

Puerto Ricans Fire Twenty Shots Into House Of Congress

Four fanatics seated in the House gallery yesterday suddenly shouted, "Free Puerto Rico," waved their flag, and then fired at least 20 wild pistol shots that wounded five congressmen.

One congressman, Alvin M. Bentley (R-Mich.), was so seriously wounded that he was given only an even chance of survival. Dr. Charles White, who helped operate on Bentley said:

"The operation was a success. Bentley has a 50-50 chance. He is now in the hands of the Lord."

Another congressman had a shoulder wound, and three were hit in the leg.

Two gunmen and their woman companion, Puerto Ricans from New York City, were seized on the spot. Police Chief Robert Murray said tonight that they have confessed the shooting, and have implicated a fourth.

The wounded congressmen:

Bentley, 35, hit in the left side below the heart. The bullet went on through, and came out the right side.

Ben F. Jensen, (R-Iowa), 61, struck in the left shoulder.

Clifford Davis (D-Tenn.), 56, shot through the upper calf of his right leg.

Kenneth A. Roberts (D-Ala.), 41, bullet struck left leg while he was seated. It entered above the knee and came out below.

George H. Fallon (D-Md.), 51, shot in the hip.

Police identified the Puerto Ricans as members of the Nationalist party of Puerto Rico. Two other members of the party tried to assassinate President Truman in 19-50.

Police Chief Murray said these three had admitted the shooting: Mrs. Lolita Lebron, 34, of 315 W. 94th St., New York City. Murray said she has just been divorced.

Rafael Concel Miranda, 25, of 120 S. 1st St., New York City.

Andres Figueroa Cordero, 29, of 108 E. 103rd St., New York City.

Edgar E. Scott, deputy chief of detectives, said that Mrs. Lebron had said Irving Flores, 27, of 108 E. 103rd St., New York City, also was a member of the group. But Scott said Flores had not admitted he was present at the shooting.

"Flores ducked out in the confusion," Scott said, "but we have a witness Mrs. Lebron to his participation."

Murray said all four were to be arraigned later tonight and charged with assault with intent to kill.

Later, in an interview, Mrs. Lebron said the shooting was timed to coincide with the opening of the inter-American conference in Caracas, Venezuela, today. She said it would dramatize "the problem of colonialism."

She said the shooting was to "bring the attention of the people to the plight of Puerto Rico. It is a country that is not free."

"Did you shoot to kill or wound?" newsmen asked.

"Not to kill," she said. The shooting, she added, "was my idea. It was the idea of four of us. I feel I did something for my country." Mrs. Lebron, a native of Puerto Rico, said members of the Puerto Rican colony in New York knew nothing about their intentions.

She said Pedro Albizu Campos, leader of the Puerto Rican Nationalist party did not tell them to carry out the shooting. "It was our idea," she said.

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, there are conditions of tension and uncertainty in the world today, and it is recognized that the many problems confronting us can be solved only with the help of Almighty God; and

WHEREAS, March 5, the First Friday of the Lenten season has been declared a world-wide day of prayer in more than one hundred countries;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ernest Langford, Mayor of the City of College Station, Texas, do hereby proclaim March 5, 1954

DAY OF PRAYER

for a better world for all people to remember the needs of our nation, and all other nations, as we bow our heads in reverent acknowledgment of our dependence upon Almighty God, and I urge everyone to pause in his work for one minute, to ask that God give us light to guide us, courage to support us, and love to unite us.

Given under my hand and the Executive Seal this second day of March, A. D., 1954.

(Seal) (Signed) Ernest Langford
Mayor
City of College Station, Tex.

Board of Directors Votes Contracts for Half Million

Contracts totaling \$583,560.82 were awarded and appropriations of \$878,451.58 made by the board of directors of the Texas A&M College System in their regular February meeting here Saturday.

Construction of 80 new dormitory rooms for girls and 90 for boys at Prairie View A&M College were major contract items.

Contract was awarded Van Cleve Construction Company of Houston for an 80-room addition to Suarez Hall, girls' dormitory, and a 90-room addition to Alexander Hall, boys' dormitory, at Prairie View A&M College for a total of \$551,755.

