

## Most Popular Seniors Are Announced

**Varner, McCullar, Pierce, Sullivan, And Burns Selected**

A. & M.'s senior class has named "Woody" Varner, Max McCullar, "Bodie" Pierce, "Sully" Sullivan, and Bert Burns, as the five most popular seniors of the class of '40, George Smith, editor of The Longhorn, which sponsored the election, has just announced.

One hundred and fifty-four ballots were cast—excelling by 53 the number cast in last year's election. However, the percentage of the class that voted remains approximately the same—about 20 per cent.

Votes cast for the first five were as follows:

1. Durward B. "Woody" Varner, cadet colonel and captain of the basketball team—126.
2. F. M. (Max) McCullar, senior class president—77.
3. F. A. "Bodie" Pierce Jr., head senior yell-leader—70.
4. Walter "Sully" Sullivan, student manager of A. & M.'s Town Hall—55.
5. Berton H. (Bert) Burns, senior yell-leader and president of the A. S. M. E.—45.

A number of other seniors received scattering votes, Smith announced.

Full-page pictures of each of the five will appear in the 1940 Longhorn, as is the custom each year.

## DRAMATICS CLUB PLANS FOR FOUR PLAYS THIS YEAR

At a meeting of the faculty advisory committee of the Cadet Players, newly-formed student dramatics club, it was decided that the organization should present one three-act play and three plays of one act before the end of the term.

However, the group is greatly in need of some women players. All single girls or young married women of Bryan or College Station who desire to be in plays are requested to get in touch at once with Professor C. O. Spriggs of the English Department.

The Aggie Play Committee, composed of R. L. Elkins of the Economics Department, J. J. Woolket of the Modern Language Department, and Mr. Spriggs, voted to dissolve the Aggie Play Committee and to donate their funds to the dramatics club, since little interest has been shown the last two years in putting on an Aggie play.

The basement of Guion Hall has been secured for the storage of the Cadet Players' equipment.

Next meeting of the club will be Thursday evening at 7:30 in room 303 of the Academic Building.

The dramatics club has been arousing much interest, and a large number of students have entered. The faculty members serving as an advisory committee for the student group are professors Spriggs, Woolket, Elkins, M. T. Harrington of the Chemistry Department, and Captain C. F. Burbach of the Military Science Department.

## A. & M. Scientists To Make National Meets

Dr. A. R. Kemmerer of the Division of Chemistry and Dr. P. B. Pearson, professor of animal nutrition in the Department of Animal Husbandry, left by car this morning for New Orleans. They will attend the annual meetings of the American Institute of Nutrition on March 13, and the annual meetings of the American Society of Biological Chemists March 14, 15, and 16. The last time these meetings were held in the South was in 1937 when they were at Memphis.

## Architecture Students Get Data for Cotton Style Show



The fifth-year class of the Department of Architecture visited The Fashion, ladies' specialty store in Houston, last week to make a survey of the new styles which will be shown at the ninth annual Cotton Pageant and Style Show on April 19. These students are competing for an award offered for the best setting for the Pageant. They are shown looking over a new costume modeled by Miss Josephine Roche. Pictured from left to right are Jack Holloway, Francisco Ruiz, Marshall Biggs, Frank Mothes, Paul Rose, Brooks Martin, Theo Holleman, C. A. Griesenbeck, Ross Miller, Arthur Bartel, Harris Northrup, Hal Moseley, and Edwin French.

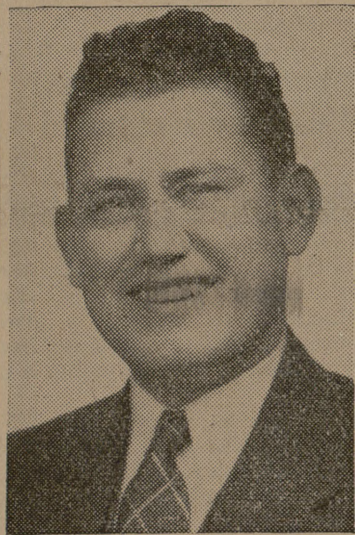
## BILL OWENS, COLLECTOR OF FOLK SONGS, SIGNS CONTRACT FOR TOUR

By Bob Nisbet

Nearly everyone connected with A. & M. either knows or has heard of William Owens, in his official capacity of English instructor or in connection with his hobby of studying and collecting folk songs. Few, if any, however, know of his latest achievement, because it has just happened. Bill has recently signed a five-year contract with Lee Keedick to cover the United States and Canada lecturing on folk music that he has collected from over the Southwest.

