

China ready for U.S. education

United Press International
With normalization of relations between the United States and mainland China, American colleges and professional schools should get ready for a deluge of requests to admit Chinese students in science and medicine, says a Texas A&M University researcher just returned from the Orient.

"We will see a flood of Chinese students who want us to train them in Western science, technology and medicine," predicted Texas A&M biologist Michael Kemp, a member of a scientific delegation that spent 5 days in China.

He said the People's Republic of China seems ready to begin Western-style scientific research, and the majority of scientists there are older and few others have been trained in the years since the Cultural Revolution first made its influence felt.

Now, the Chinese are intimating visitors such as the 22-member American research delegation that there are real lapses in solving problems because of that training gap.

"They are hungry for what we have in the realm of science, medicine, computer and petroleum research technology," Kemp said.

The Texas A&M scientist, who went to evaluate Chinese abilities to research and combat snail fever (schistosomiasis), came back im-

pressed with progress made in that field.

The Chinese are using varied methods of control from chemotherapy to massive snail kills involving thousands of people.

The rest of the team, half of whom were physicians, were also impressed with conditions in that country, Kemp added.

Viral infections such as encephalitis and parasitic problems from drug-resistant malaria seem to be supplanting snail fever as the major item of health concern in China, he indicated.

The Americans' tour included a visit with U.S. Liaison Chief Leonard Woodcock and American military and economic advisers attached to the liaison office in Peking.

Besides inspecting science and medical labs and facilities, the delegation was guided through schools, communes and factories and allowed almost complete freedom to wander about and ask questions.

Kemp said the team was able to see acupuncture surgery and viewed the "barefoot doctor" system of health care which puts most cases in the hands of moderately trained folk curists and paramedics.

Reports from the group will be sent to the American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene for public dissemination.



The majesty of times past

Marble columns form a pathway to discover part of Texas A&M's architectural past. The Administration Building, at the front entrance to the campus, is one of the oldest buildings on

campus, and its ornate columns and balconies contrast the cubic style of some of the more recently built buildings.

Battalion photo by Karen Cornelison

Wasteful workers are given the boot

United Press International
AUSTIN — Agriculture Commissioner Reagan Brown is out to streamline his agency to save money and rid it of wasteful, "playboy" type employees.

At a news conference Tuesday Brown said his reorganizations and cutbacks had saved \$1,046,211 in the past two years. He also claimed to have purged the Agriculture Department of workers who did not meet his specifications.

"We don't play a lot of golf," Brown said. "We wear white shirts and everybody over there works. If a person wants to wear shower shoes he can, but he can't do it and work for me."

"We've cut out six high level administrators who were wandering up and down the halls doing nothing," he said. "The people we have now are working. It's a different ball game; people are working over there now."

Brown also said he had fired three

employees for illegal or unethical actions.

One worker was dismissed for keeping a \$10 licensing fee from a nursery, another whom Brown described as a playboy for running up a \$158 bill for hotels, meals and liquor and charging it on a state credit card, and a third for writing letters to legislators critical of his supervisor.

He said the man dismissed for running up the \$158 bill during an unauthorized trip from Austin to Dallas had been with the department only about six months.

"He was a playboy, and we're getting rid of the playboys in this agency. All agencies should do that," Brown said.

Brown, who took office in March 1977, refused to criticize his predecessor, John C. White, but said he and White had different philosophies on how the department should be operated.

Oldest known printing Rare volumes donated

Texas A&M University got a special holiday gift recently when a rare book collector from Salt Lake City presented the university with a set of volumes that includes two of the oldest examples of printing known to be in existence.

The 85-volume donation to Texas A&M's library includes the world's only volume of "Jun Mun Gyo," a 1439 Korean book that proves moveable metal type was in use at least 16 years before the famed Gutenberg Bible was printed.

The rare book collector, Loran L. Laughlin, also presented library officials with a 1,200-year-old slip of paper that is the world's earliest known piece of printing. Described as a Chinese translation of Buddhist Sanskrit, the diminutive roll of paper is stored in a miniature wooden pagoda and was printed in 770 A.D., he said.

Laughlin, a 1926 Texas A&M graduate and Salt Lake City businessman for the past 22 years, donated a page from a Gutenberg Bible and scores of books printed before the 1500s.

The Lauren L. Laughlin Collec-

tion of Rare Antiquarian Books, as the gift will be known, will be housed in the Special Collections Division of the Sterling C. Evans Library, said Dr. Irene Hoadley, the university's director of libraries. A special display will be arranged for the rarest of the gifts when the top floors of the new library addition open next semester.

