

# Strauss Festival First on Town Hall Program

## Tibbett, America's Favorite Baritone, to Appear Nov. 18

Lawrence Tibbett will appear on the stage of Guion Hall as a presentation of Town Hall Monday, November 18th. This is to be one of the season's biggest attractions, as Mr. Tibbett is the world famous baritone of the Metropolitan Opera.

Lawrence Tibbett, as a child in Bakersfield, California, lived the kind of life other boys read about. His uncle, Bert Tibbett, was the sheriff; his father, the deputy. When Tibbett was 7, a Western bad man, cornered in a Bakersfield joss house, shot and killed his father, whereupon his uncle, Sheriff Bert Tibbett, drilled "Wild Jim" McKinney, the "bad man". The rifle with which this patriotic deed was done, long treasured among the sheriff's mementoes, was presented to Lawrence just before his uncle died.

Mr. Tibbett was the youngest of four children and his mother had to struggle to support them. "Poverty struck hard at us," he remembers. "My mother, two elder brothers and a sister worked hard to keep the roof over us and the larder filled. While I was growing up, I spent every summer on a cattle ranch, working with the cowboys in the roundups. I remember shooting my first deer at ten, with a gun much bigger than myself."

When it became apparent he had a voice, his mother an understanding soul, taught him what she knew of singing; his sister, Betty Lee, helped a bit, too. Meanwhile, Tibbett sold papers and did odd jobs to swell the family income.

He had had some small experience in public singing by the time he entered the Manual Arts Junior College in Los Angeles. Soon his vocal talent became known and he found himself earning small fees singing at churches and local gatherings.

"A man who heard me sing was so impressed that he volunteered to back my training. So I went to New York and continued my studies."

"The man who heard him sing was Rupert Hughes, famous novelist, and the impromptu audition occurred in Sid Grauman's Million-Dollar Theatre in Los Angeles. Hughes and his friends financed a trip to New York and instruction in the classes of Frank La Forge."

Tibbett's native good sense and musical ambition enabled him to make the right decision when the Metropolitan, after his second audition, offered him a contract at \$60 a week and a Broadway producer came forward at the same time with an infinitely tempting offer of \$300 a week for musical comedy. Mr. Tibbett wanted that \$300—but he wanted an opera career even more. He accepted the Metropolitan's \$60-a-week.

During his second season at the Metropolitan he was assigned to the role of Ford in Verdi's "Falstaff". The opera had not been sung there in fifteen years, and the revival had Antonio Scotti in the title role, with some of the company's leading lights making up the rest of the cast.

At the Metropolitan he has not

## Fish & Game Club Plans Activities

Approximately 100 Fish and Game majors and any other interested persons will be organized as the Fish and Game Club this year at Texas A. & M. Club officers, B. G. Welch, president; D. N. Eisenhower, Jr., vice-president; W. H. Kiel, Jr., secretary-treasurer; and A. K. Sparks, reporter, will be leading the organization.

Club programs for the year will include the following movies: "Hunts for the Hunted", "Flyways of Migratory Waterfowl", "Know the Hawks", "Beavers at Home", "Quest of the Alaska Seal-skin", "Mourning Dove in Alabama", and "Shell-Fishing".

In the spring, different specialists in the wildlife field will be invited to lecture on some phase of the work they are doing. The members will sponsor some type of social in the spring.

The club is also going to sponsor a contest to select a delegate to the National Wildlife Convention. This contest will concern the scholastic record, field knowledge, and all-around ability of the contestant.

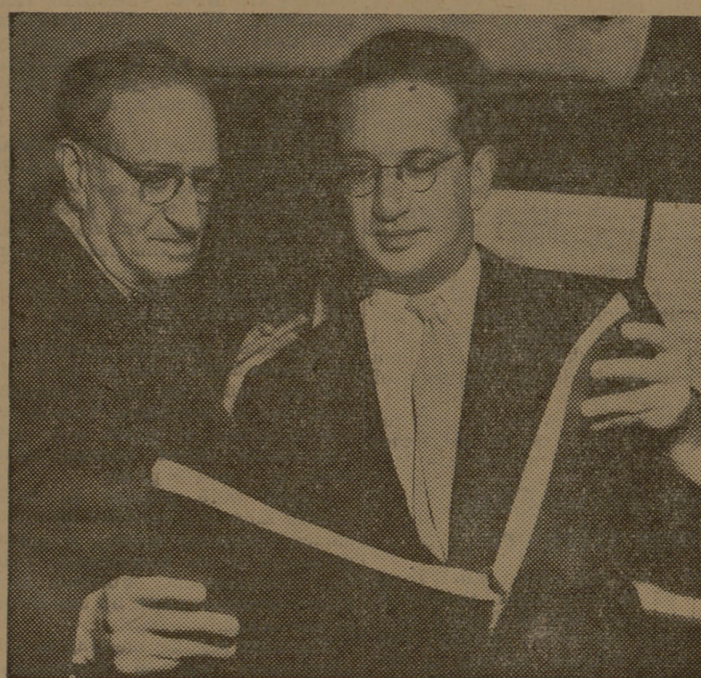
With this program the Fish and Game Club hopes to help promote and hold the new interest in wildlife conservation and management shown by the record enrollment of new Fish and Game majors in U. S. colleges.

