

The Battalion

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Homesteads to \$3000 Exempt From College Building Tax

West Texas Chamber of Commerce Hits Texas Tech Appropriation

Homesteads valued up to \$3,000 will be exempt from the proposed 5c ad valorem tax for the college building fund, Attorney General Price Daniel declared Saturday. Since the levy is for state purposes, the exemption will apply to those homesteads under present state property tax laws.

The question of homestead exemption was raised by County Attorney John Steele, of Lubbock. It was in West Texas that opposition to the plan of financing a twenty-year college building program arose. The West Texas Chamber of Commerce fought the resolution while it was before the University of Texas' permanent fund with which to finance the long-range program.

Legislators from Lubbock pointed out that the proposed plan, which will be submitted to the voters of the state in a special election August 23, would not allocate sufficient funds for Texas Technological College. As the measure stands, the University of Texas will receive approximately \$10 million; Texas A. & M. will be allowed around \$5 million, and Texas Tech's portion of the \$60 million bond issue will be about \$5 million.

Income from the University's permanent fund would be pledged against the issuance of the college building bonds. At present the permanent fund totals \$60 million. Since the University and A. & M. are prohibited by the constitution from securing legislative appropriations, enactment of the proposed amendment is necessary if permanent improvements are to be made at state institutions.

Titus Co. Home Agent Joins A & M Extension Staff

Glady L. Darden, Titus County home demonstration agent since April, 1945, has been appointed assistant home management specialist on the headquarters staff of the A. & M. Extension Service.

Maurine Hearn, Extension vice-director for women and state home demonstration agent, stated in announcing the appointment that Miss Darden will take over her new duties effective September 1. Her headquarters will be College Station.

A native of Georgetown, Miss Darden is a 1936 graduate of East Texas State Teachers College at Commerce, where she received a BS degree. Before entering Extension work, she was employed by the Farm Security Administration, from 1937 to 1944. During that time she served as county and district home management supervisor, area home management specialist and district FSA supervisor.

Parker Instructing At UT Geology Camp

Travis Parker, associate professor of geology, has taken a summer position as instructor in subsurface geology at a summer camp being held by the University of Texas at Brady. He will return to A. & M. in September.

With the Distinguished Conduct Star . . .

Philippines Honor Gen. Moore

Major General George F. Moore, commanding general of the Philippine Islands Ryukyu Command and 1908 graduate of A. & M., was awarded the Distinguished Conduct Star by Philippine President Manuel A. Roxas. According to the Bryan Daily Eagle, the ceremonies were held at Malacanán Palace, the Philippine White House, on July 4, in celebration of the first anniversary of the Philippine Republic.

The Distinguished Conduct Star, second highest award of the Philippines, was presented to General Moore for "extraordinary heroism in action on Corregidor on or about April 13, 1942." At that time he was in command of the harbor defenses at Manila.

The citation accompanying the award stated that on April 13, 1942, a unit of the 1st Coast Artillery Battalion was under heavy fire from the Bataan shore, and a

Forrestal Named Defense Secretary Of Unified Forces

Unification of the armed forces became an actuality Saturday when President Truman named James V. Forrestal as Secretary of Defense. Truman was so eager to sign the bill that he delayed departure to his dying mother for seventeen minutes in order to sign the legislation aboard his plane.

After two years of urging, Congress finally gave Truman the bill to sign into law.

The President acted promptly for one reason—so that the Senate could confirm Forrestal's nomination to the new Cabinet post before its adjournment. Chairman Chan Gurney (Rep.) of South Dakota of the Senate armed services committee took steps to win speedy confirmation after his committee unanimously approved Forrestal. But in any case Forrestal could serve under a recess appointment until the next session of Congress.

Forrestal, as Secretary of the Navy, is the last member of the late President Roosevelt's Cabinet still in office. His selection as Secretary of Defense had been generally expected.

While the law and the executive order setting forth the functions and responsibilities of the three equal branches—the Army, Navy, and Air Forces—officials said that extensive conferences among the departments will be necessary before the program can be translated into terms of offices, functions, and men.

Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, Army Chief of Staff, in a message to all Army commanders throughout the world, said that there will be no change in the official status of the Army and the new independent US Air Force until "special orders are issued."

Marines opposed the original provisions of the bill, but Gen. A. Vandegrift, Marine Corps commander, called upon "every Marine to carry out not only the letter but also the spirit of the unification law."

Similarly, Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, chief of naval operations, said in a dispatch to his service that "such differences of opinion as were expressed in the naval service in the past with respect to the merits of the new organization are resolved by the President's approval of the act."

Graduate of 1943 To Join CE Staff

Appointment of Truman R. Jones, 1943 Aggie graduate, as an instructor on the Civil Engineering staff has been announced by Dr. S. R. Wright, head of the department.

