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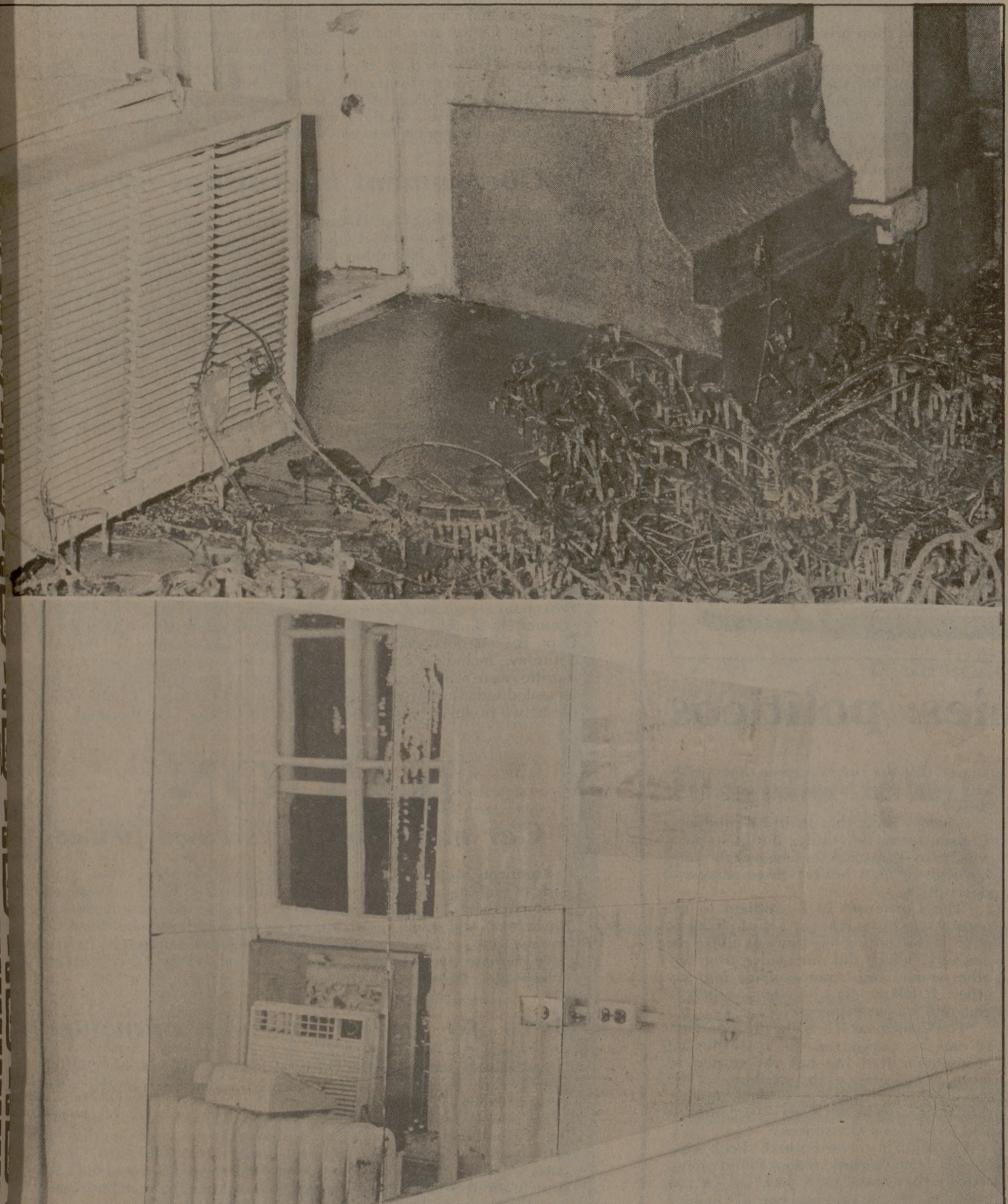
'HELD-up' by schedule?

Having a hard time figuring out what those building abbreviations on your class schedule stand for? A quick phone call will solve your problem.

The student locator has a list of the abbreviations and the build-

ings they represent. The on-campus number for the student locator is 7, but dial 845-4741 off-campus.

Also, the office of Admissions and Records, at 845-1031, can help.



Bad night in Goodwin Hall

Water spewing from a broken hot water line flooded three floors of Goodwin Hall Sunday night. The building, one of the oldest on the Texas A&M University campus, sustained water damage in most offices on the building's north end. A similar broken water line had flooded the south end of the building

two weeks ago. Parks & Recreation Department students and professors, whose offices were flooded by the water, worked from 6 p.m. until 9 p.m. mopping up the water and surveying the damage. University maintenance officials had not determined a cause for the broken line last night.

Battalion photos by Lee Roy Leschper Jr.

She says she's still alive

Computer 'kills' woman, checks

United Press International
BURLINGTON, Iowa — Christena Smith returned to life this week, several months after a Medicare computer "killed" her and refused to change its mind.

