

I'll Be Seeing You

Dear Bill:

It was good to see you at the A. & M.-Baylor game and to know of your interest in the Extension Service. You are correct about Extension's official beginning. It was by Act of Congress in 1914 and is known as the Smith-Lever Act. The fiftieth anniversary which we are observing this year dates back to the first demonstration in 1903. It was Dr. Seaman A. Knapp of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, who put on the first demonstration seeking to control the boll weevil on the Walter C. C. Porter farm near Terrell, Texas. You remember Bill Porter of the class of '28 here at A. & M. It was his father's farm. Bill and his brother, Harry, still live on the farm and have a very efficient enterprise. Next week, we are having the annual Extension Conference and we hope you can visit the sessions. The purpose of the conference is to give our Extension agents the latest information from research in agriculture. That first demonstration fifty years ago was described as a means of bridging the gap between research and the farm. We are still following that same course, Bill, because it has stood the test of time all these years.

There are far too many Extension agents in Texas today to attempt individual training; 316 county agricultural agents and 218 home demonstration agents in service today. Likewise, there are far too many farm and ranch families in our counties for Extension agents to help each individually with their problems. That is why the demonstration method has continued as a practical means of reaching the masses of the people.

You will see next week how different subject-matter is divided to include the various farm and ranch enterprises. There will be a section on agronomy. You will be interested in knowing that Extension demonstrations in field crop and seed production last year increased the cash value of these crops by more than thirteen million dollars. Agents will learn methods for making further application of new research in growing field crops.

Then, there will be a section on poultry. It is almost incredible that just one phase of improved poultry practices—egg grading—put an extra million dollars in the pockets of poultry farmers last year. Eggs sold on grade brought an extra five cents a dozen.

Animal husbandry has always been a fascinating subject, for you and other Texans are vitally interested since livestock accounts for half the farm income of the State. Beef cattle, sheep and goats and swine will be included in this group.

You will be able to attend other sections where agents are boning up on horticulture, dairy husbandry and range management.

While these groups are meeting, the women Extension agents will be meeting with their groups to study the newest methods in home demonstrations. You will be especially interested in observing how the home side of the farm and ranch is taken care of in demonstration training.

Then, for both men and women, there will be training in news writing, public speaking, radio-TV and visual aids. You always said, Bill, that you could never write a news article—that you were never meant to be a writer. You don't have to be an accomplished writer to report interesting things to your readers. But you will learn more about that in the conference. By the way, the Agricultural Information Office has just been created to house the combined editorial staffs of the Extension Service and the Experiment Station and their mailing rooms. You knew it as the horse barn when you were here the last time.

You remember G. G. Gibson of the class of '28 who was dairy specialist for Extension for a number of years. He's now director and, incidentally, was named as the Man-of-the-Year in the Progressive Farmer last year. J. D. Prewit, class of '23, came up from the ranks, serving as county agent, district agent, and is now associate director. W. N. Williamson is assistant director. You'll recall he was formerly a county and later a district agent.

Then E. C. Martin of the class of '18 is our State agricultural leader along with Gladys Martin who is State home demonstration agent. C. H. Doerge is now the executive assistant. Each of these has been with Extension a good many years, as you know.

Bill, you were asking how county Extension agents could be specialists in every type of farm enterprise such as poultry, entomology, nutrition and all the others. They do not need to be. There are specialists who have training in one of each of these subjects and they are available on call by the agents. These specialists are routed over the State, visiting counties where they assist the agents in special problems.

You seemed surprised that there were so many Negro agents in the State. They are trained at Prairie View and are doing a fine job for their people. They will have their meeting after the first of the year.

This should just about cover the things you asked about, Bill, and we'll be seeing you at the Conference next week.

Sincerely yours,
A. B.

5-Day Extension Conference To Have Large Attendance

Harrington Sets Friday Address For Conference

A familiar figure to all extension workers is Chancellor M. T. Harrington, who will give his message to the annual Extension Conference during the Friday forenoon session. Chancellor Harrington was appointed to head up the Texas A. & M. College System on September 1, 1953.

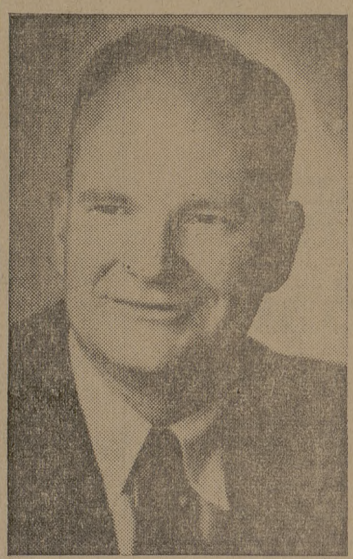
The chancellor is a graduate of Texas A. & M. with a bachelor and a master in chemical engineering. He received his doctorate in chemistry from Iowa State College in 1941 and carried on further graduate work at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, the University of Michigan and the University of Southern California. His 25 years of teaching at A. and M. began in 1924 when he became an instructor in the Chemistry Department. He became dean of the School of Arts and Sciences in 1947 and in 1948 an additional appointment of acting dean of the College was made. He was named dean of the College in 1949 and its president in June 1950.

