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Text Reservation System Due Again

The textbook "lay away" plan, inaugurated in the fall by the Exchange Store, will be used again for spring semester registration.

The plan will enable students to reserve any textbooks they anticipate needing this spring and, after registration, pick them up in a bundle without having to wait in line.

Free gift wrapping service will also be offered for all gifts; whether bought at the Exchange Store or some other place.

Birdwell said the book "lay-away" plan was a complete success when it was first used in September. More than 700 students reserved their books, Birdwell said, and all but ten called for their bundles after registering.

Here is how the plan works. A student goes to the Exchange Store anytime in January and presents to any clerk a list of the courses he plans to take. He will receive a numbered ticket which is to be used as a claim check when he calls for his books.

The list of course, with another ticket with a corresponding number, is used by Exchange Store clerks to locate the books the student will need. All the books and supplies are then bundled, marked with the ticket number, and stored.

When a student has registered, he can go to the east window of the store, present his ticket and the required money or government orders, and he will get his books.

If there are any changes to be made in the order, Birdwell said, they can be made right at the window.

There is no obligation connected with the "lay-away" plan, and no deposit is required.

"This system helps us make the most use of our time," Birdwell continued, "and it also helps the students save books. Students also get first choice on used books if they request it," he said.

Gift Wrapping
The gift wrapping service is available to any student or college employee. It is not necessary for the gift to have been bought at the Exchange Store.

Santa, Floral Concessions Award Gifts

Santa Claus paid an early pre-holiday visit to A&M Wednesday with gifts for one hundred Aggies. The gifts, credit cards for floral merchandise at the Student Floral Concession, were placed in the rooms of the students who were selected at random.

The cards were valued at \$1.50, \$3, and \$5. L. J. Tolle, manager of the Concession said.

Tolle said that distribution of the cards "was left in Santa's hands" so that selection would be impartial.

The cards can be used by any student until May 1950 and are good for the amount indicated on each card. Any student who doesn't wish to use the card may sell it to another student since the cards are transferable.

Tolle said he expected the cards would probably be used at the major spring and winter dances, on Mother's Day, and for the Cotton Pageant.

The Student Floral Concession prepares corsages for all the major social events on the campus and any student wishing to make use of the service was asked by Tolle to contact his dorm representative.

Orders are taken by these representatives and the flowers are delivered the day of the social event.

Band Rained Out On Lufkin Trip

The A&M Band was rained out of the Lufkin parade Wednesday, December 14, as the parade honoring Ernest Lynn Kurth was cancelled. The Lufkin festivities in honor of Kurth were to begin with a parade led by the Aggie band, but the drizzly sky forced the cancellation.

Wichita Falls Club Plans Holiday Dance

The Wichita Falls Club is having their annual All-College Dance in Wichita Falls, Texas, at the Country Club on December 24. Miguel Morrison, president, said today.

The Aggieland Orchestra has been engaged to play at the Christmas Eve dance. The dance, which will be formal, will last from 9:30 p. m. to 1 a. m.

Rives Elected Cotton Pageant Social Officer

At a meeting of the A&M Agronomy Society Tuesday, David Rives, a senior Agronomy major from Paris, was elected social secretary for the Cotton Pageant which is to be held April 28, 1950.

Tommy Duffie was elected assistant social secretary to assist Rives in his duties. Rives' duties as social secretary include corresponding with the dutchesses of the pageant and various groups who help put it on.

After a short business discussion G. G. Gibson, director of the Extension Service at A&M, was introduced. Gibson spoke on the Extension Service and its functions throughout the state. He showed slides that related to the Extension Service work in the different phases of production in agriculture. These slides included crop, poultry, and livestock production.

Range Society Will Organize at A&M

The organization of a Texas section of the American Society of Range Management was recently announced by Professor H. F. Heady in a letter to all Texas members of the Society.

An organizational committee consisting of Harold F. Heady, Robert R. Rhodes, and A. H. Walker, of the Department of Range and Forestry has sponsored plans for the forthcoming meeting of the Texas Section to be held in conjunction with the national meeting of the American Society of Range Management in San Antonio, Texas, on January 10-12.

