

Texas Taxes Have Followed Regular Trends

Taxes on Texas farm and ranch lands from 1890 - 1946 have been marked by three distinct trends, according to results of a study just released by the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station.

For the first 42 years, taxes per acre were found to have climbed gradually but steadily, rising from 2.9 cents in 1890 to 29 cents in 1931, the record high. A second major trend of shorter duration, 1932-35, was characterized by a sharp decline in taxes from 29 to 18.1 cents. The third trend has been one of stability. For the 11-year period, 1936-46, the average rate per acre has not varied more than a cent from the 1936 level.

This 57-year study was reported in Bulletin 702, "Trends of Taxes on Farm and Ranch, Real Estate in Texas 1890, 1946." Authors are L. P. Gabbard, head, and Robert G. Cherry, economist in farm taxation, Department of Agricultural Economics and Sociology.

The fallacy of overemphasizing the absolute in put this is quite common in discussions of tax trends. The relation of taxes per acre to prices of farm products is not a factor to be ignored, Gabbard and Cherry pointed out. Prices of farm commodities have often moved in the opposite direction from farm taxes thus accentuating the real burden in times of rising taxes and falling prices, and greatly diminishing the impact during a period of stable or declining taxes and rising prices.

State Dept. Allows 1 Million Dollars For Fulbright Act

The State Department has announced that \$1,000,000 annually will be available for the Fulbright Act program for the United Kingdom.

The Fulbright Act, signed by President Truman on August 1, 1946, amended the Surplus Property Act of 1944 so that some of the currencies and credits of other countries acquired by the United States through the sale of surplus property abroad might be used for educational exchanges.

The act authorizes the Secretary of State to negotiate executive agreements to use surplus currencies and credits realized through surplus-property sales for sending Americans abroad and maintaining foreigners a American educational institutions abroad. It also provides for financing travel for nationals of other countries to the United States for study here providing they do not displace American students in our educational institutions.

Inquiries about the program should go to the Institute of International Education, 2 West 45th Street, New York City.

Better or Worse

Congratulations are in order for Allan Madeley, housing officer, who is to tread the nuptial trail come November 20. May the best man lose.



Past presidents of the Former Students Association met on the campus recently. George Smith, present president of the Association, presided at the meeting.

Student Inventor Puts New Street Sign Up Near College

By DAVE COSLETT

Ever have trouble finding your way through a strange city because of the inadequacy of poor placement of street markers?

Jim Blackmon, an advertising student at A&M, has a solution to your problem. This ex-GI has invented a revolutionary street marker, unique in the fact that it doesn't cost the tax payers a cent.

Jim's solution to the "Which way do I go George" problem, common to many motorists, is a 30 inch high affair displaying both the street name and number in luminous letters. The letters, discernible either day or night, are placed so that they will reflect the low beam of a car headlights at night.

Another novel feature of this newly patented street marker is that it comes in sets of four to an intersection instead of the conventional two. The markers, set several feet before an intersection on the right of all four approaches allow motorists to establish the name of the cross-street before reaching it, thus eliminating the all-too-familiar furtive glances to find if this is that "cursed" street where you are supposed to turn.

The street markers are paid for, not by the city or its residents, but by advertisers who use them as a means of displaying their products as well as geographic information to the motoring public.

Blackmon first formulated the idea for his invention while he was a patient at William Beaumont General Hospital in El Paso recovering from wounds he received during the war. He patented the device about two and a half years ago, but spent an additional two years trying to perfect it.

He has already given his marker its initial try-out at the intersection of Asher and Berry Streets, south of the campus. The cities of Huntsville, Navasota, Hearne, and Brenham also have invited Blackmon to display his invention in those cities.

The marker is not the only attempt that Blackmon has made to "build a better mouse-trap." He holds five other patents including a valve-tool, a pipe-holder that fits on the dash of any standard car, and an automatic pressure switch control for autos.

He received all of these gadgets while he was a hospital patient. He is one inventor who is liable to find a lot of road-weary motorists, if not the world, beating a path to his door.



The original DON COSSACK Chorus, featuring Titian chorus and dances will appear on Town Hall, December 7.

Robert Myers, '41 Begins Three Year Army Duty Tour

Major Robert V. Myers, Class of '41, of the Field Artillery Organized Reserves has re-entered the Army on a three year tour of duty. Colonel Oscar B. Abbott, senior army instructor of the Organized Reserve Corps in Texas, announced today.

Myers, who served in the European Theater, was awarded the Bronze Star Medal, the Air Medal with one oak leaf cluster and the Croix de Guerre.

Master Sergeant Francis H. Pell first lieutenant in the Military Police Corps of the ORC and at present connected with the ROTC at A&M, will begin a tour of duty as a first lieutenant at Fort Sam Houston on November 15, Abbott also announced.

Began As Department Head

Bolton's 39 Years At A&M Marked By Service To Students & College

By DAVE COSLETT

From department head to president of one of the largest colleges in the Southwest—that's the success story of Dr. F. C. Bolton, President of A&M College, in his thirty-ninth year of service to the school.

