



Ransdell Is Named Abbott's Successor

Clifford H. Ransdell, assistant to the Dean of Engineering, has been named to represent the Dean of the College at Bryan Field Annex. This appointment was effective December 1.

Ransdell succeeds Dr. John P. Abbott, who has assumed the office as Dean of the School of Arts and Sciences. In addition to being the representative of Dean of the College M. T. Harrington, Ransdell will work with Dean Abbott.

Born at Breckenridge, Texas, in 1909, Ransdell attended Texas Tech where he received a degree of bachelor of science.

Coming to A&M in 1937, Ransdell served as an instructor of engineering. He is now an associate professor in the Engineering Department.

Of a total of 18 years of teaching experience, Ransdell has spent 12 at A&M. Before he was named to his new administrative post, Ransdell was Annex representative of the Dean of Engineering. He served as advisor to freshman engineering students at the Annex.

Ransdell is a junior member of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers and is a member of the American Association of University Professors and the American Society of Engineering Education.

He has also spent three summers as office engineer for the Texas Highway Department.

Cadets Offered Regular Army Commissions

Regular Army commissions have been offered to 19 ground force cadets by the Department of the Army, the Military Department said today. All the men tendered the commissions are enrolled in military science courses.

Five of the men named in the announcement are to be graduated in January. The remainder are scheduled for June graduation.

January graduates eligible to accept the commissions are D. R. Blakelock, corps of engineers; H. J. Mack, quartermaster corps; T. J. Muldowney, medical service corps; E. E. Phillips Jr., transportation corps; and W. S. Bouldin, infantry.

Cadets who can accept regular commissions after their June graduation are W. O. Bachus, corps of engineers; J. W. Bleker, ordnance; F. A. Cleland, chemical corps; C. F. Cogan, ordnance; J. T. Dotson, field artillery.

A. B. Harris, chemical corps; E. H. Johnson, quartermaster corps; C. B. Modisett, signal corps; C. C. Munroe, cavalry; S. G. Pate, infantry; V. R. Porter, quartermaster corps; T. A. Rieve, corps of engineers; D. A. Strother, cavalry; and W. D. Turly, field artillery.

There are other men who have applied for Regular Army commissions, the Military Department said, but final action has not been taken on these applications.

