

Who's Who at A&M

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DONALD JARVIS



JACK QUIREY

Served With Merrill's Marauders . . .

Supply Sergeant Finlayson Expert On Aggie Vet Brass

By C. C. MUNROE

"Ask the man who owns one" might well be paraphrased into "Ask the man who knows them" when any discussion comes up involving the quality of Aggie officers in the army. And, if anyone is interested in asking the man who knows them, the person to see is Master Sergeant Robert V. Finlayson, enlisted supply sergeant, in Ross Hall.

He served with hundreds of A&M graduates, mostly veterinarians, when he was stationed in the China-Burma-India theater during the war. As a second lieutenant in the 698th. quartermaster remount outfit, Finlayson learned more about A&M than many a good fish.

"I never had an Aggie for a commanding officer," the sarge commented, "but I was with them all during the war. I knew of at least one outfit in which every officer, including the C. O. Captain Gene Capton, was an A&M graduate."

Finlayson, as supply and animal officer for the remount group, supervised the transportation of hundreds of mules from India into China and Burma over the Burma Road. He is a veteran of the Burma Campaign, having served with the 5307th. Composite Unit, known more popularly as Merrill's Marauders.

The sarge signed into the army some 12 years ago at Fort Ethan Allen in Vermont, although at that time he expected to do just a three year hitch.

After coming up the ladder of enlisted promotions, Finlayson was promoted to Warrant Officer, junior grade, and ordered overseas in January 1943. At the time he was assigned to the 478th. quartermaster truck regiment. From that outfit he went to the 5307th.

He was commissioned as a second lieutenant in July, 1944.

His present duties here at A&M are concerned mostly with supply. His reportedly unlimited knowledge of the mysteries of the duplicates, triplicates and quadruplicates involved in army supply is constantly being called upon.

Although holding a ground service job, Finlayson, who reverted to his enlisted rank at the war's end, is considered supply sergeant for both the Army and Air Forces units at the college.

A family man, Sergeant Finlayson and his wife Erma have one daughter, Barbara Sue. The family make their home in Bryan.

Get In The Movies Free; Operate The Projector

By DAVE COSLETT

Found: One sure way to get in to the movies free. It's really quite simple to be a motion picture projectionist. After all, what job could be simpler than just running a motion picture projector?

Here again the answer is simple. Plenty of jobs are a lot easier than running the machinery behind A&M's most constant means of diversion. A short talk with the projectionists at Guion Hall should convince anyone of that.

In the first place, the lure of free movies loses its power quickly with someone who runs the same picture two or three times a day for two or three days. An avid movie fan is a rarity among the members of this profession. Even with the few who do enjoy an occasional motion picture, an extremely critical attitude toward all movies soon becomes inborn.

The boys in the booth just don't look at the glamorous figures and scenes on the screen through the same eyes that the audience does. Hollywood's "stupendous productions" become to them a few reels of film that may be poorly patched full of mis-placed or muddled-up signals, and devoid of good sprocket holes.

Coupled with these worries, they have the strain of keeping sound at an adequate level, constantly adjusting a carbon-arc lamp, and making a change over every 20

minutes. The latter item, the change-over, usually proves quite interesting to visitors to a projection booth and quite nerve-racking to embryo projectionist.

For the benefit of those who don't know, the feature length 35 mm film comes in reels with an average running length of about 18 minutes. The average theater program consists of the showing of about five or six of these reels, one of which is usually made up of news, trailers (pre-views, that is), and a short subject or cartoon.

During the showing of the feature the projectionist must change from one projector to the other without the audience detecting the move. This is accomplished through the aid of change-over signals and light blocks.

The first step consists of "firing the arc" or igniting the carbon arc lamp, the source of light for the projector. Next, the projector jockey eyes the right-hand, upper corner of the screen for the first signal, a small circle which appears on the screen warning him that the reel showing at the present time has just about run out.

When he sees the first signal, he starts the motor of the idle projector and moves his hand to the sound switch. A few seconds later another signal, exactly like the first, appears on the screen.

