

## Rufus Peoples Speaks at Faculty Dinner for Employees of 25 Years

"Your team work, your loyalty to each other and to your duties have made the A. & M. College of Texas the great school that it is today," Rufus R. Peoples, president of the Texas A. & M. Former Students Association and recent appointee to the school's board of directors, told 21 College employees who were honored Thursday night, December 21, with a testimonial dinner in Sbisla Hall for having completed 25 years of service to the institution.

This was the eighth consecutive dinner held at Christmas time and made a total of 113 employees who have been given this recognition. At the seven past dinners came turned in the College shops were presented. This year a model service pin appropriately inscribed and colored was adopted and presented by the Association of Former Students. Similar pins will be given the other employees honored at previous dinners.

Over 500 A. & M. College employees and residents of the Bryan-College Station area were present to witness receipt of service pins by Mrs. Dora R. Barnes, W. P. Barrett, F. B. Brown, Mrs. Lilla G. Brown, C. W. Crawford, P. B. Dunkle, Miss Bess Edwards, R. K. Fletcher, Mrs. Leitha Harrison, A. B. Jolley, Dr. L. G. Jones, Dr. A. A. Lenert, Mrs. Lea Etta Lusk, L. J. McCall, Miss Myrtle Murray, T. L. Ogier, R. M. Sherwood, H. P. Smith, A. L. Smith, Miss Helen H. Swift and Waldo H. Walker. Due to absence in Army service, D. W. Williams' name was not called among the other 21 honored. His pin will be presented upon his return at war's end.

Money and fine buildings do not make an institution great, but real folks, such kind of folks as "have each rounded out a quarter of a century of service for the A. & M. College of Texas," President Gibb Gilchrist declared in giving a Christmas message to the faculty and staff. Nowhere else are such (See SPEAKER Page 3)

## Student Employment

All students who wish part-time employment during the term, February 12, to June 1, 1945, are urged to file an application renewal with the Placement Office immediately. Also, those students who have not filed applications but desire employment, should file with us an application at this time. Renewals and applications will be accepted beginning Friday, January 5, 1945, through February 1, 1945, said W. R. Horsley of the Student Placement Office.

## DuPont Consultant Talks On Plastics

The magic of chemical research, which is saving lives in war, will save time and energy for homemakers and make everyday living more pleasant in the years ahead, Miss Gertrude Dieken of Wilmington, Del. yesterday told members of the A. and M. College Extension Service staff and a number of visitors.

The speaker, who is home economics consultant for E. I. DuPont de Nemours and Co., will spend a few days on the A. and M. campus conferring with Extension and research workers and faculty members.

In the post war years words like neoprene, lucite, and aerosol will become household words like rayon, nylon, and cellophane, the speaker indicated. She showed numerous samples of nylon, stating that 12 years were required to bring nylon from the laboratory to the public. Nylon hose, for example, were dangled before the public eye only a short time before the war, and no nylon for women's hose has been manufactured since February, 1942.

One item of interest was a section of a nylon tow rope used in (See DuPONT, Page 3)

## Sixty-One Degrees To Be Given On February 2nd

Formal Commencement Ceremony To Be Held; Sermon To Be Feb. 2

Names of 61 men who will receive advanced or baccalaureate degrees at the end of the current semester, February 2, have been announced by H. L. Heaton, acting registrar. These will make a total of 2019 degrees that have been presented by the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas since the declaration of war and the adoption by the College of the educational speed-up program.

Formal commencement exercises, the first since May 26, will be held, according to an announcement by Dr. G. W. Adriance, chairman of the Committee on Commencement Exercises. It is planned to have the Baccalaureate Sermon Convocation the morning of Feb. 2, and the presentation of diplomas that night. Speakers for these programs will be announced later.

Five of the candidates will receive master's degrees, one a master of education and four as master of science. Of the 56 bachelor degrees to be conferred, 15 are in the School of Agriculture, 4 in the School of Arts and Sciences, 7 in the School of Engineering, and 30 in the School of Veterinary Medicine.

John U. Nelson, Long Beach, Calif., is to receive the degree of Master of Education in Agricultural Education; Master of Science degrees are to be conferred upon: V. O. Bonnicksen, College Station, in Chemical Engineering; E. H. Brock, College Station, in Sanitary Engineering; C. E. Choate, Pharr, in Poultry Husbandry, and Jacinto Rivera Perez, Mayaguez, P. R., in Genetics.

