

War Department Holds Fate Of \$350,000 Airport

Dean Emeritus Puryear Near Death

Has Been In Oxygen Tent Since Tuesday

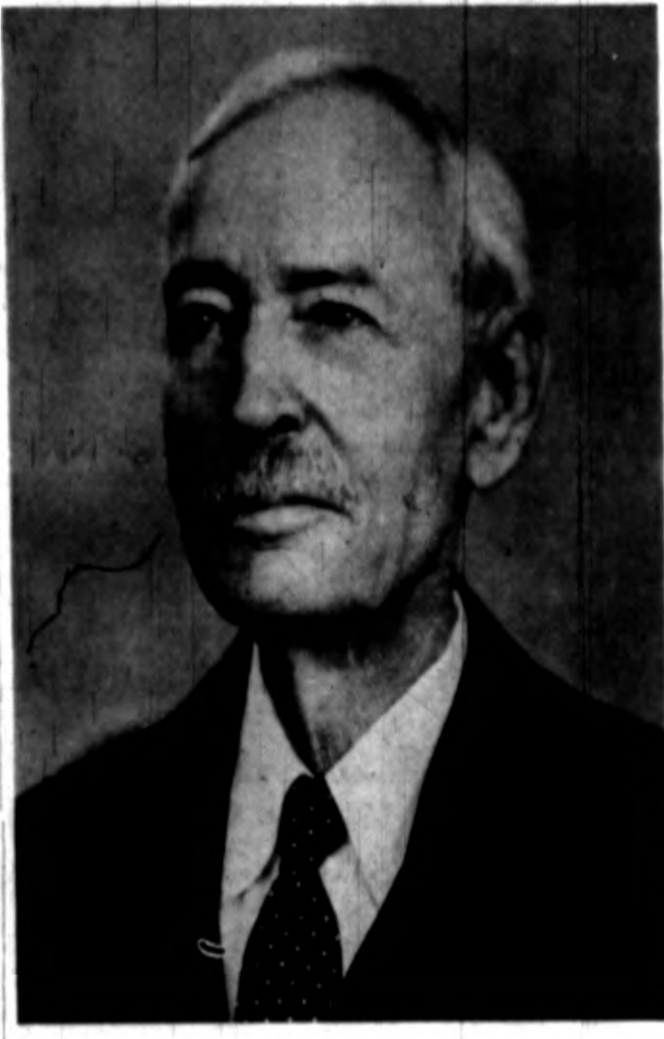
Texas A. & M.'s Dean Emeritus Charles Puryear is in a critical condition at the Wilkerson Memorial Hospital in Bryan following the amputation of his right leg Saturday. His leg was amputated to prevent the spread of an infection.

Dean Puryear has been under an oxygen tent since Tuesday afternoon but he is reported to be sinking rapidly.

His physician, Dr. T. T. Walter, described his condition as "very serious" and held little hope that the famed A. & M. professor and official would survive many more hours.

Thousands of messages from friends and associates throughout the nation have been pouring into the Wilkerson Hospital. Dean Puryear's brother, John Puryear of New York City, arrived yesterday and other relatives are expected today.

Dean Emeritus Charles Puryear



Texas A. & M.'s Dean Emeritus Charles Puryear who is near death as a result of a leg amputation last Saturday.

A graduate of the University of Virginia, Dean Puryear came to A. & M. College in 1899 and for 42 years served as a member of the faculty, Head of the Department of Mathematics, Dean of the College, Dean of the Graduate School and for a year as president pro-tem.

Possessor of numerous distinctions, Dean Puryear holds degrees of LL.D., M.A., and C.E. He is the oldest member of the college staff in point of service and has been connected with the institution 51 years. He will be 80 years of age on October 21.

Puryear Hall, one of the finest dormitories on the campus was named for him in 1928, and he is the only person ever allowed to build and own his home on the A. & M. campus.