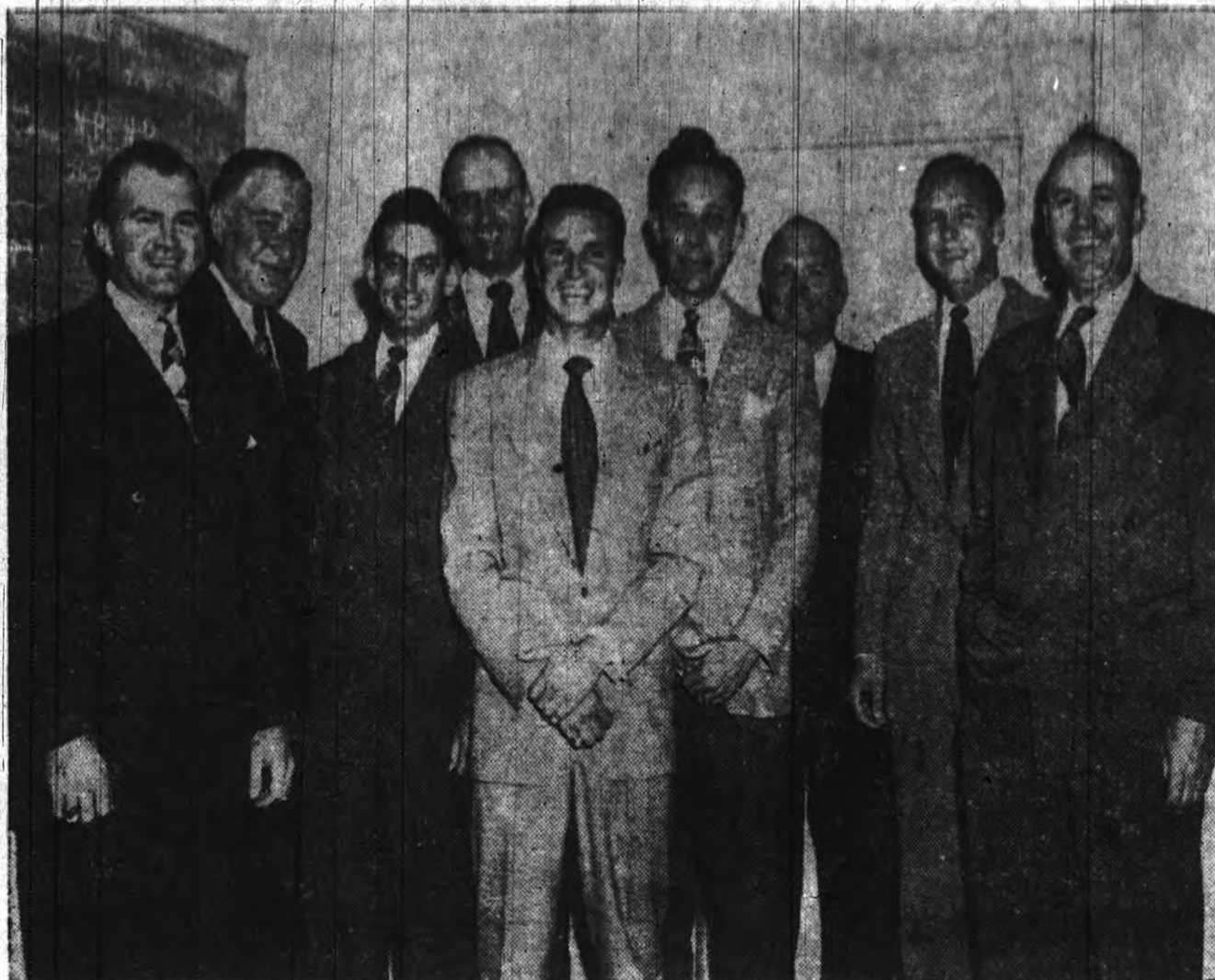
None of the men named in the Military Department announcement are required to accept the commissions. Those who do must be graduated as Distinguished Military Graduates, pass a physical examination, and receive confirmation of their appointment by the U. S. Senate.

Students to Attend ACS Region Meet

A. C. Flory, chairman of the Student Affiliates of the American Chemical Society at A&M, Ralph F. Gibby, secretary, and Bryan Zimmerman, chairman-elect, are attending the Southwest Regional meeting of the American Chemical Society at Oklahoma City, December 8 through 10.

Members of the faculty of A&M making the trip are Dr. Carl M. Lyman, Donald Hood, Dr. J. R. Crouch, Dr. W. M. Potts, Dr. Royce H. LeRoy, Dr. C. K. Hancock, Dr. George M. Watson and Dr. Fred W. Jensen.

Southwest Region includes all local sections of the American Chemical Society in Texas, Louisiana, and Oklahoma, with some representation from Arkansas and Kansas.



This mixed group of professional and student construction men got together on the campus this week when the officers of the Houston chapter of the American General Contractors visited the A&M chapter. From left to right are A&M vice president Joe Denman, Houston treasurer

Fred Fisher, A&M secretary-treasurer John Pianta, Houston secretary Lloyd Duddleston, A&M reporter A. J. Trevino, Houston vice-president Howard Telesen, A&M president Bob Page, and Houston president Carl Schneider.

Note from North Pole

Santa Comes Up to Date, Secures Help of Airlines

BY JOHN TAPLEY
Still believe in Santa Claus? Well, whether you do, or don't believe in the old gent, thousands of American kids will be reassured beyond a doubt this year that there really is such a wonderful person.

The idea comes from the Pan American World Airways. The airline officials have made a generous offer to the parents of America.

They are going to solve the problem of the letter to Santa Claus, an annual function in every household where there are those who believe.

All the parents have to do to get a signed letter from the old gent is follow a set of simple rules. The airline has offered to run a special dog sled to Fairbanks and return with Santa's letter to the kids.