Contract calls for completion by Jan. 15, 1955. The 170 new rooms will relieve an overcrowded condition at Prairie View and make it possible for students to be moved from old trailers and other temporary quarters, as well as accommodate a reasonable increase in enrollment next year.

Prairie View had a Fall enrollment of over 2,500 this year, making it one of the three largest negro colleges in America.

Contract went to Bickley Bros. of Houston for 1358 chair seats to be used in the new Physical Education building at A&M for \$15,456.82.

The chairs which will be metal with cushion seats are expected to be delivered in 120 days. They will furnish additional seating on the floor of the Physical Education building when it is not being used for basketball. This will give the building a total seating capacity of around 4,800.

Improvements planned at the College Plantation include repairs to the Superintendent's house, moving and repair of the Foreman's house, a double garage for the Superintendent and Foreman, super and garage for the shop mechanic, 14 small houses for laborers with 7 double combination garages, chicken houses, and cow sheds, water storage tanks and water lines.

Improvements will also include a storage shed, a warehouse, office, horse barn, service roads and new fencing.

Dormitory repairs which will be made during the summer months include repairs and painting of exterior wood trim of Milner, Leggett, Haer, Law, Puryear, and Walton Halls; interior repairs and painting of Milner, Mitchell and Leggett Halls; laying of rubber tile floors in Milner Hall; additional electrical outlets in Leggett, Mitchell, Milner, Law and Puryear and roof repairs to all dormitories.

R. E. Butler of Bryan was awarded contract for construction of a sewage treatment laboratory at A&M for \$6,680. E. A. Gerke of Bryan won contract for moving residences at Prairie View for \$2,675 and Hamilton Roofing Company of Fort Worth was awarded contract for roof repairs to four buildings at Tarleton State College on a bid of \$6,994.

Appropriations, in addition to those required by contracts let at this meeting included \$80,000 for air conditioning the college library at A&M college, \$3,000 for expenses of inauguration of President D. H. Morgan at A&M, \$15,000 for a building to house equipment of the Firemens Training School, \$16,000 additional for plans for the

second unit of A&M's new veterinary hospital, \$60,000 for improvements at the college plantation and \$75,000 for dormitory repairs. \$7,000 was appropriated for repairs to Davis Hall at Arlington State college and \$17,000 for new equipment for Arlington's engineering shops and laboratories.

Air conditioning of the Cushing Memorial Library, which is a part of the long-range improvement program for the College, was recommended to the board by President David H. Morgan as being of sufficient importance that it should be given priority for early completion.

The Chancellor was authorized to proceed with preparation of plans and receiving bids for the air conditioning of this building. The bids will be referred to the board for final approval.

Fireman's School

The building to house equipment for the Firemens Training School which attracts fire fighters from throughout the state and nation to the A&M campus every summer, will be a large quonset building to be located in the area immediately North of College View apartments.

Much valuable equipment and supplies have been donated by various manufacturers for the use of the school and this building was authorized to house this equipment.

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Student Life Committee Calls For Acting-Editor



Return of The Battalion to student acting-editorship was expedited at a meeting yesterday afternoon of the sub-committee which the Student Life Committee has appointed on student publications and yell leaders.

Motions carried have only the effect of recommendations to the Student Life Committee. The Student Life Committee must approve before they are subject to further action.

The motions are:

1. That the sub-committee "recommend to the Student Life Committee that a special student body election be held as soon as possible for the position of Acting Editor of Acting Co-Editors of the Battalion." The motion included the stipulation that "qualifications for the Acting Editor or Co-Editors be determined by this sub-committee and recommended to the Student Life Committee."

2. That the sub-committee "recommend to the Student Life Committee that candidates for Editor or Co-Editors must have the following qualifications: 1. Be certified by the Manager of Student Publications as capable of filling a position of Editor or Co-Editor. 2. Must be at least an academic junior and have a grade point ratio of 1.25 through the preceding semester."

The chairman of the Student Life Committee, Prof. Joe Sorrels, has called a meeting of that committee for 4:30 today (Tuesday) in the MSC Senate Chamber, to consider these recommendations of the subcommittee on student publications.