Jones currently is on active duty in Hawaii as a captain in the Corps of Engineers, but expects to be separated from the service in time to assume his duties here September 1.

Contract Students Receive Allowance In Summer Months

All advanced ROTC cadets who hold contracts, and have completed two or three semesters of advanced Military Science courses will receive a subsistence allowance for the summer months. This allowance will be computed at the rate of sixty-six cents per day for the three summer months, minus the time spent in summer camp. The deduction will be made in all cases, whether the student did or did not attend camp this year. The Military Science Department expects to receive the checks on, or about, September 15. Students must be registered for the fall semester to pick them up.

The distinctive ROTC patch will not be worn after September 1, according to Lt. Col. William McElhenry, Adjutant. This well-known patch which has been decorating Aggie shirt pockets for years will be replaced by a newly adopted shoulder patch. The Ground Forces ROTC insignia will be a red, white, and blue disk with a gold torch superimposed. The letters US ROTC will appear immediately below the torch. As yet the U. S. Air Force ROTC patch has not been agreed upon. However, it will probably be similar to the Ground Force emblem.

Introducing . . .

Honor Cadet At Randolph Field

Fred Thurmond, Electrical Engineering student from Denton, was named Honor Cadet of the Air Force ROTC summer camp at Randolph Field. Thurmond was the editor of the camp newspaper and took part in various other camp activities.

He entered A. & M. in September, 1946, transferred from North Texas State Teachers College. The Honor Cadet resigned from A. & M. in 1942 and spent the following three years in the Armed Forces. Upon returning to Aggeland last September, he assumed the duties of cadet major on the Cadet Corps staff.

Livestock, Dairy Contests Aug. 5-6

The School of Agriculture will conduct a practice judging contest for about 600 agricultural teachers on August 5-6. On Tuesday afternoon, August 5, a livestock judging contest will be held, and the next afternoon a dairy judging contest will be conducted.

About 200 Texas Future Farmers will judge livestock, meats, dairy cattle, milk, poultry, and eggs on Thursday morning, August 7. The winners of the livestock and meats teams will represent Texas in a national livestock and meat judging contest in the Kansas City Royal Livestock Show at Kansas City on October 21.

Winners of the dairy cattle, milk, poultry, and egg teams will compete in a contest held at Waterloo, Iowa in connection with the National Dairy Show. This show will be held on September 30, and will be the first contest since 1941.

Detailed information and application forms may be secured from the local post office, from Civil Service regional offices, and from U. S. Civil Service Commission, Washington 25, D. C. Applications may be filed until further notice, and should be sent to the Executive Secretary, Board of U. S. Civil Service Examiners, Headquarters, Air Materiel Command, Wright Field (Area A-XCS), Dayton, Ohio. Persons who wish to be considered for these positions to be filled immediately should file applications by August 25.

Notice For English Majors

All English majors are requested to leave their names in the English office as soon as possible. Dr. Thomas F. Mayo, head of the department, has announced.

Three Aggies Are Appointed Cadet Officers at Bliss

Charles W. Mattox, A. & M. student, was appointed cadet lieutenant colonel to serve as battalion commander for ROTC cadets in their fifth week of training at Fort Bliss. Two other Aggies, Edward D. Bateman and George A. Whitten, were also named to serve as officers for the same period. Bateman was appointed cadet captain to serve as commanding officer of Battery B, and Whitten was appointed cadet 2nd lieutenant to serve as executive officer for the second platoon of Battery B.

Cadet Mattox was formerly in the Marine Corps and served overseas for two years in Midway Island and the Territory of Hawaii. A resident of Bay City, he was a member of the student court and major in the Cadet Corps during the past school year.

A cadet battery commander in A. & M., Cadet Bateman was a captain in the ROTC, and a member of the Economics Club and the Camera Club. His hometown is Willis Point, Texas.

Cadet Whitten, whose home is in Beaumont, is a former athletic star of Beaumont High School. He lettered in three sports, football, baseball and track. Last spring he was a staff sergeant in the Aggie ROTC.

'Fairy Owl Aggie' Named Tested Dam By Jersey Office

The registered Jersey cow, Fairy Owl Aggie 1138909, owned by the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station, has been announced by The American Jersey Cattle Club offices in Columbus, Ohio as a Tested Dam, having three offspring with official production records.

These tests were authenticated by the State College of Agriculture and The American Jersey Cattle Club and exceeded by more than two times the butterfat production of the average dairy cow in the United States.

Fairy Owl Aggie's tested progeny, with all records computed to a 305 day twice daily milking mature basis, averaged 8,860 pounds of milk, 5.21 per cent test and 462 pounds of butterfat. Fairy Owl Aggie has also been given a type rating of Good Plus under the Type Classification program of the Jersey Cattle Club. This is equivalent to a score of 80 per cent or better when compared to the breed's score card allotting 100 points to a perfect animal.

