



The four outstanding students, representing each class in the School of Veterinary Medicine, stand with Dr. I. B. Boughton, dean of the school. Each student was presented a merit certificate. The winners were rated on their academic standing, outside activities, and ranking with other students in the classes. They are (l to r) Bill R. Ellsworth, Hugh M. Wallace, Dr. Boughton, Monte Y. Swatzel, and R. L. Hubert.

## Senior Ring Dance Gets Benny Strong

By GEORGE CHARLTON

Musical background for the Senior Ring Dance will be in a nostalgic mood, May 20 as one of the most versatile exponents of familiar music, Benny Strong, beckons his orchestra with the baton on the Grove bandstand.

The man who sings the old songs, as he is called, must live up to his name on records as well as in live presentations. The trade papers and disc-jockies throughout the country acclaimed Benny's recording of "That Certain Party" as one of the top records of 1948 and his 1948 release of "Five Foot Two" as another hit.

A description of Benny Strong's music on records appeared recently in the Los Angeles Daily News: "When you listen to Benny Strong, you can leave the ketchup bottles on the shelf. You will have no need of condiments."

Benny's Capitol recordings out on the market now include: "Dear Hearts and Gentle People," "I Never See Margie Alone," "The Shiek of Araby," "Mary Lou," "I'd Have Baked a Cake," "Button Up Your Overcoat," "Baby Face," "Sweet Georgia Brown," and many others.

An interesting story about Benny began when he was 13 years old and was invited to sing at a political rally in Chicago, then his hometown. A number of important people were present naturally, and an introduction to one of them, who turned out to be manager of the biggest song publishing house at the time, Watson, Berlin, & Snyder, Irving Berlin's firm, resulted in Benny Strong's first job.

In order to get the job, Strong lied that he was 16. He was billed as the "Singing Newsboy" and got \$15 a week.

Band leader Paul Ash heard Benny sing "Mary Lou," his most popular song, one night and was so impressed with his voice and bright personality that he took him to the Oriental Theatre with him as his protege.

Later, while his voice was changing, Strong finished his schooling and studied drums, dramatics, and tap dancing.

Strong then became a Master of Ceremonies for Publix Theatres and later for the Blackhawk Restaurant in Chicago. He worked there for four months with Kay Kyser, who encouraged him to become a bandleader.

His first engagement at the Brown Hotel in Louisville—lasted three years. One night he sang some old songs to see if they still had popular appeal. They were a

Hillbilly Candidate Files for Governor

Houston, May 2 (AP)—A war veteran with a hillbilly band announced Monday for governor.

He is Wellington Abbey, 32, business manager of the "Cotton Digest." He plans to finance his campaign with "chain support" similar to the Pyramid Clubs of last year.

Abbey said W. Lee O'Daniel, the former Texas governor and U. S. senator, "borrowed" the hillbilly band idea from his uncle, Jake Cripe, in Kansas.

Softball Tonight

Tonight at 7:30 on the lighted softball diamond, the A&M softball team will take to the field against the strong University of Texas softballers. A double header is scheduled to take place, unless postponement occurs because of wet grounds.

## Council Names McDaniel New Engineer Ed.

Robert W. McDaniel, civil engineering student from Bellaire, was named editor of the 1950-51 Engineer magazine, student publication of the School of Engineering, last night by the Student Engineers Council, Emmitt Ingram, president of the Council, announced this morning.

McDaniel is presently a member of the Engineer staff. He was recommended to the Student Engineers Council by the present editors of the Engineer, Charles Schwab and Dave Sanders, and also by The Engineer committee of the Council. The approval given to McDaniel's editorship was unanimous by the Council, Ingram reported.

He is first sergeant of B Engineers and a member of Tau Beta Pi, engineer honor fraternity.

Lifting his plans for next year's Engineer, McDaniel told the Engineer committee of the Council that he hopes to achieve closer contact between the magazine and the students and professional societies of the School of Engineering through The Engineer whenever possible during the 75th anniversary celebrations next year.

The Engineer committee expressed satisfaction with McDaniel's abilities and plans for the future, Ingram said.

## Final Election Count Released

Final tabulations of the sophomore run-off election for next year's junior class offices were released today by Dick Ingles, sophomore class president.

Total count showed no difference in winning candidates for the positions.

Results released were: President—Harold T. Chandler, 266; Eric W. Carlson, 241; Dean Reed, 219.

Vice-president—Duane "Van" Vandenberg, 304; E. R. "Rip" Torn, 252; Robert Fatheree, 214.

