

# The Battalion

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## A & M Directors Study \$15,000,000 Budget

### March 13 Is Deadline for Filing Petitions for April 2 City Election

Taxpayers of College Station will have the opportunity to elect three city councilmen, a mayor, and a city secretary on April 2.

The posts on the city council occupied by E. E. Brown, J. A. Orr, and M. T. Harrington expire this year under the rotating system which provides for the election of three members of the six-member council each year. Ernest Langford is up for re-election as mayor.

All present incumbents are expected to stand for re-election this year with the exception of City Secretary S. A. Lipscomb, who told The Battalion this morning

that he definitely would not be a candidate. In order to be included on the ballot, candidates must present petitions not later than Wednesday, March 13, according to the City Office. Petitions must be signed by not less than five percent of the voters in each ward who cast votes in the last general election.

Voting boxes will be located in Ward 1 at the Southside Food Market, with Fred Brison as election judge; in Ward 2 at Luke's Grocery, with Gene Brock as judge; and in Ward 3 at Waldrop's, with R. B. Sweet as judge.

### Over 7,000 Expected At JTAC Reunion

Over 7,000 from all parts of the country are expected to attend the largest ex-student reunion in the history of John Tarleton College, Stephenville, May 4 and 5 of this year. A dance in the municipal auditorium the night of May 4 will start the festivities. The following day there will be an old time free barbecue on the campus, various class activities, and a memorial service for the 138 Tarleton ex-students and three faculty members who lost their lives in World War II. A well known general, as yet unannounced, will be the principal speaker.

The idea of the reunion started during the war when hundreds of ex-students in the armed forces endorsed the idea in response to a suggestion in a monthly news letter. A number offered to donate steers and other items for the barbecue. Twelve steers, 1,500 pounds of potatoes, 200 pounds of coffee, and other items in proportion will be used in feeding the large crowd.

### RITTER RESIGNS TO TAKE FLORIDA POSITION

The civil engineering department at Texas A. & M. College today was seeking a replacement for L. J. Ritter, assistant professor who has resigned, effective March 15, to take a similar position at the University of Florida.

### Terrapin Lives Without Brains, H. B. Parks Discovers on Survey

Did you know that a terrapin, if his shell has had a hole burned or punched in it, though not deep enough to kill the critter, can grow a new piece of shell identical in pattern and color with the original?

Don't be ashamed if you didn't know that. H. B. Parks, curator of the college museum, says that to the best of his knowledge that phenomenon has never before been recorded by a scientific authority.

The discovery came during a recent survey made by Mr. Parks of the damage done to wild life by grass and forest fires. For investigation Mr. Parks selected a plot of land, 200 feet wide by four and a half miles long, on either side of a railroad right-of-way. This strip had been intentionally burned in order to prevent locomotives from starting uncontrollable fires.

In the area Mr. Parks found the cadavers of eighteen recognizable animals, of which a domestic dog was the largest. More armadillos

were found seventeen than anything else. Practically all were in a stretch of timber land.

Terrapins provided the most interesting information. One terrapin even continued to live after its head had been burned off—proving brains aren't everything!

During the winter terrapins travel until they reach an incline which they cannot climb. So they dig upward at an angle which they can climb, and after reaching the top of the rise, settle down for the winter. Many of them were killed or injured when the grass fire burned only such parts as were exposed outside these holes.

The intense heat even "welded" two terrapins together. One had apparently crawled into a hole under the remains of the other. The fire brazed the ribs of one firmly onto the shell of the other.

Some of the specimens found by Mr. Parks during this survey are now on exhibition at the college museum, behind the administration building.

### Dramatic Club Offers Buck for Biteless Bowl of Reptiles

It pays cash to bring 'em back alive! F. L. Hood, faculty sponsor of the Aggie Players, new A. & M. dramatic club, offers a reward for "harmless" snakes. The club will buy the reptiles at \$1.00 each.

"We need a whole bowl of them in our current production, 'You Can't Take It With You,'" Hood explained. "The play will be presented in the old Assembly Hall March 26 and 27 at 8:00 p. m."

It seems that snake-collecting is one of the many hobbies of Grandpa, one of the zany characters in the three-act comedy, and the script demands that his "collection" be prominently displayed in the living room.

To collect the reward, bring the snakes to Bill Zoller, president of the Aggie Players, in Dormitory 14 or to Hood at his office in the English Department, Academic Building.

Snakes comfortably housed in bite-proof containers will be more readily accepted.

### Tessies Will Hold Redbud Ball Sat.

The annual Redbud Coronation Ball, honoring the Redbud Queen and her court, will be held Saturday, March 16, at T.S.C.W. The program begins at 8:15 p. m. in the Auditorium and the dance which will be formal will begin in the Union building at 9:30 or immediately following the conclusion of the presentation.

A Date Bureau for the benefit of those wishing to take advantage of the dance will be operated in room 220 of the Administration building on Saturday from 4:00 p. m., to 8:00 p. m. A special invitation has been extended to all Aggies.

### THREE AGGIE PROFS TO TEACH AT ST. LOUIS

Three members of the engineering drawing department at Texas A. & M. College will serve on the faculty of a special summer school for drawing instructors at Washington University, St. Louis. The course, sponsored by the national Society for Promotion of Engineering Education, will be held June 18-28.