only been pre-eminent in the greatest baritone roles in operatic literature, but he has also created the leading roles in such American operas as "The Emperor Jones", "Merry Mount", "The King's Henchman" and "Peter Ibbetson". His name has been synonymous with many notable revivals—"Simon Boccanegra", "Gianni Schicchi" and "Otello", to name only a few. And he has been the start of several motion pictures, including the very successful "The Rogue Song".

Lawrence Tibbett has attained just as wide and illustrious a reputation in the concert field, for his knowledge of the song literature of all nations and periods is tremendous.

## Rifle Team

Plans are being made for the formation of the A. & M. Rifle Team, according to Major J. M. Cook. All R. O. T. C. students who are interested in the Rifle Team are requested to meet Major Cook at Ross Hall on October 17 at 7 p.m.



Featured artists on the coming Town Hall program are conductor-composers Oscar and Erwin Straus pictured left to right. They maintain that their only relation to the waltz king, Johann Strauss, is their love for the three-fourths time.

## Viennese Waltzes from Pen of Johann Strauss Will Be Heard

A capacity crowd will welcome Oscar Straus and his Concert Orchestra on the stage of Guion Hall at 3 p.m., Sunday Afternoon, October 20. At the "Strauss Festival", compositions to be played will range from Johann Strauss, Sr., to Oscar Straus' son, Erwin, who doubles as assistant conductor.

Maestro Straus composed America's most popular operetta, "The Chocolate Soldier", his major job has been to explain that he is not related to Johann Strauss. In fact his only tie-in with the great Johann came along ago in Vienna when the older composer advised the younger to give up more serious music and compose light operas and waltzes. Oscar followed the advice and his success has been distinguished on both continents.

Father and son will conduct a program consisting entirely of Strauss numbers—their own and those of the other Strauss family—Johann Strauss Sr., Johann Jr., and Joseph. "We all specialized in Viennese waltzes, and perhaps that is an even closer relationship than one of blood—who knows?" Oscar Straus revealed.

Ezra Rachlin, one of America's most gifted conductors, has been chosen by Oscar Straus as associate conductor for the Strauss Festival. He went to Berlin in 1925 to study music, then beginning a concert tour of Europe. Rachlin finally was brought back to America and a spectacular debut at Carnegie Hall. After touring the key cities of the United States and Europe, Mr. Rachlin decided to devote his musical talents to conducting. Later he joined the Philadelphia Opera Company as associate conductor. In 1945, he was engaged as musical director of the Memphis Open Air Theatre where he received critical acclaim.

Four brilliant soloists will appear on the Strauss Festival on

Sunday afternoon. Evelyn Case, singing soloist with the troupe, was in London during the Blitz and sang day after day at Army camps. After graduating from the Junior College of the Ogontz School in Philadelphia, the soprano was sent to the Cincinnati Conservatory where she studied cello and voice. Her singing career began when she was 17 with a series of concert engagements for the Music Clubs of Texas. Miss Case is a descendant of a Royal Governor of the Spanish colonial period and the first American mayor of her hometown, San Antonio.

Barbara Moser, another soprano soloist on the program, began her musical career as a piano soloist, after which she studied voice at the Chicago Conservatory. She was engaged by MGM to sing in "The Portrait of Dorian Gray", later appearing in the Hollywood Bowl. She came east to continue her studies and was engaged to appear in the Broadway production of "Oklahoma". This 21-year old star adds the lovely lilt of her voice and the sparkle of her smile to the gay melodies of the "Strauss Festival".

A charter member of the Philadelphia Opera Company was Mr. Van Den Burg, baritone soloist. He has played many major roles in such operas as "Faust" and "Seville". When he was discharged from the Army Air Forces, Mr. Van Den Burg went to New Orleans to sing with Lucille Mannes in "Manon". From there he went on a nation-wide tour. Van Den Burg began taking voice lessons at the suggestion of Lawrence Tibbett.

