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East Texas Colloquy

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EAST TEXAS COLLOQUY

The Association's Annual Meeting began in Nacogdoches on Friday, September 28 and continued through Saturday, September 29.

President Bob Bowman of Tyler presided at the Friday evening session where Melvin Mason of Sam Houston State University and Martha Mitchell of Huntsville, presented a program entitled "Adventures with Martha Mitchell of Possum Walk Road." On Saturday John Barnhill's paper on Reconstruction in Texas was presented by Program Chairman James Smallwood of Oklahoma State University. Professor Smallwood also read his own paper on Reconstruction in Texas. Other sessions included papers on the Twenty-fourth Infantry and on Dallas Leadership and the promotion of D-FW by Garna Christian of the University of Houston and Mary Anne Norman of El Centro College. The final session featured Lincoln King of the Gary Public Schools with a presentation on the Loblolly Project, and Ruby Long on the Mittie Stephens. The luncheon speaker was Mike Kingston, editor of the *Texas Almanac*, who discussed the *Almanac's* history and plans for the Sesquicentennial in 1986.

Michael G. Wade of Appalachian State University, Boone, North Carolina, received the C. K. Chamberlain Award for the best article to appear in volume XXI. His article was entitled "Back to the Land: The Woodland Community, 1933-1943." Marilyn McAdams Sibley of Houston Baptist College and Fred Tarpley of East Texas State University were named Fellows of the Association. At a brief business meeting William J. Brophy of Stephen F. Austin State University was elected President of the Association, Jewel Cates of Dallas advanced to First Vice President and Joe L. White of the Kilgore Oil Museum was named Second Vice President. Melvin Mason of Sam Houston State University, Virginia Long of Kilgore, and Marilyn Rhinehart of North Harris



County Community College were named to the Board of Directors. William J. Brophy, president of the Association for 1984-85, is Assistant Vice President for Academic Affairs at Stephen F. Austin State University. Bill is a native of Boston, Massachusetts, but he has lived in East Texas much of his life.

Bill earned his doctorate at Vanderbilt University, and his master of arts and bachelor's degrees from North Texas State University. Prior to assuming his current post with

Stephen F. Austin State University he served as chairman of the Department of History. He is the author, with others, of *A People and A Nation*, a major text for college level history students, published by Houghton Mifflin. He also prepared both the instructor's and student's manuals for *A People and A Nation*. He has served on the Association's Board of Directors for the past eight years.

The Association was saddened by the passing of its longtime member, Edwin G. Rice of Burleson. Mr. Rice passed away on August 8, 1984, following a lengthy illness. He is survived by his wife Louanne Rice and a step-son, John Rice, who often attended Association meetings with him. Mr. Rice was retired from Tarrant County Junior College, South Campus, where he taught American history and government for many years. He was a graduate of Stephen F. Austin University and a student of C. K. Chamberlain, co-founder of the Association and the first editor of the Journal. Mr. Rice's close friend of many years, Maury Darst of Galveston College, prepared the following eulogy:

For most of his life, Ed Rice was a fighter. Not only did he fight in World War II, but he also conducted his own campaign here at home in defense for those things he believed in—honesty and truth.

A native of Nacogdoches County, Ed came from the same red clay hills and pine forests that produced notable Texas patriots, historians, and educators. He was proud of his heritage and never wavered in displaying his roots.

He was also a life-long Democrat, often actively participating in many local, regional, and national campaigns, and he counted several American presidents and U. S. Senators among his personal friends.

Ed was also a perfectionist in an age when perfectionism seemed to be disappearing. He demanded the best from his students, but with a certain care not often found among educators.

A former newsman, he served in a variety of positions, including press agent and speech writer for the later Sam Houston Jones, governor of Louisiana, and later as announcer for radio station KOSF in Nacogdoches.

He was also a churchman and was an active lay reader in the Episcopal Church for over thirty years.

But I knew Ed best as my friend.

Friendship means a lot more than just saying hello or "He's my friend." There is a lot deeper meaning. Ed possessed those qualifications that meant just that, friend.

We knew him too as a member of this organization. He was a loyal

supporter and rarely missed a meeting—the kind of person who helps keep a group like ours together.

He will be missed.

