

THE BATTALION

STUDENT SEMI-WEEKLY NEWSPAPER OF TEXAS A. & M. COLLEGE
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IN THE THIRTY-EIGHTH YEAR

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COLLEGE STATION OFFICIALS



The newly elected officials of College Station are shown above. The members in this group are, reading from left to right, Sam Hopper, L. P. Gabbard, George B. Wilcox, recently elected president of the State Teachers Association, Dr. J. H. Binney, Mayor, Earnest Langford, A. Mitchell, and Luther Jones.

Faculty Will Decide Fate Of Dead Week At Meeting, Says Bolton

Wildlife Unit Is Conducting Research On Campus Property

The Texas Cooperative Wildlife Research Unit is conducting important quail management studies on the college property west of the railroad tracks in the general vicinity of the pastures and fields of the animal husbandry and the dairy husbandry departments.

This project, in which D. W. Williams, head of the animal husbandry department, and C. W. Sheppard, head of the dairy husbandry department, are cooperating is being undertaken under the personal direction of Dean Kyle.

The general plan of the project is to install headquarters areas to control and influence food and shelter favorable to quail.

It is essential for the purpose of this work that the quail and other birds, as well as the animals, on this property be undisturbed. Students should recall that target shooting and hunting on college property are against the college regulations.

H. C. Hahn, an employee of the Texas Cooperative Wildlife Research Unit, is in charge of this project and frequent checks of progress are being made.

ENTERTAINMENT SERIES TO OFFER SINGING PROGRAM

Bringing a program that is different to anything that has been presented on the campus before, the Deep River Plantation Singers will be presented by the Entertainment Series Thursday night in Guion Hall at 8:00 p. m. It brings the jubilee chants, plantation melodies, camp-meeting shouts, and spirituals of the negro of the Old South, and in their presentation, none of the rhythm and character of the colored race is lost.

Opening with an original scene, these entertainers offer a musical production that is decidedly out of the ordinary. Stage settings and costumes are used to advantage in the first part, while the later part is devoted to negro spirituals and plantation melodies. Selections from "Show Boat", "Hallelush", "Green Pastures", "Emperor Jones", and other famous negro productions are offered, while many of the old favorites such as "Roll, Jordan, Roll", "Swing Low, Sweet Chariot", are included.

The Plantation Singers have been received enthusiastically by audiences all over the country.

COMMITTEE FOR COTTON BALL IS SELECTED

The Agronomy Society has elected an arrangement committee to prepare plans for the annual Cotton Ball and Style Show which is to be held here April 7, 1939. The members of this committee are E. A. Miller, social secretary, L. L. Jacobs, business manager, R. L. Gregg, A. B. Sheppard, and J. H. Robinson. The election of the cotton ball king will take place soon after the Christmas holidays.

The Cotton Ball is one of the outstanding social events of the year and is sponsored by the Agronomy Society. Funds derived from the ball and pageant are used to send three A. & M. students abroad each summer for the purpose of studying production and marketing of cotton in other countries. These three students will be selected by a series of comparative examinations which are to be held next spring.

Billiard Champion To Give Exhibition At YMCA Wednesday

There will be no such thing as an impossible billiard shot in the College Y. M. C. A. pool hall tomorrow when Charles C. Peterson, world's fancy shot billiard champion, gives an exhibition of his uncanny billiard skill at A. & M. before students and members of the faculty.

Peterson, who is making his seventh annual college tour under the auspices of the Association of College Y's, invites anyone in the audience, after his lecture-demonstration, to "Show Me A Shot I Can't Make". Masters and novices, alike, have failed to stump him to date, even when players in a recent world's tournament in Chicago "framed" a shot they thought was impossible.

The "Missionary of Billiards" is coming here at the invitation of the local college union, because of the entertaining aspect of his exhibition and because of his reputation of being able to teach quickly the fundamentals of good billiards.

Within the last few years, the game of billiards has enjoyed widespread popularity in colleges, clubs, municipal and park recreation centers, with the result that Peterson, who is largely responsible for the revived interest in billiards, is much in demand for lecture-demonstrations. He teaches the student the art of billiards with sympathetic coaching and then takes time to good-naturedly argue with professors who insist he cannot transfer "English" to the ob-

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A decision regarding Dead Week may be expected from the faculty at its first meeting following the Christmas holidays, Vice-President Bolton predicted today. Dean Bolton said he felt sure that the issue would be brought before the body at its next meeting.

Concerning a plan for allowing final examinations ten days instead of the five or six regularly allowed, Dean Bolton said, "Just as was pointed out in a Battalion editorial, we must meet requirements on the number of days spent in classroom work. In view of this, I do not see how the plan of extending the exam period could be put into operation. The plan was submitted through the Student Forum section of The Battalion by Cadet Colonel David Thrift.

Dean Bolton said he believed the period now allowed for finals is enough because students with "normal" courses have only one examination a day under the present arrangements. He pointed out, however, that most students have slightly irregular courses.

