

# Police School Qualifies Men for All Departments

Three policemen who have attended the Texas Municipal Police School were voted the most outstanding in their respective departments, and 89 others are better qualified because of the training received at the Police School, which is conducted at the A & M College under the direction of the Texas Engineering Extension Service.

The subjects covered in the five schools were taught by 24 outstanding Texas policemen from various departments in the state. The courses of instruction were supplemented with assistance from the following agencies: National Automobile Theft Bureau, State Youth Development Council, Texas Liquor Control Board, Texas Department of Public Safety, county attorney and Bryan district

school. Purpose of the school is to make a good policeman better. The subjects covered in the five schools were taught by 24 outstanding Texas policemen from various departments in the state.

Upon completion of each subject covered in the school, each student is given material contributed by the instructors. The material is multigraphed and placed in a notebook that becomes an invaluable reference for future use. The Texas Municipal Police School fills a need for basic police training, and smaller cities have taken advantage of the opportunity to get their men trained. Many civic organizations now are establishing scholarship funds within the police departments to enable one deserving man each year to attend the Municipal Police School.

The instruction at the police school is designed to give the officers basic knowledge in the laws they are required to enforce, the authority of an officer, the tactics and procedures of law enforcement, public relations, basic principles of criminal investigation and traffic control. Public relations is emphasized with each subject. In order to gain practical experience, actual demonstrations are used on streets and in the classrooms. Field trips are made to the State Penitentiary at Huntsville and to the Department of Public Safety at Austin.

The student policemen observe a rigid schedule while in training at the school. They attend classes six hours a day for five days per week. Since the school lasts a month, the students get at least 120 class hours. In addition to classroom work each man is required to do library work at night and turn in at least one book report a week concerning some phase of police work.

The next school will begin February 1, 1954, and will end February 26. This next school is expected to be better than any of the previous sessions. Applications are being received now at: Texas Municipal Police School, Engineering Extension Service, P.O. Box 236 F.E., College Station, Texas.

# Economists Rap Pension Proposal

WASHINGTON—(AP)—The United States Chamber of Commerce today found its proposal to qualify five million more older citizens for social security pensions attacked in an economists' debate as a "baby Townsend Plan."

The proposal, part of the Chamber's plan to put social security on a pay-as-you-go basis and halt federal aid for direct relief of the aged, was argued before two of the 10 economic societies in session here.

All the speakers—including W. Campbell, research economist of the Chamber—agreed that the social security tax should be allowed to rise to 2 per cent as scheduled on Saturday.

President Eisenhower last year asked congress to freeze the contribution at 1½ per cent each on workers and employers. Congress did not act. Some have speculated he might again ask for a freeze, retroactive to New Year's Day, after Congress reconvenes. The boost would nullify the benefits of the income tax cut, also due Jan. 1, for many low income families.

Evidence that professional economists believe the country is in for a mild recession throughout 1954 was the highlight of yesterday's sessions of the American Statistical Assn.

At one meeting of some 300 of the economists, the delegates indicated by a show of hands that they expect a 1954 production decline of 5 per cent or more from 1953's record.

This drop still would leave 1954 the nation's second and most prosperous year, but it contrasted with the expressed view of Eisenhower administration statements that the autumn dip in business activity is a "readjustment" of probably only a few months' duration. None of the economists, however, forecast the decline would progress into a serious depression.

# Film Critics Pick Best Film of 1953

NEW YORK—(AP)—The New York film critics have picked "From Here to Eternity" as the best film of 1953; its director, Fred Zinnemann, as the best of the year, and its star, Burt Lancaster, as best actor of the year.

The 15 critics from nine metropolitan newspapers voted these three honors yesterday at the Columbia Pictures production. Audrey Hepburn was selected as best actress of the year for "Roman Holiday."

Sen. Knowland, R-Calif., the Senate GOP leader, took issue with the view that a recession is in progress and with Sen. Douglas D-III., who contends the government should be moving in with plans for further tax cuts and public works.

"There are no indications of a substantial recession or depression," Knowland told reporters today. "There have been some adjustments from the wartime highs, but no one expected an economy based on wartime peaks."

A Ford Motor Co. official said in remarks prepared for the economists' meeting that "prospects for the automobile industry are good."

R. J. Eggert, program planning manager, noted that consumers hold 60 per cent more liquid assets than before the war, and that consumers' spendable income is expected to continue in the next three months "at its present record high level."

"The movement of population is toward the suburbs, thus creating an increased need for cars," he added. "One eighth of car-owning families now have two cars."

The economists' attention swung to social security at a joint session last night of the American Economic Assn. and the Industrial Relations Research Assn.

Rep. Kean, R-N.J., sponsor of administration-supported legislation to broaden social security coverage by millions of workers and improve benefit payments, said the proposal to freeze social security contributions has "political appeal" but added:

"I'm opposed to a freeze at this time. Benefits are now greater than can be supported at the present contribution rate. Also, it would raise the problem of whether to enter a pay-as-you-go plan instead of building a trust fund reserve for payment of future benefits. If we freeze today, we would almost inevitably have to adopt the pay-as-you-go system in the future."

