

OFFICIAL NOTICES

Classified

WANTED—To buy bicycle in good condition. Write Box 1922, College Station.

Announcements

CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES: Any student who normally expects to complete all the requirements for a degree by the end of the current semester should call by the Registrar's Office NOW and make formal application for a degree.
H. L. Heaton
Registrar

The Library is trying to locate volume XVIII of Catalogue of Birds, shipped from the British Museum (Natural History). If received by anyone on the campus, please notify Mrs. Sugareff, Order Librarian at the Library.

The third order for A. and M. Miniature Rings will leave the Registrar's Office Thursday noon. Get your orders in before 11 a.m. The next order for A. and M. senior rings will leave on July 1st.

BATTALION CARDS—The Battalion will be delivered to the rooms in each form from now on, and only those boys paying Student Activities fees will receive the Batt. If you paid the fee and do not receive the paper please come by the Student Activities Office with your receipt in order that we may place you on the subscription list. No student will receive the Batt without a Batt card.

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO ISSUE STREET IMPROVEMENT WARRANTS STAT E.O.F. TEXAS CITY OF COLLEGE STATION

In compliance with the provisions of Chapter 163, Acts of the Regular Session of the 42nd Legislature, 1931, notice is hereby given that it is the intention of the City Council of the City of College Station, Texas, to pass an ordinance on the 2nd day of July, 1944, authorizing the issuance of the City of College Station Street Improvement Warrants in the amount of \$10,000.00, for the purpose of paying claims to be incurred in the construction of certain street improvements in said City, said construction and improvements to be done under the direct supervision of and paid for by the day by the City Manager of said City as the work progresses. Said Warrants to be payable serially in not less than five years from date; and to bear interest at the rate of three per cent per annum.

WITNESS MY HAND this the 15th day of June, A.D., 1944.
ERNEST LANGFORD,
Mayor, City of College Station, Texas.

Executive Offices

Saturday, July 1, will be a holiday for regular College students in lieu of July 4. Students will be permitted to leave after their last class on Friday, June 30, and return by reveille, Monday, July 3. Instructors are not authorized to change class schedules on Friday.—F. C. Bolton, Dean.

Aggie Exes Receive Oak Leaf Clusters

Two more Aggie Exes have distinguished themselves in this war thus far according to dispatches just received here.

Staff Sergeant Parr Fowler, a former Aggie, recently received the second Oak Leaf Cluster to his Air Medal for "meritorious achievement" as a ball turret gunner in a Flying Fortress operating over Europe.

Sergeant Fowler was attending A. & M. when he entered the air forces in September, 1942. His parents are Dr. and Mrs. S. R. Fowler of Silsbee, Texas.

For "meritorious achievement" while participating in numerous bombing attacks on military and industrial targets in Germany and the Nazi-held countries, Major Archie V. Benner, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. V. Benner, 3605 Montana Street, El Paso, Texas, has been awarded a second Oak Leaf Cluster to his Air Medal.

Major Benner, attached to the

Eighth AAF, pilots a Flying Fortress while also acting in the capacity of commanding officer of a heavy bombardment squadron.

Prior to entering the service, Major Benner was a draftsman in the engineering office of the Southern Pacific Company in El Paso. He received his B. S. in Architectural Engineering from A. & M.

Presbyterian League To Hold Social Wednesday

A social will be held by the Presbyterian League on Wednesday, June 28th, at 6:30 p.m. The place is the Old Manse, which is just beyond the Aggieland Studio, and everyone is invited.

McELROY

(Continued from page 1)

wounded in taking the keyhole to the entire Southwest Pacific campaign. Over 5700 Japs died in their defense of the atoll.

"There never was a dull moment on Tarawa," McElroy declared. "For Christmas, Charlie (his name for the Jap bombers) remembered us with five air raids but he slipped up on the date because we were on the East meridian date and he was on the West date. Instead of hitting us with his five raids on our Christmas he arrived on his conception of the Christmas date. Just to make sure he came back three times the next day which to us was Dec. 25. (Tarawa is just beyond the international date line and three degrees north of the equator).

As to air raids McElroy said that they caused him little concern although he went through 72 of them in the 88 days he was on the "Rock." "We always knew the route Charlie was coming in on so if he wasn't on our beam we stood outside our bombproofs and watched the Marine anti-aircraft firing at him. If he was on our line we didn't worry either for we knew that he had nothing which would hurt us in the shelters where we went. (The concrete emplacements had outer walls 54 inches thick, reinforced with anchor chain, and after a large concussion chamber, another 24-inch wall protected the inner chamber where the shelter was.)

He confirmed the report that his battalion had repaired the existing air strip built by the Japs and had made it usable for the landing of planes in exactly 25 hours after they landed on the reef. "The Marines were finishing up the Japs at one end of the island while we took care of fixing the strip at the other end. As they pushed them farther on we moved in behind them to complete our priority No. 1, the strip. A short day's work in those days was 22 hours and no one complained because of wages or hours. Our main concern was to get planes down on that strip for our protection. The Marines were doing all the good taking care of the Japs so we were able to take care of our own task. Some dozer operators did get a few casual Japs they kicked up from behind logs but we just took those which came our way—we didn't go looking for them."

He also disclosed that the enemy forces engaged on Tarawa were not the ordinary run-of-mine Japs but the Imperial Marines, all six feet or better and men who fought

to death rather than surrender and to prove his statement of size, showed a Jap bullet-proof vest he took from a Jap sniper on the island and later wore himself. Fitted to a six foot, 185-pound Soph, it still was too large for him. The vest showed where the Marine sharpshooter had shot the Jap through the neck with one shot rather than waste ammunition by firing at the steel plates protecting his body. "Here is where a 30 calibre termite ate through his protection," McElroy said, pointing to the perfect pattern chewed out of the neck line of the best by the bullet. I happened to come along and saw the vest and since the Jap had no more use for it McElroy did, and he got himself some protection. I was shot at plenty but managed to get by without a scratch."

He is now back in the United

States and a patient in the U. S. Naval Hospital at San Diego, Cal. A series of physical ailments rendered him unfit for further foreign duty and he was evacuated from Tarawa before the invasion of the Marshalls where his battalion again carried on their record breaking work. At Tarawa they received the Presidential Unit Citation with star and battle star for that campaign. At present he is on a 30-day convalescent leave from the hospital but will return to his base at the end of this month for reassignment.

He attended A&M and is a member of the Class of '38. He was a temporary member of the publicity staff in '34-'35 and returned in a full-time capacity in 1937 and remained on the staff until his enlistment in the Seabees in March 1943. He served with the 29th Division (Blue and Grey) in World

War I in France and England but says he was too old to get back into the army this time. Asked why he was in at all he replied, "I guess it's just being around a bunch of Aggies in a military atmosphere; maybe it was just an old fire horse hearing the gong and wanting to go to the fire. I asked them for action and I'm telling you I got it but am more than glad I was able to be there and do what I could to get this thing nearer the end."

Mrs. McElroy, secretary in the publicity department, will return to San Diego with "Mr. Mac."

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