Baccalaureate graduates are: SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURE—In Agricultural Administration: J. R. Bone, Houston; C. E. Brumley, Hereford; H. L. Bullock, Bryan. In Agricultural Education: G. J. (See DEGREES, page 4)

## Eakin Named New Brazos Farm Head

L. C. Eakin, former county agent for Burleson county, has been named superintendent of the Brazos bottoms plantation acquired by the Texas A. & M. College from Seth Mooring and associates. He will also head the Farm Service Department set up in 1934 to manage labor operations on the various tracts of farm lands owned or operated by departments in the School of Agriculture.

Eakin was raised on a farm near Moody and received a B. S. degree in Agriculture from the Texas A. & M. College in 1936. For a time he was vocational agriculture teacher at Woodson, then went with the Extension Service as assistant county agent in Waller and Wharton counties. For the past two and one half year he has been county agent for Burleson county in which the former Mooring plantation is located.

"I knew Eakin well while he was a student here," Dean Shepardson said, "as he worked in the Dairy Department all four years. I have also kept up with him and his work in the nine years he has been engaged in agricultural work. I feel we are fortunate in getting him with us as I have full confidence in his judgment and dependability in carrying out the plans of the College board of directors through the School of Agriculture."

## Extension Service Publications Head Dies Here Sunday

Samuel Cooke Hoyle, who had been editor of Extension Service publications for many years, died at 5 a.m. Sunday. He passed away at his home at 308 Sterling in Bryan, having been ill for some time.

Born in the Sweetwater Valley, McMinn county, Tennessee, on June 10, 1871, after primary education he attended Buchanan's Military Academy; in his young manhood he moved with his family to Atlanta, Ga., where he worked for Henry Grady on the Atlanta Constitution. He graduated from Emory University near Atlanta in 1895. He was a member of Sigma Nu fraternity.

Later Mr. Hoyle came to Texas and was connected with the Dorsey Printing Co. at Dallas. In June, 1898, he was married to Miss (See EXTENSION, Page 4)

## Veterans' Federal Employment Adviser Is Appointed

For those service persons, both men and women who are serving in the Armed Forces, and who have already been discharged, the Civil Service Commission has stationed in each Regional and Branch Regional Office throughout the nation a Veterans' Federal Employment Representative, Mr. Thomas W. Saling has been assigned this work in the Tenth U. S. Civil Service Regional Office, Dallas, and it is his responsibility to assist returning veterans in finding their way into the Federal Service.

In the Branch Regional Office, New Orleans, Louisiana, Mr. Tom B. Elliot has a similar position and is available to veterans for information concerning their rights and privileges with respect to employment in the Federal Civil Service. The Veterans' Preference Act of 1944 is the law which insures that veterans, their widows and wives, will receive preferential consideration. Disabled veterans are accorded the highest preference with regard to employment in the Federal Service while all other veterans receive augmented ratings on their applications for employment.

A particularly important work which these Veterans' Federal Employment Representatives do is to see that returning veterans are re-employed in the Federal job they held before entering the Armed Services, if they so desire, or if that job is not available, in a position of equal pay, seniority, and status, with such promotions as they would have received if they had remained on the job.

## H. R. Knickerbocker, War Reporter, To Miss Town Hall Because Of Wounds

## Texas Wildlife Federation Elects Officers Here

Henry W. Flagg, Galveston Ex-Mayor, Is President

Reactivation of the Texas Wildlife Federation was accomplished at a meeting of game and fish officials of the State and of the Texas A&M College with prominent land owners and conservationists held recently at College Station. Temporary officers elected included Henry W. Flagg, former mayor of Galveston, president, and Dr. Walter P. Taylor, leader, Texas Cooperative Wildlife Research Unit, College Station, secretary.

All organizations and individuals interested in better conservation of the fish and game life of Texas will be invited to a general meeting to be held in Fort Worth, March 9-10.

The following parties have been appointed a committee to make all plans for the State-wide meeting: Grady Hill, president, West Texas Game and Fish association, San Angelo; Ben G. Oneal, president, North Texas Fish and Game association, Wichita Falls; Wiley Stewart, Fort Worth Press. Fort Worth; H. F. Spreen, president, Fort Worth Anglers club, Fort Worth; Orval W. Shore, president, Possum Kingdom Game and Fish association, Mineral Wells, and Dr. C. A. Stevenson, Scott and White clinic, Temple.

The work being done by their respective organizations for the sportsmen and the wildlife interests of the State were discussed before the College Station meeting by Will J. Tucker, executive secretary, Texas Game, Fish and Oyster Commission; Dr. W. B. Davis, acting head, A&M's Department of Instruction in Fish and Game; R. E. Callender, game management specialist, Texas Extension Service, and Dr. Walter P. Taylor.

