Rogers Introduces Anti-Coed Measure

(Continued from Page 1)

ON

But for Rogers to have any nope of success he would have to hurdle Bryan Sen. Bill Moore, who had threatened to filibuster against the measure.

THE BILL first had to be aproved by the Senate Education committee, headed by Moore, who had throttled an attempt in 1963 to overturn the ruling adopting imited coeducation for A&M.

The bill was pigeonholed in committee and never considered for several weeks, while Rogers fumed that Moore was deliberately refusing to bring the measure to a vote

Rogers succeeded in transferring the all-male bill from Moore's committee to the Committee on Military and Veterans Affairs March 15, 1965.

The fiery Moore, who called

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thought up by simple people" at- in making decisions that would tempting to "return A&M to the be desirable." year 1900," promptly resigned as committee chairman but later reconsidered.

With the bill removed from sure defeat in Moore's committee, Rogers felt more confident in the Military and Veterans Affairs Committee.

And on March 17, with about 150 uniformed students looking on, the bill received commit-

tee approval by a voice vote. A&M PRESIDENT Earl Rudder and Board President Sterling Evans both testified against the bill, asking that the Senate leave affairs of the school to the discretion of the Board.

"To take this bill and tie down the Board forever and say no to changes which would perhaps be necessary , . . would be a serious handicap," Evans pointed out. "We have a great future and we

Bulletin Board THURSDAY

Abilene Hometown Club will meet at 7:30 p.m. in Room 208 of the Academic Building. San Antonio Hometown Club

will meet at 7:30 p.m. in Assembly Room of the Memorial Student Center.

Chemical Engineering Wives Club will meet at 7:30 p.m. in the South Solarium of the YMCA. Waco-McLennan County Home-

town Club will meet in Anderson Room of the YMCA. San Angelo-West Texas Home-

in the MSC.

town Club will meet at 7:15 p.m. Deep East Texas Hometown A&M University," the petition Club will meet at 7:30 p.m. in Room 3B of the MSC.

Jackson County Hometown Club will meet at 7:30 p.m. in the MSC lobby. Mid - County Hometown Club

Edwards. will meet at 7:30 p.m. in Room 206 of the Academic Building.

Rudder also noted that passage

of the bill might damper attempts to upgrade the faculty. "If we try to take authority away from the Board you will

have a difficult time getting profs to come to A&M," Rudder stressed. "If you pass this bill I've got faculty members who would leave tomorrow

ROGERS CHARGED the public had been led to believe that A&M would suffer if full coeducation was not approved.

"The biggest brainwash job in the last 10 to 15 years has been conducted to convince people the school will die and have no growth unless it goes coed," he claimed. "There is no evid-

ence that says you've got to have coeds to have quality and growth." The bill was a watered-down committee substitute that in efcertainly hope this Legislature fect upheld the current Board policy of limited coeducation to comply with a court decision ruling on the legality of refusing to

admit women to a state-supported school. Several students testified on behalf of the bill and the student body president and Corps Comamnder spoke against it.

SHORTLY AFTER the committee hearing the A&M faculty began circulating a petition condemning the bill and reemphasizing faculty support for full co-

education. 'We . . . deplore the interference in the Board's efforts which is being exerted by certain individuals who, we feel, are not in a position to properly evaluate and direct the future of Texas

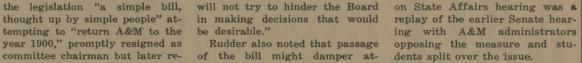
read in part. Rogers had meanwhile postponed floor action on the bill un-

til a similar measure was introduce in the House by Rep. E. M.

The April 5 House Committee

ing, mechanical engineering. United States Gypsum Comcivil engineering, mechanical en-

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Even T. L. Smith of the class of 1898, who had led the fight against coeducation in 1963, appeared in behalf of the bill. College Station Rep. David Haines also appeared and condemned the bill, claiming that many top quality professors would not come to A&M because they could not enroll their wives and daughters. THE COMMITTEE bill was not

brought to a vote but sent instead to a subcommittee, where it eventually bogged down.

With time running out in the legislative session Rogers resumed the fight in the Senate and Moore filibustered for two days.

Rogers was forced to kill the bill May 26 in order to clear the floor for more vital statewide legislation when Moore indicated he was prepared to filibuster indefinitely.

BUT TWO DAYS later the House passed by a 102-34 margin a resolution asking that coeducation at A&M not be expanded further and that the policy of the state was that the school should remain essentially an all-male institution.

The House had gone on record against coeducation, but the ultimate authority still lay with the Board of Directors.

(Next: Recent developments.)

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Trunkline Gas Company — civil engineering, electrical engineer-

pany — chemical engineering, gineering, chemistry.

engineering, nuclear engineering.



Thursday, February 24, 1966

College Station, Texas

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