

# THE BATTALION

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### WHAT OF YOUR COLLEGE LIFE?

The "T" dance has come and gone and now the lovers of the terpsichorean art are looking forward to the pleasures of the R. V. festivities in April and the intervening corps dance.

But what of those members of the student body who do not attend the dances and other social activities of the College? Surely they are in a large majority even when only the two upper classes are considered. Are these men getting all of the pleasure out of their college life? Are they giving their school a fair chance?

From psychology we learn that memory, after all, is a matter of association. If our existence at A. and M. is one dreary day of classes followed by another, who can have pleasant memories of their years in school? In the years following graduation when the word "college" is mentioned, what associations will be recalled?

If some form of social or student activity is not recalled along with the word "college", then who among us will have pleasant memories of Aggieland? One may obtain specific knowledge in our modern prisons, if that is all that is to be required. But who has pleasant associations with the term "prison"? It is because there no one has social or public activities. Are you going to remember your college as a prison?

By attending the dances one is not insured a well rounded life and happiness "ad infinitum." Such would be extremely dogmatic. But dancing is only one of the many forms of diversion that may be obtained. There is the Y. M. C. A. which could be more fully utilized; school and class papers to contribute your literary ability to; and other activities both religious and social which will tend toward making one's life more balanced.

Of course, anything may be carried to the point of excess, but that danger is at present a minor consideration.

### GETTING ACQUAINTED WITH YOUR COLLEGE AND ITS STUDENTS.

From all indications spring is here and with it comes a few hours of leisure time each day, as well as baseball, and a longing for the girl back in the old home town. But the girl and baseball are well able to care for themselves, so it is in regard to the few hours of leisure time that this article is written. With all due regard to those few who have many hours of studying to do because of some "heartless" professors, every cadet must admit that at this time of year he finds that not all of his day is required for work. What can he do with the extra hours?

Anyone will readily admit that there are very few entertainments given at College Station, but there are many means for diversion. As a suggestion, consider that the College has been in session now about six months and the majority of the students know very little about it. The engineers plod from one class room to the next one, disdaining to visit the realms of the agriculturist and the "bug hunters" could not conceive of spending any of their valuable time visiting the engineer's laboratories. Each confines himself to his own narrow field and in doing so neglects the opportunity furnished him to broaden out. It would be a good plan to spend some of the leisure time learning about A. and M. College.

There is not only the College to become acquainted with for there are two thousand students in attendance here. Many slighting remarks have been made lately regarding the over importance attached to the subject of a man's associations while in college, but after all the friendships made there are something of tangible value to anyone. Friendships formed at A. and M. College are famed for their lasting qualities.

The flaw in this argument is that every cadet has been making friends since the opening of school last September, so why say anything about it? But did one ever stop to consider that one has somehow drifted into a small clique and rarely visits except in the small group? The thing to do is to get out on the campus, meet new men, and while retaining the old friends try to add to that number. Friends will help to make the long days seem only too short.

### TACT AS A VIRTUE.

There are some who claim that tact is not a virtue. Yet it is a virtue with a two-fold service. It is a ready power of appreciating and doing what is required by circumstances. Tact makes others happy, and prevents wounding their feelings. Thus it has a positive and a passive virtue. Tact is a sympathetic understanding; a delicate skill in saying and doing what is best and most suitable for all concerned. It is the ability to manage others with a consideration.

That which puts sunshine and happiness in the hearts of people is a virtue. It is not a lack of straight-forwardness or sincerity, but it is a deep understanding of human nature, with a desire and capability to use this knowledge by dealing skillfully with others. Being frank to the point of speaking whatever comes into the mind, or being blunt to the point of unkindness is not a virtue. On the contrary, it is egotistical, and even cruel at times. Why should one say and do what is not best under the circumstances, merely for the sake of being plain-spoken? Being tactful is as honest as being blunt—and infinitely kinder. There is nothing to be more desired than tact rightfully used. It creates harmony, pleasure, and love. Therefore, tact is one of the greatest of virtues.—Key-Notes.

### DID YOU KNOW THAT—

Editor's Note: This column is being started in this issue for the purpose of acquainting the student body with the greatness of A. and M. and the things that are a part of A. and M., for there are many things for which the institution is noted and of which we are not familiar. It will be continued in the succeeding issues and contributions to it from members of the student body, faculty, or anyone else connected with the College will be printed.

A. and M. is the largest military school in the world and supplies a greater number of Reserve Officers into the reserve corps than any other school in the United States.

During the recent World War, A. and M. had more of her sons enlisted under the Stars and Stripes than

any other college or university in the United States.

The Department of Horticulture offers the only course in the world dealing strictly with the different phases of pecan culture. Dean Kyle, head of the School of Agriculture, is the originator and the instructor in this course.

Texas A. and M. College, in its forty-seventh year as one of the leading Agricultural and Mechanical College of the South is more inadequately equipped to carry on graduate work than it was ten years after it was founded.

Did you know, too, that the House of Representatives cut the appropriation to conduct graduate work to "nil".

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