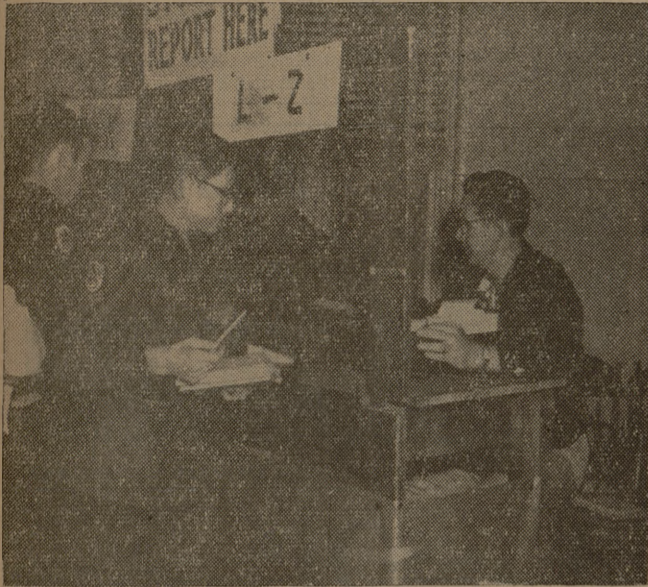


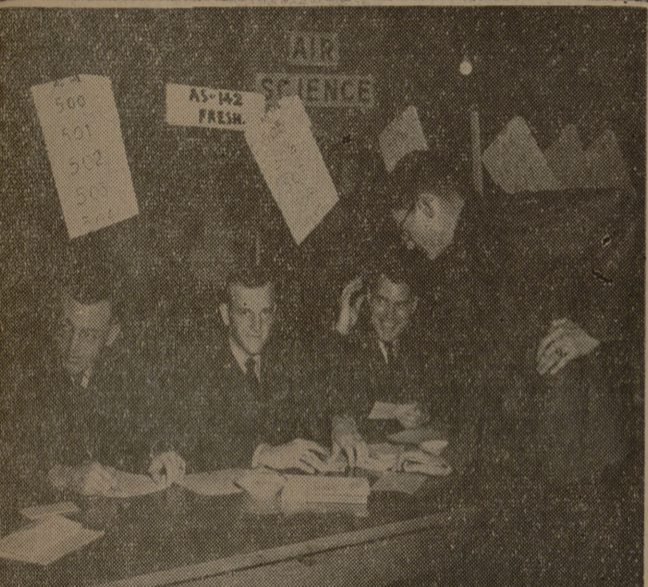
Same Song, Different Verse



This has all happened before, but it is still confusing says Freshman R. M. Webb, Plainview, as he gets his registration card from Walter Elred, registrar's office employee. He was just one of the 5,000 who went through the same ritual of signing up for classes,



paying fees, getting athletic cards, buying magazines, and the thousand and one other things connected with registration. On the right Fish Webb signs a "must" in his curricula—English. He is registered in the class by R. G. Pickett of the English department.



From the English table he went to the Air Science registration section, left, Capt. J. N. Hoffman, center, signs Fish Webb's registration card. Before he can leave, picture on the right, Fish Webb



must have the approval of the Basic Division. He is getting this from John P. Oliver, acting for the dean of the Basic Division.



Finally it is all over. All of the classes are signed and all of the cards filled out, so hungry, thirsty and tired, Fish Webb hands his assignment card over to Mrs. H. Brownlee of the Registrar's office.

Giant Duster Rips Across Entire State

Great clouds of reddish dust rolled across Texas Sunday in what a soil expert said could be the forerunner in some areas of the disastrous dusts of the early 1930's. "About two million acres south and west of Lubbock are in sufficiently critical condition that such dust storms may continue," Louis Merrill said at Fort Worth. He is regional director of the U. S. Soil Conservation Service.

North and northwest winds of 30 to 40 miles an hour, with gusts up

to 50, drove the dust from the El Paso-Panhandle area to Houston and the Rio Grande Valley.

At mid-afternoon visibility was cut to three or four miles with some east Texas towns reporting it as low as three quarters of a mile.

Planes Grounded

Private light planes were grounded. Airlines flew on instruments.

