

# The Battalion

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College Station, Texas Wednesday, July 26, 1972

Hot  
and  
clear

Thursday — Partly cloudy.  
Southerly winds 10-15 mph. High  
94°, low 74°.

Friday — Partly cloudy to  
cloudy. Afternoon thundershow-  
ers. Southerly winds 10-15 mph.  
High 91°, low 74°.

845-2226

## Badgett to retire after 38 years

Walter Howard Badgett now plans to watch A&M grow from the golf course.

For 38 years Badgett has been building campus facilities, including planning most of the buildings on campus today.

Friday was his last official working day, he left for two weeks vacation and will retire July 31. Except for service during World War II, the cigar-chomping TAMU graduate has worked all his adult life for the university. He plans to spend retirement days improving his golf game.

"There never was a dull moment," Badgett revealed. "Every day there were new problems to solve, but the people I've worked with, and especially the students, have made it all worthwhile."

Badgett is a native of Denison, 1924 graduate of Denison High School and holds bachelor and master's degrees in architecture from A&M, awarded in 1929 and 1932. He was the second person to receive a master's degree in architecture.

He joined the Texas Engineering Experiment Station at A&M following graduation. After World War II he returned as assistant manager of construction, then director of the physical plant, later manager of the TAMU System physical plants and retired as assistant director of facilities planning and construction for the system.

His community contributions included College Station city councilman from 1946-53, mayor from the last two years; 12 years of service to the Brazos County Polio Committee, three as chairman; charter member of Sul Ross Lodge No. 1300, AF&AM; deacon

and elder of the A&M Presbyterian Church, and past president of the Brazos County Chapter, Reserve Officers Association. He is a retired Army Reserve colonel.

Badgett is considered one of the nation's top authorities on university physical plant management. He was an active member in the American Society of Heating and Ventilating Engineers, and helped organize the original Texas Chapter and many of the local chapters.

He served as the original secretary of the organization in Texas, was a member of technical advisory committees and author of several technical papers published in technical journals and read at society meetings.

His work with the Association of Physical Plant Administrators brought him the Meritorious Service Award in 1967 at the international meeting in Montreal, Canada. He also published in journals and was a president of the Central States Region.

When Badgett joined the TAMU staff, he joined a unique group of individuals that produced many of the campus landmarks.

"When I first went to work the depression had cut into architecture and engineering jobs," Badgett related. "The college architect pulled in a staff of about 25 Aggie engineers and architects to work on the biggest one-time construction project up to that time."

"Included were Hart Hall, Cushing Library, Animal Industries, Geology-Petroleum Engineering, System Administration, Chemistry and Walton Hall Buildings, plus the original concrete work on Kyle Field."

Badgett pointed out a little-

known fact of that time.

"Many of those buildings have a Mexican influence, a result of chief architect Sam Vosper's love for a girl in Mexico," he said.

The Mexican architecture of that time is reflected in the Geology, Chemistry, Animal Industries, Agricultural Engineering and System Buildings, all with tile, mosaic and art work such as animal heads.

The art work of a girl on the bronze doors at the System Administration Building were designed by Vosper, using Sarah Orth, daughter of W. A. Orth, the man who managed the construction of that time.

One of Badgett's first jobs was designing the heating systems for Hart Hall and Cushing Library. He designed the mechanical and heating equipment on all the buildings up to the time he entered active Army service in 1940.

Badgett said stone for the 1920-1940 buildings were made on campus where the System Physical Plant Building now stands. The only exception was stone work for the System Building made where the flag pole now stands.

Another tidbit of the '30s was construction of the north Chemistry lab wing and front of the building by college employees.

Prior to World War II, Badgett served as an infantry instructor and assistant editor of publications at the Adjutant General's Office in Washington, D. C.

He came back in November, 1941, "just in time to meet myself going back."

Gen. A. D. Bruce, a 1916 A&M graduate, assembled a group of Aggies at Camp Hood (now Fort Hood) in June, 1942, to build the

camp into what General Bruce felt should be a regular Army post.

