

# THE BATTALION

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## Discipline

Last Wednesday, organization commanders, and field officers and their staffs met with Colonel Emery in the "Y" chapel. The yearly banner was taken out and painted with this sign: "Although military is secondary to academic work, we intend to make this a purposeful year, with the sky as the limit, for the enforcement of discipline, the improvement of drills, the encouragement of good personal appearance, and the attainment of a cooperative spirit within the Corps."

What a goal! But let us hope that it can be realized to the fullest possible extent.

We suppose that every senior class that ever existed at A & M had, to some measure, this ambition. Present conditions, then, lead us to believe that most of these groups failed quite miserably. True, we get an "excellent" rating from the national military inspectors—certainly, we look nice in our brass, leather, and khaki... obviously, we submit in army fashion to a daily routine, but, most clearly, and no man can deny it, we are lacking in that exactness of precision, and that perfection of harmony, necessarily essential in the establishment of an honest-to-goodness, Johnny-on-the-spot, minute-man Corps.

If these delinquencies are to be overcome, and the favor of the seniors seems to indicate that an attempt, at least, will be made to overcome them, there is one obstacle that must be removed. And, if it is removed, the rest will be easy sailing. It is the same obstacle which has thwarted the good intentions of scores of senior classes before.

Three-quarters of the job rests on the shoulders of the underclassmen. Seniors can plead, smile, beg, pray, rave, and rant... yet, it will be to no avail if the underclassmen so choose. This place is not governed by seniors. We've no prisons here! This place is led by seniors. The underclassmen can take charge of the whole school if they want to—there is no power to stop them.

We do not mean that in all the years past the underclassmen alone have shown a lack of cooperation. Too frequently, we have heard men in boots at three a. m. storming down the corridors like a tornado, and raising all manner of disturbances in general. Too often, we have seen button-men, even diamond-men, break college regulations that this senior class begs to enforce. No, the seniors, themselves, have been to blame also. And, even this year, they should keep a close eye on their own ranks!

Now, as to the sort of cooperation the underclassmen should give the seniors:

In the first place, all juniors, sophomores, and freshmen should realize that the word of a man in boots is law—as far as they are concerned, one of the college regulations. When a senior is strict, demanding, or "ambitious", no man in the ranks has the right to object. Simply because the company commander last year was lax and "easy" is no reason to condemn your new officer for enforcing regulations. The kind of spirit in which every underclassman is acquiescent to the will of his officers is the only spirit that will allow the plans of the senior class to succeed, and—is the only true Aggie spirit.

The cast has been made, but the whole school must flow into the mold. Let the arm and the mailed fist be the seniors, and the mallet be the underclassmen!

## Entertainment

You came to college to get an education didn't you... or didn't you? If you did, let it be known to yourself that this year you have a chance to get a more complete and well-rounded education than you ever had. A golden opportunity is shining so close to your face that it ought to blind your eyes to everything else.

This year it can be your privilege to attend six of the best entertainment features that this nation affords—the Bryan-College Entertainment series. Vilhjalmur Stefansson! Clarence Darrow! The Hedge-row Players! Dr. David Coyle! The All-Star Musical Ensemble, (Lola Turner, soprano, and Chas. Boromeo, baritone, of the Chicago Civic Opera Co.; Henri Deering, distinguished pianist, and Beatrice Harrison, one of the greatest cellists in the world).

One of the great popular orchestras can also be at your disposal! At present Paul Whiteman is being sought, and it is probable that he will be secured—though not certain.

For the first time in the history of A and M, the student body is offered real entertainment! This is a chance to get out of the rut of academic work, an outlet for the pent-up desire to see and hear those good things that the seclusion of this college has always stifled.

This is a gift! Quit hibernating! Open the door of your hermit's hole and come out in the sunlight! Give the strong but rusty armor of your engineering a good polishing! Fill up the shell of your arts and science curriculum with honest experience! Learn! Learn that there are people in the world who speak decent English! Surprise yourself with the fact that all the artists didn't live in history.