El Paso, which had its duster Saturday night, reported clear skies. The storm hit Houston late Sunday, reducing visibility to 1 1/2 miles at 5:30 p. m. an hour later it rose to eight miles.

Meredith said approximately 3,500,000 acres of crop and range land were without sufficient cover. These include the two million acres which are in critical condition.

"In the other million and a half scattered acres there is sufficient moisture that emergency tillage operations are being used to produce cloddy or roughened surfaces," he said.

Pulverized Dirt

"This can be done until the roughened surface is worn down by

Deadline Feb. 5 For 5 Year Men

Men who have not signed the new draft agreement and have completed their Military Science training requirements, but not their academic qualifications must sign the agreements before Feb. 5, announced SFC Thomas Heller of the Selective Service office of the Military department.

Sgt. Heller's office is in the second floor of Ross Hall.

Aggie Cagers Lose To TU Steers 40-51

The Texas Longhorns pushed to a tie for the Southwest Conference basketball lead in Austin Saturday night as a Jim Dowies-led quintet defeated A&M 51-40 in Gregory Gym.

The Aggies went behind in the first period and never regained the lead, although they closed the gap to 22-20 at halftime.

By virtue of TCU's loss to Arkansas in Little Rock Saturday night, the Longhorns moved into a tie with the Horned Frogs for first place, while the Aggies and SMU are tied for second with two conference losses.

Davis High Scorer

Center Walt Davis of the Aggies was high scorer of the evening as he racked up half the Cadets points—20. Dowies was second to the 6 foot 9 inch pivot man with 19 markers. Scaling made 13 points for Texas, while Miksch accounted for 7 for the Ags.

Entering the game with only one conference defeat, both teams had met earlier this year in the Cotton Bowl tournament. A&M won the pre-season contest by one point.

Dowies was top man for Texas all the way as he hit the basket from practically any vantage point.

Aggie Rally

Early in the fourth quarter the Aggies got hot and narrowed the score margin to 7 points, but the rally fell short as Don Binford, the boy who sparked the comeback, left the game with five fouls.

The last minutes of the contest proved to be very humiliating to the Aggies as Texas tucked the ball under their own freeze play with four minutes left. The Cadets went all over the court after the ball trying vainly to gain possession from the Longhorns who were leading at this point 43-36. Approximately 7,000 spectators (See AGGIES BOW, Page 2)

Polish Officer Massacre

Eye Witness to Report on Reds

Washington, Feb. 4—(AP)—A man who says he saw Russians murdering Polish army officers in Katyn Forest during World War II will testify before a Congressional committee trying to find out whether Nazis or Russians committed the massacre.

Rep. Madden (D-Ind), chairman of a special House investigating committee, announced during the weekend that "this is the only eye witness—outside the men who did the murdering—who has ever been produced."

So far unidentified, the mystery witness will appear Wednesday, Madden said.

The committee, however, will begin its investigation today (1:30 p.m. EST) into the mass murder of 4,143 Polish army leaders in Katyn Forest near Smolensk in 1943. That many corpses were found in crude mass graves. Another 11,000 Polish prisoners are still missing.

All were taken from Poland and held in three western Russian prison camps. The Russians, despite this, say the Nazis are to blame for the massacre. The Germans blame the Russians.

John Mitchell, committee counsel, says he has ample evidence to prove that the Russian committed the killings.

First witness to appear before the special committee will be Col. John H. Van Vliet, an American army officer who was flown from a German prison camp by the Nazis to see the stacked bodies of the dead Poles.

The Nazis wanted the American to authenticate their gruesome discovery.

Report Made

Van Vliet, back from duty in Japan, is repeating the story for the third time officially. He made a report to the Pentagon after his release from captivity, and when

Unofficial Figures Released; 5,432 Students Enrolled

An estimated 5,432 have registered so far for the second term, H. L. Heaton, registrar said yesterday afternoon. The office of the registrar was working all day Sunday to process the cards of the students who had gone through the line by the end of registration Saturday.

Of this number 119 are new students to the college and 5,313 are old returning students.

An official count will not be available, Heaton said, until all of the cards have been processed and machine counted.

He estimated there would be another 200 to 300 students register late.