## A&M Economist Takes OPA Job

Tyrus R. Timm, economist in farm management for the A. and M. College Extension Service, has accepted appointment as Agricultural Relations Advisor to the Office of Price Administration, Washington, effective January 15.

In making the announcement, Director Ide P. Trotter said that A. and M. College had granted Timm a leave of absence for one year to accept the position tendered by Administrator Chester Bowles. He will succeed H. H. Williamson, former director of the Texas Extension Service, who has served as Agricultural Relations Advisor to OPO for more than a year. Williamson will become assistant director of the National Extension Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture.

"While we regret losing the services of Mr. Timm temporarily," Director Trotter said, "we feel that Texas and its Extension Service are honored to have him selected to continue and expand this important work pioneered by Mr. Williamson. Mr. Timm served the OPA as agricultural economist from March until November of last year, and is one of the coun- (See A. & M., Page 3)

## Press Club Meeting Next Monday Night

Dick Goad has called a meeting of the A. & M. Press Club for next Monday night at 7:15.

All members of the Longhorn staff and Battalion staff are asked to be present. Plans will be made for a party at the end of the semester.

The secretary requests that all members please pay their dues at this meeting in order to balance the books.



H. R. Knickerbocker

## Rufus Peoples Is New Member Of College Directors

Rufus R. Peoples, '28, of Tehuacana, president of the Association of Former Students, was appointed on the Board of Directors of the A. & M. College by Governor Coke Stevenson on December 13. He will fill the unexpired term of John C. Burnes, '04, Ft. Worth, who resigned from the Board because of the term of his personal affairs. The term to which Peoples was appointed expires in 1947.

Peoples manages the large Bluff Valley Farm at Tehuacana, where he and his family and his mother make their home. He was born and reared on the farm and has been active in its operation since the death of his father while Peoples was a small boy. The ranch opera- (See PEEPLES, Page 4)

## Wimpfen Boy, News Stand Robber, In Abilene Theft

Jan C. Wimpfen, juvenile picked up in Houston on charge of robbery of a newsstand at Texas A. and M. College and released in custody to his mother, was arrested in Abilene Sunday for being connected with a car robbery. A car of Captain Ben Click was stolen from in front of the A. B. Syttak home in Bryan.

Some time after Wimpfen was located in Houston and while he was in charge of Bryan police, he was hauled to and from the court house in a city police car. About ten days after that the police were advised that he had hid some money under the rear seat cushion and investigation disclosed that \$49 in currency had been tucked away. The money is believed by police to be part of the proceeds of the College newsstand burglary.

## Date of Appearance Changed to April 10

H. R. Knickerbocker, noted war correspondent and lecturer, Pulitzer prize winner and former Texas A. & M. College student, who was scheduled to appear here on the Town Hall program Jan. 11, is in a hospital in Belgium and will be unable to fill this date, his agents have wired the Student Activities office. Instead, the Town Hall program has accepted an alternate date tentatively set for April 10.

What is the loss at the moment to Town Hall patrons from Brazos county will be their gain in the long run as Mr. Knickerbocker is thus in the path of the great German offensive now under way on the Western front. When he returns to this country he will have first hand knowledge which he will analyze in his inimitable manner.

The next Town Hall program will be on Jan. 26 and will feature Leonard Warren, popular young baritone who has enjoyed outstanding successes in the four greatest opera houses in the Western Hemisphere—the Metropolitan, San Francisco, Colon in Buenos Aires and Teatra Municipal in Rio de Janeiro.

Other programs for the current season will include Paul Draper, the world's supreme tap-dancer and Larry Adler, equally great in his field of the harmonica, both appearing Feb. 12; the A Capella Choir of North Texas State Teachers College of Denton, one of the most dramatic and colorful organizations in the Southwest, Feb. 27; Rise Stevens, star of opera and films, last seen in this section with Bing Crosby in "Going My Way," who will be present March 10.

After the Knickerbocker program on April 10, Town Hall will have its finale for this season with the Singing Cadets of Aggie-land, comprising 100 male voices and included one of the finest glee clubs in the Southwest. Their repertoire will include popular, classical and semi-classical music, together with the traditional songs of Aggie-land.

## Boy Scouts to Make Monthly Collection

Boy Scouts of College Station will collect paper between the hours of 8 and 11 o'clock Saturday morning, January 6, according to L. G. Jones, paper drive chairman. Residents who are willing to save their paper from Christmas packages are requested to tie the paper in bundles with string in two directions and leave the paper in front of the house on the curb by 8 o'clock Saturday morning so that the scouts who get around early will have a chance to get it.

