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IRS ruling may deplete library collection

Publishers now taxed on full value of inventories

By CATHIE CREW

A recent ruling by the IRS may make it difficult for Texas A&M University professors to do research projects in the future, Dr. Irene Hoadley, director of Sterling C. Evans Library, said.

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says farewell

6-8

p.m

The new ruling states that publishers must pay taxes on the full value of their book inventories rather than on the depreciated value as previously done

The IRS ruled that the decision would be retroactive for 1979. And to avoid having to pay millions of dollars in taxes, publishers are being forced to either sell their inventories to outlets at prices far below cost or to simply destroy the books

Because of this, Hoadley said, the library will be unable to provide old-er material requested for research or teaching supplements.

Also because of the decision pub-lishers will be inclined to make only one printing which will result in de-creased availability and increased

This will mean that the library will have to make purchases at the time of the first printing or chance not being

This will mean that the library will have to make purchases at the time of the first printing or chance not being able to acquire the materials at all, Hoadley said.

able to acquire the materials at all, Hoadley said.

And most likely over a period of time, the library collections will suffer some gaps, she said. Another problem professors may

face because of the ruling, Hoadley said, is finding a publisher willing to print their books

Experts predict that publishers will stick to quick-selling books to avoid an inventory build-up. There-fore, they will be less likely to handle

items such as scholarly publications.
According to Hoadley, the public
can expect to have difficulty in purchasing old classics by authors such as William Faulkner and Ernest

Hemingway also.

Some older books may go out of print entirely, or publishers may print short-run new editions which will cost much more, she said.

This ruling came about as a result of the January 1979 U.S. Supreme Court case, "Thor Power Tool Company vs. the Commissioner of the

The Supreme Court ruled that valuation of warehouse stock could not be reduced for tax purposes un-less it was disposed of or sold at reduced rates.

The IRS applied the decision to publishers in February 1980 and issued a ruling making the decision retroactive for 1979 inventories.

In response, the publishers have decided to sell what books they can to outlets or to the authors for greatly reduced prices, or destroy what they have and recycle the paper into tissue and paper towels.

Publishers say the decision is particularly upsetting because of the dif-ficulty they have in predicting sales and printing appropriate number of

books with any degree of reliability. Some long term effects of the de-cision, they say, will be that readers and researchers will find it difficult to acquire the titles they want as more

books go out of print Also authors royalties will be re-duced because of smaller first print-ings and fewer second printings.

Under the ruling, books by little known authors will not be kept in stock, and new authors will find it difficult to get books printed. According to one publisher, the

ruling will have its greates commercial publication of

In the past, a minima copies had to be sold to get ing, but with inflation and ruling the minimum is now 1,000 copies, he said.

Many textbook public have to pay the extrataction contracts between them at schools stipulating the both

Howard D. Hart, of the li ty Center, said he is not and changes in policy concent

In response, the lishers have decide Daily Con sell what books the to outlets or to the thors for great s duced prices, or deall store what they have and cycle the paper in though m sue and paper tone toward pri

availability of purchasing to for the University.

Congress to prohibit the ten application of this ruling. It attached to the general tall are not expected to reach until Congress reconvent

Senator Daniel Patick Implans to introduce a bill pens exempting publishers h

A&M team deemed be

Texas A&M University's Intercollegiate Meats Judging Team was named the top team in the nation after winning the International Meats Judging Contest for the second consecutive year.

The contest was held at the U.S. Meat Animal Re-

search Center in Clay Center, Neb.

The team has been one of the top five teams in the nation for the past decade, with the exception of one year when it was in the top ten, Coach Gregg Gossett, a meats researcher for the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station, said. The team won top national honors in 1973.

Team members include Lynn Branecky of Adkins, Joel Finch of Athens, Wade Hibler of San Saba, Gaina Ince of Mason, Laura Larson of Caldwell, Idaho, Darrell Mohr of Fredericksburg, Randy Phariss of College Sta-tion, Homer Recio of Premont and Bill Zuberbueler of

Only four of the team members judge in a particular event, Gossett said. At the international contest, Texas A&M's four judges were among the top like vidual scorers. Branecky, Phariss and Real second, third and fourth to a Michigan Statlin student who placed first. Larson placed ninh

In the lamb judging portion of the contest & and Larson were among three students who to second place, Branecky and Recio placed first and in the pork judging event and Phariss placed in the is gree beef judging portion of the contest. Large y an em second place in that event and Branecky tedfrir. The same nine-member team of animal some will the dents in November placed first at the America Ren by a Meats Judging Contest in Francesk Vernice Rel Contest.

Meats Judging Contest in Emporia, Kan. Texas A&M competed against 20 université across the country in both contests.

Gossett said preparation for the contest into semester of course work and a series of weeks trips to meat packing plants where the student ceived experience at selecting finer grades of lamb and pork.

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Brazos society granted charter

The Brazos Valley group of the American Society of Mechan Engineers has received a charter from the national organization The charter was presented by Dr. Charles E. Jones, ASME nation

president, at the Pi Tau Sigma charter banquet. The new ASME group will serve mechanical engineers in Bra Burleson and Grimes counties. Group members will retain their all

tion with the parent South Texas section.

Accepting the charter were Texas A&M University medial engineering professors: Dr. Carl Gerhold, group chairman; Dr. Eschoup, vice chairman; Dr. Richard Alexander, treasurer; and Dr.

Perry, membership chairman.
Chuck Besio, ASME field director, and Earl Fisher, reginal president, represented Region X, of which the new group is a part.

Reid McNally, chairman of the South Texas section, pres \$250 pledge to help establish the local organization.

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