anomalies have been detected in areas of the gulf over shallow salt domes, and traces of oil have been found at these localities, Sweet reported. Faults, which are cracks in the bottom sediment caused by

the rising salt, allow oil and gas which has been trapped below to migrate to the surface, he explained.

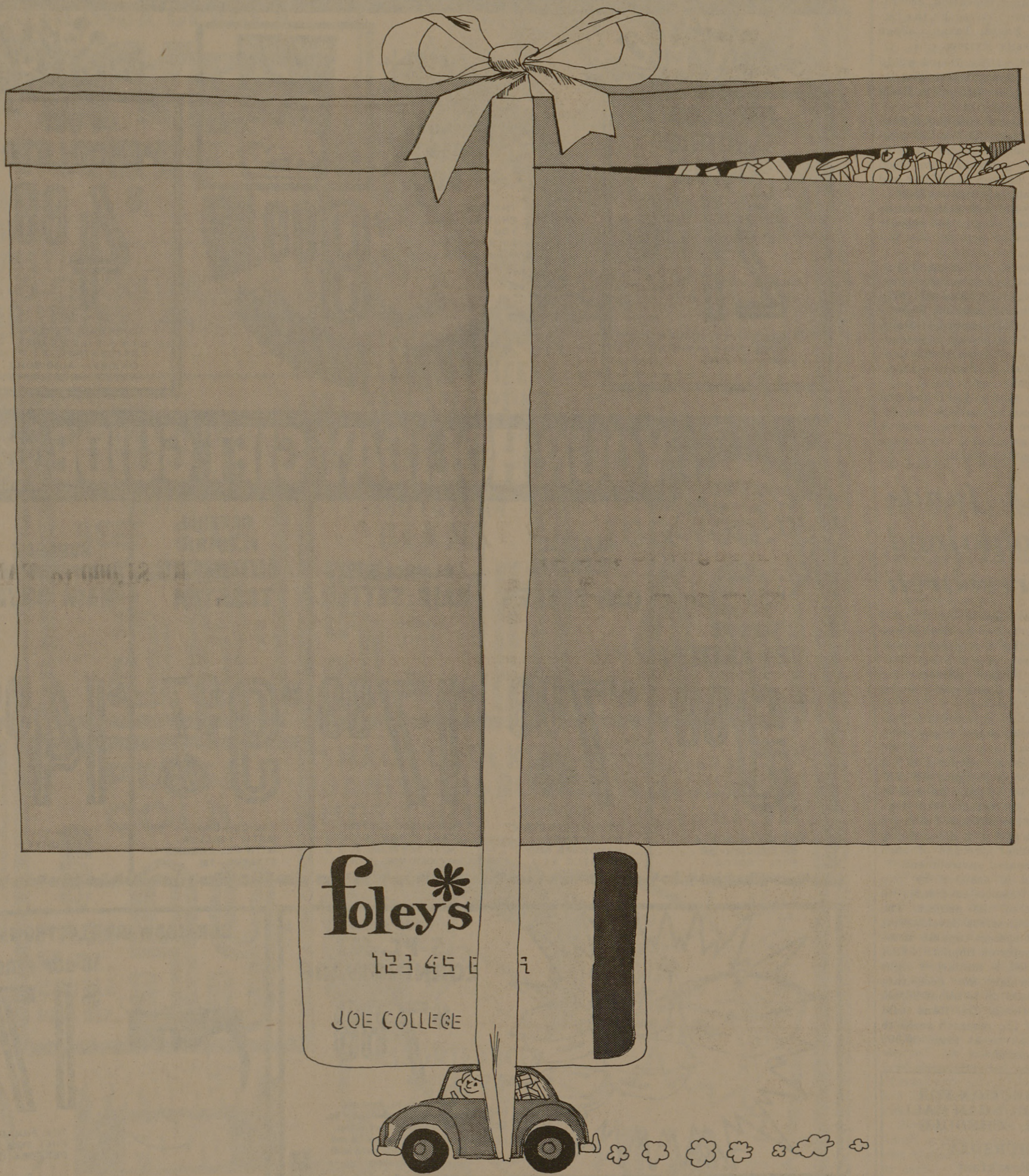
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