W. E. Street, head of the engineering drawing department at Texas A. & M. and editor of the S.P.E.E. publication "Journal of Engineering Drawing", and Professors J. G. McGuire and C. H. Ransdell will be on the teaching staff at St. Louis.

### NOTICE GRADUATING SENIORS

All seniors who will graduate at the end of this semester, or in summer school, and who want to attend the Senior Ring Dance this May, are requested to leave their names and room numbers with Bob King in room 418, Dorm 10, or with Al Presnal in room 218, Dorm 2. This is to get an estimate on the number of men to plan for at the dance.

BOB KING,  
President of the  
Senior Class.

### D. W. Williams Named Vice President; Ike and Aggie Generals Voted Degrees

### Summer Cotton School Is Planned

The 37th annual Summer Cotton School will be conducted at Texas A. & M. College, May 27-July 6, Dr. Luther G. Jones, acting head of the department of agronomy at the college, has announced.

Each summer these cotton schools are conducted with a view of preparing men and women to enter the business of cotton; to train cotton growers to market their cotton intelligently and profitably; and to assist cotton buyers to become more familiar with low grade and off-colored cotton, and to judge staple, Dr. Jones said.

The course of instruction to be offered at the 1946 summer cotton school is designed for employees of gins, warehouses and cotton buyers, for seed breeders and one-variety cotton producers, for county agricultural agents and teachers of vocational agriculture.

Last year 37 men registered for the course with a total of 25 of them coming from Mexico. This year it is expected that several more will enroll from that country and possibly, some from South America.

Costs for attending the summer cotton school for the six-week period are \$17.50 matriculation fee; \$3.00 medical fee; and room and board can be obtained on the campus for approximately \$38.00 per month.

The faculty this year will include: James M. Ward, associate professor of agricultural economics, and Prof. J. B. Bagley, both of the School of Agriculture at the college; and Caesar Hohn, of the Texas A. & M. College Extension Service. All are outstanding in the subjects they will teach.

In a lengthy session at Arlington Saturday, the Texas A. & M. Board of Directors elected D. W. Williams vice president in charge of agriculture of the College, refused a plea by E. S. McLarty for special consideration in his application for entrance to the veterinary school of the College, and received tentative budgets calling for expenditure of \$15,000,000 during the next two years.

The Board also voted honorary Doctor of Law degrees to General Dwight D. Eisenhower and to twenty-eight Texas Aggies who have risen to the rank of Brigadier-General and above. The degrees are to be conferred at the annual muster scheduled for April 19-21.

Williams joined the A. & M. animal husbandry faculty in 1919 and served as head of the department from 1923 to 1944. He served as a lieutenant colonel on General Mark Clark's staff for the military government of Austria. He received his B.S. from Ohio State, his M.A. at Illinois University, and did graduate work at Chicago and at Texas A. & M.

McLarty appeared with his father, Dr. E. S. McLarty of Galveston, and two attorneys, Ross Carlton and Josh Mayo of Dallas. He was advised by the directors to return to the University of Texas and straighten up his grade record there before seeking entrance at A. & M. In a final plea, McLarty said: "I know now I shouldn't have brought the case," and stated that the suit was filed on the advice of Carlton.

The two-year budget provides for the expenditure of \$7,740,393 in 1947-48, and \$7,497,554 in 1948-49, as compared with a 1945-46 budget of \$3,575,795. Of the 1947-48 amount, \$4,938,726 is to be expended by the main college, while the remainder goes to the three branches.

### Student Aid Fund Offers Assistance For Needy Aggies on Honor System

On Friday night, May 17, 1940, a Texas A. & M. sophomore, George Stidham, fell from the fourth-floor window of the dormitory in which he lived. The fall broke his back and his life depended on receiving expensive treatment which was not available at the College Hospital.

Stidham had been valedictorian of his high school graduating class in Uvalde; he was a popular member of the cadet corps; he was earning every penny of his college expenses; his mother was dead; and he had not seen his father for several years and did not know where he could be located. In short, he was penniless.

At the suggestion of one of the corps' junior yell leaders and one of The Battalion's junior editors, a drive was organized to raise funds for the injured Aggie. The drive was a tremendous success and more than \$1100.00 was raised, which resulted in giving Stidham proper care and treatment.

The George Stidham Fund drive and its resulting success pointed out both the need and the feasibility of a student emergency fund at Texas A. & M. College. To this end a meeting was held on the afternoon of August 7, 1940, with the following staff members and students attending: Col. Ike Ashburn, executive assistant to the President; E. J. Howell, registrar;

E. L. Angell, manager of Student Activities; Dan Russell, head of Rural Sociology; Herman Focke, junior yell leader; and George Fuermann, junior editor of The Battalion.

Out of this meeting arose the Texas A. & M. Student Aid Fund, dedicated to these worthy purposes:

1. To pay for emergency operations for students who are penniless and unable to obtain the necessary money through other channels;
2. To send a floral wreath to each family of an Aggie whose mother or father may die during the school year; and
3. To take care of any other cases of merited need which may come to the attention of the Student Aid Fund Committee.

The student Aid Fund is not operated as a charity, but is set up according to the best in Aggie tradition. In the first place, contributions of not over 10¢ per man are solicited from the Corps itself; outsiders are not asked to participate. Secondly, each student who receives aid from the Fund is requested to sign a non-interest-bearing note, repayable at any designated time after graduation, contingent upon his ability to pay; only one notice of maturity is sent

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