

Spring 1967

# NOVA: University of Texas at El Paso TWC Magazine

The News and Information Service, University of Texas at El Paso

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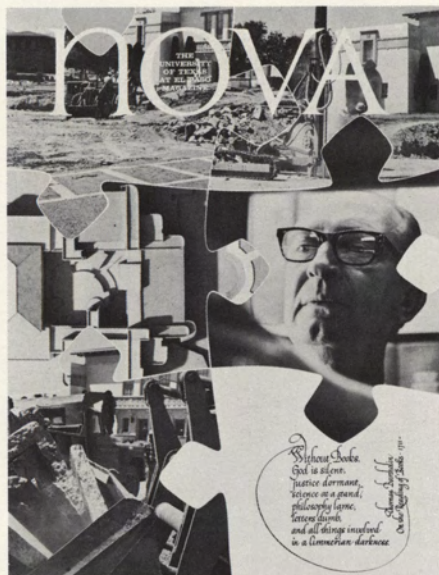
THE  
UNIVERSITY  
OF TEXAS  
AT EL PASO  
MAGAZINE



*Without Books,  
God is silent,  
justice dormant,  
science at a stand,  
philosophy lame,  
letters dumb,  
and all things involved  
in a limmerian darkness.*

*Thomas Bartholin  
On the Reading of Books - 1711 -*





The Spring NOVA cover design is the work of the magazine art director Bassel Wolfe and staff photographer Lee Cain.

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## NEW NAMES & AN OLD PLEA

There are four first-time contributors to this issue of NOVA, to which the management wishes to extend its thanks. Mrs. Dorothy Stroud and Dr. Bob Massey are members of the magazine Editorial Board and both are, of course, faculty members. Mrs. Esperanza Spyropoulos, author of the "El Paso and the Canaries" article is a charming member of our Department of Modern Languages. Miss Nancy Miller is Communications Specialist for El Paso Public Schools. She received her BA in journalism in 1949 and her MA in English in 1954 at Texas Western and is one of everybody's favorite people. Alan Ehmann is the other contributor this issue; a stalwart member of the board who has written excellently for every issue of NOVA. The Editor's thanks are also extended to Miss Bobbie Ford, News Office secretary, whose stamina and abilities will be missed as she graduates in August, and to Steele Jones who is always helpful.

It would probably be remiss, redundant, superfluous and boring to repeat NOVA's plea for contributors of items for the AlumNOVAs section so we simply won't repeat it this time.

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**SPRING, 1967**  
**Vol. 2, No. 3**

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When Dr. Scott Edwards, head of Mechanical Engineering, announces to his students that a particular wood provides excellent acoustical properties for making violins or violas, the statement might astonish them as much by its truth as its unexpectedness. But Dr. Edwards has made—and played—many a strange instrument, matching his ingenuity to his musical accomplishment. It is not surprising, however, to encounter a broad spectrum of backgrounds among our faculty, for professors often engage successfully in a variety of vocations before channeling their interests into teaching.

Of the more than 300 faculty members at the University of Texas at El Paso, nearly one-third report each year to the President that they engage part-time in work not assigned by the University. In some cases there is no apparent relationship between this work and their teaching. Some of these, for example, have been unable to relinquish completely former professions, feeling obligated to old clients or, possibly, being unwilling to give up pleasant occupational associations. A few others engage in off-campus employment which is really more a paid hobby than a professional commitment. Whatever the cause or definition, however, language teachers have been known to sell insurance, musicians to work as accountants, and education specialists to play in jazz bands.

But the majority of faculty members engaging in non-university employment actually employ their professional skills, or closely related ones, and often, indeed, sharpen them. U.T. El Paso in fact supplies consultants for a wide variety of business and industrial organizations needing highly educated specialists. Some of these have more or less permanent areas of work. Dr. Jess Hancock has for many years engaged in laboratory analysis for the medical profession. Paul Hassler, a licensed civil engineer, is regularly requested to prepare opinions on local construction. William Rivera studies and carries on research on nuclear effects at White Sands Missile Range.

Joan Quarm, of the English Department, demonstrates regularly how to write and how to evaluate the fine arts in her column for the El Paso Herald-Post. And Ralph Coleman, a professor of engineering, who has spent 21 of his 38 teaching years at U.T. El Paso, frequently spends summers working with Douglas Aircraft in Santa Monica or Convair Aircraft in San Diego, consulting with building contractors in El Paso, and preparing layouts for Beach Aircraft in Ft. Worth. Obviously these professors bring much to their teaching from their outside professional activities. After all, the work they are preparing their students to enter is usually off campus, and the professor should not

only understand it but be able professionally to survive in it.

The specializations of University teachers also carry them into work related to their teaching which often constitutes a real public service. Rex Gerald, head of the Centennial Museum, frequently is requested by the U.S. Park Service to examine prospective dam sites. The Park Service wants to make sure, before actual earthmoving operations are begun, that no valuable archeological sites will be disturbed. And Dr. James Day regularly conducts for the U.S. Bureau of Hearings and Appeals, interviews with persons seeking disability pensions from Social Security. Deciding whether such petitioners can be retrained, can be found limited employment, or should receive pensions is a decision requiring professional knowledge, not merely compassion. Experts like Dr. Day are rare: they possess both.

Certainly the outside work of faculty members has shifted drastically from times only a decade or so ago when many university professors were compelled to augment scant incomes. Salary augmentation is probably always pleasant, but the professor today as often wishes to make use of his skills, to serve the community in which he resides, to remain in contact with the vocational side of the profession for which he is training students. The Ivory Tower has fallen.

—Robert J. Massey



THE OFF CAMPUS WORLD: "the professor should not only understand it but be able professionally to survive in it."

## THE FALL OF THE IVORY TOWER



# THE CHANGING FACE, THE HALF-LIFE, IN EDUCATION

A graduate engineer now has a "half-life" of 10 years, according to top business officials; what he knows will be obsolete within a decade of his graduation.

Job competition now makes the high school diploma a bare minimum requirement; in the immediate future the minimum will be two years of college.

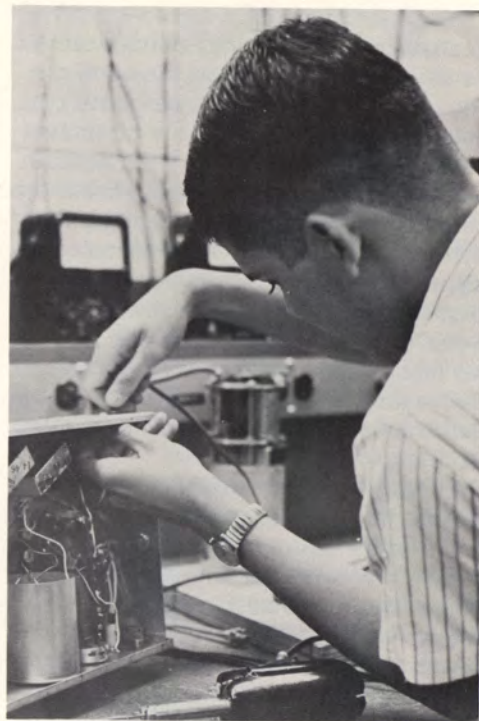
Business leaders foresee a 40-hour work week in which 32 hours will be devoted to the job and eight hours to on-the-job educational programs.

These facts of business life — the rapid obsolescence of educational training, the need for more and more educational background before going to work, and the necessity for continuing on-the-job training—have been facts of life in the teaching profession for some years now. And rightly so, since it is the teachers who prepare the people entering the kaleidoscopic business world.

The "half-life" of the engineer's training is no more alarming than that

of, say, the math teacher, dealing in a field in which more new knowledge has been developed in this century than in the entire previous history of the world. In the past few years, math teachers have been involved in producing new textbooks and teaching materials, learning to teach with them, and returning to college or taking in-service training in order to keep up.

The half-life statistic is also applicable to teachers of foreign languages, who now operate electronic laboratories as part of their every-day duties; science teachers, who must keep ahead of their students in space-age developments; English teachers, who must know more about linguistics and semantics than their predecessors; social science teachers, who must keep abreast of world affairs while developing a sense of history in their students; in fact, teachers in all the subject fields which have changed so vastly in so short a span of years.



Electronics is part of the high school curriculum now.