His tour is scheduled to start in November of this year under the exclusive management of Keedick, the man who also sponsors such well-known lecturers as Grant Wood and Carl Van Doren. In fact it was partly through the interest that these men showed in Mr. Owens' work that he was able to make the tour. Also among those who have listened to and admired his folk music is Lawrence Tibbett, the Metropolitan Opera star.

In collecting his folk songs Mr. Owens uses a recording machine and makes records. He has over 400 of these. The reason for making the collection was not just a matter of "having something to do" or "just to be collecting something as one collects stamps," but it was to preserve the songs that represented the various cultures found in the southwestern part of the United States. Quite a number of different groups contributed to the building of the Southwest. There were German, Italian, and Czech immigrants, Mexicans from across the border, French Cajuns in South Louisiana, and many groups of negroes. Realizing that the folk songs of these clans are dying out, Bill Owens decided that it



W. A. Owens

would be a good thing if they could be recorded and preserved before they disappeared altogether. He has been working at this task for about ten years.

During his search he has come in contact with all kinds and manner of people. According to him, the most interesting group with which he has had dealings is the French "Cajuns" of the fabulous "Evangeline Country." In obtaining his Cajun music it was necessary for Mr. Owens to penetrate into a territory where the only contact the population has with the rest of the world is by their little flatboats hewn from cypress logs. He has drunk their black French-drip coffee and witnessed life as they live it.

Several clubs and organizations have had the pleasure of hearing Bill Owens lecture and have heard him play his records. In every case the enthusiasm ran high.

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## "Champagne Music" Adds To Aggeland's Social Season

Aggeland's current social season swayed merrily on Friday night as the Coast Artillery regiment presented its fourth annual ball with the officiating of Lawrence Welk and his nationally-known "Champagne Music."

Future coast defenders and their dates waltzed and tangoed for three long-to-be-remembered hours as the lovely Jayne Walton sang her way into the hearts of every cadet in Sbis's main dining room.

Nor was Friday night the first time that Lawrence Welk had appeared at A. & M. Back in 1932 he played for one of the earlier Engineers' dances with a five-piece combination band. "This campus has certainly grown tremendously since that time," he declared.

The thousand persons who attended the prom were with one accord in appraisal of Welk's famous "Champagne Music." Blessed with a fine personality himself; fortunate in having an attractive singer who, in contrast to the general run of girl singers with popular dance bands, could really sing; and the director of a versatile and capable band, Welk's return to the campus will be anxiously awaited by many cadets.

Like the other orchestra leaders on the campus this year, Welk could hardly say enough about the college. "I like very much your unique spirit of good fellowship. It's one of the finest things I have ever seen." He added that he hoped someday he would be able to have a Texas Aggie in his band.

Chairmaned by Curtis Kizer, the dance committee included Joe Slicker, Bob Little, H. B. Parris, Marshall Biggs, Mayo Thompson, G. H. Reynolds, Henry Hertner, Tom Hill, and T. H. Stovell.

Previous to the dance the Coast Artillery juniors held a party at the Bryan Country Club.

## Kumen, Expert On Air-Conditioning, To Give Talk Here

Herbert J. Kumen, manager of the transportation department of the Anemostat Corporation of America, will visit A. & M. Wednesday to speak on the subject of air distribution in air-conditioning, in which he is a widely-known specialist.

Professor C. W. Crawford, head of the Mechanical Engineering Department, announced yesterday that information had been received that Mr. Kumen would be in Houston for the meeting of the Houston section of the American Society of Heating and Ventilating Engineers. Through a long-distance call, Mr. Kumen's visit to A. & M. was made possible.

