

YMCA, Known as the "Y", Holds Coveted Spot in Aggies' Heart

Ask any Aggie what the outstanding single organization for doing good is on the campus and he will answer, "The Y. M. C. A." For the "Y," as it is commonly known, truly holds a coveted spot in Aggie hearts.

The Y. M. C. A. at A. & M. is controlled by a board of directors consisting of a dean, three faculty members, and the secretary of the association. This body employs the personnel, approves the program,

draws up the budget, and directs the policies of the organization.

The Y program puts special emphasis on work with freshmen. A freshman cabinet of 200 members meets weekly for socials, informal discussions, and inspirational talks. In the fall a series of discussion groups is conducted by faculty members for the freshmen in the dormitory rooms. These discussions on campus problems give the freshmen a chance to become better acquainted with the faculty members and to share their problems with them.

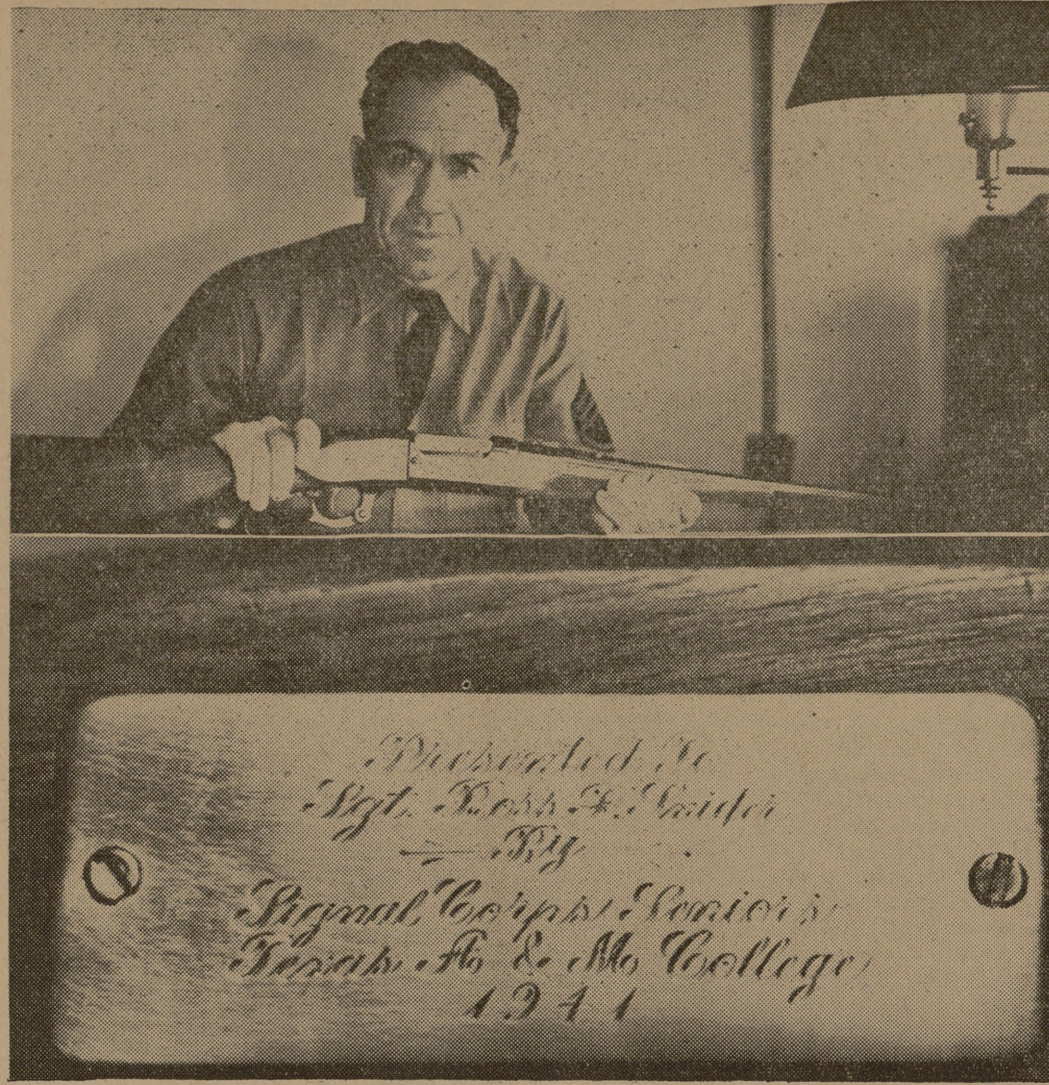
A senior cabinet, composed of approximately sixty upperclassmen selected for their leadership, character, and Christian principles is responsible for the formation and execution of the Y. M. C. A. program.

