

MERRY CHRISTMAS--OLE ARMY

DIAL 4-5444
OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER
OF THE CITY OF
COLLEGE STATION

Texas A&M

College

The Battalion

BI-WEEKLY
STUDENT NEWSPAPER
TEXAS A. & M.
DEEP IN AGGIELAND

VOLUME 44

COLLEGE STATION, TEXAS, TUESDAY AFTERNOON, DECEMBER 18, 1944

NUMBER 53

Aggieland Orchestra To Play For Senior Ring Dance

Colonel McNew Here On Terminal Leave

Former C. E. Head Is Newly Appointed Vice Pres. of Engineering

By R. L. Bynes

Colonel J. T. L. McNew, newly named Vice-president for Engineering at A. & M., has recently returned from the China-Burma-



Col. J. T. L. McNew

India theatre of operations, where he was connected with the Aviation Engineers.

Former head of the Civil Engineering Department, McNew entered the armed forces in June, 1943, with the commission of Major in the Corps of Engineers. He was soon transferred to the Aviation Engineers and sent first to Fort Belvoir, Virginia; then to Richmond, Virginia, where he took an intensive course in heavy construction equipment operation; and finally to Orlando, Florida, where he attended the Air Force School of Applied Tactics.

At the close of the preliminary training at Orlando, Florida, he was then sent back to Richmond, Virginia, and attached to the staff of Brigadier General C. B. Godfrey (Air Engineering officer of the China-Burma-India theater), as construction engineer, Chief of

(See COLONEL, Page 4)

Conner Presented Watch at Banquet

A beautiful pocket watch, to remind him each hour in the years to come of the esteem in which he is held by his friends and co-workers, was Arthur B. Conner's tangible evidence of more than forty years of close association with the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas.

But in the heart and mind of the man who held the post of Director of the Agricultural Experiment Station longer than any other person were the many words of praise, the emotion-filled outpourings of love and the good-natured allusions to his reckless bridge game and his astute mastery of chess—all of them expressed by his associates of many years (See CONNER, Page 3)

College Community Chest Short of Goal

The College Community Chest Committee reports that it has received about \$11,500 in contributions. This falls by \$3,000 to reach the budget approved for the year, and as a result all budget items will have to be reduced by about 20%. This means that the college community will fall short of its quotas in the Red Cross and the National War Fund drives, and that local charities will receive less than in former years.

Seventy-five per cent of the budget is pledged to the Red Cross and the National War Fund. The committee feels that it would be most unfortunate to fail to meet these quotas at this time. So a Christmas appeal is being made. If you have not contributed to the Community Chest do so at once. If you have contributed and can see your way clear to give more then by all means do so. Contributions may be designated to any charity you prefer and post dated checks are acceptable. Contributions should be made through your department or branch of the college, said Ralph W. Steen, chairman.

Faculty and Staff Christmas Dinner To Be Held Thurs.

Employees Completing 25 Years Service To Be Honored Guests

The annual Christmas dinner of the faculty and staff of the Texas A. & M. College to be held in the Sbis Hall Annex at 7:15 p. m., Thursday will pay tribute to 22 persons who this year have completed 25 years of service to the institution, W. R. Horsley, general chairman of the dinner committee has announced.

Tickets for the banquet will be sold at \$1.25 each and may be secured from the head of any (See FACULTY, Page 3)

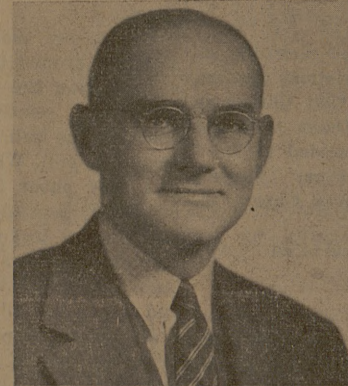
Hampton, Adriance Study Rio-Grande Sub Tropical Fruits

Dr. G. W. Adriance of the Department of Horticulture and Dr. H. E. Hampton of the Department of Agronomy have recently returned from the Rio Grande Valley. With them on the trip were members of Dr. Adriance's class on sub-tropical fruits. Those making this field laboratory trip were Professor R. H. Cintron of the University of Puerto Rico, Paul Slud, Cordell Edwards, and T. E. Wright.

The purpose of the trip was to study soil and crop production in the valley with special emphasis on citrus fruits. They visited commercial citrus groves at Edinburg, McAllen, Harlingen, and Weslaco. Dr. Adriance brought back with him several different varieties of citrus fruits for use in the sub-tropical fruits laboratory.

While in the valley these men contacted Leon Miller, W. H. Friend, W. H. Hughes, E. Gibbons, J. F. Wood, R. F. Lindsay, A. T. Potts, and many other Aggie-Exes who are now making their contribution to the Agricultural Development of the Rio Grande valley.

