



A&M'S NEW YELL LEADERS are shown in front of the statue of Lawrence Sullivan Ross. The group, elected by the student body to serve during the 1972-73 school year, consists of, left to right, Griff Lasley of Stratford, John

McNevin of Angleton, C. H. Long of Raton, N. M., Hank Paine of LaGrange and Bob Sykes of Eldorado. Long, who is the head yell leader, McNevin and Paine are seniors, and Lasley and Sykes are juniors.

Freeze saved U.S. economy, Pitcock says

President Nixon's wage-price freeze has saved the country economically and given the heavy construction industry a short breathing spell to solve its manpower problems, a Houston contractor declared at an A&M seminar Friday.

James D. Pitcock Jr., president of Williams Brothers Construction Co., Inc., challenged 32 top executives from construction companies across the state to get involved in manpower management to guarantee survival for the industry.

"We are not making the maximum profit out of our business until we have solved our manpower problems," Pitcock said at the seminar sponsored by TAMU's Civil Engineering Department, Texas Transportation Institute and the Texas Highway-Heavy Branch of the Associated General Contractors.

He contended manpower problems have reached a "crisis stage."

Pitcock said they include lack of skilled labor, decreased productivity, escalating wages, absenteeism, high turnover, higher accident rates, loss of management's right to manage, lack of workmanship pride, government improvement, low morale in the industry and lack of dignity in

construction work as an occupation.

"This problem of skilled labor, or the imbalance of supply and demand for skilled labor, is the basic cause of all other manpower problems," Pitcock reported.

He said the high demand for skilled labor has led workers to take advantage of that demand. Pitcock noted a recent trade journal article showed a Chicago brick mason laid 600 bricks a day in 1928, whereas today two masons are required for the same work and together they lay only 100 bricks a day.

"So if we consider his productivity as 100 per cent in 1928, his productivity today would be a little over eight per cent," Pitcock related.

Escalating wages and decreased productivity, he said, resulted during 1968-69 in a 40 per cent increase in wages, 50 per cent decrease in productivity, or an increase in cost of 280 per cent.

Pitcock told the contractors wage increases were about 20 per cent in 1970 and were going even higher when the freeze was announced.

Absenteeism, or what Pitcock called the "Monday syndrome," has become so bad that supervisors have no idea what kind of

a work force they can plan on working any day, particularly Monday.

The major cause of accidents, he alleged, was a combination of high turnover, absenteeism, unrest and low morale.

He said the lack of skilled workers has been affected by the labor union control over the relative - friend apprenticeship programs and the movement of people with hard-work agricultural backgrounds to the city.

Pitcock claimed unions "have been allowed to keep an artificial deficiency of supply and create an excess of demand, just through closing the doors to entrance into the trades."

He observed the heavy construction industry has neglected solutions to manpower problems for years, but now they must be solved in a hurry.

Pitcock said something has to be done within the industry because the enemies of the free enterprise system want "complete redistribution of wealth, destruction of entrepreneurial wealth and consequent destruction of the capitalistic system."

The conference was built around two workshop sessions where the executives discussed problems and solutions in a roundtable format.

Former chancellor

Gilchrist services held here

Funeral services for Gibb Gilchrist, chancellor emeritus of the Texas A&M University System and former state highway engineer, were held here Monday.

He died Friday in a Bryan hospital after a long illness.

The Rev. James A. Brannen officiated at services in the A&M United Methodist Church. Burial followed in the College Station cemetery.

Survivors are his wife, Vesta, of College Station; a son, Henry,

of Dallas; grandson, Thomas Gibb, and granddaughter, Terri.

Gilchrist, 84, was president of A&M from 1944 until 1948, when he was named chancellor of the A&M system. He retired in the position in 1953. His home was near the TAMU campus where he visited frequently in consultant capacity.

Gilchrist joined the Texas Highway Department in 1919 and was named state highway engi-

neer in 1924. After three years he went into private business but returned in 1927 to the highway department's top administrative post. In 1937, he joined the A&M faculty as dean of engineering.

A native of Wills Point, Gilchrist attended Southwestern University at Georgetown a year before entering the University of Texas. He received a civil engineering degree in 1909.

Simultaneous articles in the UT

and TAMU alumni magazines last fall cited Gilchrist's dedication as "one of the most distinguished professional engineering careers in the nation."

He was active in masonry and was grandmaster of the Masonic Lodge of Texas in 1951.

Pallbearers were Frank Anderson, Fred Benson, Bob Chenoweth, Leslie Hawkins, W. L. Penberthy and Wayne Stark.

More rainfall is expected in next month

Drought-busting rain that began in late April is expected to continue into June.

The 30-day outlook issued by the U. S. Weather Service for mid-May to mid-June includes above normal rainfall of more than five inches and below normal temperatures.