The Battalion and large numbers of students have been asking for Dead Week, construing Dead Week to be the week before final examinations with major quizzes, term reports and other similar teaching techniques barred by the faculty during the period.

Those interested in securing Dead Week have not voiced objections to compulsory classroom attendance and daily assignment during the week.

A. & M. MEN TO ATTEND MEETING IN RICHMOND

Dean R. P. Marsteller, Head of the School of Veterinary Medicine; Dr. S. W. Bilsing, Head of the Entomology Department; and Dr. Guy Adriance, Head of the Horticulture Department, make up the party that will represent A. & M. at the annual convention of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in Richmond, Va., during the Christmas holidays. Dr. Bilsing is attending as the delegate of the Texas Academy of Science. All three men will take an important part in the convention, which will consist of 22 sessions.

They are leaving on Jan. 23, going by car to Jacksonville, Florida, thence to Richmond. They will return by way of Nashville, Tennessee, and will be back at College on Jan. 3.

On their trip the party will make inspection visits of Alabama Polytechnic Institute at Auburn, Alabama; the University of Florida at Gainesville, Florida; Louisiana State University at the Louisiana capital, Baton Rouge; and possibly other institutions.

December 1 Grades Show Many Flunks

18 Per Cent of Total Enrollment Passing Less Than 10 Hours

Eighteen per cent of the total enrollment of A. & M. is passing less than ten hours of study, almost two per cent greater than last year, according to statistics revealed by the Registrar's office this week. Last year only slightly more than sixteen per cent of the total enrollment was on the ten hour list, indicating that the percentage of deficient students is on the increase.

Of the 937 deficient students in the college, 63% are included in the Engineering departments, 23% in the School of Agriculture and 11% in the School of Arts and Sciences. The School of Veterinary Medicine has the smallest percentage of failing students with only 3% of the total deficiencies of the college in that department.

In the number of failing students within a department the Engineering department has the highest number, having 623 students out of a total enrollment of 2320 on the list or in other words, one out of every five students in the Engineering department is passing less than ten hours. Second in number of deficient students but third in percentage is the School of Agriculture with 230 failing students out of a total enrollment of 1814 or about one out of every eight students. Third is the School of Arts and Sciences with 103 failures in the department; while last is the School of Veterinary Medicine with only 31 out of its 350 students failing or one out of every eleven students.

THE CHRISTMAS ISSUE OF The Battalion Magazine will be distributed in the basement of the Administration Building Wednesday afternoon at 4:30 p. m., it was announced today.

NO POSSIBILITY OF AN EPIDEMIC WALTON SAYS

"There is no reason to fear the possibility of an infantile paralysis epidemic," President Walton said today.

"Four doctors have said that the case which resulted in the unfortunate death of Jack Puckett was only a sporadic outbreak and that we need have no fear of an epidemic," he said.

Rumors that the school is to be placed under quarantine are false, Dr. Walton said. "We anticipate following the regular college calendar," he stated.

While College hospital attendants expressed the belief that if any more cases were going to develop they would probably already be obvious, they asked that all students who develop sore throats come to the hospital for treatment.

FIRE BREAKS OUT IN HART SUNDAY

Sunday night from 7:30 to 8:30 a fire was the cause of considerable excitement in Hart Hall. Though Hart is a fire-proof structure, a fire of undetermined origin broke out between the walls of "I" and "J" ramps, causing billows of pungent smoke to pour from the space about a yard wide between the two walls.

Diligent water-pouring by the "fish" soon got the fire under control. However, the College Fire Department was called to make sure it was completely put out. The fire truck arrived in a few minutes, and put an end to what was left of the blaze.

A & M REPRESENTATIVE



Miss Fay Randolph Wilson, above, will be the A. & M. representative to the Sugar Bowl Ball and Festivities to be held during Sugar Bowl Week. Miss Wilson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. Cooke Wilson of Beaumont, was selected by the Association of Former Students as the A. & M. representative.

Marvin Smith Awarded Professional Degree At Testimonial Dinner

Former A. & M. Student Conferred Degree For Outstanding Work in EE

A. & M. honored Marvin Smith, class of '15, by conferring upon him the professional degree of Electrical Engineering at a testimonial dinner held last Thursday night in Sbis Hall. Smith is manager of engineering, Westinghouse Electric & Manufacturing Co., Pittsburgh, Pa.

Smith was born and educated through high school at Overton and entered the study of electrical engineering at A. & M., graduating as valedictorian of his class with the degree of Bachelor of Science. Immediately after his graduation from college he entered the employ of the Westinghouse Company as student engineer and his association with that company has been continuous.

His first work for Westinghouse was in generator engineering operations, first as a design engineer and later as section engineer. Later he was promoted to engineer in charge of design of the larger alternating current machines of the generation division. His next advancement was to the position he now holds with charge of all engineering activities of the company.

Conferring of the professional degree came as a surprise at the banquet which had been planned only to honor a successful ex-student of the college. Dean Bolton, C. C. Hudspeth, of Ft. Worth, E. C. Raek of New York and Waco, and J. H. Belknap, manager of technical employment, Westinghouse Co., each honored Smith in

talks during the dinner. When President Walton arose to end the program the professional degree was conferred. Dr. Walton explained that the degree is conferred on the basis of approved professional work since graduation.

