

## Parking Lots

Work is underway for the construction of a new parking lot behind Guion Hall for the use of students in Hart and Bizzell Halls. This will enable the people working in Science, Nagle and Goodwin Halls to park in the lot behind Hart.

Work is scheduled to begin soon enlarging the "Navasota" Parking Lot behind the Band Dormitory.

It's about time officials start trying to straighten out the Day Student Parking Lot behind the Petroleum Building. This lot is in the worst shape of all the parking areas. The exits are noted for their hog-backed ridges and it is impossible to leave the lot by way of Nagle Street without ruining a muffler, tail-pipe or a rear bumper.

If some provision were made to grade the lot and mark off parking spaces in some manner, it would be possible to get quite a few more cars in the lot in a more orderly manner and the students could see where they are supposed to park and where not to park.

Why not hard-top the entrances to prevent more ruts being cut in the ground like the ones there now. Woe be unto the driver that tries to cross the ruts.

## Highways Are Happy Ways?

Vacationing Texans are on the highways of our state by the thousands this time of the year, and according to Highway Department surveys, they are likely to find traffic present in a volume never seen before in our history.

August is a month when accident rates jump sharply. During the last five years rates have been higher in as much as 27 percent during August as compared to July.

"People try to over-drive on a long vacation trip," says Assistant Chief C. G. Conner of the Highway Patrol. "Fatigue is one problem and speed is another."

The fatigue is one thing the Highway Patrol cannot control, but speed they can. The installation of radar devices on the roads show speeding dropping off 21 to 15 percent and deaths off 1.9 percent. (November, 1954 figures)

Last year five Aggies were killed either in cars or as a direct result of automobiles. Why not make the rest of the year a record year and mark up no deaths or accidents due to automobiles?

Silver Taps are impressive to all of us, but I would like to go through the rest of my remaining year at A&M without having to attend another—wouldn't you?

## Two Loans, Gifts Made to Ag Station

Two gifts and as many loans have been made to the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station and will be used to further research work at four different locations in the state.

Station Director R. D. Lewis said the gifts were made by Mrs. Josephine Fox of El Paso and the Leon C. Osborn Company, Inc. of Harlingen. Mrs. Fox gave to the Station the 1956 water allotment from 176 acres of class one water right land in the Rio Grande Project. It will be used on the Ysleta substation in connection with cotton breeding, cotton fertilization and soils research programs.

A Chrisholm-Ryder bean snipping machine was the gift from the Harlingen concern. It will be used by the Horticulture Department at College Station for preparing samples of green beans for research and teaching in food processing work.

Mrs. Pauline M. Turner of Westlaco has loaned the Station a Charolaise bull for use in connection with beef cattle improvement work at the McGregor substation. The New Idea Farm Equipment Company of Coldwater, Ohio, has loaned a twine tie motor driven hay baler and a 30 foot hay elevator to the Station for use on the Lufkin substation.

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## 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 Leiland and Bonnie Zinn, Student members are Derrell H. Guiles, Paul Holladay, and Wayne Moore. Ex-officio members are Charles Roeder, 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, \$6.50 per full year, or \$1.00 per month. Advertising rates furnished on request.

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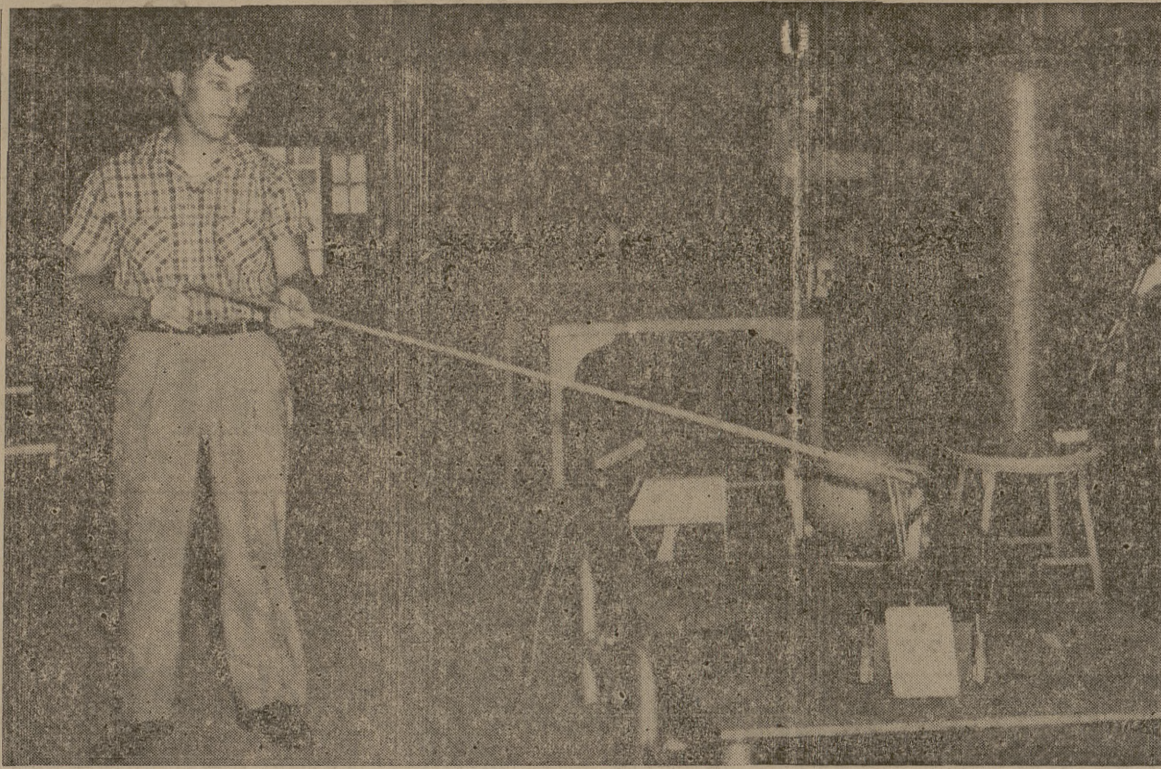
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**CHANGING POWER SOURCE**—Jack K. Gilbert is shown changing the iridium power source on his Isotope Radiographic Camera in the Mechanical Engineering Welding shop. The six foot handling tongs are necessary to get the handler as far from the radioactive substance as is safe. The changing must be accomplished as quickly as possible to keep from getting "too charged up."