A small, white-haired gentleman 'of the old school', he dwells in his fine old two-story home finding pleasure in good books, a good radio, and enjoys visits from his older friends connected with the college as well as from the thousands of students with whom he has come in contact during a half-century devoted to educating youth.

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No Day Students Until Dorms Full Is Board Ruling

In accordance with a ruling made some time ago by the A. & M. Board of Directors, the college regulations now require that all students who register must live in college-owned buildings on the campus until these have been filled. The order of assignment shall be first the dormitories until they are filled; then the project houses on the campus. After these have been filled students may live in other approved houses.

For a number of years the college has been confronted with the problem of providing adequate housing for its students. After much effort, a large sum of money was borrowed to build additional dormitories, and the college obligated itself to pay the loan from room rents. The dormitories are now available and in order to meet this obligation the new rule must be effected.

Under this rule, those who apply to live outside the dormitory will have to wait until the opening of College on September 18 for a definite assignment, since many of the old students do not make room reservations until the beginning of the long session.

"This rule applies to all students who register in the college; those who live with parents or other relatives; those who work outside the college, and all others," Dean F. C. Bolton stated.

Texas Agricultural Writers Here For Annual Meeting and Conference

The annual Conference of the Texas Agricultural Writers' Association will be held here July 11 and 12. Registration will be at the College Hospital upon arrival, and meals will be served family style in Sbia Hall. Tickets may be purchased from A. D. Jackson, officers of the association, or from Mrs. Irene Claghorn, assistant superintendent of the hospital, who will act as hostess.

The opening session will be called to order by President J. R. Killgore of the Rosebud News at 2:00 p. m. today. Committees for next year will be appointed and the president will deliver his annual address. At 2:30 p. m. C. A. Price of the Associated Press will speak on "Weekly Newspapers and the Press News Services". T. C. Richardson of Farm and Ranch will speak on "The Press, The Farm, The War" at 3:00 p. m.

Arthur LeFever of the Texaco Star will speak on "The Subscriber's Stake in Advertising" at 3:45 p. m. Supper will be served at Scoate's Lake in Hensel Park at 6:00 p. m.

At 9:00 a. m. Friday Fletcher Davis of the Hondo Anvil Herald will address the group on "The Farm Paper". H. B. Fox of the Madisonville Meteor will speak on "The Editor's Part in the Subscription Deal" at 9:30. Mrs. DeWitt McMurray of the Semi-Weekly Farm News will follow with an address on "Woman, Farm and Otherwise", at 10. Byron Winstead, A. & M. Director of Publicity will speak on "What Do You Want From Us?" at 11:30. Friday afternoon will be used for the election of officers, and the meeting will be adjourned upon completion of the election.

Fifty delegates attended the conference last summer.

The Line Forms On The Left - Juke Boxers Can Jig Gratis This Weekend

Summer school students were surprised earlier this summer when the Physical Education Department announced it would sponsor weekly "Juke Box Proms", admission charge for which would be only fifteen cents or two-for-a-quarter.

The biggest surprise of all, however, came yesterday morning when directors W. L. Penberthy and Luke Harrison announced that this week's Juke Box Prom would be free to all.

When the dances were originally announced, it was explained that any profit made would be spent to bring in an orchestra for a "final ball" at the end of the semester. About \$30 profit has been made on the three dances given thus far this summer. Penberthy pointed out that any orchestra brought to the college would cost considerably more than this amount and, as a result, the admission charge would necessarily have to be raised.

Student sentiment, Harrison declared, didn't seem to be strongly in favor of bringing in an orchestra so it was decided to return the profit to the student body with a free dance this Saturday night.

The tremendous popularity of these summer dances has been growing by leaps and bounds each weekend. Not only the low admission charge, but the informal style has been credited by Penberthy and Harrison for the popularity of the proms.

Attendance at the dances has been between 350 and 450 persons each weekend.

Saturday night's dance will be the last this semester, but the proms will be held throughout the second semester in the same manner that they were conducted this term.