He will speak to all those interested in mechanical engineering, and air-conditioning in particular, Wednesday at 7 p. m. in the Mechanical Engineering lecture room.

## Ex-Aggie, Owner of Bryan Radio Shop, To Marry Soon

K. S. Halloran of Fort Worth, graduate of A. & M. in electrical engineering with the class of '30, and proprietor of The Radio Shop of Bryan, will be married March 25 to Miss Anna Towns of Dallas.

The couple are planning on going "down Mexico way" on their honeymoon, after which they will return to Mr. Halloran's home in Bryan.

## George Hamilton To Play For Engineers

### 'Dope Ring' Is on WTAW Each Friday

This is how those "cockeyed" radio programs come to be broadcast. Imagine that you are eavesdropping in the vicinity of Stinky Glutz, an M. E. student from "X" Coast. Glutz has just been handed his corrected paper on an A Quiz. Glutz is muttering in a four-day beard . . .

"Wise guy . . . yeh, that smart-aleck! . . . whudduzee thinkieis, anyhow? Like ta see him pop up with the right answer to some questions I could ask . . ."

Hence—a radio quiz program with genuine reverse English. That's the new idea for WTAW's popular Friday afternoon student broadcast, the Aggie Clambake. Tentatively named The Dope Ring, the program will feature four good-natured faculty members and a student master of ceremonies, disguised as Simon Legree, with questions submitted by students.

WTAW director John Rosser said the idea, proposed by Paul Ketselen, managing editor of The Battalion Magazine, would be tried out this Friday afternoon from 4:45 to 5 o'clock. The four faculty victims probably will be C. O. Spriggs (English), W. S. McCutter (Mathematics), P. A. Nutter (Economics), and R. W. Steen (History). Auditions of students for the role of M. C. will be held Thursday night, Rosser said.

## Ralston Purina Mills, Danforth Foundation Offer Fellowships

The Ralston Purina Mills and the Danforth Foundation are offering two summer fellowships to junior students at A. & M. this summer, D. W. Williams, head of the Animal Husbandry Department, has announced.

A total of 38 fellowships are offered in the United States. The course covers intensive training under actual business conditions in St. Louis, followed by two weeks of leadership training at the American Youth Foundation Camp on Lake Michigan.

Last year Durward B. Varner and Wilson B. Buster were awarded fellowships for this college. Dean E. J. Kyle of the School of Agriculture has appointed a committee to select the students who will be given the awards this year. The committee will meet in the Animal Husbandry offices Wednesday, March 20, at 1:15 p. m. Only agricultural students will be considered.

Announcements are available on the bulletin board in the Animal Industries Building and in the offices of the Dairy Husbandry, Agronomy, and Agricultural Economics departments. Any student who wishes to apply should read the details of the announcement and consult the head of his department.

## Orchestra Is Well-Known For Music-Box Music

Ever since his first professional engagement at the Opera Club in Chicago, George Hamilton has been in the public spotlight as one of the prominent orchestra leaders. His present orchestra, featuring Louis Chicco at the harp, and the tenor voice of Lee Norton, is by far the best organization that has played under the baton of the "Music Box Musician."

It is this orchestra that comes direct from Chicago's famous Palmer House to play for the Engineers' Ball at A. & M., Friday and the Corps Dance Saturday, through arrangements with the Music Corporation of America.

Following four successful years at the Opera Club, George Hamilton moved to the north side of Chicago and the Edgewater Beach Hotel. After a lengthy stay, the band was booked for two years at the Book-Cadillac Hotel in Detroit. While in Detroit, the then mayor of New York, Jimmy Walker, heard the band and liked it so much that he induced the Central Park Casino in New York to hire the band.

George Hamilton scored a big triumph at the Casino which did much to popularize his music with dancers everywhere. From then on he had smooth sailing and the name of George Hamilton has burned in bright lights throughout the country. Among the hotel engagements are numbered those at the Waldorf-Astoria in New York, the Drake in Chicago, the Mark Hopkins in San Francisco, the Cosmopolitan in Denver, the Baker in Dallas, the Gunter, San Antonio, and the Roosevelt, Hollywood.

