

# Battalion Editorials

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WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 6, 1954

## Juggled Words Used In Censorship Attempt

Juggling the English language is the weapon being used in an attempt to abolish freedom of the press at A&M.

A special group from the Student Life committee may recommend today if The Battalion should be censored. And censored is the correct word. There is no way to get around it. Only another word is being used.

Some people would swear that censorship is not intended. If we were to take at face value the motion passed by the Student Life committee which established this group, we might agree. But the threat of censorship is there. It can not be ignored.

Committee members will decide if a standing committee is needed for student publications. If they decide the answer is yes, they will determine the committee's membership and duties. Their recommendations will be presented before the Student Life committee in the form of an amendment to the Student Life constitution. Student

Life will then vote whether or not to make the amendment.

It seems that the word censorship has been disguised by another—committee. In this case the words mean the same.

Censorship does not necessarily mean marking out words or sentences with a red pencil. Or does it have to mean that articles are checked and changed by a censor before being printed.

If a newspaper must be responsible to a committee, then it is being censored. The paper is no longer free. It is under the control and influence of a group of outsiders who could use it for their own selfish means.

A red pencil would not be needed. Articles dealing with controversial matters might not ever be written in the first place.

We hope the group realizes this danger. If it decides to draw up the amendment it will be taking a major step in tearing down a freedom that we brag about graduating officers to defend.

## Publications Discussed

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it was only The Battalion they were worried about.

He indicated these persons did not think the Battalion co-editors were working for a greater A&M college. He said the Student Entertainment manager already was

responsible to a special committee but student publications and the yell leaders were not. The Student Life committee supervises all three groups.

Later White told The Battalion editors not to worry. He claimed they would not be censored. But

White has maintained The Battalion should be responsible to someone.

Already States

The constitution of the Student Life committee already states it shall:

"Exercise general supervisory control over all student publications."

"Supervise the activities of Student Entertainment Manager, the yell leaders, and the editors-in-chief of all student publications. The committee shall have power to restrict or remove these officers for improper conduct or incompetence. In the case of the editors-in-chief the publication of obscene or libelous material shall be deemed improper conduct. The same rules of personal conduct which apply to other students shall apply to the officers named in this section."

## Job Calls

● The engineering department of the American Mutual Liability Insurance company desires to contact mechanical, electrical and civil engineering graduates for safety engineering positions in industrial and construction work. They will be located in one of the South-eastern states and will travel up to 50 per cent of the time. There is a six month training period before assignment to a permanent position.

● There are several vacancies in the engineering division of the Missouri Pacific lines in St. Louis for young civil engineering graduates who desire to follow a railroad career.

● The Cedar Bayou High school

will have an opening as of Jan. 1, for a mathematics teacher. They prefer to have someone who could also teach some physics and chemistry.

● Scholarships are available for study leading to the Ph D Degree at the Institute of Paper Chemistry in Appleton, Wis. The pulp and paper industry needs men trained at the graduate level for research, technical and administrative positions; therefore, the institute, supported by companies that produce the major portion of the pulp, paper and paperboard in the county, offers an integrated program in the sciences and technology basic to the industry. Applicants must hold a bachelor's degree in chemistry or chemical engineering.

● Jan. 6 — Liberty Mutual Insurance company will interview industrial education and industrial engineering majors at all degree levels. This company is interested in men who wish to make a career in safety engineering to fill existing vacancies in the loss prevention department or their company. There is a four month training period.

The injunction to avoid putting new wine in old bottles results from the fact that the ancient skin bottles might be so weakened by use that gas from the new wine would burst them.

## New School

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for teaching aids.

Factory-made aluminum-glass and cement asbestos wall panels will be used for the exterior of the building. These panels can be erected in minimum time, resulting in less field labor cost, Caudill said.

"Classroom comfort is the keynote of design, and all teaching spaces have cross-ventilation and high level natural illumination. This involves a system of tri-lateral lighting using plastic skylights," he said.

Objectives of the College Station Kiwanis club for 1954 were outlined yesterday at the club's first meeting of the year.

J. B. (Dick) Hervey, newly inaugurated president, discussed the projects the club will undertake this year.

Among these projects is the formation of a Circle K club for the college students and a Key club for boys at A&M Consolidated high school. These clubs are service clubs with functions similar to the Kiwanis club.

"The Kiwanis club is a service club and not a luncheon club," Hervey said. "Every man should be a worker."

He also expressed hope that Kiwanis park would be developed this year.

Committee chairmen have been named and separate committee meetings were held after the meeting. Committees and their chairmen are boys and girls, D. M. Vestal Jr.; underprivileged children, W. T. Riedel; vocational guidance, Aden C. Magee; Circle K and Key club, John B. Longley; public service and business affairs, Gibb Gilchrist.

Agriculture and conservation, J. Rex Johnston; church support, Otis Miller; attendance and membership, Howard L. Gravett; finance, W. E. Briles; interclub, K. A. Manning; Kiwanis education and fellowship, Charles LaMotte; Program and music, R. G. Cherry.

