

# THE BATTALION

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## HONORING OUR VISITORS

Sunday a review in honor of members of the college alumni and Tuesday a review in honor of the newly appointed commander of the Eighth Corps Area—quite a busy week in a military way, but the occasions are well deserving of the attention to be given them.

Two methods are offered us for showing our appreciation of the value of such a group as the alumni and of such an individual as our Corps Area Commander to our college, but to declare a holiday, though not beyond our desires, is beyond our means. Our only other means is by giving a review of the corps in their honor, and to give either of the visitors any less fitting a tribute would be nothing short of discourtesy.

It would hardly be a fitting remark to say that every member of the corps is mindful of and correctly attentive at all times to his dress. For this reason we suggest that your ebrace that crumpled campaign hat and improve your other uniform in proportion so that a good presentation, well representative of the corps, may be given on these occasions.

## CAMPUS COMMENT

This column is open to signed contributions from members of the student body and faculty at A & M. Contributions must be either typewritten or legibly written in ink, and The Battalion reserves the right to refuse publication of any contribution considered unfit.

During the past few weeks there has been quite a bit of discussion on the campus concerning the seeming constant change in the time of the music played at retreat formations. In this connection The Battalion this week received the following letter from Burt E. Nowotny, captain of the Band:

Editor, The Battalion:

It has been rumored that there has been some criticism of the time in which the band has been playing for the retreat formations. I would like to explain the difficulties under which the band labors in trying to play music to which the whole cadet corps might keep time.

In elementary physics we learn that sound travels at the rate of 1094 feet per second at 60 degrees Fahrenheit. We also learn the phenomena of reflection of sound (echo). The echo, being in itself sound, travels at the same rate.

It has been stated that a body of troops marching to the music of the band is required to change step at the drum solo. Sound produced by drums, being more resilient than the more regular musical tones, creates a more noticeable echo.

The distance from the band position to Mitchell hall is about two hundred feet. At the instant the marching column passes that building it receives the impression of the echo in contra-distinction to the original sound from the drums to which they had been marching. Furthermore, there is another cross reflection from Gathright hall which is very noticeable if one stands on the walk at a point between the entrance to the Assembly hall and the residence of the president. There is a conglomeration of sound at this point, but it is not, however, as abrupt as that caused by the impact of sound on Mitchell hall.

We, the band, would gladly welcome any suggestion on a way to overcome this phenomena.

If a person will hold a watch on the band while it is playing, counting thirty-two paces to fifteen seconds, he will find that the band never varies two paces per minute in either direction, fast or slow. Special attention is invited to the change to, from, and during the drum solo.

Adjusting the cadence to 128 beats per minute is considered very simple to any ordinary band conductor. In directing the larger musical forms such as overtures, operatic selections, sym-

phonies, etc., the changes of time are usually indicated; one movement will be played at mm150 (Maelzel's Metronome), and then a sudden change will be made to mm50 or mm65. The competent director is expected to regulate the cadence at that many beats a minute.

Any person interested is invited by the band to attend one of our concerts in the near future, and we will furnish a score with these markings and also a stop watch with which we may be timed.

B. E. NOWOTNY,  
Captain, Band.

## A. H. Dept. Supplies Pure Bred Animals

The increased demand created by the renewed interest in pure bred saddle horses in this part of the state has led to the sale of several pure bred animals by the department of animal husbandry, reports from D. W. Williams, head of the department, indicate.

E. J. Wallace of Fort Worth, while on a visit to the college recently, purchased four show animals for his stables. Among these was Eugenia, winner of several ribbons in shows held here during the past season. He also secured five young fillies at the same time from the department of veterinary medicine.

Asral Sheik, a fine saddle stallion, has been sold to Rev. St. Onge of Liberty, Texas, for promoting and improving the quality of pure bred saddle horses in that community.

S. R. Zaest, of Fairbanks, lately

purchased three fine Morgan mares from the department.

These animals will not decrease the herd below its normal size but will make room for the younger stock that is raised annually.

## The Spring Round-up

A special spring round-up at the Methodist Church, lasting just five evenings, from Wednesday April 1 through Easter Sunday, April 5. Rev. F. E. Few of Huntsville will do the preaching. Services each evening at 6:45.

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