

## Firemen Hold Annual Session

Almost a thousand persons from all parts of the United States and at least two foreign countries are expected to attend the 23rd Annual Firemen's Training School to be held at A&M during the last week in August.

Industrial and military specialists from New York and California, in addition to several other states between, have already filed reservations.

During the week-long school, selected firemen from Texas and out-of-state cities are given intensive practice and instruction in fighting almost every known type of fire.

Special equipment available to every city and town is used in fighting fires of the type for which it was designed and every fireman learns about that equipment by using it.

This year about \$30,000 worth of combustible materials will be

used so that techniques for fighting such fires may be shown. Several commercial fuel and equipment companies will furnish the bulk of such materials along with specialized equipment for different types of fire-fighting.

Co-sponsor by the Texas Engineering Extension Service and the State Firemen and Fire Marshals Association of Texas, the annual school is highly regarded by professional fire-fighters.

Cooperation in holding the school is given by the Trade and Industrial Education division of the Texas Education Agency, the State Fire Insurance Department at Austin and the Fire Prevention and Engineering Bureau at Dallas.

No estimate of the property and lives saved by firemen who were taught the best fire-fighting methods by the school is available. However, money savings alone through reduced fire premiums to participating cities has already amounted to more than \$1,800,000, according to H. R. Brayton, director of the school.

A three per cent credit on the key rate for fire insurance to cities which participate in the school is allowed by the State Fire Insurance Department at Austin.

Instructors for the courses in the school are hand-picked men with extensive experience in fighting special types of fires, but they spend very little time lecturing.

Most of the teaching is done right in the field while the firemen students handle the equipment and fight the fire.

This year most of the bigger blazes to be staged will be held in a 26-acre plot just north of the main campus. Brayton said that a new water line, complete with seven fire plugs, has been laid to the area, in preparation.

Registration for the school will be held Sunday, August 24, with firemen selecting one of four major courses of training. Registrants will be quartered in dormitories on the campus and fed in the college mess-halls.

## Dies Tuesday



Mason L. Cashion was one of the most widely known YMCA men in the college field. His special field was social and spiritual welfare of the students. He also played a prominent part in the cultural and civic advancement of his community.

## Mason Cashion Funeral Today

By STAN REED  
Battalion Staff Writer

Funeral services will be held today at 5 p.m. in the First Presbyterian Church of College Station for Mason L. Cashion, 65, general secretary of the YMCA, who died in a Houston hospital Tuesday night.

Interment will be held in the College Station cemetery following the funeral services.

Cashion, who had been ill for several months before his death, was a native of Hunterville, N.C. He came to A&M in 1926 and has been with the college ever since.

## New Firetrucks Arrive for Use In Fire School

Two new fire trucks, designed especially for instruction by the A&M Fire School staff, were brought out of storage Tuesday in preparation for the annual Fire School to be held on the campus August 24-29.

Built last year by the Simms Fire Equipment Company of San Antonio, the trucks have been used in one previous short course.

The trucks are equipped with 500 gallon per minute series-parallel centrifugal pumps; one being a triple combination pumper, and the other a combination booster pumper. The series-parallel pumps, are so called in that when operated in a series, a maximum of water pressure is created through one outlet. When a greater volume of water is desired, rather than increased pressure, the pumps are operated in parallel position with two outlets.

Pressure gauges on each individual outlet allows the regulation of pressure on each line.

Both trucks are regulation stock bodies mounted on F-7 Ford chassis. They have underbody lights which light up the around the fire hydrants, and are both equipped with signal devices which enable firemen on the back to contact the driver.

One of the most widely known YMCA men in the college field, his special field was social and spiritual welfare of the students.

Prior to overseas duty in World War I, Cashion received degrees from Erskine College of Due West, S.C. and Austin at Sherman.

### A Civic Leader

He was an outstanding man in his field. A civic and church leader, he played a prominent part in the cultural and civic advancement of his community. Known to thousands of former students and students now in A&M he was always their friend, and they never failed to seek his advice—and he never failed them.

On February 14, of this year, Cashion was one of six members of the college staff to receive the 1952 Battalion Achievement Award.

Presented at the annual Student Publications Prof-Student Banquet, the citation on the award read:

"... to Mr. Mason Lee Cashion, secretary of the YMCA, for being a second father to thousands of Aggies during his 25 year tenure at A&M."

He is survived by his wife, two sons, Lt. James T. Cashion stationed in Germany and Mason Lee Cashion, Jr., who will be a senior at A&M this fall; three brothers, J. R. Cashion of Statesville, North Carolina; R. E. Cashion of Hunterville, North Carolina and W. N. Cashion of Jacksonville, Florida and two sisters, Mrs. J. B. Hood of Laurensburg, N. C. and Mrs. John Caldwell of Charlotte, North Carolina.

## Aggie-ex Named New Director

S. Auston Kerley, class of '39, was recently assigned as associate director of guidance and assistant professor of education in the basic division.