Here are the instructions.

1. Write a letter to your youngster and sign it Santa Claus.
2. Place the letter in an airmail envelope addressed to your boy or girl. Don't forget to place a six cents airmail stamp on it. Allow plenty of room on the left for Santa's picture which will be stamped on by the airline.

3. Take the letter to the Pan American Airways District Sales Office in your city. If Pan American is not in your city, put the letter in another envelope and send it to Pan American World

Airways, Seattle, Washington, and write on the envelope the words "Attention Santa Claus". 4. Your letters must reach Seattle or the Pan American District Office by Monday, Dec. 12, 1949.

Then sit back and wait while the special dog sled takes the letters to the headquarters of all Santa's mail. They will then be mailed in the Fairbanks Post Office. Fairbanks was designated the closest post office to the North Pole.

Bridge and Canasta Club Slates Meet

The Bridge and Canasta Club will hold an organizational meeting Monday at 7 p. m. in room 157, West Wing, Bizzell Hall, according to Wayne Stark, director of the Student Memorial Center.

Sponsored by the Student Center, the club will be provided its special room in the new Student Center with bridge tables and chairs.

Stark further added that possible plans for the Spring semester would include practice or teaching sessions from famous authorities in either Bridge or Canasta.

A runoff among members will be held sometime in the future for persons from this college to compete with similarly chosen members of other colleges' bridge clubs. Winners in this section will receive a free, expense paid trip to the national tournament.

The city where the Intercollegiate Bridge Tournament will be held has not been announced as yet, Stark added.

Three hundred colleges' representatives were asked to attend last year.

Rifleman Lame, Lousy Aim When After Game

Berwyn, Md. — Earl L. Wells, 21, went hunting for squirrels but shot a piggy instead—the big one on his right foot. He managed to hobble home and call a doctor.

Ligament Pullers . . .

Danish Tumblers Bound In For Show Here Next Week

BY JOHN WHITMORE

The Danish "goodwill" tumbling team will come bounding into College Station December 14 for their exhibition of gymnastics at DeWare Field House.

This is the third trip the team has made to the United States under the direction of Erik Flønsted-Jensen. The first trip was made in 1940, and this team generally won the hearts of all who saw the ligament pulling escapades.

In their '47 tour they performed at the Madison Square Garden at the intermission. The group was given the greatest applause accorded any intermission performance, a NBC announcer remarked.

The '49 team is made up of 40 young athletes selected from schools, clubs or other organizations from all over Denmark. This cream of the girl's and boy's tumbling teams has been in training for this trip for a long time. Many of the feats that the team will attempt are seemingly against the laws of gravity, Erik Flønsted-Jensen said in his press releases.

Tumbling, as they do it, seems to resemble a new form of attempted

suicide and their calisthenics suggested a trace of masochism.

Also scheduled for the intermission is a short exhibition of typical Danish Folk Dancing. This is done in the native costumes. Sixteen boys and girls go through a routine which would tire out even the most avid jitterbug. From the pictures and press releases it seems as if this dance is a cross between a square dance, polka, minuet, and a few filings of the Apache dance thrown in for good measure.

The finale of the dance is the picking up of the girls and throwing them across the floor. Of course this is hard on gymnasts, but are longa, vita brevis.

If the program goes as it did in New York the second part of the program will begin with the team doing calisthenics. The girls will try to show that they have muscles made of tempered steel and the boys trying to prove that bones are meant to be shaped like pretzels.

Part of the program will be demonstrations of the tumbling apparatus. This will consist of horses, rings, bucks, and "Swedish boxes."

Stringer Named A&M Delegate To Coronation

Haj Stringer and Miss Beth Avery will represent A&M tonight at Sam Houston State College's Coronation Ball, reported Allen Eubank, chairman of the Student Senate special committee.

Stringer is a senior landscape art major from Waco. Miss Avery is a senior at TSCW and one of the beauties chosen by the social committee of the Student Senate to represent A&M at functions where a representative from A&M is invited to attend.

The Coronation Ball in an annual formal dance at Sam Houston State College climaxed by the crowning of a king and queen from that college. Representatives from other schools attend the Coronation Ball as dukes and dutchesses.