During his days as a student at A. & M., Chancellor Harrington had four years in the ROTC and was granted a Reserve Corps commission in infantry upon graduation in 1922.

A supporter of civic endeavors, Dr. Harrington is a former member of the College Station City Council, and a member of the College Station Development Association.



M. T. Harrington



G. G. Gibson

Gibson Will Give Meet's First Talk

"Looking Ahead" is the title of the first address to be given Wednesday afternoon during the annual Extension Conference by G. G. Gibson, director of the Texas Agricultural Extension Service. On Friday afternoon, Director Gibson will talk about "The State of the Union" in summarizing activities of the week and the goals Extension workers hope to accomplish.

Director Gibson is a native of Texas and a graduate of Texas A. & M. College in dairy husbandry. He holds a master from Iowa State College. He first joined the Extension Service as assistant dairyman in 1935 and in 1943 became dairy husbandman. Director Gibson also served as specialist in dairying at Iowa State College before joining the Texas Extension Service. From 1943 to 1944 he was manager of Neale Farms near Waco.

Ferguson Talk Will Highlight A&M Meeting

C. M. Ferguson, director of Extension work for the U. S. Department of Agriculture, will address the annual Agents' Conference Wednesday morning.

A native of Parkhill, Ontario, Canada, Mr. Ferguson was graduated from the Ontario Agricultural College at Guelph in 1921, having specialized in animal science. From 1922 to 1928 he was an extension poultry specialist and also taught agriculture at Michigan State College. During 1928 he helped to organize an experiment station for the Colombian Government at Bogota.

He became extension poultryman for Ohio State University in 1929 and remained in the position for 20 years. In 1949, Mr. Ferguson was appointed director for the Ohio Extension Service where he served until this year.

When appointed director of Extension work, Mr. Ferguson was chairman of the Extension Committee on Organization and Policy of the Association of Land-Grant Colleges and Universities and is now an ex-officio member.



C. M. Ferguson

Agents' Problems To Be Main Topic

The annual Extension Conference will be held Monday through Friday on the campus of Texas A. & M. College, G. G. Gibson, director of the Texas Agricultural Extension Service, has announced. Extension agents from every county office in the State will attend.

For many years the Extension Conference was held as a part of the annual Farmers' Short Course. When attendance grew so large as to become unwieldy, the Short Course was broken up into many subject-matter short courses and conferences. The agents' conference now devotes its entire time to problems of special interest to extension agents.

Main sessions for agricultural agents will be held in Guion Hall and for home agents in the Main Ball Room of the Memorial Student Center.

Agricultural and home agents, and selected groups of the two blended into four communications groups, will spend Monday afternoon, all day Tuesday, Wednesday morning and all day Thursday in subject-matter discussions.

Director G. G. Gibson will preside at the forenoon general session Monday, Associate Director J. D. Prewit at the one Wednesday afternoon and Gladys Martin, acting state home demonstration leader, on Friday morning.

Among the subject-matter training discussions are agronomy, animal husbandry, dairy husbandry, horticulture, poultry husbandry, range management, and techniques and aids in mass communications—public speaking, news, radio-television and visual aids.

Outstanding authorities also have been obtained to address group sessions of home agents.

Among Extension personnel who will preside over half-day sessions are Eloise T. Johnson (specialist in family life education; Nena Robertson, specialist in clothing; Mary Routh, specialist in clothing; Jimmie Nell Harris, foods and nutrition specialist; Bernice Claytor, specialist in home management; Minnie Bell, specialist in home management; and Louise Mason, foods and nutrition specialist.

Fanny Lou Mainer will open the Monday and Friday forenoon general sessions with organ music, followed by group singing led by Lucille Moore, recreation specialist. Devotionals at each general session will be held by Rev. A. T. Dyal, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Bryan.

A party for all Extension personnel will be given Monday evening in the Sbsa Lounge and Banquet Room.

The annual Epsilon Sigma Phi banquet will be held Tuesday evening in the Main Ball Room of the Memorial Student Center.

Sbsa Hall is the site Wednesday evening for the joint Agents' Association banquet.

Former students of the Texas State College for Women will have their annual banquet Thursday evening in the Assembly Room of the Memorial Student Center.

Should any out-of-town agricultural and home agents remain in College Station over Saturday, they are reminded that selected student representatives of A&M and SMU will stage some kind of a competitive contest on Kyle Field that afternoon.



