

# The Battalion

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**PLANT TOUR**—A&M officials toured the Dow Chemical company's Texas division plants in Freeport during the holidays. Pictured are, left to right, Ide P. Trotter, dean of the Graduate School; Joe M. Parish, Texas division chief engineer; M. T. Harrington, A&M System chancellor; Earl B. Barnes, Dow's director of organic research; and David H. Morgan, A&M president.

## \$20,000 Goal

### Polio Drive Opens Today

By BILL FULLERTON  
Battalion City Editor

The 1955 Brazos County March of Dimes opened with a goal of \$20,000, according to Mrs. John Perry, co-chairman of the drive with Mrs. Lucille Foster.

Headquarters for this year's drive opened at 9 a.m. at the United Furniture store, 214 East 25th. Space has been donated for the entire month and will serve as the headquarters for all activities and as a distribution center for campaign materials and polio literature of interest to the public.

Many workers, including teenagers, have already volunteered their services for the polio drive, but more are needed, said Mrs. Foster. Volunteers are invited to visit the headquarters where they will find many opportunities to help with the drive that can be fitted into school activities and home or office work, she said.

Contributions can be mailed or taken to the headquarters or put in the special plastic coin jars in different stores. This year, envelopes will be mailed to potential contributors for their donations, said Mrs. Perry. About 500 A&M Consolidated

elementary school children received gamma globulin polio immunization shots Oct. 27-28. The children were in grades one through four.

Five children dropped out of Consolidated this year because of polio. L. S. Richardson, superintendent of the Consolidated schools, said that parents had taken the situation calmly.

#### Salk Polio Vaccine

Another possible protection against polio paralysis is the Salk polio vaccine which was field tested

#### Town Hall Show Set For Thursday

Town Hall will present the Houston Symphony Orchestra at 8 p.m. Thursday in White Coliseum.

A special matinee will be presented Thursday afternoon for school children. It will be a program of lighter music than the evening performance. The price of non-student tickets for the matinee is \$1.

General admission tickets will be sold at the door for \$2 for adults and \$1 for children.

last spring and is now being evaluated at the University of Michigan by Dr. Thomas Francis Jr. and his staff. Their findings will be ready this spring.

If the vaccine is found to be effective and is licensed, it will be offered at no charge for the product to some of the nation's most susceptible groups for immediate use, according to the National Foundation of Infantile Paralysis.

The groups are approximately 7,750,000 children enrolled in the first and second grades of public, parochial and private schools in the United States, Hawaii and Alaska. Also included will be about 1,390,000 children who did not receive vaccine in the trials, but a harmless substance.

There were 1,830,000 children who participated in the 1954 field trials for the vaccine. About 440,000 of these "Polio Pioneers" received vaccine last spring, but the others did not.

The tests were sponsored by the national foundation and paid for with \$7,500,000 of March of Dimes funds.

#### Astronomy Films Presented Tonight

Three astronomical films, sponsored by the physics department, will be shown tonight at 7:30 in the physics lecture room.

Two of the films, "Solar System" and "Exploring the Universe," will have sound. "Explosions of the Sun" will be silent but there will be a running commentary during the showing of the film.

Comments on the films will be offered by the physics astronomy class.

The public is invited to attend the showing, J. T. Kent of the mathematics department said.

#### Area Teachers Set Friday Meet

Vocational agriculture teachers from the 23 countries in Area III will attend a mid-winter conference on the campus Friday and Saturday.

They will take part in a program designed to bring them up to date on improved classroom teaching methods and materials, problems facing farmers, social security for farmers, livestock selection, poultry judging, dairy products, meats and other subjects in which they have shown interest during past meetings.

## Panama Assembly Declares Temporary State Of Siege

### Move To Help Police In Hunt for Killers

PANAMA—(AP)—The National Assembly yesterday declared a state of siege, temporarily suppressing constitutional guarantees, to help secret police hunting the machinegun assassins of President Jose Antonio Remon.

With ex-President Arnulfo Arias and two women among more than a score of persons already rounded up for questioning about the plot, the state of siege—a modified form of martial law—was decreed to run 10 days.

Remon, 46-year-old strongman regarded as the outstanding president in the republic's history, was shot down from the darkness Sunday night as he sat with friends in a brilliantly lighted pavilion at the fashionable Juan Franco race track four miles northeast of this city. Two other men were killed and three were wounded in the exchange of gunfire between the assassins and the presidential bodyguard.

Col. Saturnino Flores, deputy commander of the National Guard, Panama's main military force, said the authorities have no definite clues to identify or motive of the assassins. But Flores indicated strongly the weight of suspicion fell on supporters of Arias, ousted from the presidency in the bloody 1951 coup by the National Guard which Remon headed.

Flores said that if the object of the assassination was to gain control of the government, the plot failed because the National Guard had firm control of the situation. He recalled recent threats of major developments by Arias' followers.

In New York, U.S. Secretary of State Dulles said apparently "no Communist issue was involved" in the assassination.

The National Assembly, which earlier yesterday swore in the first vice-president and foreign minister, Jose Ramon Guizado, as the new president, first considered declaring a 30-day state of siege. This was amended unanimously to the 10-day period.