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS



From President Gilchrist

The ordinary Christmas greeting seems strangely out of place this year. The prayer for peaceful Christmas to come is as universal now as "Merry Christmas" used to be.

The toughest part of the battle is at hand and daily we hear of the supreme sacrifice by some fine boy from this institution. The week commemorating the birth of our Savior seems to call for reconsecration to our tasks and a stepping-up of home front activity.

May each and every one of us—the administration, teacher, student, former student, staff member, and all who labor in and for this great educational system be given added strength and courage to carry on to final, complete, and, we hope, early victory.

Gibb Gilchrist.

Dance To Be Preceded By Ring Ceremony-Banquet

Orchestra Also to Furnish Music for All-Service Dance in Sbis Saturday Night

Civil Air Patrol-Texas Forest Patrol Members Confer Here

Members of the headquarters staff of the Civil Air Patrol-Texas Forest Patrol, met Monday in the offices of the Texas Forest Service, A. & M. College Administration building, to plan further expansion of the area patrolled by the planes, according to Capt. S. L. (Jack) Frost, commanding officer of the patrol.

The Texas Forest Patrol is operating exclusively in East Texas, flying to help protect the piney woods from fire in cooperation with activities of the Texas Forest Service. It is the plan of CAP how to also use its personnel and planes for a system of aerial type mapping which will cover the entire forested area in Texas in connection with postwar conservation plans of the Texas Forest Service.

Col. Earle L. Johnson, national commander of CAP and a member of the U. S. Army Air Forces, last week pointed to the Texas Forest Patrol operations unit of CAP as the "model and the best unit in the United States". He made this statement at a meeting in Dallas where the third anniversary of CAP was observed.

Those at the staff meeting Monday included, besides Capt. Frost, Capt. Larry J. Fisher, executive officer; Lt. W. T. Hartman, operations officer; Lt. Ken Hallaran, communications officer; and Lt. Guy Deaton, acting administrative officer. Lt. J. B. Clark, intelligence and supply officer, did not attend because of illness. All members of Capt. Frost's staff are local residents except Lt. Hartman of Ludkin.

The meeting was expected to end late Monday after completion of the plan for expanded activity.

Charles Haenisch, Chairman of the Senior Ring Dance Committee, announced today that the Senior Ring Dance will be held on January 12 in Sbis Hall. The Aggie-land Orchestra, under the direction of W. M. Turner, will furnish music for the occasion. Haenisch said that the dance will be preceded by a banquet which will also be held in Sbis Hall. Harold Borofsky, one of the members of the committee, said that no final arrangement has been made as to the speakers at the banquet, but they will be announced in the near future.

The Formal Ring Ceremony will follow the banquet, and the dance is to follow the Ring Ceremony. Though no definite time has been set for the dance, it is expected that it will begin around 9:30 and end about 1:00.

Haenisch also announced that the plans for the banquet and dance had been made entirely by the Senior class, and that there were no faculty members on the committee. The committee, composed of Joe Atlas, Epp Brown, Larry Gore, Jimmy Vaughn, Harold Borofsky and Larry Rogers, is trying to determine how many Seniors will be present at the banquet so that final arrangements can be made.

Saturday, January 13, the night following the Ring Dance, there will be a Corps Ball, and music will be furnished by the Aggie-land Orchestra.

Tickets for the Senior Ring Dance and the banquet are \$2.75. Separate tickets for the Dance are \$1.50 and \$1.25 for the banquet. Tickets for the Corps Ball are \$1.20. These prices include the present federal tax.

Dr. Lindsay Named Head of Local Sigma XI Chapter

Dr. J. D. Lindsay was elected president of the Sigma XI Club of the A. & M. College of Texas when a local chapter of the National Society was formed recently at College Station. Other officers include Dr. W. A. Varvel, president elect, and A. A. L. Mathews, secretary-treasurer.

Function of the Sigma XI club is to stimulate, encourage and support active research in the pure and applied sciences among teachers, advanced students and professional men. To be eligible for membership one must have completed some worthwhile research program, and usually the results must have been published in a creditable scientific journal. To be a member of the local organization, as now set up, an individual must have been a member of a Sigma (See LINDSAY, Page 4)

Entomology Head Elected President At Academies Meet

Dr. S. W. Bilings, head of the Department of Entomology, was re-elected president of the Conference of State Academies of Science at the recent meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in Cleveland, Ohio.

For many years Dr. Bilings has represented the Texas Academy of Science at the Conference of State Academies of Science, which is regularly held in connection with the American Association for the Advancement of Science meeting each year.

The Academy Conference con- (See ENTOMOLOGY, Page 2)

Noted Journalist Attended School Here

H. R. Knickerbocker, Pulitzer Prize Winner, On Town Hall January 12

By Eli Barker

H. R. Knickerbocker, Pulitzer Prize winner and holder of other famed newspaper awards, will be presented here January 12 under the sponsorship of the committee of Student Activities.