W. C. Parker, '40, Weds Miss Timberlake

Willie C. Parker, Centerville, Texas and Miss Addie Belle Timberlake, Trinity, Texas, were married at the bride's home Friday afternoon, July 28.

Aggieland Rejected By Fitch Show

Officials to Make One More Attempt

College officials received word this morning to the effect that Jack Littlejohn's Aggieband Orchestra would not appear on the 1940 Fitch Bandwagon.

Every possible attempt was made to secure the A. & M. orchestra a place on the Fitch Company's current summer programs and, despite the rejection, a last attempt will be made today and tomorrow.

F. W. Fitch Company executives declared that the principal reason for the rejection was the tremendous added cost of broadcasting a national network program from the south. The additional line charges and other added costs would make the broadcast prohibitive, they said.

However, Fitch officials will be asked to reconsider if the orchestra will agree to get to Chicago or St. Louis where the broadcast can originate without additional line charges.

Littlejohn, now in Tulsa, Texas, was not available for a statement. During the early part of the summer he has been reorganizing his band and rehearsing with a view to securing a place on the Fitch program.

Each summer F. W. Fitch Company stages a weekly radio show via NBC featuring unknown orchestras which are the near-equal of the name orchestras. Usually these orchestras are college or university organizations. A. & M.'s significance in the educational world and its current importance as the home of the national championship football team was believed to be the main points upon which the Fitch Company would book the band which is a considerable better-than-average organization.

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4,200 Register For Annual Farmers' Short Course Which Ends Tomorrow

The 29th annual Farmers' Short Course will close tomorrow after the two-day session is completed. More than 4,200 persons attended the meetings during the week which included the annual 4-H Club meeting earlier in the week.

2,200 4-H Club members, county agents, and sponsors converged on the campus for the junior division of the meeting. Of this number, 1,846 of the registrants were 4-H Club members; 907 girls and 939 boys.

Approximately 2,000 Texas farmers and their wives registered for the adult division of the short course which began this morning. However, no exact figures were available at press time.

As usual, the Farmers' Short Course, which is the oldest and most important of A. & M.'s numerous short courses, attracted several other meetings to the campus at the same time. Included in this group are the meetings of the Texas Agricultural Writers' Conference, the Hereford Cattle Breeders' Association, and the Texas Master Farmers.

The adult division of the short course is being conducted in a manner similar to regular school activity. Fifty minute periods of instruction are spread throughout the day. Course members will also be taken on a tour of the campus. A group sing-song will be held at Kyle Field tonight.

The 4-H Club Short Course program was divided between educational and entertainment features.

The educational program for the girls was divided into two courses, "Making the Home More Livable" and "The Land and the Food" while the boys were given numerous demonstrations and talks on better farming and better living. For the boys there was also planned recreation in the afternoons under the supervision of W. L. Penberthy, Head of the Physical Education Department. A fireworks display was held on Kyle Field Monday night, and a program of trained artists was presented Tuesday night.

The Executive Committee, which has been in charge of the course, includes H. H. Williamson, Mildred Horton, Jack Shelton, D. L. Weddington, and Roy W. Snyder.

Seek A. & M. Unit Of United States Air Corps

College Contributes 400 Acres of Land To Project; Decision Expected In 30 Days

Plans are well under way for securing \$350,000 to build an A. & M. College airport which will be the equal of any college or university airport in the nation.

Dean Gibb Gilchrist, Dean of the School of Engineering, has been in Washington, D. C. conferring with War Department officials in respect to securing this money from the \$25,000,000 extra appropriation made recently for national defense purposes.

The college stands ready to contribute almost 400 acres of land to the project. Both Civilian Aeronautic Authority officials and United States Air Corps officials have inspected the location of the present College Airport and have found the place suitable for the construction of the proposed new airport.