April precipitation totals by observers in an A&M meteorology research project do not reflect the current wet spell. They averaged 3.52 inches. Most of it came during the last four days of April, according to Dr. Robert A. Clark, meteorology research project director.

Totals for the first half of May range from five to seven inches. Jim Lightfoot, Meteorology Department meteorologist, said the May total at Bizzell Hall stands near six inches. He lives at Millican and has measured over seven inches there. An observed near Finfeather Lake has gauged more than five so far this month.

Gauges located across the Carter's Creek catchment area had April measurements ranging from .94 inch in the 900 block of Gordon in Bryan to 3.88 inches near Wellborn.

Observers in the East Yegua Creek basin west of Caldwell, where another project is under way, averaged 2.23 inches last month.

University National Bank
"On the side of Texas A&M."
—Adv.

A&M-designed shelter shows strength of paper

Instant shelter that pops into the air with Houdini swiftness has been designed by A&M students in architecture and environmental design.

Suggested by Origami paper-folding, the shelter is seen by its designers, Andy Beck of East Meadow, N. Y., and Elsworth Watts of Galena Park, as a competitor with family-size tents for camping.

Beck and Watts have demonstrated a full-scale 30-foot wide prototype that seated 32 for a meal. Constructed of laminated, corrugated cardboard, it disassembles into four 12 by 18-foot sections for transport on a car roof-rack.

"We're still developing the idea," explained Beck, a senior environmental design major. "We are working on a patent and funds for research. Some firms have claimed interest in it."

They hope to market the shelter for camping and recreational purposes and smaller versions as toys. A quarter-size model has served as a doghouse.

Beck and Watts began studying the construction in a senior environmental design course instructed by Rodney Hill. The idea originated in a civil engineering materials course of Dr. Dale Webb.

He opened class one day by demonstrating paper forms derived from the ancient Japanese art of paper folding, Origami. Webb's daughter showed him the folds.

A basic fold led to the star-shaped shelter that Beck and Watts also built in quarter, two-fifths and half-size models. Twenty-one 7 by 15-foot sheets of cardboard supplied by Container Corp. of America went into the full size shelter.

They fabricated it during the first two weeks of April. It has been demonstrated at the Oklahoma State instant city at Stillwater April 20-24, as the central display at the national American Institute of Architects convention and in San Antonio last weekend.

Beck plans to take it to "Whiz-Bang Quick City II" at Woodstock, N. Y., May 26-June 9.

"It has been set up by people

A&M chemists given NSF grants

A&M chemists Dr. Ralph A. Zingaro and Dr. Edward A. Meyers have been awarded an additional \$10,000 National Science Foundation grant for research in the elements selenium and tellurium.

Study of the two lesser known elements was first funded in February of 1971 with a \$58,900 NSF award.

A&M's Chemistry Department has researched chemical elements for the past 16 years.

One part of this study is an attempt to find oxygen-carrying selenium compounds.

who never saw it before," he said. Beck noted that the only hardware is "16 bolts to make it rigid and, though tiedown is unnecessary, nine tent stakes and 30 feet of rope."

Two or three persons can walk the four sections together in less than 10 minutes.

The prototype withstood two straight days of rain, thunderstorms, hail, 90-degree heat and people. Designed for a four or five-member family, the shelter will sleep 17 and has about 80 square feet standing headroom for an average size individual.

"It will set up almost anywhere, on a hillside or flat ground," claimed Beck. "When ditched like a tent, it turns aside running water."

The design is virtually impervious to high winds, Webb pointed out. Wind presses the shelter tighter against the ground. Origami folds give the Beck-Watts shelter its strength. One of the small-scale models supported Webb's 200 pounds.

"Paper has high strength qualities," the materials specialist noted. "In the usual geometry, paper just appears flimsy." He said students tested load-bearing characteristics of an 8 1/2 by 11-inch sheet rolled into a cylinder. With a plaster-molded base, it took 100 pounds.

Unfolded, the scale models with tape hinges lie flat on the ground like a square of paper. One simple movement erects the shelter.

Four Aggies to participate in summer travel program

Four A&M students will travel in Europe this summer through the Experiment in International Living (EIL), a program supported by the Memorial Student Center Travel Committee.

Independent travel and foreign study arrangements are also being made by the committee for four or five other students.

The Experiment, which enhances intercultural understanding by locating students as members of families in several countries, will this year have TAMU students in Russia, Switzerland, Germany and Spain.

Gregory M. Eastin, senior political science major of Fort Worth, will be in the USSR. He transferred to A&M from Tarrant County Junior College.

