

Tech Given Statue of Will Rogers

LUBBOCK, June 8 (Spi).—Gift of a life-sized equestrian bronze statue of Will Rogers to Texas Technological College by Amon G. Carter through the Amon G. Carter Foundation was announced Tuesday by Charles C. Thompson of Colorado City, chairman of the college board.

After the board's unanimous acceptance of the gift at its pre-commencement session Monday, Thompson described it as "a wonderful thing for Texas Tech, and fittingly appropriate. Will Rogers typified the West Texas cowboy philosophy."

The board designated that the statue be placed at the west end of the esplanade rectangle at the main entrance to the campus, facing the War Heroes' Memorial Circle. Befitting its title, "Riding Into the Sunset," the statue will face west.

Committee Named.

A committee of the board was named to prepare a resolution of appreciation to Carter. Thompson said the date for the dedication ceremony on the campus here would be announced later by the board.

The interest of the donor in Texas Technological College dates back to the founding of the school and to the organization of its first board, of which he was chairman four years.

Rogers himself had a great fondness for the Lubbock area, having punched cattle for several years on the Ewing Halsell ranch near Amherst even before the town was founded, and later worked on ranches near Plainview.

Work of Texan.

The statue is the work of Electra Waggoner Biggs of Vernon. It shows Rogers, the rope-twirling humorist and philosopher, in characteristic pose astride his favorite horse, "Soapsuds."

A duplicate of the statue was given to the city of Fort Worth by Carter and was placed in front of the Will Rogers Memorial Coliseum and Auditorium in Fort Worth. It was unveiled last Nov. 4, Rogers' birthday, by Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower. Each equestrian figure stands 9 feet 11 inches high and weighs 3,200 pounds.

General Eisenhower commended the striking likeness and general excellence of the statue in his tribute to Rogers.