

# Short Courses Keep Staff Busy

The holding of short courses has become an important and active function in the past 20 years at A&M.

Courses offered for the 1961-62 school year range from a clinic for commercial egg growers to an atomic energy conference. There are courses offered in horse management, plant protection, insect control, and a municipal police school among others.

Attendance at the sessions last year varied from 1,657 for the firemen's training course to seven for a short course on turkeys, F. W. Hensel, assistant director of placement and special services, said.

The short course office was created in 1944 as part of the placement office to handle arrangements necessary for such events. However, several currently held conferences go back to the early 1920s. Records indicate that probably the first organized short course held on the A&M campus was the Farmers Short Course, which started in the early 1900s.

Not all the courses are handled by the short course office, Hensel said. The Engineering Extension Service conducts its own conferences, and the Agricultural Extension Service handles many of its own. A majority of courses are organized by the schools within the college, however, and are staffed by regular faculty members.

The office performs many services in connection with the handling of these courses. It conducts the registration, which consists of making name tags, collecting fees, writing receipts, selling tickets to dinners, providing schedules of events, and helping with housing accommodations.

In addition, the short course office handles all the bookkeeping, including receipts and expenditure incurred by the group attending the event. After the course is completed, the office sends out a statement of financial balance to the sponsoring group. For many groups which hold annual courses, money not used the preceding year is applied to expenses of the next year.

The procedure for holding a

short course is relatively simple, Hensel said. If an A&M professor or staff member suggests the idea for the course, the approval of his department head and the dean or director must be secured.

Once it is decided to hold a course, either suggested by a faculty member or a representative of the interested group, arrangements must be made through the short course office and the Memorial Student Center for a time, date and place. This often is difficult, Hensel said, because of the large number of courses being offered annually.

When the date is put on the calendar, the MSC sends a notice to the short course office, which in turn sends confirmation of the event to the chairman of the group.

The chairman then requests the services he will need for the course. The short course office provides the visitors with a campus guide, as well as scratch pads and folders for scheduled functions.

In addition to courses held on the campus, several teaching departments, as well as the Engineering Extension Service and the Agricultural Extension Service, hold many courses off-campus in cities and towns throughout Texas, Hensel said.

A new course beginning this year is one dealing with the development of personnel involved in design, construction and maintenance of county roads. The course is offered by the Engineering Extension Service and will provide instruction in operation and maintenance of road construction equipment. It also will provide training in the design and construction of bridges and structures used on county roads.

Whenever a course is discontinued, there is always another ready to take its place, Hensel said. With the increased desire of Texas citizens to continually improve their education, the short courses offered by A&M show no indication of declining. And the short course office will be kept busy administering the needs of this program.



## Texan Of The Year

Pianist Van Cliburn, left, receives the Texas Press Association plaque as "Texan of the Year" from Charles Devall, editor of the Kilgore News Herald. Cliburn, 27, a native of Kilgore, rocketed to world wide fame in winning the Tchaikovsky Competition in Moscow in 1958. (AP Wire-photo)

## 18,625 Visit Since Last Fall

A total of 18,625 visitors were on the campus of Texas A&M College during the months of June, July, August, September, October, November, December, 1961 and January, 1962, P. L. Downs Jr., official greeter of the college announced today.

The visitors attended short courses, conferences, class reunions, and other scheduled meetings. Downs said the college had 735-141 visitors on the campus for scheduled meetings and activities during the twelve year period and eight months from Jun 1, 1949 to February 1, 1962.

Twenty-two groups were on the campus for the month of January, representing a total of 4,948 visitors.

If all the world's winds should die down, starting them again would require more power than all the United States' electrical plants could generate in a hundred years.

Construction of the Lincoln Memorial began in 1915.

# 'Home On The Range' Author Challenges Kansas Solon

SAN ANGELO, Tex (AP) — Kansas has a Texan pretty angry. He's angry enough to stake his claim to being a Texas native on the outcome

It began some time ago when Perry Como, himself a Lone Star State product, sang "Home On The Range" and credited it to a Texas author.

Dr. I. E. Nickell, a former Kansas state legislator from Topeka, challenged Como, declaring the song was written by a Kansan in 1870.

Nickell said he himself introduced a bill in the Kansas legislature commemorating the Kansas origin of the song.

This brought a letter to the San Angelo Standard-Times from the man credited with writing the composition, David W. Guion now of Leighton, Pa.

"I have written to Dr. Nickell and asked him to produce the melody he claims was written in Kansas . . ." wrote Guion.

"If he can dig up such a melody, in manuscript from or printed in an old newspaper or from the Copyright Office . . . bearing the name of a Kansan and dated, 1870 I will then admit neither my song nor I exist.

"And I will then ask the state of Kansas to pass another state law making me a Kansan.

"Just for the record, I was born Dec. 15, 1892, in Ballinger, Tex. . . . My first piano lessons were from my mother . . . At the age of 16 I wrote by song, 'Home on the Range'. It was not my first composition by any means. Years later I rewrote 'Home on the Range' and it was then accepted for publication by G. Schirmer, Inc., New York.

The bird-voiced tree frog whistles like a pileated woodpecker.

IS FINLAND RUSSIA'S NEXT

# VICTIM

For years, Finland has been under Russia's thumb. But it may soon be under Russia's boot, as well. In this week's Saturday Evening Post, you'll learn how Khrushchev has put the squeeze on Finnish leaders. How he's even hand-picked their next president. And what it will mean to us if K. takes over completely.

The Saturday Evening POST

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