The two men killed with Remon were Jose Peralta, a secret police plainclothesman who passed by as the shooting began, and Danilo Sousa, an athlete apparently caught in the line of fire from the presidential bodyguard. The authorities said the assassins opened up with machineguns from the darkened grandstand, after the day's races were over, while Remon and his party sat in the brilliantly lighted area near the presidential box.

## All Aggies Return; No Holiday Deaths

No A&M students have been reported killed or injured during the Christmas holidays.

Both Col. Joe E. Davis, commandant, and Bennie A. Zinn, head of student affairs, said yesterday that they had received no notice of any student deaths or serious injuries.

Deaths and accidents occurring off the campus are usually reported

to one or both of these departments.

"We usually get the reports pretty early," Zinn said.

"There were probably some minor accidents," Davis said, "but we were pleased that there were no serious ones."

Chief of Campus Security Fred Hickman said that there were no traffic accidents on the campus during the holidays, and College Station City Manager Ran Boswell said there were no accidents in the city either.

Both agreed that "it was pretty quiet here without all the students."

Texas and the nation didn't fare as well as the Aggies during the holidays.

The Associated Press reported last night that the latest count on accidental deaths over the nation for the holiday weekend was 362—296 of them traffic deaths.

Texas led all states with 20 traffic fatalities, followed by Minnesota, 19; California, 18; and New York, 16.

The National Safety council had estimated that 240 persons would die in traffic deaths between 6 p.m. Friday and midnight Sunday—56 below the latest count.

## Goodwin Reported 'Doing Very Well'

Robert Goodwin, Bryan graduate student who was injured in a laboratory explosion here Dec. 14, is now in Galveston's John Sealy hospital and "doing very well," according to hospital authorities.

Goodwin was seriously burned in a natural gas explosion in the petroleum engineering laboratory here. He was first treated at Bryan's St. Joseph's hospital, and then sent to the Galveston hospital the Saturday after the explosion.

#### Not Need Grafting

Robert Whiting, head of the petroleum engineering department,

said that Goodwin would not need skin grafting on his head or face, but that some grafting would be required on his hands.

Whiting said what the hospital first thought were third degree burns all over his body turned out to be less serious.

It will probably be several months before Goodwin will be released from the hospital, said Whiting, who has been in contact with the student.

#### Others Released

Two other students who were less seriously injured in the same explosion are now out of the hospital. They are Denton Weiland, graduate student from Falfurrias, and Howard Andrew, senior from Houston.

Whiting said his department does not yet know the exact cause of the accident, and probably "never will find out." He said something caused accumulated natural gas to explode, in turn causing gas and wood fires.

#### Doing Experiment

The graduate students were conducting an experiment in involving filling a high pressure cylinder with the gas, and a leak somewhere caused the gas to accumulate.

Whiting estimated the damage to equipment alone at \$25,000. The graduate laboratory, which is a part of a larger laboratory, was completely destroyed. The larger laboratory was not as seriously damaged, and was back in use three days after the accident.

Twenty-four students who were in the larger laboratory at the time of the explosion were uninjured.

#### Special Meet Called By 'T' Association

A special meeting of the "T" association will be held Wednesday at 7:15 p.m. in the chemical engineering lecture room, Lawrence Winkler, club president, said Monday.

Plans for the annual club dinner-dance and the spring Sports Day will be discussed, Winkler said.

#### Fertilizer Meet Here Thursday

About 150 persons from all parts of the state are expected to attend the annual Texas Fertilizer conference here Thursday and Friday. The conference is sponsored by the agronomy department.

#### Announcements In

Graduation announcements for January graduates have arrived and may be picked up at the office of student activities in Goodwin hall, announced W. D. (Pete) Hardesty, business manager of student activities.

## Berry To Head A&M Chapter Of Sigma Xi

Dr. R. O. Berry of the animal husbandry department will be president of A&M's chapter of the Society of Sigma Xi for 1955.

Other officers of the national honorary society will be Dr. Wayne C. Hall, plant physiology and pathology, vice-president; Dr. Meta S. Brown, agronomy, secretary; and Dr. Frank Gould, range and forestry, treasurer.

Berry, who will represent the A&M chapter at the society's national meeting in Berkeley, Calif., replaced Dr. Charles La Motte of the biology department as president.

Three members of the group elected to the committee on admissions were Dr. W. L. Tidwell, Dr. J. C. Gaines, and Dr. Isaac Peters.

The purpose of the society is "to encourage original investigations in science, pure and applied."

#### Scouts To Meet

The Aggie Explorer Scouts and Scouters will hold an organizational meeting at 7 p.m. Wednesday in the YMCA, according to R. H. Fletcher of the mechanical engineering department.

#### Weather Today



#### PARTLY CLOUDY

The forecast for today is continued cloudy. Yesterday's high was 76, low 63. The temperature at 10:30 this morning was 69.



**RECITAL SERIES**—Miss Fredell Lack, above, will give a violin recital here at 8 tonight in the Memorial Student Center as a presentation of the MSC recital series. Albert Hirsch will accompany her. Miss Lack, who has been featured soloist with several symphony orchestras, will present the program she will give in New York later this month.