

## SCONA Brings Nationally Known Leaders To Campus



WILLIAM H. LAWRENCE  
... SCONA speaker

A man that skillfully answered Russian Premier Nikita Khrushchev's shoe-ponding charges in the United Nations will be on the campus this fall to tell his experiences to a group of serious-minded college students.

James J. Wadsworth, former U. S. Ambassador to the United Nations and now president of the Peace Research Institute, will be just one of the top-flight speakers of national and international fame to appear at the Eighth Annual Student Conference on National Affairs.

Slated for December 14 this year, SCONA VIII, as it is known, will bring students from all over the United States to hear speakers and discussion on the theme "Sources of World Tensions."

SCONA's objective is to provide an informal atmosphere for the student delegates to debate, hear

and reject or accept discussion on topics of major importance.

### Planned By Students

The conference is student planned, financed, and operated. From the start of the idea for the next year's conference, the students take over and plan the complete meeting.

Students raise money to defray the expenses of bringing the delegates to A&M from other schools, expected to be about \$16,500 this year. They contact interested persons all over the Southwest and Mexico, persons who are willing and ready to help college students debate and discuss more important problems than which movie to see tonight.

Other committees begin their work at the same time the Finance Committee is making its rounds.

The transportation committee must make arrangements for many delegates, speakers, and round-

table leaders to get to and from the college. They use buses, airplanes and autos as necessary.

The publicity committee begins to get the support of the press in the area, and to draw interest to the conference.

The secretariat committee handles the enormous amount of correspondence necessary to get any undertaking of this size started and keep it going smoothly.

### Opportunity To Help

This takes willing and capable hands, and freshmen who want to hear and see the speakers and leaders who help shape the events of our world can take advantage of this chance by helping the committees of their choice.

In addition to the major speakers, well-known individuals serve as round-table chairmen during panel discussion groups. These discussions give the student a chance to tell his opinions on the topics being discussed and hear the opinions of others. In this way, he may gain a better knowledge and insight into the problems that face this country today.

One SCONA leader described the conference as "not the place where questions are answered, but where questions of importance are brought to light so the individual can work out the answer himself."

Roundtable chairmen for the 1962 conference include Howard A. Cutler, assistant to the president of Pennsylvania State University, Mrs. Alice Pratt of Houston, director of the Southern Region Institute of International Education; Rocco M. Paone, director of U. S. Naval Academy Foreign Affairs Conference.

Also William S. Livingston, University of Texas government professor; Harrison E. Hieth, English professor at A&M; J. T. Faubion, Dow Chemical Company official; and representatives of two other service schools, West Point and the Air Force Academy.



SCONA ROUNDTABLE  
... place where students exchange ideas

## Many Dances Highlight Year For Freshmen

Several weekends during the year, A&M's students bring their dates to the campus, dress in their finest, and attend the various balls held in Sbis Hall.

Each class has its own ball during the year. The Fish Ball is usually held after the start of the second semester. Last year's ball was on Feb. 24. It is an occasion when the freshman dons his best Class A uniform and prepares for the brightest weekend of his fish year.

Other dances which freshmen can attend are the Cotton Ball and all dances held for the student body in the Memorial Student Center basement and Ballroom.

Army cadets of all classes don their best fatigues for the Combat Ball, another annual dance feature. The setting for this dance is usually some combat zone, and cadets, as well as the faculty and staff attending, dress accordingly.

Air Science cadets have their individual ball in a little more splendor, as the Air Force Ball is a formal affair, with formal uniform being worn.

The two groups combine each year for another highlight, the Military Ball.

Bands are usually imported from other cities for these dances, although, on some occasions, a local group known as the Aggieband Orchestra plays good music for the dancers.



SCONA BARBECUE  
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## SPEAKING, CORPS TRIPS

# A&M Has Its Own Customs

Since A&M was established in 1876, its customs and traditions have grown to help make this school one of the most nearly unique in the world.