Demands on today's teachers are completely new. Never before have there been so many educated people. The classroom leaders trying to meet the demands are a far cry from the old stereotype of the School Teacher. (Remember her? Hair in a bun, Ben Franklin glasses, talked through her nose, wore full skirts and long-sleeved blouses, had no vices, hobbies, or family.) She may still live on in the late, late show, but she'd be hard put to cope with the questions facing today's school.

How do you train students to solve problems that don't yet exist? How do you train them for jobs that won't be created until 10 years from now? How do you teach them to answer questions that have never been asked?

The changing face of the educator is an indication of the changing face of education. As recently as 1948, 59.4 per cent of our nation's teachers did not have college degrees. Today more than 90 per cent have one degree and another 25 per cent have graduate degrees.

Compare these typical teachers:

1940	1967
Woman	Woman or man
Unmarried	Married, 2 children
Age 30	Age 38
3 years college	College graduate
Salary \$1440	Salary \$6253
Teaching 8 years	Teaching 12 years

Today's teacher is not only better looking and better prepared than that ludicrous stereotype on the late show, but is more involved in what is going on in the community and the nation. It



Mrs. Jo Anne Kirby this spring became the teacher of classes which she practice taught last fall. Upon completing her degree work at the University in January, she was able to step into the position of journalism teacher at Coronado High. Mrs. Kirby is a former El Paso Times reporter.



used to be illegal for teachers to have a say in politics; now they're running for, and winning election to, office. State Representative Raul Muniz is but one example. He was teaching at Bowie High School at the time of his election to the Texas Legislature. Now he is one of dozens of former teachers throughout the nation who have become legislators for improvements in education.

Competition for teachers has been heating up in the public schools of the nation for several years now. The new pressures on colleges and universities,

New emphasis also is being placed on articulation, the inter-relation of different levels of education for insuring continuous advancement in learning. The new dean of education at U.T. El Paso, Dr. John McFarland, is a natural in a role which calls for understanding of educational problems from preschool through university, having come here from the superintendency of Texas' largest school system, the Houston Public Schools.

Twenty years ago, public schools and universities had little to say to each

600 per year return to college, mostly to the local institution, to take courses leading to master's degrees, to attend special institutes for new information on their teaching fields, or for other reasons. The El Paso schools employ 75 per cent of U.T. El Paso's education graduates.

In spite of the teacher shortage, demands for even higher standards in teacher training are being aired in the profession. Internship programs similar to those of the medical and other professions have been recommended and are being tried by the National Teacher Corps. Demands are growing stronger that the teacher have more than a bachelor's degree and more than a year of practice teaching before being put in charge of a classroom.

As the teaching profession continues to change to meet the needs of a changing society, the structure through university level will continue to adjust to change. Implications for the future include improved recruitment of prospective teachers, provision for their continuing education (to keep abreast of the inexorable "half-life" statistic), and building of stronger standards of educational preparation for teachers in face of the greatest teacher shortage the nation has ever known.

—Nancy Miller



How do you teach children to answer questions that have never yet been asked?

with resulting needs for teachers, are becoming a factor in this demand. On the horizon is competition from industry which is building its own educational programs for training and re-training of personnel affected by technological change.

Then too, all the states currently have teacher shortages. In this respect, Texas is at its worst in 25 years, according to the Texas State Teachers Association. The state this year has 1,050 vacancies and 4,110 unqualified teachers employed.

Although Texas colleges graduated close to 9,000 persons prepared to teach last year, only 6,500 were employed in teaching upon graduation. An estimated 10,800 new teachers will be needed in the state in September, 1967.

Closely involved in meeting the needs for more and better trained teachers is the University of Texas at El Paso's new School of Education. The change from department to school last year is just one indication of the increasing importance of education at all levels.

other. Today they are working as partners in facing their myriad problems in educating and re-educating an ever-increasing public. U.T. El Paso is currently participating with two area educational research agencies in which other institutions of higher learning and public schools are involved, financed under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965.

Institutes for teachers in a variety of subjects such as remedial reading, teaching the bilingual child, science, and math are offered at our El Paso university as well as others under the National Defense Education Act and other federal legislation. The Upward Bound project, also federally financed, provides a link between high school students and U.T. El Paso to offer encouragement to students to pursue higher education who might not otherwise do so.

The El Paso Public Schools' 2,700 teachers and administrators include 1,314 graduates of the University of Texas at El Paso. Of those, more than



Data processing (Mrs. Wynnell Dryden of Technical High School is a 1952 U.T. El Paso graduate) has become a high school subject since the advent of computers in standard business offices. Schools — the teachers in them — are expected to keep up with such technology.



# A CASE OF IDENTITY

Although the University of Texas at El Paso is by no means an impersonal multiversity whose neglected students solicit attention through riots, vandalism, or mischief, it nonetheless enrolls some eight thousand students, many of whom have problems which require expert, trained counselors. Since the likelihood of successful academic work increases when the student is relieved of financial, vocational, domestic, or emotional problems, the University provides a broad complex of services for bewildered, disturbed, or simply disheartened students. The remarkable agency which provides these services is known simply as the Counseling Service.

According to Dr. Randolph Whitworth, head of the Service, it is not the "disturbed" student who most frequently enlists the aid of a counselor. Indeed, fundamental decisions such as the choice of a profession are among those which most often harass the college student. For this reason one of the principle functions of the Service is to test students for aptitudes, vocational interests, employment eligibility, and personality characteristics. It also provides individual attention for students whose problems result from occupational lethargy, academic difficulties, personal problems, or from difficulty in adjusting to campus life (many college students are away from home for the first time). And, of course, the office

provides the attention of licensed psychologists for students with emotional problems.

Finally, the Service aids other University departments. For example, it offers diagnosis and counseling in the case of disciplinary actions, provides facilities for one of the University's extension courses, participates in counseling veterans through a contract with Veterans Administration, and operates generally as a clearing house and referral service for persons requiring information about the multi-faceted University which has grown out of the one-time School of Mines.

As a testing agency authorized to administer virtually all standard national tests, it provides facilities for non-students as well as students. The Graduate Record Examination, Scholastic Aptitude Test, Miller Analogies Test and other examinations used widely by educational institutions throughout the nation can be taken at the Counseling Service. So can the Selective Service Qualification Test, a popular one nowadays, and the National Teachers Examination. The demands placed on the office are heavy, and testing of this kind is conducted almost every week.

A second variety of testing is vocational. Vocational counseling by the service is conducted primarily for regular students in the University, and they are eligible for vocational testing without charge, except for a nominal

fee for the scoring. The battery of tests employed here determine not only intelligence, aptitudes, and personality characteristics, but also measure the student's interest in college work. A common and too often legitimate complaint of students throughout the nation concerns inadequate counseling. At The University of Texas at El Paso, however, students are invited to take these tests, for the advice of well-meaning but often ill-informed friends or the ambiguous imperatives of fellow students who are often as confused themselves. Obviously the student is not the only one who benefits from such counseling. The University is spared the burden of squandering non-fruitful instruction on students who have not yet found their place in the wide spectrum of intellectual studies which a modern university must offer.

A third area consists of specialized testing, employing projective tests such as the Rorschach for a variety of purposes. Even specific diagnostic examinations to measure such things as reading ability are provided, usually at the request of a faculty member or psychological therapist.

Because of the excellence of its staff and facilities, the Service also works under a contract with the Veterans Administration. Under this program vocational counseling is provided to persons eligible for veterans' benefits. Some of these require rehabilitation; others



simply need retraining because of physical handicaps. Retired military personnel seeking new vocations are assisted, as are war orphans and the children of totally disabled veterans. A veterans Administration Counselor, paid from federal funds, is assigned to the Counseling Service to participate in this work.

The University itself, of course, employs many tests, such as those required for admission, and the Service evaluates the data obtained from these tests for the Admissions Committee. It also provides statistics which enable the University to develop sound admissions policies. Moreover, it conducts a continuing study which compares high school performance, test scores, and academic performance in the University. It can, as a matter of fact, predict the probability of a student's academic success with uncanny accuracy.

The El Paso community in general benefits from having a fully accredited testing agency in this area. Citizens frequently find it necessary to take tests required by business or educational institutions geographically remote from El Paso. In most cases arrangements can be made for them to be tested here instead of having to travel to these institutions. For example, an El Paso resident wishing to take nursing training at a New Orleans hospital can request that the entrance examination be sent to the testing agency here. The test will be administered under the exact condi-

tions specified by the hospital and will be returned with guarantees of proper test conditions and security.

