

Colorful Festivities Friday Climax Year For The Class Of '40

Engineers' Day, Mothers' and Dads' Day Fill Weekend Calendar of Activities

Two-Day Program Of Activities To Entertain Parents

Numerous Ceremonies And Shows To Be Highlights Of Parent Entertainment

As a mass tribute to Aggie parents, the Corps of Cadets will stage its annual Mothers' and Dads' Day Review on Sunday, May 12. The review, however, will be only the high point of the whole weekend in which parents of A. & M. students will be honored and given the opportunity to become more thoroughly acquainted with their sons' school and work. Everything possible is being done to make the parents and visitors feel welcome and to give them a parents' portion of the famous Aggie spirit. Walton Hall is being vacated to accommodate the parents who will spend Saturday night on the campus, and the new Kiest Lounge in Dormitory No. 2 will be open from 2:00 Friday until 8:00 Sunday night for their enjoyment.

The first part of the weekend's program is the Engineers' Day show, in which all the engineering departments will give displays showing the work of their department and other things of special interest. The displays will remain open and in charge of students from 9:00 Saturday morning until 9:00 that night. Much of interest to both parents and Aggies may be gained by a tour of the displays.

As has been customary for the past several years, the Brazos County A. & M. Mothers Club will have a tea Saturday, honoring all visiting parents in the Y. M. C. A. lobby from 2 until 5 p. m. This display of hospitality and friendship has been one of the outstanding things for the visitors in past years. Also at 2:00 o'clock Saturday the Aggie baseball team will play the Baylor team on Kyle Field.

A reception for the parents will be held that night by the college president in his home. Dr. and Mrs. T. O. Walton will receive the visitors at 7:30. For those who wish to dance, Russ Morgan will play in Sbsa Hall from 9 until 12.

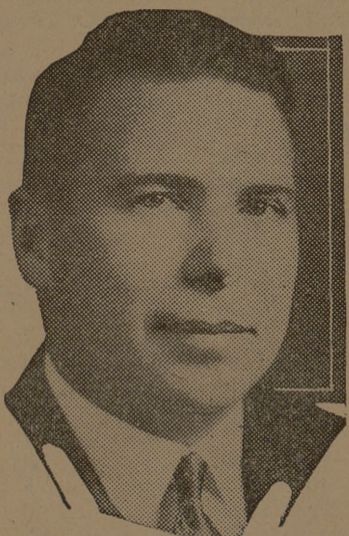
The traditional flower pinning ceremony will be held by each organization from 8:30 to 9:30 on Sunday morning. Each organization is formed in its usual place, and the commander's mother or sweetheart meets and pins a Mothers' Day flower upon the breast of each cadet. First-sergeants of organizations in the old area may get their flowers in the Y. M. C. A. lobby at 8:00 Sunday morning. First-sergeants in the new area may get theirs at the old consolidated high school at 8:00 o'clock. Also at this time the organization awards are made. Following this ceremony, the corps of cadets will march in review for the visiting parents at 10:00 o'clock. Here the parents will see the entire corps drawn up in one body and will realize the tremendous size of the corps.

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Dr. Levell To Speak To Baptist Students Here Friday Night

The A. & M. Baptist Student Union is to have the privilege of hearing Dr. Frank H. Levell, a world-youth leader and head of the Southern Baptist student work. The event will be all the more important to the B. S. U. because this year is the twentieth anniversary of the coming of Rev. R. L. Brown to the campus. It is also the twentieth anniversary of the beginning of the B. S. U. work in Texas. Mr. Levell will speak Friday night to the first all-Baptist student banquet held here. He is the south-wide secretary of the organization.

New Head of Texas Welfare Society



The Texas Welfare Association, which held its annual convention at Galveston last week elected Daniel Russell, head of the Department of Rural Sociology at Texas A. & M. College, as president. The Association also voted to meet in Dallas in 1941.

Engineer Corps To Show Combat War Operations

According to plans announced this week, the A. & M. Engineer regiment will sponsor an exhibit in the A. & M. Engineering Show Saturday showing the construction and operations of military engineers during combat.

The entire exhibit will be done in miniature and promises to be most realistic. The featured topics will include a trestle bridge, double-apron fence (barbed wire entanglement), concertina (barbed wire obstacles), demolition equipment (detonator, explosives, etc.), gin pole, stereoscope and anaklyph (used in connection with aerial photography), camouflage, pontoon bridge, mapping equipment.

