

Fingerprints' Place In History Explained By Police Instructor

Fingerprints as an identification science is relatively new, although tattooing was apparently used among uncivilized tribes of long ago as a means of identification.

"Tribesmen used various designs and figures which to them carried different meanings," police instructor Arthur C. Butler told police officers attending A&M's first Fingerprint Science School.

The three-week school is sponsored by the Texas Engineering Extension Service's Police Training Division in cooperation with the Industrial Education Section, Texas Education Agency.

"Designs would show several things," Butler said, "including the respective tribe, clan, or caste to which they belonged."

He added designs indicated if a person had a certain disease, was a warrior, champion or tribal chief.

"And, of course, it was often a brand for criminals," he emphasized.

Butler, a former assistant police chief, pointed out fingerprints were used by the Chinese over 1,000 years ago, but their identification value was unknown.

He said the Chinese used fingerprints to show they had signed "certain official papers and documents," and noted they were used on a "commercial basis."

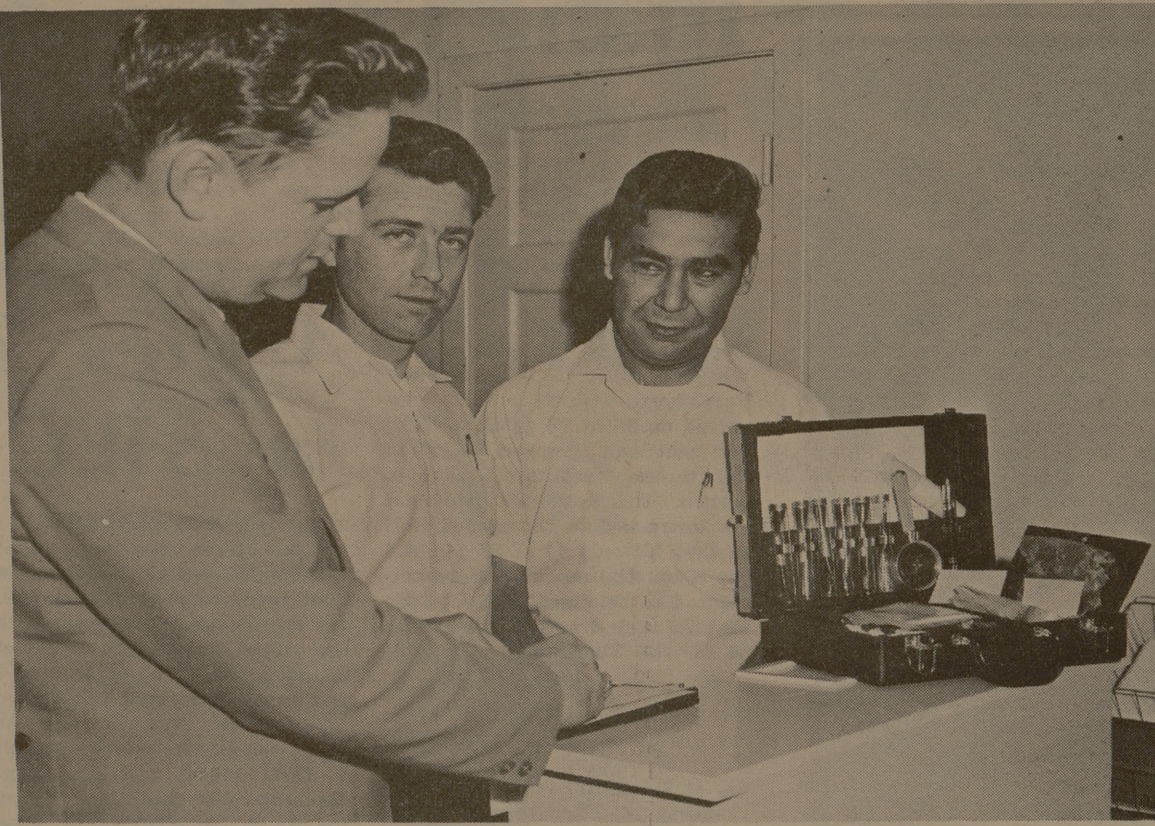
Others to make early use of fingerprints were the Egyptians, Greeks, and Romans, although there are "no authenticated record" of their use, he said.

The first known attempt at a system was about 1823 when Physiologist J. E. Pukinze of the University of Breslau named patterns.

"His ideas were too revolutionary for the times, however, and were not adopted," said Butler.

Sir William Herschel made another attempt 35 years later when he took impressions of the natives who entered into contracts with the British Government. He, too, failed to convince officials of their value.

Others, including Sir Francis Galton, an Englishman, and Frecman Alphonse M. Bertillon, made "great strides in the art of fingerprinting" and the first published work appeared in 1880.



FINGERPRINTS MADE EASY
Police instructor Art Butler (left) gives a practical demonstration in taking fingerprints during the fingerprint school. Two of the officers attending the three-week school are Patrolman Donnie Carlisle (center), Texas City Police Department, and Deputy Sheriff Joe R. Pena of Port Lavaca. Students will attend classes in physiology as well as locating, developing and comparing fingerprints.