Badgett became the first adjutant of the camp and friends say he was the architect of the building program which resulted in the temporary camp becoming today one of the major Army facilities in the nation.

Later Badgett went to Command and General Staff College and was named director of the 8th Area Military Personnel and Aid Service Command.

He left the Army as a colonel in 1946.

On his return to Aggieland, Badgett decided to do something about several buildings which had sunk three and four inches into the ground over a period of years.

Guion Hall, which was demolished last year to make way for the new theatre complex, was the first on the list.

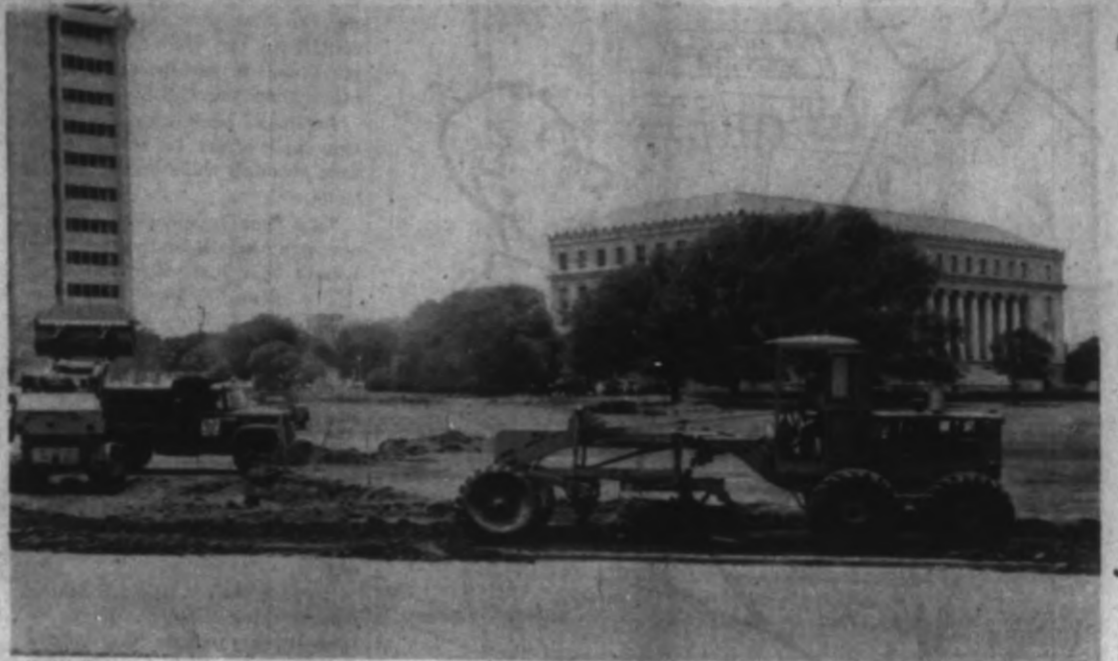
Badgett said the stage had settled up to five inches and had cracked away from the building. An army of short men were hired to dig under stage using hand shovels, jacks were hand pumped to get the stage level and the stage was put back into place.

Similar work was done on the south end of the Academic Building, the whole Cushing Library and the west wing of the Hospital.

That program took four years, from 1946-50.

Badgett also is credited with starting the dormitory renovation programs, designed the first air conditioning systems for the campus and reorganized the physical plants after the war into one of

(See Badgett retiring, page 7)



AS THE SONG SAYS, A&M seems to be "destroying paradise to put up a parking lot." Probably the most picturesque landmark here, the scenic entrance to the university from Highway 6, is being marred by the construction of a parking area south of the Systems Building. (Photo by John Curylo)

## Education Center funded by Mott Foundation again

A&M's Community Education Center has received second year funding of \$93,000 from the Charles S. Mott Foundation, announced College of Education Dean Frank W. Hubert.

The Flint, Mich., foundation selected TAMU last July as the location for its community education center (CEC) in the Southwest. It serves Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas and Louisiana.

