

Finance Forum To Meet Tonight At Holiday Inn

Dr. Jack W. Coleman, head of the Accounting Department and acting head of the Finance Department, and James G. Mitchell, assistant professor of finance, will be speakers at the Family Finance Forum tonight.

The forum, sponsored by the City National Bank of Bryan, begins at 7:30 p.m. at the Holiday Inn.

Coleman will speak on "Personal Money Management," while Mitchell's topic concerns investment planning. Mitchell was a stockbroker before joining the A&M faculty.

Filing Announced Town Hall Soph

The Student Programs Office has begun issuing application forms to sophomores interested in joining the Town Hall Staff for next year, according to Robert F. Gonzales, Town Hall Committee chairman for 1967-68.

The forms, which will be available until 5 p.m. April 5, must be completed and returned to one of the secretaries in the office, Gonzales explained.



DISASTER SCENE, 30 YEARS LATER

A monument to the 294 children and teachers killed in an explosion March 18, 1937 stands in front of the New London School in East Texas. A spark from a switch detonated accumulated natural gas that levelled the building called "The Richest School in the World" because of the seven oil wells pumping on the campus. The people of New London rarely talk about the tragedy anymore but the towering cenotaph at the rebuilt school is a memorial to those who died. (AP Wirephoto)

LSU Scientist Uses Radar, Telescopes To Track Birds

The moon, astronomical telescopes and radar have been used by an LSU scientist to refute the theory that migrating birds fly around the Gulf of Mexico, rather than go straight over it.

Dr. George H. Lowery Jr. presented his trans-Gulf study at the Texas Academy of Sciences-Texas Ornithological Society meeting here this past weekend.

His findings, reported in "Recent Studies of the Nocturnal Migration of Birds in the Region of the Gulf of Mexico" differed from conclusions drawn by Dr. George Williams of Rice University.

In a 1945 paper, "Do Birds Cross the Gulf of Mexico in the Spring?", Dr. Williams theorized that birds migrating from Mexico and Central America take a coastwise route or skirt the Gulf by following a path from the Yucatan Peninsula to Cuba, the Keys and Florida.

Dr. Lowery's TOS lecture presented visual proof migrant birds take the direct route. The bulk of evidence was compiled through observations made of the moon through low-power telescopes.

"Through a telescope trained on the moon, birds were counted as they crossed the lunar disk," the past president of the American Ornithological Union noted.

"A mathematical formula was worked out to estimate the number of birds crossing a mile-long line through the observing site. Observers looked only at a sliver of space."

"A cross section of a cone of sight from the moon to an observer covers only 27 square feet of space at 3,000 feet altitude," he pointed out.

Not only does the observational technique provide an index of the total number of fowl passing overhead, the zoology professor added, but by orienting the face of a clock on the moon, observers described the direction of flight.

"In Jules Verne vernacular, we have well over 20,000 hours under the moon," he commented.

Feldtman Is New Prexy TAS Branch

Bob Feldtman of Pan American College at Edinburg is the new president of the Collegiate Academy, a branch of the Texas Academy of Science.

Feldtman, who succeeds Pat Davis of St. Edward's University in Austin, was elected during the 70th annual meeting of the Texas Academy of Science at Texas A&M University.

Stations set up in Yucatan, Commerce, Tex., Baton Rouge, St. George Island in Maryland and numerous other locations proved the technique. A station at Commerce counted 1,690 actual sightings in seven hours. The projected figure revealed 246,800 birds passed over a line one-half mile either side of the station at right angles to the flight path.

He said average vectors of Yucatan stations worked in 1963 were 323, 316 and 315 degrees, projecting bird flights in a north-westward direction across the Gulf of Mexico.

A 1952 project set up 265 observing stations all over the U. S. and three Canada provinces to chart bird migration.

Dr. Lowery, director of the Museum of Natural Science in Baton Rouge, also showed radar time-lapse motion pictures made at a weather radar station south of Lake Charles, La.

The unedited eight-minute film of several days' radar tracking showed birds arriving from almost due south of Cameron, La., a Gulf Coast city. The line-of-sight radar beams at 200 miles range rose above bird flight levels, due to curvature of the earth.