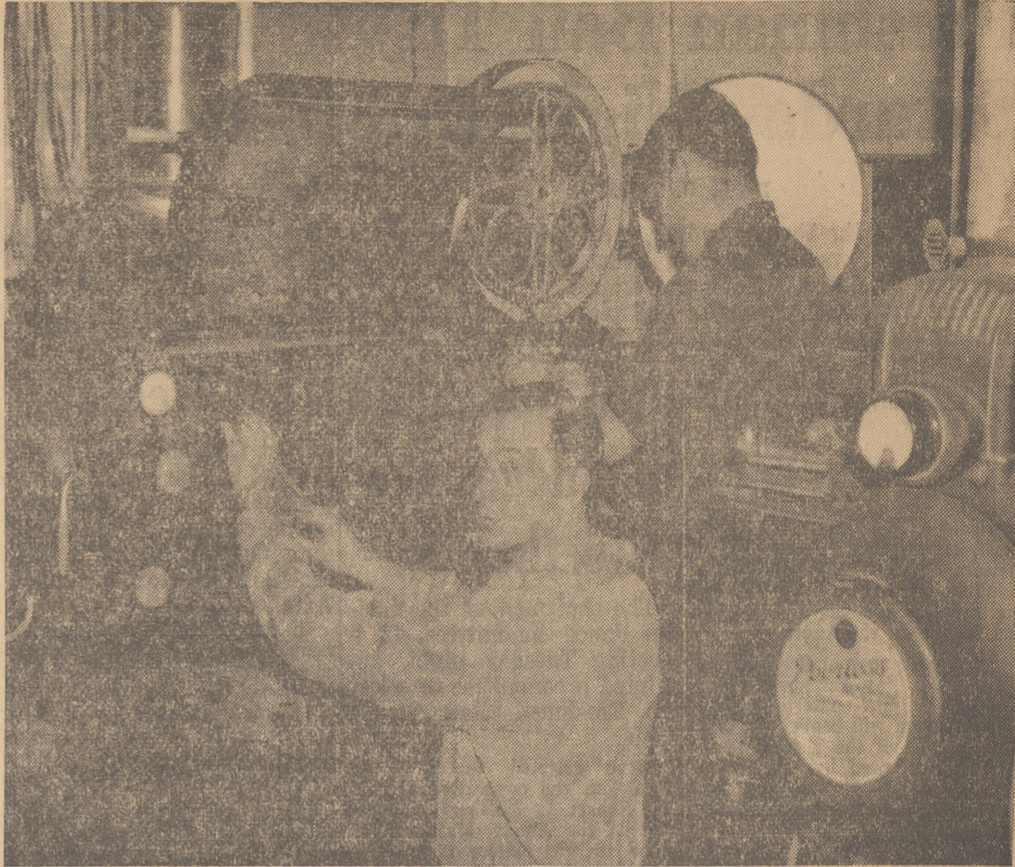
At the sight of this second signal, the projectionist touches a contraption which blocks the light from one machine and allows light from the freshly-threaded machine to hit the screen. Simultaneously, he switches the sound from one machine to the other. When done expertly, the process results in change from one machine to the other that leaves the audience none the wiser.

Changing-over calls for good co-ordination and relaxed nerves. The movie in the projection booth seldom possesses either.

Add to this little job, the task of threading up a machine, patching film and the countless other little things that make up the bulk of the work for the boys in the booth and you'll understand why their job isn't simple.

As long as things run smoothly, the experienced projectionist works hard for less than five minutes out of every twenty. But when those gremlins invade the booth, our hero has to work hard and fast. The strain caused by a short shutdown more than makes up for the leisure enjoyed by the projectionist in his luckier moments.

Next time the screen goes blank, therefore, just sit back and relax. Instead of whistling and stomping your feet, think for a minute about that fellow in the upper rear of the theater who is about to have a nervous breakdown trying to get things running again. Then ask yourself, "Is it worth that kind of a job just to see a free movie?"