REPRESENTATIVE FOR A. & M. AT BOWL ANNOUNCED

Miss Fay Wilson of Beaumont, attractive daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. Cooke Wilson of that city, has accepted the invitation of President T. O. Walton and of the Association of Former Students of Texas A. & M. to attend the Sugar Bowl events in New Orleans from Dec. 30 through Jan. 2 as the representative of A. & M. College.

She will attend the Annual Sugar Bowl Ball on Dec. 30, and will also represent the college at all the other events put on by the New Orleans Mid-Winter Sports Association, including the Sugar Bowl football game between Texas Christian University and Carnegie Tech.

J. Cooke Wilson is president of the Wilson-Broach Oil Company, president of Hotel Beaumont, and active in other business and civic affairs of the city.

Miss Wilson's escort to the various events will be selected by the New Orleans Mid-Winter Sports Association which is managing the Sugar Bowl program.

Aggies Turn Out For First Christmas Sing As Guion Hall Is Filled By A Singing Corps

BY BILL MURRAY

Sunday afternoon at 4:30 in Guion Hall was inaugurated a new precedent at A. & M.—the Cadet Corps Community Sing to greet the Christmas season. A large audience of Aggies and campus residents was present and participated heartily in the singing. Guion Hall was almost completely filled.

Before the program the Guion Hall organ played a musical reminder which was broadcast over the campus so that all might hear and remember to attend the sing.

At the door students presented the people entering with attractive four-page souvenir leaflet giving the program to be followed and the words of the songs to be sung. First on the program was Senior President Bob Adams, who gave the welcome, declaring that it was

the purpose of the program to instill the true Christmas spirit of joy and fellowship.

Dr. J. J. Woolket, Glee Club Director, whose idea the Community Sing was and who planned the program, led the singing. He expressed his wish that the Sing might become an annual custom, observed even more widely. The entire audience joined in singing to the accompaniment of the mighty organ, a number of the best-known Christmas carols and hymns—"Joy to the World", "O Little Town of Bethlehem", "O Come, All Ye Faithful", "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing", and "Jingle Bells". Cadet Colonel David Thrift gave the Christmas Greetings, giving briefly the history of the Christmas season and spirit. He stated that his program was to allow the Aggies to

Puckett Dies At College Hospital

Infantile Paralysis Causes Death Of Junior Editor of Bat

"Silver Taps" was played Sunday night in memory of Jack Puckett, 19, a junior editor of The Battalion, who died at 10:30 p. m. Saturday in the College hospital of infantile paralysis. Funeral services were held at Weed Funeral Home in Austin Monday afternoon, with burial in an Austin cemetery.

Puckett, only child of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Puckett, Sr., became ill Wednesday afternoon and went to the hospital. His condition was not thought serious, however, until late Saturday afternoon.

Dr. J. E. Marsh and other physicians called into consultation said that because the disease is not common among students of college age and normally occurs late in spring and summer, little fear is felt for further cases here.

The presence of the disease in Puckett's case was not apparent until a few hours before his death. He was in a ward by himself throughout the time of his confinement.

Ten cadets served as pallbearers and an honor guard of 25 Aggies went to Austin for the funeral. His father, division highway engineer, graduate of A. & M., and his mother are the only surviving close relatives.

STUDENT OPINION SURVEY IS MADE ON REFUGEES

BY JOE BELDEN, EDITOR
Student Opinion Surveys of America, Copyright, 1938, for The Battalion

AUSTIN, Texas, Dec. 13—Jewish refugees from Central Europe should not be allowed to come into the United States in great numbers, a large majority of college youth of this country believes, the first national poll of the Student Opinion Surveys of America reveals.

In slightly more than a month Germany has turned its Jews into a world problem, one that may have to be faced by leaders of tomorrow—college men and women of today. Should the United States offer a haven to the persecuted Jews? Although many think some should be admitted if other nations cooperate, seven out of ten are opposed to opening wide the doors of Ellis Island.

These figures are the first announced by the new Student Opinion Surveys, organized with The Battalion as one of the cooperating members among college newspapers over the nation. The Surveys, a non-commercial organization of campus editors, will publish weekly reports based on national referenda similar to those of other polls that recently have been proved highly reliable. The Survey

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"catch up" on their own Christmas spirit, and also that he hoped the Sing might be continued in all future years.

The A. & M. Concert Band played two numbers—"A Christmas Fantasy", an intricate selection consisting of blended strains from all the Christmas songs, and the "Pilgrims' Chorus" from "Tannhauser." The Glee Club sang "We Three Kings of Orient Are" and "The Christmas Song", and sang in fine harmony without accompaniment the beautiful "Peace Be Unto You", which was dedicated to the memory of Cadet Jack Puckett, who had died the night before.

The program was concluded with everybody singing those familiar songs "Silent Night", "Spirit of Aggie Land", and "Home Sweet Home".