

Ex-Aggies Now at Randolph



Five former A. & M. students are now Flying Cadets at Randolph Field, the "West Point of the Air," and are scheduled to be transferred to Kelly Field, the Advanced Flying School, before receiving their wings and commissioned second lieutenants in the Air Corps Reserve.

The ex-Aggie aviators shown above are: (Top row, left to right) Henry (Pelly) Dittman, Alvin Reyes, and Thomas F. Collins; (below) R. C. McIlheran Jr., and Clinton W. Uhr.

250 College Students Report To Randolph Every Six Weeks

New Class at Randolph Includes Five A. & M. Graduates, All Members of Classes of 1938-39

An Air Corps more than doubled in size by June, 1941, was authorized by Congress before it adjourned last summer. A total of 5,500 airplanes and pilots to man them was goal set. Aircraft factories are turning out pursuit planes, top speed nearing 400 miles an hour, giant four-engined bombers capable of thousands of miles non-stop flight.

Pilot training activity also has been stepped up. Classes of 250 young college men are reporting to Randolph Field, Texas, the "West Point of the Air," every six weeks for basic flight training. Previously they have piled up 65 hours at one of the Air Corps' elementary flying schools.

Five Texas A. & M. men are now Flying Cadets in Class 40-B, scheduled to be transferred from Randolph to Kelly Field, the Advanced Flying School, for a final three months of flight instruction before receiving their wings and being commissioned as Second Lieutenants in the Air Corps Reserve.

The former Texas A. & M. men who are now student pilots at Randolph Field are Robert C. McIlheran Jr., Wichita Falls, Texas, class of '39; Thomas F. Collins, Garden City, Texas, class of '39, first president of home town club; Alvin V. Reyes, Beeville, Texas, class of '39; Henry (Pelly) Dittman, Goose Creek, Texas, class of '39; Clinton W. Uhr, San Antonio, Texas, class of '38.

They started their aviation career last August when they reported for primary flying instruction. Sixty-five hours in the air in rugged primary training planes was

entered in their log books during the first three months of the nine months course.

Then they were transferred to Randolph Field, the Air Corps' model airdrome, where the mysteries of a 400 horsepower low-wing monoplane had to be mastered. These basic training planes are small counterparts of a modern day tactical airplane. Their equipment includes complete blind flying instruments, landing flaps, wing tip lights for night landings, a controllable pitch propeller, and radio transmitter and receiver.

Aerial acrobatics, such as snap rolls, slow rolls, must be mastered before the course is completed, not for the theatrical effect on spectators, but to teach them the use of the controls in these unusual positions of their craft.

Several hours night flying and instrument flying are included in the 75 hours flying each cadet receives at the "West Point of the Air."

Transfer to the Advanced Flying School is the last step in their aerial career before being graduated as full fledged military airplane pilots and commissioned Second Lieutenants in the Air Corps Reserve. Ahead of them lies an opportunity to compete with their classmates for a permanent commission in the Air Corps, or if they so elect, as much as seven years of active pilot duty with either a pursuit, bombardment, or observation squadron. In either case, three years after graduation, these flying cadets will be promoted to First Lieutenants with a corresponding increase in pay.

Examinations End, Then It Starts Over Again Friday

By George Fuermann

What's the use?

Examinations end—and then it starts all over again Friday!

Bleary-eyed, unshaven, disheveled, and anxious, Aggie land's six thousand trod wearily from building to building, expectantly watching the bulletin boards in anticipation of posted grades. An occasional roar—mindful of the shout of a blood-thirsty pirate—indicates that some fortunate credit hit the jack-pot. More frequently a long-drawn moan is heard—the kind a man makes when he hears his own death sentence passed—from some poor soul who spent the past eighteen weeks doing his studying on a "manana" basis.

But at last, thank God, that heathen institution—final exams—is laid to rest . . . for four and a half months, at least.

A cross-sectional poll of Aggie opinion would prove that it's a choice of two evils—finals on the

one hand and registration on the other.

And in respect to registration, there are two or three theories held by as many schools of thought. One group maintains that registration is necessitated because school officials are bribed by the local shoe-repairing establishments into proclaiming the semi-annual line-waiting ordeal. Still another group holds that the signing-up function is a sort of non-credit course in Patience and Perseverance—the theory being that any student who can complete registration without giving over to unintelligible gibberish or wild raving has passed the acid test.

