

# THE BATTALION

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## DANCE ETIQUETTE

When we first get back to school each fall it seems that some of us are too prone to forget some of those rules pertaining to etiquette that we should have learned at home.

Back at the old home town "prom" we were told that it is not the best of manners to tag in on the first dance in each set, but that encores could be tagged. Why is it that when some of us get back to school and make the Corps Dances, that we clap in just as soon as the orchestra begins playing, whether it be the first or the last dance?

A striking example of this misconduct we should call it, was seen at the Corps Dance last Saturday night. We realize that some of the sophomores are rather socially inclined at the beginning of each year and think that they are pretty darn good, but it does not look so good for four or five of these younger brothers to gang up and push a Senior to the corner. If a man brings a girl to the dances here, he certainly deserves the right to dance with her during the first dance in each set without four or five "stags" hanging on his arm. All freshmen take notice, "in no case shall a freshman break in on a Senior at any of the Corps Dances." That is something that is not done.

Think of your manners sometime men, and let us make it a rule that only encores are tag dances.

## SCHOLARSHIP

No doubt, everyone going to A. and M. has an ambition of some kind or other. Some may want to achieve high military honors; some might want to indulge in society, while others have the desire to be good students. The last of these should be foremost in every mind—the desire to be a good student.

In the past few years, scholarship at A. and M. has been greatly improved. Some five or six years ago, the "grade point" system was established. Prior to that time, it was often difficult for some students, who really cared to learn, to apply their time to the best possible advantage. It seemed almost a tradition to taunt and jeer the ambitious student. The tendency was to discourage diligence and to barely "get by."

Realizing the ill effects of this practice and the hazards that could develop, the officials of the college devised a remedy—the grade point system. Now a student must, in order to graduate, show that he is capable of making better than a barely passing grade in his work.

At present there is a new dormitory being constructed. Whenever we see it, we are reminded that A. and M. is growing. We realize that our college is getting bigger. But equally as important is the growth that comes month after month and year after year as our scholastic standing is raised. That is the part of our growth that we fail to see, and yet which is so vital. Few of us stop to think how little all of the beautiful buildings that we might have would mean if our reputation as scholars was bad, or our courses would teach us nothing. This is just one side of the problem connected with our growth, and must be borne in mind. If we are anxious to make this a better school, we must make our contribution, and one way to do this is by being a good student and encouraging good scholarship.

## OUR CONDUCT

"Mother, I got drunk last night." Though this be true, how many would have the courage to admit it? Yet at every opportunity that presents itself some A. and M. cadets find it necessary to become intoxicated. Fortunately, this does not occur very often, but why must it happen at all?

At every Corps trip, some unthinking students find it necessary to become intoxicated. Just why they do this is hard to say. Surely no one thinks it is smart or in the least bit manly. Quite on the contrary, it reveals the weakness and thoughtlessness of the person or persons involved. Some might say

that they drink for enjoyment, but what enjoyment is there to anyone in making a fool of himself before the eyes of all his fellowmen, thereby incurring their disrespect? It appears that anyone with a reasonable amount of self-respect would not even want to see such a thing being committed.

In a very short time now the T. C. U. game will be played, and the entire Cadet Corps will be visitors at Ft. Worth for the first time. We all know the importance of a first impression. This is our opportunity to make a good first impression on Ft. Worth, and whether it is good or not will depend entirely on the Cadet Corps. During the past years, the Aggies have established for themselves an enviable reputation, and it is the duty of the present Corps to maintain it. How we act at Ft. Worth will make an impression that will be either an asset or detriment. The important thing will not be the conduct of the crowd, but the conduct of the individual, for we all know that it is the little things that usually cause the most trouble in the end. So on October 22, let us all forbear from doing anything that will tend to destroy our reputation, and we know that drinking is the first thing that is noticed on such an occasion.

## GRATEFULNESS

It is a well known fact that familiarity breeds contempt and that sometimes too freely granted favors lead to abuse, and such is the case with the ride catching element here in school, which by the way includes nearly everyone.

The fact that the Bryan and College people will pick up a strange cadet and carry him four miles is not much in itself but the number of cadets carried amounts to quite a size and consequently represents quite a saving to the student body. At least the Trolley Co. thinks so.

As these rides are given merely as a matter of accommodation the cadets should be at least grateful, but are they? Several people here on the campus have been embarrassed by the rowdy conduct of boys that they had picked up to say nothing of an occasional slip of the tongue that was more embarrassing than instructive.

But of even more importance is the fact that when a car passes and fails to pick up anyone it is followed by quite a trail of sulphur and brimstone which does not annoy the driver of the car (he does not hear it) but does annoy, sometimes to the point of calling the constable when polite requests failed, the people who live on the corners that the cadets have chosen as their favorite place to catch rides.

Therefore in the future when it becomes a bit difficult to be a gentleman try being silent, the results are largely the same.

## "AND GREAT WAS THE FALL THEREOF"

The past has been a week of falls. Falling leaves, falling raindrops, and the falling of Southwestern's Pirates have all left their impression on our more or less receptive conks. However, the most resounding thud of all has come from the fall of our Fish Corporals.

Many and various have been the performances of the proud wearers of inverted stripes. It is said that one arrogantly rammed Sergeant King for usurping seniors privilege by wearing slacks. Another approached Col. Nelson and demanded the key to the flag pole, and still another rammed all the Sophomores in his outfit for not showing him the proper respect.

After the first heartache wears off, probably all the ex-corporals will realize that they have received a lesson which they can profit by all of their lives. The gist of the lesson is that one cannot successfully hold even the meanest position of command without the co-operation of his subordinates.

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