

Tardy Meal Made Sbisas Common Name

A history of A&M could not be complete without mention of Bernard Sbisas, a native of Austria who came to the A&M campus under the first president, Thomas Gathright, and devoted the balance of his life to feeding Aggies.

"He was straight as a ramrod and walked with the precision of a metronome," Ernest Langford, then a student and now the college archivist, said.

Sbisas, who served for 50 years as college steward, was late in serving a meal only once and one of the two A&M dining halls today bears his name as a result of that occasion.

IN THE EARLY morning hours of Nov. 11, 1911, the college mess hall burned to the ground, fueled by the frame flooring and roof after a fire broke out in the kitchen area.

Sbisas and his staff were unusually busy that morning as they finally rounded up old washpots and cooking utensils. Breakfast was served at 10 a.m.

The mess hall which burned in 1911 was located in front of the present hospital site and a temporary kitchen area was built in the vicinity.

"When we were issued our military equipment in those days, they also issued a mess kit," Langford said. Mess kits were put to unexpected use from the time of the fire to an earlier-than-expected Christmas holiday period. The temporary kitchen caught fire to speed up the start of the holiday period.

STUDENTS WERE sheltered under tents while they ate until a large temporary building was completed to serve as mess hall until Sbisas Hall was completed.

The first unit of Bernard Sbisas Hall was completed in 1913, and a second unit was added in the 1920s. Total cost of the building, which long has had the reputation of having the largest unobstructed dining room in the world, was \$205,000.

"Whether the whole world should be encompassed or not may be debatable," Langford said, "but the fact remains that of the three dining rooms in the building the largest has an area of slightly less than one half of an acre." Smallest of the three dining rooms measures 80 by 55 feet.

The one-story building of semi-classic architecture has been the scene of many social gatherings through the years. The largest college banquets and dances still are held in Sbisas Hall.

MRS. TEXAS A&M CONTEST 1962

Name of Contestant:

Name of Husband: Class of: Major:

Address:

Telephone Number:

Group, Club or Student Represented:

Please enclose the \$3.00 entry fee, which includes admission of the contestant's husband to the Contest and Dance, and mail to:

Mrs. Nat Alvis
903 Fairview Street
College Station, Texas
VI 6-5686

Make checks payable to "Aggie Wives Council."

Mrs. A&M Application Blank

This is an official application blank that can be used for entering the third annual Mrs. Texas A&M contest. Deadline for applications is Dec. 1, while the winner will be named Dec. 8. Only requirement is that an entrant be married to a current student. Additional blanks can be obtained from Mrs. Nat Alvis, president of the Aggie Wives Council.

Texas Honey Queen Named

Miss Donna McDonald of Uvalde was named Texas Honey Queen here Tuesday at the 81st annual Texas Beekeepers Conference.

The 19-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. O. H. McDonald of Uvalde was chosen by a panel of judges on the basis of her beauty and personality. She will compete next in the national Honey Queen contest in January at San Antonio.

Runner-up honors here went to Miss Olive Ralph of San Antonio. The estimated 125 persons attending the conference elected John Milam of Devine as new president of the association. He replaces Roland T. Sykes of San Antonio. H. A. Victor of Hutto was named vice president, and Claud J. Bur-

Nudes Protest

LONDON (AP)—Britain's two biggest nudist groups have united in a campaign to get on to more public beaches.

"We have had differences in the past," said Douglas Gibson, spokesman for the British Sun Bathing Association, "but we are now united. We will now be stronger in approaching local councils for the acquisition of public beaches." The other organization is the Federation of British Sun Clubs.

Milt Plum of the Detroit Lions has completed 57.9 percent of his passes in five National Football League seasons.

Delegates Will Study Pesticides

"Pesticides in Agricultural Progress" is the theme for the 1962 Texas Insect and Plant Disease Conference in the Memorial Student Center next Monday and Tuesday.

Headlining the list of speakers is the chief of the Pesticide Chemicals Research Branch, Division of Research Entomology, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Beltsville, Md., S. A. Hall. His address will outline the contributions pesticides have made to the progress of American agriculture. He will speak at 9:15 a.m. Monday.

Chief Chemist Norman Foster, Food and Drug Administration, Dallas, will follow with a report on 1962 activities of the FDA. Members of the teaching, research and extension staffs of the Department of Entomology will handle many of the subjects up for discussion during the day and a half conference.

Opening the second day's first session will be Dr. C. D. Raney, USDA plant pathologist from the Delta Branch Experiment Station at Stoneville, Miss., with a discussion on "Control of Cotton Boll Rots." Members of A&M's plant science and agricultural engineering faculties will appear on Tuesday morning's program.

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