Although Erwin Strauss is assistant conductor to his father, he will also appear on Guion Hall as a featured piano soloist. Born

(See STRAUSS, Page 4)

## CLUBS

### Agronomy Society

The Agronomy Society met Tuesday, October 8, at 7:30 p.m. in the A. & I. lecture room with 60 men in attendance. The program consisted of a series of slides taken by the four students who were chosen to make the Cotton Tour this past summer. Howard Anderson, chairman of the program committee, and one of the students on the tour took charge of the program for the evening.

A revised and amended Constitution was read by the secretary; at the next meeting it will be discussed and voted upon for acceptance. Refreshments were served after the meeting.

### Pre-Medical Society

At the first meeting of the Pre-Medical Society, H. M. Brower, '41, was elected president for the coming year. Doayne B. Hamilton, '48, will serve as vice-president; Don W. Carroll, '45, secretary-treasurer; and Norman E. Halbrooks, '46, was elected reporter.

According to the large group of pre-medical and pre-dental students present, keen interest has been aroused in the society. The increased membership and plans now in progress give promise a season unequalled in the club's history.

All pre-medical and pre-dental students who are not acquainted with the society will find a ready welcome at the bi-monthly meetings on the first and third Tuesdays of each month.

### Singing Cadets

John A. Smith of Bryan was elected president of the Singing Cadets in a recent election. He has been a member of the group for the past five semesters. Harry Doran of San Saba was chosen vice-president, and Jug Leatherwood of Beaumont, business manager. Marvin Brown of Dallas will be accompanist, and Watson Kenney of Weslaco, student director.

The Singing Cadets have enrolled eighty-six applicants, having auditioned seventy-two of them for the traveling club. This year the A. & M. singers plan to perform in Fort Worth, Dallas, Denton (TSCW), Stephenville (John Tarleton), Huntsville (Sam Houston College), and Waco. An appearance on a Town Hall program has also been arranged for the group.

### Ag. Engineer Chapter

The student chapter of the American Society of Agricultural Engineers, Larry Barton presiding, met in the lecture room of the Agricultural Engineering building for the second meeting of the semester. F. R. Jones, head of the department, spoke and showed a film entitled, "Progress Shown in Farm Life Through Use of Machinery on the Farm."

Business portion of the meeting included the adoption of a resolution to revive the annual barn dance in the spring session. Meetings are held the first and third Tuesday of each month and all Agricultural Engineering students are invited to attend.

### Petroleum Engineers

Gene B. Caperton of Shamrock, Texas was elected president of the student chapter of the Petroleum Engineering Society at its initial president for the year will be William G. Gill of Houston; Julio Casas Jr. from Maracaibo, Venezuela will serve as secretary; and Gene M. Goodwin from Archer City was named treasurer.

Joe Mueller was chosen to represent the Petroleum Engineering Department on the Student Engineers' Council, and Ed Monteith represented the club at the AIME meeting held in Galveston last week.

### VETERANS' WIVES ELECT

With about 50 wives in attendance to elect officers, the monthly business meeting of the A. and M. Veterans' Wives Club was held Tuesday night, October 1, in Sbisla Lounge.

Club officers chosen to serve for the fall semester were: President, Mrs. Nell Creel. Vice-President, Mrs. Jan Ryman. Secretary, Mrs. Betty Duke. Treasurer, Mrs. Ann Croke. Club Reporter, Mrs. Mike Hall. Historian, Mrs. Betty Back. Parliamentarian, Mrs. Naiomi Simmons.

The fall entertainment program for the club was announced and Mrs. Mary Joan Strange was appointed publicity chairman for all club activities.

### Industrial Education

The Industrial Education Club held its second meeting of the semester with 36 members present. New policies and aims for bettering the club were discussed. Albert Moorhead, vice-president, discussed plans for entertainment at future meetings. Guest speakers will be the highlight of each forthcoming meeting.

W. R. Horsley of the A. M. Placement Bureau will be the speaker for the meeting to be held on October 22.

**ANNOUNCING**

3 NEW BUS SCHEDULES DAILY TO  
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Palestine — Nacogdoches — Shreveport  
San Augustine — Henderson — Tyler

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**AGGIES . . .**  
THE BIG WEEK-END IS HERE  
THE  
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**OCT. 18 and 19**  
8 p.m. FRIDAY — 7 p.m. SATURDAY

CASH FOR THE WINNERS **PRIZES** BOOTS, HATS, and SHIRTS

Sadde Bronce - Bare Back Bronc Riding  
Bull Riding - Wild Mule Race  
Calf Roping

**THIS WEEK IS GO WESTERN WEEK**

TCU GAME OVER AT 5:00  
AGGIE RODEO AT 7:00  
WESTERN DANCE AT 9:00

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