

## CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS BEGIN AT NOON TODAY

### Senior-Junior Meeting Climaxes Holiday Changes

#### Watson and Bolton Appear Before Stormy Session To Arrange Friday Meeting

A stormy meeting of the junior and senior classes Thursday night at which Dean F. C. Bolton and Lt. Col. James A. Watson, Commandant, appeared to hear the case, climaxed a drive by students concerned to suspend school early in order to check a current epidemic of influenza over the campus. Called because of a misinterpretation of a petition submitted to the faculty at an earlier meeting, this joint meeting was attended by about 1000 men, which was as near complete representation as were available.

With Tom Richey, senior class president, presiding, the session proposed several plans for arranging the holidays, but the plan to leave today received the unanimous approval of the entire body.

The explanation of the misunderstanding by the faculty of the petition submitted at the last meeting of the senior class was given by Cadet Colonel Bill Becker. The idea of the senior class as submitted was to change the holidays to get out Wednesday, December 18, and return Friday, January 3. Faculty members, thinking the change to return January 3 was the important item and fearing the loss of a school day, made the change but stipulated that school not be turned, it was voted to ask Dean Bolton.

When the decision to petition for another change had been reached

### Caroling Tour Of Singing Cadets Cancelled by Holidays

Texas A. & M.'s Singing Cadets have cancelled their caroling tour of the campus due to the change in the Christmas holiday schedule, but they have announced several additions to their future arrangements.

After the termination of the holidays, the student singers will present a program before an assembly of Bryan High School pupils and exhibit their talent to the Aggie Clambake. A special group of the Cadets will sing hymns and Christmas carols at the Episcopal Church Sunday night.

All present members of the Singing Cadets and those who are given trials are invited to an invitation party to be held early in January.

### The Battalion Wishes You



### A Very Merry Christmas

## Flu Epidemic Reaches Alarming Proportions With 300 Men on Sick List

### Student Committee Reports 5 to 40 Men Ill in Every Outfit

For one entire week, the college hospital has had more than 200 patients as the continued cold and wet weather has brought about an increasing amount of sickness. Between three and four hundred boys are confined to the hospital at the present time and many more are confined to quarters in the dormitories over the campus. As a direct result of the seriousness of the increasing sickness classes have been suspended beginning today.

A committee of students composed of Jack Keese, Roy Chappell, Jack Kimbrough, and Paul Lowry, made an investigation of the amount of sickness in each organization on the campus. From 5 to 40 boys in each organization are either in the hospital, confined to quarters, or have been sent home. The average number for each organization is 14 boys unable to

attend classes because of illness. This information was used to present the case for the immediate dismissal of school.

Special precautions are being taken to see that the illness does not increase. All students confined to quarters will not be allowed to leave the college until they can obtain clearance from the hospital stating that they are in physical condition to make the trip home. Every effort is being made to see that the condition of students confined to the dormitories are not exposed to further danger.

All boys who have been sick should take great care in going home for the holidays. No one who is in a weakened condition should highway it home. It is absolutely necessary that boys who are recovering from the influenza should ride home or go by bus or train. All students including those who have not been to the hospital should observe the following precautions

### Sick Men Will Not Leave Until Cleared By College Doctor

issued by Dr. Marsh.

Take part in no exercise and keep from getting hot.

Keep feet and head dry by wearing hat and shoes at all times when exposed to the rain.

Do not sit around in wet clothes. Do not wash head at night or go to bed with the head wet.

Avoid eating heavy indigestible foods such as hamburgers, chili.

Drink lots of liquids such as water, milk and fruit juices.

Eat soft foods.

Do not let drafts blow across the bed.

Avoid crowds and crowded places, such as the theater, "bull sessions," meetings, etc.

Stay away from people with coughs.

Since college is being dismissed

(Continued on Page 4)

### Early Dismissal Result Of Widespread Flu Epidemic

#### New Ruling Decided On at Joint Meeting Of Faculty Members and Junior Senior Group

Classes are suspended today at noon and will be resumed Thursday, January 2, at 1 p. m.

This decision was reached at a joint meeting of the faculty members and a committee appointed from the junior and senior classes Friday morning. The recommendation was made as result of an epidemic of influenza that is spreading through the student body.

