

## Rescue Efforts Fail To Save Trapped Men

A steel gondola car entombed three Mexican laborers for hours Saturday night defying the rescue attempts of College Station Civilian Defense Disaster team, Bryan National Guardsmen and railroad employees working against time in the flickering glare of searchlights to free the trapped men.

When finally freed from the wreckage one of the men was dead, one died on the way to Hearne General Hospital and one died at 11:50 Sunday night.

Only one of the men had been identified Tuesday night. He was 20-year old Virgilio Vazquez of El Reloj, Old Mexico. Vazquez recovered enough Sunday afternoon to tell interpreters his other two companions were also from Mexico seeking work in Texas for the

summer. The wreck occurred about 6:30 p. m. Saturday at Cooks Spur, about five miles east of Cadwell, on the Dalsa Division of the Texas and New Orleans Railroad. Train number 250 and 247 were meeting at the spur when cars jumped the track and began telescoping and criss-crossing up and down the right-of-way.

None of the crew members were injured in the crash and soon some 400 to 500 on-lookers gathered to watch rescue attempts of the trapped men.

College Station's Disaster squad consisting of W. M. Dowell, Bob Hood, George Carroll, Morris Maddox and Virgil Phipps were notified and were among the first to reach the scene with equipment.



STILL GOING STRONG—Pop Ivy is shown cutting the Rev. Norman Anderson's hair. Pop says he has cut "Preacher" Anderson's hair for the past 28 years.

## Ags Call Him Pop

# Friend, Philosopher, Barber

By DAVE McREYNOLDS  
Battalion Editor

Robert W. (Pop) Ivy, owner of the Aggeland Barber Shop at North Gate, has it all over the 'man who came to dinner and stayed five years'. Ivy came to College Station in 1920 to get an education and is still here.

Ivy came to A&M two weeks before midterm in 1920 and as he didn't have a high school education was unable to enter school. The only course he could qualify for at the time was called "chickenology". This didn't interest the 32-year-old ex-marine so he took a job, with the late J. F. Lavender, in the YMCA cutting hair and has been in the profession ever since.

"Pop" Ivy, as he has been known to thousands of Aggies through the years, has known many of the young men who have come into the Aggeland Barber Shop, which he had owned and operated since 1926, and have passed out into the world.

Ivy was the first male baby born in Navarro County, Texas. He was born in Frost, Texas, August 27, 1889. He lived there until he was about 17 when he set out to see the world.

His travels first took him to West Texas, to San Angelo and Sterling City, where he worked at odd jobs and barbering.

One thing about the barbering trade according to Ivy is "The only time I was out of a job was when I up and quit."

In 1908 Ivy got tired of West Texas and joined the United States Marine Corps. This was his home until after World War I, except for a short hitch in another branch of service, the army. This ended as quick as Ivy could buy his way out and get back into the Marine Corps.

Shortly after his return to the United States in 1919 he married a Weymouth, Mass. girl and moved back to Frost. They stayed there until moving to College Station two weeks before mid-term in 1920.

It was at this time Ivy took the job with Lavender in the old "Y". "I intended to enter college, but I was 32 years old and just couldn't see taking mechanics or that chickenology, so I opened my own barbershop in 1926," said Ivy.

"That's one thing I never have liked about College Station", Ivy related, "You no sooner get to know these boys than they graduate and leave."

"I have run into some of them on vacations, and get Christmas cards from them, but most of them, well, you just sorta wonder about at times," he said.

After Ivy started his own shop he hired Aggies that were practicing barbering to work their way through school. But, with the state licensing program this came to a halt. About nine boys worked their way through A&M by working in Pop Ivys' shop before this law put an end to this program.

A lifelong member of the Metho-

dist Church, Ivy was one of the first members of the present congregation of the First Methodist Church at College Station. He recalls some of the problems they met when trying to raise money to construct the Church here. The old "barn" is now used for the meetings of the Wesley Foundation.