Kerley received his bachelor's degree in arts and economics at A&M, and has an MS degree in guidance from North Texas State Teacher's College.

He was director of guidance at Sherman public schools for three years, and director of guidance at Denton public schools for two years.

He was assistant PMS&T at the following colleges: New Mexico A&M from 1943 to 1944, Arlington State College from 1944 to 1945, and Ouachita College in Arkansas from 1946 to 1946.

Kerley is now a counselor at the Junction Adjunct, and will return to A&M September 1 for his new assignment.

## Metzger Gun Room Now Open In MSC

By G. R. MARSHALL  
Battalion Staff Writer

Featuring the famous Metzger gun collection, the Metzger Gun Room on the third floor of the MSC was permanently opened Monday.

Complete evolution of the United States Marshall's sidearms, and the Colt's pistols are shown separately, and include the first weapon manufactured to the modern automatic. Some of these weapons are rare collectors items and possess an interesting historical background, said Col. Cecil M. MacGregor, chairman of the Metzger gun committee.

The first U. S. Marshall's weapon was manufactured at Harper's Ferry Arsenal in 1806. It is known as the Harper's Ferry Model 1806, and has become a rare collectors item because of a raid on the arsenal in 1859, by a rabid abolitionist, John Brown, who with a party of renegades tried to seize arms for the arming and revolt of Negro slaves.

### Weapons Destroyed

Virginia's secession was responsible for the destruction of Harper's Ferry in 1861. The arsenal was burned before the Virginia Militia could capture it, and some of these weapons were evidently destroyed.

The U. S. Marshall's were considered the best armed men in the world, and these early weapons added prestige, and were a symbol of law and order.

The Walker Colt is one of the rarest weapons in the Colt collection and possesses an interesting historical background. Samuel H. Walker is responsible for the "Walker Colt," or the "First Dragoon." He migrated to Texas in 1842, and joined Captain Billingsley's company of Texas Rangers,

## Boatner Promoted To Major General

Haydon L. (Bull) Boatner, who tamed rebellious Communist war prisoners and brought peace to fiery Koje Island, Monday was promoted to major general.

Gen. Mark Clark, Far East supreme commander, hailed Boatner's performance in restoring order on Koje, the rocky island off South Korea where Red captives staged bloody riots and kidnapped one Koje commander.

Clark also said Boatner's "combat record as assistant division commander of the Second Division during some of the hardest fighting in Korea was superior."

Boatner now is in charge of all prisoner camps in Korea,

and later received a captains commission in the United States Mounted Rifles, under the command of General Zachary Taylor.

Captain Walker was dissatisfied with the Paterson Colt, commonly known in those days as the "Texas" model, which was a 34 caliber, five-shot, with a concealed trigger guard. He conferred with Colt and pointed out defects in the Texas model and suggested improvements. The result was a 44 caliber six-shooter provided with an attached lever for ramming the bullets into the chamber, of the cylinders, and a fixed trigger guard.

The original Walker is the subject of more disputes among advanced Colt collectors than any other gun in the history of the hobby. Some authorities believe that none were made for commercially and others claim that about 300 were made. A few specimens are in existence, but their authenticity remains to be proved.

Colonel MacGregor said there will be a meeting of the Texas Gun Collectors Association at the MSC August 11, and the meeting will be centered around the Metzger gun collection.

## Two Physics Profs Believe 'Saucers' Are Army Aircraft

Are flying saucers real? Two physics professors, Dr. James G. Potter and Dr. Edward E. Vezey, don't think so.

"The people who have reported seeing saucers undoubtedly saw something, but I can't believe they saw anything but a meteor or a high-flying aircraft," said Potter.

Several Bryan-College Station residents have reported seeing flying saucers over the past few years.

Both Potter and Vezey agreed with the statement made by Einstein who said he doubted very much that there are flying saucers and cares less.

There is a possibility, said Potter, that the objects seen are experimental missiles of the armed forces.

"If I live to see space travel, I will consider myself to have lived to a ripe old age," said Vezey, who is an amateur astronomer as well as a physicist.

## Bureau Is Claimed Agriculture's Voice

"Who shall speak for the farmers?" asked R. G. Arnold, director of the southern farm bureau region, at the fourth annual meeting of the state farm bureau federation Monday.

Arnold, speaking before approximately 300 farm bureau members, answered his question by saying that the bureau served as the voice for agriculture.

Leaders should act as "Moses and the prophets," guiding prospective members into the bureau, Arnold said.

The strength of the organization which is dependent on the strength of the members was one of the main points stressed by Arnold.

## Veterans Receive Increased Checks

Veterans, drawing disability compensation, were surprised to find an increase in their compensation checks this month.

The increase was due to a law passed by Congress earlier this year allowing an additional 15 per cent to veterans having 50 per cent or more disability and 5 per cent to those having less than 50 per cent disability.

The new law became effective July 1, Bennie A. Zinn, veterans advisor, announced.