Kean criticized the U. S. Chamber plan to pay minimum benefits—increased from the present \$25 to \$30 a month—to about five million retired persons over 65 who are now ineligible for social security and have not contributed to it. This would raise the social security trust fund of \$1,890,000,000 a year, the legislator said, would "break faith with those who have paid into the fund," and might make of social security a "political football."

# Salimeter Aids 'Old Salts' By Electronics

For centuries men have spoken of the "salty sea" and the "briny deep." But until relatively recent years, no one bothered to find out how much salt was there or how it was distributed.

Recent developments in warfare and research, however, make it mandatory that some method be found for quickly and easily measuring not only the precise amount of salt present, but also the tiny but important changes in salinity readings caused by temperature variation.

One example is the submarine commander. In order to fight effectively—even to steer his ship safely—he must know the salt content in terms of parts per thousand, and temperature variations accurate to two decimal places.

No suitable instrument existed for this purpose during World War II, nor even during the Korean action. But it exists now, through the efforts of a researcher in the Oceanography Department at Texas A. and M. College.

Called a "salinimeter," which means a meter of salinity or salt content, the device was developed by Dr. K. E. Harwell, an organic chemist by training.

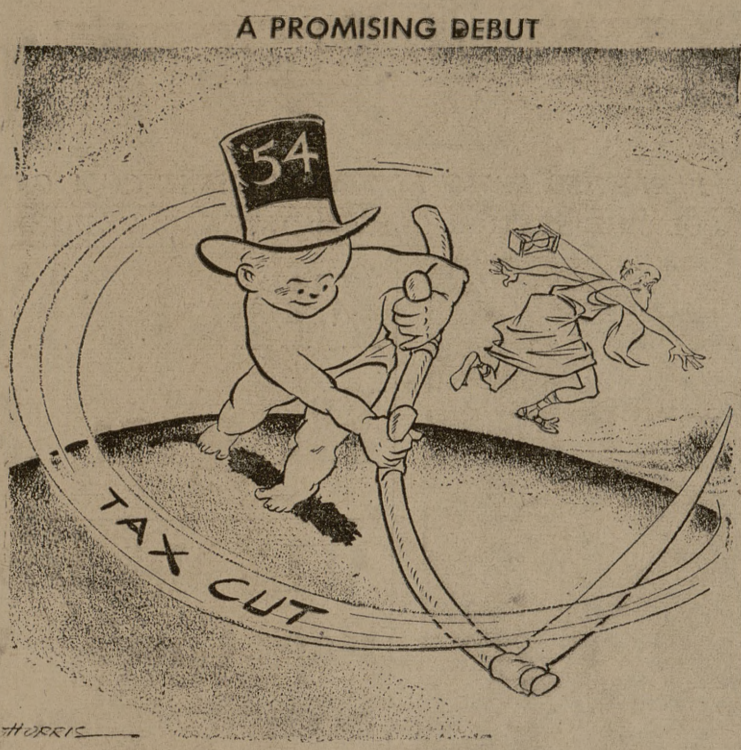
Using the electrical conductance of salt and water—actually measuring the increased conductivity of water as salt is added—the device is complete except for calibration of the temperature coefficient phase.

Any electrical frequency useful to radio can be used by the salinimeter to measure the precise salt content and temperature of a stream of water which flows constantly through it while a ship is in motion, or is pumped through while the ship is at rest.

The device will make it possible for the first time for these measurements to be taken by direct reading in a manner even approximating the degree of accuracy needed, and within a useful time span. Formerly precision measurements were available only from land-based laboratories.

Funds for research on the problem were provided by the U. S. Navy Bureau of Ships through a contract of the Texas A. and M. Research Foundation.

Dr. Harwell, the man who developed the salinimeter, received his bachelor of science degree from Baylor University, and his master and doctoral degrees from the University of Texas in organic chemistry.



# Tests Pose Questions On Heredity Concept

BOSTON—(AP)—Some new experiments with brewer's yeast pose questions about the validity of certain present-day concepts of heredity and evolution, two Southern Illinois University scientists said today. Researchers Carl C. Linggren and David D. Pittman reported that tests on yeast cells have shown that a trait that is induced or "added" rather than inherent in a parent cell may be carried through successive generations. This finding, they told the American Assn. for the Advancement of Science, is contrary to the contentions of modern geneticists who hold that: Characteristics acquired by living organisms—such as man, animals and plants—because of environmental conditions, are not passed on to their offspring, except for some degenerative traits like those induced by radiation damage or certain poisons.

They said they had been able to induce in certain yeast cells a previously unpossessed ability to feed upon a certain kind of sugar—and that the cells were then able to pass the acquired trait along to their offspring. The trait was induced through immersing the original cells in the sugar solution for a long period of time—in other words—environmental exposure. They said their results question two of the basic theories about heredity: (1) that evolution is the result of accidental change; and (2) that degenerate changes, like those resulting from radiation damage or poisons, are important to evolution. Many of the early settlers in Nova Scotia were Scots and the inhabitants of Cape Breton Island, a part of Nova Scotia, still speak Gaelic often and keep alive the tradition of the Highland Games.

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By Walt Kelly

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