These exhibits will show that one of the most important fundamentals embraced by the operations of military engineers is efficiency, and all of their work is intended, of a temporary nature. For example, a bridge to be used for transporting troops during a battle would be considered 100% efficient if it collapsed immediately after the last man went over.

All are welcome to attend this exhibit which will be shown in Room 101, M. E. Shops, where engineering students will be on hand to explain the above named topics.

To date, the Engineer regiment is the only military unit at A. & M. to announce an exhibit for Engineers' Day.

High School Bands Compete For Honors At Baylor This Week

More than 5,000 young musicians from high schools in Texas, New Mexico and Oklahoma will swarm the Baylor University campus Thursday, Friday and Saturday for the national high school band competition for region six, Ben S. Peck, director, said.

The band meet will be the largest held in the United States during 1940 with 82 bands and 9 orchestras from 150 towns in attendance. There will be also representatives from 75 schools registered for individual contests.

Although not entered in contests the outstanding Orange, Texas, Bengal Guards, unique all-girl drum and bugle corps, directed by H. J. Lutzer Stark, lumberman, will attend the festival. The corps, including rookies, and substitutes, numbers 235 girls.

Electric Sign On E.E. Bldg. Heralds Engineers' Day

Wm. P. Smith, AIEE Prexy, Student in Charge of This Year's 11th Annual Show

Texas A. & M.'s eleventh annual Engineers' Day has been heralded for the past week by an electric sign on the tower of the Electrical Engineering Building, but this big day for the engineers is not until Saturday. All preparations have been made to make this show of the greatest interest to the visiting parents and to acquaint the Aggies themselves with the work of all departments other than their own.

William P. Smith Jr., president of the A. I. E. E., is the student in charge of this year's show. The goal of the show is for this to be the largest of all previous Engineers' Days and if possible, larger than the engineering day of any other leading college or university in the state. The Engineering Council, made up of the officers of the student chapters of the various engineering societies on the campus, is acting as coordinator for the various exhibits. The chapters participating in the show are the

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RICE PREXY TO BE HONORED AT A.A.U.P. BANQUET

Tribute Dinner To Take Place Tonight in Sbsa Banquet Room at 7:00

With 150 tickets already sold, fully 200 faculty members, wives, students and guests are expected to attend the annual spring banquet tonight of the A. & M. College Chapter of the American Association of University Professors, according to an announcement made Wednesday by Dr. I. P. Trotter, president of the local chapter. The banquet will take place tonight at 7:00 o'clock in the banquet room of Sbsa Hall.

Feature of the banquet will be a dinner tribute to Dr. Edgar Odell Lovett, president of Rice Institute, who will also deliver the main address. Dr. Lovett will speak on "Student Interest In Intellectual Standards."

Representatives of other Texas colleges which have accepted invitations to send representatives to the banquet include Baylor, San Marcos, and Rice with delegates also expected from the University of Texas.

Tickets for the banquet may be obtained from Dr. Trotter at the Agronomy Department and are 85 cents for outside admission and 60 cents for student admission. All students and outsiders that possibly can have been invited to attend the dinner, and in addition, members of the Scholarship Honor Society have been invited to attend after their regular meeting.

Ceremonies To Be Performed to the Music Of Russ Morgan and His Noted Orchestra



Lovely Carolyn Clarke, featured vocalist with Morgan's orchestra, who will appear both Friday and Saturday nights.



Russ Morgan, leader of the noted orchestra playing for the senior dances tomorrow night and the corps dance Saturday night.

Over 700 Seniors To Participate In Traditional Rites

A. & M.'s class of '40 will celebrate the crowning social event of their college years and their coming graduation Friday night with the long-awaited fifth annual Senior Ring Banquet and Dance, to the noted music of Russ Morgan and his orchestra.

More than 700 members of the class and their dates will be present in Sbsa Hall when Max McCullar, president of the class, welcomes the members and their dates. W. W. Sullivan, student manager of Town Hall, will act as toastmaster.

Beginning at 7 and lasting until 9 p. m., the Banquet and Ring Ceremony is an occasion never to be forgotten. With the soft music of Russ Morgan and his orchestra drifting through the room filled with uniformed cadets and their escorts, each senior and his date will, in turn, ascend the steps behind the huge Ring, and pause in its center. The young lady will then remove the senior's class ring from his finger and replace it in the opposite position, with the '40 toward the end of the finger. He will wear it thus henceforth and forever. The couple then exchanges a kiss and descends the steps to the front, returning to their seats.

