

Highway Short Course Informally Opened Today

The fifteenth annual short course in Highway Engineering had an informal opening this morning when the district engineers of the state highway department met here for a business meeting preceding the formal opening of the course Wednesday.

Formal opening of the course will take place at 9:30 when Col. Ike Ashburn, Executive Assistant to the President, will deliver an address of welcome to some 240 engineers, contractors, officials, and others who are interested in the street and highway problems of Texas.

The short course, which will last Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, is expected to be the best attended of any in the history of the course even though no dormitory rooms will be available for the visiting officials as has been the custom in the past. Delegates for the course will stay in hotels and tourist camps both here and in Bryan, according to J. T. L. McNew, Professor of Highway Engineering at A. & M., who is director of this year's meet.

The purpose of the course offered by A. & M. is to bring together the engineers, contractors, officials, and other interested parties such as manufacturers, in order that they may not only hear various phases of the state and national reputation, but also that they may have an opportunity to meet with each other and exchange ideas. In order to carry out this

plan to the fullest extent a certain period of time has been set aside during each day's meeting for the purpose of carrying on a discussion of the topics presented during the day as well as other subjects that might be of interest.

Many prominent officials both in the engineering and construction line of work will speak on vital problems confronting the highways during the meet. Included in the list of speakers will be A. E. Cummings, district manager of the Raymond Concrete Pile Company of Chicago, Illinois; Miles D. Catton, of the development department of Portland Cement Association, Chicago, Illinois; J. L. Harrison, U. S. Bureau of Public Roads, Washington, D. C.; and F. V. Reagel, Engineer of Materials, Missouri State Highway Department, Jefferson City, Mo.

The course will end at noon Friday with a speech on taxation for public improvements by H. C. Bradshaw, Economist on Taxation, after which an adjournment of the meet will be called.

Mis-statement

A statement in The Battalion of last Tuesday to the effect that Jimmy Cokinos, candidate for Senior Representative, was not on the staff of any publication was incorrect. He is with the advertising staff of The Longhorn.

U T Bluebonnet Belle



Miss Margaret Walker of Bryan, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Mills P. Walker, is a Bluebonnet Belle at the University of Texas this year. The Belles are the nominees for Bluebonnet Beauties in "The Cactus," the university yearbook, the beauties not being made public until the book comes out late in the school year. Miss Walker, a member of Alpha Delta Pi sorority, is a senior pre-medical student, though this is only her third year in college.—Photo Courtesy Bryan Eagle.

GARNER'S CHANCES IN 1940 RUN DON'T LOOK BAD, SAYS COLUMNIST

BY CHARLES P. STEWART

Maybe Elliott Roosevelt was right in his recent assertion that Vice President John N. Garner is the leading candidate for the next Democratic nomination as White House tenant. It's hard to believe that F. D. wants the Texan selected. They haven't been overly harmonious in their respective roles at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue and up on Capitol Hill. However, F. D. himself perhaps read some writing on the wall. Anyway, when his own son gambles on the Lone Star statesman it's rather significant. For that matter, even Elliott didn't say that John N. was his preference either. He simply said that he believed the latter would get the nomination, which was quite different from saying that he hoped so. If Elliott was right, if Garner does get the nomination, it assuredly will go a long distance toward proving the truth of the old saying that you can't keep a good man down.

Notorious, if there's a job in this country which forecloses its incumbent against promotion it's the Vice Presidency. A couple of Vice Presidents (Teddy Roosevelt and Cal Coolidge) have graduated into the presidency and then been presidentially nominated and elected, but for a vice president to serve out his vice presidential term, and then to be presidentially nominated? That would be unprecedented. A STRONG CANDIDATE All the same, it's easy to see why Cactus Jack should be a strong candidate. There really are only two material counts against him:

1—He's been vice president. Perhaps he's good enough to offset that.

2—He's nearly 70—traditionally too old to start in on an executive mansion tenancy. Whether or not he can overcome that handicap is problematic.

Garner has peculiar qualifications.

In the first place, strangely enough, his geography is all right. He's a Texan, he should hold the Solid South together. Yet Texas doesn't class as a southern state as the southeastern group do. Therefore he shouldn't have much, if any, sectional opposition.

Secondly, while conservative, he isn't rampantly anti-liberal.

Thirdly, the range of his political experience is almost unlimited. Most past vice presidents have been comparatively unskilled in party technicalities. He's a past master at the game.

Fourthly, he's a marvelous wisecracker.

Things aren't so bad for a congressional party leader when he has a majority back of him. GOES "WAY BACK

But Garner was Democratic leader of the House of Representatives while his group was in a hopeless

minority. His minority was split, too. The Democrats always are. The late Speaker Joseph W. Byrns once explained this to me—from his standpoint.

"We Democrats," he said, "have honest convictions, but we clash in these convictions. The Republicans never clash in campaign time. All they want to do is to break into office. They don't care whether they climb in through the cellar window or scale a drainpipe and enter by way of the attic. Once inside they may quarrel over the loot, but they're a unit in committing burglary. Our Democratic squabbling's done in advance—which is why they beat us on election days."

Nevertheless, Garner kept his split minority in pretty good order. In those days Garner's minority was a trifle too minus to be pleasant.

Yet a majority, if overly preponderant, has a tendency to divide itself. The Republicans showed that trend. The talk was to the effect that an excessive majority was undesirable.

As a newspaperman I dropped in on Leader Garner to ask for information.