You can see all of these things in Guion Hall. Don't be a fool! Take a dollar today to Mr. Cashion, Dr. Mayo, or Jack Ferguson. If you don't know either of those three, come to the Battalion office—its in the new main building on the third floor.

For a dollar you get a season ticket.

## From Dr. Walton

America's greatest need in the crisis with which it is confronted today, and in all crises that may arise in its history, can be stated in one word, "Leadership". Leaders trained in economic and social philosophy, inspired for service to the whole Nation and to the whole of society. Leaders who have the capacity to see problems whole. Leaders courageous, unselfish, patriotic. Leaders developed and trained to execute plans and to actually merit and deserve the influence they exert over the welfare of their fellowmen.

Education is the shortest route to preparation for this type of service. The public school, the colleges, and the universities of the State and Nation provide facilities for the character of training necessary to achieve high results in leadership.

You are a member of the student body of one of the largest Land-Grant Colleges in the Nation. It is assumed that every student who has enrolled in the College this year came to the institution with a serious purpose,—a purpose to put forth all the efforts of which he is capable to assure satisfactory academic progress. It is further assumed that every man is willing to pay the price of a higher education. Sacrifices have been made and are being made to provide the facilities and the expense necessary to keep you in college. Every tax payer in the State no matter how humble, has made contributions to the funds to provide the facilities necessary for the institutional authorities to carry out an efficient program of instruction. The tax payers continue to provide funds with which to employ the faculty of the college and for operating expenses. These are not small items, therefore you are the beneficiary not alone of your parents' sacrifices, but of the people of the whole State whose tax money has been used and is now being used to operate the institution.

In short, you enjoy a privilege that few young men of your age can hope to have at this time. The future holds for you opportunities as great if not greater than the opportunities of your fathers and forefathers. The Nation is in a state of uncertainty; it is still in the grip of an unprecedented depression; and those who are attempting to "lead the way out" are in many instances uncertain of the results of plans they advocate for the solution of our every-day problems. We shall not again see the same type of economic and social order that prevailed prior to 1929. There must be much rebuilding done. Such parts of the old order as are fundamentally sound and in the interest of the general welfare must be recovered and used; but along with this program there must come new factors. Perhaps the young men of tomorrow who are trained will have the largest share in the reconstruction of our economic and social structure. This makes it highly essential that you prepare yourself; that every man in the College do his best.

You are at the beginning of a session. You stand upon the threshold of opportunity. If you would take full advantage of our opportunities, it means earnest application. It means the conservation of your time. It means the differentiation between the essentials and non-essentials of college life. It means your will to work will be tested over and over again during the coming months; but it also means that the man who does his part to the very best of his ability will profit more than he can now realize.

Sometimes it is contended that only freshmen fail in large numbers to make satisfactory academic progress. Unfortunately this theory is not altogether sound. Many sophomores, juniors, and sometimes seniors waste their time and the result is, they, with the under-classmen, fail. A man once branded a failure experiences great difficulty in overcoming his handicaps, therefore let every student appreciate the fact that his progress will be in proportion to the intelligently directed efforts he puts into his college work.

This is the beginning time. No matter what your record may have been, if you are an old student you have the opportunity this year to correct it. A new student has an opportunity to make a record upon which he can build the additional three years of a college career with the assurance that if he does his part well he will not experience difficulties or have handicaps to overcome in the years he is an upper-classman.

*J. O. Walton*  
**To The Foolish**

Last year the campus sieged with gripes, and grippers. The chief target for these verbal fusillades were college authorities—men largely responsible for the good reputation of this college.

With all these good school year resolutions being made, it seems proper to make this one above many others: to cut out the griping.

Thursday night we stood at yell practice. Four or five men, each responsible in the affairs of the college, talked to the Corps.

As these men spilled their advice, we took occasion to look at the faces of the Aggies around us—to ascertain, if we could, the popularity of the speakers from the facial expressions.

On not one man was there any registering of disrespect. Contrary: eyes were burning with a light of mental enthusiasm; bodies were leaning forward, heads sidewise, to catch every word; faces were shining with admiration—in some cases almost love.