But it's all part of that thing known as "college life," and in the not too-distant future—when present-day Aggies become former students—the two semi-annual skirmishes will be remembered with a smile—and maybe a wish to do them over again.

Over 4,000 To Register Here Friday

All New Students Register for 2nd Semester Monday

Over 4,000 freshmen, sophomores, juniors, and seniors are expected to register Friday for the second semester of the 1939-40 school term, Registrar E. J. Howell said today.

All old undergraduate students who were not on the deficient list December 1, will be registered at this time. New students, graduate students, and students on the deficient list December 1 are scheduled to register Monday.

Over 250 new students are expected to register for the second semester, bringing the total registration for the year to 6,300, a steady gain in registration for the college and the largest group of students ever to have attended A. & M.

Registrar Howell said that no student would be able to secure his assignment card Friday except by reporting promptly during the hours assigned. Students should report to the Assembly Hall for assignment cards, if fees have been paid, by the following schedule:

7:00 to 8:00—Students whose surnames begin with J, K, L.

8:00 to 9:00—Students whose surnames begin with T, U, V, W, X, Y, Z.

9:00 to 10:00—All students whose surnames begin with A, B.

10:00 to 11:00—All students whose surnames begin with R, S.

11:00 to 12:00—All students whose surnames begin with C, D, E, F.

1:00 to 2:00—All students whose surnames begin with M, N, O, P, Q.

2:00 to 3:00—All students whose surnames begin with G, H, I.

Any student scheduled to register Friday and who does not do so at the appropriate time, may register from 3:00 to 5:00 Friday or may register Monday after all students scheduled for that day have registered.

Any student who has not registered by 5:00 p. m. Monday will pay an additional matriculation fee of \$2.00 for late registration. Monday, February 26, is the last day a student may add or drop a course and receive proper credit for these at the Registrar's Office.

Classes for the second term will begin at 8:00 a. m. Tuesday.

Waterworks Short Course To Be Held Here Feb. 19-23

Approximately 300 municipal engineers are expected to attend the twenty-second annual Texas Waterworks Short Course, to be held here on February 19-23, according to Professor E. W. Steel, head of the college Department of Municipal and Sanitary Engineering, who will be in charge of the course.

This meeting will be the first of a number of short courses to be held on the campus this spring.

An interesting program is planned for the five-day meet. Some of the most prominent sanitary engineers in the state will be here, many of whom are graduates of A. & M.

Although similar schools are now held in other states, the one held annually in Texas is the oldest in the country. The first such course was held here in 1919, but after that year the meeting place was moved about from year to year. In 1936 the meeting was brought back to A. & M. and a vote at that time made the college the permanent location.

Regional Director



G. C. Street Jr., ex-Aggie of '05, is now regional director of the Wage and Hour Division of the U. S. Department of Labor in the Southwest.

Gus Street Named Regional Director Of Wages And Hours

Gustavus C. (Gus) Street Jr., ex-Aggie of 1905, has been appointed and confirmed regional director of the Wage and Hour Division of the U. S. Department of Labor, in the region embracing Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, and New Mexico. His headquarters are in the Wilson Building, Dallas.

For the past six years, Mr. Street has been with the Public Works Administration in Texas in an administrative capacity, his last post being assistant regional director at Fort Worth. He is a civil engineer by profession and made his home in Houston for many years, where he was president of the Pyramid Steam Company and active in the construction industry.

As a student at A. & M., Street was a senior captain, a letterman in football, and active in other student affairs.

From his office in the Wilson Building at Dallas, Mr. Street is now directing the activities of the Wage and Hour inspectors in the Southwestern region. He is known as an expert in labor relations.

Courses In Bible Offered 2nd Term

A number of courses in Bible study are being offered this next semester, Rev. Norman Anderson, in charge of the Department of Religious Education, with office in room 215, Academic Building, has announced.

Two three-hour courses with three hours of credit, and two one-hour courses with one hour of credit, are offered. They are listed on page 23 of the official schedule of classes, under the Department of Religious Education. "These courses offer opportunity for systematic study of the Bible and for religious orientation," Rev. Anderson stated. "They are offered without denominational emphasis."

