



GOING, GOING—Ross hall, long-standing home of A&M's bats, bulls, and students, is being demolished. Wrecking crews start on the roof.

62 Years Old

## Ross Hall Being Razed

By BILL HOLLOWAY  
Battalion Staff Writer

Last year's cry of "Down with Ross Hall" has at last been answered.

Thursday morning the first board was ripped from the wall of the 62-year-old landmark as destruction began by the Newton and Lucky Construction company.

Ross hall was erected in 1892 in honor of Lawrence Sullivan Ross, seventh president of the college and founder of Aggie traditions.

When Ross became president in 1891, a serious housing shortage was the main problem. Parents from all over the state were sending their sons to A&M largely because of Ross's outstanding military and legislative records.

Completion of the new dormitory at a cost of \$20,000 somewhat curbed the housing problem and reduced the number of temporary tents on the campus. At this time the Ross Volunteers were the cadets housed in the new dormitory.

### 'Bats and Polecats'

In 1927 the cadets living in the red brick building became troubled with bats and polecats trying to move in on them. Driving the bats off seemed no task at all compared to the removal of polecats from under the floor. After cadets sprayed gallons of creosote under the building, they emerged victors over the unwanted guests.

As age reduced the strength of the materials of Ross Hall to, (or near) its falling point in 1929, Dr. Thomas O. Walton, the president of the college, asked the college architect to draw up plans for a new building to replace Ross hall. At that time the ceilings were falling, walls were cracking, and the president thought the aging dormi-

### Ground Broken For Warehouse

Bulldozers broke ground Wednesday for the firemen's training school warehouse, said W. H. Badgett, manager of the physical plants.

The 40 by 100 feet quonset warehouse will house offices, shops, fire trucks and class rooms, Badgett said.

The board of directors in their May meeting passed on the construction of the \$20,000 building.

The warehouse should be completed by July 11 in time for the firemen's school this summer, Badgett said.

### Engineer To Send Address Blanks

All students subscribed to The Engineer will receive forwarding address blanks today so they may receive the next issue to be out about May 27, said Carl Jobe, assistant manager of student publications.

The Agriculturist and The Commentator have already been sent out.

The summer issue of The Veterinarian will be sent out in July, said Jobe.

# Graduation Activities Begin With Baccalaureate Tomorrow

## Four More Students Given Punishment for TT Action

A reviewing board yesterday and this morning assessed penalties for four more students charged with being members of the TT's, a secret fraternity.

This brings to 18 the number of students punished for being members of the group. Five are members of the football team.

The college will not release the names of the 18.

Punished this morning and yesterday were two graduating seniors and two graduate students.

The graduating seniors will have to take all their final examinations, then will have their degrees retained indefinitely.

### Same Penalty

This is the same penalty given four other graduating seniors who were interviewed by the board earlier in the week.

The two graduate students will finish the semester's work, then be suspended indefinitely.

This is the same penalty given two non-graduating seniors, six juniors and two sophomores who were interviewed earlier in the week.

Dean of Men W. L. Penberthy, chairman of the reviewing board, said the students interviewed this morning and yesterday were "too much involved to be inactive."

The reviewing board was composed of Penberthy, Col. Joe Davis,

commandant, and one faculty member from each undergraduate school.

### Records Given Up

The 14 students charged earlier turned over the organization's records to college officials yesterday. The 14 told the reviewing board Tuesday that they would disband the organization. They said then that they were the only active members.

The 14 signed a sworn statement yesterday that they would not par-

ticipate in the TT's or any similar organization while a student at A&M, and would not encourage any other student to participate.

President David H. Morgan said earlier that local persons who were supplying meeting facilities for the organization were "cooperating in clearing up the organization." He also said the records would be destroyed.

"I am confident," Morgan said, "that the TT organization will not reorganize."

## Students Present Petition About TT's

Eighty-five A&M students requested by petition yesterday to President David H. Morgan that the administration dismiss all students involved in the TT's, effective at the end of semester.

In presenting the petition, Frank Ford, corps sergeant major, said "There is strong feeling on the part of quite a few boys about this, and we wanted to present our views in this orderly manner."

Morgan said he "appreciated" the action and would transmit the petition to the reviewing board responsible for disciplinary action in the case.

Reasons for dismissal listed on the petition were:

1. There are no strongly mitigating circumstances.

2. "Many or all of the men involved were in A&M in 1952 when the TT's were supposedly eliminated . . . and have already been given a 'second chance.'"

3. Such organizations are against the principles of life at A&M.

4. Dismissal would not deny them the right to continue their education, at some other school.

5. "The only way to get rid of such an organization for good is to get rid of the present roots permanently."

The petition ended by saying that it was not "an act of jealousy or revenge" since many of the students involved "were good friends of many of us."

