



Leap Year Maidens

Mrs. Fred Ruiz, 33, of El Paso, Tex., looks fondly at her twin daughters, Deborah Lee, left, and Diana Lynn, right, born shortly after midnight on Leap Year Day. The mother said she came from a family that had several twins. (AP Wirephoto)

90-Year-Old Captain Decides He's Ready To Settle Down

ALPINE, Tex. (AP)—Capt. C. D. Wood has decided he's about settled down. Which is expected, since he recently marked his 90th birthday.

Actually, he has been a fixture in the Big Bend Country of Texas for a half century. He fought in the Spanish-American War, saw service in the Philippines, met his bride in the Far East, and survived Mexican rebel raids.

He came to Texas to operate a factory to make candelilla wax, a highly prized ingredient for several products. Later he became a judge.

Wood was born Jan. 27, 1870, at Bolivar, Tenn.

In 1898 he was given command as captain of the Tennessee Mountain Infantry to fight in the Spanish-American War.

After the conflict, Capt. Wood was transferred to the Philippines where he served for five years. During this time he "met the girl I married," a school teacher, Julia Bouchette. When his tour of duty was over in the Philippines, he followed Miss Bouchette to the English Crown Colony in Hong Kong, where she was teaching, and they were married in 1904.

Shortly after, the Wood's returned to the United States where Wood engaged in the real estate business in Pittsburgh, Pa.

In 1911 they decided to go west and landed in the Big Bend country where they established the first candelilla wax factory in the United States at Double Mills, on the Maravillas Creek, in Brewster County.

The wax comes from a desert plant known as candelilla that grows along the Rio Grande in the Big Bend of Texas and across the river in northern Mexico.

As the plants were harvested in one area, the factory was moved to a new location where the plants were more plentiful. Their second location was in lower Brewster County at McKinney Springs, near the Stillwell Ranch, then to Glen Springs, which is now a part of the Big Bend National Park.

It was while he had his wax factory at Glen Springs that Mexican rebels made a raid May 5, 1916, killing three and wounding four of the nine soldiers of the 6th Cavalry stationed there. One civilian, little Tommy, 7-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Compton, clerk of the general store, was killed.

Capt. Wood's eyes lighted up as he recalled this hair-raising experience and described it. "When I heard the heavy gunfire, I grabbed my rifle and hurried over to the home of my neighbor, Oscar de Montel. He got his rifle and we took off in the direction of the direction of the shooting and ran directly into the enemy."

"The whole settlement was on fire and a Mexican sentry took a shot at us."

"In our rush to get away from the bullets we ran into a wire fence with such force it knocked the breath out of us. We stayed on the ground until the sentry quit firing."

"We scrambled up and ran to a mesa about 500 yards away and stayed there in hiding until daybreak. We watched from the hide-out as the raiders saddled and packed up their horses with stolen goods."

In 1927 Capt. and Mrs. Wood moved to Alpine to make their home. In 1928 he was appointed Judge of Brewster County, later being elected to the office, serving until 1933, at which time he retired.

His wife died about three years ago.

Garrison Reminds Motorists Of April Inspection Deadline

Col. Homer Garrison, Jr., director of the Texas Department of Public Safety, said today more than 2,000,000 motor vehicles remain to be inspected before the April 15 deadline. He urged all Texas motorists to obtain their new inspection stickers at an early date.

Garrison reported that more than 4,300,000 will be inspected in Texas this year. To date only about half that number have gone through inspection lines at some 4,400 inspection stations located throughout the state.

The DPS director pointed out that inspection stations cannot inspect vehicles during wet, rainy weather, a condition normally prevailing during late winter and early spring. To make sure every vehicle owner is able to obtain his 1960 inspection sticker in time, Garrison suggested that plans be made now to visit an inspection station, before inspection lines grow long.



State Farm Saved Texans Money

We aim to insure careful drivers only. Savings here have allowed us to pay dividends to Texas policyholders year after year. Call me.

U. M. Alexander, Jr., 215 S. Main Phone TA 3-3616
State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company Home Office—Bloomington, Illinois

YOU - A BILLIONAIRE?

I want to correspond with the person that really wants to be the wealthiest self-made man in Texas. The business that made the wealthiest man in Europe. Courage and imagination a prerequisite.

MANLEY MILLS,
437 Church Lane, Reno, Nevada.

