

National Events Bring Spanish Prominence As "The" Language To Be Studied By All Collegians

After many years in the doldrums the study of Spanish begins to awaken new interest. Student enrollments in Spanish language classes in American colleges and universities begin to show substantial increase over 1939.

With the opening of the Pan-American highway to Mexico City in the summer of 1936 fall enrollments in Spanish classes throughout the United States have shown a definite pickup for the first time in more than a decade. A slow but steady increase in enrollment has occurred each subsequent year; the average gain was a little over six per cent for the 1939-40 school year over 1938-39.

Since the opening of the war in Europe last year and the closer relations brought about by President Roosevelt's "Good Neighbor" policy interest in Spanish has increased by leaps and bounds among college students. As the Americas draw closer and closer together the demand is exceeding the ability of the teaching staff in many schools so that additions have been necessary.

The gains among the colleges and universities reporting are irregular and widely scattered geographically. Examples: University of New Hampshire, where enrollment in 1939-40 Spanish classes almost doubled; Harvard, with an increase of 20 per cent for the regular school year and of 25 per cent in this summer's session; University of Minnesota, 25 per cent in regular school year Spanish enrollment; extension school Spanish classes doubled in the past two years; Michigan State, increase, 1939-40 over 1938-39, 47 per cent; University of Iowa, 20 per cent; University of Nebraska, 65 per cent.

In a number of schools where Spanish courses heretofore have not been offered are adding them to their curricula this year. Congressman R. M. Kleberg of Texas has already suggested making Spanish a required subject in U. S. public schools, and expects to prepare some such legislation for presentation to Congress this fall.

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Finest Military Band in Nation



Marine Band, "President's Own", Is First Program On A&M Town Hall

The United States Marine Band, first, foremost, and oldest military band in the country, is coming to Texas A. & M. College under special permission of the president of the United States. This renowned organization is making a limited tour through the United States, and the A. & M. performance will be one of three that will be made in Texas.

Until this season it would have been impossible to hear such a concert as the U. S. Marine Band will play, according to Capt. William F. Santelman, distinguished leader of

this famous musical organization. This band, known for its resplendent scarlet and blue uniforms, is bringing to the A. & M. campus a full program of artistic excellence and stirring marches.

This band has been in existence since John Adams officially approved the bill that brought the band into being on July 11, 1798. It has performed at White House functions since the days of George Washington. Probably no musical organization so gloriously expresses the soul of a nation—its history, its religion, its patriotism, its hopes and aspirations—as does the U. S. Marine Band.

This band, whose history all but parallels the history of the federal government itself, has hailed the return of our conquering heroes. Its cadences have marked the way to the final resting places of the nation's honored dead. The Marine Band has beaten the tempo for the American heart—whether to steady the patriotic flame in time of war and sorrow, or to sound its joyous acclaim in moments of triumph, its crescendoes have voiced the nation's rejoicing and its muted strains have spoken a peoples' grief. The oldest band in the country, its history has been both vivid and eventful.

Singing Cadets Begin Eventful Year By Recruiting 75 Members

The 1940-41 session opened for the Singing Cadets with 75 new members already taken in. This is hoped to be the biggest and most important year in the history of the club, as many programs and tours have already been planned.

One of the most outstanding performances was a tour of Houston, in which the club sang for the A. & M. Mother's Club, Rotary Club, San Jacinto High School, radio station KTRH, and Loew's State Theater.

The club made numerous other performances on the campus. It sang for Mother's Day program; the Post-master General Farley banquet, for President Walton's Faculty Christmas banquet; the National Farm and Home Hour; a program on the NBC Network before the Sugar Bowl game; the Clambake, the Aggies own unrehearsed program over station WTAW; and an octet sang for the

Waco A. & M. Club, and for the State Dairymen's Convention; also for the Methodist Missionary Conference. Just before the Christmas holidays, the club made a tour of the campus, on which it sang carols and hymns. The club sang for the annual football banquet when the players were given their jackets and wards.

While making the annual spring tour, the Cadets sang in Waco, Hillsboro, Ft. Worth, Dallas, and Mesquite. It sang for several churches, high schools, and clubs. While in Dallas, the boys were introduced on the Early Bird Hour, over WFAA.

The club was treated like a group of noblemen at T. S. C. W. and an informal dance was given in their honor. This year the Modern Choir of TSCW is coming to Aggieland. While here, a concert is to be given in which both the TSCWites and the Aggies will participate.

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Speaks Sunday



Mrs. B. A. Copass of Fort Worth, president of the Texas Women's Union who will speak at the First Baptist church Sunday morning.

Baptists Observe 20th Anniversary In Week Program

The First Baptist Church will celebrate the 20th anniversary of its works at A. & M. College next week in connection with the observance of the annual Campus Church Week. The following program has been planned:

Sunday, Sept. 29—10:15 a. m.—Mrs. B. A. Copass, President of the Woman's Missionary Union of Texas.

Monday, Sept. 30—7:30 p. m.—R. A. Springer, President of the State Brotherhood.

Tuesday, Oct. 1—7:30 p. m.—Dr. John A. Held, Associate Editor of the Texas Evangel.

Wednesday, Oct. 2—7:30 p. m.—Dr. Joseph P. Boone, First State B. S. U. Secretary.

Friday, Oct. 4—7:30 p. m.—Dr. J. A. Melver, District Missionary.

Saturday, Oct. 5—7:00—Dr. T. P. Lott, Pastor First Baptist Church of Huntsville. An All-Church Anniversary Social will be held after this meeting.

Speaks Monday



Mr. R. A. Springer of Dallas, president of the Texas Baptist Brotherhood and treasurer of the Texas Baptists, will speak at the First Baptist Church of College Station Monday evening.

Harvey Hatcher Appointed as New Baptist Assistant

Harvey Hatcher began his duties this week as education and music director of the First Baptist Church of College Station. Previous to his duties here he has been serving in the same capacity at the First Baptist Church of Oak Cliff in Dallas where he has been since his graduation from the Southwestern Baptist Seminary in Fort Worth last May.

Already Mr. Hatcher is known to many of the students. He was in charge of the Baptist church program last Sunday and the Baptist freshmen social Thursday. Also he addressed about 1500 freshmen on Wednesday.

Mr. Hatcher's home is in Columbia, Missouri. He attended William Jewell College for three years where he was a member of the Band and Men's Glee Club and president of the college department of the Baptist Sunday School and Training Union. After two years of teaching he went to the University of Missouri where he received his Bachelor of Arts degree and finished all the work toward a Master's degree in English with the exception of his thesis. While at the University Mr. Hatcher was a member of the Glee Club and the Tumbling Squad. He was also a member of the Student Concert Choir and served for two years as its president and one year as assistant conductor. He played the leading role in the first amateur production ever attempted in America of Channing Pollock's "The House Beautiful," which was

New Church Man



HARVEY HATCHER

sponsored by the Burrall Bible Class, the largest student Bible class in the world. For some time he was a staff artist on radio station KFRU.

Mr. Hatcher is a member of Phi Mu Alpha, National Music Fraternity, and Alpha Psi Omega, National Dramatics Fraternity.

For two years Mr. Hatcher was head of the Music, English and Dramatic departments of the Salisbury (Missouri) High School where he organized and sponsored a chapter of the National Honor Society and Troupe No. 288 of the National Thespians and directed the first band in the state of Missouri to become a member of the National Federation of Music Clubs. After leaving Salisbury he taught in Jefferson City, Missouri, and then became head of the Publicity and High School English departments of Wentworth Military Academy at Lexington, Missouri.

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