

Economic development patterns around Millican still uncertain

The location of the proposed Millican Reservoir near a fast-growing metropolitan area is bound to give quick rise to residential, commercial and industrial development.

However, any clues as to the types of prospective developments are clouded by the uncertainty of the project itself.

R. P. Trant and his son, Harold, own 3,000 acres of land which, if the reservoir were built, would be contained on a large peninsula of land jutting into the reservoir, south of Highway 30 and east of the Navasota River.

It would be a choice development site.

A year ago, the Trants placed the acreage on the market. The asking price—\$3.5 million. Trants recalls that a few people who called themselves "investors" came by to look it over. H. L. Hunt even fooled with it awhile, Trant said, "like a fish nibbling on bait."

But no one took the bait, not wishing to risk their money on a project "in the works."

One or two others have been purchasing large tracts along the various peninsulas which would be above the lake's flood level. They are holding onto these lands as investments, using them as ranches or deer leases, hopefully waiting for the day when they can turn those acres into a "Whispering Oaks" or a "Lakeview Estates."

W. L. Churchwell owns several thousand acres in the same region as the Trants. He says he would rather remain a rancher and landowner of deer leases. "But you can't stand in the way of progress. There's laws against it."

"If they build it I'll live with it," he said, musing on the possibilities of hiring a real estate agent to handle his land holdings when that time comes.

When the Army Corps of Engineers builds a reservoir they also buy up land around the shoreline as a "buffer zone" against development.

In the case of Millican, a minimum of 300 feet will be purch-

ased back from the flood control water level (234 feet above sea level.)

The Chambers of Commerce of Bryan-College Station and Navasota have strongly supported the Millican project because of the estimated economic benefits for their communities.

Interviews conducted for a Reservoir Impact Study published by the Texas Water Resources Institute indicated that the "Chamber was the most important organizational influence in maintaining and showing 'local support' for dam projects. In each case, the Chamber was the organ through which determined leadership acted," the study pointed out.

The study also indicated that drive-in groceries, gas stations, restaurants and motels would be among the commercial developments springing up around the reservoirs. Most of these would be recreational-related.

Increased law enforcement, sanitation, school facilities, and im-

proved roads are among the needs brought about by the increased development. These costs in the case of Millican would be borne by county taxpayers.

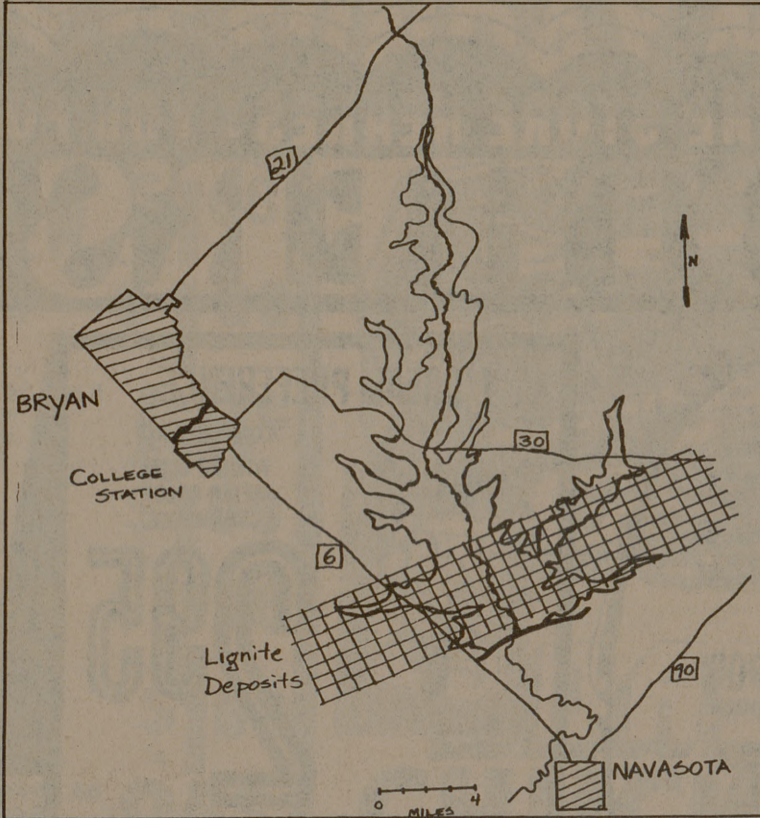
Many of the residents living miles away from the proposed Millican Reservoir said they thought their local communities would benefit from the increased development accompanying the lake.

