



In its final stages before being set off last Wednesday afternoon, the Texas University game bonfire gets the traditional T House mounted at its top by members of the Maroon and White bands.

—Staff Photo by Dick Zeek.

'Fish' to Organize Schedule Elections For December 17

Freshmen will get their first chance to take part in the management of their class affairs Dec. 17 when they cast secret ballots for the election of officers for the class of 1955.

Officers of President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Social Secretary, and Reporter are open, and candidates may now file for these positions in the Office of Student Activities.

Requirements for candidacy are:
• The candidate must have a grade point ratio of at least 1.0.
• Each candidate must agree to serve out the term of his office if he is elected.

The first rule was made, said Pete Hardesty, business manager of student activities, because some

of the offices require a certain amount of outside work, and men with low grade point ratios shouldn't be allowed to hold one of these positions.

Hardesty then said the second rule was laid down because in the past, some men who were elected left school at mid-term, thus leaving a vacancy of their office.

Deadline for freshmen filing has been set for Dec. 12, and Hardesty requested all candidates file before then to avoid last minute confusion in the printing of ballots and checking of candidates.

The election is scheduled for Dec. 17 in the dorms and is to be held sometime during call to quarters, between 7:30 and 10:30 p. m.

First Sergeants from the freshman units will meet with Hardesty in the Lounge of Walton Hall Dec. 10 after the evening meal to work out final methods for holding the election.

2000 Believed Killed In Philippino Eruption

Manila, Dec. 5 (Wednesday) (AP)—Rescue officials on devastated Camiguin Island expressed fears Wednesday that 2,000 persons may have perished when mighty Hibok Hibok Volcano blew its top Tuesday without warning.

The known death toll reported by the Philippine Red Cross mounted to 146.

A second mighty blast was reported Tuesday night. Thousands of terror-stricken inhabitants Wednesday were fleeing remote Camiguin Island in the Southern Philippines. They packed themselves into all available craft and headed for Mindanao Island, forty miles south.

The Camiguin capital of Mambajao, on the northern side, was reported evacuated except for a handful of rescue workers.

The task of searching for the dead and missing was pushed despite extreme peril. But rescue workers picked away at the smoking layers of ash and lava only along the fringe of a 6-square-mile devastated area.

Because of the heat and acid fumes, they were unable to get closer to ten villages believed destroyed at the slope of the 5,620-foot peak.

Philippine news service correspondents who reached the island Tuesday night said four of every five inhabitants in the ten villages were believed to be dead.

Without Warning
The villagers were reported trapped when the volcano erupted without warning at 7:15 a. m. (5:15 p. m., time Monday).

The blast sounded like an atomic explosion and shot a boiling smoke cloud three miles above the peak. Hot ashes and glowing chunks of lava fell like rain across a wide area.

Eye witnesses said a group of children on their way to school at Panasan village perished in the first blast. They said a searing stream of lava obliterated the village.

Vegetation was charred black. Outlying roads were littered with corpses of humans and animals, blackened from the intense heat.

Virtually all water was polluted. The weather bureau station at Mambajao reported: "There were minor slides Wednesday morning. Situation not yet clear. Water system paralyzed."

The second big blast was reported at 5:30 p. m. Tuesday (3:30 a. m. Monday Dallas time).

General Clarke To Address RV Initiates

Major General Bruce C. Clarke, Commander of Fort Hood, will be the guest speaker at the annual Ross Volunteer Banquet in the MSC on Dec. 13.

General Clarke is a 1925 West Point graduate previously serving as a private in the army in 1918 and the New York National Guard in 1920.

During World War II, General Clarke became commander of the 4th Armored Division under General Patton. He has received 22 decorations and awards. Five of these are foreign decorations from France and Belgium.

Today General Clarke is one of the United States authorities on Armored warfare.

The banquet will be held at 7:30 p. m. in the MSC Ballroom. After the dinner, General Clarke will speak to the Volunteers on the topic, "Handling of Men."

The Ross Volunteers' banquet is an annual dinner where the new members are initiated and sworn into the oldest student military organization in Texas.

This year 80 new members are going to be sworn into the Volunteers making its strength 125 said Dick Ingels, Commander of the Volunteers.

Pediatrician Will Address Dames Club

All student wives are invited to attend the meeting of the Dames Club at 8 p. m. tomorrow in the Cabinet Room of the YMCA, according to Marge Dolan, president.

Dr. Nena Harris, pediatrician, will lecture the group about "Feeding Habits of Children."

"Following the lecture the club will vote on changing the meeting date, which is every other Thursday night, and conflicts with another club," added Mrs. Dolan.

"The vote will be taken due to the popular demand by members of both clubs involved."

The Dames Club is open to all student wives, and club officers hope for a large attendance at tomorrow night's meeting to hear the guest speaker, and to join the club.

Campus Painters Get Penalties

A senior student in the basic division was given an indefinite suspension for his part in the painting on buildings on the TU Campus, the dean of men's office announced this morning.

Five freshmen who were also connected with the painting were given 16 hours extra duty and were campused until Easter.