Ike To Ask for New Cuban Sugar Law

WASHINGTON (AP)—Rep. Harold D. Cooley (D-N.C.) said today the administration apparently plans to ask for a new sugar law which he said could be a "weapon of reprisal" against Cuba's Prime Minister Fidel Castro.

Administration sources confirmed that some changes which Cooley proposes are included in a bill they intend to submit next week to the House Agriculture Committee, which Cooley heads.

But they denied the administration measure is designed as a club against Cuba, which reaps a 150 million dollars yearly bonus under present law. They said their bill is merited for agricultural reasons, and would not hurt Cuba.

Sugar legislation is an especially hot issue this year because of Castro's attacks on the United States and seizure of American-owned property in Cuba. Some Congressmen see the sugar bill as a golden chance to hit back at Castro. President Eisenhower has declared against retaliation.

Cooley spoke to a newsman after conferring late Wednesday with Under Secretary of Agriculture True D. Morse and other officials on administration plans.

Earlier, Secretary of State Christian A. Herter told his news conference that the administration had not completed its sugar plan. "As you know," Herter said, "the President has said we are not going to take countermeasures."

Cooley said Eisenhower's recent Latin-American trip apparently has made no change in earlier administration plans to seek a four-year extension of the sugar law, a slight juggling of sugar quotas which Cooley termed unfavorable to Cuba, and executive branch power to cut foreign quotas further.

"That's their proposal," Cooley said. "But I don't think they should even submit the proposal. He added the President said 'he didn't want any reprisals. He shouldn't ask for the weapons of reprisal.'"

Cooley said the mere proposal by the administration of such a plan would set off wide anti-American feeling in Latin America.

"Havana papers already have screaming headlines to the effect that the President is preparing economic aggression against Cuba," he said.

Cooley said he favors a one-year extension of the law as is—without presidential power to change quotas—and hopes to avoid committee hearings because the bill "should not be considered under an emotional atmosphere."

The present law expires at the end of this year.

Second Annual Babcock Award Contest Deadline Nearing

\$250 is waiting for the verbally prolific Aggie who can describe in not less than 250 nor more than 1,000 words, "The Advantages I Find at Texas A&M College."

Sponsored by C. L. Babcock, '20, Beaumont insurance man, this will be the second year that the essay contest has been held.

April 15 is the deadline for the essays which Babcock believes should be able to answer the questions: "Is it truth?" "Is it fair?"

Two Plant Profs Recent Speakers

Two members of the Department of Plant Physiology and Pathology were speakers at recent farm meetings.

They were Dr. Luther Bird, associate professor, and Dr. M. C. Futrell, assistant professor.

Bird discussed disease resistant cotton varieties at a meeting of the Plains Certified Seed Growers at Lubbock and Futrell talked on rust resistant wheat with the Wilbarger County Wheat Growers Assn. at Vernon and the Vernon Rotary Club.

"Will it build good will?" and "Will it be beneficial?"

The entries should be prepared in regular manuscript form, double spaced with an original and two carbon copies. Entries can be turned in to The Battalion office on the ground floor of the YMCA.

Initial judging of the essays will be done by members of The Battalion staff, but final judging will be left to a special committee to be selected by President Earl Rudder.

Not only will a \$250 first prize be awarded but 10 runners-up will be presented with certificates. Both the award of \$250 and the certificates will be presented at the annual Student Publications Awards Banquet, May 13.

Last year's topic for the C. L. Babcock Essay Contest was "Texas A&M—What It Means to Me," and was won by Tommy Keith, '59. Not only was Keith's essay reprinted in several Texas Newspapers but also appeared in the Congressional Record and was distributed by the Association of Former Students.

The essay contest is open to any full time student currently enrolled at A&M, with the exception of members of The Battalion staff.

Remember....

April 15th
Deadline
for
1960 Vehicle Safety Inspection

Texas Department of Public Safety



Don't Miss ITS You'll See

- ★ THE TYLER APACHE BELLES
- ★ 10 TOP ACTS
- ★ SAN ANTONIO'S PAT TALLMAN

TICKETS NOW ON SALE:

Through Group & Battle Group Commanders
Also At MSC Main Desk

- ADVANCED SALE \$.75
- RESERVED SEATS \$1.25
- CHILDREN \$.50
- AT DOOR \$1.25

INTERCOLLEGIATE TALENT SHOW

7:00 P. M. FRIDAY

G. ROLLIE WHITE