"Land prices have escalated from \$100 to \$750 an acre around here the past few years," one longtime resident of the Millican community said.

If the reservoir were built, he said, the economy of the area might pick up.

As for the pressures from encroaching development and consequently, increasing population, he said: "This is a knit and tight community and we're not going to let those problems happen. It'd (Millican) be six or seven miles down the road and won't bother us a whole lot."

The reservoir's large water supply could attract industries to the area, members of the Chamber of Commerce say. While there will be no hydroelectric power generating facilities connected to the dam, there is the possibility of a power plant located along the southern portion of the reservoir, fueled by lignite.



Lignite deposits found in Millican Dam area

More than 2,000 graduate in weekend ceremonies

More than 2,000 students will receive degrees at Texas A&M University in dual commencement ceremonies Friday evening and Saturday morning.

Registrar Robert A. Lacey said the list of degree candidates is still tentative but could total nearly 2,100. It will mark the first time Texas A&M has had a graduating class exceed 2,000. The current record of 1,961 was set last spring.

Approximately 130 of the graduating seniors will receive military commissions, with all four branches of the service represented.

Dallas banker and businessman James W. Aston and Dr. J. Boyd Page, president of the Council of Graduate Schools in the United States, will share commencement speaker honors, and Lt. Gen. Samuel Jaskilka, the Marine Corps' deputy chief of staff for manpower, will be the commissioning speaker.

Page, a former graduate dean at TAMU, will address doctoral and master's degree recipients and a portion of the undergraduate degree recipients at 7:30 p.m. Friday.

Aston, a 1933 TAMU graduate and recipient of its Distinguished Alumni Award, will speak at the university's traditional exercises for the majority of the undergraduate degree recipients at 9 a.m. Saturday. Both ceremonies will be in G. Rollie White Coliseum.

The commissioning ceremonies will be at 1:30 p.m., also in the coliseum, followed by the Corps of Cadets' Final Review at 3:30 p.m., on the main drill field.

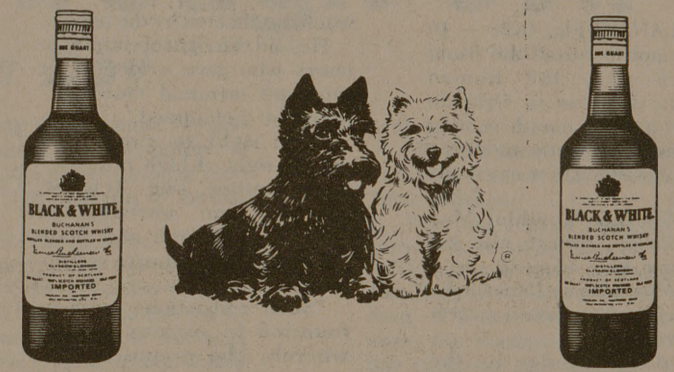
In addition to graduate degree recipients, the Friday ceremonies will be for recipients of undergraduate degrees earned through the Colleges of Architecture and Environmental Design, Education, Liberal Arts, Science and Veterinary Medicine. The Saturday ceremonies will include the Colleges of Agriculture, Engineering, Business Administration, Geosciences and Moody College of Marine Sciences and Maritime Resources.

Aston is chairman of the board and chief executive officer of the Republic of Texas Corporation and vice chairman of the board of Republic National Bank of Dallas. He

has been associated with the bank 30 years and served as its president from 1957 until 1965 and chief executive officer from 1961 until 1974. He is a member of several other boards, including the board of governors for Southern Methodist University.

In addition to receiving "Distinguished Alumni" designation, Aston was inducted into the Texas A&M Athletic Hall of Fame in 1968 and had previously been named to Sports Illustrated's Silver Anniversary All-American Football Team. He was captain and fullback of the A&M football team his senior year. He served as president of TAMU's Association of Former Students in 1961 and will have one of the university's new dormitories named in his honor.