The success of the Service's vocational counseling has led it into related programs as well. The U.T. El Paso Extension Service, for example, offers a course in speed reading and study methods. Since a program of this type employs the latest educational techniques, the Extension Service and the Counseling Service conduct the course jointly. The Extension Service is responsible for registration and administration of the course. The Counseling Service provides both the teachers and the equipment for the course, selecting the course material from the variety of standard packages made up by educational publishers. Extension courses such as this, of course, are available to all persons in the community, not just regular University students.

But the Counseling Service is not just a testing agency, and one of its most important duties is to counsel students enrolled in the University. Any regular student is eligible to receive without charge various kinds of counseling. Many students, for example, have doubts about their vocational choice and still more at least want the wisdom of their decisions confirmed through testing and interviews. Others have encountered academic difficulties in their university work and are anxious to determine the reason for and the solution

to their problem. These students frequently have problems more complex than most people, even faculty members, suspect; and individual cases often have little in common. The causes of poor performance in a specific course, for example, bear little analogy with cases where a student is performing poorly in all of his work.

Too often students in large schools are left to brood over their apparent deficiencies and resent what appears to be the unconcern of an impersonal educational leviathan. In some cases, in spite of enlightened admission policy, scholastic failure may be the result simply of poor academic aptitude, but in the majority of cases poor study habits, personality conflicts, "mental blocks" resulting from fear of failure, unpleasant experiences in previous schools, or even the identification of specific teachers with persons who have had disturbing and authoritative relationships with the student earlier in life account for academic under achievement.

In each case, trained counselors diagnose the student's problem and advise him how to meet it. There is no single advisory panacea for these students, Dr. Whitworth explains, and the counseling varies from intensive psychological counseling to such simple but effective techniques as working mathematics problems with a student to prove to him that he can solve them.



**DR. RANDOLPH H. WHITWORTH**, associate professor of psychology, is Director of the U.T. El Paso Counseling Service and the Veteran's Administration Counseling Service on campus.





Associate Psychology Professor Jack D. Bowles, who is assistant director of Counseling, is shown with Mrs. Judith D. Laumbach, psychometrist in service, working with a Wais Test device.

Still other students experience academic difficulty because of personal problems. These are frequently caused by purely circumstantial conditions as well as by psychological problems, or both. Financial pressures, domestic anxieties, and the problems of social adjustment on the campus often harass the student when the comforting presence of his family and old friends is lacking. The University of Texas at El Paso has fewer problems of this kind than many institutions of similar size, Dr. Whitworth explains, because of the large number of students who come from this immediate area and who maintain a strong sense of identity and achievement because of their off-campus associations. But many students, especially those far away from home, feel ignored, and the Service attempts to clarify their problems and to advise them of how they can integrate themselves successfully into the campus community.

Any large group of people is likely to include a number of persons who suffer from emotional problems, and a college campus is no exception. Students with such problems represent a relatively small percentage of those who seek aid from the Counseling Service, but their problems respond only to highly trained therapists, and the importance of helping them, for their own welfare and that of the institution is apparent. The complex nature of their problems and the

limited staff available for long-term therapy restricts somewhat the Service's work in this area. But it does what it can and will provide frequent counseling sessions over a long period of time for students it feels it can help. It also refers students to psychiatrists, when necessary, and in turn is frequently requested by psychiatrists having students as patients to provide supplementary counseling and testing. The Counseling Service works in close cooperation with local psychiatrists, and this cooperation has proved extremely successful. Dr. Whitworth emphasizes, however, that the student must seek aid, for the University has no desire nor authority to impress treatment on those who do not seek it voluntarily.

As is the case with psychotherapy off-campus, some of those needing counseling the most, unfortunately fail to request it. For this reason the Service stresses the promotion of mental health, of preventive therapy, and the work of dormitory counselors and the Deans is of tremendous importance in this program. Close liaison is maintained between Dr. Whitworth and the Deans, for they are allies after all: they share the common purpose of helping students.

This liaison also involves the Counseling Service in many disciplinary actions. The office, however, assists by offering diagnostic opinion and advise only and does not intrude into the dis-

ciplinary action of the University. The Deans responsible for supervising student life nowadays, however, are usually trained for this work, not just faculty members willing to accept additional responsibilities, and they are well aware that discipline problems often have an emotional basis. But the Counseling Service does not try to exonerate nor excuse the guilty student nor urge mitigation of punishment in all cases, Dr. Whitworth states firmly. It assumes, however, that punishment is prescribed not for revenge but to alter a student's behavior, and it often suggests what kind of treatment will change a student's behavior so that he and the University can attend to the real business of his education.

Finally, in addition to performing this assortment of tasks, the Counseling Service functions as a kind of informational clearing house, receiving questions of all kinds from the bewildered and directing them to appropriate departments in the University. It also provides information for prospective students and, during registration, assists freshmen who do not know what they wish to take or in what areas they wish to major.

And the Service also scores examination for other departments taken on standard I.B.M. forms. Coffee breaks are short in the Counseling Service.

—F. A. Ehmann



# THE REWARDING DISORDER



ALMOST DONE is the \$2 million Physical Sciences Building south of the main campus, scheduled to open this fall.

I suppose our campus looks something of a mess these days.

The area south of the Administration Building has all of the clutter and noise that goes with major construction as workmen move closer to completion of the \$2 million Physical Sciences Building.

As I look from my office, I can see bulldozers busily chewing away the lawn in front of the Library and tearing up part of the central triangle. Air compressors, trucks, and workmen with jack-hammers fill the portion of Wiggins Drive in front of the Library, and traffic is being re-routed around the closed street. All of this is necessary because of the \$1.5 million addition to our Library, a striking addition that is described in more detail elsewhere in this issue of NOVA.

There is more building to come. Soon after the Physical Science Building is occupied by the departments of Physics, Mathematics and Chemistry (in time for the fall semester, we hope), construction will begin on the expansion of the Union Building, at a cost of approximately \$2.5 million. This addition, which will virtually double the size of the present Union, will take most of the large parking lot to the east.

All of this will clutter our campus more than we have been accustomed to in recent years, but it is heartwarming to me to see the building rise and to watch our University grow. I think the temporary inconvenience is a small price for such growth.

We need all of these new buildings; indeed, we need several more. The new facilities will help every department—Music, for example, can take over part of the Physics Building to relieve its terrible over-crowding, and a \$500,000 computer center is even now operating from the third floor of Physics—soon to be renamed Old Main—but other departments are experiencing serious difficulties because of insufficient space and outdated facilities. The Schools of Education and Engineering are perhaps in greatest need.

We find ourselves in a situation that is not at all new and certainly not unique. Twenty years ago this institution was experiencing the same problems of growing faster than classrooms and laboratories could be provided, and colleges and universities today can keep ahead of growing enrollments.

Therefore, let us pause for a moment to delight in recent progress before galloping obsolescence in educational techniques and the much-discussed explosion in the world of knowledge produces needs for more buildings, more parking lots, new laboratory equipment, more faculty, more library holdings . . .

This is becoming a bigger and more complex University. We will have some 9,000 students next fall (and did you realize that only ten years ago our enrollment was 3,578?) We have programs that we could only yearn for a few years ago, programs that are now essential for routine performance at any self-respecting college or university. Computer research, laboratory equipment that did not exist a decade ago, a depth of library resources to support both our undergraduate work of high quality and our expanding graduate offerings.

Yes, the campus is torn up now, but the disorder is pleasing, really. It means that we are moving ahead.

—Joseph M. Ray



In the beginning, it took the College of Mines 23 years—from 1913 until 1936—to hire a professional librarian to care for the 12,000 or so books it had amassed and to offer library services to its student body. Since 1936, when Mr. Baxter Polk joined the staff of the Mines, the library's progress has been a remarkable upward spiral. Today, the U.T. El Paso Library, with 225,000 volumes, priceless research materials, and equally priceless services to the student and faculty member, is the nucleus of academic activity and, beginning April 1, \$1.5 million is being spent to make it even better.

The expansion of the campus library calls for four wings — including the present building — which will make room for about 450,000 volumes in holdings as compared to the present capacity, over-spilled in offices and hallways, of 200,000. The completed build-

ing addition, connected to the present structure, will enclose a central patio and pool and will incorporate some of the Bhutanese characteristics which distinguish the architecture of the University. (See editor's note on the architecture of the new library building.)

Buildings—even completed ones—are difficult to describe but the following check-list of improvements and changes to be made in the new library sheds some light on the subject:

✓ Reading tables and chairs, now in a separate area except in the reference rooms, will be placed among the stack areas. These will more than double the present seating capacity.

