Agatha Christie: en life of mystery

W GREGORY JENSEN ONDON – Dame Agatha stie leaves one monumental tery unsolved in her autobiogpublished Nov. 10 - the se of the Vanishing Authoress, a te drama where she played the

ling part. Agatha Christie: An Autobioghy," published 22 months after ne Agatha's death at 85, was osed to answer all the puzzles out this gentle English matron was the most popular mystery

But in all its 542 small-type pages re is not one word about her dis-

he background is there. Dame tha frankly discusses her harrowapproach to mental breakdown. twhen it comes to those 11 Deaber days in 1926 when she van-ed — the most publicized event her long life — she remains si-

ler marriage to Archibald Chriswas breaking down. Mrs. Chriswas overworked, overweight and mome with "a terrible sense of elines." She drove her car into a

e lip of a 120-foot-deep quarry. oodhounds tracked her in vain.

tim of amnesia, not even knowing

ognize my mother, her own aghter, who was 7 then," Christ-grandson Mathew Prichard said recent interview.

er discussed in the family," inhard said. "My grandmother wer mentioned it. We did not stion her

istie's life was jammed with inents. Her vivid account of it does t depend for its fascination on use 90 books which were "outsold by the Bible and Shakespeare, blisher say

memorializes another age dying Victorian era whose mards Dame Agatha never lost. the creates with loving nostalgia era of housefuls of servants, en girls like Agatha had tutors governesses rather than going school, when a teenage girl mght only of chaperones and thes and innocent flirtations.

tait closely resembling her pubimage — that of a shy, almost clusive person, family-centered, thakeen intellect, an immovable and a passion for old-fashioned

nuggets of surprise which show human person behind Agatha istie's famous name.

Her only two ambitions in life re to own a car and to have ner with Queen Elizabeth in ckingham Palace. She achieved h, 40 years apart.

til one murder story — "The stery of the Blue Train" — had to produced to meet publishing ob-

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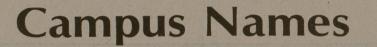
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As a genuine professional, Agatha Christie cannot help but make her long life enjoyably readable. As an honest professional she cannot avoid portraying a marvelous, vibrant, somewhat formidable woman.

"I have been singularly fortu-nate," Dame Agatha writes. "So many things to remember. So many things — some silly, some funny, some beautiful." At 75 she could say: "I am ready



Two Rhodes nominees from A&M compete

Donald R. Deere Jr. of Ar-lington and Robert A. Lacy of Lake Charles, La., are Texas A&M University's nominees for a Rhodes Scholarship to attend Oxford University poet upon Oxford University next year.

The two seniors, both National Merit Scholars with perfect 4.0 grade point ratios, are among 50 applicants from Texas schools who will interview in Houston

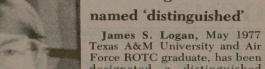
Orleans in mid-December for regional screening along with nominees from Oklahoma, Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama.

Deere is an economics major and Lacy is a physics major. Both have earned membership in honor societies Phi Eta Sigma and Phi Kappa Phi. Lacy was selected outstanding junior in the Cellegre of Science in 1077 the College of Science in 1977. In 1976, Deere was chosen outstanding sophomore in the Col-lege of Liberal Arts. Both were



designated a distinguished graduate by the Air Force central selection board at Maxwell Air

honor



THE BATTALION

Force Base, Ala. Second Lt. Logan was one of 16 nationwide chosen for the

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