Dr. Page, who directs activities for the Council of Graduate Schools from his Washington offices, was dean of TAMU's graduate school from 1956 until 1960. He had additional responsibilities the last three years as dean of the college, a position similar to vice president for academic affairs. He served as graduate dean and vice president for research at Iowa State before accepting the Council of Graduate Schools position in 1970. He earned his B.S. degree at Brigham Young, master's at the University of Missouri and Ph.D. at Ohio State.



BLACK & WHITE
BLENDED SCOTCH WHISKY

Black & White® Blended Scotch Whisky, 86.8 proof. ©1974, Heublein, Inc., Hartford, Conn.

PIZZA GALLERY

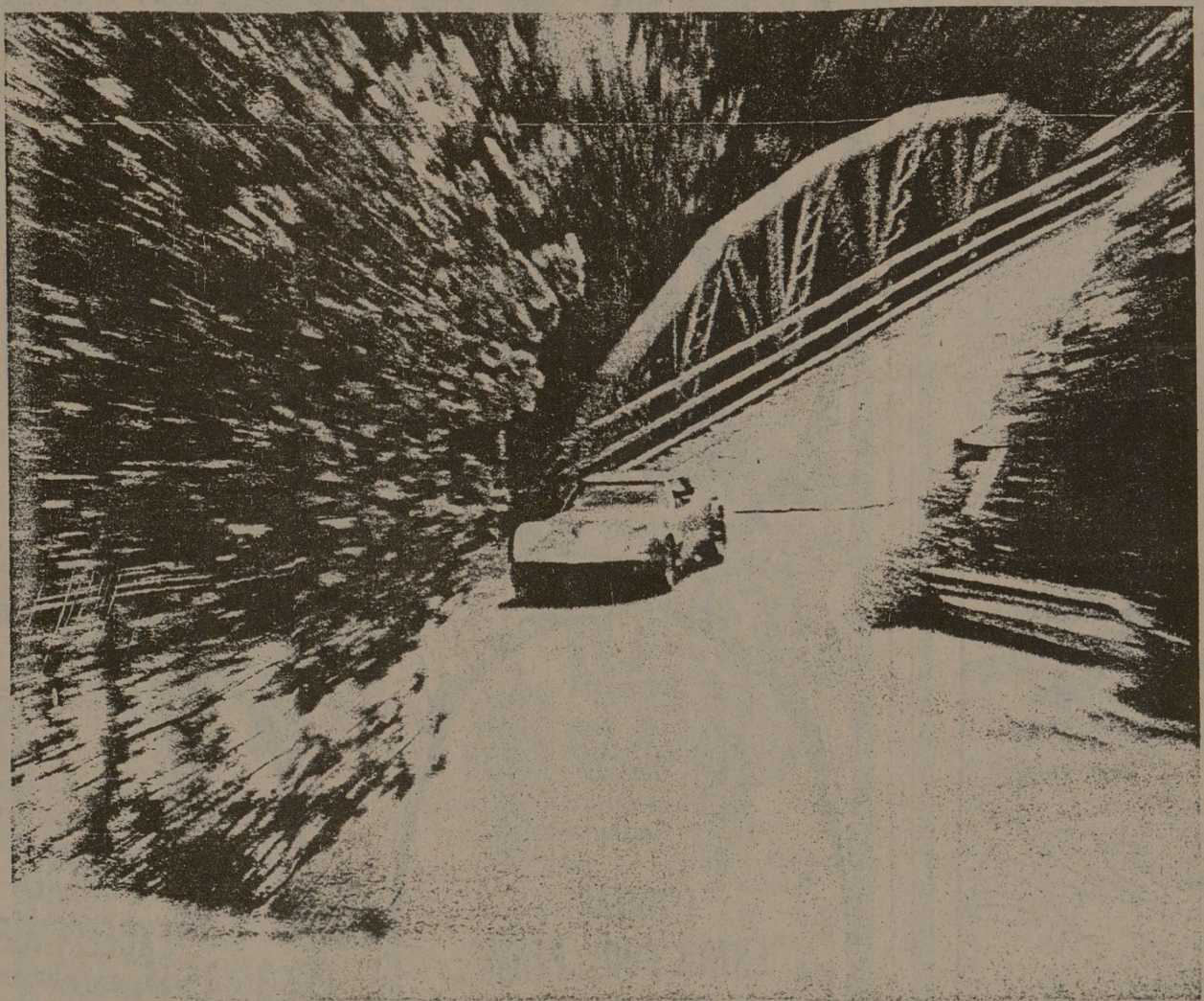
311 University — North Gate

846-1713

NEW HOURS 5:00-12:00 MON.-FRI.
5:00 - 1:00 SATURDAY
5:00 - 12:00 SUNDAY

BUY ONE PITCHER
OF BEER (ANY BRAND!)
AND GET REFILLS
FOR ONLY \$1.00
WITH THIS COUPON
Expires Thursday, May 8
GOOD ALL HOURS

You don't have to wait for your commission to join the 5 out of 6 active duty officers who carry USAA insurance.



