

# THE BATTALION

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### "ROUGHNECKING IT AT THE AIRDOME."

How many men have heard our corps called a bunch of "rough-neck"?

When the men of the present senior class were fish "Prexy" was in the midst of a strenuous campaign against men whom we then thought were "roughnecks". Many of our men will remember the fate of some of the men who were victims of this campaign. In those days we had no Airdome with the high grade picture shows we are having now. The pictures were absolutely rotten, to say the least, and it may be said that no operator could even show that class pictures today without fear of personal violence. Still the men sat through the ordeal with none of the "kick" that is pulled off today. A roughneck made his appearance at A. and M. for the first time in the last three years.

A modern roughneck has no respect for distinguished men invited here from time to time to speak to us. These speakers are selected from the very best. They not only come from all parts of Texas but many come from all parts of the United States. Nearly every one of them has an influence upon the progress of our college and it can be easily seen that a bad impression made upon them not only hurts us personally but hurts our College's good name as a first class institution.

Worst of all the modern "Roughneck" has no respect whatever for ladies. Although our shows are the very best, it is seldom that campus ladies attend these shows. The Airdome is in the midst of the residences yet the tendency is for the campus people to stay away. The fact is easily understood after one visit to the Airdome during an entertainment. If the picture is in the least suggestive, our roughneck is right

there to either yell or make some remark easily heard throughout the building. Would any student here do this at a picture show in his own town? Would he even pull this roughneck stuff in Bryan. The campus ladies are the best and kindest ladies in the world to us. They always try to help us and make our stay here just as pleasant as they possibly can. No trouble or inconvenience is too great for them in entertaining our lady friends when they visit us. Yet these ladies cannot come among us because some men in our corps thoughtlessly, perhaps, insult them. This is a question everyone should consider. Put your mother or sister in the place of the campus ladies and see how you would feel about it. From now on let us watch our step and hold our tongues when ladies are present.

### JUNIORS

#### INTRA-MURAL ATHLETICS.

The present day current of athletics is flowing strongly in the direction of intra-mural competition and mass contests. The mass idea is to some extent carried out by our military work, but the deficiency in class athletics at A. and M. is one of the most glaring defects in our system of student activities. Quite a number of the larger institutions of the country are seriously considering dropping all inter-collegiate contests and making class competition the principle form of athletics. We are not advocating such a radical plan as this, but there is no gainsaying the fact that our present scheme of intra-mural athletics is sadly deficient and has been for the past few years. Class competition has a two-fold object, striving to attain the highest athletic performance possible from the athletic work, without stopping to explain our own system and analyze the same we feel safe in saying that its lack of success may be traced to two main reasons.

In the first place, the whole plan of class athletics seems to lack a leader or in other words there is no one making it his business to see that company athletics are a success. The problem of class athletics should be as important as that of school athletics and, instead of the half-hearted backing it now receives, it should be pushed to the limit. Intra-mural competition cannot be successful by itself but with the proper management and leadership this will become one of the liveliest issues of student life.

The second reason for the failure of class athletics lies in the fact that they are not regarded in the proper

light. At the present time the main object of these contests is the procuring and developing of material for the regular squad. This is a very good thing, but in our eagerness we have overlooked the larger usefulness of company athletics. Their primary function should be in benefiting the largest possible number of students and not in producing a few men for varsity teams.

After all, the first and original reason for any athletics lies in the value of the physical improvement to be gained thru them. By earnestly and vigorously promoting intra-mural or company athletics at A. and M., the present system can be improved to an enormous extent. But unless someone takes an active part in this work and pushes it enthusiastically to its fullest extent, we can not hope for much improvement over our present system.

### JUNIORS

#### THE ALIBI.

In the shadowy ages of the early existence of man the excuse was first invented. It's inventor was at once set upon and killed for producing the abominable thing but the thing itself could not be so easily done away with because it had found harbor in the minds of men. And so thru the advancing ages has the excuse arrived, keeping step with progressing mankind. And as mankind has perfected his language and his machines, so has the Devil perfected the excuses which he adopted for his own. Just as the steam engine has branched to make the railroad engine and the steamship engine, so has the excuse branched and received many names which are more or less adapted to the various occasions of young gentlemen coming from the shadows of the shadows along alibi.

When men fail, if they are rough and untalented, they put up an excuse, but if they are veneered with civilization they take refuge behind Excuse's oldest son, Alibi. This does not hold true of all men, for the clean and fair sport, the man who plays the game fairly and can lose in the right way, does not employ young Alibi to shield him. We hope that all men at A. and M. belong to the class of true sportmen but time will tell.

### JUNIORS

#### GUARD DUTY.

Don't you think that the average cadet would stay in his room during study hours, whether there was a sentinel or not? It is only a very small per cent. of the student body who can't be accounted for when

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"fall" blows. An overwhelming majority of the cadets is quiet and peaceable at the proper times, but because a few sprout a wild hair occasionally and disturb the peace, we all have to be guarded by some ambitious young freshman armed with rifle and bayonet, a dangerous combination with a wonderful moral effect.

There are from two to six cadet officers on each floor, and every one is capable and willing to account for the presence and good conduct of his men.

These officers will feel more like soldiers and less like figure-heads. Between three and five hundred study hours will be saved per week. The general spirit will be better, because a universal desire of the student-body will have been realized. What is the most quiet and studious organization on the campus? The casuals and they don't have sentinels.

### JUNIORS

The country seems to be waking up and demanding a more adequate salary for members of the teaching profession. In the past few years, the pay of other professions and businesses has been increased while the salary of our teachers has remained at the same level. This has necessarily caused a shortage of efficient teachers and the people are commencing to realize that a teacher plays a very important role in our life today.

A movement is now on foot at A. and M. College to secure a raise in the teacher's salaries so that the general average will be as high as the salary that is paid to the plumbers and brick layers who work on the campus. This school cannot afford to lose good teachers on account of low pay and needs good teachers which an adequate salary may attract.

### JUNIORS

R. O. C. contracts call for two hours practice each week but with compulsory meetings in the Airdome "immediately after supper", compulsory range work half a mile from the campus, and compulsory inspections on Saturdays, the total practice hours run a bit high—and even then we hear the top-sergeants say "Dismissed!" five minutes late after drill periods.

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