

Battalion Editorials

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WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 1954

Too Many Committees Restrict Individualism

Independent thought is being sacrificed on college campuses through too much organization. This opinion is expressed by Max S. Marshall of the University of California Medical Center in the January issue of School and Society.

Although Marshall realizes the necessity for a certain amount of organizations he believes that the country has overdone it. He explains that organizations tend to snuff out independent thought and individualism.

"In every one (organization) there is the menace not only to society but to the person and through him to the future of society, sacrifice of independence of mind and thought," Marshall warns.

The author points out that students are following this example and they are learning it in their campus activities. "In defense and in imitation of what they see around them students are even now organizing along political lines with over-organization and dubious needs and motives when they could be learning the restrictions of organization and the propriety of the independent mind," Marshall says. He lists the college committee as one of the danger points.

If there is any basis to Marshall's warnings—and we believe there is—A&M should certainly blush with shame. If this college has an excess of anything it is certainly committees. To count the number of these campus groups now in existence here would probably require hiring a full staff of accountants with several well oiled adding machines.

Whether an A&M student organization is large or small, each meeting may expect the formation of a new committee to handle some question no matter how trivial. The Student Life committee accented this op-

erational merry-go-round recently when a sub-committee was formed within a sub-committee.

But the Student Life committee is only one in many with a knack for organizing at the drop of motion. The talent seems to be inherent here from home town clubs to corps staff.

Situations have arisen too many times this year which could have been solved by the president of the organization or one of its members. Instead a new committee was formed to "study" the matter.

This is a sorry situation for a school which brags about graduating officers and leaders. What chance does a student have to learn to think for himself and make decisions if problems are continually shoved to committees for a solution? Officers of important campus groups become only figureheads.

Marshall also says that some people from organizations to further their own selfish purposes. "A vigorous organizer will band together persons with strong bonds of sympathy and turn them to a purpose they did not have in mind at all."

Referring to such persons in American colleges Marshall says, . . . "a seemingly endless chain of leaders is forever proposing reclassifications of knowledge to suit some fancy of theirs, apparently creating something from nothing but actually creating something at the expense of basic subjects from which parts are drawn."

Whether to preserve their own individualism or insure against becoming the dupes for someone's ambition, members of A&M campus groups should start organizing their own minds for independent action—and let the committees take a long overdue rest.

Job Calls

• The Lucher and Moore Lumber company in Orange, Texas, is in need of an office engineer. The work will consist of the mapping, drafting, planning and office work of a technical nature necessary in the management of their lands. They prefer to hire someone trained in the field of agricultural engineering, but will consider a civil engineering major.

• The Baldwin - Hill company, manufacturers of industrial and home insulation, is in need of a sales engineer in the Dallas and Houston areas. They prefer someone between the ages of 28 and 45, who is trained in either mechanical or industrial engineering, industrial education or architecture. There is about 60 per cent travel involved during the week. Company car furnished and expenses paid while traveling.

• Hardware Mutuals Insurance company is seeking men trained in business administration, agricultural economics or economics for employment in their southwestern district. One position is as an underwriter in their Dallas Office, and they also want to add three men to their claims staff as claims investigators. One or two of the men employed as claims investigators would be working out of their Houston office. Claims men must be able to provide their own automobiles, but they are reimbursed for all expenses connected with their work. No previous business experience required.

• There is an opening in the stores control department of The J. B. Beard Company, Inc. of Shreveport, for a trainee as a truck dispatcher. They own and lease about twenty-five trucks at the present time and this job will be primarily concerned with the trucks and their operation. Applicants must be able to type and should be familiar with the procedure for computing mileages on highway maps. Business administration, agricultural economics and industrial education majors may qualify.

• Spaw - Glass Incorporated in Houston is in need of a civil or industrial engineer who is interested in the construction business. Successful applicant would first be placed on one of their jobs where he could learn the business from the bottom up.

Cadet Slouch

... by Earle



Draft Laws—9

Regulations Guard Rights of Appeal

(Editor's note: This is the ninth of a series of 10 articles on the draft laws and how they affect persons of draft age.)

The rights of men registered with a draft board are guarded by appeal regulations. Appeals from local board decisions are heard by four state appeal boards.