Only speaker of the evening will be Cadet John L. Dodson, Class Historian, who will trace the history and accomplishments of the most active class of '40.

Following the Banquet, the Ring Dance will begin at 10, or as soon thereafter as possible. Russ Morgan and his orchestra will play their inimitable "music in the Morgan manner" until 2 a. m. Morgan is without a doubt one of the most popular maestros ever to visit the campus, and the magic of his baton is expected to weave a charm over the hearts of all the dancers.

Although the Ring Dance was begun as an annual affair only five years ago, it has already become the most eagerly-awaited occasion of the year for each graduating class. Social Secretary Hammer and associates have spared no pains in making preparations for the most complete and enjoyable dance in the history of Aggieland. In addition to contracting a top-notch band, such innovations as printed invitations, never before used, were arranged for. And the favors, which are being molded as exact replicas of the top of the senior ring, are said to be the most beautiful ever given.

Plans Announced For Summer Tour In Economics

An announcement of the third annual Agricultural Economics Summer Travel Course 400s was made recently by J. W. Barger, head of the department.

The purpose of the course, which will be held during the second session of summer school, July 22 through August 31, will be to study agricultural practices, particularly poultry, vegetables, ranching, and use of land for purposes of recreation, forestry, and lumber. Farming conditions in the dust bowl and marketing of farm commodities will be other units of particular study.

Anyone who is granted the consent of Mr. Barger may make the trip, for there are no courses prescribed as prerequisites. The six-week subject carries a six-hour credit value. The basic cost of the trip, which includes transportation, meals, lodging, and registration, will be \$187.50. The contingent of students and their leader, L. S. Payne of the Agricultural Economics Department, will travel 7,000 miles by automobile or bus through twelve states in the Rocky Mountains, Pacific Coast, and Southwest regions.

Friday's Just a Day to Most of Us But to Seniors It's Day of Days

By Ray Treadwell

Friday, May 10 may be just another day to most people, but to the seniors of A. & M. it is their biggest day of the year, and one to which they have looked forward with eager anticipation. For it is the date of the Senior Ring Banquet and Dance!

When this most noted and outstanding event of the class of '40 is presented Friday night in the simple but beautiful military manner for which it is unsurpassed, it will mark the outgrowth of an idea formed five years ago to make the senior class dance at A. & M. the most outstanding event of its kind. And today it is, for the ring ceremony Friday will be the largest and most elaborate of its kind ever presented by a military institution.

For years, until the class of 1936, the senior dance has been nothing more than a stately senior prom. True, it was an outstanding event for the seniors, but it possessed nothing to set it off from the thousands of other senior proms given at other colleges and universities.

However, members of the 1936 class decided that they wanted something distinctive and particularly worth remembering and so in their dance they included all the pomp and quiet charm for which the West Point affair was noted, plus Aggieland traditions, and the result was that to the largest military school in the United States came the largest, most outstanding military ring dance.

So outstanding was the first senior ring dance given in 1936 that leading newspapers sent reporters and photographers to cover the event.

Since that time the original senior ring used in the turning ceremony has twice been replaced with a newer, more up-to-date model but the actual ceremony and dance

have remained substantially the same.

This year's orchestra, Russ Morgan, will be in keeping with plans of other ring dances which have always, with the exception of the first affair, featured an outstanding nationally-known orchestra. When the first dance was planned it was felt that the Aggieland Orchestra would fit in better with the simple military theme and for that reason it was used. Previous senior proms, however, had featured the music of such orchestras as Anson Weeks and Joe Candulla and this practice was readopted in 1937. Since that time Henry Halstead, Glen Gray, and Del Courtney have played for the traditional affair.

Morgan's orchestra is probably the best-known and is expected to be the best-received of any yet to play for the senior dance.

Subscriptions To Walton Portrait Fund Close On May 15

The T. O. Walton Portrait Fund Committee has announced that subscriptions to the fund will be closed on May 15 but until that time donations will still be accepted.

The portrait will be completed ahead of schedule and will be presented to the college at commencement. The presentation will be made at the annual joint Faculty-Former Student Commencement Luncheon.

The Walton Fund Committee is made up of M. J. Miller, '11, chairman, and John C. Burns, '04, treasurer. Donations should be sent to the T. O. Walton Portrait Fund Committee, 1603 Fort Worth National Bank Building, Fort Worth, Texas.