## Kiwanians Set Objectives For New Year

Several members of A&M's fencing team will compete Saturday in a meet at the University of Houston gymnasium.

Sponsored by the American Fencing League association, the meet will be individual competition in novice foil and open sabre.

## Letters to the Editors

Editors of the Battalion:

This is in direct reply to the editorial in Tuesday's edition of the Battalion. In my opinion, this editorial is a perfect example of the reason that there has been dissatisfaction with the Battalion this year.

You received the right to print your opinions on the editorial page when the student body elected you as editors last Spring. This sentence was a part of Tuesday's editorial: "This paper is free from those influences which would have us write our editorials for selfish

purposes." In my estimation, the editorial in question was very definitely used for a selfish purpose. It was used as an instrument by the Battalion to fight any supervisory power which the Student Life Committee might exercise over the Battalion. There are always two sides to every story. May I ask why the other side was not printed and an objective editorial made out of the controversy at hand? You undoubtedly write the editorials to be read. You must also expect these editorials to cause some comment. The editors of any paper would be greatly disappointed if their editorials did not arouse some interest. There is one thing you cannot control—and I might add that I don't think that you will ever be able to—the reactions of your readers.

I cannot see your reason for attacking Spike White. He is secretary of the Student Life Committee and it is his job to place items on the agenda.

You say we hide in innocence and work for censorship. There is a direct implication that I am guilty of something. This is not true and if you feel that I am a member of any special group I would like to know which special group that it is. If you will tell me what I am guilty of, I will gladly release it for you to print for your readers. I certainly do not consider the Student Life Committee a special group. If it is, you are members of this special group. The Student Life Committee Constitution says that the Student Life Committee shall perform the duty of supervising the activities of the editors-in-chief of all student publications. It also says that the committee shall have power to restrict or remove these officers for improper conduct or incompetence. As you can plainly see, the power already exists. Perhaps an editorial on the Student Life Committee Constitution would have been the right place to start.

I also have nothing to hide and I don't consider myself a person with absorbing tentacles that would suck the life-blood out of the Battalion for my own selfish interests. I have no selfish interests and if I did I would not be able to accomplish a great deal through control of the Battalion in the remaining five months that I will be in school.

You have left out one very important point in your whole line of reasoning. You were elected by the students of Texas A&M College. It is not common practice for the residents of each large city to hold an annual election to elect their editors for the ensuing year.

You mention the thousands of our countrymen who died in pursuit of a free press in war after war. Perhaps that you might also consider the fact that they died for the right of Americans to remove people from office whom they had elected themselves if they saw fit.

It has never hurt me to have someone in a supervisory position over me as long as I was doing right. Evidently our present editors could stand a little supervisory power to help them along in their infantile exaggerations and stretching of the truth while they are tearing down A&M by their operation of the Battalion. Constructive criticism has never hurt anyone but when criticism gets to the point that it is destructive, something should be done about it.

Just who are these people who want to hide something and what do they want to hide?

This is my side of the story. As far as I am concerned, the matter is closed unless I can tell the Battalion editors what I am guilty of or what special group they accuse me of belonging to. Perhaps you are right and I am wrong; perhaps it is the other way around. It is my feeling that the Student Life Committee will take the action deemed necessary without the help of the Battalion editorial in question or my letter to the editors.

Carrol Phillips '54

## Recital Series Present Trio Tonight in MSC

The second program of the Memorial Student Center recital series will be given in the MSC Ballroom at 8 o'clock tonight.

It will be free and is open to the public.

Artists will be Laila Storch, Max Winder and Albert Hirsch.

The program will include a trio for violin, oboe and piano by Teleman, a group of numbers by Bach and Saint Saens for oboe and piano and a group by Beethoven and Faure for violin and piano.

"This series is intended to give students an opportunity to hear music of the highest quality," said Bob King, chairman of the MSC music committee. The series is provided by the MSC and is furthered by funds donated by local sponsors.

Miss Storch is the first oboe in the Houston Symphony Orchestra. She has been a member of the symphony for the last six years. Winder is the head of the second violin section of the Houston Symphony and Hirsch is the head of the piano department at the University of Houston.

The next recital will be staged by the string quartet of the University of Texas. A woodwind group from TCU also may be on the program.

## New Vet Hospital Will Be Dedicated

A&M's new Veterinary hospital will be dedicated Jan. 24, according to Dr. W. W. Armistead, dean of the School of Veterinary Medicine.

Dedication ceremonies, which are expected to attract 1,000 visitors, will be in Guion hall at 1:30 p. m. After the ceremonies there will be an open house in the new hospital building.

Speakers include Dr. A. H. Quinn of Kansas City, president-elect of the American Veterinary Medical Assn.; Dr. J. D. Williams of Colorado City, president of the Texas Veterinary Medical Assn.; and Dr. D. H. Morgan, president of the college.

## Ag Teachers Meet Set Here Jan. 8, 9

An Area III vocational agriculture teachers conference will be held in the Memorial Student Center Jan. 8 and 9, according to Roy Dugger, agricultural education instructor.