There is a moral to this story:

If, when you're with a man, you think him a prince, why change your mind and curse him when his back is turned.

## Yell Practice

Freshmen are delinquent in many cases. But there is one case in which they always overshadow the upperclassmen.

Every night at yell practice, certain boisterous duffers make themselves perfectly despicable with their ungodly conduct. And they are all, nearly every one, upperclassmen instead of freshmen.

These rowdy fellows appear to be seeking every sort of an excuse to blow their horns. Most of the time their excuse is the incompetency of the freshmen in rendering the yells correctly. The freshmen, we feel, will learn if left alone. At least, if left to the instructions of the yell leaders.

We beg to ask: Why elect men to lead the Corps in cheering, if, when those men mount the stand to talk, we must drown out their voices with our jokes, our senseless chatter, and our cat-calls?

## LOTS OF BOOKS AND A FEW IDEAS

by  
 Dr. T. F. Mayo

Editor's Note:  
 This is the first of a series of book-chats, written by Dr. Mayo exclusively for THE BATTALION.  
 They are given here in the hope of stimulating thought and intellectual curiosity among the members of the student body.  
 They will be printed regularly, in each issue.

### WHAT CENTURY DO YOU LIVE IN?

I should say, just off-hand, that most of my esteemed Aggie readers (if any!) are, on the average, living mentally somewhere around SECOND QUARTER OF THE NINETEENTH CENTURY—say about 1840.

### AFTER ALL, WHAT DETERMINES THE CENTURY THAT YOU LIVE IN?

It isn't, it seems to me, what you eat or what you wear or how you amuse yourself.

It isn't the speed of your vehicles or the size of your factories or the hotness of your movies.

### IT'S WHAT YOU THINK ABOUT.

For brevity's sake, I have tried to boil down THE MENTAL CONTENT OF THE TWENTIETH CENTURY—the thought-habits that make the twentieth century really different from all other centuries—to six words.

Roughly, if you know what these words mean, if you have thought about the things that they cover, if you have formed opinions, backed by reasons, on the controversial subjects included among them—then I'll admit that, on the whole, you live in the 'twenties century.

Here are the six words and the names of a book or two in which you will find at least a rudimentary explanation of each—just in case you should happen to live in the twentieth century.

#### (1) EVOLUTION

For: "The Outline of Science" (first half of Volume I) by J. Arthur Thomson. Against: "The Case Against Evolution," by G. B. O'Toole.

#### (2) PSYCHOANALYSIS

For: "Dreams and the Unconscious," by Valentine. Against: "The Ways of Behaviorism," by J. B. Watson.

#### (3) THE DYNAMO

"Men and Machines," by Stuart Chase. "Our Changing Civilization" (last half), by J. H. Randall.

#### (4) PRAGMATISM

John Dewey's article in "Living Philosophies." The sections on William James and John Dewey at the end of Durant's "Story of Philosophy."

#### (5) SOCIALISM

For: "Letters to Judd," by Upton Sinclair. (By the way, we have just bought Upton Sinclair's cocky new book, "I, Governor of California). For and against: "Capitalism and Its Alternatives," articles selected by J. E. Johnsen.

#### (6) THE ELECTRON

"The A B C of Atoms," by Bertrand Russell. "Within the Atom," by Mills.

(Note: I have been very careful to select short books that can be easily read by people who are not specialists. If you should fail to find the book listed, ask at the desk for another on the same subject.)

Last year, about twenty-five students used to come to my office in groups of two or three, once a month, each group discussing some new book that they were all reading. If anyone would like to do some general reading and talking on the side, I'll be glad to arrange a period with him when he and I are both free—one hour a month.

San Francisco, Sept. 26.—Patrick John O'Dea, one-time University of Wisconsin grid star, who supposedly disappeared in 1919, has reappeared as "Charles J. Mitchell," a prominent Northern California business man. He explained this week he wanted to get away from being just an "ex-Wisconsin football player."

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