

The Battalion

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

Subscription Price \$1.75 per year.

ALL ADS RUN UNTIL ORDERED OUT.

Entered as second-class matter at the post office at Bryan, Texas, under the Act of Congress March 3rd., 1879.

Member of National College Press Association

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AMBITION AND DILIGENCE A HIGH SCHOOL MEMORY ONLY.

We have in our hands a compilation of facts from the Registrar's office in regard to unauthorized absences from classes. It is rather embarrassing to publish anything like this when we stop to consider the manner in which such a statement will reflect on the character, ambition, and enterprise of these young, industrious college men. And still, most of us continuously raise a cry to the sky for more freedom of action and less restrictions, under the assumption that we are men, who know our own minds and realize fully our purpose here, when really facts confirm just the opposite side of the question.

In the first three weeks of school there were four thousand and thirty-six absences reported. Merely in the two weeks from September the 30th to October the 12th there was an average of 1.2 unauthorized absences from classes. At this rate, it costs the Registrar alone, to say nothing of the time lost by the instructor in checking up and reporting absences, enough to pay the expenses of one student for one year.

If a student's time is worth say twenty-five cents an hour in the class room, then the student body lost something like one thousand and nine dollars from the time school opened to the time of the Kansas-Aggie game. Assuming that a student's expenses for one term is two hundred and fifty dollars and that he takes twenty hours work, it may be said that he pays seventy-eight cents per hour for his class room instruction.

The impression may be formed from the above statement, that an education is set too much on an economic basis. Such is not the case if one takes into consideration the fact that the average mind of the students attending A. and M. College is not very sensitive to values and returns. It is undoubtedly an unsound principle to invest in something that will not produce an equal or higher return. This is a disadvantage of being absent from classes, without an authorized excuse, from an economic standpoint; now we should consider it from an educational viewpoint.

Our original purpose in coming here, whether we still maintain it or not, was instigated by a desire to learn a profession or acquire such knowledge as would enable us to occupy a decent place in society. The best method found to transmit this knowledge, is to have an instructor expand on the intricate questions in a book so that students may not have as much difficulty in grasping their hidden meaning. The result is that some of us do not realize the importance of this process and consequently do not attend classes punctually.

The whole state of affairs is disgusting. We demand to be treated like grown up sensible men while we act like playful and careless children. Why not stop to think for a while and reason the question out, there would at least be a change from the daily routine.

TRANSPORTATION RATES.

Such articles as these are not written as matters for space taking by someone wishing to while his time, or for the purpose of increasing the self confidence or egoism thru a commendation of non self-possessed qualities,

but are suggestively put forth in a conscientious effort for individual and group improvement.

Logically, and therefore rightfully, do we clamor for better traveling conditions to and from, over the iron; and peculiarly true is the fact that lower rates of mechanical travel should become a realization to satisfy our one and same periodical desire, but such results are impossible only thru individually expended effort.

Mention of property destruction during entrainment would be trite and would be a pathetic attempt to bring you to your senses. You can think! You do think! But thinking is not a mob characteristic, so you suppress it and continue on your "march to the sea."

On the past group trip the majority of passage was good, some of which was first class, observance of all being impossible, and considering forerunning events, it was most excellent. Only the absence of expectorate receptacles kept it from being luxurious travel.

Don't be selfishly misled to a belief that every loss to the transporting companies is not balanced. We gain individually through property increase and we lose individually through travel rate increase. Our fares would be cheaper but for this loss: other schools, not so destructively prominent receive them—why not us?

Your narrowness is effectively self-detrimental.

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A QUESTION MARK?

Of all the things that one is able to think of, there is only one that is doubled for its owner when shared equally with someone else. This scarce and elusive phenomenon is complete happiness, and the search for it has led men through all kinds of torture, ordeals, and unbelievable experiences. Oftimes it remains for those who search, only to find in the ending that the hunt was futile and the thing that they thought would bring them so much happiness only brings gray hairs and more sorrow.

There are three things which men falsely believe the possession of which would bring happiness. These are fame, rank, and success; and it can be seen in all the histories of the world that men have fruitlessly gone to their doom in quest of these. The once great kaiser, in search of fame and rank, was brought low to the state of utmost humility and is now a broken old man and seldom heard of. The fact that money cannot buy it is proven in the statistics of last year, which stated that seventy-two millionaires committed suicide.

Where then, and how is this rare state of being to be found? Robert Louis Stevenson was a person who intimated that there is no shadow of a doubt but what happiness is to be found in living unselfishly with others and making them happy. It means that one is never idle, and that the job on and is always one of which it is possible to be proud.

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