

## BA Department To Receive 4 IBM Machines

International Business Machines' world headquarters in New York has approved a request to place electric-punched card accounting machines with the Department of Business Administration for instructional purposes, according to T. W. Leland, head of the department.

No definite machines have been assigned as yet, Leland said, but the Houston office of IBM has made a proposal to the world headquarters to give the department the following items:

- Punch machine for preparing cards.
  - Sorting machine with counters.
  - Reproducing machine which will automatically reproduce punched cards and will punch summary cards (total cards) when attached to the tabulator.
  - Electric alphabetical numerical tabulator which processes punched cards and prepares printed reports therefrom.
- The machines will be placed in the department's new wing in Francis Hall, Leland said, and will be ready for use in the spring semester of 1951.
- The machines will be used for teaching accounting and statistical methods.

## Dean to Attend Oklahoma Meet

Dr. and Mrs. J. P. Abbott will leave early next week for Stillwater, Okla., where Dr. Abbott, dean of Arts and Sciences, will attend the fourth informal conference of Deans of Arts and Sciences.

The conference will be held at Oklahoma A&M College in Stillwater August 15-17. The Abbotts plan to vacation a short time in Colorado before going to Stillwater.

Subject of the conference will be "Evaluation and Improvement of Instruction," according to Dr. Abbott. The conference will be under the general direction of Dean Schiller Scroggs of the Oklahoma A&M School of Arts and Sciences.

Approximately 160 deans from colleges and universities in the Southwest, Middlewest, and South are expected to attend the conference.

## Kelly Assigned To Saudi Arabia Base

Lt. Col. J. H. Kelly, associate professor of Air Service and Tactics, has been assigned to the Military Air Transport Service at Dharban, Saudi Arabia.

Col. Kelly is scheduled to leave about August 20 for air transport to the Arabian base. His probable duty assignment at the new base will be as inspector general.

Col. Kelly has been stationed at A&M since February, 1947. Mrs. Kelly and their daughter will remain in College Station where their daughter will attend A&M Consolidated school.

## An Editorial . . .

# Let's Get Together To Prevent Fires

One week ago a home burned in College Hills, and, since that time, some residents of that area have been "up in arms," protesting that the local fire department is inadequate.

Throughout the week, The Battalion has tried to collect information from sources on both sides of the matter. We have talked to city officials, the fire chief and other college employees, and to some of the residents.

As in every disagreement, two sides appear. And whenever there is dissension, there is likely to be irrational, hasty thought—something which is only natural if the people do not have the facts before them.

Both the college and the city are served by one fire department, operated by A&M. Cled Warren, a college employee, heads the department.

Fire protection for College Station is adequate, according to Chief Warren, although far from perfect, as in most cities. Major fires have been at a minimum and fire insurance rates compare favorably with those of equally-populated areas.

At least one man, and often two, are on duty 24 hours a day at the college power plant, to which all fire department calls are directed. When a call is placed, the telephones in both the fire department building and the power plant—only a few hundred feet away—ring. The siren can be set off from either point.

When the siren is sounded, volunteer firemen immediately drive to the station, board the truck, and head toward the fire.

We have heard reports of a petition being circulated in College Hills protesting the inadequacy of the fire department. We are glad to see that the residents of that area realize the importance of such a public service and are exercising their constitutional right to see that the service is the best possible.

But the situation, if one exists, must be dealt with logically, and cannot be met with only indignant words. It must be met with cooperation.

Some residents want a city fire department. We see little need in establishing one, for the expense involved would be quite high. A fire station, trucks, equipment, maintenance crew—all add to a tremendous total.

Then there have been allegations of inefficiency in operation of the department. One report claimed that a truck was delayed several minutes in reaching last week's fire, due to battery failure. Chief Warren said that the battery was low, but the truck started a few seconds later after just a push from the firemen aboard it.

Reports have varied on the time required by the firemen to reach the blaze. Chief Warren said water was directed at the flames 11 minutes after the siren was sounded.

He offered a suggestion, which we believe, if it could be effected, would be of definite aid. He suggested a committee of citizens, to be appointed by the city council, to work with the college department and bring before College Station residents necessary information needed to prevent fires, and what to do should one occur. The committee would serve as a liaison between the department and the residents, a type of public relations service.

Certainly the fire department has limitations on its capabilities, but we do not believe them to be of major importance. No generator is available to keep the trucks' batteries in top-flight condition, but a careful check is made frequently on their performance.

It is quite natural that, once in a while, since maintenance equipment and maintenance crews are not always available, the trucks may falter. But, as in the battery failure, very little time is lost.

We believe the situation can be improved, but only by cooperation between the fire department and the citizens. Hof-headedness and anger accomplishes little.

Should the city council take steps to form the suggested citizens committee to work WITH the firemen, we are sure that many opinions—from both sides—would become less biased and more rational and constructive.

## Senator Asks Spanish Bases If War Starts

Washington, Aug. 3—(AP)—Senate approval of a \$100 million loan to Spain prompted a proposal by Senator Bridges (R-NH) yesterday that the United States seek an agreement for use of Spanish bases if war breaks out in Europe.

