

# The Battalion

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## REMINDER.

A few weeks ago an article synonymous to this appeared in this editorial column, but from its results it is evident that it received a minimum amount of attention. To be candid, the conditions again referred to are those which exist on the campus, and which need to be remedied, badly.

If a stranger were to visit our dormitories he would probably come to the conclusion that numerous tribes of vandals were roving unhampered in the paths of demolition over the entire acreage of A. and M. If he further visited the main building, he would think, from the quantity of match marks on the walls, that this institution is one where everyone attempts to emulate a stock-board marker at a cotton exchange, or the official scorer at a baseball game.

Every term, including this and ensuing ones, we have had and will have to pay twenty frigid dollars for our new furniture, and for the care of our dormitories. This practice will continue until the state sees fit to appropriate us more money.

We are college students. Now when we come to college, are we not already aware of the fact that we must not destroy public property, or mar that which does not belong to us? Was not our prime purpose in coming to college to develop what thinking powers we may have? And do we not defeat our own purposes when we continue to disregard public property and not to think of the rights of others? No person with self-defeating purposes can hope to accomplish much in life, and surely this is the character of these purposes.

The thing that this paper, the college, and the people of the state of Texas want you, as individuals, to do is to be more careful with this new furniture we have in our rooms, and for every man to appoint himself as his own master to keep the fussy thing called "I" from going astray and degenerating to the mediocre.

## CONTRIBUTION.

Once in a very long while good things are too abundant in this world, and this seems to be the case at A. and M. A little griping is a good thing, but too much of it, besides being painful, is apt to prove useless. From the nature of the talk buzzing around the campus, and the tone of some of the editorials appearing in the Bat. a person not acquainted with the situation would be led to believe that this institution is sick unto death with many vague but serious ailments, and that the only remedy for this sad state of affairs lies in starting a transitional movement, or joining one already started, from the "old" to the glittering but in definite "new." There is much ink spilled in this year's Bat on account of this and there was more spilled last year, but, thanks to the spell of other days, not very much has been accomplished in a material way and not much seems likely to be accomplished.

For the Old School is not so badly off, whatever the trend of the talk, printed or otherwise. A freshman is still a fish, and the soul of Aggie land is very real on misty nights when Taps floats up from the Y

steps in the old way, as it did in the days when Hunt led the finest team the Conference has ever seen up a rocky path to victory, and as it floated up in years before that when other Aggie heroes had their hour. "Tear away from the old traditions!" is the cry now, but how can A. and M. do that? Take away its traditions and any college loses more than it can afford to lose. It becomes a mere machine, turning out lesser machines bearing its stamp.

Why should we tear down what fifty years has built for us? Why should we become ordinary and lose that uniqueness and wholeness which has set us apart from all other schools and made us famous throughout the country? That is what all this talk of change will amount to if it is heeded. People do not know that we are a great military school or that we turn out so many Engineers and so many Aggs as finished products every year. They have never heard of all this, but they have heard of Aggie Fight and they rest our fame upon it. After we have given them cause to place our name in the sun, why should we bring it tumbling down?

Lets drop all this talk of change, Army, and get to work to keep Aggie land's greatness as it is and as it has been. Gripping is a weak sport for men, anyway.

Editor's Note:—This comes to us as a contribution, such as we are always glad to receive. A reply to this glittering product of the mind of one of our illustrious brothers will appear next week.

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## COLLEGE ATHLETICS VS. COLLEGE SPIRIT.

The findings of the Carnegie Foundation investigating committee have caused so much excitement and alarm, that we are wondering if the public can really be fooled or are people just supposed to act surprised. It was found that many institutions of higher learning provided the economic means for a boy who could play football or any other sport, to attend college, being understood that he would shine as a star.

It is quite difficult for us to imagine or picture in our minds things that are contrary to our prescribed path. But let us for an instant emerge from the "inside dope" and observe as a spectator, a member of the crowd,—that body with a unique understanding of what is right—observe, I repeat, a football game. The yell leader, in quite emotional words, impresses the student body with the necessity of winning the game by giving the team their full support. An Ex may come along and babble a few words on the love he maintains for his Alma Mater, of how the "old spirit" has declined, etc. The student body by this time is in a state of patriotic excitement and ready to lose their voices and what not in an effort to transmit their fighting spirit (sometimes aided by imbibing some powerful stimulant) to the men on the field.

We then see a player, tense with the emotion of having his pay-check increased or of getting that extra fifty dollars offered (in private of course) by some prominent Ex. for every touchdown, ready to call for the ball. Meanwhile, we can imagine the thoughts running through the minds of the others who will do the interference. If the first man fails they will very likely get a chance to try next, so why do the interfering. The process is repeated with the man carrying the ball trying his best at all times but consequently failing.

The game ends with the larger side of the score probably on the side that put up more money. Yet the public will remark on the fine spirit of fight and sportsmanship that exists in such an institution.

The above is merely a general sketch of what can happen in any college or university, incidentally we gain an insight into college spirit. We are now willing to believe that "you can fool all the people part of the time, part of the people all the time, but you can't fool all the people all the time."

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