# Engineering Extension Service trains convicts as electric linemen

the training conducted by t of Corrections.

extension Service instructors ators during three summers

envict rehabilitation takes praise from TDC Vocational Edu- of on-the-job training into a six-

W's Engineering Extension has started to train electric line- in two six-month courses, he said. ice for the Texas Depart- men for mobile maintenance crews.

Telephone Technician Training 23 water utility personnel Division of EES pointed out the summer, both receiving high lineman course packs three years Clemens Unit near Brazoria.

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v forms, yet few programs cation Director Robert Gilliam. month period. Two TDC guards Now a new one-year program and 26 inmates will be trained

The guards, David Goodbread of Angleton and William A. Ur-Instructor Donald R. Blanken- ban of West Columbia, will come trained 60 heavy equipment ship of the Electric Lineman and plete the course twice for assignments as TDC instructors. Both are on leave from the

All the inmates are state approved trustees from units throughout the system. More than 500 inmates were screened for the 26-man class, Officer Huntsville each evening.

Inmate skills range from no experience to a journeyman electrician. Each was tested and screened for attitudes, Goodbread said, and individual records weighed heavily in the selection process.

Approximately two-thirds of the instruction will be held at the A&M Research Annex, the former Bryan Air Force Base 12 miles from the main campus. Inmates are bused to the school each morning and return to

on-the-job training building pownear Huntsville.

Blankenship said TDC purchases power from public utilities. The prison system owns all the materials on its property.

Students completing the lineman course will be responsible for construction and maintenance of the TDC lines.

Blankenship, who has 24 years experience in the field, reported commercial electric power com-

linemen. Since most of the ining before release, Blankenship marketable skill when they return to the free world."

The course includes both classroom and practical experience.

One-third of the program is panies have a demand for skilled When completed, the men will be trained in stringing wire, er line systems at the Ellis Unit mate class has two years remain- transfer connections and overcurrent and over-voltage protecstressed "the men will have a tion techniques, Blankenship said. Cost of the program is \$750 per student, plus books, tools and transportation costs absorbed by



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## Jury set in John Dowdy trial

BALTIMORE (4P)-Jury selec- session "the most flagrant viola- who contended it was "terribly the bribery trial of Rep. John Dowdy, D-Tex., after a government prosecutor charged the 59year-old congressman with violating a court order against pretrial publicity.

Stephen H. Sachs, former U.S. attorney prosecuting the case, termed Dowdy's out of court statements at Monday's opening

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tion was completed Tuesday in tion" of a rule set by Roszel C. important" to determine whether Thomasen, the U.S. District Court judge hearing the case.

> accepting \$25,000 to influence a prospective jurors and told them Justice Department's probe of a that anything they may have now defunct Washington, D.C., seen in the headlines or heard area home repair firm, told a tele- elsewhere was not evidence. vision reporter he was framed by the government.

The 59-year-old veteran of almost 20 years in the House said he knew "the things charged didn't happen" and that he could prove that in court.

After the allegation by Sachs, Whiteley inducted

to hall of fame Dr. Eli Whiteley of A&M has Hall of Fame at Fort Benning,

Selection for the Army honor is generally limited to Fort Benning officer candidate school graduates who have earned the Congressional Medal of Honor.

Whiteley, associate professor of agronomy at A&M, won his award in a battle with German SS troops for the fortress city of Sigolsheim, France, Dec. 26, 1944. He was one of six former A&M students awarded the Medal of Honor during World War II.

BEST RESULTS BATTALION CLASSIFIED

prospective jurors had seen press accounts of Dowdy's charges, Dowdy, who is charged with Judge Thomasen summoned all

"Not only is it not evidence," the judge told them, "it is not argument you are justified in

July selection was then completed with a panel of nine women and three men being chosen to decide on the conspiracy, bribery, and perjury charges against Dowdy.

The charges stem from an alleged transfer of \$25,000 to Dowbeen inducted into the Infantry dy from Myrvin C. Clark, a sales manager of the Monarch Construction Corp. in an Atlanta airport Sept. 22, 1965. Clark pleaded guilty to his part of the scheme and has agreed to testify for the government.

Dowdy is also charged with lying on five occasions to a special grand jury investigating the case.

Last April Judge Thomasen released evidence showing Nathan H. Cohen, then president of Monarch, recorded conversations with Dowdy for the FBI.

The trial, which has been delayed six times due to the congressman's legal maneuvers and ill health, is expected to last six

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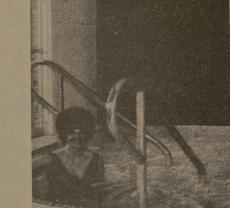
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