One of the leading journalists of the day, he has been referred to as "the Richard Harding Davis of our times" by Alexander Woolcott. Twenty years of reporting has brought him great fame, but he has recently become known as a prominent lecturer. Forums, college audiences, service clubs, conventions, women's clubs and other types of audiences throughout the nation have been fascinated by his clear, vivid and authoritative interpretations of current world events and his keen explanations of their repercussions in America.

Born in Yoakum, Texas, the son of a Methodist preacher, H. R. Knickerbocker wanted to be a physician, a psychiatrist. After studying at Southern Methodist University and Texas A&M he went to New York to take journalism in order that he would have some way to pay for his medical training. Following this, he had several jobs on some of New York's largest news-



H. R. Knickerbocker

papers and earned the necessary money to continue his training in Europe.

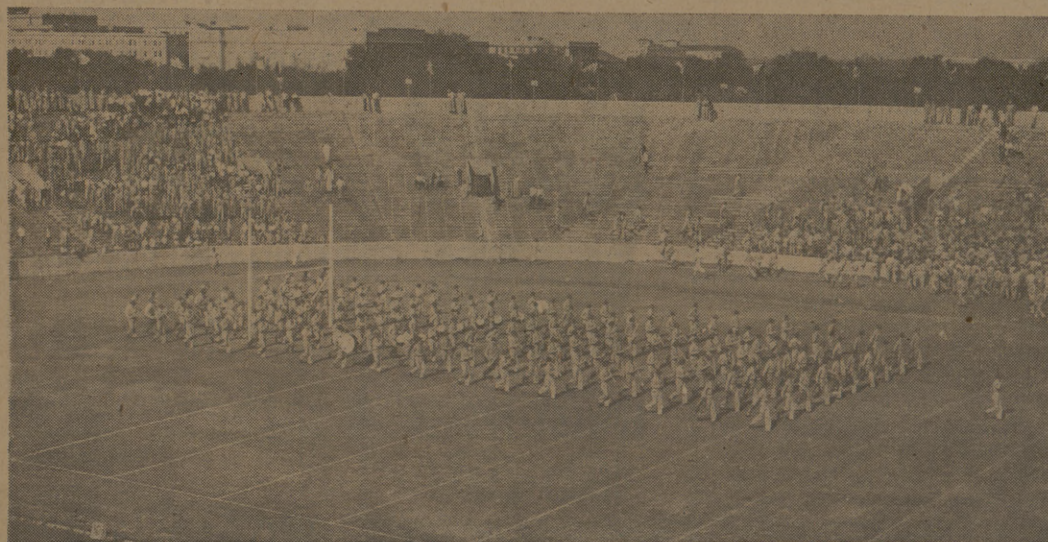
Knickerbocker was in Munich on November 9, 1933, when Hitler's Beer House Putsch temporarily overthrew the existing German government and first brought the future fuhrer into prominence; he was in Moscow when Trotsky was

dismissed from the Russian war ministry and banished from the U.S.S.R.; in Vienna when Chancellor Dollfus was assassinated; in Dessye when Italian airmen bombed that Ethiopian city, in 1935; in Buenos Aires three days after the outbreak of the Spanish Civil War; in Shanghai when that city was captured by the Japanese in 1937; in the Sudetenland when the Germans marched in as conquerors and in Paris in the autumn of 1939 when World War II began.

During the summer of 1940 he returned to Europe for International News Service. He was in the thick of the fighting between the Allies and the Nazis on the Western Front. Following a lecture tour in America, he went to the Far East for the Chicago Sun, covering Hawaii, the Philippines, Java, the Dutch East Indies, Australia, and New Zealand. Following this, in late 1942 and early 1943, he went to North Africa where he witnessed the invasion of the Allied forces and the historic conference in Casablanca and then to Italy.

Knickerbocker will interpret all this experience with respect to present day news during his performance here.

Aggie Band Provides Color And Is Significant Factor In Applause Invoking Aggie Corps Spirit



By B. J. Blankenship

The Aggie Band under the direction of Col. Richard J. Dunn has just completed another successful season of providing color at Aggie football games. Col. Dunn, who is to retire next year, has served the band faithfully as a director for the last twenty years. In no man could a band find a better qualified director than Col. Dunn.

The band has just gone through

the football season performing at all the games except three, these being impossible to get to because of transportation difficulties. Each colorful formation that was made at the various football games showed that the band had spent hours of work in preparation.

Every member of the band worked hard and diligently to get each formation into shape before each game and to get these formations perfect, the band drilled

consistently every afternoon. Rain did not stop the bandmen. They drilled up and down in the mud and proved themselves a part of the Twelfth Man.

The formation used at the T. u. game proved to be the hardest of all to prepare. Weeks were spent getting in preparation for the large map of Texas that was formed.

The band as well as the other (See AGGIE, Page 3)