

# A&M's Most Famous Revolt Rocked Campus When Students Demanded Action In 1908

By CHUCK MAISEL

The period 1906-08 wasn't exactly the most peaceful that A&M has seen, but the school got quite a lot done.

For instance the 1907 Longhorn stated that during that year hazing was "absolutely abolished forevermore on the A&M campus."

The same annual has a picture of the Ku Klux Klan on the campus sandwiched between the Houston Club and the Austin Literary Society. The Kluxers are all dressed in their robes and their names are listed just like any club picture in the Longhorn today.

The fall of '06 was the first time the football team left the state. They played LSU at Baton Rouge and Tulane at New Orleans. The only loss that year was, sadly enough, to the University of Texas.

By this time the final ball had become a tradition. The biggest dance of the year was the Thanksgiving Hop given in honor of the football team after the TU game.

The next year saw the Farmers win all their games again with the exception of the TU game. Joe Utay, captain of the team, was quoted as saying, "played Varsity, referee, umpire, and all." Charlie DeWare was on that immortal team. One of the greatest stars of the '07 eleven was a great punter whom they called "Maud."

Today, Maud is known as Gen. George F. Moore. He was also business manager of the Longhorn and that publication had this to say about him: "Maud goes to classes sometimes, but has never been known to stay during the whole period."

The "Chick-gar-roo-gar-rem" and "Hullabaloo! Canek! Canek!" notes of the War of 1907 had their birth that year as yells. The cadet corps actually banned "coloring" and called their bursts of noise "yells."

Perhaps the largest student revolt in the history of the college was unleashed in 1908. Paul D. Casey, editor of The Batt that year, has written a book on it called "History of the A&M College Trouble 1908" which can be found in our library by anyone

who wants a good picture of student life of that day.

The rebellion was in protest to President H. H. Harrington. It was originally planned for the spring of '07 but school was dismissed 17 days early.

The background of the strike was something like this. Two days before the Dallas corps trip, an order came out that students could go only with the written permission of their parents. It was a little late to get this permission, but the students chartered a special and left anyway.

Harrington tried to make the railroad change the schedule of the special, but they refused. On Thanksgiving, he stole a march by chartering a train himself and fixed the schedule so the special would return to college one hour after the game was over. At Christmas, there was more unhappiness due to trains.

Then several college employees were fired because of the refusal of their wives to "wet nurse" Harrington's baby.

When the Board reported they would meet on the campus February 6 to investigate "irregularities," the Senior Class drew up an petition asking for Harrington's removal. The board met and tossed the petition in the waste basket without reading it.

When the news was heard, the band struck up the strains of Home Sweet Home and plans were made to resign en masse.

That night the Commandant, Captain Moses, met with the seniors and begged them to hold up any action for a few days. As Moses was so beloved by the students, this request was voted on and passed. But, for some reason, the class met again at midnight and voted not to attend any academic classes, but to do all military duties and to protect state property.

The board said the next morning that they would meet with no representatives of any class unless they were attending classes regularly. The seniors voted to return to class, but the three underclasses said that they would never again go into a classroom while

Harrington was president.

The board exonerated Harrington and the letter from them was read to the corps in the old Chapel by Moses with tears in his eyes. He said that he didn't want anyone to leave, but those who did had his best wishes.

By the next morning, all but the Seniors had left the school. The seniors met and a motion was made that they resign as a class and leave also. Just before voting on this motion, Frances Law, proxy of the ex-students, came running into the meeting with E. J. Kyle. He begged the seniors to stay and they agreed.

The ex-students sent out letters to all students who were at home urging their return. A few sophomores and freshmen came back, but no juniors.

The Bryan businessmen, state newspapers, and state officials jumped into the fray. The controversy continued until commencement, the board refusing to do anything further. At commencement, the parents and ex-students met on the campus and condemned Harrington for everything from whiskey drinking on down. They demanded the board conduct an investigation and the board gave in.

Hatton W. Summers represented the students as counsel at the investigation. Meeting minutes are in Casey's book and makes exciting reading. The dramatic moment when Harrington himself took the stand sounds like something out of a movie.

Finally, in August, Harrington resigned. The board immediately made Colonel R. T. Milner his successor. Under Milner, the college underwent a building and growing program never before equalled. The Aggieland we now know began to take shape.

## Top O'Texas Club To Meet Thursday

Plans for a Thanksgiving party will be discussed during the Top O'Texas Club meeting which will convene after yell practice Thursday night in Room 108, Academic Building.

Officers for the coming school year will be elected. Membership is open to all students from Borger, Panhandle, Pampa, and the surrounding areas.

