

# Paul Rodriguez, Head Waiter at Sbisa Hall, Hasn't Missed a Kyle Field Game in 20 Years

By H. C. MICHALAK

Born in Bryan and a veteran of 20 years service in Sbisa Hall, Paul Rodriguez has many pleasant memories of the Aggies of old. When he first began work back in 1928, Paul recalls that the Cadets wore the old type wrap leggins. Since then those leggins have been abandoned and the dress uniform has undergone a complete change. W. A. Duncan was the man for whom Paul initially began to work and he has since worked under Howard and now Penniston.

"Back in the old days," says Paul, "when Sgt. King was in charge of the volunteer cadet waiters I used to marvel at the way the Cadets marched up to the mess hall door, pulled off their hats, yelled, and made a dash into the mess hall to get that cash." There is still some semblance of that over at Duncan Hall, but Paul says that it is not like the days of old.

Paul's first job was assistant to the linen room keeper and from that beginning he has risen to head waiter. His job now is to supervise operations on the floor of the mess hall and banquets, or receptions. In fact whenever anything goes on in Sbisa he is usually on hand.

During the war when there were only 39 men on the job he managed to get all of the necessary work done to feed the Cadets, Army, Navy, and Marine student complements, totaling about 4500 men, their three daily family style meals.

After the war when veterans came to the campus, however, the majority of the new students were fed up with family style meals of the sort dished up in Army mess halls, so a change to the cafeteria system was inaugurated to give them more chance for food choice.

Before Paul became a straw boss in 1933, one of his jobs was to fire the battery of gradules used to cook the hundreds of hotcakes needed for a breakfast. He used apple boxes to kindle the wood fires. Later electric stoves were installed, but after a time the kitchen equipment again changed. Natural gas is now used.

When D. X. Bible was still at A&M, Paul used to go down to the field to watch the team in practice and well remembers the Turkey Day game when the Aggies downed TU 28 to 0. On that big day some of the players were Puny Wilson and his brother, Sikos Berry, and Joel Hunt. In all of his years here Paul has never missed seeing a game played on



PAUL RODRIGUEZ, head waiter at Sbisa Mess Hall, has not missed a football game on Kyle Field in 20 years.

Kyle Field. Paul likes music and he has seen and heard many big name bands such as Jim Lunzford, Phil Harris, Duke Ellington, Shep Fields, Russ Morgan, Glen Gray and his Casa Loma Boys and Carmen Cavallero. The filming of "We've Never Been Licked" in 1942 is an event which clearly stands out in Paul's memory. While the troupe was out on location in the river bottom, they would take food to them and set up a field kitchen. The stars, Noah Beery Jr., Martha Driscoll, Ann Gyne and Richard Quinn, succeeded in capturing the spirit of Aggieland and its traditions admirably.

"Tough steak has been fed to the Aggies on occasions in the past," Rodriguez said, "but whenever that happened, the boys sure didn't lose any time letting us know about it by banging on the tables and yelling." Reveille, that famous school mascot, used to come to Sbisa Hall for food and water and Paul would always feed her. Paul started to work here with the idea of working his way through school, but sickness prevented his realizing this ambition; however, he has five boys at least one of whom he hopes to see through college. But what Paul really looks forward to is seeing a return to the old A&M with all students in the corps because he likes to watch reviews and the men going into the mess hall.

# New Ag Curriculum Added For Men Planning Graduate Work

By MARVIN E. RIEWE

Animal Science and Plant and Soil Science will be added to the agriculture curricula to prepare students for post-graduate work, C. N. Shepardson, Dean of Agriculture, has announced.

No new departments will be set up, Dean Shepardson stated, but students following the new curricula will get a much more thorough foundation in chemistry, mathematics, physics and biology, and will omit the general agriculture courses taken by freshmen and sophomore agricultural students.

Junior and senior students will take advanced science courses as well as advanced courses in their departments. Under this plan students will not have to take basic science courses after completing their undergraduate work in order to do graduate work.

The new curricula will lead to a Bachelor of Science degree in agriculture science, Dean Shepardson said.