Guion Hall projectionists thread their machine in preparation for showing the next reel of film. Tommy Strother, kneeling and adjusting the carbon arc lamp, has graduated and taken a job as a salesman for a motion picture supply house.

Who's Who at A&M



HAROLD OLIVER

Tellepsen Firm Awarded Contract

Tellepsen Construction Company of Houston has been awarded the contract to put in the water and sewer mains for the Experiment Station and cotton research green houses, Veterinary Hospital, and Memorial Student Center.

Work was started February 21 on the Experiment Station and cotton research green house water and sewer mains.

The water and sewer mains for the Experiment Station and cotton research green houses will cost \$9,489; the Veterinary Hospital, \$2,434; the Memorial Student Center, \$1,912.25.

The Tellepsen Construction Company's contract includes installing the water and sewer mains to the entomology field laboratory and green house, new poultry farm, and beef cattle center, all of which are to be west of the railroad track.

Employees to Have Party on March 17

A buttons and bows party will be given by the College Employees Dinner Club the night of March 17 at Sbsa Hall.

"It is not compulsory but I kinda think it would be nice if the ladies wear gingham dresses and the men wear blue jeans," Bill Armistead, president of the club, said.

The dinner party will begin at 6:45 and tickets may be purchased at Aggeland Inn through noon Saturday.

McGrail to Speak At AFS Meeting

C. R. McGrail, president of the Texaloy Foundry Co. of San Antonio, will address the student chapter of the American Foundrymen's Society, Thursday night at 7:30 in the Mechanical Engineering Building.

McGrail's subject will be "Alloys of Cast Iron."

According to B. D. Stone, chairman of the local chapter, McGrail is one of the most prominent foundrymen in the country.

McGrail is the present Chairman of the Educational Committee of the American Foundrymen's Society and is a past National Chairman of the society.

A duchess for the Cotton Ball will be selected at the meeting, Stone said.

Loveless to Talk At Reserve Meet

Lt. Col. Sid L. Loveless, cavalry reserve, will discuss National Service Life Insurance Thursday night at a meeting of the Brazos County Chapter of the Reserve Officers Association at 7:30 in the Petroleum Engineering Lecture Room.

According to Dick Hervey, secretary-treasurer of the organization, the 479th Composite Group and the 305th Composite Air Reserve also will meet with the Association.

Hervey asked that members of these organizations be present.