Center director Dr. Robert L. Berridge noted \$40,000 of the grant will be used as "seed money" to public school districts for development of community education programs.

The latest grant funds the center through June 30, 1973. First year funding was \$76,782, with seed money going to the school districts in Midland, Alice and College Station as demonstration

sites. Berridge said A&M is one of 14 university centers in the nation. The CEC is attached to the Educational Administration Department at the university.

During the past year the CEC office here conducted eight workshops attracting 300 Texas school superintendents. The community education concept also was exposed to the state adult education meeting and the executive board of the Texas P.T.A.

Berridge pointed out this year one of the plans calls for establishment of programs in Arkansas and Louisiana, with each state having a coordinator. The CEC will fund \$10,000 to each

state to establish a cooperative program involving the state education agencies and LSU and the University of Arkansas.

Philanthropist Charles S. Mott envisioned the community center program would involve bringing public school facilities which are idle during the summer and at night into use by the community — the building owners.

CEC goals and the concept of community education was given high priority by the Texas Education Agency at the State Board of Education meeting in April.

TEA is expected to put much of its resources behind the program during the year, Dr. Berridge added.

## Polling places will be established at A&M for future city elections

The College Station City Council voted Monday night to establish a polling place on the A&M campus for city elections.

"We need to remember that this applies to city elections only," said Jerry Campbell, Student Government Public Relations chairman. "A polling place for the November elections requires the cooperation of the county government."

The motion, which passed unanimously, read as follows:

"The City Council of the City of College Station:

"(a) Recalls its obligation to all voters of this City to provide

and designate places for voting in City elections;

"(b) Is anxious to fulfill this obligation with due regard to the convenience of citizens and legality of procedures;

"(c) Remembers the large number of voters only recently eligible, who live on the Texas A&M University campus;

"(d) Proposes to establish a polling place on the University campus; and

"(e) Requests the City Manager to initiate negotiations with the University, for such a polling place."

## Teague not for McGovern, but will support Democrats

U. S. Rep. Olin E. (Tiger) Teague of College Station has announced his disagreement with the ideas of Democratic Presidential nominee Sen. George McGovern; but he says he will support Democratic candidates for office.

"I am a Democrat and I believe in our two-party system," Teague said Thursday. "Between now and November, I shall use my available time campaigning for Democratic Members of Congress, as I have been doing for a number of months, in order to assure a Democratic majority in The Congress."

"I very much disagree with many of Sen. McGovern's policies, however, I shall not vote for Richard Nixon," Teague continued. "I shall work for all Democratic nominees in the state of Texas."

## A&M to aid Dominican Republic development

An Agency for International Development (AID) contract for agricultural development in the Dominican Republic has been extended with A&M.

The AID contract amendment of \$191,024 was announced by Congressman Olin E. Teague.

For staffing and on-going programs in the Dominican Republic, the amendment brings the AID contract total to \$5,191,481, through March, 1973. The TAMU program coordinator, William E. Beach of the International Programs Office, said the operating agreement is with the Secretary of Agriculture in the Dominican Republic.

Among other facets, the program graduates Dominican students from TAMU in studies that will contribute to overall agricultural development in the

Caribbean republic on the Island of Hispaniola.

Operations in the Dominican Republic are headquartered at the capital, Santo Domingo.

Beach said about 100 students have graduated under the AID contract and other agreements with the government of the Dominican Republic. The program will have 35 students on the A&M campus this fall, under financing through other agreements and private sources.

"Some of these students will be here on their own," Beach noted.

Originated in 1965, the AID-TAMU Dominican program brought the first students to

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

A&M in 1966. The majority of 25 students currently on campus are under financing through the Educational Credit Foundation of the Dominican Republic. The first ECF students arrived in 1968 and 25 have graduated, Beach added.

## Notice

Next week's edition of The Battalion will be the annual Freshman Edition, which is sent to all students who will be new to A&M this fall.

The special edition will be in three sections. The first will be the usual weekly edition of The Battalion. The second part will be a look at the sports picture for the coming year, and the third section features student life as it affects the freshmen.