"This is perhaps the most significant gift ever to come to the Texas A&M Universities libraries," said the director of the million-volume library system.

Laughlin said he obtained the collection of rare books over a period of four decades and that he thought of his alma mater when trying to decide where to store it permanently.

Ex-senators can afford to pick among jobs

By STEVE GERSTEL
United Press International
WASHINGTON — The last of 20 departing senators will be relinquishing their \$57,500 salaries today, but none of them has to worry about joining the unemployment lines.

As always, the job market is wide open for a former senator and almost all of them can pick and choose from a valanche of offers.

Sen. James Eastland, D-Miss., is going to watch the cotton grow and cattle graze full time.

Sen. James Abourezk, D-S.D., Wendell Anderson, D-S.D., Carl Curtis, R-Neb., Keneaster Hodges, D-Ark., William Scott, R-Va., and probably Floyd Haskell, D-Colo., plan to practice law — most of them in their home states and in Washington.

Haskell is going to get married Feb. 3 to reporter Nina Tottenberg.

Others have not decided what they will do.

Sen. Dick Clark, D-Iowa, is mulling a dozen offers; Sen. Thomas McIntyre, D-N.H., wants to stay in public life; Sen. William Hathaway, D-Maine, has made no announcement; Sen. Edward Brooke, R-Mass., has not announced future plans but will chair the National Low Income Housing Coalition without pay; Sen. Henry Bartlett, R-Okla., is battling cancer.

Hathaway, Clark, and McIntyre may well join the administration.

Hatfield's job is expected to be temporary. He has put in for a vacancy on the federal bench and there also has been speculation he will become dean of the University of Montana's law school.

Many others have settled into their new jobs.

After being a part-time overseer of his Mississippi plantation for 35 years, Sen. James Eastland, D-Miss., is going to watch the cotton grow and cattle graze full time.

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Women playing bigger role in defense

United Press International
WASHINGTON — Women are playing an increasingly important role in the government's effort to fill slots in the all-volunteer Army, and their ranks are expected to double by 1984, the Pentagon says.

A recent Defense Department report said women are now getting better military jobs, but it also showed that many still wind up with traditional work as secretaries, clerks and medical assistants.

It said the number of women in the military has increased three-fold since the draft ended, rising from less than 2 percent of the total in the 1973 fiscal year to nearly 6 percent in 1977.

The study said the number of women is expected to double to nearly 12 percent of all U.S. military

personnel by the 1984 fiscal year and to reach almost 20 percent in the Air Force.

"As the number of women in the military increases, women are beginning to enter, in greater numbers, job fields that have been traditionally held only by men," the report said. "Many of these are in the combat environment."

It said the Army does not assign women to close combat jobs on a regular basis, but allows them to serve in combat-related posts such as operating Hawk missiles, flying Blackhawk helicopters and jumping with airborne units.

The study called for repealing legal restrictions that prevent women from serving in combat-related jobs in the Air Force and Navy. It said Army women have

shown "they are capable of playing an even larger part in national defense."

But the report showed that 46 percent of the enlisted women on active duty in the armed forces served in traditional administrative, clerical, medical and dental jobs in 1977.

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Cold weather freezes blood bank's reserve

United Press International
SAN ANTONIO — Freezing temperatures have prompted the Texas Region Blood Bank to ask citizens to give up something warm — some of their blood — to restore emergency supplies that had to be destroyed.

Director Dr. James Langley Tuesday said the facility's entire reserve of about 120 units had to be thrown out because a circuit switch in the facility's electrical unit froze record low temperatures, and backup generators failed to operate the refrigeration unit.

The temperature in San Antonio Tuesday plunged to 15, lowest on record for a Jan. 2.

Langley said each of the 55 hospitals in a 35-county region relying on the blood bank should have a supply of blood on hand, "but when that's gone there will be a serious problem because their backup — that's us — does not have a supply of blood."

He said local military blood banks were expected to donate some blood to help build up the civilian bank's reserves and the bank asked for emergency donations. He said the bank would stay open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. throughout the week to accept donations.

"We've asked other blood banks to help us, but they have the same holiday shortage problem we anticipated," Langley said. "We might be able to get one or two units from them, but not nearly enough to build up the reserves we need."

He said the blood bank needed to collect at least 300 units of blood to build up backup reserves before hospital supplies reached the critical level.

Tuesday's 15-degree reading broke the previous Jan. 2 record of 17 established in 1928. A slow warming trend was expected today.

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