✓ There will be 26 closed study carrels (a small enclosure or space in the stack-rooms of a library, designed for study or reading by individual patrons) to be used primarily

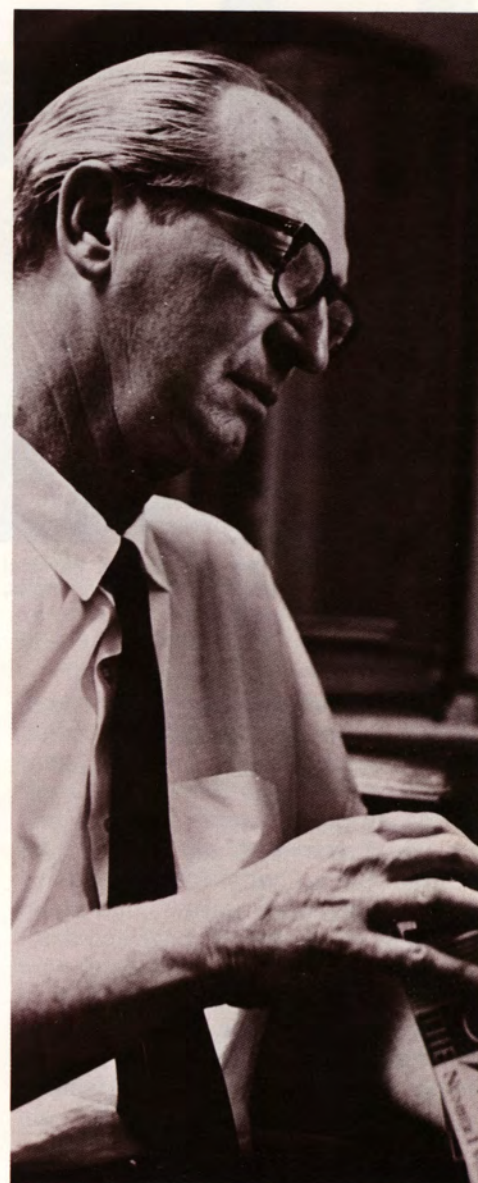
by faculty. Presently there are six such carrels.

✓ There will be 70 desk-type carrels for individual study and 22 sound-proof, studio style student study carrels to accommodate four or fewer. At present the library has neither.

✓ In the new building, rest-rooms in addition to facilities for typing and copy-making, will be located in the tower-like structures at the front of the building.

✓ Rather than being relegated to a small room as it now is, the card catalogue will be located in the main lobby furnished with tables and chairs. Here a reader's advisor will be stationed to give assistance. (Thus giving aid to all who need it including the kind of bewildered student who once complained he had been assigned to read something from the

## THE NEW, WELL-USED, CAMPUS LIBRARY



Mr. Polk, U.T. El Paso Librarian since 1936.



Bible but didn't know who wrote it.)

✓ On the main floor will be located a reading room which can be opened for study when the main library is closed.

✓ The library will also have available for special reservation, a small auditorium for those wishing to show movies, slides and film strips.

✓ Major collections (English, history, and other social sciences) will be separated from the continuity of the Dewey Decimal System and will be filed separately on various floors. Education and engineering books will also have separate shelving as will such special collections as that of Dr. John H. McNeeley's marvelous collection of books in Spanish.

✓ The library is now collecting rare Mexican documents which will be made available in the new archives collection. The primary concentration

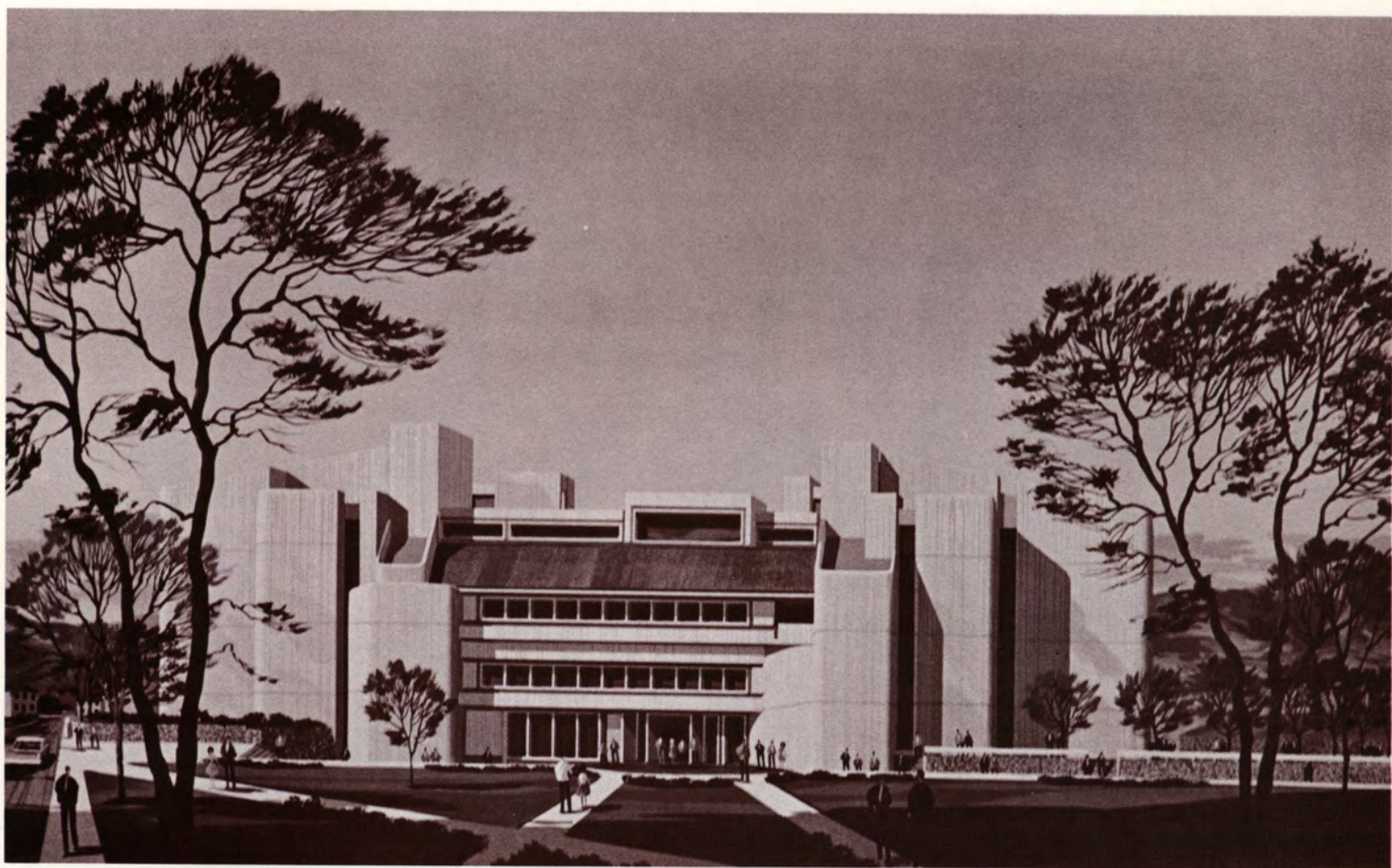
here is on Mexican border materials which include consular and diplomatic dispatches on all ports of entry on the border to about 1915. These are secured on microfilm from the National Archives in Washington, D. C.

It will be of little surprise to those who frequent the U.T. El Paso library but of considerable surprise to those who do not, that the library already contains many fine collections and many significant research tools and is constantly adding to both. For example, the library has a complete file of the New York Times, from the paper's founding in 1851 to the present. This file, enormously valuable to any researcher and scholar, is now carefully indexed from 1912 forward and will be completely indexed in the spring of 1968. The library is also completing its files of the London Times, dating from its founding

in 1785. The Juarez archives, documents dating from 1726, and the archives of Hidalgo del Parral, dated 1631-1821, are additional valuable holdings.

Shakespearean scholars will know that the library has the complete 27-volume set of the Chronicles of England, source material for all of Shakespeare's histories. Also among the holdings are the proceedings and transactions of the Royal Society of London. These include the Darwin investigations, reports on the laws of thermodynamics, Mendel's laws, and African explorations (not the least of which are those of Dr. David Livingstone and the man James Gordon Bennett sent to find him, Henry M. Stanley.) Students of history will, in addition, be impressed by the Hansard Series — the proceedings of British Parliament since 1066.