This cow, through her descendants, should do much toward improving production among the dairy cattle of Brazos County.

Engineer Posts In Civil Service Open

The U. S. Civil Service Commission has announced an examination for filling engineer positions in the Army Air Forces at Dayton and Wilmington, Ohio, at salaries ranging from \$3,397 to \$9,975 a year.

No written test is required for competitors for these positions. To qualify, they must have completed an engineering curriculum in a college or university, leading to a bachelor's degree; or have had four years of technical engineering experience, or a combination of such education and experience. In addition they must have had from one to four years of professional engineering experience. Graduate study in engineering may be substituted for as much as 2 years of this experience.

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Research Party Completes Study

Dr. Walter P. Taylor, leader of the Texas Cooperative Wildlife Research Unit, Wesley W. Reed, and Pat N. Mann, senior students in fish and game, have just returned from Mason and Kerr Counties in the Edwards Plateau country after a six-week study of deer-turkey-livestock relationships in the region.

Edwards Plateau is becoming widely recognized for its livestock (cows, sheep, and goats), according to Dr. Taylor, as well as for its big game, and this fact should be considered in good land management and range conservation in that region, he pointed out.

The members of the field party have been gathering basic information on this subject, which will assist landowners, the Texas Game, Fish, and Oyster Commission, and other associations in conserving and increasing the values and productivity of ranch lands in the area.

Veteran Students Association Meeting Set For Wednesday

Increased Veteran Subsistence Bill Remains Unpassed

Failure of the 80th Congress to pass the increase in G.I. subsistence before adjourning last Saturday was a disappointment to many veterans. The bill, which had been passed by the Senate and gone to the House committee on Veterans Affairs, was never reported out of committee.

It is generally agreed, however, that the bill has a very good chance of passage when Congress convenes again next January. It will probably be given early consideration at that time.

The un-passed bill provided for an increase from \$65 to \$75 for single veterans, and an increase from \$90 to \$105 for married veterans. This increase was to compensate for the increased living costs of veterans.

Although Congress failed to pass this one measure, it did pass another bill allowing G. I.'s to cash their terminal leave bonds after September.

President Truman, who signed the bill before flying to the bedside of his dying mother, asked that veterans not cash their bonds unless it was absolutely necessary.

3,242 Enroll for Second Term

Enrollment for the second summer term at A. & M. numbers 3,242. H. L. Heaton, registrar, has announced. Included are 2800 veterans attending under the government program.

A slight increase is shown for this term over the second summer term of 1946 when 3056 were enrolled. Forty-five women are attending, compared to fifty-nine last term and thirty-two for the 1946 summer term.

Classes will end August 29, with registration for the fall semester scheduled for the next day. Classes will begin September 15.

One Per Cent Of Texas Veterans' Checks Returned

More than 17,000 government checks to Texas veterans were returned in the period January through May because of faulty addresses, the Veterans Administration reported this week.

Although this was only one per cent of the 1,739,733 issued in Texas during that time, the Veterans Administration emphasized the hardships caused many veterans and the additional work-load resulting from the returns.

Principal cause of the returns was veterans moving and failing to report a notice of change of address. In all such cases, the Veterans Administration must verify correct addresses before the checks can be remailed.

Most negligent in reporting changes of address were World War II veterans taking on-the-job training or going to school. More than 60 per cent of the returns were subsistence payments.

As a result of the study, the Veterans Administration has made some administrative changes which it is expected will help eliminate some of the returns.

But the principal factor in eliminating returned checks still is the veteran, himself, the Veterans Administration said. Veterans must keep paying offices advised of their correct and current address to receive prompt and efficient service.

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Wilkins, Varnell, Bailey, White To Speak; Free Movie Follows Meeting

Because of numerous requests from veterans, a special called meeting of the Veteran Students Association will be held Wednesday evening at 7 in The Grove. According to E. O. Courtade, treasurer of the association, guest speakers for the evening will include Taylor Wilkins, J. R. Varnell, and William Bailey, who will speak on veterans' affairs, and C. G. "Spike" White, who will present the intramural set-up for next fall.

Retirement System To Select Trustee To Replace Wilcox

Members of the Teacher Retirement System of Texas will be called upon soon to elect a member of the board of trustees to fill the position of George B. Wilcox whose term expires August 31, 1947. Election ballots will be mailed from Austin in the latter part of August.

Wilcox, who is head of the Department of Education and Psychology at A. & M., was appointed in 1941 by Coke Stevenson, then governor of Texas. After six years as a member of the board, Wilcox has said that he will not seek the position for another term.

Ballots should be marked in the customary manner and returned to Austin. Names of the three persons receiving the largest number of votes will be sent to the governor for his appointment of one as the new member of the board.