### ME Dept Has Large List Of Missing Articles

If you've missed a jacket or hat recently, drop by the Mechanical Engineering Office and take a look at the long list of lost articles found in the M. E. Department.

The list contains a wide and various assortment of books, clothes, and engineering drawing instruments. Several books and jackets are marked by the following names: J. B. Cupp, C. S. Hiese, Jay Kay, A. Brown, C. K. Brown, and Carl Bentley.

C. W. Crawford, head of the department, requests that anyone who has lost any personal belongings recently come by his office as soon as possible and identify the same.

After a meeting of the junior and senior classes Thursday night, a committee was appointed to be accompanied by Lt. Col. J. A. Watson, Commandant, to appear before the President of the school, and certain members of the faculty to discuss the matter. This meeting resulted in the decision to begin the holidays at noon today rather than after the last classes Thursday, December 19, as was previously the rule.

Members of the student committee included Paul Lowry, Roy Chappell, Jack Keyes, Jack Kimbrough, Buster Keeton, Alden Cathey, and Bob Nisbet. Faculty members present at the discussion were President Walton, Dean Bolton, Col. Watson, Dr. Marsh, Col. Ike Ashburn, Coach Homer Norton, and J. W. "Dough" Rollins.

### 25 Years of Service Receives Recognition As Seven Men Honored

By Jack Holliman

The Former Students Association will honor seven employees of Texas A. & M. who have spent 25 years in the service of the college at the annual Christmas banquet to be held in Sbis Hall December 20. A quarter of a century in and around Aggeland working in their various fields has brought these men a love for A. & M. and their work has brought many glories and accomplishments to the college.

This banquet, sponsored by the Former Students Association of which Bert Pfaff, '25, is president, is given to all college employees who have served 25 years, and it has become a worthy tradition of the school. Those honored become members of the Twenty-five Year Club and they are to be presented engraved walking canes by Pfaff at the gathering. Pfaff will deliver the citations and preside as principal speaker at the banquet.

A. L. Darnell, professor of dairy husbandry; S. C. Hoyle, editor of college publications; Dr. E. B. Reynolds, chief of the division of agronomy of the Agricultural Experiment Station; R. E. Karper, agronomist in charge of sorghum investigation at Lubbock for the Experiment Station; M. P. Holleman, chief clerk, Experiment Station, Sam Steptoe (colored), connected with the entomology department, and Cable Henry (colored), employee of the college hospital, are the men to be banqueted for their outstanding service.

Darnell has done flawless work in the field of dairy husbandry and he is an important cog in the operation of this division of the college.

Hoyle has put college publications of Texas A. & M. up among

the leaders and he has been largely responsible for the progress during his long term here.

Dr. Reynolds has made many advances in agronomy research and because of this he and the agronomists associated with him have uncovered much valuable scientific information.

Karper, stationed in Lubbock at the present time on sorghum investigation, has devoted his knowledge and experience to the agronomy division of the Experiment Station.

Holleman has become known for his technical ability and the manner in which the Experiment Station has been controlled clerically by his work and industrious attention.

The two negro employees, Sam Steptoe of the entomology department, and Cable Henry of the college hospital, have given 25 years of faithful service during which time they have become endeared in the hearts of their employers.

### Research In Petroleum Field Brings Many Jobs

The field of research for petroleum industries throughout the nation has brought occupations and positions to many graduates of A. & M. and other engineering schools who have made petroleum engineering their college study. Such processes as hydrogenation, solvent dewaxing, polymerization, alkylation, and catalytic cracking have entirely uprooted old systems and ideas which in turn have turned the oil industry into a business that must call upon the young engineers of the country for accurate operation of plants and refineries.

H. G. McIndorf of the Standard Oil Company, in his speech delivered to the student meeting of the A. I. Ch. E., stated the various needs of the oil industry insofar as new engineers are concerned, and according to McIndorf, they are needed in all of the divisions where research is made.

Roads are rough in the quest of desk jobs, but after their first training course given by the company, the young engineers do routine work in oil laboratories. Next, they enter special duty at the plant, and their talent may be pointed toward design.

### New Public Address System Is Far Cry From Days Before 1929

The installment of the new streamlined amplifiers in Sbis Hall this fall marks a new addition to the corps public address system, which has been in use since 1929.