## Lucile Cummings Sings October 21

For its second program of the coming season, Town Hall will present Lucile Cummings who has been named by music critics as "the foremost contralto in America."

October 21 is the scheduled date for the concert.

Miss Cummings has been guest star on NBC's Telephone Hour seven times within recent months. This season marked her New York Opera debut in the leading role of Amneris in the New York City Center Opera Company's production of "Aida."

On the stage for three consecutive seasons totaling 67 weeks, Miss Cummings was the featured soloist at the world famous Radio City Music Hall in the productions "United Nations," Christmas "Nativity" and the "Glory of Easter." For these performances it has been estimated she appeared before an audience of over 5,000,000 for each season.

Miss Cummings began her study of music at the age of six, through a correspondence course at twenty-five cents a lesson. Once when she and her brothers were quarantined with small-pox, she learn-

ed the entire scores of the "Mikado" and "Pinafore."

All through school she sang and played mainly for fun, and every week she would compose and improvise a prelude and offertory for Sunday School. She began to take a serious interest in music when she won first vocal honors in a state-wide high school contest. She entered the University of Oregon on a music scholarship, and put herself through school by playing accompaniments for her music teachers.

Upon leaving school she began to sing professionally and not too long afterwards appeared as guest soloist with the Portland Symphony Orchestra.

Opportunities began to come from the West Coast with radio offers in both San Francisco and Los Angeles on CBS and NBC networks, and concert appearances with the Oakland and Modesto Symphonies and the San Francisco Opera of the Air.

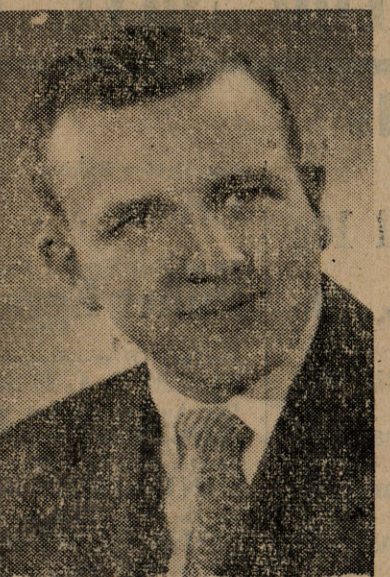
Success' door opened all the way for Miss Cummings when she was chosen one of the two finalists on the "Metropolitan Auditions of the Air" broadcast from New York.

Since then she has been guest soloist on all the major networks.

## New Business Profs



Theodore R. Yantis



Lawrence W. Sherman, Jr.

## Ag Experiment Station Receives Grants, Gifts

Three grants, two loans and a gift, have been made recently to the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station, Dr. R. D. Lewis, director, has announced.

The grants are from the Pacific Coast Borax Co., Los Angeles, \$500 for cotton defoliation studies in Texas. This grant will be allocated the testing centers at Temple, Lubbock, Weslaco and College Station.

The Niagara Chemical Division, Jacksonville, Fla., has made available \$1500 to be used for the support of studies on the use of de-

foliants and drying chemicals in pre-harvest treatment of rice, sesame and castor beans during the season of 1952.

A supplementary grant-in-aid of \$1500 will be used by the department of entomology in evaluating systematic insecticides for the control of insects attacking cotton. It is from Robert J. Geary of Blue Point, N.Y.

The loans include a registered Angora male goat from John P. Classen of San Antonio. The goat will be placed at Substation 23, Bluebonnet Farm. The Burrows Equipment Co. of Evanston, Ill., has loaned the station a Model H. Universal Moisture Tester, to be used by the department of agricultural engineering.

Gift of a hay rake to be used at the Main Station Farm was made by S. J. Perry, vice president and sales manager, West Coast Sales and Service Co., Tulare, California.

## ID Cards Ready For Distribution

Identification cards for the second summer term are ready for distribution by the registrar's office.

## Telephone Service Gets Improvements

Telephone service between Bryan and College Station will soon be improved by a new and enlarged underground truck cable according to G. M. Brennan, district manager of the Southwestern States Telephone Co.

This line which will increase the phone service between Bryan and College Station, will replace the present overhead cable. The overhead cables will be used to supply additional telephone service in their present locations, said Brennan.

## CE Department Offers New Course In Design

Headed by Professor Spencer J. Buchanan, a special course in design of forward airfields is being given by the civil engineering department at A&M.

The first course of its kind ever given, the special course has been designed to acquaint engineer officers concerned, with investigation, planning, design and construction of forward air fields in theaters of operation.

A group of 26 officers from var-

ious parts of the nation have been selected by the Air Force to attend the course. Most of the officers are quartered in Walton Hall and will reside on the campus throughout the course which began Monday, and will end August 29.

The U. S. Air Force negotiated a contract with A&M for the course to be taught because the college laboratories make it an ideal place for the instruction.

## Town Hall Artist



Lucile Cummings