This old building was constructed some 34 years ago, according to Ivy. The second preacher to serve the church was the Reverend Jesse Thompson, present associate pastor at First Methodist Church in Port Arthur.

Reverend Thompson is described by Ivy as "the best friend the Cadets ever had here."

"He would come to their aid whenever they needed it, under all conditions," he said.

Still active in the Veterans of Foreign Wars and American Legion, Ivy helped organize the Legion while a member of the American Expeditionary Force in France in 1918. He was a member of the College State Post under "Ike" Agburn and later helped organize the present Bryan Post of the Legion.

He works now, mostly, with the VFW Post and is a life member of the organization.

Recalling old times in the Brazos Valley Ivy said that the dances held in the old Masonic Club were a community favorite and about the most trouble the Aggies used to raise occurred about the time of the Senior Ball.

At this time of the year, the next year's seniors would be presented to the assembly. Sophomores and freshmen would take the juniors off to the woods and tie them up, or hold them in some way until after the ceremony. "There sure used to be a fuss over that", Ivy said.

Most of Ivy's spare time is spent either fishing, hunting or working around his home at 3501 S. College Road, in his garden.

## Prospective Ags May Take Tests During Summer

Aptitude and achievement tests for entering students will be given during the summer months at A&M, according to C. H. Ransdell, associate dean of the Basic Division. These tests afford students the opportunity to take the evaluation tests before New Student Week in September, he said.

"Students who have been accepted for enrollment at A&M have three summer dates to chose from", Ransdell said, "the tests are offered June 23, July 7 and July 28. All tests start promptly at 9 a. m. and last most of the day. Students desiring to take the summer tests should send a card or letter designating the date chosen for the tests, he added.

All accepted students are invited to take the test, but it isn't practical for them to travel more than 200 miles if they plan to take the tests and return home the same day, Ransdell said. Students contemplating attending A&M who have not yet been accepted are also invited to take the tests.

Purpose of the required tests is to help students understand their areas of strength and weakness, to serve both student and staff in academic placement in courses and as a basis for later counseling with the student.

The tests will be given in the lecture room of the Biological Sciences Building.

## Smith Receives Gold Medal

H. P. Smith, a member of the Agricultural Experiment Station since 1919 and author and developer of farm machinery was presented the Cyrus W. McCormick Gold Medal yesterday in Roanoke, Va.

The award, annually presented by the American Society of Agricultural Engineers was given to Smith for his outstanding contributions to agriculture. Farm machinery developed by Smith is manufactured and widely used throughout the cotton growing areas of Texas and the South.

His contributions have changed much of the hand labor on farms to mechanization. Among his developments are cotton strippers, fertilizer attachments, plows and sprayers for weed and insect control.

He is the author of "Farm Machinery and Equipment", a widely used textbook in addition to many articles written for trade and farm publications.

Smith served on an advisory commission to the Minister of Agriculture in Turkey in 1950-51 and holds membership in many professional organizations. Among these are: Southern Agricultural Workers, Steering Committee for the Belt-Wide Cotton Mechanization Conference and the regional Technical Committee on Cotton Mechanization.

## The Battalion

The Editorial Policy of The Battalion Represents the Views of the Student Editors

The Battalion, daily newspaper of the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas and the City of College Station, is published by students in the Office of Student Publications as a non-profit educational service. The Director of Student Publications is Ross Strader. The governing body of all student publications of the A.&M. College of Texas is the Student Publications Board. Faculty members are Karl E. Elmquist, Chairman; Donald D. Burchard, Tom Leland and Bennie Zinn. Student members are Derrell H. Guiles, Paul Holladay, and Wayne Moore. Ex-officio members are Charles Roebler, and Ross Strader, Secretary. The Battalion is published four times a week during the regular school year and once a week during the summer and vacation and examination periods. Days of publication are Tuesday through Friday for the regular school year and on Thursday during the summer terms and during examination and vacation periods. The Battalion is not published on the Wednesday immediately preceding Easter or Thanksgiving. Subscription rates are \$3.50 per semester, \$6.00 per school year, \$9.50 per full year, or \$1.00 per month. Advertising rates furnished on request.