The newly appointed manager of student publications, K. E. Elmquist, associate professor of English, stated to those present at the meeting that he understands his function to include assisting in maintaining freedom of the press for The Battalion and that he is absolutely opposed to censorship in any form. Elmquist also stated that he would, in accordance with the wishes of the subcommittee, consult with Carl Jobe, assistant manager of student publications, and with Prof. D. D. Burchard, head of the department of journalism, in certifying editorial candidates as qualified to file in the proposed election.

A second agenda item, a revision of the constitution of the Student Life Committee with respect to yell leaders and to the membership and functions of the proposed student publications committee, to become effective next autumn, was passed over until the next meeting.

Among those present at the meeting in the Senate Chamber of the MSC were Carl W. Landiss, chairman; Doyle F. Lowery, R. G. Perryman, T. B. Field, S. A. Kerley, Bob Hendry, E. D. Bosch, Ed Stern, J. H. Sorrels, Wayne Stark, T. W. Leland, C. B. Godbey, D. D. Burchard, Carl Elmquist, manager of student publications, and C. G. White, secretary.

He will work with the sub-committee of Student Life Committee charged with the responsibility for student publications and with special committee of Academic Council recently appointed to deal with publications, Dr. Morgan said.

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Carl Jobe, acting manager of student publications, will take up his old place as assistant manager of student publications.

The appointment of Elmquist is effective immediately and lasts through August 31, Dr. Morgan said.

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Morgan Names Faculty Group To Study Plan

President D. H. Morgan of A&M College today appointed a faculty committee to receive and study recommendations of the college's Student Life committee on proposed changes in its constitution and present them to the Academic Council. The Student Life Committee recently voted to amend its constitution to provide for a sub-committee dealing with student publications. Such amendments are subject to approval or disapproval by the Academic Council.

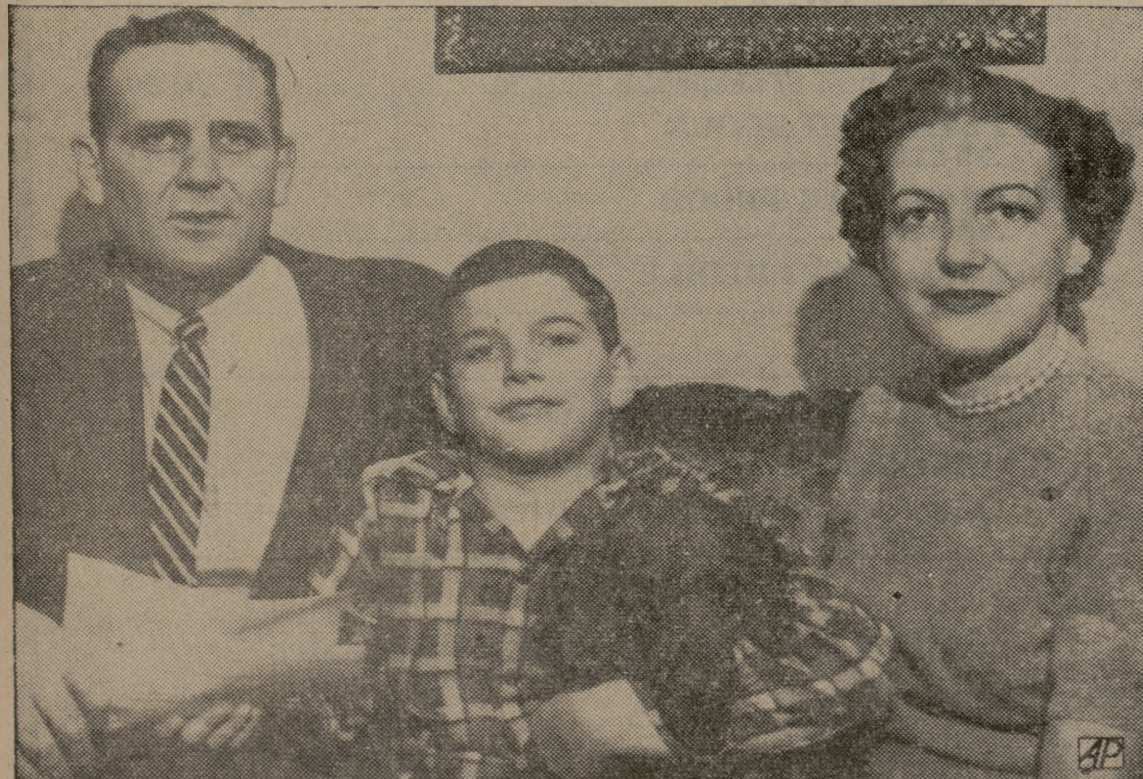
Passage of the amendment proposals by the Student Life Committee resulted in resignation of the co-editors of the student daily newspaper, The Battalion, followed by resignations of all student staff members.