President Bolton first came to A&M in 1909 following his appointment as head of the Department of Electrical Engineering. During the First World War he took over the position of Director of Military Education Activities of the College and was charged with overseeing the training of over seven thousand enlisted men for the technical branches of the Army.

The year 1922 saw him take his first step on the string of advancements which led to his present position. In that year he became Dean of the School of Engineering.

Ten years later he climbed another notch with his appointment to the top academic post of Dean of the College. This new job forced him to relinquish his duties as head of the electrical engineering department, but he found time to continue as a professor in the department.

In 1937 he dropped his title of

Dean of Engineering for a new one, that of Executive Vice-President of the College. And, as a kind of preview of what was to come, he served as acting president in 1943-44 during the lapse between the Walton and Gilchrist administrations.

With his official inauguration on the 18th of this month as President of Texas A&M College, Bolton will have reached the climax of his career at A&M. A look into his earlier history however, shows that he earned his new position on the basis of more than just service.

Born at Pontotoc, Mississippi, March 24, 1883, he received his first college diploma from Mississippi State College in 1905. To this initial taste of higher education, he added training at Cornell University, the University of Wisconsin, and Ohio State University. This latter school awarded him a degree of Master of Science in 1928. He was honored with an honorary degree of LL.D. from Austin College in 1932.

An active man, he is an elder in the A&M Presbyterian Church and a member of the Sul Ross Masonic Lodge. Up until a few years ago he also held a reserve commission

as Major in the Signal Corps.

An honorary member of the Texas Society for Professional Engineers, he holds active membership in the American Institute of Electrical Engineers and the American Society for Engineering Education. He served one year as vice-president in both of these last two organizations.

Concerning the college which he helped to build, the new president thinks that A&M will continue to serve the state of Texas and the Southwest with increasing effectiveness. He feels that the school should continue to

raise its standards not so much by growing in numbers, but by increasing the quality of its training.

President Bolton hopes the future will see A&M continuing its policy of preparedness by providing an opportunity for young men to train for reserve commissions and for leadership in the world which they will find outside of college or military careers.



DOCTOR F. C. BOLTON, new president of A&M, completes his 39th and final year of service to the college this year after having risen from head of department in 1909 to his new position as president of the college.

Foundations Being Poured At Site of New Student Center

By JACK RALEY

Work is going slowly, but give us 14 more months of good working weather and we will have the Student Union Building ready for opening," K. R. Simmons, general superintendent in charge of construction for the McKee Construction Company, asserted today.

Simmons said he knows it appears that nothing is being accomplished, but in reality there is a lot of action on that lot south of the main drill field. The beginning work is always slow and tedious, but when all the preliminaries are completed, it will look as if the building went up overnight.

The main worry of the builders right now is a shortage of steel for the foundation and framework. Work right now is on schedule, but if the steel supply continues short, work may have to be stopped on the part of the construction that involves the use of steel, Simmons stated.

The building will be supported by 208 steel and concrete piers or columns. Workers of the Rite-Way Foundation Drilling Co. of Houston are now in the process of setting these piers in. They sink a drill from 20 to 25 feet with the bottom of the hole from 40 to 120 inches in diameter.

The drillers stated that they were encountering all kinds of minerals and rock formations in the drilling of these deep holes. One of the drillers said it was the hardest ground he had ever drilled into.

After they clear the hole of all loose dirt, they fill it with concrete, the concrete being an exact measurement of rock, sand, and water. About 20 of these holes have already been drilled and filled with concrete. They expect to finish the drilling in 40 working days.

All of this construction is carried on by the use of machinery. The material is unloaded by cranes, the concrete is mixed by machinery, the measurement of the elements for the concrete is done by machinery. The only time manual labor is used is when the holes are filled with concrete. The concrete can be mixed and ready to pour in 1 1/2 minutes after the rock, sand, and water enter the mixer. Two carloads of rock and sand are used daily in pouring the concrete.

The building—three stories in height plus a basement—will be equipped with all the modern appliances and up-to-date conveniences that can be had. When finished, it will be one of the most beautiful and best-constructed buildings in this area.

Longley Named As '43 Class Agent

One hundred forty members of the Class of '43 named John B. Longley of College Station their class agent at their class reunion here recently.

Longley has been a resident of College Station since March when he joined the staff of the American General Life Insurance Company here. While a student at A&M, he was editor of the Longhorn and captain of G Company Infantry.

New Greenhouses Being Constructed Near AH Pavilion

Two new greenhouses are being built on the campus near the AH Pavilion. They will be used for cotton genetics research work and graduate instruction, T. R. Richmond of the Agronomy Department said today.

Forty-five thousand dollars have been appropriated from the A&M available fund and five thousand dollars from the Agricultural Experiment Station's Federal appropriations to make up the estimated fifty thousand dollar total cost.

The greenhouses will be joined by a headhouse which will contain two laboratories, a storage room, and a potting room.

One of the labs will be under the direction of Dr. S. G. Stevens, a cytogeneticist. Dr. Meta S. Brown, also a cytologist, will be in charge of the other lab.