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Graduate Notice Offers Training

Graduating invitations may be ordered now at the Student Activities Office until August 1. Grady Elms, assistant director, announced last week. Even though no formal exercises will be held at the end of the summer, all summer graduates are eligible to order announcements.

Tranifold, cardboard, and leather invitations may be ordered.

Friday, August 1, is the deadline for ordering announcements.

Extension Director Goes to Colorado

Ide P. Trotter, Extension director, is attending a joint meeting of the Northern and Southern Great Plains Councils being held at Fort Collins, Colorado, July 28 - August 4.

Councils are set up to study major agricultural problems within the Great Plains Area with special emphasis on conservation. Dr. Trotter, a council member, will serve on the program committee for this meeting.

Figures Prove That . . . Americans Not As Dumb as Some Think

Americans are bright. And they are well educated. Nearly a million men and women of this country have had five years or more of college work.

Figures from the U. S. Office of Education and the Bureau of Census show that the average American is not as "dumb" as many people erroneously believe.

A rough index to intelligence is to be found in the figures of high school and college enrollment, because idiots don't get as far as high school and the feeble-minded don't graduate from college.

A survey of the education of Americans was made by the Census Bureau in 1940. More than 18 out of every 100 people in the United States have graduated from high school. One out of every 20 has had college studies. Of the 959,263 who have had five years or more of college work, 345 are bright enough to be doing post-graduate college work while they are still in their "teens."

Now about the trend over the years. In 1940, 73 out of every 100 boys and girls of high school age were enrolled in high school. In 1900, only 11 out of each 100 were in high school. The figures for the

evening will include Taylor Wilkins, J. R. Varnell, and William Bailey, who will speak on veterans' affairs, and C. G. "Spike" White, who will present the intramural set-up for next fall.

Veterans Adviser Wilkins will explain the leave pay system open to veterans under Part VIII of the GI Bill of Rights. Varnell, contact representative for this area whose office is in Bryan, will present the advantages and benefits of National Service Life Insurance, reminding veterans to reinstate lapsed policies.

Courtade, treasurer, will give the financial statement of the Veteran Students Association as it now stands.

Veterans are reminded of the key design contest now in progress. With a deadline set for August 9, the contest is open to all veterans. Entries should be submitted to the Veteran Students Association, Box 22, College Station, Texas, or given to any officer of the club.

Dance Plans

Dance plans for August 23 will also be presented at the Wednesday night meeting. The open-air, all-college dance, under the sponsorship of the Veteran Students Association, will be held in The Grove. Johnny Sullivan and his orchestra, of the Houston Plantation, have been contacted to play.

This will be Sullivan's second appearance on the campus, having appeared at the Senior Ring Dance in May of this year.

Free Movie

Following the business session, the free movie, "Pillow of Death", starring Basil Rathbone, will be presented by the Office of Student Activities. It will begin at 8:15 or as soon as possible thereafter.

Maritime Service Offers Training

The United States Maritime Service offers to qualified applicants who meet the regular established eligibility requirements a Special Course of Training with pay which will fit them for a career in the United States Merchant Marine.

To qualify for enrollment in the U. S. Maritime Service for Apprentice Seaman Training, a person must be between the age limits of 17 and 35; applicants under 21 years of age must produce parent's consent. He must be a citizen of the United States, and must have completed the ninth grade or its equivalent. In addition, an applicant must pass a physical and an aptitude examination.

Pay while in training is \$75 per month, plus subsistence and quarters, uniforms, and texts. All applicants must submit three letters of character reference.

For further information on the U. S. Maritime Service Apprentice Seaman Training Program, persons should write to: Enrollment Officer, U. S. Maritime Service, Room 110, Custom House, New Orleans, Louisiana.

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Now about the trend over the years. In 1940, 73 out of every 100 boys and girls of high school age were enrolled in high school. In 1900, only 11 out of each 100 were in high school. The figures for the

years in between are as follows: 1910, 15%; 1920, 23%; 1930, 51%. There was a drop in 1944 to 65%, but the Office of Education attributes this to the diversion of 17-year-olds to war service rather than any dropping of intelligence in the last seven years.

The proportion of 17-year-olds graduating from high school shows a similar trend over the years. In 1900, only 6% of the boys and girls of that age completed high school. In 1910, the figure was 9%; in 1920, 17%; in 1930, 29%; and in 1940, 51%. Here again a postwar drop to 43% in 1944 is seen.

Families are usually larger among people of low intelligence level, because those of borderline or subnormal intelligence are unable or do not have the opportunity to apply measures to limit the family. Likewise, it is difficult for feeble-minded girls to be protected from having illegitimate children. But that does not necessarily mean that these below-normal people reproduce themselves as rapidly as the differences in birth rate might suggest. Infant and child mortality rates are also relatively high among the unintelligent.