Banking Forum Scheduled By Business Students

Over 300 people are expected at the meeting of the Business Society tonight at 7:30 in the MSC Ballroom, according to T. W. Leland, head of the Business department.

Invitations have been sent to Bryan and College Station bankers, students in the Economics department, and students in the Business department.

A panel composed of three Texas bankers will answer student's questions. The panel will consist of J. Henry Simpson, vice president of the American National Bank in Beaumont; E. M. Fabian, assist-

vice president of the Second National Bank in Houston; and Albert Ball, vice president of the Second National Bank in Houston.

Two short films will be shown at the meeting. They are "Pay to the Order of," showing the use of checks, and "How Banks Serve," showing banking service for the typical American family.

Harold Kittlebrand, district chairman of the National Public Relations committee of the American Institute of Banking, will make a talk on "Your Banks and What They Mean to You."

'Kids Concert' Slated Tuesday By Symphony

The Houston Symphony conducted by Andor Toth will present a special children's concert at 3 p. m. Tuesday at Guion Hall.

The program has been especially chosen by the Symphony staff for the understanding and appreciation of school children from both elementary and high school grades, according to C. G. White, assistant dean of men for activities.

Prelude to Act III of "Lohengrin" by Wagner will be the first number presented. Other numbers are as follows: Overture to the "Bartered Bride" by Smetana, Waltz from the "Nutcracker Suite" by Tchaikovsky, the Enchanted Toy Shop by Rossini; Sleighride by Anderson, Serenade of the Carols by Gould, and The King and I by Rodgers.

Un-programmed encores are Die Fledermaus, The Waltzing Cat, and the Hot Canary. The concert will last about an hour. Tickets will be sold at each school and the Guion Hall Box Office.

All teachers and school administrators may attend the concert without charge, White said.

A&M Debators To Compete In Invitational

Texas A&M Debators will attend the University of Texas Annual Invitational Debate Tournament in Austin Dec. 7 and 8. Four teams will debate the subject, "Resolved that all Americans should be subject to conscription for essential service during time of war."

Teams are made up of two seniors, James Farmer and Dan Davis; and two juniors, Bert Weller and Joe Riddle. Both teams will take the affirmative. Taking the negative side of the question will be two freshman teams composed of Kenneth Scott and Willard Jenkins, and Thomas Newton and Chapman.

This is the first of many tournaments which the debators from A&M plan to enter this year. In addition to several other tournaments in Texas, trips have also been planned to Mississippi, Louisiana, and Arkansas.

Harry Hierth and Lee Martin, debate club sponsors, have announced that plans are also being made for the Annual Texas A&M Invitational Speech Tournament to be held here in the spring.

Ag Faculty Sets Meeting

The agricultural faculty will have a meeting of the teaching staff of the School of Agriculture in the Agricultural Engineering Lecture Room at 7 p. m. today.

The problem of a system of accreditation for college training in agriculture will be discussed.

All staff members are urged to be present, said Charles N. Sheppard, dean of the School of Agriculture.

MSC Improvement

Student labor is being used by the MSC to do jobs improving the facilities available to students as well as visitors.

Three students are now used to replace the wiring that was not satisfactory to carry the required load and to install \$1800.00 worth of new equipment.

These projects are moving rather slowly, as these students have their class assignments and other school activities to take care of along with their working.

A sound reinforcement system is being installed instead of the PA system. This system makes it seem as though you were talking to the person himself rather than a roaring sound.

The MSC is also confronted with changing from heat to air conditioning during these odd days. It takes about 2 hours' labor to switch from one to the other as the weather changes.

Boyle's Column

New York—(AP)—Once upon a time Charles Dickens wrote a famous Christmas carol about an old shilling-squeezer named Ebenezer Scrooge and how he caught the holiday spirit.

Did you ever wonder what happened after that? Well...

A well-dressed fat man, his arms full of gaily-wrapped packages, stood by a bus sign.

Idly he watched a red-and-white street corner Santa Claus soliciting donations. A seedy old man in a worn brown coat came by.

"Anything for the unfortunates?" cried the Santa, ringing his bell. "Anything for the poor unfortunates?"

The seedy old man paused, fumbled through his pockets, pulled out a worn quarter and put it in the hand of Santa Claus.

"Christmas!" he jeered. "Bah, humbug!"

He wrapped his worn brown coat tighter around his throat, and walked on. Then he saw the fat, well-dressed man. He held out his hand and said whiningly:

"Can you stake a fellow to a bite, brother? I haven't eaten for two days?"

"But I just saw you give a quarter to that Santa Claus," said the fat man. "If I give you another quarter, will you give that one away, too?"

"I probably will—it's the old Christmas spirit in me," agreed the seedy character dimly. "I can't help myself. The Christmas

Christmas Spirit Backfires; Scrooge Hands-Out Money

spirit is a curse with me—it runs in my family."

The fat man said he didn't understand. The seedy man said he'd be glad to explain—in return for a meal.