Other research materials in the U.T.



Looking west at the front entrance of the new Library.



El Paso library include the National Union Catalogue of the Library of Congress which includes everything stored in that vast ocean of knowledge—over 40,000,000 separate items. The library can secure most of these items for a patron on inter-library loan. In the event an item cannot be loaned, photo duplicate copies can be obtained. The subject catalogue of the national library holdings is now being prepared. The campus library also has microfilm copies of each U.S. Census Report since 1780.

Through the efforts of Dr. Joseph M. Ray and Congressman Richard C. White, the University library is now a depository for U.S. government documents. Actually provisions allow for only one depository for each congressional district, but Representative White proved that there was a definite need for the additional one which was estab-

lished here in September, 1966. The documents in the depository are catalogued by subject and by issuing bureau and are of particular value to students of history, political science and geology.

For many years, Librarian Baxter Polk has been, inadvertently, a rare book consultant and he relishes some of his experiences in that capacity: the caller who wondered about the worth of **Moses** (sic) **from an Old Manse** by Nathaniel Hawthorne and was disappointed that even a first edition of the book isn't worth a small fortune; the caller who said she had a book of Civil War poems printed in 1863 and wondered if the book was **old**; and those who check on the worth of their family Bibles (only about eight editions of the Bible have any great monetary worth) to name a few.

When the new library opens, rare

books will no longer be such an inadvertent subject. Displays of rare books, maps and documents will periodically be shown in the main lobby of the new building and a closed-stack Rare Book Room will be established. As a beginning rare book collection, Mr. Polk says, the library already has many rare first editions of Mark Twain's works, a set of the limited None Such Press edition of Charles Dickens' works, a collection of letters from H. L. Mencken and manuscripts and letters of El Paso-born author Owen Payne White. In addition the room will contain rare books and documents on Southwestern history.

A significant addition to the library staff this fall will be that of a full-time archivist, a man who will be curator of rare books and unpublished manuscripts and expert in ferreting out such materials to add to the library collections. According to Baxter Polk, "The



Picking up where we left off. The mess, the dust, the wall-shaking explosions have only begun.



addition of an archivist to our staff represents a concerted effort on the part of the U.T. El Paso library to preserve the elements of local history and all its ramifications in one location. Ultimately our historical collections will be extensive enough to attract researchers from all over the nation."

In that same connection, the library will have facilities for properly caring for documents and personal papers of distinguished citizens who wish to deposit them for posterity.

An important factor contributing to the library's future growth is the idea of Memorial Endowments. Such an endowment, which will purchase one book per year forever, can be established with the campus library for \$100. The name of the person in whose name the endowment is established will be included in each book. Such endowments have been established in the names of

James L. and L. Vere Leasure, Mrs. Elizabeth Cram Polk, Mr. and Mrs. Emanuel Kline, and Mr. John A. P. Romer.

In the Mission '73 Report it is said, "An adequate library for an institution of high caliber with a student body of 10,000 to 12,000 and offering an expanded graduate program, as is envisioned for the College by 1973, should have at least 500,000 volumes . . . Charting the course for the development of the library in the years ahead will require the best efforts of administrative personnel, department heads and the Library staff . . . The needs of the Library should be made widely known and support should be requested from all possible sources." It is in this spirit that the University of Texas at El Paso Library is moving upward in size and importance.

—Dorothy Stroud

## A NOTE ON THE ARCHITECTURE

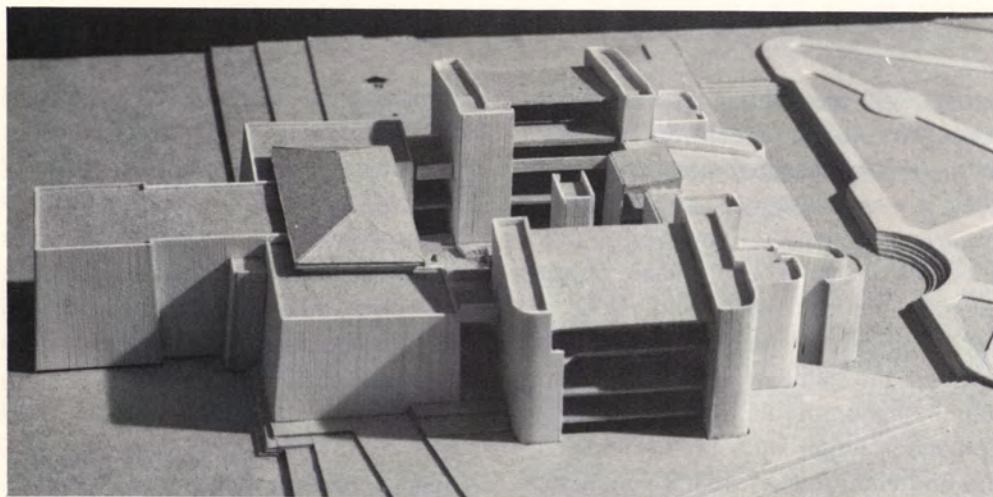
Much could be said, and no doubt will be said, about the architecture of the new, expanded, U.T. El Paso Library. Questions of its harmonizing with the other campus buildings and of maintaining the Bhutanese style of the campus are already being raised although not an iota of construction of the new building proper has yet been done. NOVA has asked three people, all closely tied to the new library project, for their views on the architecture of the new building and their answers are presented herewith:

**Mr. Edwin Carroll**, partner in the El Paso firm of Carroll, Daeuble, DuSang and Rand, architects for the building: "The new library addition, in its general building masses, its controlled glass areas, its massive concrete structure, its colored sloping roofs and the texture and color of its exterior walls, carries out in a fresh approach the theme of the older and newer buildings on the campus. The general color scheme has changed through the years from a rusty brown on the earlier buildings to the current ivory color that has been utilized for the past decade or so."

**Mr. Baxter Polk**, Librarian: "The new library has been designed for function and beauty and while there are some differences in its design over other campus buildings, it is actually incorporating other Bhutanese stylistic hallmarks rather than departing from the style."

**Dr. Joseph M. Ray**, president: "While it will be somewhat different from the other buildings, the new library will be compatible and in harmony with the style of building this institution has developed over the 53 years of its history. The most serious dislocation, I think, is the fact that in expanding the building, the triangle area will necessarily be somewhat changed. We have a beautiful campus and I think we all can agree that the new library building can have no effect save to heighten that beauty."

—Editor



Model of the new Library from the south elevation.



**Author's note:** One day last April, someone left on my desk a collection of travel pamphlets about Spanish-speaking cities. My attention was focused on one, labeled in large print, "El Paso." Here was my opportunity, I reflected, to learn about and become acquainted with this international city, and to be "au courant" on her tourist attractions. But to my amazement, the city under consideration turned out to be El Paso, Island of La Palma, Archipelago of Canary Islands, Spain.

That same afternoon I began making inquiries. I wrote to "Gestoría Comillas" an information bureau in Santa Cruz de la Palma, and I received an answer from Mr. Octavio Merino Valero, secretary to the mayor in El Paso, La Palma. In addition I wrote to the Spanish Embassy in Washington, D. C. and received from them pamphlets about the Canary Islands but no specific information about El Paso. Finally I wrote to the "Alcaldía de la Ciudad de El Paso" (city hall) and received an answer from Dr. Antonio Pino Pérez, the city's official reporter.

—Esperanza Medina de Spyropoulos



EL PASO (La Palma), Paisaje Típico, the typical landscape.

El Paso, La Palma has a population of about 6,000, approximately 40 inhabitants per square kilometer. The ancestors of this people are, for the most part, the Galicians, Andalucians and Portuguese who inhabited the island during colonial times. There is also a small minority who claim to be descendants of the aborigines, the Guanches.

A tribe of noble, industrious and corpulent people, the Guanches, or Auritas, lived in caves. They were swift runners, nimble jumpers and very skillful in rock hurling. Their favorite sport was a type of boxing from which the present "lucha canaria" (Canarian fight) originates. Their food consisted of roots, fruits, goat's milk and meat, which they ate with "gofio". The latter, which was eaten as bread, was prepared with the flour from the seeds of the "amagante", a wild tree, kneaded with goat's milk. The goat was also valuable for its fat, used in all their medicinal preparations.