He listened and then he said reflectively: "Do you know, I'd rather have a topheavy majority."

He's funny that way.

THE ANCIENT AND ROYAL Order of Handshakers is a student organization on the Niagra University campus.

Club Organized to Help Ride Catching College Students

An organization called the National College-University Travel Club is being formed for the purpose of making ride-catching easier and safer than here-to-fore for college and university students, by an A. & M. student.

The organization proposes the sale of reflecting emblems which can be obtained only by people who are college students and members of the organization.

This, it is said, will enable students to be recognized by drivers both by day and by night traveling and will insure drivers of safe pick-ups, thereby increasing the number and classes of people who pick up riders.

The plan was originated by Keyes Carson of Cuero, an A. & M. student.

REQUESTED BOOKS ARE RECEIVED BY A. & M. LIBRARY

An order for 50 requested books for the library was sent off March 21, according to Dr. T. F. Mayo, Librarian. Out of this order, made possible by gifts from students and Mother's Clubs, 18 have arrived. The rest will come in slowly, Dr. Mayo said.

When the books arrive, students who made the requests will be notified of arrival, and the books will be held so that these students may have first chance.

Another order will be sent off after the holidays. There is around \$20 left in the fund and requests will be filled as long as the money holds out. The books from this last order will probably be available around May 1. At present there are only five or six requests for additional books turned in at the library.

Most of the books ordered were fiction, some were scientific ones. About \$30 has been spent for books with long waiting lists.

The books received are as follows:

Anthony Adverse, by Allen; Ends of the Earth, by Andrews; America South by Beals, The Citadel by Cronin, Rehabs by Du Maurier, The Count of Monte Cristo by Dumas, A World I Never Made by Farrell, A Peculiar Treasure by Ferber, The Fifth Column and the First Forty-nine Stories by Hemingway, Mein Kampf by Adolph Hitler, America's 60 Families by Lundberg, I'm a Stranger Here Myself by Nash, Etiquette by Emily Post, Topper, a ribald adventure by Smith, Days of Our Years by Van Paassen, Divided We Stand, The Crisis of a Frontierless Democracy by Webb, Topper Takes a Trip by Smith, and Nothing but Wodehouse: Edited by Ogden Nash and by P. G. Wodehouse.

AGGIELAND ORCHESTRA RECEIVES FINAL TOUCH WITH VOCALIST

The perfect final touch has been added to A. & M.'s Aggieldand Orchestra lately, in the person of Miss Dorothy Thames, charming brunet vocalist of Victoria.

Dorothy, who is only nineteen, has been singing for many years, and has already appeared with such big name bands as Nick Stuart, Harry Busse, Roger Pryor, and Eddie Fitzpatrick. She has been offered contracts by both Stuart and Busse; but circumstances prevented her acceptance of them.

Her first appearance with the Aggieldand was some time ago, as guest artist. This occasioned her becoming a regular singer with the orchestra, and she first sang in this capacity last Friday night for the annual Sophomore Ball. She sang again for the tea dance the following afternoon, and the third time at the Cotps Dance that night. She will sing at all three R. V. dances this coming week-end.

Dorothy is a very versatile singer—she sings everything from opera to jazz—but she's outstanding as a singer of swing tunes in the Bes Wain manner. Her favorite tunes at the moment are "Hold Tight," the seafood song; Ziggy Elman's "And the Angels Sing," "Begin the Beguine," and Artie Shaw's swing arrangement of the "Indian Love Call." These and "Night and Day," "Softly as the Morning Sunrise," Artie Shaw's "Nightmare" and all other Shaw

arrangements are, incidentally, a few of the numbers the Aggieldand is now featuring.

Dorothy has lived in Victoria a long time—all her life, in fact—but she's traveled considerably. In other words, "she's been around." Many of her summers she has spent down in romantic Old Mexico, where, she says, "Dad fishes, Mom sews, and little Dorothy watches the bull fights."

Dorothy, in addition to being good-looking and a good singer, is quite a good dancer. She has, in addition, a number of other hobbies, pastimes, and talents, about which she is, however, extremely modest.

And she quickly absorbed the spirit of A. & M., as well as the Aggie lingo. She surprised her mother at the dinner table, after her first trip to Aggieldand (to which she is now commuting for the week-ends) by growling, "Hey, Maw, throw me a piece o' de gun waddin'!"

Dorothy has already made quite a hit with the Aggies, who are hoping that she will sing with the Aggieldand for a long time to come—which the Aggieldand is hoping, too.

STUDENTS RECEIVING funds through the National Youth Administration must sign affidavits stating they are U. S. citizens.

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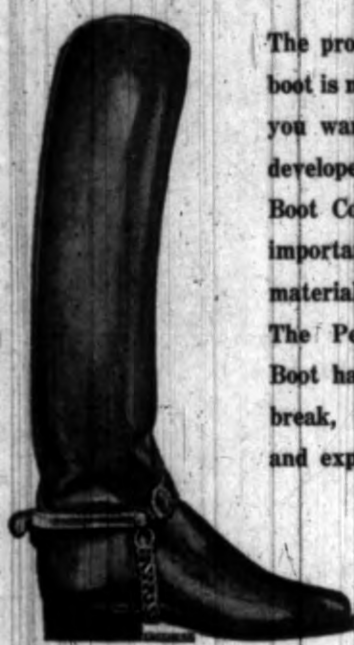
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