



Pressman Joe Hudson (left) receives a commemorative plaque from Information Director Jim Lindsey and A&M Press Superintendent Frank Tucker.

Listen up

Aggie finds rating high

Editor:

For my "Swan Song" letter to your journal, as I am leaving for Galveston Community College shortly, I would like to recount an anecdote that happened to me recently and that reflects favorably on the university.

I was on my way back to Bryan after interviewing Galveston Community College for a position in the English Department—I got the job. But, being very tired, I stopped at the Ramada Inn in Clear Lake City, near NASA

headquarters. The night clerk, an older gentleman, would not honor my Phillip's 66 credit card.

I told him that I only had one dollar in greenbacks and asked if he would accept a personal check. He began by telling me all the trouble they have had in the past with personal checks, but finally asked me where I worked. I told him I was a graduate teaching assistant at Texas A&M University. He said, "Son, I'll take your check."

Benard D. Trail '62

Editor:

June 7 I noticed an interesting UPI story about the sport of wine tasting. The competition in this sport centers on the ability of its participants to identify the locality and year of five red and five white wines after careful examination and tasting of each wine.

Now, while I seriously doubt that many of us know wines that

well, there is one beverage-tasting area at which we must be the best in the state—BEER.

Many of us are truly intimate with the delicate flavors of this lovely liquid. What lowly freshman cannot tell (early in the evening, at least) a glass of Pearl from one of Schlitz? Here at last is a tremendous opportunity for a consistently winning A&M team.

So whether you be sipping suds at Hensel Park or on the Brazos, at Ralph's or in your apartment, I challenge each of you to scrutinize each label! Know from where your can of beer came and when it was made! Who can tell? Perhaps some day you may represent us at that table in Ralph's or in Schultze's Beer Garden facing the Longhorns before the Turkey Day game. And if you prepare carefully, you may be the one who outspits the sips!

Hal Coleman

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EDITOR ..... DAVID S. MIDDLEBROOKE

Press worker ends 50-year career

Pressman Joe Hudson retired last Wednesday, ending 50 years of work as a printer.

"I've always loved printing," he said, "and I've never wanted to do anything else."

He also ended his 24th year with the A&M Press. Fellow employes held a surprise party for him, with Press Superintendent Frank Tucker and Information and Publications Director Jim Lindsey among those attending.

Hudson began his career at the age of 13, when family difficulties brought on by the death of his father forced him to go to work. District Judge W. C. Davis signed papers allowing him to work full time even though he was under age.

He began work with Wallace Printing Co. as a printer's devil, or apprentice. His employment also began his "education," with spelling lessons conducted at the type-setting case, and grammar lessons held whenever he had time to read what was being printed at the shop.

He also learned how to do everything in a print shop—set type, melt lead, operate the presses, cut paper, clean the equipment and "answer to any name."

He learned to operate a hand-fed flatbed letterpress. Hudson, as a press feeder, had to stand by the machine and feed one sheet of paper at a time into position, then withdraw it after impression. The job called for skill, speed and accuracy. He had plenty of practice.

Hudson entered the Army in 1942, vowing he didn't want to see a print shop again. After basic, though, he was more than happy to be assigned to the Army Field Printing Plant at Ft. Benning, Ga. After two and a half years in the service, he returned to Bryan and Wallace Printing for two years before going to the A&M Press.

The printer did a lot of work on The Texas Aggie, monthly

publication of the Association of Former Students. The magazine was being printed at Wallace while he was there, and when he began working for the A&M Press they already were handling the magazine.

"Things sure have changed since I started in the printing business," he reminisced. "I remember in the winter we used to have to light candles to heat press rollers. Air conditioning has done away with all that.

"In the old days, we worked up to 12 hours a day, six days a

week without any thought of a vacation," he added. "Now we work 40 hours a week, take coffee breaks and have vacations every year."

Like any loyal craftsman, Hudson believes running a flatbed letterpress is more of an art than operating the offset presses, but he's quick to point out an offset printer wouldn't agree.

He says a letterpress is more difficult because the printer may have to adjust the flat bed of type with each new printing job.

For example, the blocks of wood on which copper or zinc plates for photographic impressions are attached may be either too high or low for good reproduction. When this happens, the printer must either sand down or build up the blocks until the height is right.

During his time with the A&M Press Hudson was a highly dependable employee, Tucker said. "When Joe didn't show up for work," the superintendent said, "you knew something was really wrong."

Southern CS receives city postal service

Mail delivery to College Station citizens in the southern portion of the city began receiving service from the College Station Post Office Saturday, Mayor D. A. "Andy" Anderson has announced.

The effect, he said, will be faster mail delivery.

Previously, delivery of mail was on Rural Routes 3 or 4 from the Bryan Post Office. Citizens in the affected area will now have a street number. Those who have

a question as to their address can contact the City Hall, Anderson said.

Mail delivery will, however, be mounted curbside, the mayor continued; therefore, mail boxes must be placed on posts beside the street. All citizens are urged to place their name, and street and number, on their boxes to aid in mail delivery.

Streets affected by the change are Richards, Sterling, Krenek

Tap Road, Miller Lane and Miller Drive. All homes not directly on these streets will have mail delivered to boxes on Texas Avenue.

Other streets are Lonnie Lane, Southland (800 through 1200 on Wellborn Road) and the West Loop.

"I am pleased with the effective changes made by the U. S. Postal Service, Anderson said. It is a service we have been working toward for about two years."

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