Most of the names on the petition were juniors and seniors, with a few sophomores. All were corps students.

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## Soefje Elected Pre-Law President

Alan Soefje, senior business administration major from New Braunfels, was elected president of the Pre-Law society Tuesday night.

Other officers elected were vice president, Sam Rowland; secretary-treasurer, Larry Kennedy; social secretary, Ogden Bass; junior member of the Arts and Sciences council, Ogden Bass. These officers will serve during the fall semester.

A plan for statewide organization of Pre-Law societies was discussed. The plan will go into effect next year if approved by all schools concerned. Southwest conference schools, Texas Tech and the University of Houston have been asked to join the organization.

## Final Ball Planned For Friday Night

The Final ball will be held Friday from 10 p. m. until 1 a. m., said W. D. (Pete) Hardesty, business manager of student activities.

The ball will be held in the Grove with music by Bill Turner and the Aggieband orchestra.

Music will stop during Silver Taps and will continue at the end of the ceremony, Hardesty said.

Admission price is \$1 stag or couple.

## Ritchey, Olds Recovering From Accident

Two A&M seniors are "doing all right" following their accident Tuesday night, said Dr. J. E. Marsh of the college hospital.

The 1951 Plymouth in which Ted Ritchey and Fred Olds were riding rolled one and a half times on old highway 6 south of College Station.

X-rays revealed that Ritchey has a fractured skull, Marsh said. Ritchey also suffered lacerations of the body, especially the left arm and shoulder.

Olds' x-ray showed only a slight elbow fracture. Marsh said he expected Olds to be released from the hospital "in a day or so." He has lacerations on the right elbow.

Ritchey and Olds were returning to a senior "function" at the day pits when the accident occurred. Ritchey had cut his leg and had gone to the college hospital to have it treated.

Olds was asleep on the front seat beside Ritchey. Olds awoke suddenly when the car hit the shoulder on the right side of the road. He grabbed the wheel causing the car to swerve to the left and roll.

Highway Patrolman L. V. Dunagan, who investigated the accident, said that County Commissioner Raymond Nolan saw some boys take a case of beer out of the car and hide it in a pasture.

Dunagan said he would not know whether any charges would be filed until he completed his investigation.

tory had served its purpose. Work on the new building was to begin. Members of an artillery unit moved to Pfeuffer and Goodwin halls in case Ross hall didn't wait for the destruction crew.

At the following meeting of the board of directors, it was decided not to destroy the historic landmark, but to condemn it as a dormitory and use it as a storage building.

In 1941 Ross hall was reconstructed and put to an even better use as home of the military depart-

ment. Because of the expansion of personnel and the need for class room space, the military department moved from the Academic building into Ross.

In 1950 the military department moved two model 1902, 3 - inch artillery guns on to them.

And now 61 years of history will fall as Ross falls. A&M's "Poor Man's Pentagon," as it has been referred to in recent years, will change from campus reality to "archival material."

## Commissioning Set For White Coliseum

Four hundred and thirty-two ROTC graduates will be commissioned or given certificates of completion at 1 p. m. Friday in the G. Rollie White coliseum.

Maj. Gen. Charles E. Hart will award 208 army commissions and Maj. Gen. Gabriel P. Disosway will present 224 air force commissions or certificates of completion.

Army commissions are broken down into infantry, 37; armor, 20; artillery, 19; corps of engineers, 10; ordnance, 24; quartermaster corps, 19; signal corps, 5; transportation corps, 19; chemical corps, 7; and army security agency, 8.

AFROTC graduates will take the oath of office at 4 p. m. Thursday in the Chemistry building's lecture room. Army students will repeat the oath at 7:15 a. m. Friday in the Pyhsics building's lecture room.

Air force students will wear for this ceremony class B uniform with those not currently enrolled in air science wearing "acceptable" civilian clothes. Army uniform is optional.

All ROTC graduates, including those not enrolled in military or air science, will wear class A uniform for commissioning and is-

suance of certificates of completion exercises.

Cotton khaki shirt and trousers, shade 51, green tie, brown or tan low quarter shoes and branch insignia less second lieutenant bars has been designated class A uniform.

Cadets will be seated in the coliseum alphabetically by branch for the army, and alphabetically for the air force.

The distinguished party will enter the stage at 1 p. m. and J. Frank Ford, corps sergeant major, will call the entire gathering to attention. Ide Trotter, corps chaplain, then will give the invocation.

Upon completion of the invocation, the congregation will sing "The Spirit of AggieLand" and then be seated. Maj. Gen. Hart is the principle speaker. He will be introduced by Col Shelly P. Myers jr., PMS&T.

Maj. W. J. Winder will administer the oath of office, followed by the presentation of the commissions and certificates of completion. After the awards have been made, the benediction will be given.