The first sound system was built and operated by a former student, T. L. Hiner, who is now plant superintendent of radio station KPRC and KTRH in Houston. Previous to that time all announcements were made by the Corps Adjutant, who would stand on a chair and try to make himself heard by shouting the rest of the corps. As the corps grew in size the task of making announcements became more difficult, so Hiner remedied the situation by constructing a small address apparatus that was scarcely as large as a small radio set. Following Hiner as operators were H. M. Long, J. W. Runyon, N. H. Rudasill, C. J. Wimer, and Erving Mills, the present operator. Each of these men have made some contribution to the system and the apparatus involved, until today the financial assistance of the college, all of the original equipment has been replaced and modernized.

Among the many changes that have been made the most important was the installation of two Webster 60 watt transmitters in 1937. When the new dining hall was built

in the summer of 1939, a complete RCA sound system was included. At the same time the sound systems of the two dining halls were connected so that an interchange of programs between the two dining halls became possible.

The old dining hall is equipped with a phonograph to furnish music with the meals. The records being donated by the manufacturers of the phonograph records. This recorded music and all announcements originate from Sbis Hall, while all radio programs come from the new mess hall, Duncan Hall. This system is quite important to the students in that it affords both a form of entertainment and a means of distributing news and Corps orders.

### Short Course On Electrification Closes Here Today

The Fifth Annual Rural Electrification Short Course, which started December 12 and will continue through today, is under the direction of the Agricultural Engineering department in cooperation with the Texas Committee on the Relation of Electricity to Agriculture.

The Rural Electrification Short Course is designed primarily for rural service representatives of the electric companies, superintendents of electric cooperatives, county agents, vocational teachers, representatives of electrical equipment manufacturers, dealers, and other leaders who may be called upon to assist the farmer with his electric utilization problems. It affords an opportunity for these leaders to become more familiar with the newest developments in electric equipment for the farm and to discuss latest information made available through research and practical experience.

An unusual and practical feature of the short course this year is that formal lectures and demonstrations have been held to a minimum. This has made it possible for those taking the course to actually operate the newest types of equipment and work out practical problems involved in the use of modern electrical equipment on Texas farms.

Mr. Rollins left for Dallas last

### Students Going to Cotton Bowl Must Have Tickets Sent to Them by Mail

At the senior class meeting yesterday afternoon, it was approved and announced that any student desiring a ticket or tickets to the Cotton Bowl game should leave a stamped, home-addressed envelope with their organization commanders containing \$1.65 and coupon number 32 of their coupon book.

These envelopes will be turned in to J. W. "Dough" Rollins of the Athletic Department by each captain before the Christmas holidays begin. Beginning Monday morning, the athletic office will sort through the envelopes and mail the tickets to the purchasers. Any other types of tickets, in addition to the ones that sell for \$1.65 may be bought in the same manner.

night to receive the ducats from the Cotton Bowl Association. He will bring them back with him over the weekend, and they will be counted and ready for sale by Monday morning. Anyone desiring tickets after Monday and before the day of the game may secure them by writing to the athletic office, College Station, Texas.

The military department has arranged for juniors and seniors holding advanced ROTC contracts to receive as many as five tickets to the game without any expenditure of cash. The amount of the tickets will be deducted from their January military checks.

The signing for these tickets was begun Friday afternoon in the

chapel of the YMCA and will continue at the same location today from 8 a. m. until noon. It is believed that this innovation of allowing juniors and seniors to purchase tickets without any cash outlay will boost the attendance of students from these two classes.

This is the first time that a procedure of this type has ever been attempted, and all advanced military students are urged to take advantage of the privilege.

A total of 10,000 tickets will be placed on sale here. That group includes tickets of varying price ranges, and students will be allowed to purchase any type of ticket.

### Four Texas Aggie Lettermen Receive Wings at Randolph

Four more Texas Aggie lettermen were among the graduating class at Randolph Field, near San Antonio, last month and they included Herb (Smitty) Smith, All-Conference end on the National Champion football team of 1939.

Others included E. D. Braswell, Dallas, swimming letterman and former holder of two conference records; John (Pinkie) Couch, McKinney, captain of the swimming team of 1940 and member of the water polo team which won the junior national championship for the Aggies; and V. C. Denton, Pahoake, Fla., letterman in tennis in 1939 and in golf in 1940.

At the same time seven other graduates of Texas A&M completed their training at the West Point of the air and are now at Kelly Field to complete the work