Government Finds Big Grain Shortage

Washington, Feb. 4—(AP)—A House subcommittee reported today that in Texas alone it has found shortages of \$3,820,000 in the government's grain storage program.

An appropriations subcommittee headed by Rep. Whitten (D-Miss) had its staff investigate the program last fall. Then in January it summoned Secretary of Agriculture Brannan and other officials to closed hearings to go over the report.

A report to the house, together with the transcript of the hearing, was made public today.

Investigation

The Senate Agriculture Committee has also undertaken an investigation, and Whitten said he would turn over to it all the information his group gathered. Brannan has told senators private firms were to blame for the shortages, and that no government employees benefited.

The House subcommittee criticized the Commodity Credit Corporation, the Agriculture department's agency which handles grain storage, for what it called failure to inspect storage facilities before and during the time they are used to store government grain. The grain is bought as part of the farm price support program.

During the hearings Brannan dismissed as "pipe-dreaming" reports that CCC losses would run up to 100 million dollars or more.

Asked by Rep. Andersen (R-Minn) whether he anticipated that more than five millions is involved in all of these shortages, Brannan replied.

5-7 Million

"We say five to seven million, Mr. Andersen. Again I say that if we lose much more than a half million dollars out of the grain cases I will be very much surprised."

Brannan and his aides said that while the shortages are violations of contracts between the government and the grain elevators, in

many states no law violations are involved.

The subcommittee noted that the CCC since its inception "has handled loans and purchase transactions totaling over 14 1/2 billion dollars with less than one billion in losses."

It said nothing had been found "which reflects upon the price-support program in any way." The report continued:

"However, the members of the subcommittee do believe that the information developed indicates that the organization and the operating policies of the corporation leave much to be desired."

British Malaya Policy Designed To Beat Reds

Singapore, Feb. 4—(AP)—Britain took a bold gamble today in a "new broom" policy for beating Red terrorism in Malaya. She appointed a new British administrator with no previous Malayan experience in hopes he will "bring a fresh line to bear on the many complexities" in this strategic tin and rubber producing country.

London announced the appointment of Donald Charles MacGillivray, now colonial secretary to Jamaica, as the new deputy high commissioner for the Malayan federation. His job will be to direct civil affairs under the newly appointed high commissioner, Gen. Sir Gerald Templer, strong-arm military man who was named last month to lead the war against the Red guerrillas.

Malay and Chinese political leaders, who are seeking eventual independence for the British controlled federation, doubtless will view the appointment of MacGillivray with suspicion and disappointment. They had been expecting someone familiar with Malaya's complex political problems as deputy high commissioner.

Government supporters voted down a proposal in the Federal Legislative Council at Kuala Lumpur that an Asian be named deputy high commissioner. Feeling ran high in the debate on the issue, and even many of those who voted to give London a free hand in closing its administration voiced the hope he would be an expert in Malayan affairs.

Florist to Have Short Course Here

Commercial Florist Short Course opened here Sunday in the MSC.

The short course will be held through 5 p.m. today. Sponsored by the Floriculture and Landscape Architecture department, with A. F. DeWerth as chairman, the annual short course will be held in the Ballroom of the MSC.

Prisoner Swap Decision Near In Peace Talks

Munsan, Korea, Feb. 4—(AP)—The United Nations and Communists today moved near agreement on plans for exchanging war prisoners as truce negotiators scheduled a full dress session Wednesday to start work on the final section of a Korean Armistice.

"I think we can get together and write the rest of the agreement" on prisoner exchange, said Rear Adm. R. E. Libby. "For the first time, I think we are in a position to settle the nuts and bolts of the situation."

Staff officers drafting truce supervision plans made no measurable headway. They still must iron out differences over troop rotation, neutral inspection and definitions of coastal waters. U. N. spokesmen have described the differences as minor. The staff officers are not debating the key

Aggie Debators Drop Forensic Meet at Baylor

Aggie debaters were edged out of the winning positions by Texas University in the Baylor University annual invitational forensic tournament which was held in Waco Friday and Saturday.

Three out of the four Aggie teams making the trip got as far as the elimination rounds. Two teams went as far as the first elimination round and the third went on to the second elimination where it lost to TU.