## Readers Write -

(Continued from Page 3)

know your likes and dislikes about things that go on here at the Annex. Turn your letters and other material in to the Freshman Battalion office, or to Fish Martin, barracks T-304, before Monday of each week.)

Dear Fish Martin:

My shirt has shrunk beyond recognition! Why is it I get blue pajamas in exchange for my nice flowered pair? I would like to know what I can do about these laundry mistakes.

Disgustingly yours,  
FISH SMITH

Dear Fish Smith:

Your laundry worries may be eased a little if you will report these errors to the laundry station or the tactical officer in your battalion as soon as possible. If this doesn't get results don't feel too badly. Just think of the good someone is getting out of your pajamas!

Signed,  
FISH MARTIN



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## THE BATTALION THURSDAY, OCTOBER 28, 1948



HOMER LAMOTTE, starting guard for the Consolidated Tigers, has been plugging up the right side of the line all season.

## Nelson Appointed Insurance Agent For Local Areas

Fred W. Nelson, Class of '44, has recently been appointed representative for Hardware Mutual Fire and Casualty Insurance Company for Brazos County and nine adjoining counties.

Nelson, whose business office is located at 703 W. 25th Street, Bryan, will sell automobile, fire, and general liability insurance.

While a student at A&M, Nelson played the piano with the Aggie-Land Orchestra in 1940, 1943, 1945 and 1947.

A veteran in the ETO during the war, Nelson served as a sergeant in England, France, and Austria. He was a member of the 363rd Fighter Group and was later chief clerk of the Military Personnel department from Feb. 1947 to May 1948.

## Cox Will Address FFA Chapter Here

Murray Cox, farm director for Radio Station WFAA, Dallas, has accepted an invitation to be guest speaker at the next regular meeting of the A&M Collegiate Chapter of the FFA November 10, J. C. Hart, chapter president announced at a meeting last night.

Cox is well known to farm people throughout Texas because of his wide coverage of farm news, Hart said, and the FFA Chapter considers it an honor to have him as guest speaker.

At the meeting last night, plans were completed for a barbecue and dance which will be held November 12 at Shilo Hall on Highway 6. Every chapter member is requested to attend with his wife or date, Hart added.

## 2 Civil Service Exams Announced

Two examinations for employment with the U. S. Civil Service Commission have been announced by the Commission. One examination is for the position of Junior Scientist, filling mathematician, metallurgist, and physicist positions. The other is for positions as lithographers in several phases of lithography.

Requirements for both examinations include the usual educational and experience requisites for such positions. Any age restrictions will be waived for applicants with veteran's preference. Full details of requirements are available from R. W. Jackson at the Post Office, College Station, Texas.

Applications for the lithographic positions must be received prior to November 17, 1948, and applications for the Junior Scientist positions must be filled by June 30, 1949.

THE PARSON LOOKS AT PROGRESS  
CHALK, England - The Rev. A. W. W. Bowman quipped in his parish magazine: "A new dance is being introduced in which one step is forward and then two backward. Probably it goes with the latest song 'Civilization.'"

## Training Dates For HS Teams To Be Changed

DALLAS, Oct. 26 - The advisory council of the Texas Interscholastic League will meet next week-end to consider several changes in the football plan.

The most important one is that which would allow the teams to practice football from Dec. 1 until the championship playoffs are finished. The argument is that teams in the play-offs get more football than those that are eliminated—in fact get a bulge of several weeks.

We presume this plan would apply to all classes—city conference, Class AA, Class A, Class B, and six-man. If so, it would mean that some 730 schools wouldn't have to quit football Thanksgiving week while 119 others went on into state, regional and bi-district playoffs.

The idea is good but we think it would defeat the very thing for which spring training was eliminated.

Spring training was removed from Texas schoolboy football so that the other sports would have a full chance.

Now, if the schools continue until Jan. 1—that's when the playoffs are all finished—won't that interfere with basketball?

There just doesn't seem that any way can be devised to put football in its proper place.

Spring training was eliminated but the schools were given the right to start fall training Aug. 15. The result was that they moved up the season. Some of them played games as early as Sept. 3.

One of the arguments against starting training Aug. 15 was the excessive heat. Some coaches said that even Sept. 1 was too hot. Yet, the teams played games Sept. 3. Also, no one ever has quite explained why, if the heat is so bad, the all-star football game is played at the annual coaching school in early August each year.

## Are We Suffering

The Aggie football team has a long way to go before they break the record of the Kansas State Wildcats in consecutive defeats. The Kansas team finally won their first game in twenty-nine tries over Arkansas State, 37-6.