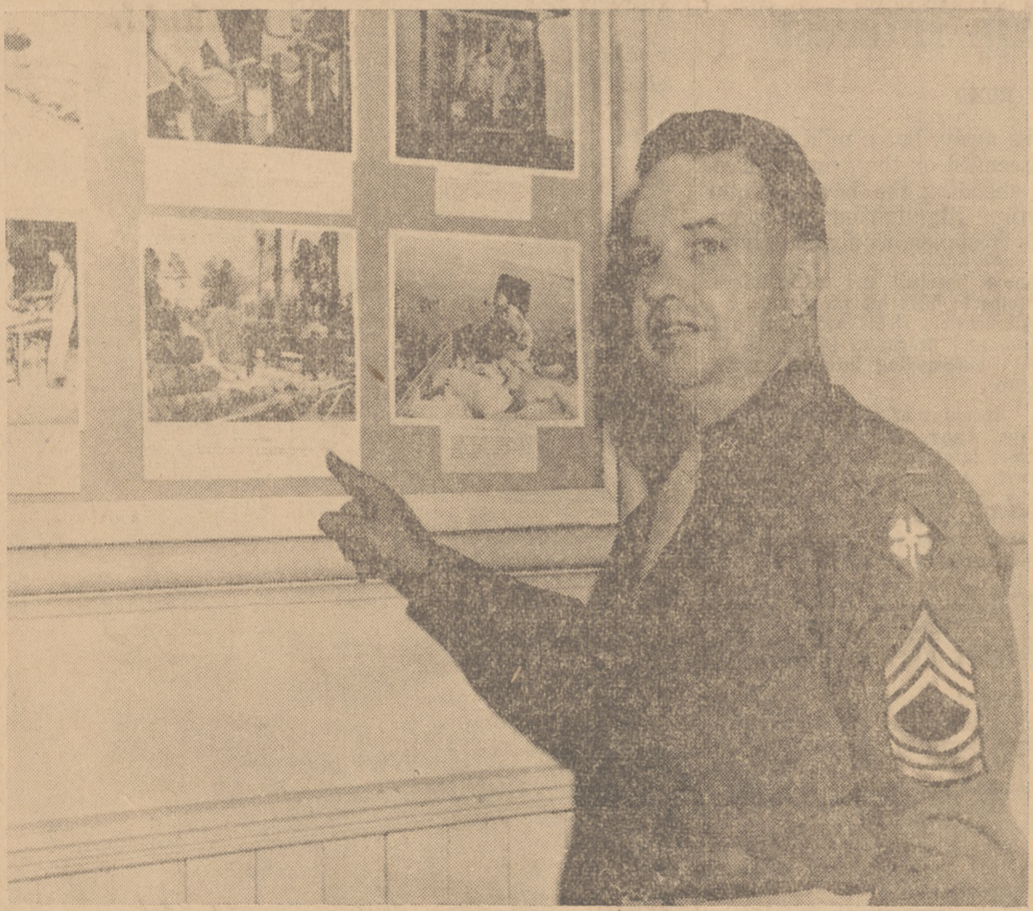
Pat Marks Goes On Active Duty

Patrick W. Marks, '48, from Caldwell has entered the Army on a three year tour of extended active duty at Fort Bolivar, Virginia. Colonel O. B. Abbott, executive for the Texas Military District, said today.

At present Marks is a second lieutenant in the Corps of Engineers of the organized reserve.

Baltimore with 43, New York with 37, and Chicago with 28 completed the 1948 All-America Conference season without missing a point after touchdown attempt.

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The military department's expert on supply and requisition, MASTER SERGEANT ROBERT V. FINLAYSON, is also considered by members of the enlisted detachment as their outstanding authority on the subject of mule transportation. During the war, he served as a Warrant Officer with a quartermaster remount outfit that transported hundreds of mules from India to China and Burma.



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Galveston Club To Plan Easter Party

Final plans for the Easter party of the Galveston Club will be discussed Thursday night at 7:30 in Room 129, Academic Building, Jack Gerard, club reporter, said today.

The club will organize a softball team, Gerard added.

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1. Jim Braddock.
2. Jack Johnson.
3. Cecil Smith.
4. 4 minutes 14 seconds.
5. 1 Warmerdam.
6. 135 M.P.H.
7. The Sprinter by .1 sec.
8. Musial .376.
9. 112 thousand.
10. 20 minutes and 29 sec.

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Ham Hocks For Seasoning lb. 19c

Baby Beef—AA Grade—Seasoned Right Rolled Roast.. lb. 45c
Swift's (CIRCLE S) Picnic lb. 45c
Cloverbloom—Solids Butter lb. 67c
Sliced Bacon Ends... lb. 19c

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Crisp CARROTS 9c
GREEN—Valentine Tender BEANS lb. 15c
FRESH GREEN PEPPERS lb. 18c

Filets Perch lb. 37c
Na'o'mi Cream-style Corn . . 2 No. 2 cans 29c
Del Monte Spinach . 2 No. 2 cans 25c

CRISCO... 3 lbs. 87c
New Windsor Sifted June Peas . . . 2 No. 2 cans 29c
Sniders—14-oz. Bottles Catsup 2 for 35c

Tea Garden Strawberry—16-oz. Jar Preserves 33c
Hunt's Sliced Peaches . 2 No. 2 cans 35c
Chase & Sanborn's Coffee . . . 1 lb. can 47c

8 POUND BAG—GRAPEFRUIT 29c
BREAST 'O CHICKEN—Solid Pack—Light Meat Tuna can 44c
Pink Beauty—Salmon . . . Tall can 54c
MRS. TUCKER'S—Carton Shortening . 3 lb. 63c
Dog House Dog Food . . . 2 cans 13c

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