"The greatest shortage in agriculture is professional agriculturally trained scientists," Dean Shepardson said. "For this reason the School of Agriculture intends to watch for and select men who show the ability and interest to become trained agricultural scientists in

their first semester as freshmen." "Only men of outstanding abilities will be selected since the new curricula will be rugged."

Dean Shepardson emphasized the need for such a program by stating that for the past year there have been 15 to 20 openings for agricultural scientists in the A&M system to attack such problems as the development of a suitable breed of cattle for the Gulf Coast Prairie, controlling mastitis among dairy cattle, and overcoming diseases of citrus fruit now prevalent in the Rio Grande Valley.

"Agricultural science offers as big a challenge to the imagination of the mind of young men today as anything in the world," Dean Shepardson concluded.

The Soil Conservation Service estimates that only 62 million acres of the land now in crops are completely safe from erosion.

THE SINGING CADETS OF AGGIELAND make several tours of Texas cities each year. They have appeared in concerts at Beaumont, Port Arthur, Corpus Christi, Fort Worth, Denton, San Antonio, Huntsville, Baytown, and other Texas cities during the last two years. This popular men's choral group is open to membership to any student who is interested in choral singing. They have made numerous recordings of the Aggie Songs for broadcast purposes and have broadcast over Texas Quality Network. Rehearsals are held in the Music Hall (across from South Station Post Office) every week day except Thursday at 5 p. m. Students interested in becoming a member should contact Bill Turner, Director of Music Activities.

Plans for the coming year include trips to San Antonio, Austin, Beaumont and Denton.

Officers are: Helmut Quiram, President; Pete Jones, Vice-President; Jerry Byrd, Business Manager; Ben Scholl, Reporter-Historian, and Bill Moss, Librarian.

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## Mexican College Adds Two Courses

A new curriculum in forestry and wildlife management has been established at the Agricultural College at Texcoco, near Mexico City, according to Dr. W. B. Davis head of the Wildlife Department.

S. P. Macias, game administrator for the Department of Forestry and Game of the Mexican Federal Fish and Game Department, is in charge of the college program and is teaching the course in wildlife management.

Twenty students have enrolled thus far. They will be trained for Federal service as game biologists and conservation officers.

This is the first attempt to introduce a program of wildlife conservation training in the schools of Mexico.

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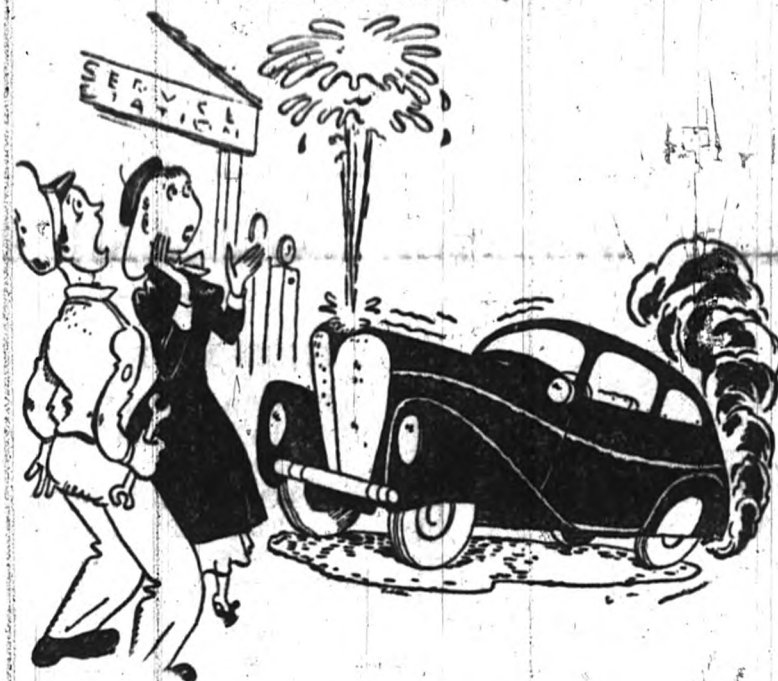
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