While in Huntsville all lodgings and meals are provided the visiting representatives by the host school.

Stringer is the student senator from Dormitory 17 and a member of the Student Life Committee.

Former BSU Director To Attend Friday Meet

Prentiss W. Chunn, former BSU director, will bring the evening devotional at the Baptist Student Union meeting, 7:30 p. m. Friday at the YMCA Chapel, reported Bobbie W. Davis, BSU publicity director, today.

Arthur Smith, head of the Baptist Bible Chair of A&M, will offer a challenge concerning the Student Fund Raising Project for the Baptist Student Union Center now being built, said Davis.

Dorm and Area chairmen are urged to come. Coffee and Donuts will be served, Davis concluded.

Ostner, Wyler Enliven Aggie Players' 'RUR'

By HERMAN GOLLOB

Band to Leave Wednesday For Lufkin Parade

The Aggie Band will leave Wednesday to participate in the Parade of Industry in Lufkin, ushering in the South's Man-of-the-Year, according to Lt. Col. E. V. Adams, director of the band.

Parading through downtown Lufkin, the band will herald the victory of that city's nominee to the title, E. L. Kurth.

All arrangements for transportation of the band are being handled by the sponsors of the parade. Buses will carry the group to and from Lufkin.

The band will be feted with a luncheon at the Lufkin Country Club preceding the parade.

Kurth, president of the Southland Paper Mills of Lufkin was chosen for this honor by the Dixie Business Magazine of Atlanta, Ga. Editor Hubert L. Lee of the magazine reported that no other nomination for the post had resulted in a larger avalanche of votes. Kurth more than any other man since the honor was first conveyed in 1946.

Three other Texans were among those selected as leaders in the South. They were Jesse H. Jones, publisher of the Houston Chronicle; John W. Carpenter, of Dallas, chairman of the board of the Texas Power and Light Company; and Will Clayton, board chairman of Anderson-Clayton Company of Houston.

Williams to Head Gallery Committee

Jimmie Williams from Dallas was elected chairman of the Gallery Committee at a meeting which was held last Monday evening. The Gallery Committee is an Art Club which is sponsored by the Memorial Student Center.

Representatives from the non-corp students, and from the faculty and graduate group were chosen. Wm. B. Smith was selected to represent the non-corp group as a co-chairman and Price Hobgood as a faculty co-chairman. Ralph L. Terry was elected as publicity chairman.

The group decided to put on an art contest for all artists in Brazos County as a project for the Campus Open House on Mother's Day. Further notice and plans of this exhibit will be given later, Terry said.

Another decision was made to invite one of the prominent Texas artists to A&M in the near future for a lecture and exhibition of his work, Terry stated.

Chenault Explains Newest Ag Program

W. I. Chenault, information and public relations director of the state Production and Marketing Administration, spoke Tuesday night before the Marketing and Finance Club in the Agriculture Building.

Chenault discussed the new government agriculture program which goes into effect in 1950, after briefly explaining the organization of the Production and Marketing Administration.

A restive Guion Hall audience watched last night as the Aggie Players extravagantly wasted sturdy theatrical talents on their production of Karel Capek's moralistic melodrama, "R. U. R."

Neither the imaginative touch of director George Dillavou nor the robust abilities of our local thespians were provided full and proper outlet by Capek's preachy three-act parable concerning man's destruction of himself through visionless scientific and technical development.

To be told an interesting story, to be shown interesting people doing interesting things—that is what an audience wants.

What it gets in "R.U.R." is for the most part a group of tedious speeches strung together without provoking one another, mouthed by an assortment of characters which is neither arresting, stimulating, or amusing.

There is action, emotional tension, and a conflict of wills, to be sure. But they are of the artificial type which is more likely to be encountered in the Saturday serial than in respectable drama.