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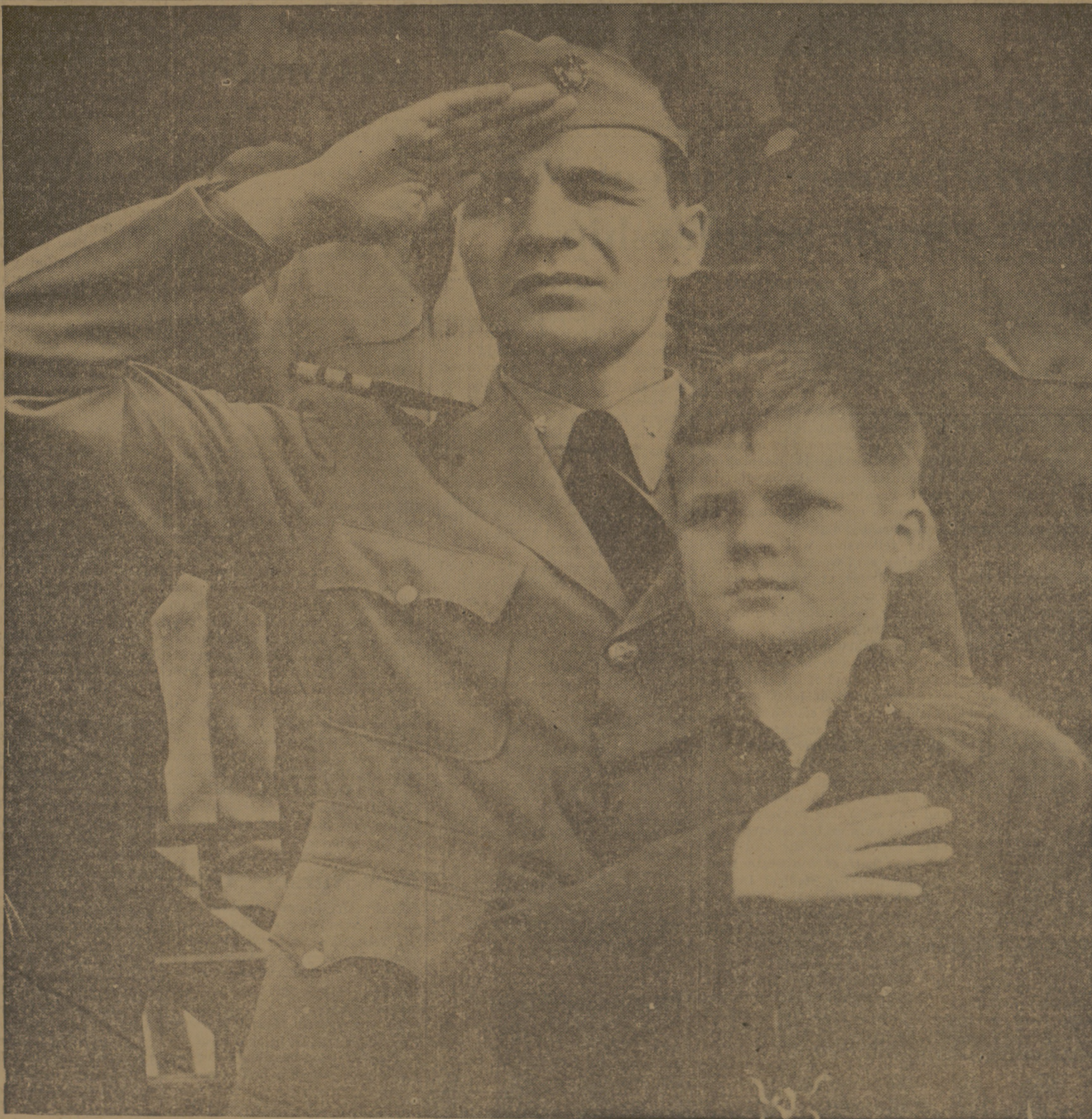
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