The Senate wrote the Spanish loan provision into the one-package appropriation bill by a 65 to 15 vote Tuesday. Sponsors argued for it on the grounds that Spain is important strategically and also is anti-Communist. However, Senator Morse (R-Ore) described it as an attempt to bridge the Franco government into friendly relations.

Morse was one of the four Republicans and 11 Democrats who opposed a directive to the government's Export-Import Bank to make the funds available to Spain. The loan would permit the purchase in the United States of such commodities as wheat and cotton.

If the House, which has not passed on the issue, also approves, the United States is expected to get some strategic metals in payment.

Bridges told a reporter he thinks the proposed commercial transaction might well be broadened to include Spain in the more than \$5 billion in foreign military assistance that Congress is expected to make available soon.

"If Spain wants to be included in arms aid, there is no reason why we shouldn't negotiate for some bases there which we could use quickly if there is a Russian attack in Europe," Bridges said.

This coincided with a proposal by Chairman Tydings (D-Md.) of the Senate Armed Services Committee that other nations which get American military supplies be required to produce on their own a tank—or its equivalent—for every tank they get from the United States.

## Spence to Discuss Water Situation

The water situation in College Station will be discussed by T. R. Spence, manager of physical plants for the A&M System, tomorrow morning at 7:15 over radio station WTAW.

Spence will talk on the vital matter of water conservation and other matters concerning the water situation in College Station.

Ernest Laneford, mayor of College Station, and Roland Dansby, Bryan mayor, together with Spence have issued a request to all area residents to conserve water during what they termed a "critical situation."

## Graduate Class Tours Houston

Twenty-two members of the graduate class in Agricultural Economics 645, "Government and Agriculture," left yesterday on a field trip to Houston.

In addition to the class and its instructor, Dr. T. R. Timm, extension director G. G. Gibson, assistant extension editor J. W. Potts, and L. P. Gabbard, head of the Agricultural Economics and Sociology Department, are also on the trip.

The class will return to College Station this afternoon.

## Third '50-'51 Town Hall Artist . . .

# Expect the Unexpected from Ace Pianist Oscar Levant

By LOUISE JONES

When Oscar Levant takes over the Guion Hall stage next Feb. 1 for a Town Hall performance, he won't know exactly what he intends to play. That's just the kind of man he is.

The well-known, well-liked radio, stage, and screen artist is completely informal and delights in making side comments to his audience.

Levant will be Town Hall's third performer of the season. The evening's agenda will be entitled "A Program of Piano Music with Comments."

Even though he claims no exact idea concerning what he will play, he usually has a few favorite composers from whom he draws crowd-pleasing music. Some Bach, Beethoven, Gershwin, and perhaps some Shostakovich will probably make up the Feb. 1 program.

These selections, like Levant himself, are subject to change after he "appraises" his audience. Levant likes to suit his num-

bers to the mood of the audience and to himself, with "asides" appropriate at the moment. In any formal concert, Bach would come first, but the impulsive Oscar may insert the great composer at any spot in the program.

Though he never releases his program before taking the stage, Levant will give College Station area music lovers fine music, expertly played. Those who can't lose themselves in music alone will find added enjoyment in the remarks he tosses to the audience.

Levant almost always mentions Pittsburgh in his recital comments. That's where he was born, and his father was a jeweler there. From his earliest childhood, Levant loved music.

His father converted the attic over his store into a studio for his son, and there Levant practiced incessantly. As a high school freshman, he organized his own band to play for school dances.

At 15, the pianist abandoned his formal schooling to go to New

# New Basketball Coach Reported Named; Officials Say 'Not So'

## John Floyd Resigns Position At Little Rock for A&M Post

By FRANK N. MANITZAS  
Battalion Sports Editor

D. W. Williams, chairman of the Athletic Council, denied last night that John L. Floyd had been hired as A&M's new head basketball coach.

Floyd said yesterday morning in Little Rock, Ark. that he had been hired a week ago and that terms had already been agreed upon. He resigned Tuesday as coach for Little Rock Junior College, where his team won only one of 19 games last season, according to Associated Press reports.

He has been at the Arkansas school only one year. During the past season, he was beset by poor material.

Floyd, if he is hired, would replace Marty Karow, A&M head basketball and baseball mentor who will leave to assume duties as Ohio State head baseball coach August 31.

New coaches for a college are usually hired some time in advance of the official meeting of the college's Athletic Council. It is usually a routine matter for a Council to name the man selected at these meetings.

"Floyd has not been hired," Williams said last night. "No one has been hired. No one will be hired until the Athletic Council meets Saturday to approve the person who has been recommended for the position by Athletic Director Barlow Irvin."

Williams did say, however, that Floyd was "one of many" being considered for the job. Floyd was

reportedly recommended to A&M officials by Hank Iba, tutor of the powerful Oklahoma Aggies and by Adolph Rupp, Kentucky University's head basketball coach.

Floyd was formerly an assistant to Iba. The Oklahoma A&M coach labeled Floyd as "one of the truly outstanding young basketball coaches in the nation."