"It feels pretty good to be alive again," said the 79-year-old woman, who finally received a check Thursday to pay doctor bills due since May 1978.

"At first I thought it was a joke," Mrs. Smith said. "But it went on and on and on and then it was no joke. I owe the doctors nearly \$500 and when Medicare stops paying, so does Blue Cross."

One of the letters "to the estate of Christena F. Smith" said Mrs. Smith's son, Richard, could collect \$255 in death benefits if he sent his mother's medical and funeral bills to Des Moines. The letter also asked Smith to sign a statement that his mother, who lives next door, was dead.

While Medicare and Blue Cross acted as though Mrs. Smith was dead, she still received her Social Security checks.

And her dilemma persisted for months, despite her efforts, and work by Rep. Jim Leach, R-Iowa, to correct the problem.

"I'm surprised this thing has gone on so long without being resolved," said Bob

Watterson, director of community relations for Blue Cross of Iowa. "We are going to send her a check."

Watterson, who said his firm has been trying since July to straighten out Mrs. Smith's accounts, said the firm now will try to get the computer corrected so Blue Cross can be reimbursed.

A medical assistant for Mrs. Smith's doctor said she was "disgusted" by the computer problem.

"You wonder how many old people there are out there who this might have happened to and they just sat back and were afraid to say anything," she said.

Unlikely killer — molasses — remembered

United Press International
BOSTON — On Jan. 15, 1919, a tidal wave of sweet, sticky death gushed through Boston's North End leaving 21 dead, 150 injured and homes and businesses crushed beneath tons of brown, sugary syrup.

Today is the 60th anniversary of The Great Boston Molasses Disaster, truly one of the most bizarre disasters ever to happen anywhere. In its day, news of the accident temporarily made larger headlines than the Paris Peace Conference and the events in revolution-torn Russia.

Bostonians working and shopping in the city's commercial waterfront area were enjoying a rather warm afternoon for January when disaster struck at about 12:30 p.m. Commercial Street and Atlantic Avenue were busy with Model T cars and trucks and horse drawn wagons were clattering over the cobblestones.

Nearby, Boston patrolman Frank McManus had just checked his pocket watch and was calling his precinct station in a signal box at base of Copps Hill.

Not far away from McManus stood the 10-foot high, 90-foot wide cast iron tank of the Purity Distilling Co., a subsidiary of the S. Industrial Alcohol Co. Inside it was holding 2.2 million gallons of gooey molasses

At the time molasses — used in making rum — was as much a part of Boston as the baked bean. The Boston waterfront was a center of the molasses trade and ships by the dozen moored on the waterfront.

There was no warning except for a rumble which shook a two-block area.

Suddenly the tank burst open, sending a wave of molasses two stories high down Commercial Street. The tidal wave of goo, which weighed about 12 pounds per gallon, was traveling at about 35 mile per hour as it swept over and through everything in its path.

Patrolman McManus, who was probably the first eyewitness to the disaster, screamed into his call box. "Send all available ambulances, all police, everybody!"

Like the ancient volcanic explosion of Mt. Vesuvius in Pompeii, men, women, children, horses, cars, trucks, stores and homes became smothered in the onslaught.

Eyewitnesses later testified they heard machine-gun-like noises as the tank burst its rivets. They said six children immediately were swallowed up. Six city workers eating lunch at a public works yards were drowned where they sat.

A fireman was killed as the wave swept

into the harbor and turned a fireboat into splinters. One woman testified she watched as men in horse-drawn carriages tried to outrun the sticky wave.

At its most destructive moments the molasses wave was 15 feet tall and 100-feet wide and after it was finished it covered a two-block area.

The force of the bursting tank created a vacuum which sucked in pedestrians, horses and automobiles. A section of the towering tank crashed into nearby elevated railway tracks leaving it twisted and dangling. Only minutes before, a train had rumbled past. Buildings were knocked off their foundations and roads were impassable for days.

The task of cleaning up and recovering bodies lasted days and involved hundreds of volunteers. Crews found a man and his wagon embedded in a mountain of molasses. The driver and his horse were frozen and preserved — as if time had stood still.

The cause of the disaster was debated for years. Some said it was the work of anarchists or communists. It was the height of the Red Scare era. The more logical theory is the molasses had been fermenting and built up an explosive force too much for the tank to contain.

Ticket pickup for basketball different now

A new ticket distribution system for Texas A&M University home basketball games will go into effect this week, according to Wally Groff, assistant athletic director.

Texas A&M students who have purchased a season basketball pass must pick up game tickets at the ticket office beginning on the workday immediately preceding the game. There will be a limited number of tickets available for each game, so tickets will be distributed on a first-come basis. All general admission seats will be available to students and will not be sold to the general public unless students do not pick up all their tickets.

For example, student tickets for the Arkansas game Wednesday can be picked up by showing a season pass beginning Tuesday at 8 a.m. and on Wednesday until game time or until all tickets have been distributed.

