

AGGIES PLAY SANTA CLAUS

Aid-To-Needy Program In Full Stride

Hundreds of Aggies are preparing to play Santa Claus to needy families, following a lengthening tradition of remembering others at this season of the year.

Many local families will be guests at special parties to be staged by Corps of Cadets units and civilian student groups. The parties, marked by the giving

of toys, clothing and food for the family, are due next Monday or Tuesday. The events will be held late in the afternoon so that children may attend and Santa Claus also plans appearances.

The Aggies have their own traditional Christmas dinner in the college dining halls next Wednesday night and are home-

ward bound after classes Thursday.

Almost 50 families were aided during the Christmas season of 1961 through the giving of A&M students, student wives' clubs and the assistance of College Station churches and other groups. As many families likely will be aided against this year, college officials said.

The voluntary program now is current form for about five years, but the history of Aggies helping needy fellow students and persons off of the campus is a long one.

The voluntary program now is coordinated through the office of J. Gordon Gay, coordinator of religious life and general secretary of the YMCA. Members of the "Y" staff wrap the presents.

Representatives of groups wanting to help needy families pick names from a list supplied by qualified authorities, or they may find a needy family themselves. The 51 families on the list this year have from one to nine children.



Talking Things Over

Two students are engaged in serious conversation about topics being discussed at the eighth Student Conference On National Affairs. This is just one of the many "off-the-record" conversations which are held between sessions of SCONA.

Speeches Prompt Delegate Interest

By DAN LOUIS JR.
Battalion News Editor

In these days of freezing weather the hottest spot on campus is the Memorial Student Center. It's not that the heating system there is any better than anywhere else, there's just a lot of talk going on, and this talk combined with the thinking behind it has generated a noticeable degree of red hot interest in the eighth annual Student Conference On National Affairs.

The second floor of the MSC was relatively quiet until the first plenary session broke up in the ballroom at about 3:30 p.m. Wednesday. Then it began to happen. Even before most of the delegates had gotten to their feet to go to roundtable conferences, the discussions were underway.

DELEGATES, observers, advisors and everyone else in the ballroom had been prompted to agree or disagree with something Gen. Frederic H. Smith Jr., former vice chief of staff USAF, had said in his talks on the "Role of the Military in World Peace." All anyone had to do to find someone to talk it over with was look to his left or right.

Talks Wednesday night by Mason Willrich, armament agency advisor, and the one this afternoon by Vice President Johnson have furnished more fuel for the flame of thought.

However, as Hank Dalton, senior at the U.S. Naval Academy, stated, "Any exchange of ideas between students from different parts of the country is of immeasurable value."

"THIS LOOKS like it will be an enlightening conference. The speakers so far have been very interesting," Dalton added.

Karen Swanson, sophomore sociology major from Stephens College, said, "The topics have been most interesting."

"The conference is very well organized," said Anne Shaw, senior French major from Louisiana State

University.

"I think the speakers are very good and the roundtables are most interesting," Anne said.

"It's been real nice because everyone has been so hospitable," she said, "It has been well worth the trip so far."

NSF Science Institute Set This Summer

A special summer institute of Oceanography and Meteorology will be held for high school teachers here June 3-28.

Sponsored under a \$24,000 National Science Foundation grant, the four-week institute will be held in Galveston at the A&M Marine Laboratory at Fort Crockett.

Dr. Robert E. Stevenson, chief scientist at the marine laboratory, will direct the study course that is limited to 30 teachers of science subjects in high schools.

The grant will provide stipends of \$75 a week for each participant, plus allowances for dependents and travel.

Chief purpose of the course is to provide school teachers with the necessary background and information for classroom lectures of the sciences of the sea and the atmosphere and how the two are interrelated, Dr. Dale Leipper, head of the Department of Oceanography and Meteorology, said.

The subject matter will cover studies of the atmosphere with the emphasis on weather factors, physical, chemical and geological oceanography and marine biology. A short cruise will also be taken on the A&M research vessel "Hidalgo."

High school teachers interested in applying for the institute can write Coleman Loyd, NSF programs coordinator here.

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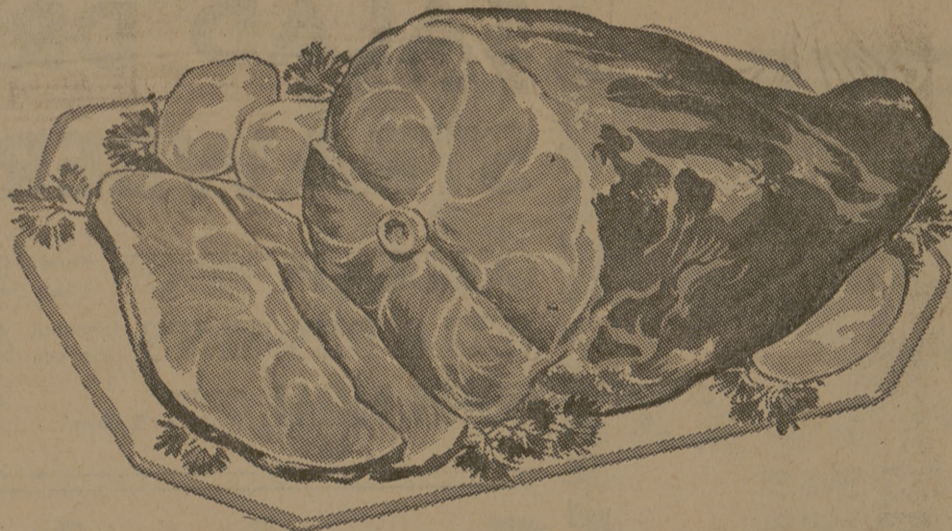
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