Thirty schools from seven southern and southwestern states have entered approximately 300 speakers in the week-end meet, Harrison Heirth, Aggie debate coach said.

During the debate, which was resolved: That the Federal Government Should Adopt a Permanent Program of Wage and Price Control, 16 teams were entered in the junior senior elimination rounds.

This was the first time the A&M men had debated in competition on the question, Heirth said.

Dance Class Meets

Ballroom dancing instruction classes will begin next Monday, instead of tonight as scheduled, announces Miss Betty Bolander, MSC program co-ordinator.

truce supervision issue—whether the Reds have the right to build and repair North Korean military airfields.

The full, five-man armistice delegations will meet in Pannunjom at 10 a.m. Wednesday (8 p.m. EST Tuesday) to open negotiations on agenda item five—recommendations to governments.

First in Two Months

It will be the first plenary session since Dec. 4. Subcommittees and staff officers have been in session daily, however.

Vice Adm. C. Turner Joy proposed Jan. 31 negotiations on three sections of the truce be conducted simultaneously to speed agreement on an armistice.

In accepting his suggestion the Reds agreed to provide a detailed working draft. They are expected to propose withdrawal of all foreign troops from Korea—a pet Communist project—and a high level political conference to settle the whole Korean question.

U. N. headquarters in Tokyo said no recommendations will be made to governments involved in the Korean war unless the truce negotiators agree on what to recommend. The disclosure killed off speculation that two separate sets of recommendations would be made.

Staff officers working on truce supervision and the prisoner exchange subcommittee will meet as usual at 11 a.m. Tuesday (9 p.m. EST Monday).

Optimistic

Admiral Libby Monday gave newsmen the most optimistic report of the prisoner exchange subcommittee's 53 meetings.

"We may be ready to go to the staff officer level in a day or two. (See PEACE, Page 4)

Ex Interior Boss, Harold Ickes, Dies

Washington, Feb. 4—(AP)—Harold L. Ickes, one of the most colorful figures of the Roosevelt New Deal, died tonight.

Ickes 77 years old, died at 5:25 o'clock (CST) tonight in Emergency Hospital, where he had been under treatment for complications of a former arthritic condition.

Ickes was Secretary of Interior in 1932-46 and head man of the Public Works Administration of the turbulent depression years.

A sharp-tongued phrasemaker, Ickes called himself "the old curmudgeon" and in his time was just as rough on others.

Ickes previously had been under hospital treatment but returned to his home at nearby Olney, Md., on Jan. 18, apparently much improved. He took a turn for the worse ten days later and went back to the hospital.

Latter Years Quiet

His last years were spent in comparative quiet, but there were few men of his day who could look back on such a vigorous—and often stormy career. His running feud with the late Harry Hopkins, President Roosevelt's close friend and head of the Works Progress Administration, made "New Deal" history.

Ickes' public life was controversial to the end. He resigned from President Truman's cabinet in

1946 saying he could no longer stay in the cabinet and "retain my self respect." His anger was stirred to this point by an argument with Truman over the President's nomination of Edwin W. Pauley, an oil man, to be undersecretary of the Navy. Ickes regarded Pauley's appointment—which was never confirmed by the Senate—as contrary to his concept of preserving the nation's oil resources.

Ickes, a native Pennsylvanian who practiced law in Chicago, came to Franklin D. Roosevelt's attention at the outset of Roosevelt's presidential career. Both men were interested in conservation and Roosevelt named him to be secretary of the interior. He held that post longer than any other man.

Sharp Tongue

Ickes had a quick wit and a sharp tongue and he used them liberally. He had a talent for pinning barbed labels on people the world over—including Harold Le Clair Ickes.

He called himself "the old curmudgeon," a word Webster defines as "an avaricious, grasping fellow; a miser; niggard; churl."

"I've known for a long time," he once remarked, "that I'm not loved with the fervor to which I'm entitled. If a man worked hard at it he couldn't get a bigger list of enemies than I."

He once said Huey P. Long, late senator from Louisiana, had "halitosis of the intellect." Ickes once referred to Thomas E. Dewey, the Republican presidential candidate in 1944 and 1948 as "the candidate in sneakers."