As an Advanced ROTC student, you are eligible to apply for USAA insurance—for your car, personal possessions, and personal liability. USAA is an association of officers serving fellow officers with the lowest possible premiums, quick and fair claims settlements, and a sharing of dividends. (Though not guaranteed, USAA has been paying dividends every year since 1924.) You may save as much as \$20 to \$60, depending on where you live, on auto insurance alone. And a special USAA feature, the Household Goods Policy, is available to insure your personal property at home, at school, or in your car, for only \$10 per year per \$1,000 of insurance protection. Small wonder more officers insure with USAA than all other insurance companies combined. Mail the coupon for details—at no obligation.

Please Print or Type 5274

Full Name _____
Street Address _____
City, State, Zip _____
(Area Code) Phone No. _____ Soc. Sec. No. _____

Student Program Air Force Army
 Navy Marine Corps
 Advanced ROTC Program
 Other _____ (Title of Program)

Name of College or University _____
I am interested in information (At No Obligation) on:
 Automobile Household Goods Personal Liability

USAA For more information write
USAA
USAA Building
San Antonio, Texas 78284

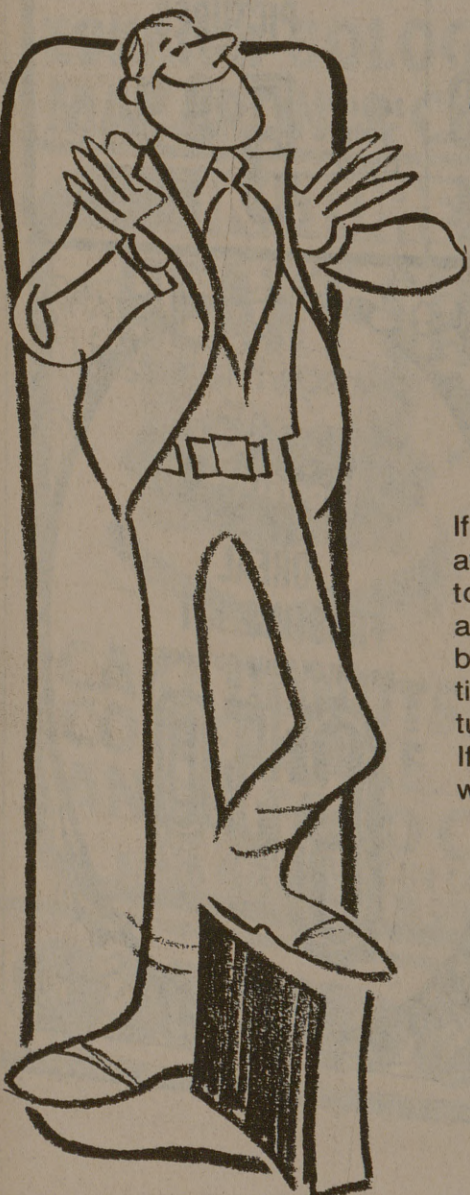
NEED CASH NOW!

SELL YOUR USED BOOKS TO LOU -

LOUPOT'S

NORTHGATE - ACROSS FROM THE POST OFFICE

HAVE YOU TRIED ONE OF THE CAPTAIN'S TABLE CHICKEN FRIED STEAKS LATELY?



If You're Good - And Know You're Good - Why Not Let Us Help You Prove It.

If you're a good student and have an above average desire to succeed, we'd like to get together. We've built a highly successful agency in just four short years with a \$3.8 billion insurance company. We offer the potential for immediate high income and the opportunity to grow with a growth-minded company. If you're interested in sharing your success with us write or call:

Thomas Associates
Protective Life Insurance Co.
P.O. Drawer CQ 520 E. University
College Station, Texas 77840
(713) 846-7714