When a home game is played on Monday, students can begin picking up their tickets on the preceding Friday.

Students may purchase a date ticket for \$1.50 at the time they pick up their own tickets. Also, students will be allowed to obtain tickets for other students as long as they have a season pass for each ticket.

Those students who have not purchased season passes can do so through Friday in Room 113 of G. Rollie White.

The remaining home schedule for the Aggies has them hosting Arkansas Wednesday at 7:30 p.m., Texas Tech Saturday at 7:30 p.m., TCU Jan. 24 at 7 p.m., SMU Jan. 31 at 7:30 p.m., Houston Feb. 3 at 2:40 p.m., Texas Feb. 12 at 7:30 p.m. and Rice Feb. 20 at 7:30 p.m.

Reserved seat tickets are sold out for the Arkansas and Texas Tech games, but a few are available for other home games.

Tractorcade begins today on protest roll to capital

United Press International
WASHINGTON — Members of the American Agriculture Movement plan to begin their second parade of tractors from the heartland of America into Washington today to lobby for higher farm prices.

Members of the radical farm group, which sprang up in Colorado fields in December 1977 after wheat prices hit rockbottom, predicted their lobbying effort would

be less emotional and more sophisticated than last year.

One farmer said they have learned more "tricks of the trade," such as the importance of lining up support from the most powerful senators and congressmen.

Already farmers from the West Coast have gathered at seven points in mid-continent.

Tractorcades were to begin at sunrise, marking the day Congress convenes, in Amarillo, Abilene and Houston; Goodland, Kan.; North Platte, Neb.; Mitchell, S.D.; and Bismarck, N.D.

The tractorcades plan to reach the Washington area the weekend of Feb. 2-4 and enter the capital Feb. 5. Other farmers will head to Washington by air, train, bus or car.

Some agricultural leaders said the movement has lost momentum and that only the hard core of the movement would converge on Washington. Prices of cattle, wheat and cotton have increased substantially from last year, and might be enough to keep some farmers at home.

However, movement leaders said farm-

ers were still suffering financially and would return.

Wheat and cotton prices are up in part because of an emergency farm bill enacted after thousands of farmers lobbied Congress last winter. Feed grains prices are up, but are lower than wheat prices.

"They just tossed us a bone to keep us happy," said Sam White, a grain and cattle producer from Stratford, Texas. "We want a piece of meat."

White and other leaders declined to predict how many farmers would return, but White guessed anywhere from 50 to 50,000. About 2,000 protesters converged on Washington last January for a four-day rally.

The District of Columbia hotel industry said thousands of farmers staying in hotels made 1978 prosperous for industry. This year, AAM leaders said, farmers will try to cut costs by living in campers and cheaper accommodations outside Washington.

The tenet of the movement has been that farmers should receive prices high enough to keep up with inflation in costs of living and producing crops.

Clements takes oath Tuesday

United Press International
AUSTIN — Thousands of Texans will jam the Capitol Tuesday to see William Perry Clements Jr. sworn in as Texas' 42nd governor and first Republican chief executive in more than 100 years.

Estimate Republicans will begin celebrating a day ahead of time with a \$125-a-person victory reception and \$25-a-plate dinner Monday billed as a "Texas Heritage Festival."

The festivities will bring together at least two Republican presidential aspirants — former UN Ambassador George Bush and ex-Gov. John Connally, who switched to the GOP after serving as President Nixon's Treasury Secretary.

Democrats, hardly aglow at losing the state's top post to the GOP, will gather for a "rump victory party" hosted by Lt. Gov. William P. Hobby Jr.

Hobby, 46, will be sworn in for his fourth term in the same ceremonies when Clements, 61, will be inaugurated at noon Tuesday on the south steps of the Capitol. Chief Justice Joe R. Greenhill will administer oaths to both men using a sheepskin-bound Bible that dates back to the days when Texas was a Republic.

The Dallas oil drilling contractor, who wrote a new chapter in Texas history books with his Nov. 7 victory, will alter the traditional inauguration custom somewhat to have his wife, Rita, hold the worn Bible.

Then Clements and his family will go to the Governor's Mansion for lunch after the ceremony — the outgoing governor traditionally leaves a meal prepared for his successor.

Gov. Dolph Briscoe's press secretary said he is expected to leave the Capitol before the inauguration and depart for a European vacation.

Barbecue will be served in the Capitol for the public.

Clements and Hobby, with their wives, are scheduled to ride at the head of an inaugural parade up Congress Avenue at 2:30 p.m. and make a round of joint appearances at an ice cream party for children on the Capitol grounds at 4:30 p.m., a special symphony performance at the Lyndon B. Johnson Library 5 p.m. and five separate inaugural dances between 7:30 and midnight.



A familiar sight

The start of a semester brings some of the same old chores, such as moving in. Bill Hall, right, and Bill Riley lent a helping hand Sunday afternoon to Hall's sister, a Mosher Hall resident.

Battalion photo by Lee Roy Leschper Jr.