Thursday, August 26, 1965

THE BATTALION

Specialist Outlines Many Changes In Current U.S. Farming Picture

By James E. Kirby

Agricultural Extension Service Changing economic conditions has operated for more than four weather as a dominant threat to of production can be used more his economic survival. Many have not survived.

Farmers as a percent of the total U. S. population have been declining for many years, but the since 1939. actual decline in numbers of farmers did not begin until World War II. Since this movement started, there have been revolutionary changes in farm size, in 1950's. land use, and in technological applications.

This revolution in rural America has caused the farmer, who has chosen to remain on the farm, to constantly search for ways to be more economically efficient to stay in business.

One of these ways is to in-

Bill Altman '65 College Master Representative **Fidelity Union Life** 846-8228

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BUSINESS

accomplished either through use the scale is the Appalachian Reunder which the American farmer of improved practices on the same gion where only about 40 percent amount of land or by increasing of the farms operate above this decades have long outranked the the number of acres where factors economic level. profitably on the larger acreage. As a result of these changes, the small farm, under \$5,000 in sales,

> The farm unit selling between \$5,000 and \$10,000 in products increased in the 1940's but declined in number of units in the

It is the farm with gross sales over \$10,000 that has grown percent. These farms now include steadily in number. In this larger economic segment, the family farm is the fastest growing group. Dairying, field crops-except cash grain and cotton—and poultry are the types of farms most numerous in this expanding sector.

farm marketings are from farms with gross sales of more than acres. \$10,000. Most of the Mountain and Pacific states have units as large and Nevada, over 90 percent of

BATTALION

crease production without a sim- units with gross sales greater operated by the owner, 35 percent

The total number of farm units in the nation declined from 5.8 million in 1939 to about 3.4 million in 1964. Of this 2.4 million has decreased steadily in numbers decrease in actual numbers, 95 percent were in farms producing less than \$2,500 in gross sales.

The number of farms with gross sales of \$10,000 or more increased 159 percent from 1949 to 1959, but their average marketings per farm increased only 20 56 percent of all land in farms, compared with 40 percent in 1949.

Beacause many farm units have increased their economic size without increasing their acreage, the average size of farms with sales more than \$10,000 has de-In Texas, 79 percent of all creased. In 1949 the average size was 963 acres, in 1959 it was 795

The increase in the size of economic farm units has not sigor larger. In California, Arizona nificantly altered the proportion of land tenure operators. About the farm marketings are from 55 percent of farm land is still

ilar increase in costs. This is than \$10,000. The other end of by renters, and 10 percent by paid managers.

2 A&M Profs **Tropics Bound**

More information about tropical rainfall patterns is the goal of two Texas A&M faculty members who leave Thursday for Central and South America.

Assistant Professor Walter K. Henry and Instructor Glenn Cobb fourth trip southward to gather data. The Army Signal Corps sponsors the research. The A&M researchers will con-

tact ranchers, farmers, lumber companies, governmental agencies and anyone else with rainfall records.

This is the first year for the project to include Venezuela, the Guianas and Brazil. Last year the researchers visited Colombia and the west coast of South America.

The gathering of tropical rainfall data is preliminary to efforts to understand the patterns.

OFFICIAL NOTICE

THE GRADUATE COLLEGE

ARTIST'S SKETCH OF A&M CYCLOTRON ... construction is underway on the \$6 million project.

Sall

Assistant Professor Walter K. Henry and Instructor Glenn Cobb will spend three weeks on their fourth trip southward to grather Now Well Underway

By Steven Wilkes

According to Whitney McFarlin, acting chief engineer for the it would have a tendency to di-Cyclotron Institute, Texas A&M will soon have "one of the largest cyclotrons of its kind in the world."

Construction of the cyclotron began this summer. It will occupy alpha particles to 130 MeV. a 10-acre site at the corner of Spence Street and Farm Road 60 on the main campus.

Expected to be completed in mid-1967, it will be comparable to construction of the cyclotron the 88-inch cyclotron at the Lawrence Radiation Laboratories in Berkeley Calif.

Basically, a cyclotron is a device for accelerating various nuclear particles to energies which building and laboratories. will enable these particles to penetrate the nucleii of atoms.

The cyclotron being built here first unit, which consists of a is known as a "spiral ridge" type. The ridges focus the beam of charged particles during acceleration and allow an increasing magnetic field within the radius of The second part is known as the

the magnet to be utilized. Other- "high bay" area and will how wise if the beam was not focused, verge and become useless. The cyclotron will be capable of

\$6 million has been provided

for the building and the cyclotron

proper. The Atomic Energy Com-

mission is granting \$3 million for

proper; the Robert A. Welch

Foundation is donating \$1 million

for the ion-optics system and sup-

port equipment; Texas A&M will

contribute \$2 million for the

45,000 square feet. Nearness to the physics a chemistry departments was a facaccelerating protons to energies tor in selecting the building site of 55 million electron volts (Me-V), deuterons to 65 MeV and

the cyclotron proper. The con

bined area will be approximate

MI ITERA

It will also be convenient to the Data Processing Center since hookup between the computer and the cyclotron is anticipated.

Dr. A. D. Suttle, Jr., vice-pre ident for research at Texas A&M, is the project manager for t Cyclotron Institute. Directly under him are three main departmen (1) Science and Research Pr gram headed by Dr. J. A. M Intire, (2) Administration a Support directed by Dr. D. A Clark and (3) Engineering, Co

The building itself will be distruction and operations which i vided into two main sections. The under the supervision of Mo Farlin. basement, sub-basement and first McFarlin said the cyclotr story, will be used for offices, would be used primarily for m laboratories, engineering, control, clear research, chemistry, activa counting areas and machine shops. tion analysis, radiation biolo

and engineering sciences.

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