

Dean Kyle Crowns King At 11th Show

Duchesses Selected Leaders From Texas Cities and Colleges

Dr. E. J. Kyle, dean of the school of agriculture will crown the king and the king in turn will crown the queen. The maids to the queen will be dressed in white cotton dresses and will carry red rosebuds tied with blue ribbon carrying out the victory theme popular at this time.

One of the duchesses to the queen of the Cotton Pageant tomorrow night will be Miss Laura Beesley of Texas university. She will be duchess from The Battalion and will be escorted by Clyde C. Franklin, junior managing editor of The Battalion. She is a member of Pi Lambda Theta, honorary fraternity for women at Texas U.

Requirements for membership in the organization include a B-plus average and recommendation by two members of the faculty. New members were initiated at a banquet recently at which Mrs. Homer P. Rainey was the guest speaker.

Miss Beesley is a junior at the university and is also a member of The Bluestockings, a dramatic club which studies and presents plays in connection with the curricula in which they are engaged. A great deal of attention is paid to Shakespeare, the faculty there states. She also belongs to the Cap and Gown.

Duchesses will enter the court which will be staged in Guion Hall down one aisle and exit down the other. Escorts will meet their dates at the foot of the stage after the duchess has made one full turn on the stage to display her dress. The names of the duchesses and their escorts will be announced over the public address system and the escort will take his date and walk up the aisle and go up stairs to the balcony to be seated for the remainder of the performance.

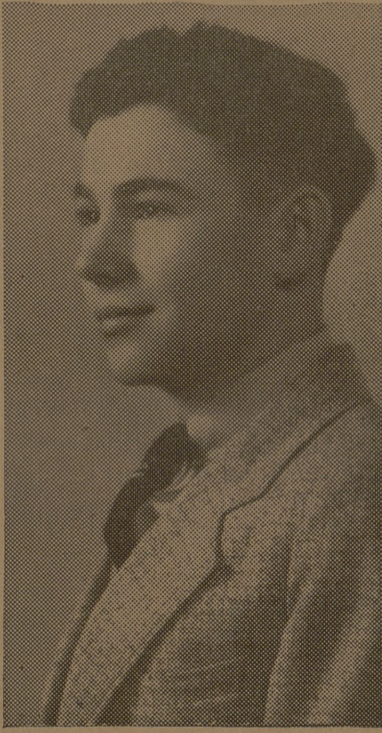
Original plans for this year's Cotton Pageant called for it to be held in Sbis Hall but the plans had to be changed because it would not be possible to clear the floor in time for the show. It had been customary in the past to hold the pageant in the Deware Field House, commonly called the gym, but this was ruled out early in the

Battalion Duchess and Escort



Pictured above is Miss Laura Beesley, Texas university junior who has been selected as duchess of The Battalion in the Cotton Pageant.

To the right is her escort Clyde C. Franklin, Battalion Reporter for the Cotton Pageant and Ball. Franklin is a junior in civil engineering.



Wilmeth Pays Own Way, Wins Many High Honors and Awards

Gene Wilmeth, king cotton of 1942, a senior in D Infantry comes from Ebony, Texas and will reign over the Cotton Pageant in Guion Hall May 1. In his court will be some 160 of the most beautiful girls in the Southwest. These girls will represent over 120 schools and clubs. All of their escorts are Aggies.

Wilmeth is president of the Agronomy society and last year was junior business manager of the Cotton Ball. He is a member of the scholarship Honor society, a member of the Press club and Gum-Shoe for the Duncan Diners.

He is circulation manager for The Battalion this year and was a member of the circulation staff of the publication last year.

He won a coveted Fish numeral in track in the spring of 1939 and won cross-country letters in 1939 and 1940. He was captain of the cross-country team in 1940.

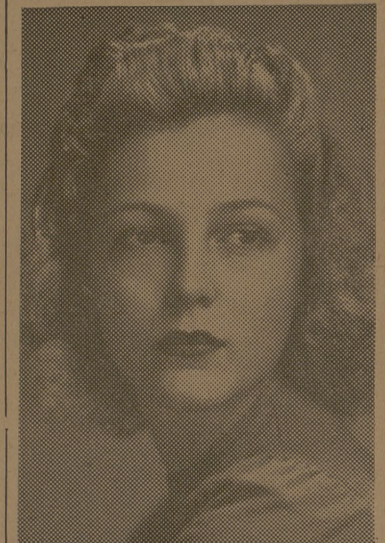
Besides the achievements enumerated above he has paid his own expenses through school, having worked as a waiter in the mess hall for four years.

Wilmeth states, "Up until this

year I preferred blonds." He changed his ideals when he saw Miss Ernestine Ashe whom he and the social committee selected to be the prettiest of 100 of the most beautiful girls on the TSCW campus to be queen of this year's Cotton Pageant. Miss Ashe is a freshman at TSCW and a sister to Miss Anna Ruth Ashe who was chosen as Aggie Day Sweetheart at the TSCW football game last fall. Miss Ashe is a senior at TSCW.