Social Secretary—Ralph W. Rowe, 254; Paul Shaffer, 252; Don Hinton, 226.

Secretary—Bill "Doggy" Dalton, 278; Ken Wiggins, 244; Davis Terry, 191.

Treasurer—Ted M. Stephens, 238; O. E. "Skippy" Johnson, 238; Dan F. Willford, 191.

Parliamentarian—Phil Huey, 273; Dale E. Walton, 253; Carl A. Peterson, 185.

Sergeant-at-arms—Leon Noack, 319; Don Austin, 225; Roger H. Jewell, 167.

Reporter-historian—A. C. Burkhalter, 302; Tom Munnerlyn, 217; James Lehman, 187.

Junior Yell Leaders—(two selected) John T. Tapley, 271, and Lewis Jobe, 260; Charles R. (Bobby) Dunn, 240; Bibb Underwood, 237; O. L. "Curly" Marshall, 193; Bob Lincoln, 173.

Members of the banquet committee are Allen Eubank, chairman, Charles P. Crosby, Lloyd H. Mangle, William F. Fockelman, and Bob Wimberly. Ray Houtz is chairman of the decorations committee. Assisting him are Don Joseph, James Pianta, R. D. Martin, Jack Raley, and Jack Tanner.

Heading the guest committee is Jarvis Miller. Assisting him are Daryn Keelan, Malcolm Stokes, and Bryan Zimmerman.

Bob Mitchell is chairman of the program committee. Assisting him are George Charlton, Noble Clark, and Bill Thompson.

## Anxious Gunner Quiets Voice With A Smile

Rensselaer, N.Y., May 2 (AP)—Thomas Davidson, 19, thought he had seen a prowler so he grabbed his rifle and fired. His shots put 76 telephones and state police radios out of order in nearby East Greenbush yesterday. Two bullets hit a neighbor's car.

Davidson was fined \$25 in city court today for discharging a rifle illegally in public.

## Phi Eta Sigma Sets Initiation, Banquet

Phi Eta Sigma, freshman honorary fraternity, will initiate 104 students as new members tomorrow night, with the ceremonies to be followed by the annual banquet.

Initiation ceremonies, which also include honorary initiates, will be held in the Physics Lecture Room at 5 p. m. The banquet will be held in Sbia Hall at 7:30 p. m.

Professor J. W. Smith, associate faculty adviser, will be in charge of the initiation.

Faculty adviser to Phi Eta Sigma is Dr. J. P. Abbott, dean of the School of Arts and Sciences. Tomorrow night's initiation will add to the present total of 86 members.

Officers in the situation will be the Phi Eta Sigma officers. They are V. R. Burch, president; Eric W. Carlson, vice-president; Paul J. Fleming, secretary; Glenn Lippman, treasurer; and Ernest A. Elmenhorst, historian.

The banquet will begin with an invocation given by J. W. Dalton and a welcoming speech by Burch. Dr. T. D. Brooks, dean emeritus of the Graduate School, will be principal speaker of the evening. Dr. Abbott will make the closing remarks.

Honorary initiates of the chapter are Professor J. R. Bertrand, assistant to the Dean of Agriculture, Dr. Brooks, and Professor C. H. Ransdell, assistant to the Dean of the College for the Annex.

To be initiated as members are P. A. Alessandra, R. S. Andrews, R. E. Arheger, R. S. Atmar, J. T. Batchelor, C. E. Beavers, Bill J. Bell, G. W. Berner, Shelton G. Black, Bobby K. Boyd, Leo B. Bockholt, O. D. Bretches, R. T. Brown, J. S. Bryant, J. C. Burke, M. L. Cashion Jr., T. L. Colley, Ralph F. Cox, W. A. Crabtree, W. G. Crane, A. B. Crowthier Jr., Jimmy E. Curtis, and G. C. Detweiler.

Guests of honor are Chancellor and Mrs. Gibb Gilchrist, President and Mrs. F. C. Bolton, Dean and Mrs. M. T. Harrington, Colonel and Mrs. H. L. Boatner, Dean and Mrs. W. L. Penberthy, Lt. Colonel and Mrs. J. E. Davis, Lt. Colonel and Mrs. J. H. Kelly, Major and Mrs. L. F. Walker, Captain and Mrs. J. G. Otts, Mrs. Irene Claghorn, Mr. and Mrs. P. L. Downs, and Sgt. First Class and Mrs. Stroud.