Independence Day For 4-H Clubbers!! Cigars, Sodas and Parasols Reign Tops

By Peggy Campbell

Farmers' Short Course! To local resident of long standing this phrase signifies only the routine of crowded streets, a closed swimming pool, and general congestion on the campus. But to thousands of boys and girls throughout the state the magical phrase conjures up visions of new and entertaining things, the remembrance of which will live in their memory until another year and another short course.

Many of these kids have never been away from home and mother before, and this is their first taste of independence. Little boys smoking huge cigars is a common sight around here during the short course. Long lines of girls, carefully supervised by their sponsors, move across the campus from the mess hall to the stadium. Parasols and sunbonnets make their appearance for the only time during the year.

The kids have a grand time, paddling blissfully around the swimming pool, enjoying the picture show en masse at the Assembly Hall, taking part in the group singing, watching the fireworks at the stadium, and so on ad infinitum.

Little black shine boys have a field day and the various concession stands do a record business during the short course. "Sodas" and cokes are tops on the request list for refreshments.

One of the principal aims in securing the new airport is the desire to establish a unit of the United States Air Corps here. It is believed that this will follow if the new airport is secured.

"Investigation has shown us that we would be able to train 1,000 men a school-year in preliminary

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\$32,000 WPA Project Gets Under Way Locally

79 Men Employed in General Improvement Work On A. & M. Campus

With one unit already completed, Texas A. & M. is sponsoring the second of a series of three W. F. A. projects for the general improvement of the grounds on the A. & M. campus, particularly with respect to drainage.

The first unit of the project started last December. This unit covered the curb, gutter and sidewalks leading to the new dormitories. It also included street work around the new area and drainage improvements at several locations on the campus. About \$40,000 was expended on this unit.

The second unit, just beginning, consists of further drainage improvements, curb and gutter work, sidewalks, and the topping of streets with asphalt. These streets include Nagle street leading down to the new dormitories, Lamar street on the north side of the new dormitories, and Coke street which skirts the new dormitories.

The drainage improvement will consist of lining several of the main drainage channels of the college property with concrete. The expense of this is approximately \$32,000 and 79 men are employed in the work.

The college, as sponsor, provides about one-fourth of the total cost. The balance is paid by the federal government.

An application for a third W. F. A. project has been made. This unit will cover the construction of a sewage treatment plant, tennis courts, and other work. The type of material to be used on the tennis courts has not yet been decided, but will consist of either asphalt or cement or both. The total cost of this project will be \$83,000. The final approval of this unit is expected within a few days.

New W T A W Radio Series Begins Sunday

The first of a new radio series featuring talent from nearby cities will be presented Sunday morning at 9 o'clock over WTAW, the A. & M. broadcasting station, with Navasota as the first "guest town."

The series was announced today by John O. Rosser, college radio director, who said it will be called "Meet Your Neighbors." The present schedule calls for seven weekly half-hour programs, continuing through August 23, but they will be continued indefinitely if the idea takes hold.

The Navasota program which inaugurates the series was prepared by Miss Lucile Nemir, editor of The Navasota Examiner. It will narrate the "Cavalcade of Navasota" from the founding of that pioneer city until the present. Popular music of each historic era and the historic battle songs of Texas will form part of the story.

Similar programs in the "Meet Your Neighbors" series will be broadcast by performers from Hearne, Calvert, Hempstead, Bellville, Bryan, and Madisonville, Rosser said. "The facilities of WTAW are open to all our neighbors," he declared. "Since we are about the only broadcasting station in this vicinity, we are making every effort to allow all the towns in our listening area to participate. Any town within easy driving and good listening distance is welcome to cook up its own show."

Stidham Funds Ups To High of \$1,083.43

Originated to aid Aggie George Stidham, whose back was broken in an accident several weeks ago, the Stidham Fund has reached \$1,083.43.

The drive has received notice throughout the state, and donations have been received from friends of the college in various parts of the state as well as A. & M. mothers' clubs, faculty members, local and Bryan business men, and the student body.

Committee chairman George Fuermann pointed out that donations are still being accepted at the Fiscal Office.