Staged as a throne room in a

Agronomy Duchess



Pictured above is Miss Pauline Webster, duchess to the Cotton Pageant from the Agronomy society. Her escort is Howard Warner, business manager of the Cotton Ball and Pageant.

Cotton School Will Be Held For Thirty-Third Year

Although most of the short courses generally scheduled at A. & M. during the summer months have been cancelled due to the speed-up program at the college, the annual summer cotton school will be held for the thirty-third year.

The course will last six weeks, June 1-July 11 and during the same period three ginner's courses will be offered.

The first will run from June 1-June 13; the second from June 15-June 27; and the final one from June 29-July 11.

Owing to the large enrollment expected for the regular courses and the number of men taking defense training, it was announced that living facilities will not be available for students taking the cotton school course but that rooms will be available just off the campus.

H H Brians, Social Secretary, Directs Duchesses and Escorts

By Clyde C. Franklin

Howard H. Brians, C Cavalry, social secretary of the eleventh annual Cotton Pageant and Ball is a senior in Agronomy from El Paso. He is in charge of all the correspondence with the 160 odd duchesses and their escorts who will be presented on the stage of Guion Hall at 8 p.m. May 1.

Brians is Lieutenant Colonel of the Cavalry regiment and was chosen as one of the representatives in Who's Who in American Colleges and Universities this year. Last year he was junior social secretary of the Cotton Ball and parliamentarian of the Agronomy society.

Brians follows in the footsteps of Jim Pinson, social secretary of the tenth annual Cotton Ball held last year. Brians and Pinson were both parliamentarians in the Agronomy society the year before they were elected to the office of social secretary and they are both from C Cavalry.

Having handled the correspondence and pictures of the duchesses

year in favor of the old mess hall. The tradition of having the Cotton Ball in the mess hall has not been broken and that event will begin immediately after the pageant is over. Probably about 10:15 p. m. Tickets will be sold at the door for \$1.50.

Winners of this year's cotton tour will be announced at the pageant and the winners introduced to the audience from the stage.

he states that the girls entering into the pageant this year are the prettiest ever and that this year the society will present the grandest Cotton Pageant ever to be staged on the A. & M. campus. Brians asserted "Interest is running high as evidenced by the rapid sale of reserved seat tickets. Already tickets are getting scarce as everyone wanting a reserved seat is trying to avoid the maddening last-minute rush at the ticket window." Reserved seats are still to be had by calling either at the W.S.D. store in Bryan or at the Agronomy office Room 300 Agriculture Building. Reserved seats are 50 cents and general admission seats 35 cents.

Miss Ernestine Ashe, Cotton Pageant queen, was chosen by the members of the society to reign over the Cotton Court with Gene Wilmeth, King Cotton, at the Red-bud Festival held last month on the TSCW campus. At the same time eight maids to the queen were chosen from the girls in the festival.

This year's pageant will differ from those of the past few years in that there will be no style show of cotton creations. This had to be left out because of the increased

number of duchesses and the lack of space in Guion Hall.

The duchesses and their escorts will enter the main auditorium of Guion Hall, march down the aisle, the duchess will mount the stage and display her gown, meet her escort in front of the stage and exit down the other aisle and proceed to the balcony to be seated. The king and queen and the maids to the queen will be seated on the stage which will be set as a palatial room.

The route to be followed by this year's Cotton Tour has not been mapped yet but it is almost certain that it will be confined to the borders of the United States.

Pilots Raise Eye Brows — No Wonder

RANDOLPH FIELD, April 29.

—We just know there's no connection—but pilots here reached back and felt their parachutes, raised their eyebrows a bit when this ad appeared in today's "Daily Bulletin."

"For Sale—Hand crocheted bed-spread. Can be seen at Parachute Department."

J S Mogford Original 'Daddy' Of New Famous Cotton Tours

Beginning almost in obscurity J. S. Mogford started the first Cotton Pageant. It was his own idea to promote a world tour for worthy students of Agronomy. At present a series of nine examinations is given covering all the phases of agronomy and the three men receiving the highest grades get the trip.

Mogford received his first degree from A. & M. in 1916 and later completed the work required for a M. S. in 1920.

At the beginning of his Cotton Pageants he had all the little girls

in the vicinity of the college whom he could get to be in his show participate. They wore cotton wash-dresses, bringing them out with them and changing their costumes in the lounge of the old Y.M.C.A.

His project gained in momentum and has kept rolling for eleven years and this year he is again presenting the Cotton Pageant which now carries with it the Cotton Ball and in it will be some 160 of the most beautiful girls in the Southwest. The show begins in Guion Hall at 8 p.m. May 1.

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