Each year before the opening of school the Y sends the Student's Handbook to all boys who have indicated their intention of enrolling at A. & M. for the first time. This handbook contains information concerning the college and its organizations which is very helpful to new students.

The Y. M. C. A. operates four shows a week in the Assembly Hall besides a free show each Sunday afternoon. The pictures are the very best obtainable but are run somewhat later than the current release. Two buildings and a dormitory lounge are operated by the organization. The Y proper is located in the heart of the campus and many of the student activities center about it. It contains bowling alleys, billiard tables, ping pong, dominoes, and checkers. Copies of twelve daily newspapers are available for students to read. Another building is maintained near the new dormitories for the convenience of students in that area. The Kiest Lounge is a special reception room for parents and guests.

The Y. M. C. A. staff consists of M. L. Cashion, recently honored

Signal Corps Seniors' Favorite



At a banquet before the Composite Regiment Ball which the entire Signal battalion attended, the seniors of the Signal Corps presented a Savage .300 rifle to Sgt. Ross F. Snider (above), who has been stationed at A. & M. for some years aiding in instruction of Signal Corps military science. Below is the plaque on the butt of the gun which bears the proper inscription.

Senior Ring, Tradition Bound in Design and Uses, Is Ever-Visible Identification of Aggie Graduates

The massive Aggie senior ring, that ever visible characteristic of an A. & M. graduate, is so tradition bound in both its design and uses that the origins of some of the designs have almost been lost. But the meanings themselves remain with their full symbolism, having only become stronger through the years.

For embodied in that ring are symbols of everything that this school stands for. The entire ring stands for much more and its wearing denotes traditions that Aggies hold dear. Cast of heavy yellow gold, the shanks and crown of the ring bear base relief cuts of symbols ingrained in the history of this school. By its appearance and what it represents, an Aggie graduate is constantly reminded of

the four years he spent here.

On the right shank of the heavy rings are military symbols with which every Aggie has been associated. The regulation army rifle, the barrel of an old artillery field piece, and an officer's saber are crossed through their centers. These three weapons are superimposed on the crossed staves of the flags of the two political sovereignties which their force of arms may have to defend—the United States and the State of Texas.

The left shank contains figures which designate the school as a Texas institution. The state seal of the radiating star, surrounded by a wreath of olive and oak branches, is placed on this side, also superimposed on the two flags.

A heavily carved spread eagle

with a shield on its breast, part of the seal of the United States, is on the crown of the ring. The eagle is perched on the numerals of the year of the student's graduation, this year the figure 41. In a circle around the eagle are the words "A. & M. College of Texas, 1876." To add a further militaristic appearance, each shank is separated at its base from the finger hand by two inverted service chevrons.

Besides the symbolism of the designs, the wearing of the complete ring has rock-bound tradition behind it. Each student purchases his ring during his senior year at the college and wears it during that year with the graduation numeral on the top, for the numeral turned down signifies graduation.

The ceremony of turning the ring around also is based on tradition. The Senior Ring dance, "the" dance of the year for prospective graduates, is always held the week end of Mother's Day. Every senior has his mother and his date come down to the college for the festivities. At the senior banquet, the cadet and his date step into a huge replica of the ring. The girl then removes the ring, turns it around, and the couple embrace before stepping down to dance.

