

Paddlefeet and Jocks Renew Old Feud Over Muster Beds

Even Ripley wouldn't believe it, but between the students of the college and the homefolks of Brazos county nearly five thousand rooms have been made available for Aggies coming home this weekend to celebrate the victory in which they played a major role.

When the final home-comer is bedded down next week-end, he may be back in that four-to-a-room jam which was so familiar in his college days, or he might even be bedded down in the college gymnasium, under the football stadium or in the horse-barns, but he will have a bed . . . and that's something to a guy who a year ago probably was sleeping in a fox-hole in the Philippines or Germany.

Advance reservations indicate

that the returning veterans want to sleep in the dormitory where they were housed while students. Several early registrants specified in their letter to the Association of Former Students that they wanted to bunk in their old rooms in the various military organization dormitories, and hinted that if an old cavalryman were found holed-up in an infantryman's old stamping ground there would be plenty of trouble in camp.

So the the committee in charge has done its best to see that every returning Texas Aggie gets homecoming quarters where he wants them. Of course, those who bring their wives and families along will be accomodated in residences and dormitories equipped to handle couples.

"Bull" Bows Out To Dean Rollins

A surprise to many of those re-returning to A. & M. is the fact that the "Bull" is no longer in charge of student discipline. The successor to the Commandant and his staff of Army officers and men as regulators and disciplinarians is the Office of Student Affairs, housed in Goodwin Hall, and headed by J. W. "Dough" Rollins, former Aggie football great and track coach, now Dean of Men and Director of Student Affairs.

The essential difference between the two plans of government is that now the cadet corps is under civilians in all matters not pertaining directly to military training, and the military is responsible only for drill and classroom instruction of military science and tactics.

The old-time Corps system is back after a brief holiday during the war years. For about two years after the abolishment of senior ROTC, the corps as such was, to be blunt, in a mess. Lacking the mature leadership of the senior and junior classes, who had gone off to war, the cadets were relegated to living in dorms with only their classmates, and with a CQ being imposed by army sergeants on even the few seniors and juniors who did remain. A concentrated campaign to rid the campus of all shreds of class distinction and hazing was put into effect, with the white fish stripe disappearing from the sleeve of freshman for the first time in decades.

Dissatisfaction with the state of affairs rose to such a height that the cadets staged a rebellion, of much larger scope than the '03 rebellion, in an attempt to bring back the corps system and all that it entails. To a certain extent their demands were granted, for in the summer of 1944, outfits of incoming freshmen were under the command of juniors and seniors, but still were closed to sophomores. In the fall, conditions were somewhat better, with sophs living in some of the outfits.

But it was not until the end of the war and beginning of the fall semester of 1945 that the corps system really returned. Then, under the direction of the newly-created Office of Student Affairs, all outfits were organized to in-

clude representation from every class. An edict of the Board of Directors, known as the Basic Policy, stated the Freshman's "Bill of Rights" and forbade the violation of his personal dignity, and is still today the basis for all disciplinary treatment of cadets.

Today you will find little difference in the organization of the cadet corps and its conduct from what it was six years ago, with the exception of hazing. There is still class distinction, the freshman still undergoes the leveling off treatment, the sophomore still carries the same belligerent attitude, the junior still wears his

serge and says, "When we're in power . . .", and the senior still commands the respect and awe for his uniform, his rank and his responsibility.

From all indications, the new Office of Student Affairs will become something which may be held as the primary reason for the improvement of student life. There are plenty of problems yet to be solved, and the general belief of those now on the campus that by a spirit of cooperation and understanding, many of them will be settled for the common good, with the majority of students and former students alike in accord.

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