Deborah J. Fisher of College Station will go to Switzerland. She will be a senior next fall in modern languages and is the daughter of Rev. and Mrs. H. Bruce Fisher, 1100 Dominik Dr. Spain and Germany are the

goals, respectively, of freshmen Charles D. Rankin Jr., political science major of McAllen, and Steven J. Eberhard, math major of New Braunfels. A President's Scholar, Eberhard is in Company F-2 in the Corps of Cadets.

Eastin, Fisher and Rankin plan their travel through loan assistance from the Travel Committee.

Four students including the Brown Foundation-Earl Rudder Award winner, Kirk Hawkins of San Angelo, are planning independent travel in Europe. Hawkins was an Experimenter to Yugoslavia last summer and hopes to re-visit his "family" there, if visas can be arranged.

In the group also will be 1972-73 seniors in civil engineering, John Landgraf of Silsbee and Fletcher Kelly, Sinton. A political science major, president of next year's senior class and yell leader, Henry C. (Hank) Paine of La Grange also will make the trip.

Kelly will be Company F-1 commander and Landgraf First Brigade operations officer. Landgraf and Hawkins worked together on the Town Hall committee this year.

Travel Committee chairman Jim Summers assisted in arrangements.

Banquet crowd honors Timm for service

Nearly 400 persons packed the Memorial Student Center Ballroom recently to honor a man who has become a widely recognized leader in agricultural economics.

He was Dr. Tyrus R. Timm, who has headed the A&M Agricultural Economics and Rural Sociology Department for the past 19 years.

The economist has asked to return to full time teaching and research. He will continue to serve as department head until a replacement is found.

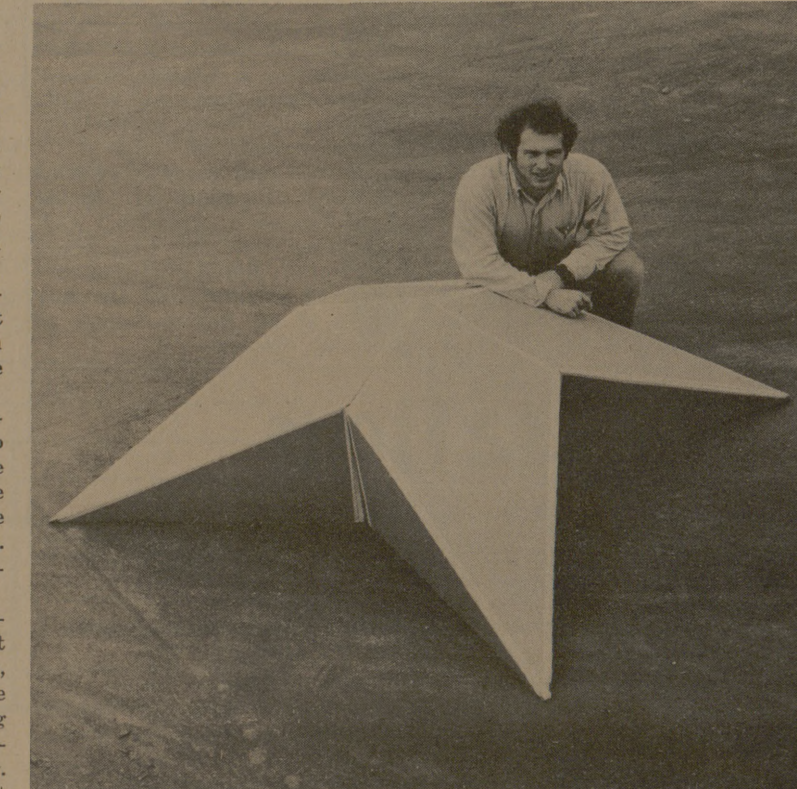
The MSC Ballroom was the scene of an appreciation banquet where Timm was praised for his accomplishments and association with A&M that date back to the early 1930's.

Ceremonies were led by Reagan Brown, sociologist with the Texas Agricultural Extension Service.

A program highlight was presentation of \$2,500 to Timm, which he will use to make a study tour of the European Common Market. He is considered an authority on the European Economic Community, having made four trips there during the 1960's.

Timm was described as a friend, professional, citizen, Extension worker and team member by Dr. A. B. Wooten, director of A&M's Texas Real Estate Research Center; Robert Cherry, assistant to A&M President Jack Williams; Coulter Hoppess, Bryan attorney; Dr. John E. Hutchison, Extension Service director; and Dr. H. O. Kunkel, dean of the A&M College of Agriculture.

The testimonials were rounded out with presentation of the key to the city by College Station Mayor Dick Hervey.



SHOWING A MODEL of a 7 1/2-foot, instant shelter is Andy Beck, an A&M student, who designed the device with Elsworth Watts. Unfolded along tape hinges, it is a square of cardboard. One simple movement erects this version, which has served as a doghouse and supported a 200-pound man.