Wets, Drys Clash In Annual Debate

AUSTIN (AP) — "Wets" portrayed liquor by the drink issue Tuesday night as one of popular choice; "drys" raised the specter of increased alcoholism, crime and traffic deaths.

The two sides collided in what has become virtually an annual performance before legislative committees.

This time the battle was before the House Constitutional Amendments Committee, which heard a proposal to wipe out the Texas Constitution's ban on the "open saloon" and allow the legislature to pass a local option mixed drink law.

After an hour and 45 minutes of testimony, the bill was referred automatically to a subcommittee with a "wet" majority.

"I imagine the subcommittee will report back next Tuesday, just as a guess," said committee chairman John Traeger.

"We feel this issue is not one of a wet-dry issue... It's one of permitting the people to exercise the most basic form of our self-government — the form of self-determination," said Rep. C. A. Davis, Houston, one of the measure's sponsors.

As a proposed constitutional change, the measure would not go into effect unless two-thirds of the House and Senate and a majority of the state's voters approve.

Davis said the date to submit the measure to an election would be worked out in subcommittee.

"Texas is one of eight states out of 50 states that still have a denial of legal sale of mixed alcoholic beverages... The majority of states are adopting more realistic liquor laws," Davis said.

The measure's proponents finished their presentation in 13 minutes.

Don Cates, a Dallas lawyer who said he was "joining with the so-called drys, I suppose," said Texas now ranks 41st in per capita liquor consumption, 32nd in deaths from cirrhosis of the liver, 34th in alcoholism and 49th in number of liquor outlets.

Ag Finance Talk Set For Monday

Dr. John A. Hopkin of the University of Illinois will discuss "The Finance Function in Agricultural Growth" at a graduate lecture at 3:30 p.m. Monday in the library conference room.

Dr. Hopkin joined the agricultural economics staff at Illinois in 1967 after 12 years with the Bank of America in San Francisco. He served the last three years as vice president in charge of the bank's lending program to farmers. He previously was associated with the Agricultural economics staff at the University of Wyoming.

A native of Wyoming, Dr. Hopkin received his B.S. and M.S. degrees from the University of Wyoming and Ph.D. from Iowa State. He later studied at the Graduate School of Credit and Financial Management at Dartmouth College.

Computer Wives Meet Thursday

The Computer Science Wives' Club will meet at 7:30 p.m., Thursday at the Bi-City Hobby Shop, 1001 S. Texas, according to Mrs. Daniel J. Wagner, publicity chairman.

A business meeting and refreshments will follow at Bryan Building and Loan, 2800 Texas Ave.

The club is open to wives of students studying Computer Science at A&M. Those who need transportation may contact Mrs. Gene Freid at 846-2350, Mrs. Wagner added.

Chili Factory Refugees Become Scientific Tool

Spanish goats, sometimes called refugees from the chili factory, make far more significant strides in science than they ever could as a main dish served with crackers and salad.

The relatively high intelligence of this particular breed of goat, plus his natural stamina, learning capacity and agility, has made him of prime interest to radiobiologist Dr. Sidney O. Brown.

During the past seven years, many of these goats have been assembled for tests to determine the effects of radiation on them, Brown said.

"We have studied acute and continuous exposure to radiation on them through the facilities of the Nuclear Science Center," Brown explained.

"ONE EXPERIMENT has been to test the effect of radiation on the life span and continued performance of the Spanish goat," he noted.

Brown said research has determined that goats given relatively large doses of radiation are able to reproduce, particularly when the does does not exceed 10 Roentgen per day.

"Extensive studies have shown that while the blood cells decrease, they are not incompatible with life for an extended period of time," said Brown.

He pointed out some of the goats are still alive, although they have received five Roentgen per day over the past five years.

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Final Examination for the Doctoral Degree Name: El Hag, Hassan Eltayeb Degree: Ph.D. in Agricultural Engineering Dissertation: MECHANICAL AND PHYSICAL PROPERTIES OF COTTON (GOSSYPIUM HIRSUTUM) STALKS. Time: February 14, 1969 art 2 p. m. Place: Room 317 D of Agricultural Engineering Building. George W. Kunze Dean of Graduate Studies

"SPRING AWARD SCHOLARSHIPS"

Application forms for Spring Awards Scholarships may be obtained from the Student Financial Aid Office, Room 302, YMCA Building during the period February 17th - March 31, 1969. All applications must be filed with the Student Financial Aid Office by not later than 5:30 p. m. April 1, 1969. Late applications will not be accepted. 65226

Applications for degrees are now being accepted in the Registrar's Office from all undergraduates who expect to complete their degree requirements by May, 1969. Candidates for advanced degrees must file their applications with the Graduate Dean's Office. The deadline date for filing applications is February 21, 1969. H. L. Heaton, Dean of Admissions and Records 65229

It is now time for all Departmental and Professional Clubs, Hometown and International Clubs, Honor Societies, Sports Clubs, and Service Organizations, who did not apply for recognition the first semester, to file a list of their officers with the Student Finance Center, MSC. Deadline Feb. 15, 1969.

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