The 31-year-old Kansan played on the Wellington, Kan. high school quintet which won the state title just before he entered Oklahoma A&M, where he played varsity ball for three seasons.

Floyd was on the All-Missouri Valley Conference team for one of these three seasons.

Upon graduation from Oklahoma A&M, Floyd tutored the freshman Aggie team there, winning 16 games and losing only one, during the 1942-43 season.

## Star on Navy Team

The following year he entered the Navy, playing on the Norfolk Naval Training Station's cage team for two years. After the first season, his team was rated among the top in the nation, and the following year again ranked high nationally.

Returning to Iba's side as assistant coach after three years in the Navy, Floyd had a hand in the Aggies' winning the national title that year.

In 1947, he returned to Wellington, Kan. where he coached the high school team to a state championship. The following two years, his teams reached the quarterfinals and the finals of the state play-off.

Floyd served as assistant football coach on the Little Rock Junior College team that won the Little Rose Bowl title this year, together with tutoring the basketball squad.

## To Initiate Okie Style

With basketball workouts beginning at A&M Oct. 15, Floyd is planning to install the style of basketball which was played at Oklahoma A&M.

## At the Grove Tonight

8 p.m.—"Tulsa," Eagle-Lion production starring Susan Hayward, Robert Preston, and Hoagy Carmichael.

FRIDAY NIGHT—8 p. m. Square dancing, preceded by half-hour instruction.



In the first step toward construction of the new college administration building, test holes have been drilled on the building site to determine depth of footings for the building. The new administration building will be located on the area just north of Goodwin Hall, across the street from the south side of the YMCA.

## On a Question and Answer Basis . . .

# A&M's Basic Division - How It'll Operate, Why Needed

With the nearing of another school year in the history of A & M, subjects such as freshmen on the campus and the operation of the Basic Division have caused considerable discussion on the campus for the past several weeks.

The following questions were designed and answered in an attempt to clear up any questions anyone might ask concerning the Basic Division.

Q: Who is responsible for first conceiving the idea for the Basic Division here at A&M?

A: Dr. F. C. Bolton, president emeritus of the college, is credited with the suggestion.

Q: What has been done to put Bolton's idea into action?

A: In the fall of 1949, a committee of faculty members was appointed to study the problem fully and prepare recommendations. Members of the committee were Drs. P. W. Burns, F. W. Jensen, H. G. Johnston, T. F. Mayo, J. C. Miller, and S. R. Wright, and Professors V. M. Faires and W. L. Porter. The findings were reported to the Executive Committee of the Academic Council who approved the recommendations.

Q: What are the primary aims of the Basic Division?

A: According to a letter sent to the Board of Directors by the Academic Council, the aims of the Basic Division are:

- (1) To give first year students closer supervision than is ordinarily given.
- (2) To assist students who have not definitely decided on a field of study.
- (3) To give beginning students the benefit of guidance by people professionally trained to operate a guidance program.
- (4) To supply the various schools of the college with a highly selected group of students fully prepared to carry on specialized training necessary for a profession and outstanding citizenship.

Q: How will the Basic Division affect a student who has a definite major in mind?

The student who is sure of his degree objective, and who meets the entrance requirements for the school of his choice, will be permitted to take the same course pattern which he would take if he was enrolled in that school.

Q: Where will students in the Basic Division be housed?

A: Basic Division students will be housed in dormitories 14, 15, 16, 17, and Walton Hall. They will eat in the dining room of Shiba Hall.

## New College Dean Arrives Monday

Dr. Charles Clement French, former vice-president of Virginia Polytechnic Institute, will arrive here Monday to assume his duties as A&M's new Dean of the College.

Dr. and Mrs. French will live at 410 Throckmorton. The new dean was appointed by the college board of directors upon recommendation of the president and approval by the chancellor.

A native of Philadelphia, Dr. French received his Bachelor of Science in chemical engineering at the University of Pennsylvania in 1922. He received his Master of Science in chemistry and his Doctor of Philosophy in physical chemistry at the same school.

Q: Who will be included in the Administration of the Basic Division?

A: The Basic Division will have a small selected staff by choice. It will be composed of five counselors to be assigned to the Commandant for administrative purposes but will help in educational counseling and remedial work under the direction of the Basic Division staff. The staff will be composed of three full time professional workers, as well as the Basic Division's Dean, John R. Bertrand.

Q: What will be the duties of the Basic Divisions Staff?

A: The staff's work will consist of clinical counseling, group and individual testing, remedial reading, non-directive group therapy, in-service training of freshman advisers and dormitory counselors, group guidance and orientation of freshmen, and program evaluation.

According to Bertrand, other administrative details concerning the Basic Divisions are yet to be worked out. The names of the Division's staff and counselors will be announced in the near future, he added.



Keeping the college's physical plant in top-notch condition is quite a job, and these are some of the men who do it. Drilling through a wall in the Student Apartments offices in Goodwin Hall, this crew has joined the offices with a new door. All over the campus this summer, B&CU men are making minor and major repairs and changes in anticipation of a crowded campus this fall.



Oscar Levant