Members of the banquet committee are Allen Eubank, chairman, Charles P. Crosby, Lloyd H. Mangle, William F. Fockelman, and Bob Wimberly. Ray Houtz is chairman of the decorations committee. Assisting him are Don Joseph, James Pianta, R. D. Martin, Jack Raley, and Jack Tanner.

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## News Praises Annual Cotton Pageant Here

A&M's 16th annual Cotton Pageant was paid tribute yesterday in the columns of The Dallas Morning News. In an editorial entitled "Cotton Pageant," The News noted the increase in attendance at last week's pageant here and commented on the decrease in the number of pageants in Texas honoring King Cotton.

"We have heard more and more of the Yamboree, Rose Festival, Forest Festival, the livestock shows and the fairs paying special attention to citrus fruits, rice, grain sorghums, wheat, and even such newcomers as flax," The News said. There has been a good amount in this line of the new King Cotton's despotism was being broken down.

"Yet Cotton is still king in Texas as agriculture," The News continued. "It will be for a long time. It is a reformed King. No longer does it rule to the exclusion of other crops. No longer does it oppress its tolling subjects, as in the past. King Cotton's former absolute monarchy is now a limited one."

"So we can afford to pay tribute to King Cotton again—tribute to higher yields, better quality, and also to the march of scientific research which is increasing the array of cotton products. There is a good omen in the cotton festival," The News concluded. "King Cotton now rules over the Empire of Crop Diversification."

The Journalism Department will sponsor the seventh in a series of assembly programs tonight at 7:30 p. m. in the YMCA Cabinet Room, Otis Miller, Associate Professor of Journalism said today. DeVan H. Dumas, local advertising manager of the Houston Chronicle, will speak.

Dumas is well qualified to speak on his announced topic, "Opportunities in Advertising," according to Donald D. Burchard, head of the Journalism Department. Twenty-one years newspaper advertising in two cities has given Dumas a broad knowledge of the business.

He served as national advertising manager of the Mobile, Ala. Press Register from 1929 through 1938. Since then he has been on the local staff of the Houston Post and the Houston Chronicle, except for three years spent in the service.

An informal dinner will be held in honor of Dumas at the Aggieldand Inn preceding his talk. All journalism and advertising students and faculty members interested in advertising are invited to attend the program, according to Burchard.

## Employment Office To Aid Graduates

Some 43 college and university placement bureaus in Texas will join hands with the Texas Employment Commission this year in an effort to find jobs for an estimated 21,000 college graduates, R. L. Coffman, assistant administrator of the Texas Employment Commission, said today.

The TEC office serving this area is located at 210 Varisco Building in Bryan, and is in charge of J. B. McKinley, office manager, Coffman said.

TEC has been rendering placement services to college graduates for several years but the agency is increasing its efforts this year to help graduates as a result of an ever tightening labor market, he concluded.

## Juniors Select Officers Tonite In Run-Off Vote

The Class of '51 meets tonight at 7:15 in the Chemistry Lecture Room for a run-off election for next year's senior class officers.

Featuring tonight's balloting will be the selection of an advisory non-corps vice president, an office which the class decided to open at its meeting last Thursday night. Three candidates have filed for the position.

The candidates are Ray N. Williams, class engineering student from Fort Worth; J. R. "Bob" Allen, Galveston mechanical engineering major; and Doyce L. Aarao, management engineering student from Houston.

Meeting in the run-off election for president will be Dare Keelan, Joe Johnson, and Lloyd Manjeot. Running for vice-president are Bill Parise, Ralph Gorman, and Noble Clark.

In the secretary-treasurer race are David Haines, Gale Brundrett, Bob Rubie, and Herb Mills. Opposing each other for social secretary are Kenneth Schaska, J. D. Hinton, and John Gosselt. George Charlton, Gordon Edgar, and Robert Corbett will meet in the run-off for historian.

Don Joseph, Jimmy Pianta, and Bill Richey are candidates for the two new upper level positions. Carl Molberg and Robert Fitts meet in the race for corps representative to the Athletic Council.

Two already Decided

Two positions were decided in the first ballot last week. They were that of Aggieldand '51 editor and student entertainment manager. Roy Nance was unopposed for the editorship, while Douglas Hearne polled a majority of votes in the first election to win the position.

If a majority is not obtained in each race of tonight's election, another run-off will be held. The one man to receive a clear majority of the votes, W. D. "Pusher" Barnes, junior class president, said this morning.

Any second run-off would be scheduled Thursday night, Barnes said.

New Post

The non-corps vice-presidential post was added to the list of class officers by a vote from the floor at last week's meeting. The original motion was revised with a stipulation that the post not receive a seat in the 1950-51 Student Senate, and that the elected officer serve in an advisory capacity, voting only on class affairs.