Briefly, the plot concerns the misfortune that befalls mankind with the manufacture of human robots. Scientist Harry Domin with five associates has carried on this practice, originally devised by the materialistic Rossum who discovered an artificial life substance with which he could create living, soulless things incapable of experiencing emotion and feeling. Domin's idea in producing these robots is an idealistic one—to relieve mankind of the burden of work so that it may attain the ultimate in perfection, unhampered by the sordid cares of life.

When beautiful, sympathetic Helena Glory appears at the Factory of Rossum's Universal Robots to plead on behalf of humanitarian organization for the cessation of further robot manufacture, Domin tries to convince her of the necessity of robot propagation. The end result of this meeting is their marriage.

Ten years later, ten years after seeing a further increase in robot population, with a corresponding decline in mankind's numbers, until at last human birth ceases altogether. Added to this, robots acquire a certain amount of sensibility as a result of having been tampered with by one of Domin's colleagues at the request of Helena, who pities the soul-void robots.

There follows then a universal revolution, in which mankind is destroyed by the product of its own hand. Alquist, the builder, is saved in order that he may devise a new robot-making formula to replace the old one, burned by Helena. It is Asquith, god-fearing, conscious of the great wrong inherent in the manufacture of these imitations of men, who mouths most of the moral tracts preached by Capek, and in doing so, emerges as paralytic in his effect upon the play's pace.

The Singing Cadets will journey to Hockaday Junior College Saturday to sing a concert and be guests for a dance following their performance, according to Bill Moss, reporter for the group. Beginning at 8 p. m., the concert will open at the Dallas girls' school with Bill Turner, director, leading the cadets in Luther's "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" to open the official concert season for the local choir.

Beginning in a religious vein, the concert program will also include Negro spirituals, popular songs, a special Christmas group of songs, and songs of Aggie land.

Musical selections to be presented at the concert are the "Alleluia Chorus," "The Triumph of Time and Truth," "Ole Man River," "Battle Hymn of the Republic," "Shadrak," "Set Down Servant," "In the Still of the Night," "I Love You," and many others.

The program will end with "I'd Rather Be A Texas Aggie," and "The Spirit of Aggie land."

Richard Lieber, in the cast were Karl Wyler and Jeanine Ostner, who interpret their roles with commendable style and imagination. Wyler, a striking stage personality, is gifted with extraordinary acting intelligence, and can make his body, as well as his voice, count as an actor. Miss Ostner is not only pretty but

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Clifford H. Ransdell
New Annex Head

Wanted . . .

Entire Family Can Get Job

The name of A&M goes a lot further than just opening the doors of work for a graduate. In a notice recently received in the Placement Office, a man is looking for the family of an Aggie to manage his farm.

Author of the letter desires a couple to manage a 175 acre farm on the Trinity Bay. The owner of this property wants the family of a man who is at present enrolled in A&M.

Duties of the 45 to 50 year old couple would consist of maintaining property and looking after stock. Stock on the place consists of a few cows, hogs, ducks and chickens.

A brick home will be provided for the family of some Aggie along with truck garden crops, milk, butter and the other farm product.

Forty acres of the land is covered with trees, which will have to be pruned. The ground must be kept clear of brush.

Interested students can get further information at the Placement Office.

Inspection Report Delayed by Phones

Because of telephone disorders it was impossible to obtain an official statement of the annual informal inspection which took place Tuesday and Wednesday.

A telegram was dispatched yesterday afternoon from Colonel H. L. Boatner's office to Colonel Malone who headed the fourth army inspection team, and an answer is expected today.

D Field Artillery took first place in yesterday's Artillery Parade with a score of 800 points, Lt. Colonel Joe Davis, assistant commandant announced yesterday. E Field Artillery and A Coast Artillery were tied for second place with 794 points, and B Coast Artillery took third place with 787 points.