The origin of the name El Paso is analogous to that of our El Paso, Texas, since El Paso, La Palma is located at the crossroads between north and south, east and west of the island. Another name given to this "city of almonds"

was El Paso de Taburiente because in order to go to the Caldera de Taburiente, worship place of the ancient Guanches, it was necessary to go by El Paso. However, an aura of mystery is cast about its ancient spelling Pazo. Subsequently, the city was called Fields of Tacande, (burned land). Later the city received the name of El Paso del Capitán in honor of the Spanish Captain Fernández Lugo, who, in the name of the Catholic Kings of Spain, conquered the entire Island of La Palma.

Two representative landmarks in El Paso are the almond trees, in full bloom during February and the Caldera de Taburiente, extinct volcano, now a National Park.

"La Isla de la Palma, Doña Esperanza, es bella. Se la conoce por la Isla Verde, y El Paso concretamente es igualmente bello. Ahora en febrero los almendros se hallan ya en flor y hay tantos y tantas son las tonalidades." Mr. Merino Valero says that the Island of La Palma, also known as the Green Island, is very beautiful and that the city of El Paso is especially lovely in February when the almond trees, abundant everywhere, beautify the landscape with radiance and splendor of their variety of hues. Mr. Merino Valero also

mentions that El Paso claims one of Spain's National Parks, the Caldera de Taburiente. This famous peak rises above a volcanic amphitheatre to a height of 2,000 meters above sea level and covers an area of 28 kilometers in perimeter. Thriving in the crater of this extinct volcano are hundreds of stately pine trees.

This small city of El Paso does not suffer from illiteracy or juvenile delinquency. There are twenty-one elementary schools, one intermediate school, "Colegio de Enseñanza Media" and one legitimate theatre, all of which, besides living quarters for the "señores profesores" (teachers), were built through municipal school bonds and by certified professional architects. One movie theatre and one hotel with several terraces provide for teenage gatherings. Other public service buildings include the city hall, three catholic churches, a football field, a telephone-telegraph-post office building, a health center and the island's long-standing school of sericulture.

The economy of this community is supported mainly by the products cultivated for export: almonds, cheese, lumber, wines, and tobacco. Sericulture, the silk worm industry, has been in ex-



# EL PASO AND THE CANARIES



Another view of El Paso, La Palma, Archipelago of the Canary Islands.

istence for hundreds of years and many townspeople continue their lifelong tradition of embroidering linen materials. A variety of fruits grow in the mild climate: pears, oranges, lemons, guayas, bananas, tomatoes, mangoes, papayas, and pineapples. The production of excellent cigars is the latest expression of the islander's ingenuity to promote the economy.

Well-built highways and adequate roads join the scattered houses perched on the slopes of the mountain meadows, making every spot accessible by motor vehicle. Water is furnished to the city through a system of covered aqueducts, although in some regions water is referred to as "oro blanco" (white gold) and it reaches astronomical prices. Many farmers transport water and soil to the dry valleys in order to grow the profitable banana crops.

Although influenced by the Andalusian and Portuguese cuisines, the Canarian cuisine differs from them on account of its local origins. El Paso's staple nutrition is the "gofio amasado", which dates to the Guanches and is prepared with flour from roasted wheat or maize kneaded with milk or water and salt; it is eaten as bread with eggs

and beef, daily diet of many El Pasoans. "Mojo de queso" is made of olive oil, paprika, Guinea peppers and cheese, to be eaten on fish or potatoes.

"Since we are gourmands at heart," says Dr. Pino Pérez, "our pastries and desserts are much more interesting." The local range of confectionery is highly varied: "almendrados," queso de almendras," and "bienmesabe" (meringue) are prepared with almonds as a basis, milk and honey. Other desserts include "tocino de cielo" (heavenly bacon), "bonbón gigante" (giant bon bon) and the "gato moca" (mocha cat). The ingredients are almonds, honey, figs and maize which, when mixed in a dozen ways, make exquisite sweetmeats. The cuisine of the rest of the Island of La Palma, and of all the Canary Islands is based on four essential ingredients: fish of various types, pork, beef and potatoes.

The Canary Islands have been described as a miniature continent because nature has provided them a fertile landscape capable of growing a variety of plant life from Europe, Africa and America: pinewoods, lime groves, vineyards, coffee, banana and tobacco plantations; almond trees, sugar-cane

and tomato farms. Nowhere is there such a variety of scenery: from barren sandy wilderness to mountain sides covered with tropical undergrowth.

Since the 15th century when Columbus visited Las Palmas, capital city of Gran Canaria, on his voyages of discovery, the Canaries have been a stepping-stone in transatlantic navigation, and their prosperity was forever linked to shipping and international trade. Because of their great beauty, wealth and incomparable climate, the Canary Islands have long been known as the "Islas Afortunadas" (Fortunate Islands). The Arabs referred to them as Kaledat (eternal) while in ancient times the mythical Elysian Fields were located here, and the Canaries were known as the Garden of the Hesperides. The Roman, Pliny, wrote that the archipelago was formed from the mountain tops of the submerged continent of Atlantis.

For the Greeks and Romans of twenty centuries ago, the Canary Islands were a faraway world of marvels, myths, and legends. For us in the Twentieth Century, El Paso, La Palma is a city of marvelous beauty surrounded by lush acres of almond and pine trees, a quick half-world away.

E. M. de S.





## REX STRICKLAND RETIRES

**'the things  
I have done  
all my life'**



For 45 years, 31 of them at U.T. El Paso, Dr. Rex Strickland has been a historian, teacher, researcher (traveller and habitue of libraries), and writer. When he retires July 15, Dr. Strickland intends to remain a historian, to teach, research, travel, frequent libraries, and write, just as before. "These are the things I have done all my life," he says, "and I like them. Retirement for me simply means less time in the classroom, more in the library."

Rex Wallace Strickland was born August 22, 1897, in Bells, Texas, not far from Sherman. Before coming to the Texas College of Mines in 1936, his career encompassed study at Austin College (BA '27), Southern Methodist College (MA '29), and the University of Texas at Austin (Ph.D '37). He was superintendent of schools in Bells and Van Horn, instructor in history at the Main University, and assistant professor of history at Mississippi Southern.

Dr. Strickland became full professor of history at Texas Western College in 1949 and head of the Department of History in 1957, a position he held until 1962 when he was recipient of the college's first research professorship.

His published works include "History of Fannin County, Texas," "Old Biloxi," "Miller County, Arkansas Territory: the Frontier that Men Forgot," "Moscoso's Journey Through Texas," **The Turner Thesis and the Dry World, Six Who Came to El Paso**, and **W. W. Mills' Forty Years at El Paso** which he edited and which he maintains is his most important historical contribution in writing.

At one time or another, Dr. Strickland has, in his 45-year career, taught the whole panorama of American history—sometimes super-distilled into one or two semesters. In such survey courses, he admits, he has often had to push himself past the Jacksonian Era, the Frontier Era and the Post-Civil War Era. These, plus the Republic of Texas and the Trans-Mississippi West before and after the Mexican War of 1848, are his specialties, and specializing in history, Dr. Strickland says, is an absolute necessity. "If I had to single out one great advancement made here at this university, and in others around the country, in the teaching of history, I would say

it is the expansion of the teaching staffs in history. One man cannot possibly cover the range of American history. I have detected no great changes in the techniques of teaching history over the years except for this specialization."

Among other changes Dr. Strickland has noted, one is a fortunate fact of life for the student and teacher, and another remains to be fully implemented: "As one who has lived a considerable portion of his life in libraries, I think the relative ease of research these days is remarkable. Our own library is a good example of it. The advances in accumulating source material—microfilming, copy machines, and the rest—makes one wonder about the hours and months he spent in hand-copying and running down out-of-the-way newspaper accounts and obscure documents. Today the reservoir of source material is overflowing and the documents of generations of history can found in a file drawer of microfilm."

One change that is not yet fully appreciated nor yet fully implemented, Dr. Strickland says, bears on the teaching of history, not so much the technique as the theory: "Too frequently, it seems to me, we tend to teach history as if each student was a history major. Our courses become more and more pedantic and we often lose sight of the object of higher education which is to make decent human beings of our students so that they can cope with the complexities of modern society. Education as I see it is likely to die from too much learning, from an insistence upon dead knowledge and inert ideas. Scraps of information have little to do with culture, the end product desired in education. Mere pedantry and routine can kill the intellectual ferment quicker than a plague. In brief, education is always an adventure; it seeks to enlarge the horizons of man's understanding of himself and his universe. But, if I mistake not, we must educate whole men and not just parts of men. Mark Van Doren has said this: that the whole man seeks truth and that 'Truth may be remote, but not to care how remote it is puts one in Dante's dark circle of those who lived without blame and without praise, but were for themselves; who from cowardice made the great refusal; who lost the

good of the intellect, and so were never alive.' I subscribe to that."