The ceremony will close with everyone present singing the National Anthem.

## Inauguration Speech

# Morgan Makes Call for Money

President David H. Morgan made a strong call for more money for A&M and increased development of all parts of the college in his inaugural address today.

Speaking in the White coliseum to more than 6,000 students, faculty members, visitors and guests, Morgan said "limited financing strangles the growth of the college or university, saps its vitality—its teaching—its scholarly output."

Progress slows until the university becomes static and inevitably slides down hill since life does not stand still, he said. "A&M is now at that stage. We are stalled—temporarily or otherwise—on the steep hill of advancing civilization."

He said that educational systems are expensive but society receives in return many dividends far exceeding the original investment.

"Our hope for the future lies in the present Texas Commission on Higher Education now studying this problem," he said.

Morgan said that another concern to the college is its survival as a military college. He said the answer is increased development of advanced programs in the School of Military Science.

"Discipline will be stressed," he said. "Since discipline is designed to strengthen and perfect, the School of Military Science must be organized and directed by men

who are competent in training and experience, who have an interest in, and confidence in, the young men of today."

He also said the school "must continue to press" the cause of the military colleges, since A&M was "overlooked and hurt in the rush of rapidly expanding ROTC units."

"Military colleges must receive recognition if they are to survive," he said.

Morgan said A&M must make student life attractive for students who do not wish to be in the corps of cadets, calling these students the "forgotten" students.

In speaking of A&M's academic development, he said the school's

technical courses must "remain sensitive to the needs of business and industry, including agriculture, so that we continue to give a practical education."

"Marked changes in our academic curricula should be made only when the probability of an improved product is relatively high," he said.

He said the responsibilities of A&M's president center around one broad objective: "the best education possible in our fields of specialty at the lowest possible cost to the sons of Texas."

He closed by asking that "we rededicate ourselves to our profession and to the college, that we set our objectives with a clearly

charted course and that we unite our efforts to achieve their success."

The inaugural ceremony was preceded by an academic procession to the coliseum. Chancellor M. T. Harrington formally installed Morgan, and Dean of the College J. P. Abbott presided.

Dr. Oliver C. Carmichael, president of the University of Alabama, spoke at the inauguration on "Higher Education and the Land Grant College."

The inauguration day will close with a corps review this afternoon at 2:30 and a reception in honor of the president from 4 to 5:30 p. m. in the Memorial Student Center.

## Seniors To Hear Dr. Foote

Graduation activities begin at 10 a. m. Friday with baccalaureate ceremonies in the G. Rollie White coliseum.

Dr. Gaston Foote, pastor of the First Methodist church, Fort Worth, will be the principal speaker.

The procession will form at 9:30 a. m. and roll call will be at 9:45 a. m. All advanced, veterinary medicine, and engineering degree candidates will form on the lawn south of the Memorial Student Center bowling area.

Agriculture and Arts and Sciences degrees candidates will form on the lawn along Houston street west of Guion Hall. In case of rain, the procession will form along the corridors inside the coliseum.

Clothing for both the baccalaureate and commencement exercises is as follows:

All civilian candidates for a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree will wear the doctor's cap and gown. Hoods will not be worn in the procession because the Ph.D.'s will be hooded on stage.

Candidates for master and professional degrees will wear the master's cap and gown. Bachelor degree candidates, except military students, will wear the bachelor's cap and gown. All military candidates will wear the uniform.

Commencement will be held at 7:30 p. m. in the coliseum. Procession forms at 7 p. m. and roll will be called at 7:15 p. m. The procession will form in the same areas used for the baccalaureate sermon.

W. W. Lynch, president of Texas Power and Light Co. of Dallas, will be the principal speaker.

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## Dean Will Speak At Dairy Center

C. N. Shepardson, dean of the School of Agriculture, will be the principal speaker at the dedication ceremonies May 27 of the new \$400,000 dairy center.

Dairymen from throughout the state will be present to see the formal dedication to be held on the 300-acre dairy farm. The new center incorporates the best dairy practices and equipment adapted to Texas.

The center consists of seven major buildings including a shelter barn, milking parlor, calf barn, maternity barn, feed storage areas and a breeding center.

## Schedule of Events

The schedule of events Friday and Saturday are as follows:

Friday	
10 a. m.	Baccalaureate sermon, G. White coliseum
1 p. m.	Presentation of commissions and certificates of completion, G. Rollie White coliseum
3-5 p. m.	President's reception, president's home
7:30 p. m.	Commencement exercises, G. Rollie White coliseum
9:30 a. m.	Final Ball, The Grove
Saturday	
9:30 a. m.	Final Review

## Weather Today



PARTLY CLOUDY

Partly cloudy with few thunder-showers this afternoon, diminishing by midnight. The high temperature yesterday was 88 degrees; the low this morning was 64.