The non-corps vice-president's office will be voted on by the anti-union class, instead of by the non-corps group alone. Likewise, the entire class—both corps and non-corps—will elect all other officers, as they have done in the past.

Tonight's election results will be printed in tomorrow's edition of The Battalion, along with any runoff races scheduled for Thursday night.

Notes Tabulated

Votes will be tabulated as soon as all ballots are collected. Barnes said. Tabulation will be done by an appointed election committee, under the supervision of Barnes. Members of the committee are Bill Duran, Autrey Fredericks, John Mayfield, and Bill Noll.

Balloting will be handled as it was in the meeting last week. Barnes said. Class members will receive a sheet of paper listing the officers to be voted on. Candidates for the offices will be listed on a blackboard in the front of the room.

'50 Census Behind, Nears Completion

Homer Adams, College Station Census Supervisor, reported yesterday that the 1950 census enumeration for College Station, lagging behind the expected completion date, is scheduled for completion May 5.

Adams said that students in the dormitories still have to be contacted and that there will be some mopping-up operations after May 5. The Brazos County census is being taken as a group and no separate figures have been compiled for either College Station or Bryan.

## A&M Students In Auto Accident

Two A&M students, Edgar W. Smith and James C. Higgins, received minor injuries in an automobile accident west of Caldwell, Saturday.

These two students were riding in a car driven by Richard Gracy, that turned over.

Smith is a freshman in Agricultural Education and he is from Austin. Higgins is a sophomore in Architecture and he comes from Dallas.

Gracy, the driver of the car that turned over is a freshman student in Agriculture and his home is also in Austin.

John M. Yantis, freshman student in Industrial Education, tried to slow the speed of the car that he was driving as he neared the scene of the wrecked car driven by Gracy. The car driven by Yantis skidded and also turned over.

## Aggie Players More Work Than Play—Ask Any of 'Em

By WAYNE DAVIS

If you think a play begins when the opening curtain on Opening Night, then talk to Duane Evans. He doesn't think so. "Begins?" Evans says. "It's practically over."

Evans, together with Howard Davis, Pete Carson, George Williams and David Mitchell, are on Polly Masters' stage crew for the forthcoming Aggie Players production, "O Mistress Mine," being held in the Assembly Hall May 3, 4 and 5.

The play, written by Terence Rattigan and produced in London as "Love in Idleness," was a London hit for two and a half years before Lunt and Fontaine brought it to America under its new name for a year and a half run on Broadway.

Laid against a background of wartime England, the plot centers on the extramarital activities of an English cabinet member and a lovely widow, and such a plot requires, naturally enough, a fairly sumptuous set reflecting upper-crust English life.

"That," said Evans, "meant trouble."

He wasn't fooling. For the past three weeks he's along with the rest of the stage crew, has been feverishly assembling flats, props, furniture, drapery, and all the other little odds and ends of an elite apartment.

Added to this was the fact that a complete change of furniture was necessary for the third act. Lacking extra flats—the big panels that make up a set—meant that Evans and his crew would have to find means to make a high-class set look sleazy, or vice versa. The problem was solved, all right, but only after considerable loss of sleep.

## FFA Seniors Visit Houston Industries

A group of graduating seniors of the Collegiate Chapter of the Future Farmers of America and their sponsor, Professor W. W. McCloy of the Agriculture Department, were guests of the Houston Chamber of Commerce, Saturday, April 29 for an all-day inspection tour of various places of interest in Houston.

The group toured the Uncle Johnny Mills, the Houston Chronicle, and the Matheson Chemical Plant. At noon, several of the seniors appeared on the noon farm program presented by station KTRH.

The outstanding company in the Infantry Regiment will be awarded this flag at the Mother's Day review. The flag, donated by Maj. Gen. H. Miller Answorth's 36th Division Association, will be carried by the winning company for one year. Members of the company will also be authorized to wear a badge of crossed rifles mounted on a seal of the college surrounded by a silver wreath.

## 'Take a Break'

It happened at a weekend picnic near one of the many small lakes to be found around the College Station-Bryan territory. A group of kayakers and dates were playing catch with a softball.

One wild pitch went high over the head of a company commander. Backing up rapidly he yelled, "I'll get it. I'll get it." Further and further back he ran while pickers and ball players alike looked on. All of a sudden he disappeared from view. A loud "SPLASH" and a fountain of spray marked the spot at the edge of the lake where he disappeared.

The ball hasn't been found yet. The CO's clothes are now just drying out.