

# THE BATTALION

Published every Thursday night by the Students' Association of the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas

Subscription price \$1.50 per year  
Advertising rates on Application

Member Texas Collegiate Press Association

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Entered as second-class matter at College Station, Texas, February 17, 1905.

It is impossible to maintain a constructive policy of a publication when critical articles are written which lack sufficient fundamental reason to make them justifiable. This lack of reason may often be attributed to several different causes among which are: misunderstanding of conditions as they actually exist; the inability of securing sufficient data as a basis; the non-realization that all matters have two sides, etc. Negligible a quantity as this may seem it often serves to spread ideas and beliefs which, were the truth known, would bring reputation from the originator of the question. We have this well illustrated in the recent discussion of the Y. M. C. A. and it is the purpose of this attempt to right some things which are wrong and to set clearly before the student body actualities concerning the above named institution.

"Y. M. C. A." is in the strictest sense a misnomer for the organization on the campus which we familiarly recognize as such. It was not founded, is not supported and is not conducted by or in accordance with the policies of the National Association. The money with which it was built was raised by popular subscription among classes and the faculty of this school in conjunction with that received from John D. Rockefeller and other men of philanthropic tendencies. Hence it is governed by certain requirements which make it a social or community center rather than a Young Men's Christian Association. It is open to everyone and ladies' clubs and social societies are encouraged to use the "Y" building as their meeting place. Thus we can see reason why there should be restrictions as to wearing of headdress or smoking while in the building for the simple reason that every man recognizes the above as gentlemanly qualities to show when in the presence of a lady. It is then to be considered as a center of social and religious activities of the immediate community which includes the faculty members and families, employees of the college as well as the entire student body. As stated above it is governed by a board which have as its backing certain fundamental rules and regulations of funds and methods of management. The administration and policies are in its control and these are put in operation

and maintained thru the office of a secretary appointed by them. The securing of a permanent secretary has been a big problem on account of the scarcity of men left doing this work. After the war and again because the association is financially unable to cope with the situation. (The maintenance and building endowment funds are distinct and separate). The present administration is only temporary account of the above reasons—as the desire is to obtain a man who will have no other duties besides his official title as secretary of the "Y". Thus we see that the wrong attitude has been taken toward this organization and solely on account of an actual understanding of conditions as they actually exist.

## THE BLANKET TAX

Since our last issue in which was an editorial concerning a method of financing athletics and student activities and suggesting the tax system, we have received the following from Mr. James Sullivan who is now connected with the Athletic Council as secretary. We appreciate his support in this movement and hope that some plan will be worked out along these lines. An extract of his letter follows:

The writer has been connected with the A. and M. College for nearly eleven years and has been deeply interested in all student activities, and to my mind there are only two ways of successfully promoting student activities. One is by state appropriation and the other is by the method of the blanket tax. From experience it would seem that the former is almost impossible since the legislators are very much inclined to look with disfavor on any appropriation of this nature. Thus it would seem that the only solution of this vital problem is a taxation method, as you suggest.

The Longhorn and The Battalion have suffered to my certain knowledge in many instances on account of insufficient funds. Both of these publications have been at all times a credit to the institution and the entire student body and faculty alike should be proud of and I am sure that they are, still there are quite a number who do not take sufficient interest in either of these publications to subscribe for them. All students and workers in general at the College receive benefit from these publications thus all should share in financing them. This is an obligation that rests alike on each student and each person connected with this institution and there is no justice that some should shirk this obligation and at the same time receive the benefit thereof.

The same condition is true in Athletics. The Athletic Association has during the past ten or twelve years received very little aid from the College. It is true, however, that under the present administration the Association is receiving more aid since Dr. Bizzell realizes the importance attached to athletics, still, the Association is badly handicapped through the lack of funds. There are, as you doubtless know, many forms of athletics that should be promoted here. The majority of these are non-revenue bearing forms of athletics such as tennis, handball, wrestling, boxing and volleyball. All of these together with track are purely non-revenue bearing branches of sport. They are not only non-revenue bearing but they are in many respects very expensive, that is, the equipment and class of men required to give instruction in these branches of sport command a

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