Dr. Kenneth B. Shover, head of the Department of History at U.T. El Paso, said of his colleague's impending retirement: "To assess adequately Rex Strickland's contribution to the historical profession and to this department would require many more words than I am permitted. His scholarship in Texas history has been especially noteworthy. Rupert Richardson, in his **Texas, the Lone Star State**, notes with particular favor Professor Strickland's research on Anglo-American migration into northeast Texas in the early nineteenth century; and the renowned Herbert Eugene Bolton has commended his work on early French explorations in east Texas. But an entire generation of students would argue that his most significant work has been in the classroom and in the seminar. More than anyone else, they would testify to the universality of his interests, his erudition, and the extraordinary range of his knowledge. Those of us who have had the good fortune to be his colleagues would emphatically concur. There are few academicians (and getting to be fewer) who can expound so authoritatively on such diverse figures as Arnold Toynbee, Lawrence Durrell, and Ty Cobb.

"The University of Texas at El Paso has made enormous progress in the thirty-one years since he joined its faculty—progress to which he has signally contributed. It will undoubtedly continue to grow and improve, but it will necessarily be poorer for the departure of such men as Rex Strickland."

Dean C. L. Sonnichsen, his friend of 30 years, adds a personal note. "Since 1936," he says, "all of us on this campus who have an interest in the American West have profited by Rex Strickland's encyclopedic knowledge and cheerful helpfulness. It has always been easy to pick up the telephone or drop by his office and ask a question. With no hesitation he would come up with dates, sources, parallel situations, humorous anecdotes and modern commentaries. Always willing to swap views and information, he has been a staff for the faculty as well as students to lean on, and we hope he stays within reach after he retires."



# ALUM NOVA S'

In a passle of interesting mail to NOVA after last issue, two of the most interesting letters were those from QM2 **Jeffrey Berry ('66)** aboard the U. S. S. Neosho and Mrs. **Barbara Banner Root ('52)** of Wee Waa, New South Wales, Australia. A perfectly fascinating account of Barbara, her husband Wandall "Stub" Root and their children's pioneering life amongst the cotton-fields Down Under will appear in the summer issue of NOVA. Jeff Berry thinks he is on his way to Vietnamese waters and if so, will send us some dispatches about life aboard ship and on liberty ashore. Meantime, we move on to other whereabouts and doings of Mines-TWC-U.T. El Paso people:

**John H. Gray ('48)** of the Munoco Company in El Dorado, Arkansas comments on the Winter issue of NOVA, specifically "Geology: Direction '67". He suggests that "verbose" is a better word than "prosaic" to describe George McBride. **Mary Anne Szoke Porcher ('52)** is coauthor of "The Playgroup Book" recently published by Macmillan Company. She is teaching in a New York nursery school. **Jack Simcox** has purchased a gift shop in Cincinnati, Ohio. He attended U.T. El Paso in 1953-56. He writes that **Ruben Salazar ('54)**, is working for the Los Angeles Times. **William B. Moorer ('57)** received a Bachelor of Divinity in 1961 from Perkins School of Theology, Southern Methodist University. He is now campus minister of the Wesley Foundation at Oklahoma State University.

**Thomas Willard Trumbull ('59)** received the M.A. degree from Colorado State College in March at Winter commencement ceremonies. **J. L. Wilson ('64)** has been awarded a diploma in law from LaSalle Extension University of Chicago. **Stephen A. Edwards ('64)** has joined the Educational Book Division of Prentice-Hall in the area of West Texas and New Mexico. **Mary Gwen Frank ('65)** is a Peace Corps volunteer at the Gumaca Central School in Gumaca, Quezon, Philippine Islands.

A recent edition of Editor and Publisher, the bible of newspaper management, ran a full-page advertisement on the back cover featuring four young men from El Paso. The ad was titled "Where Youth is Served". Three of the four are U.T. El Paso exes and are employed at the El Paso Herald-Post: **Rudy Ramirez ('66)**, general assignments; **Charles Horkey ('61)**, city hall; and **Clyde Huchet ('63-'66)**. They joined forces with other exes: **Jane Pemberton ('44)**, top woman reporter; **Jerry Burkes ('59-'63)**, copy editor and outdoor editor; and **John Trollinger ('67)** photographer and former NOVA staffer.

News of other journalism grads: **Ed Engledow ('50-'53)** is now in Honolulu as general assignments reporter for the Star Advertiser. He was city editor of the El Paso Times, and was personal secretary to the Governor of Guam. **Sam Pendergrast ('57)** recently left his job as editor of the Santa Rosa, N. M. News to return to Hollywood to again resume his work as a movie script writer. **John Fitch ('61)** is working in Washington for the State Department's Information Services.

**Henri Rettig ('62)** is with the El Paso firm, Broadcast Services. **Mike Ryan ('62)**, director of student publications at Odessa College, was busy as contest director of the TIPA for 1967. **Bill Coleman ('63)** has been jumped from place to place in UPI news bureaus. **Roger Haynes ('63)** recently returned

from State Department duty in the Far East and has settled in Houston where he is teaching school. **Alfred Ortega (MA '63)** is at Harvard University working toward the Ph.D. degree in languages.

**Don Redmond ('63)** is working with the State Department in Taiwan (Formosa). **Ross Snyder ('63)** is in the public relations department of the Florida Power and Light Company in Miami. **Ron Watson ('67)**, business manager of the Prospector in 1966, has gone on to the University of Missouri to work on the M.A. degree in advertising. **Jeff Berry ('66)** is a quartermaster in the Navy and for the past six months has been assistant navigator aboard the USS Neosho, an auxiliary oiler. He expects to go to Viet Nam in a few weeks.

The whereabouts of Engineering graduates: **Albert Viescas ('30)**, **C. O. Walker ('38)**, and **Vic La Fave ('52)** are all employed at El Paso Natural Gas Company. **Fred Bailey ('20)** has retired and is living in El Paso. **Tom Woodside ('25)** is general manager of the American Smelting and Refining Company in El Paso. **Jack Nelson ('27)** retired from ASARCO. **Ben Roberts ('36)** is doing mining engineering consulting work which takes him all over the world. **Henry Bagley ('38)** is in California working for Hicks-Ponder.

**John Lance ('38)** is with the geology department at the University of Arizona. **Robert Benson ('39)** manages the Ingersoll-Rand Company in El Paso. **John Harshbarger ('42)** is head of the Department of Geology at the University of Arizona. **Texas S. Ward ('49)** has a law practice in El Paso. **Walter Roser ('57)** is professor of metallurgy at U.T. El Paso. **Herbert Bell ('63)** is with Pan American Petroleum in Andrews, Texas.

There have been changes made: **Dr. J. J. Hemley ('49)** is visiting professor of geology for the spring quarter at California Institute of Technology. He is a geologist and geochemist with the United States Geological Survey in Menlo Park, California. **Marlin Haines ('51)** and **Eric Nelson ('52-'59)** have both been promoted at Doubleday Broadcasting Co. Mr. Haines was named operations manager and TV news anchorman at KROD-TV in El Paso. Mr. Nelson was named program director of KDTV in Dallas. **Mrs. Anne Cunningham (MA '62)** is one of 30 Texas teachers to visit Latin American countries this summer



David O. Leeser

under the Programa de Educacion Interamericana of Texas A & M University. Mrs. Cunningham will go to Peru. She is a teacher at Coronado High School in El Paso.

Awards and honors: **David O. Lesser ('43)** (see photo), chief scientist for Chrysler's Florida operations, was named Engineer of the Year by the Florida Engineering Society. He was picked for his contributions to the understanding of nuclear radiation effects on materials. He has aided in the development of nuclear reactors and has participated in the development of the first fast breeder nuclear power system for private industry. He is a member of several engineering and honorary organizations, is the author of 20 open technical publications, and has been a delegate to international atomic energy conferences in Geneva, Switzerland and Vienna, Austria.

**James R. Martin ('41)** was presented the Post Office Department's meritorious service award for outstanding work as Acting Director of the Department's Denver Region. He is director of the Dallas Postal Data Center. **Dr. Vernie A. Sembridge ('43)** received the Caldwell Award of the Texas Society of Pathologists, highest award given by that organization. He is professor of pathology at The University of Texas Southwestern Medical School and is married to the former **Aileen Marston ('44)**. **George Davis ('52)** was named "Outstanding Alumnus" by the Texas Gamma Chapter of Sigma Alpha Epsilon at their Founders Day banquet. He is a partner in an El Paso firm of Certified Public Accountants.