The Texas State Historical Association will hold its Annual Meeting in Fort Worth, February 28 through March 2. Headquarters will be at the Fort Worth Hilton. Contact the Texas State Historical Association, 2/306 Sid Richardson Hall, Austin, Texas 78712, for details.

The East Texas Historical Association has announced it will award in 1985 a series of teaching, book publication, scholarship and historical research awards through the Ottis Lock Endowment.

The Endowment was established earlier this year to honor Ottis Lock of Burnet, formerly of Lufkin, and a long-time civic, political, and business leader in East Texas.

Bob Bowman of Tyler, outgoing president of the Association and chairman of the Lock Endowment committee, said funds contributed by friends and associates of Lock will make possible the following awards in 1985 and every year thereafter:

- An award for the best book on East Texas history. The award will carry a \$250 cash prize and a plaque.

- An award for excellence in teaching history in an East Texas secondary school, also to carry a \$250 prize and a plaque.

- An award for excellence in teaching history in an East Texas Junior or community college. It will also include \$250 and a plaque.

- An award for excellence in teaching history in an East Texas four-year college or university, also to include \$250 and a plaque.

- A \$500 scholarship for an East Texas high school graduate or graduate student to be used at a college of their choice.

- A series of historical research grants, usually \$500 or less, to fund travel, microfilming, copying, typing, and other needs for a project involving East Texas.

Bowman said nominations for the awards should be submitted to the East Texas Historical Association, Box 6223, SFA Station, Nacogdoches, Texas 75962.

Nominations for the teaching awards, scholarship applications, and nominations for the book award should be received by the Association by May 1, 1985. Research grants will be awarded when convenient.

Lock, who served thirty years in the Texas Legislature, was also chairman of the Texas Department of Public Safety and the Board of State Colleges and Universities. He retired as senior vice president of Southland Paper Mills, Inc., in the late 1970s.

A native of Zavalla in Angelina County, Lock taught school, and served as a principal, superintendent, and coach before his election to the Texas Legislature in 1939. He is a former Distinguished Alumni of Stephen F. Austin State University.

"Throughout his life, Ottis Lock has had a strong and abiding respect for East Texas and its history, and the Lock Endowment is a fitting way to honor an East Texan of immense stature," said Bowman.

BOOK NOTES

We have received a good many books for noting. Each deserves a full review but space limitations require us to choose this alternative, which we hope at least will give notice to those interested in the labors of these scholars.

Each spring a dazzling profusion of Texas wildflowers cover the fields and hillsides and sprawl across the meadows of Texas. Natives and tourists alike delight in the riot of color that spreads from the Big Bend to the Big Thicket. Campbell and Lynn Loughmiller's *Texas Wildflowers: A Field Guide* (UT Press, Box 7819, Austin, TX), celebrates the state's wildflowers with more than 380 superb color photographs and descriptions of 73 plant families. Useful glossaries identify the parts of the flowers and acquaint the readers with scientific terminology. Part of the proceeds from sales supports the National Wildflowers Research Center. Lady Bird Johnson contributed a Foreward.

Robert A. Vines' *Trees of Central Texas, A Field Guide*, (UT Press, P.O. Box 7819, Austin, TX 78712), follows his publication of *Trees of East Texas* and *Trees of North Texas*, drawn from his monumental *Trees, Shrubs, and Woody Vines of the Southwest*. It includes 206 line drawings and contains a glossary.

Audubon's Western Journal, 1849-1850 Being the Record of a Trip From New York to Texas, and an Overland Journey Through Mexico & Arizona to the Gold Fields of California (Univ. of Arizona Press, 1615 E. Speedway, Tucson, AZ 85719), tells its contents in the title. It takes readers down the trails of anguish, hope, and high adventure that paved the way West more than a century ago. J. W. Audubon, son of the ornithologist John James Audubon, led a company on this quest of riches and faced hardships, including cholera and runaway horses. Always with the keen eye of the naturalist, Audubon paints a picture of social conditions in Mexico, of birds and trees, of sky and mountains, and of the changing face of nature. First published by A. H. Clark in 1906, the text contains sketches by the author and a biographical memoir by his daughter.

The Papers of Jefferson Davis, Volume 4 (1849-1852), edited by Lynda Lasswell Crist (Louisiana State Univ. Press, Baton Rouge, LA