About 90 teachers are expected to attend.

A banquet will be held in the MSC ballroom Friday, with E. V. Walton, head of the agricultural education department as master of ceremonies.

Saturday morning, the teachers will be taken on a tour of the poultry, beef and dairy farms and the meats laboratory. Staff members of these departments will conduct the tours.

## Center Needs Funds

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from the student activity fee.

But A&M's new non-compulsory blanket student activities fee does not give any money to the MSC.

If the MSC kept operating as usual, without these sources of money, it would be broke by June of each year.

The cuts are an effort to keep the Center going, even if it is necessary to give up some of the factors that have earned the Center the title of the "Living Room of the A&M Campus" and "The Most Beautiful Student Center in the Southwest."

Still Tight

"Even with these cuts, our budget will still be tight," said J. Wayne Stark, MSC director. "We can probably make our budget, but it will mean lowering our standards."

These are some of the things the cuts will mean:

The flower arrangements, which caused much favorable comment by visitors, will be discontinued. The Center paid the floriculture and landscape architecture department to supply and care for the flowers.

The floriculture department did not make a profit on the money received for the flowers. It was barely enough to pay expenses, according to Stark.

Losses 'Class'

No tablecloths in the dining room will save on both laundry and linens, but it will remove the "class" atmosphere.

With no cigarettes and candy for sale in the fountain room, users of the Center will have to go to the bowling alley, gift shop or main desk.

No lunches in the coffee shop will eliminate the middle-price lunch, but Stark hopes the new cafeteria counter will allow the MSC to offer middle-priced, balanced meals there.

If the furniture is not kept in a state of constant repair, it will soon deteriorate. Expensive furniture,

such as the tables and chairs in the lounges, gets old quickly.

The effect of no air conditioning in the meeting rooms, both for college meetings and short courses, is obvious.

If floors are not cleaned after night meetings, people using the rooms the following morning will have to face the litter of the night before. Also, the cleaning and polishing of other areas will have to be reduced.

Need Student Fee

"A student fee is the only thing that will allow the MSC to continue operating as it has," Stark said. "We need money both for operating expenses and to pay for our depreciation."

Stark said the Center needs a fee of from three to five dollars a semester per student. The average student union fee in the United States is \$7.50. The MSC can run on less because its building is already paid for.

There are two ways to obtain the fee. The first way, favored by Stark, is for the state legislature to legalize a compulsory student activity fee, including a specific student union fee.

The other way would be for A&M to include a provision for the MSC fee in its student activity fee.

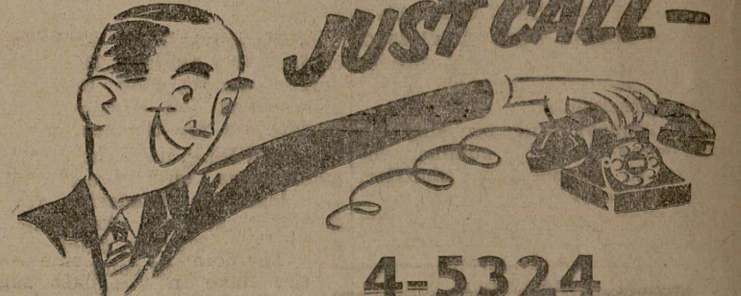
"But this would not work unless A&M's fee were compulsory," Stark said. "We would have no way of keeping students who did not pay their fee out of the Center, and to let them in wouldn't be fair to the ones who paid."

"Besides," he said, "the Center belongs to everyone."

In either case, it will take an act of the legislature to provide money for the MSC, since it is now illegal in Texas to make activity fees compulsory.

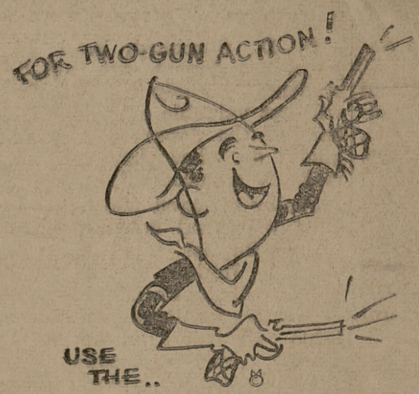
Stark hopes the legislature will act on such a law when it meets again in the spring of 1955. If it doesn't, he is afraid the MSC will have to continue to lower its standards.

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The Battalion, official newspaper of the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas, is published by students four times a week, during the regular school year. During the summer terms, and examination and vacation periods, The Battalion is published twice a week. Days of publications are Tuesday through Friday for the regular school year, and Tuesday and Thursday during examination and vacation periods and the summer terms. Subscription rates \$9.00 per year or \$7.75 per month. Advertising rates furnished on request.

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RIGHT!!



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RIGHT!!



HMM—HMM—MM— AN GOT IT ALL FIGGERED OUT!!



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BUT, THASS MORE'N A YEAR, SON!!

POGO



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By Wall Kelly