A nominations and elections committee headed by Robert A. Darrow of the Department of Range and Forestry will serve in preparing a ballot for the first section of officers at that meeting.

Membership in the Texas Section is open to all members of the American Society of Range Management, Heady said. Student memberships in the society and section have been taken by a large number of undergraduate and graduate majors in the Department of Range and Forestry, according to A. H. Walker, state membership chair man for the national society. Walker reported that there were about 125 members of the society in Texas, many of whom are former A&M students.

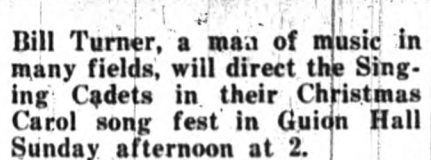
Sperry Reports At AAUP Meeting

Dr. John J. Sperry, of the Biology Department, presented a report of the committee on "Proposed Criteria for Granting Promotions and Salary Increase at the A&M College of Texas" at the regular meeting of the local chapter of the American Association of University Professors (AAUP) last Thursday evening, December 8 at the YMCA.

The report is lengthy and involved many hours of investigation and deliberation. Only half of the report was taken up at the meeting and the remainder will be dealt with at the January meeting of the AAUP.

Members of this committee consisted of Professors Paul S. Balance, Fred R. Brison, Walter H. Delaplane, M. C. Hughes, W. M. Potts, and John J. Sperry, chairman.

The nomination and election committee reported that the officers of the A&M chapter which were elected for the coming calendar year were: Melvin S. Brooks, president; Otis H. Miller, vice-president; and D. Ralph Lee, secretary-treasurer.



Bill Turner, a man of music in many fields, will direct the Singing Cadets in their Christmas Carol song fest in Guion Hall Sunday afternoon at 2.

Entomologists Hear Curator

H. B. Parks, retired curator of the college museum, was the guest speaker of the Entomology Society Tuesday, December 13, at 7:30 p. m. in Science Hall.

Parks presented a resume of the personalities, esteemed botanists, zoologists, paleontologists, and entomologists whom he had known in the past fifty years. Each of these scientists contributed in his own manner some information that has advanced the knowledge of biological science.

By putting together each bit of this information man has extended his knowledge of science manifold from what it was at the beginning of the century.

For several years Parks was connected with the Alaska Experiment Station. Many of the modern methods of agriculture are results of the work done at the Alaska Station, and through this medium Parks became acquainted with many of the modern contributors to science and agriculture.

Baptists Choir Sets Christmas Cantata

"The Child of Bethlehem," a Christmas cantata, will be presented by the choir of the First Baptist Church of College Station at 7:15 p. m. Sunday, December 18.

The cantata tells the story of the birth of Christ in what is termed a "stirring manner, not easily forgotten."

Thirty-seven choir members will present the cantata, accompanied by both piano and organ. The program will last approximately one hour.

Monday evening members of the church will hold their annual Christmas party. Seven has been set as the time for the party to begin.



Jerry Dals Merryman, freshman electrical engineering major from Hearne, grips both his awards from the freshman slide rule contest, and the hand of Dean of Engineering Howard W. Barlow. The plaque was a product of the college ME shops and the vester type, log slide rule was presented by the Eugene Dietzen Company.

Knode Tells Story Of Gun Collection

BY C. C. MUNROE
"Carl Metzger was not only a collector of guns; he knew how to use them, too," Harry C. Knode, Houston collector and personal friend of the late Carl Metzger, said last night.

Speaking before a small group of students and staff members in the Chemistry Lecture Room, Knode recounted the history of modern firearms and the story of Metzger and his collection.

"It would be impossible to tell you the history of all the weapons in the collection tonight," Knode said. "There are too many of them." He used specimens from the collection to illustrate his talk.

"Gun powder was first used in the eleventh century," Knode explained. He reviewed the early development of firearms, beginning with the hand cannon, through the matchlocks, wheellocks, flintlocks, and later weapons.