Nuclear Energy Discussed By Tuck

Nuclear energy as a power source for the future was discussed by a noted physicist Friday in an address at Texas A&M.

James L. Tuck, chief physicist of the Sherwood Project at the Los Alamos, N. M., Scientific Laboratory, spoke to the Texas Academy of Science and other groups meeting concurrently.

Tuck said the increasing population of the world will eventually bring about depletion of conventional fossil sources of energy. He referred to coal, oil and gas as main sources of fossil energy.

Two possible nuclear sources of energy to take care of man's future needs were noted by Tuck. These include fission of the heaviest atoms—like uranium, and fusion of some of the lightest atoms—such as heavy hydrogen, lithium and beryllium.

The former, he pointed out, is already in being and fission power plants are in the process of taking over the task of driving power stations throughout the world.

Tuck was quick to explain that the fusion power source from the light elements is not yet an accomplished fact. Accomplishment

of this, he emphasized, has been described as one of the most difficult problems of modern technical physics.

Advantage of the fusion source over fission nuclear energy, Tuck commented, is that it does not produce the dangerous fission products which are so harmful to life.

Tuck said the dangers are exaggerated at present. If fission becomes a major source of power for the world, it could be a major hazard to life, he added.

Fusion power, being probed in the United States as "Project Sherwood," is still a long way off, Tuck explained. He said fusion power is being widely studied throughout the world, with Russia, Germany, England, France, Japan, Italy and Sweden among countries conducting research.

The distant glimmer of hope for fusion power first appeared in 1957 at Los Alamos, according to Tuck. It became public knowledge in 1958, when for the first time, a controlled thermo-

nuclear reaction was achieved in the laboratory. Prior to that time, the only known thermo-nuclear reaction was that in the uncontrolled hydrogen bomb.

Some progress has been made since that time, he said. Measured in physicists terms of estimating success, the thermo-nuclear reaction in the Syllit machine at Los Alamos is within a factor of 500 of success.

Tuck said President Johnson's supplemental budget now before congress includes the only thermo-nuclear device mentioned by name . . . the next generation device in the Syllit line. The proposal calls for \$8.5 million for the Scyllac, which will take up to four years to build.

Hopes are high, Tuck remarked, that the machine will bring the U. S. closer to thermo-nuclear power.

Dr. Newman A. Hall, executive director of the Commission on Engineering Education, is to address a combined academy banquet at 7:30 p.m. Friday at Sbsa Hall.

The Texas Ornithological Society opened a three-day session Friday morning with a talk by Dr. George H. Lowery Jr. of Louisiana State University.

Half-day field trips conducted by the Brazos County Ornithological Society are scheduled Saturday and Sunday. The society will hear an address by Dr. Keith Arnold, A&M ornithology professor, at 2 p.m. Saturday in Scopes Hall.

Other activities of the TOS include a dinner Saturday night at the Ramada Inn, a board meeting and general business session Sunday morning at the A&M Memorial Student Center.

Also meeting jointly with the TAS are the Texas Branch of the Animal Care Panel, and the Texas Society for Electron Microscopy.

One of Friday's featured papers of the Animal Care Panel was by William Greer of the Delta Regional Primate Center, Covington, La. He discussed the selection of primate species for research programs.

Purdue Professor To Give Lecture

Dr. Durward L. Allen, wildlife ecology professor in Purdue University's Forestry and Conservation Department, will give a Graduate College lecture here today.

"Moose-Wolf Ecology on Isle Royale" is the topic for his 3:30 p.m. talk in the Biological Sciences lecture room.

Dr. Wayne C. Hall, A&M's academic vice president, said Dr. Allen is known internationally for work in population ecology of game animals.

Dr. Allen is a member of numerous boards and committees devoted to conservation and management of the nation's natural resources. Since 1958, Allen has done research dealing with predation.

A native of Indiana, Dr. Allen earned his Ph.D. in vertebrate ecology at Michigan State University. His undergraduate training was at the University of Michigan.

Journalism Prof Publishes Survey

Dr. David R. Bowers, associate professor of journalism at Texas A&M, is the author of an article in the spring issue of the "Journalism Quarterly."

The article, "A Report on Activity by Publishers in Directing Newsroom Decisions," is the result of a survey of 600 managing editors of evening daily newspapers in the United States.

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April

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