AGGIE JUNIOR ELECTED CHAIRMAN ON ASCE'S TEXAS STUDENT BRANCH

Britt Christian, junior of Company B Engineers from Jefferson, Texas, was elected chairman of the Texas Student Conference of the American Society of Civil Engineers at the recent meeting of the organization in Galveston. The office, which is the highest student executive position in the organization, was conferred upon an Aggie for the first time.

As chairman, Christian will preside at the annual fall and spring conventions held next year.

The Texas Section of the American Society of Civil Engineers met in Galveston recently with seventeen A. & M. seniors, Dean Gilchrist, and several members of the Civil Engineering faculty attending. Besides A. & M., Rice Institute, Texas University, S. M. U., and Texas A. & I. were represented at the meet.

After the registration, several interesting professional papers were presented, following which

the entire convention moved temporarily to Texas City, where the huge electric crane, used in connection with the transcoastal "sea train," was explained and demonstrated. Immediately afterward, the group returned to Galveston for the semiannual dinner-dance.

Saturday morning started with a convention breakfast, the guest speaker being George W. Seabury, secretary-treasurer of the national A. S. C. E. Other speakers were Dean Gilchrist of A. & M. and Dean T. U. Taylor of the University of Texas.

Next the professional and student chapters of the organization held their respective business meetings. Saturday afternoon student papers were presented. A. & M.'s Jack West, who spoke on "Early Surveying in Texas," won second place.

Saturday evening the entire convention group went aboard the pleasure cruiser Galvez for a ride in Galveston Bay, after which it adjourned.

Again: OUR AIMS

AN EDITORIAL EXPRESSION

The Texas Aggies are already entering into the fifth week of their concerted stay-at-home-and-study, save-your-money, support-a-local-theater campaign—and we can remember how a few people at the beginning of the movement predicted, with little faith in Aggie "stick-to-it-iveness", that it was going to "blow over" in a couple of days!

Since the beginning, there have been some skeptics who have persisted in taking the wrong attitude about every phase of our decision not to patronize the theaters of Bryan until we have convinced either the Bryan Amusement Company or the Dallas picture distributing agents for this area that the present high-pressure, discriminatory, monopolistic, unfair contract now held by the Bryan shows (by which no picture may be shown at College Station until 45 days after it's been to Bryan) is relinquished in our favor, by either the Bryan firm or the Dallas distributors.

There have been continuous and countless rumors falsely maligning the purposes of the Aggie campaign. Although The Battalion has explained the situation several times at length, the rumors continue to flow thick and fast. It seems necessary at this time again to restate our purpose.

Our purpose is simply this: to secure first-class, first-run pictures and date-to-date showings of them, on a free and equal basis with Bryan.

We are not concerned with who at College Station shows them—so long as they are shown.

We will restate what has been stated in The Battalion on three separate occasions: the campaign is not directed against any person or firm in Bryan other than the picture shows.

If any business there is suffering, it comes about as an unfortunate result but not an object of our movement—the result of the discriminatory practices of the motion picture business.

Cadet Colonel Woody Varner yesterday made the following statement for The Battalion and the cadet corps:

"WE ARE DEFINITELY MAKING PROGRESS. Representatives of three major distributing agencies have been at A. & M. during the past week conferring with picture show operators, college officials, and leaders in the student movement.

"They are amazed at the solidity of the student body, the unanimity and strength of its feeling. One and all, they have expressed sympathy with the purpose of our movement, and have given us encouragement to believe in our ultimate success.

"The Bryan Amusement Company obtains all its shows on a percentage basis, with a required minimum averaging 30 to 35 percent. Its revenues have fallen to the minimum.

"Representatives of the distributors admit that their revenues from the Bryan shows have fallen 'more than fifty percent', and that of course the movement has hurt them.

"Right now they are endeavoring to reach a compromise agreement, and have made several compromise offers.

"However, I feel sure that the cadet corps would not be satisfied with anything else than date-to-date booking with Bryan. And I think we're going to get it.

"Our object to begin with was free and equal availability of shows with Bryan—and we're not backing down a single foot until we do achieve this."

Rumors have also been circulated that the Aggies have been "breaking over".

It is true—just as was anticipated from the very beginning—that there have been a handful of Aggies going to the Bryan shows—dressed in civilian clothes.

These boys, who call themselves Aggies, are again reminded that they are non-representative, "non-reg", and non-Aggies, in lack of both uniform and spirit.

The old axiom still applies: There's bound to be a rotten apple in every barrel.