H. S. Manney

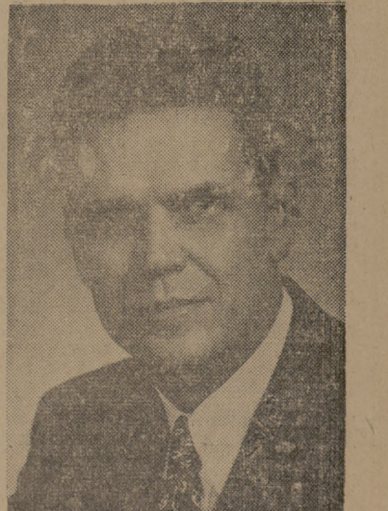
Morgan To Greet Extension Agents

David H. Morgan, president of the Texas A. and M. College, will welcome the Texas county extension agents at their annual conference. Presented by Director G. G. Gibson, President Morgan will speak at the Monday session.

A native of Portsmouth, Virginia, President Morgan attended high school and junior college at Pasadena, California, received his bachelor in mathematics and physics at Occidental College and his master in mathematics and his doctorate in educational psychology and educational administration from the University of California.

His career in the educational field has included working as research assistant in the Institute of Child Welfare, University of California, teacher in the California School for the Blind, advisor for graduate students at Colorado A. and M. College, and lecturer for the University of California. He headed the Department of Psychology and Education at Colorado

A. and M. College in 1946, and was dean of the Graduate School as well as dean of the College.



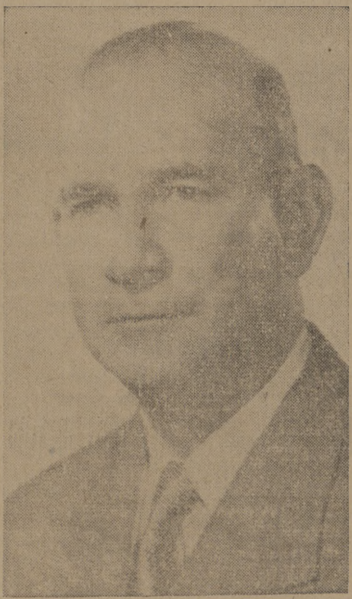
David H. Morgan

Guinn To Be MSC Dinner Speaker; Miss Peterson Sets Fiber Speech

John A. Guinn, president of the Texas State College for Women, will be the guest speaker at a dinner meeting of the Extension Service chapter of the TSCW Alumnae Association. He will talk about the progress and aims of TSCW and the responsibility of ex-students to their alma mater. The dinner will be held in the Assembly Room of the Memorial Student Center at 7 p.m. Thursday.

Dr. Guinn became president of TSCW in September 1950. He is a native of New Braunfels. Previous to his present position he was president of San Angelo College and before that he served as superintendent of the public schools in Alice. During World War II he held the rank of commander in the U. S. Navy, during which time he was awarded five battle stars and two combat citations. Dr. Guinn is a graduate of the University of Texas. He received his bachelor and master in 1929, majoring in English and minoring in education. He received his doctorate from the same institution in 1939.

Officers for the Extension Service Chapter are Kate Adele Hill, president; Fonda Graham, Refugio, vice president; and Mary L. Crindstaff, Plainview, secretary. Chancellor and Mrs. M. T. Harrington, President and Mrs. David H. Morgan, and Director and Mrs. G. G.



John A. Guinn

Gibson will be special guests at the banquet.

According to Miss Hill, 12 staff members and 43 other employees of the Extension Service hold degrees from TSCW. Numerous other Extension employees have attended TSCW or have done graduate work there.

Beth Peterson, home economist for the extension division of E. I. du Pont de Nemours & Company, will discuss uses and care of man-made fibers before the Thursday morning home economics section of the annual Extension Conference.

Miss Peterson is an authority and speaker on industrial progress in chemical developments, particularly as they affect the American home. She has coupled her broad experience in home economics and extension work in the Middle-West with a close observation of chemical advancements in the Du Pont Company.

A graduate of Iowa State College where she specialized in textiles, clothing and home economics education, Miss Peterson has done advanced study in the field of textiles and consumer economics at the University of Chicago. She taught home economics for seven

Conference Party

All Extension personnel will enjoy a party Monday night from 7:30 to 9:30 in the Sbsa Lounge and Banquet Room. The committee in charge of arrangements includes Mildred Harris, chairman, Sadie Hatfield, Roy W. Snyder and A. H. Karcher.

All administrative heads of the College divisions and their wives are invited as well as heads of departments in related subject matter, and their wives.

years before entering extension work as county home demonstration agent at Fort Dodge, Iowa. In 1935, she joined the staff at Iowa State College as specialist in textiles and clothing. She became associated with the du Pont Company in 1946.

She is a native of Boone, Iowa, and now makes her home in Wilmington, Delaware.



Beth Peterson