There are many rare models of firearms manufactured in the Confederacy in the Metzger collection, Knode pointed out. Among these are some built in a small arms plant which was located in Bastrop during the War Between the States.

The collection also contains many presentation models. These, Knode said, are guns manufactured on the order of some particular person. Most of them are inlaid with valuable metals and almost all have highly carved grips, he said.

Knoder showed the audience several scale model pistols from his own collection. One was no larger than a very small ladies' watch, and still it contained all the working parts of a full-sized model.

A request from the audience to relate some of his experiences while helping Metzger assemble his collection prompted Knode to tell of Metzger's marksmanship.

"I've seen Carl toss a hickory nut into their and bring it down with one shot. One time," he continued, "I saw him eject an empty cartridge from his rifle, wheel around, and hit the cartridge with one shot before it struck the ground. And shooting wasn't his only art. He was just as good at fishing or nearly any other outdoor sport."

Questions from the audience kept Knode busy for more than half an hour after his talk.

The Houstonian was introduced by Lt. Col. Frank R. Swoger, senior ordinance instructor.

More Christmas Recess Next Year, Senate Asks

Earlier Semester Registration Plan Headed for Student Life
BY CLAYTON SELPH
Active steps to lengthen next year's Christmas holidays were taken by the Student Senate last night when they voted a proposal for beginning school a week earlier next year in order that the holidays may begin on December 16. The proposal was voted by the Senate for consideration by the Academic Council at its meeting next Wednesday.

Proposed by Allen Eubank, Dorm 4 senator, the motion provided for registration for the 1950-51 school year to begin on September 9 instead of September 16 as it is presently scheduled.

Christmas holidays under the proposal would begin on December 16 and continue through January 2, 1951. Present plans are for Christmas holidays to begin after classes Wednesday, December 20 and continue through January 2. Under the Senate's proposed plan, three of the five extra days would be used to provide more holidays before Christmas. The remaining two days would be used during the Spring semester. Easter was discussed as the best time to use the remaining two days, but no formal decision was made.

Arguments Given
Only five votes were cast against the motion, but considerable argument was given in opposition to beginning school a week earlier next year.

One senator pointed out that the academic council would oppose the Senate motion because vacation schedules for many of the profs would be disrupted if school began a week earlier. He said that many profs were given their vacation time between the end of summer school and the beginning of the Fall semester.

Two Hart Hall Senators explained that football practice would be cut short because September 1 was the earliest date that practice sessions could begin.

Goes To Student Life
The proposal will be presented to the Student Life Committee at their Monday meeting. Keith Allsup, Senate president, said that he believed the motion would have a better chance for passing the Academic Council if passed first by the Student Life Committee.

TISA's meeting in Austin last weekend was reported on by Dan Davis, sophomore class vice president. He said that a number of panel discussions were to be held by the group during the remainder of the school year. The Senate will vote on topics for the panels at a future meeting, Allsup said.

Baylor will play host to the TISA annual convention which will be held April 21 and 22, Davis said.

Oldsmobile Reduces Prices, Adds Extras as Optionals

Lansing, Mich., Dec. 16.—Price cuts of \$55 to \$65 on its series 88 cars are announced by Oldsmobile as it begins its 1950 model year.

No changes are made in the prices of Oldsmobile's smaller 76 models or the larger 98 series cars.

However, the company said yesterday that, with the exception of the standard six cylinder model, any of its 1950 model cars may be obtained without certain extra equipment.

This means that hydraulic transmission, electric clocks, rear fender panels, turn signals and similar extras are to be wholly optional.

During the 1949 model year hydraulic drive was included in the list price of the series 88 and 98 models. The lesser items of equipment also had been included in the list price of the deluxe models. By omitting these various items, the car buyer can reduce the delivered price of a new model Oldsmobile from \$70 up to \$235.

Announcement of the new program was made by S. E. Skinner, Oldsmobile's general manager, at a preview for industry writers of the entire 1950 line of Oldsmobile cars.