Both the national and state directors of Selective Service may appeal from the determination of a local board at any time.

A man registered with a board, any person who claims to be his dependent, his employer under certain circumstances, and others may appeal to the appeal board from any classification except a determination of physical or mental condition.

The registered man and others named in the above paragraph, in most cases, are allowed only 10 days from date a notice of classification is mailed to file the appeal. Regulations allow a longer

period, from 30 to 60 days, when the man is in certain U. S. territories, foreign countries, or on the high seas.

The local board may allow appeals beyond these time limits if it is satisfied that the failure of the person to appeal within the period was due to lack of understanding or to some cause beyond control of the person.

The person who desires to appeal must file written notice with the board. The notice need not be in any particular form but must state the registrant's name, and identity of person appealing. If a registrant is registered with a Texas board and is working or living in California, for example, he may appeal to a California appeal board if he wishes.

If the registrant is placed in a class available for military service (1-A) by the appeal board, and there is a dissenting vote, he may appeal to the President of the United States.

Phi Eta Sigma Offers Scholarship

Phi Eta Sigma, freshman honor society, is offering two \$300 scholarships to senior members who plan to do graduate work.

The scholarships are based on grades, creative ability, financial need, promise of success, and personality.

Interested seniors can get further information from J. L. Shaw, faculty advisor, room 114 Bagley hall.

Seniors to Discuss Ring Dance Plans

Plans for the senior banquet and ring dance will be discussed at the senior class meeting at 7:30 p. m. Monday in the MSC ballroom.

Other items on the agenda are the class gift and cotton ball dutches.

Class president Pat Wood said all seniors should be present at this important meeting.

MAIL IS LATE
SALEM, Va. (AP)—Mrs. R. L. Bibson received a card mailed 19 years before in the same city. An accompanying letter from the post office said it was stuck in a crevice of a machine which had been retired to the basement for some years. It was mailed December 18, 1934.

Planning Begins For Military Day

With the formation of student and military personnel committees, tentative planning for the annual Military day ceremonies has begun.

Military day will be March 6, with a corps review that afternoon and the Military Ball that night. The combat ball and the world premier of the A&M film "We Are the Aggies" will be the night of March 5.

Invited for the weekend will be nationally famous military men and representatives of college and high school ROTC units. The guest list has not been definitely determined.

Also invited will be members of A&M's Academic council and Executive committee and their wives.

Ag Program Helps Teachers, Farmers

More than 2,000 teachers, farmers and laymen of Texas have benefited from a vocational agriculture program operated by A&M's agricultural education department.

The program, under the direction of R. N. Craig, farm shop specialist, consists of demonstrations of techniques in skills, safety and methods of teaching a farm shop program.

The program has been in operation since July 1.



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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 \$.75 per month. Advertising rates furnished on request.

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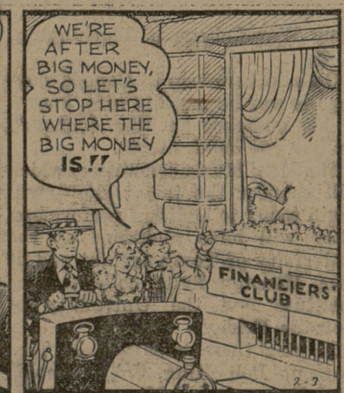
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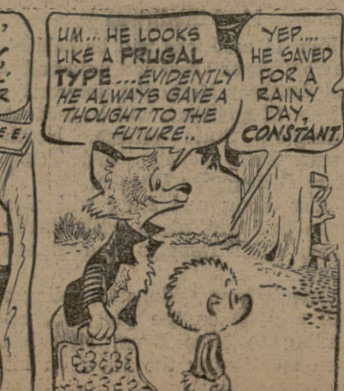
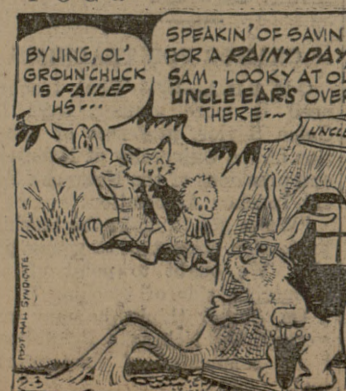
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