Council O.K.'s Purchase Of Oakwood Addition Utilities

Seymore Stone To Paint Life-Sized Portrait of Walton

Campaign To Raise Funds For Portrait Started By Friends and Admirers

A life-sized portrait of President T. O. Walton, painted by an internationally famed artist, will be presented to the A. & M. College at commencement, according to plans of a committee of A. & M. men and other Texas citizens.

A campaign to raise funds for the portrait is being waged with voluntary subscriptions sought from Dr. Walton's friends and admirers. Donations are being received from A. & M. ex-students, other Texas citizens, and from members of the faculty and staff of the college.

The Portrait Fund will be used to commission Seymore M. Stone, of New York, internationally famous portrait painter, to do a life-sized portrait of Dr. Walton. When completed the portrait will be presented to the college with fitting ceremonies.

Mr. Stone studied and worked with Anders Zorn and other masters in Norway, Sweden and other European countries. His first commission after returning to America was a portrait of Theodore Roosevelt, then president. He has since done portraits of such outstanding figures as Chauncey Depew, Calvin Coolidge, Mr. Faunce, late president of Brown University, Admiral Byrd, of the National Geographic Society, General John J. Pershing, for the Army and Navy Club, and many other notables in the United States and abroad. His most recent commission was Vice-President John N. Garner.

In selecting Mr. Stone, it was the thought of the committee that the portrait would not only be a great tribute to Dr. Walton but a gift of great value to the College.

The portrait plan originated over a year ago in a conversation between Melvin J. Miller, '11, Fort Worth insurance leader, and John C. Burns, '04, former head of the

(Continued on page 4)

Frances Perkins And Walter Pitkin Head Teachers' Program

WACO, Feb. 8.—Frances Perkins, U. S. Secretary of Labor, and Dr. Walter B. Pitkin, noted journalist and author of "Life Begins at 40," will headline a program slated for the Central Texas division of the State Teachers Association on the Baylor University campus Friday and Saturday (Feb. 9 and 10), Dr. Lorena B. Stretch, chairman of the Baylor School of Education, announced.

Heads Dallas Club



James W. "Skinny" Williams, president of the Dallas A. & M. Club, is Safety Director for the Austin Bridge Company and its subsidiaries. These include the Service Equipment Company, the Austin Road Company, and the Austin Construction Company. Williams has been with the Austin Bridge Company for 19 years. He and Mrs. Williams have two daughters, one a senior in high school, and live at 610 Newell, Dallas, Texas.

As a student at A. & M. with the class of '18, Williams served as editor-in-chief of The Battalion, was a member of the Ross Volunteers, and active in other student affairs. He received his degree in civil engineering. He has been an active member of the Dallas A. & M. Club for many years.

Parks Next Speaker On Plant Science Seminar Program

H. B. Parks of San Antonio, chief of the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station's Division of Agriculture, will talk to the Plant Science Seminar on Thursday night, February 8, discussing "Backtracking on Botanical Exploration in Texas With Special Reference to Certain Interesting and Little Known Plants," Walter S. Story, horticulturist for the Agricultural Experiment Station, has announced. The Seminar will meet in the Experiment Station conference room, at 7:30 p. m.

Mr. Parks has been intensively studying the native flora of Texas for 22 years. During that time he has explored every corner of the state, and has visited some of the most interesting botanical localities many times and in every season. He not only has a knowledge of Texas plants possessed by few other men, but is able to impart this to others in interesting fashion.

Buying Of College Hills Lines Also Is Being Planned

Bus Company Is Warned It Must Obey City Laws

The College Station City Council at a meeting Wednesday night passed an ordinance authorizing Mayor J. H. Binney to complete the sale of utilities of the Oakwood Addition from the Oakwood Realty Company to the City of College Station, for the sum of \$8,500.

This is to be amortized over a period of ten years and bear interest at the rate of 4 per cent.

The utilities to be transferred include lights, water, sewage lines and a sewage disposal plant. The completion of the transfer is contingent only upon the clearing of a few minor details, Mayor Binney stated.

N. E. Boughton, developer of College Hills Estates, conferred with the City Council on the contemplated transfer of utilities of that addition to the city. Because of the fact that Mr. Boughton's partners, B. S. Tysinger and J. C. Culpepper, owners of the Estates, were out of town, no definite steps could be taken at the meeting.