RE A Institutes Set For December 19-21

An institute for REA co-op managers of Texas, will be held at A&M Extension Service, will conduct the institute, and 22 managers have signed up for the institute.

The development of a continuing management institute, personnel and training problems, organization of effective management, job evaluation, merit rating for individuals, are among the subjects to be discussed.

E. L. Williams, head of the IES, says that its overall training program for REA cooperatives includes five itinerate instructors and a program of foreman training, conducted by a specialist in that field.

Banquet Held By Premed-Pre-dents

The A&M Pre-medical-Predental Society presented their annual banquet last Thursday evening at 7 in Sibus Hall.

First event of the evening was a filet mignon dinner with trimmings. Immediately after the meal "Corky" Nash, president of the club, introduced Dr. George E. Potter, head of the Pre-medical-Predental Advisory Committee, who presided over the banquet.

Dr. Potter introduced the representatives of each of the East Texas Medical Schools and the members of the A&M Advisory Committee. Dean Harrington then gave a short talk on the future of medicine.

Principle speaker of the afternoon was Dr. Tidwell, professor of biochemistry at Southwestern Medical College of the University of Texas, who spoke on the importance of chemistry in medicine.

Fish & Game Club Sets Yuletide Party

The Fish and Game Club will have its Christmas party to-night at 7:30 in the American Legion Hall in Bryan. Each member will bring a present. The club will furnish refreshments and presents for the children. After presentation of gifts, a dance will be held and Christmas carols will be sung.

At its monthly meeting December 6 the club decided to use live specimens in its Mother's Day exhibit since in past years only preserved specimens have been used.

A cooperative file will be made, with each member donating knowledge of hunting grounds, that will cover the entire state for members to use.

After the meeting coffee and donuts were served.

Toy Boxes Placed By Bryan Jaycees

Boxes have been placed around College Station for toys for underprivileged children, according to Truman R. Jones, Junior Chamber of Commerce director of the drive for the College Station area.

The boxes are near the Southside Food Market, College Food Store at the East Gate and at Charlie's Food Market at the North Gate. Bryan has had a box in the center of town for a week or so, Jones said.

Housewives in this area are asked to contribute any toys they have, broken or unbroken, new or used. Broken toys will be repaired by the Bryan Fire Department and used toys will be renovated. The toys are being stored in the Chevrolet warehouse on Highway 360 South, which has been donated to the drive by Corbuser Chevrolet Company of Bryan.

This drive is an annual affair of the Jaycees, one of the many they conduct throughout the year to help those who can't help themselves.

Bell County Club To Hold Dance

The Bell County A&M Club will hold its annual Christmas Holidays Dance at the American Legion Hall in Temple Dec. 29.

Dick Thomas and orchestra, a student orchestra from Southwestern University, will play for the dance.

Refreshments will be served by the Bell County A&M Mothers Club, and the Texas Aggies will serve as junior hostesses.

Everyone is welcome to this All College Holiday Dance, according to Chester Critchfield, Club Secretary. Tickets may be purchased from members of the Bell County Club.

Shakespeare Still Charms an Audience

By HERMAN C. GOLLOB
Will Shakespeare can still roll 'em in the aisles.

As did patrons of London's Globe some three hundred years ago, last night Guion Hall audience resounded with robust peals of laughter to the Bard's "Taming of the Shrew," a riotous and lusty farce which was enthusiastically interpreted by an accomplished and uninhibited National Classic Theatre cast.

Genuine Inner Spirit
The same group of young barnstormers who brought "Home and Juliet" to the same stage last February with less gratifying results, the National Classics in the span of only ten months, have gained a theatrical stature which well speaks of the repertory idea of

stage, and pooh-poohs the idea that repertory versatility is a superficial quantity.
For there was genuine inner spirit in last evening's character composition, a spirit that brought added vigor to the timeless myth of Shakespeare's story of the hilarious struggle for supremacy between man and wife. Even in comedy the illustrious William has struck the universal and provide authors centuries after his death with the basic ingredients for romantic buffoonery, and burlesque.