Named to the committee by President Morgan were T. W. Leland, head of the Business Administration Department; C. B. Godbey, head of the Genetics department; S. A. Lynch, head of the Geology department; Dr. F. P. Jaggi, professor of Veterinary Medicine, and B. A. Zinn, assistant Dean of Men. Named as ex-officio members were D. D. Burchard, head of the Journalism Department and C. G. White, Assistant to the Dean of Men.

Holt Is Speaker
At FFA Meeting

In speaking to the Collegiate F.F.A. Chapter Tuesday night at its regular bi-weekly meeting, Mr. O. M. Holt, Consultant from the Texas Education Agency, said one of the major responsibilities of teachers of vocational agriculture in Texas is to develop boys into men.

He called attention to the importance of the activities promoted in local F.F.A. chapters in developing high school boys.



COACH "BEAR" BRYANT and family are caught by the photographer in a more relaxed mood.

Friday Night, Guion Hall

Premier Set For A&M Movie

A Hollywood-style world premiere of the color movie, "We Are the Aggies," is planned Friday night, March 5, in Guion Hall on the Texas A&M campus. The film depicts daily life of students at work and at play.

Spotlights will play on college and campus dignitaries arriving in limousines and they will extend greetings over a public address system outside the hall. Prior to the first of four public showings that night members of the faculty and staff who played prominent parts in the production will be introduced to the audience.

General Matthew B. Ridgway, chief of staff, U. S. Army, will attend one of the later showings Friday. He comes to the A&M campus for the annual Military Day on Saturday, and will be accompanied by several other high-ranking officers.

Proceeds from the premiere will go to the Twelfth Man Scholarship Fund, according to John C. Akard of (4227 Holland) Dallas, entertainment manager of the Student Activities Office. This fund provides a full four years of college to some student not financially able

to matriculate. Two such students are now enrolled.

Production of the 30-minute movie was aided by the A&M Mothers' Clubs of Texas and the College Exchange Store. Mrs. Gus

Becker of Mirando City, president of the State Federation of Mothers' Clubs, and Carl Birdwell of the Exchange Store also will appear at the first showing Friday night.

The shooting script and final narrative were written by Harry L. Kidd Jr., associate professor in the English Department of A&M. Photography was by Howard Berry, director of the Photographic and Visual Aids Laboratory of the college. Setting was the campus at College Station and students comprised the "all star" cast.

Every scene is a natural shot of a regular activity at the school. After a sneak preview upon completion of the movie last month, a viewer exclaimed, "when you have seen 'We Are the Aggies,' you have seen life at Texas A&M College."

The film will be available for school and club showings anywhere and already more than a dozen copies of it have been purchased by alumni. Requests for the film may be made to C. G. White, assistant Dean of Men in the Student Activities Office, Texas A&M College.

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Council Fails To Compete With Bugle Corps

JAMESTOWN, R. I.—(AP)—The Boys' Drum and Bugle Corps last night vanquished a Town Council meeting.

Someone assigned a town hall room for a drum corps rehearsal the same night the council met.

As the drums boomed and the bugles blared the councilors shouted at each other for 47 minutes, then gave up and adjourned.

Weather Today



COLDER

Cold tonight with wind and continued cloudiness. High this morning 55. Low tonight 30.