## Welding Holds No Secrets From New Isotope Camera

By DAVE McREYNOLDS  
Battalion Editor

A 27-year old graduate student in mechanical engineering at A&M, Jack K. Gilbert, has perfected an easier and cheaper method of testing for welding flaws in welded steel structures.

Working for the Highway Research Center under the direction of Fred J. Benson, Gilbert has designed an Isotope Radiographic Camera to be used primarily in checking welds on Texas bridges.

Gilbert's camera is a lightweight, portable unit using an isotope of Iridium 192 as a source of power to take pictures of welds on structural steel.

Designed originally for bridge work for the Texas Highway Department, Gilbert says the camera can be used on any steel structure from 3/8 inches to 4 1/2 inches in thickness.

For a picture of a 3/8 inch plate the camera requires 1 1/2 minutes and 50 minutes for a 4 1/2 inch thick plate. The camera will expose those flaws in the weld and the steel not seen by the naked eye.

This type of detection has been known of and experimentation has been carried on for some time. Some work in this field was done with radium as a source of power, but due to its high cost and poor

results engineers soon turned to X-Ray type cameras.

The X-Ray cameras are still used extensively, but their big drawback in bridge work is their bulk and heavy weight.

"I started out working with X-Ray type units myself," Gilbert said. "But when I started across a beam lugging that heavy camera high above the Houston Ship Channel I decided there must be an easier way."

Gilbert's camera is unique in the fact that he has incorporated the shielding qualities of lead together with distance to protect the operator from radiation injury.

The "head," or business part of the camera, houses the radioactive isotope and is made with a fiberglass shell encasing a lead ball with the isotope in the lead housing. This part of the unit is separate from the control box and weighs only 40 pounds. This is 20 feet from the operator when in use.

The control box is connected to the head by an extension cord that can be plugged into the head. The control box has an automatic timing device in it that activates the isotope, rotating it in the head to where it extends out of its lead shell and toward the steel weld to be inspected.

As the timer is automatic it can be set for any desired time, depending upon the thickness of steel to be tested. It will shut itself off and rotate the isotope back into the lead hull, rendering it safe for handling, after the picture is completed.

## Landrum Authors Technical Article

Bobby L. Landrum, associate research technologist for the Texas Petroleum Research Committee at A&M is the author of a technical article describing the effect of horizontal fractures on production capacity. The paper was presented at the annual meeting of the American Institute of Mining and Metallurgical Engineers in San Antonio.

The article, which was published in the international publication, World Oil, shows the beneficial effects to be derived by fracturing at various elevations in the pay.

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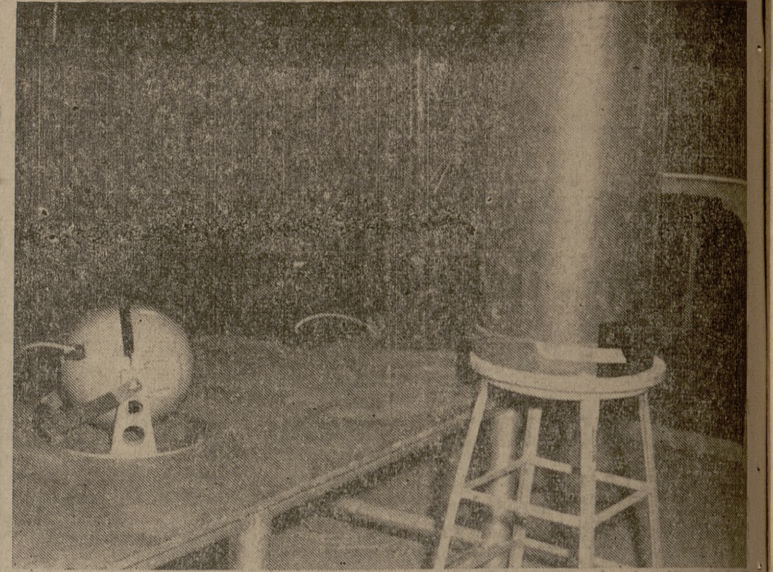
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**SMILE AT THE BIRDIE**—The acetylene tank can't smile however as it poses for the Isotope Radiographic Camera developed by Jack K. Gilbert of the Highway Research Center. This camera consists of three units, the head, (left) control box (center) and negative plates, taped on the lower portion of the acetylene tank at right.)

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12-Oz. Can—Armour's CORNERED BEEF . . . . .	49c	No. 2 Cans—Van Camp's PORK & BEANS . . . . . 2 cans	35c
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— PICTSWEET —		Armour's Star FRYERS . . . . . lb.	
Baby Whole Okra—Baby Limas— Ford Hook Limas Cauliflower . . . . . Pkg.	27c	Decker's—Tall Korn SLICED BACON . . . . . lb.	
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