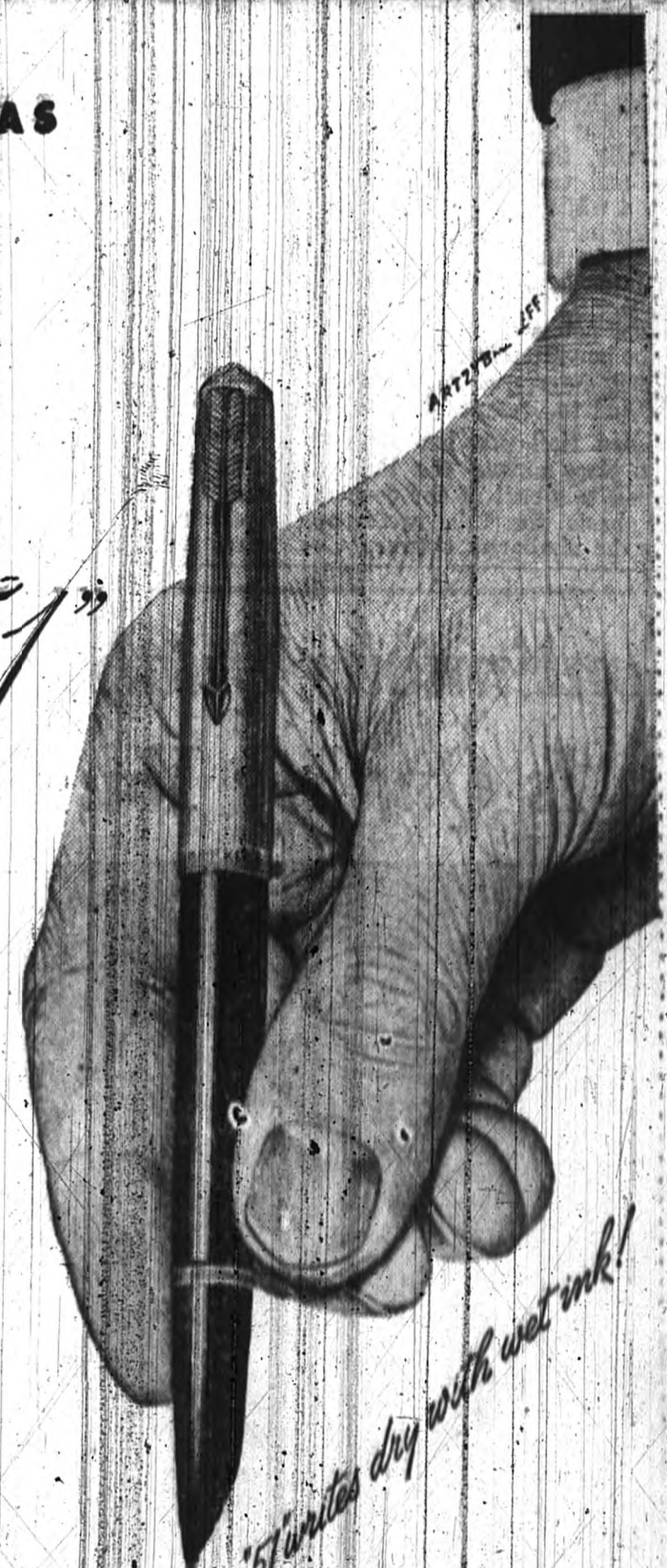
According to Richmond, head of the cotton improvement section of the Agronomy Department, A&M has the most extensive collection of wild and primitive cotton species in the U. S.

Through the use of the new greenhouses and laboratories, Richmond and his colleagues said they expected to enlarge this collection and to develop a better cotton from both a pathological and an economic viewpoint.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN STRONGHOLD DECATUR, Ill. (AP)—A broad belt in central Illinois is known as the "Lincoln country," because Abraham Lincoln lived there. But the title is supported by current as well as historic facts. A survey shows that eight relatives of the Civil War president still make their homes in Macon county. They are fourth, fifth and sixth cousins.

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Parker "51" Pen and Pencil Set. Gold-filled cap. \$23.75. Cop. 1948 by The Parker Pen Company

Advertisement for Arrow ties. Text: "Arrow ties can take it! EVEN IN LEAP YEAR!" Lists styles: SILK REPP STRIPES, FOULARDS, KNITS, BOWS. Price range: \$1 to \$2.50. Includes an illustration of a man in a suit and an Arrow tie.

Advertisement for Arrow ties. Text: "Time to Re-Tie?" "See our new collection of Arrow college ties—knits, bows, foulards, silk repps and wools. Especially made for college men." "ARROW TIES \$1 to \$2.50". Includes an illustration of a man thinking about a tie and several Arrow ties.

Advertisement for 1948 Pecan Crop. Text: "1948 Pecan Crop Estimated to Be Texas' Greatest." "By SCOTT HENDERSON". Discusses the pecan crop for this year, estimated to be the greatest in history. Includes an illustration of a man with a tool.