**Miss Marjorie Graham ('51-'53)** is the recipient of a Ford Foundation fellowship in the Urban Journalism Center at Northwestern University. She has been on the staff of The El Paso Times for 12 years. **Sal Ramirez ('58)** received the 28th annual Distinguished Service Award given by the El Paso Junior Chamber of Commerce. He is executive director of El Paso Boys Club and an active youth worker. **Jose Pablo Garcia (MA '65)**, a member of the foreign language department at Highlands University, Las Vegas, New Mexico, was named one of 20 teachers to attend an eight-week summer seminar in Germany. He will leave in June and return in August.

In uniform and war: **John E. Parks ('52)** was promoted to Army lieutenant colonel recently in Viet Nam. Army Reserve **Maj. John D. Patton ('52)** is undergoing a tour of active duty training with the U. S. Army Corps in Austin. **Samuel M. Trevino ('61)** has been promoted to captain in the U. S. Air Force. He is weapons controller at Elgin AFB, Florida. **Jimmie L. Gray ('63)** is an aircraft maintenance officer in Viet Nam. He is a member of the Air Force Communications Service.

**Michael I. Guthrie ('63)** has been commissioned a second lieutenant in the U. S. Air Force. He graduated from Officer Training School at Lackland AFB, Texas. **Charles E. Bryant ('61-'65)** has been promoted to Airman 1-C in the U. S. Air Force. He is an aircraft equipment repairman at Lockbourne AFB, Ohio. **Antonio Encinas ('62-'65)** has been selected for technical training at Sheppard AFB, Texas as an aircraft maintenance specialist. **Michael T. Francis ('64-'65)** has been promoted to Airman 2-C in the U. S. Air Force. He is an aircraft mechanic at Travis AFB, California.

**Fred L. Gerth ('65)** is a first lieutenant and commanding officer stationed in Kirchgoens, Germany. **Maj. William F. Brotbeck (MA '65)** has been decorated with the U. S. Air Force Commendation Medal at Ent AFB, Colorado. He was given the medal for meri-



torious service as an operations support officer at Hofn Naval Installation, Iceland. **Jesus Castillo ('63-'66)** has been selected for technical training at Chanute AFB, Illinois as a missile electronics specialist. **Jack E. Bennett, Jr. ('63-'66)** has been selected for technical training at Keesler AFB, Mississippi as a communications electronics specialist.

**Freddie G. Higgins ('66)** has been assigned to Norton AFB, California after completing basic training. He will be trained as a statistical data specialist. **David T. Roen ('66)** has been commissioned a second lieutenant in the U. S. Air Force upon graduation from Officer Training School. He has been assigned to Mather AFB, California for navigator training. **Barry L. Strauss ('66)** has been commissioned a second lieutenant in the U.S. Air Force upon graduation from Officer Training School. He has been assigned to Reese AFB, Texas for pilot training. **Jeannie Todaro ('67)** has been received her commission in the U. S. Navy. Ensign Todaro will go to Officers' Indoctrination School in Newport, Rhode Island. She is a former Prospector editor.

Late-arriving alum notes: **Jason D. Baron ('63)** has been awarded an internship in medicine at Los Angeles County Hospital. He will receive a doctor of medicine degree from the University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston. **Hussein A. Krimly ('66)** writes that he is in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia.

On April 11, the Alumni Fund for U.T. El Paso was launched in the Dallas-Ft. Worth area at a meeting in the home of Mrs. Gilbert Alan Pate of Dallas. **Gil Pate ('54)** is the Dallas chairman, William E. Pasteur is his Ft. Worth counterpart. A week later, a banquet was held at Pancho's Restaurant, attended by over 40 of our alumni. Rabbi Levi Olan, a Regent of the University System, spoke to the group on the implications and responsibilities resulting from the recent name-change. **Robert C. Heasley ('53)**, vice-chairman of the 1967 Alumni Fund followed Rabbi Olan and told of the fund's part in meeting those responsibilities. **Dr. Curt Spier ('56)** and Gil Pate served as masters of ceremonies.

## CAPSULES

News Briefs From  
the UTEP Campus



**Mrs. Bulah Patterson**

Mrs. Bulah Liles Patterson, assistant professor of mathematics and senior faculty member at U.T. El Paso, will retire from her teaching duties in July.

Mrs. Patterson, who has been teaching 45 years, joined the faculty of the College of Mines in 1927. She received her B.A. degree



from The University of Texas at Austin and her M.A. degree from the University of Chicago.

"What caused me to keep teaching was the progress some students made from the time they entered until they left," Mrs. Patterson said. "My efforts have all been worthwhile and I have gotten a great deal of satisfaction from teaching."

When she first started teaching here, she had five classes a day with 40 students in each class. The student body was small enough that she knew all of her students well. The assemblies and outside social events, which students and faculty members attended, made it possible to become better acquainted with them. She said that now that enrollment is so large she rarely sees any of her students outside of the classroom.

Mrs. Patterson has not made any definite plans for her retirement, but she intends to read to travel with her husband, and she said, "I'll miss teaching because I've been in a classroom all my life."

## NEWS NOTES

U. T. El Paso's H. Y. Benedict Professors presented a series of four lectures from February through May in a program of "continuing education" sponsored by the Ex-Students' Association. The professorship recognizes those faculty members whose scholarly contributions have reflected honor on the school. The faculty members named to the professorship are Dr. C. L. Sonnichsen, dean of the graduate school and professor of English; Dr. Patrick Romanell, professor of philosophy; Dr. Thomas I. Cook, professor of political science; and Dr. Harold F. Harding, professor of speech.

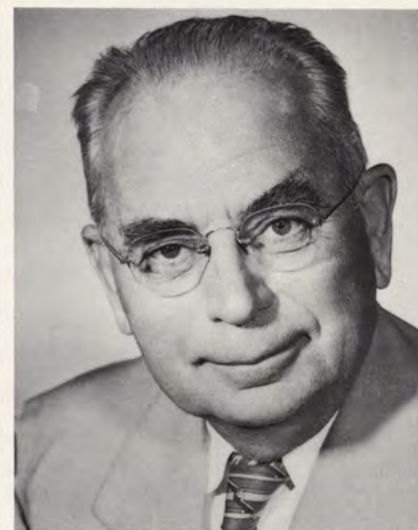
A \$500,000 computer system was installed in the Physics Building in February. Physics Professor Robert Schumaker, computer center coordinator, said it will be used for a number of things—keeping student records, registration information, faculty research, and many of the research problems of Schellenger Laboratories.

Engine No. 1 will remain at U.T. El Paso, and will be housed in a protective structure adjacent to the Centennial Museum. More than \$20,000 was contributed to the Junior Chamber of Commerce "Save Engine No. 1" campaign. The money will be used to restore the Engine and build the structure.

Construction will begin in December on a \$2.5 million wing to the Student Union Building. The "Union", as the building will be called, will be completed in December, 1969.

**BILL SIGNING**—With Governor John Connally at the March 6, 1967 signing of a bill changing the names of certain institutions in the University System (including U.T. El Paso) were, left to right, State Representative Tati Santiesteban, Mr. Ray Lockhart, Mr. Sam Young, Jr., State Rep. Raul Muniz, State Senator Joe Christie, Mr. Jack Vowell, Dr. Joseph M. Ray, and State Reps. Ned Blaine, Skip Scoggins and Paul Moreno.

## DEATHS



**Dr. F. W. Bachmann**

**Dr. Frederick W. Bachmann, 73**, died February 11. He had been a member of the U.T. El Paso faculty for 33 years and was head of the Department of Modern Languages before his retirement.

**Mr. Reinhart A. Braun, 67**, a graduate sociology student, died February 4, in El Paso. He received his B.A. degree from the University of Pennsylvania.

**Mr. Don Lee Cotton, 37**, died March 31 of a heart attack. He graduated from U.T. El Paso in 1955, and was a graduate of The University of Texas School of Law. Mr. Cotton was a member of an El Paso law firm.

**Mr. John A. Compton, 20**, and **Mr. Edward Jungle, Jr., 18**, both U.T. El Paso students, were killed April 26 in a two-car collision near Columbus, Texas. Compton was a sophomore mechanical engineering major and Jungle was a freshman electrical engineering student.





# NOVA

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