"But you'll have to go to the restaurant with me," he added sardoniously. "Giving me money is no good—I'll just give it away myself, and go hungry."

The two went into a cafeteria, and the seedy man ate greedily. Over a steaming cup of coffee he told the following tale:

"My great-great uncle was a prominent English merchant. He had seeds of money, but he was such an old skinflint the family looked forward to inheriting it soon, figuring he would die of his own meanness.

"One Christmas eve his nephew—my great uncle, that was—went in to wish him the compliments of the season, and the old scoundrel grumbled, 'every idiot who goes about with Merry Christmas on his lips should be buried with a stake of holly through his heart!'"

"A real miser," murmured the fat man.

"Yes, indeed," said the seedy man. "But that night the old miser went balmy in the head or something. He began to have hallucinations—to repent."

"That was nice."

"You may think so. But he began to get the idea he was Santa Claus. He was infatuated with Christmas. He raised all his clerks' salaries. He began

donating to orphan asylums and bird homes. When he died and they opened his will—he was flat broke."

"Yes, but—" said the fat man. "That started the family curse," continued the seedy man. "My great uncle buckled down and penny-pinched his way to a fortune. What happened? When he got sixty, he went balmy one Christmas, too. He started giving everything away, and didn't quit until he had.

"The same thing with my uncle. And me? Five years ago, after a lifetime of scrimping, I had \$500,000. Then the peace-and-good-will bug hit me. After that it was Christmas every day in the year with me. It still is—and I'm stone broke."

The fat man began to feel uneasy. He gave his seedy companion a dollar bill, and said he had to be getting home.

As they left the cafeteria a bum stepped up and held out his hand hopefully. The fat man merely looked the other way. The seedy man in the brown coat hesitated, then dolefully pulled out his dollar bill. He gave it to the bum.

"Thank you—and Merry Christmas," said the bum.

"Christmas!" snarled the seedy old man in brown, "bah! humbug!"

As he stamped off angrily, the fat man called after him:

"Say, by the way, what is your name?"

And the answer came floating across the quiet of the night—Scrooge.

Battalion Sponsored

Prizes Given For Xmas Decorations

This year decorating up the house or dormitory hallway will pay off in more than just the feeling of having done something nice for Christmas. The Battalion is sponsoring a contest to award the house or unit that puts up the best looking Christmas decorations.

Prizes, which range from cash to a free dinner, will be awarded Dec. 18.

Planned to promote civic good will and to revive the old-fashioned spirit of Christmas, the contest will have three divisions to include every resident of College Station.

Division I is open to everyone in College Station except students of the college. All married or single students living outside the dormitories may enter Division II. This

Entertainers Needed for Vet Hospital Shows

An urgent call was issued today for persons interested in lending their talent toward entertaining hospitalized veterans at Fort Hood and McClosky Hospital.

Miss Betty Bolander, MSC Program Consultant, has asked that anyone interested call her at 4-5134 or contact her in the Directorate Office in the Student Center.

"At present, there are not enough MSC Talent Bureau members to take a show each month to each of the hospitals. That should be our goal," Miss Bolander said.

"We are especially in need of women entertainers," she added.

Explaining the entertainment program, Miss Bolander said that interested persons need not have professional ability.

"All you need is an interest in making the patients' day a little more diversified. They will appreciate you," Miss Bolander said.

Poultry Team Places First in Judging Event

A&M's poultry judging team placed first in the Market Products division of the National Poultry Judging Contest in Chicago, Nov. 27 and 28. The team was sixth in Exhibition and seventh in Production.

The team is composed of Bill Boardman, George Townsend, and Harlan Vaught. Kenneth Grant is alternate and E. D. Parnell is coach.

In total individual scores, Boardman was third in the contest and Townsend was sixth. Boardman was first in Market Products and Townsend was seventh in Production.

The team left College Station Friday morning, Nov. 23. That day they did practice judging at Dallas

and at Oklahoma A&M. On Saturday they judged poultry at the University of Arkansas and made a tour of Swanson and Sons Poultry Plant.

Sunday they visited the University of Missouri and did practice work at the college poultry farm. The team did more practice work Monday at the Henderson Produce Co. in Monroe City, Mo., where they also made a tour of the plant.

The team arrived in Chicago Tuesday and went on a tour of points of interest in that city. The Graded Eggs and Dressed Poultry entries of the contest were Tuesday afternoon.

All live birds classes of the contest were Wednesday. Results of the contest were announced at a banquet Friday night.

MSC Improvement
Student labor is being used by the MSC to do jobs improving the facilities available to students as well as visitors.

Three students are now used to replace the wiring that was not satisfactory to carry the required load and to install \$1800.00 worth of new equipment.

These projects are moving rather slowly, as these students have their class assignments and other school activities to take care of along with their working.

A sound reinforcement system is being installed instead of the PA system. This system makes it seem as though you were talking to the person himself rather than a roaring sound.

The MSC is also confronted with changing from heat to air conditioning during these odd days. It takes about 2 hours' labor to switch from one to the other as the weather changes.

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