Added meaning of the ring is shown by the fact that for the past two years the senior classes have used the crown of the ring as favor pins for senior dates, and this will probably be continued.

Yet the ring has not always had all of the designs on it that it now contains, although there have been

no major changes in its appearance. Prior to 1935 the field piece on the right shank was placed across the top. The chevrons were not on the ring, nor was the circle containing the printing. All these changes have added to the beauty of the ring.

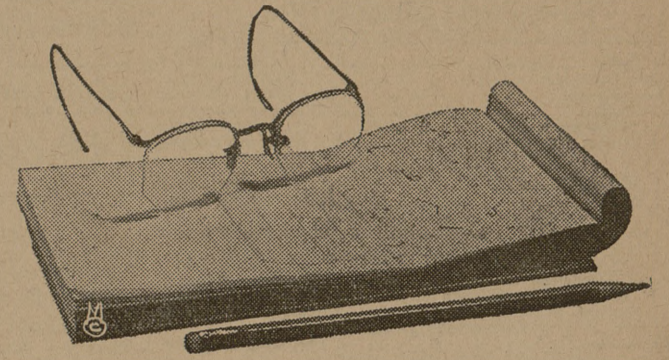
E. E. McQuillen, secretary of the former student's association, appointed a committee in 1935 which

made these changes and made provisions for the distribution of the rings. The coveted rings can only be ordered through the registrar's office, which accepts orders only from classified seniors.

With such a history based on tradition which covers every part of the ring, it is easy to understand why it is the former Aggie's most valued possession.

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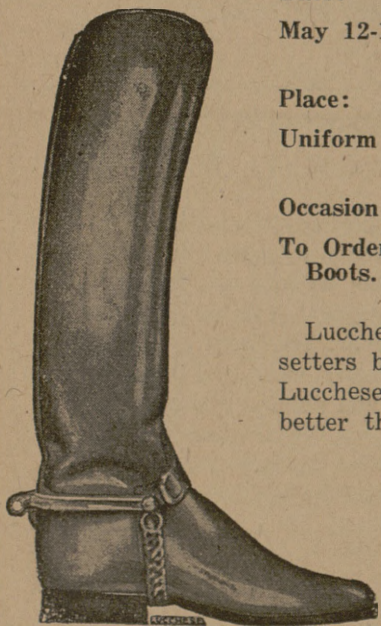
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Texas Forest Service Emphasizes Conservation of Texas Timberlands

"Service" to the farmer, to the large timberland owner, to the forest industries, to forest communities and to other forestry interests in Texas is the driving principle behind the Texas Forest Service, a division of A. & M. college.

Conservation is the key-word in the service rendered by the Forest Service. The thousands of acres of beautiful and useful timberlands of this state must not only be preserved and protected from fires and exploitation, but also wisely used, in order that they can be better cut into products useful to mankind.

There are eleven and a quarter million acres in East Texas under the protection of the Forest Service, where, out in the piny woods, 72 lookout towers hold vigilant forestmen. Fires can be quickly located by these lookout towers, so that fire fighting crews can control their damage. Main protection headquarters are located at Lufkin.

Timber cutting demonstrations and field meetings are held in many parts of the piney woods to show the owners how to manage their timber for profit. Educational assistants with motion picture trucks give lectures and shows to thousands of school children and grown-ups each year. Surveys of timber tracts are made and cooperation is offered wood working industries.

Five State Forests managed by the Texas Forest Service are used as field laboratories for research and demonstration. In the field of

for his fifteen years of service at A. & M., General Secretary; J. Gordon Gay and Alfred Payne, Assistant Secretaries; and R. D. Lowrey, Business Secretary.

If you come to A. & M. you'll like the Y.

Congratulations

PALACE, QUEEN,
AND DIXIE
THEATERS

Bryan