Mr. Boughton stated, "I believe I can speak for my partners in declaring that we are entirely in favor of the move, and I believe a plan can easily be worked out for the transfer of College Hills Estates' water and sewer lines to College Station. In my opinion the consolidation of all the utilities of this city under the city's ownership and a single management constitutes the greatest forward step the city could take."

Mr. Boughton, Mr. Tysinger, and Mr. Culpepper are to meet with the City Council at its next regular meeting, February 15, and at that time are to present a plan

(Continued on page 4)

Matinees To Be Shown At Assembly Hall Starting Second Term

Ever striving to please the students, M. L. Cashion and J. Gordon Gay of the Y. M. C. A., have announced that beginning Tuesday the Assembly Hall shall play matinees on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday afternoons beginning at 3:30 each afternoon. Also shows will be shown on Monday nights.

In the future the first show of the week will be, as in the past, a free show on Sunday afternoon at 12:45.

The first change in the schedule will be the addition of Monday to the week's show schedule. A show will run in the afternoon matinee and also at night on Monday and Tuesday.

Another different show is to be presented at a matinee and night show Wednesday.

Designed To Depict Traditions of A. & M., Aggie Dinner Plates, By Wedgwood in England, Are Something to Cherish

By Bob Nisbet

Something to have, to keep, and to cherish in years to come—the Aggie dinner plates are just that! Made of the finest Wedgwood china, and pictured with A. & M. tradition, nothing could surpass these maroon and white plates in beauty or in lasting value.

As a matter of history, the original idea of having the plates made came from P. L. Downs Jr., of Temple, Texas. After the idea was approved by the Association of Former Students, a contest was sponsored in the Architectural Department for the best design depicting the traditions of the school.

The winner, as judged by members of an appointed committee, was J. F. Doyle, who was presented a cash award.

In his winning design Doyle included traditions of the state as well as those of the school. According to Doyle, "When a school has been a part of a state and has contributed to the growth of that state for almost sixty years, it

seems to me that its commemorative plate should characterize, not only the school itself, but also the traditions of the state." Thus the design for the border of the plates contains the six shields of the countries having held Texas under rule. Between each shield is a design including a "mossy-horn Texas steer" which certainly holds a most important place among Texas traditions, also a prickly pear and a bluebonnet.

To represent all of the various educational phases of the school in so small a space seemed an impossible task, so Doyle depicted the idea which is immediately associated with A. & M., that is, one of the country's outstanding military institutions; thus the border also includes the insignia of the various branches of R.O.T.C. found at A. & M.

In the center of each plate of the series of 12 is a picture of one of the buildings of the campus. The buildings pictured and the date they were erected are as follows:

Gathright Hall, 1876; Civil Engineering Building, 1909; Sbis Mess Hall, 1912; Academic Building, 1912; Guion Hall, 1918; Agricultural Building, 1923; Kyle Field Stadium, 1927; Cushing Memorial Library, 1929; T. O. Walton Hall, 1931; Administration Building, 1932; Veterinary Hospital, 1932; Chemistry Building, 1933.

Having found the design, the drawings were sent to Josiah Wedgwood & Sons of Etruria, England, the makers of the world's finest china, to be permanently recorded in clay. Queen's Ware china was first perfected by Josiah Wedgwood in the year 1761. China of this finer type must go five or six times into the kiln for firing. Each time is an adventure or perhaps a misadventure, since art and science have been unable to eliminate the dangers of the firing process. It is according to the gods of luck how many pieces return whole from their trials by fire. Certainly those that do may well be considered masterpieces of the potter's art.

A drive to sell these plates was carried on in 1936, and plates were sold in 17 states of the nation, as well as orders from Cuzco, Canal Zone; Caripito, Venezuela; and Columbia, South America.

Now the plates are again being brought to the attention of the A. & M. student body and to the former students. The plates are being sold separately for the first time since the sales started. The price is \$2.00 apiece and the purchaser can buy as many as he likes. Heretofore they were sold only in lots of 12. Sales agents have been selected from among the cadet corps and the four boys will begin taking orders Monday, continuing their work for two weeks only. These boys are Jack Calhoun in dormitory 12, J. G. Wortham in project house 12, Roy Grobe in 26 Post Graduate Hall, and Edgar Butschek in project house 16.