## Bel Canto Group To Sing Here

### Quartet To Appear On Town Hall Soon

The next Town Hall program will take place on March 19th and will consist of musical offerings to be given by the Bel Canto Quartet and Mrs. Nancy Swinford, all of whom are Texans.

For the past ten years the Bel-Cantos have been the featured artists of Radio Station W.F.A.A. in Dallas. To date they have sung in many of the largest cities of the North American Continent, including personal appearances in the Hollywood Bowl, Los Angeles Stadium, where they sang to an audience of 100,000 persons. This group is reputed to be one of the best of its kind in the South and, in the past, has proved to be a success on every occasion as a result of their many years' practice and their splendid blending of harmony.

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# KING UGLY I ABDICATES! Love and Beauty Cause Thompson To Yield -- Hall Wears Crown

By George Fuernann

King Ugly I has abdicated! Throughout the realm of the Kingdom of the Uglies excitement and confusion are the order of the day. Elected King of the Uglies by virtue of the balloting of his loyal and worthy supporters, Irvin Thompson has abdicated his celebrated throne in favor of his close runner-up, Robert C. "Eddie" Hall. Asked to give The Battalion an exclusive statement, Thompson declared, "I feel that I am unfit to reign as King of the Uglies. I'm too handsome, and anybody knows that you've got to be ugly to be a king of the uglies." Investigat-

ing further on its own initiative, however, The Battalion found a more concrete reason for Thompson's abdication. It was disclosed that Thompson had received a telegram from his fiancée which read, "Irvin: If you go through with this Ugly Boy championship, you're through with me too." The telegram was signed "Sophronia." So now his exalted and magnificent excellency, Eddie Hall, reigns supreme as the august and mighty King of the Uglies. His coronation, which will take place on the steps of the Y. M. C. A. tonight, will be an affair of majestic grandeur and stately beauty; one

long awaited by his loyal and patriotic subjects.

Said King Hall from his spacious throne room in the palace, "I still think Thompson is uglier than I am, but, as the voters indicated, there's little question but what I'm the second ugliest man in the kingdom." The King went on to say, "At least I'll get one degree from A. & M. College." And right he is, because each year the citizens of the Kingdom of the Uglies confer upon their King the B. U. degree—Bachelor of Ugliness.

From his modern little home in Uglyville, the abdicating Thomp-

son made his historic renouncement of the throne through an address via a world-wide radio network. "At long last," he said, "I have come to this difficult decision. I have a choice between my kingdom and the woman I love, and it is to her that I choose to go."

But back to the coronation again . . . An occasion of pompous and regal splendor befitting his majesty's dignity, the kingdom's Uglies confer upon their King the B. U. degree—Bachelor of Ugliness. Immediately after supper tonight the Kingdom of the Uglies will crown a new sovereign as his majesty-

to-be, Eddie Hall, becomes monarch of the uglies, King Ugly II.

Voting in the runoff election of Backwash's Ugly Boy contest fell off slightly from the record vote cast in the first primary. Two thousand and eighty-four votes were cast in the runoff with Irvin Thompson, Field Artillery junior from Silsbee, leading the balloting with 571. Close on Thompson's heels was Robert C. "Eddie" Hall, Infantry senior from Electra, with 522. S. D. Martin was third with 430, Roy Chappell fourth with 416, and Maurice E. Shepherd last with 145.

## Bureau of Standards Division Chief To Address Chem Society

"Hydrocarbons in Petroleum" will be the subject of an illustrated lecture by Dr. F. D. Rossini of Washington, to the A. & M. Section of the American Chemical Society at 8 p. m., Wednesday.

Dr. Rossini is chief of the section on thermochemistry and constitution of petroleum of the U. S. Bureau of Standards.

Due to the large quantities of petroleum produced in Texas, the subject of the address is of great interest, and the talk will not be as technical as its name suggests, it was announced by Dr. G. S. Fraps.

The meeting will be held in the Chemistry lecture room.