Officers Named By Women's Council

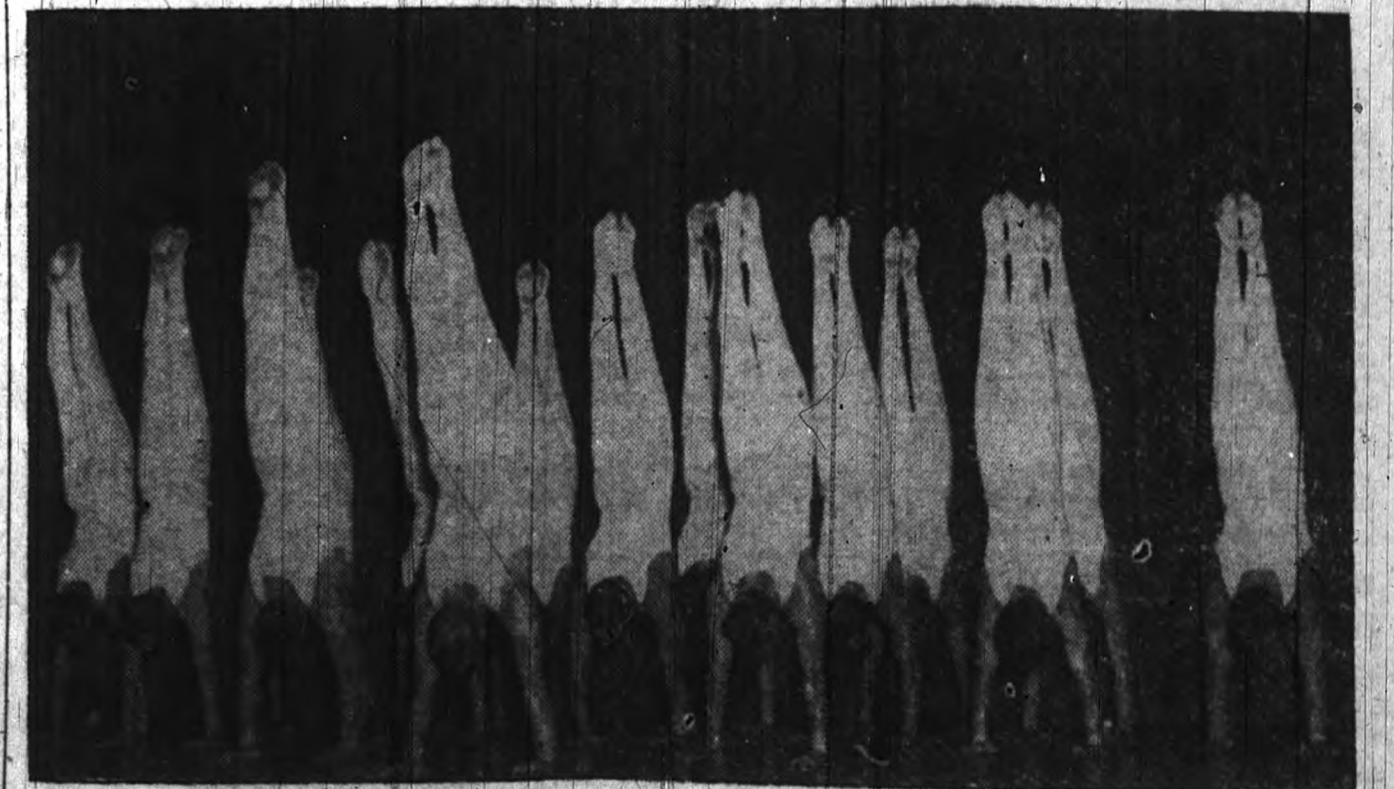
Officers for the coming year were elected by members of the Women's Council of the A&M Christian Church at their monthly business meeting, held last Monday afternoon.

Mrs. R. L. Patrick is the new president; Mrs. C. M. Hertz, vice-president; Mrs. Dan R. Davis, secretary; Mrs. C. C. Hodges, reporter; and Mrs. J. H. Bass, parliamentarian.

Plans were made for the council Christmas party, to be held December 12 at 2:30 p. m. at the church. Each member will bring a gift, which will be sent on to the Juliette Fowler Homes in Dallas as part of this year's Christmas offering.



R. L. Whiting of the Petroleum Engineering Department has been the main speaker at the annual joint meeting of the American Institute of Mining and Metallurgical Engineers. One hundred and fifty men attended the meeting.



The Danish tumbler's male squad does a mass hand stand during an Eastern tour.