For the past 84 years customs and traditions have come and gone at A&M, some remaining only a few weeks while others have lasted nearly the whole time. It is these which make the school rich in its heritage.

Probably the first tradition and one of the most important is that "Once an Aggie always an Aggie."

The class of 1880, the first to graduate, is said to have inaugurated it to promote school spirit.

Today as Aggies travel around the country we often meet one of these Aggies from older classes who inevitably greets us as a long lost brother and goes all out to make us feel at home. This custom of sticking together is now world known, and wherever two Aggies meet, no matter what their ages, there is sure to be much handshaking and back slapping.

### Speaking

Another great custom at Aggie-land is speaking to and meeting everyone you come in contact with. This custom isn't as old as most of us may think. F. J. Mikeska, '28, now an engineer in Shreveport, La., says when he went to school here nobody spoke as they do now. This has changed now, however, the familiar "howdy" rings out all over the campus.

Another tradition which dates well back into the beginning of the school is the custom of the senior ring. The first Aggie senior ring was worn by the class of 1894. The design has changed very little, so today we still wear the ring designed by that class.

The tradition of class distinction stems from the military training at A&M. The adage "rank hath its privileges" is very true here. The senior is the top dog and his word is law. The junior enjoys some prestige over the sophomore and the "fish" are low men on the ladder.

By the way "fish" is the name given the freshmen by one of the classes in the 1880's which one is not exact. The "fish" catches all the little messy jobs and lives only for the next year.

### Language Unique

The Aggie has a language all his own. A person eating in one

of the cadet mess halls would likely starve unless initiated in the Aggie mess hall slang. For example meat is called "bullneck," butter is "grease," beans, "artillery," dessert "cush;" and syrup, "reg," a term which stemmed from the early 20th century cadets' name of "regulator" given syrup, because it was then sent in big 100 pound barrels.

By the time the cooks reached the bottom of the barrel, fermentation had set in and made it a very effective laxative.

Other terms which are familiar to the Aggie are "Bull," which means one of the Army officers stationed here to teach military science; "the gate," meaning the North gate business district; and one of the most important words to every Aggie—"sack," meaning his own bunk where he catches as catch can, 40 winks.

### Corps Trips

The Corps Trips are another tradition which is of long standing. Today the Corps Trips are made by automobile to the cities to watch football games, but in the early days the school would rent a train and the entire Corps would pile in and chug away to the game.

There are many traditions involving Corps Trips. One of the most widely known is the Twelfth Man tradition. It started in 1922 when the Aggies played a football game against Centre College in Dallas.

The opponents were tearing the Aggs up and the reserves on the Aggie bench were fast dwindling away. When the coach was down to his last reserve a young sophomore named King Gill, who had worked out with the team several times dashed out of the stands where he was sitting and suited up.

Gill didn't get to play but his

gesture gave the school its tradition and today during football game the entire school body, dates and anyone who happens to be in the Aggie stands while the team is ready to go in as the Twelfth Man.

### Bad Memory

Another Corps Trip tradition which is not as pleasant as the trip to Waco, for the game in the 20's.

During the game there was a fight between several of the dents from both schools. In the fight an Aggie was killed accidentally by a thrown chair. The entire Corps left the game, the train they had come from, and returned to A&M to load up the cavalry and artillery.

The Aggies worked all loading the train with the army of cadets in full battle dress with the intent of going to Waco and leveling the campus of Baylor. The Governor called the National Guard however, the train was stopped before it got to Waco.

For this reason there has been another Corps Trip to Waco and there probably never will be such is the bitterness over the event.

### Last Tribute

Another custom at A&M is the National Review, which is held the last day before final exams in Spring.

At this time the Corps do a full dress review on the drill field. After once passing the reviewing stand under command of the seniors the command is turned over to the next year's seniors and the march by saluting the graduates seniors.

UPPERCLASSMEN KNOW WHERE TO GET THE BEST DEAL ON BOOKS AND SUPPLIES --- If You Are In Doubt Ask An Upperclassman  
**LOUPOT'S TRADING POST**