The team scored more points in this game than any Wildcat team has since they beat Kansas Wesleyan in 1942 by a score of 37-6 also. And this was the least points scored against them since they beat Wichita University 13-6 in 1945.

## Parted Brothers

CHICAGO - The Basketball Association of America will have a brother act this season, although the brothers will play on opposite teams. Big George Mikan, one of the cage sport's all-time greats, will play for the Minneapolis Lakers, new entry in the BBAA, while his brother Ed will be with the Chicago Stags. The two will clash for the first time on Nov. 19th at the Chicago Stadium. Ed is two inches shorter than his six foot, nine inch brother.



This is the Aggie cross country team which will meet the Texas University runners in Austin tomorrow. They are, from left to right, bottom row: Ray Holbrook, Webster Stone, J. D. Hampton, Carrol Hahn, and Jerry Bonnen. Top row: Coach Frank Andersson, Junian Herring, Robert Allen, Alexander Ortiz, Lee Wilson, and Coach Ray Putnam.

## Aggie Cross Country Runners To Meet Longhorns Tomorrow

Colonel "Andy" Anderson, the Aggies head track coach, will take a seven man squad to Austin this Friday afternoon to compete with a strong Texas cross country team. The race, which will end up in Memorial Stadium will take place this Friday afternoon at 3 o'clock.



Above is RAY PARKS, one of Arkansas' backs who may give A&M trouble with his passes this week.

## Special Batt To Carry Fish Baylor Game

The freshman football game between the Baylor University Cubs and the Texas A&M Fish will begin at 9:00 o'clock Friday night at the Municipal Stadium in Waco. Admission to the game will cost approximately \$1.25 at the gate.

The Fish team will leave college at noon and will return immediately after the game. They will travel by bus.

A special wire has been arranged for by the Battalion in order to send a write-up of the game back to school as soon as possible. An extra edition of the Batt will be available on the campus Saturday morning with the story of the game.

Distribution centers will be located at Sosis, Duncan, the Campus Corner and the Cave. Clarence "Bull" Lawson will get into his first game of the season this weekend. The Wichita Falls fullback suffered a knee injury in the early practices and is only now regaining top form.

Guard Edward Holley was injured in Wednesday's practice and had to leave the field. It is still not known whether or not he will be ready to go in Waco or not.

Three other backs are also question marks as far as the Cub game is concerned. They are Karl Hollier, Robert "Budd" Shaffer, and Mack Stoeltje. Shaffer has been handling the extra point duties for the Fish while Stoeltje did the punting.

Chief headache to freshman Coach Irvin has been to find a way to stop the passes of the Cub team. The freshmen are hindered by a lack of height in the backfield, but do possess plenty of speed.

## Area Marks

UNIVERSITY, Miss. - The 96-yard scoring run against Florida with an intercepted pass was the longest for the University of Mississippi football team since June Hovious' 98-yarder on a punt return against Georgia in 1940. The Ole Miss record is the collegiate mark. Jack Burke's 109-yard kickoff return against Alabama in 1931.

## Boxing Gridders

COLUMBIA, S. C. - Two varsity boxers will see considerable action with the University of South Carolina football team this season. Heavyweight Bill Rutledge of Charlotte is a slashing fullback and lightweight Roy Skinner holds forth at left guard.

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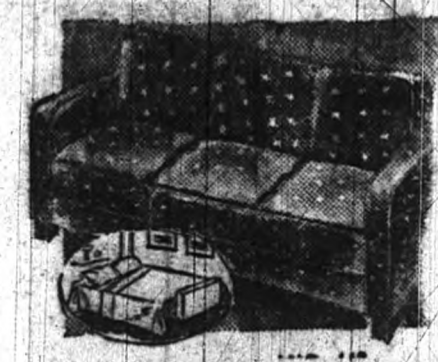
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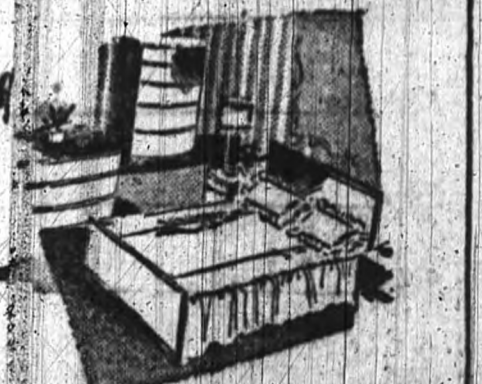
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