

THE BATTALION

Board Statement

(Editor's Note. The following is a statement on ROTC training and the Corps of Cadets prepared Saturday by the Board of Directors.)

The Board of Directors of Texas A&M University hereby reaffirms the policy in effect whereby, with certain specified exceptions, all first and second year undergraduate male students at Texas A&M University are required to take the basic ROTC training program and be members of the Corps of Cadets.

The basic purpose of the ROTC program, which is to provide the opportunity to qualify for a commission in the Armed forces of the United States, is highly worthy in itself. Furthermore, the Board of Directors believes that life in the Corps of Cadets and the ROTC training program act together to develop in the individual, qualities of physical and spiritual courage, self-reliance, respect for constituted authority, integrity, leadership traits, and loyalty to the American heritage.

The Corps and related ROTC program are components of the total educational experience at Texas A&M. It is the concept of the Board of Directors that the principal function of the Corps of Cadets should be to so organize and conduct the activities of its members that they are afforded maximum time and opportunity for academic endeavors. Constant supervision and evaluation of the Corps of Cadets, aimed at removing any and all influences not in harmony with the physical, mental and spiritual welfare of the individual Corps students, and with the paramount objective of academic achievement, shall be a continuing process at the University.

Summer Season Is Also Stingtime

Anyone who has just been stilettoed by an angry wasp doesn't need to be reminded that summer is sting time in Texas.

Humans, they say, are the most intelligent beings on earth. Maybe this is the reason wasps love to build their nests and zoom around in such close association with man. For these bugs, according to entomologists, belong to one of the highest instinct and intelligence levels in the insect world.

In fact, the smartness and complex social structures of wasps causes disagreement among taxonomists, who find it difficult to place the insects into neat categories.

PERHAPS THE taxonomists can get some help from gardeners, hedge trimmers and house painters after they have humped into a wasp nest. Such victims can supply all sorts of colorful, unprintable descriptions.

Weldon H. Newton, A&M entomologist and a man who has received his share of stings, has been studying wasps objectively—if that's possible. He knows first aid for stings and can recommend several control measures. But save the best for last. First, a few academics.

More than 2,500 species of wasps occur in North America, and any Texan will swear that every one of them can probably be found in his backyard. Only 50 of the 2,500 are deemed troublesome to man. That's enough.

Newton says wasps can be broken down into four groups. Three of them are hornets and yellow jackets, mud daubers, and cicada killers. The fourth and Texas' big troublemaker goes by a name that sounds like something out of ancient Greece—Polistes.

THE TRUE yellow jacket is not what Texans know as the yellow jacket, Newton explains. The real thing builds enclosed, globular nests like that of the hornets.

What Texans call the yellow jackets is actually a Polistes, which

builds the familiar, flat, paper-like nest with cells opening downward.

There are two other fellows in the Polistes class—the dark, almost-black wasp and the solid, dull red wasp.

The social order of Polistes consists of males, which don't sting, and egg-laying queens and female workers, which can really wallop you a good one.

Taking a rigid, objective viewpoint, wasps are beneficial insects. Polistes, when they aren't popping someone on the neck, catch corn earworms, armyworms, and many other pests and feed them to their young.

Newton says a wasp stings by driving its needle-like ovipositor into the flesh and injecting a venomous fluid into the wound. But anyone who gets oviposited is likely to forget about beneficial insects and Rachael Carson and spray the landscape with any insecticide that happens to be handy.

NEWTON RECOMMENDS baking soda paste or a few drops of ammonia on the puncture as first aid. Whooping and hollering and jumping up and down is of little value, although most victims resort to this tactic soon after the attack.

Most of the time, a wasp sting just plain hurts. However, some persons are hypersensitive to the venom and serious illness or death can follow. The entomologist said asthma and hay fever sufferers are in most danger of severe reaction.

There are several ways to knock out a nest of wasps. Newton says rolled up newspaper ignited on the end of a long stick will do, although this treatment is not recommended around houses or barns. A tomato can full of gasoline will kill a nest, but kerosene is safer.

Insecticide is the best control in the long run. Chlordane, dieldrin or DDT, as sprays or dusts, are effective.

The best control time is at night, when the wasps are less active and most of them are in the nest.



"I don't think I've ever seen a diving exhibition like you put on yesterday."

L. H. (Preacher) Durst, '27 Dies Tuesday In Houston

Funeral services were held Thursday morning for L. H. (Preacher) Durst, an active leader in A&M former student activities. The 59-year-old vice president and director of Brown & Root Inc. died

Tuesday in a Houston hospital. A member of the Class of 1927, Durst earned a bachelor of science and master of science in civil engineering. He went to work for Brown & Root in 1928.

Grove Movies

Thursday—"Heaven Knows Mr. Allison"

Friday—"Boy on a Dolphin"

Monday—"Voyage to the Bottom of the Sea"

Tuesday—"Garden of Evil"

Wednesday—"Beneath the 12 Mile Reef"

Two years later he left the company and was with Uvalde Asphalt Co. and the Texas Highway Department. He went back to Brown & Root in 1934 and had been there since.

Durst was a descendant of a pioneer family that settled in East Texas in the 1800s. He was born March 10, 1904, at Crockett. He will be buried in the Crockett Cemetery Thursday afternoon.

\$98,768 In Fellowships, Grants Accepted By Board

Grants-in-aid, gifts, scholarships, fellowships, and awards totaling some \$98,768 were accepted by the Board of Directors of the A&M College System meeting here Saturday.

These were as follows:

SCHOLARSHIPS, fellowships and awards totaling \$16,800 were received from 13 donors, including \$3,500 from Continental Oil Co.; \$2,550 from Mr. and Mrs. Silas B. Ragsdale; \$2,500 from Alcoa Foundation; \$1,550 from Houston A&M Mothers' Club; \$1,250 from San Antonio A&M Mothers' Club; \$1,000 from Monsanto Chemical Co.; \$1,000 from Universal Oil Products Co.; \$750 from Douglas Aircraft Co.; \$500 from Houston Federation of Garden Clubs; \$500 from Lubrizol Foundation; \$400 from South Texas Section, AICHE, and \$300 from Square D. Co.

Research and grants-in-aid were received totaling \$12,500, including \$10,000 from Campbell Soup Co.; \$1,000 from Atlantic Refining Co.; \$1,000 from Gulf Oil Corp. for the Petroleum Engineering Department, and \$500 from Universal Oil Products Co. for the Chemical Engineering Department.

Texas Maritime Academy Student Loan received \$1,056 from the Board of Visitors.

SPECIAL GIFTS valued at \$13,104.24 were received, including electronic equipment valued at \$7,675.24 from Schlumberger Well Surveying Corp. for the Texas Engineering Extension Service, elec-

trical equipment valued at \$3,879 from Humble Oil & Refining Co. for the Texas Engineering Experiment Station, a Santa Gertrudis heifer valued at \$1,500 from R. J. Kleberg of King Ranch; library books valued at \$50 in honor of Mr. James P. (Jake) Hamblen

from H. C. Heldenfels and from Gov. Richard Cole's gift came from Mrs. Luis Horne. Other grants-in-aid and awards were received by the Texas cultural Experiment Station, Livingston State and Prairie A&M.

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