## Student Loan Funds To Aid Cure Of "After Xmas Blues"

Christmas holidays bring with them financial troubles which usually leave the majority broke. Traveling expenses also bring a strain on our pocket books so by the time a student gets back on the campus he is generally low on cash. Sometimes students need ready cash for some emergency which arises and they do not know where they may secure such funds.

On April 16, 1943, William K. Davis of the class of 1916 donated a five dollar bill for the purpose of starting a loan fund to be used by the students of Texas A. & M. College. The five bucks he donated has since been multiplied many times. Since the fund was started nearly \$900 has been loaned and all but \$4.00 has been returned. This fund has appropriately been named the Davis Buck Fund and is open to any student who needs some cash.

Mr. J. Gaber of Houston started the Ernestine Gaber Loan Fund in memory of his mother. This

fund is likewise open to all needy students and offers small temporary loans without interest. Since its foundation hundreds of loans have been made and all the borrowers have repaid them. Mrs. Ester Taubenhuis, adviser of the Hillel Club, has been the supervisor of the fund for several years but she has recently turned the management over to the Placement Office.

These two funds offer the students ready cash on the asking so if you need some ready cash for some emergency that must be met don't hesitate to see Mr. W. R. Horsley of the Student Placement Office in the Administration building. No questions will be asked and no time limit set for the returning of the money. No interest is charged but the fund can only grow by contributions which are made by the borrowers or by anyone who thinks the fund is worth while. The next time you need some ready cash see Mr. Horsley and say, "Lend me a Davis Buck."

## Lillian Ferguson Smooths Rough Spots With Homey Letters For Overseas Aggies

By Calvin Brumley  
She is writing 146 service men overseas. She not only writes them but she carries on a regular correspondence with each of these 146 men and in addition writes to numerous boys in the armed services who are still in the United States. Miss Lillian Ferguson has been with the Dairy Husbandry Department at Texas A. & M. since 1922 and it was with reluctance that she moved into C. N. Shepardson's office to be secretary to the new Dean of Agriculture for she had promised the boys when they left that the "Doors will be open and the light will be in the window when you come back."

While working in the Dairy Husbandry Department Miss Ferguson kept more or less in touch with the boys who graduated from that department but it was not until the war that she began corresponding with them regularly.

Perhaps Miss Ferguson holds some sort of record for correspondence with fighting men overseas but if she does not she is certainly near the top. Her desk drawer in which she keeps unanswered letters is filled constantly because as fast as she answers them others come in.

One thing that makes Miss Ferguson's correspondence so amazing is that she does not write anything resembling a form letter to the men overseas but adds a personal homey touch to each one.

Miss Ferguson laughingly admits that they, the boys that write to her, "Spill all their troubles because they think that I know all the answers. Seriously, she has helped more than one Aggie over a rough spot while he was in school and is now helping others over and through rougher spots all over the world where ever they are fighting Japs or Germans.

In her office Miss Ferguson has a desk which is reserved for over-



Miss Lillian Ferguson

\* \* \* \* \* seas mail. It is a large desk with a glass top and under the glass there are rows and rows of pictures of service men, their wives, and their children. She knows each one and about each she has in her memory a personal story. One picture was particularly interesting.

It is of an army man standing on a flat Pacific atoll beside a sign post. This in itself is not interesting but the picture arouses interest because it has a small hole near the center where a censor cut out part of the writing on the sign.

During the last two months Miss Ferguson has been getting Christmas cards from the boys overseas. Many of them are unusual and some are quite simple and a few are crude but she loves them all because they are from her boys.

At first Miss Ferguson was unable to decide upon suitable Christmas cards to send the boys but finally she persuaded all the staff

members of the Dairy Husbandry Department to pose for a group picture which she sent as a Christmas greeting to her adopted fighting sons.

She and her boss, C. N. Shepardson, new Dean of Agriculture at A. & M., have moved to a bigger job Miss Ferguson said that she did not believe that she would be able to keep in touch with all the boys that graduate from the School of Agriculture but that she wants them to feel just as welcome in the new offices as the Dairy Husbandry majors always felt in her old department.

Miss Ferguson is a dainty lady who attended Baylor University before she came to A. & M. in January of 1922. Although her secretarial duties occupy most of her time she still finds the minutes necessary to write the letters from home that help so much to break the monotony and loneliness of the civilians in soldier suits overseas.