## Chief instructor claims

# Pollution negligible at firemen's school

Black smoke clouds rolling off the land near Easterwood Airport here may represent air pollution to some people, but to the professional fire-fighter it represents lives and dollars saved. And in the long run less pollution.

Chief Instructor Henry D. Smith of A&M's Engineering Extension Service reported Thursday a recent survey by TAMU scientists showed the Firemen's Training School here produces less than one-half of one percent of the pollution in Brazos County each year.

"The largest portion of this (pollution) is fallout of unsaturated hydrocarbons, or 'soot' particles, impregnated with water from the fire streams," Smith said.

"Data collected indicates no damage to trees and shrubbery

in the area," the fire training chief noted.

Smith reported there are more than 900 fire departments in Texas and of those 53 are fully paid, 202 are part paid and the remainder are volunteers from all walks of life.

"Very few of these departments can afford elaborate training facilities where they can fight fire under controlled conditions," Chief Smith said.

He pointed out the Brayton Firemen's Training Field built by A&M is a \$750,000 facility that not only is the best in the United States, but "No. 1 in the world."

Statistics show there are 2,200 fires every day in the U. S. killing 12,000 persons a year. Firemen are in a dangerous profession, Smith admits, with a fire-

man killed in action every five days in the U. S.

Adding to the fireman's problems is modern technology. Smith said the average house fire today has more than 75 poisonous gases, and the number is rising as new synthetics are introduced.

He added, "one of every ten trucks traveling our highways is a potential bomb to firemen. By this, I mean it is transporting hazardous material."

"The knowledge gained here by firemen, and the confidence instilled through actual experience, under fire conditions, helps a man to quickly control and extinguish fires at home," Smith said.

There have been cases of firemen running from a blaze because they did not know how to fight the fire, he continued. Once the firemen are trained, what was once a scary situation then becomes a near routine operation.

Smith professes it is a better service to train under controlled conditions to improve fire protection service and in the long run have better pollution control.

A growing population brings greater loss of lives and property. A new fire department is organized every few days.

Smith said training new recruits and keeping older professionals abreast to modern fire-fighting techniques requires a continuous training program.

"No football coach would consider fielding a team which had received only skull practice or classroom training," the chief in-

sists. "Champion golfers don't become champions by reading a book.

"Trained firemen are a must," Smith contends. "We believe the old football adage, 'a good offense—is the best defense.'"

Officials at the school insist fire training helps reduce air pollution substantially.

Smith points out most of the project fires here are extinguished in from one to three minutes.

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The tower of the Geosciences Building is being removed by workmen because it is a safety hazard. It has been a landmark since 1932. (Photo by Bob Leitz)

## Tower is being removed from Geosciences building

A 40-year landmark at A&M is coming down.

The tower on the Geosciences Building — the former Geology-Petroleum Engineering Building — is surrounded by demolition crews' scaffolding and will be attacked brick by brick until almost level with the current roof.

Paul W. Stephens, technical services manager for the TAMU System, said the tower is a safety hazard too expensive to repair.

Cast-stone facings in the tower are loose and there is a danger they could fall.

The tower should be down within a month.

Repairs to the building, including laboratories, classrooms and office space, are included in the work and will be completed in December.

Stephens said the building, occupied in 1933, has a tank for domestic hot water in the tower. The hot water supply system was closed down a number of years ago. The tank is still inside.

Ceramic tiles on top of the

tower will be saved for department use.

W. Howard Badgett, who retires this month after 38 years managing various campus and system physical facilities, said the building is one of several designed by Sam Vosper, chief architect here in the 1920's and 1930's.

Badgett recalls Vosper was in love with a girl in Mexico, and it influenced his work.

The tile, figure heads and mosaic on the Geosciences Building are a reflection of Mexican architecture of that time, Badgett said.

Badgett said a number of attempts have been made through the years to keep the stone in place.

The tower has been a campus landmark since construction in 1932.

When torn down, the only remainder of the tower will be a flat top about three feet above the roofline.