

Battalion Readers Have More To Say

Request for Restraint

The Battalion has always welcomed letters to the editor and shall continue to do so in the future. But, because of lack of space, the staff must make a request of potential and actual writers.

Please try, if at all possible, to keep your letter to a maximum of 250 words.

Writing a letter can be very important to the individual, for the effort calls for concentration of thoughts in order to put these thoughts on paper.

So if you've something to say, or nothing to say but want to say it anyway, we welcome your comments. But please, not too wordy.



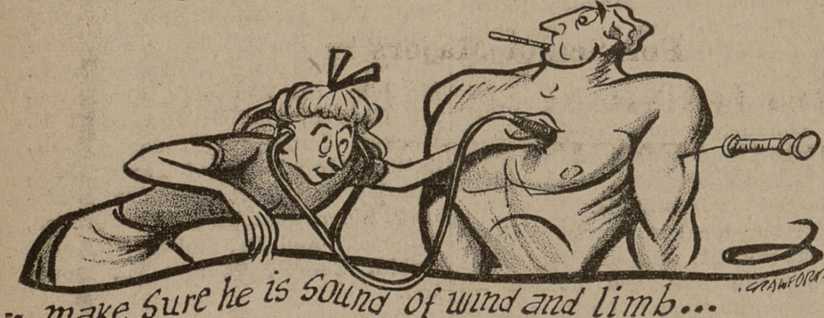
HUSBANDS, ANYONE?

It has been alleged that coeds go to college for the sole purpose of finding husbands. This is, of course, an infamous canard, and I give fair warning that small and spongy as I am, anybody who ever says such a dastardly thing when I am around had better be prepared for a sound hiding!

Girls go to college for precisely the same reasons as men do: to broaden their horizons, to lengthen their vistas, to drink at the fount of wisdom, to trail their fingers in the main currents of American thought. But if, by chance, while a girl is engaged in these lofty pursuits, a likely looking husband should pop into view, why, what's wrong with that? Eh? What's wrong with that?

The question now arises, what should a girl look for in a husband? A great deal has been written on this subject. Some say character is most important, some say background, some say appearance, some say education. All are wrong.

The most important thing — bar none — in a husband is health. Though he be handsome as Apollo and rich as Captain McCutchen, what good is he if he just lays around all day accumulating bedsores?



The very first thing to do upon meeting a man is to make sure that he is sound of wind and limb. Before he has a chance to beguile you with his wit and charm, slap a thermometer in his mouth, roll back his eyelids, yank out his tongue, palpate his thorax, rap his patella, ask him to straighten out a horseshoe with his teeth. If he fails to pass these few basic tests, phone for an ambulance and go on to the next prospect.

If, however, he turns out to be physically fit, proceed to the second most important requirement in a husband. I refer to a sense of humor.

A man who can't take a joke is a man to be shunned. There are several simple tests to find out whether your prospect can take a joke or not. You can, for example, slash his tires. Or burn his "Mad" comics. Or steal his switchblade. Or turn loose his pet raccoon. Or shave his head.

After each of these merry pranks, laugh gaily and shout "April Fool!" If he replies, "But this is November 28," or something equally churlish, cross him off your list and thank your lucky stars you found out in time.

But if he laughs silverly and calls you "Little minx!" then put him to the next test: Find out whether he is gentle.

The easiest, quickest way to ascertain his gentleness is, of course, to look at the cigarette he smokes. Is it mild? Is it clement? Is it humane? Is it balm to the palate? Does it minister tenderly to the taste-buds? Does it coddle the nerve-ends? Is it the perfect accompaniment to today's easier, breezier living? Is it genial? Is it bright and friendly and full of dulcet pleasure from cock-crow till the heart of darkness?

Is it, in short, Philip Morris? If Philip Morris it be, then clasp the man to your bosom with hoops of steel, for you may be sure that he is gentle as a summer breeze, gentle as a mother's kiss, gentle to his very marrow.

And now, having found a man who is gentle and healthy and blessed with a sense of humor, only one thing remains: namely, to make sure he will always earn a handsome living. That, fortunately, is very simple. Just enroll him in Engineering.

The makers of Philip Morris, who bring you this column, would like to suggest another pleasant and gentle life's companion: Philip Morris, of corris!

The Battalion

The Editorial Policy of The Battalion Represents the Views of the Student Editors

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BILL FULLERTON Editor
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Editor, Battalion:

This letter is an attempt by one Aggie to criticize a letter in last Friday's Battalion which was "an attempt by three Aggies to criticize their school."

The three correspondents were in the audience last Wednesday night that heard a concert by Houston's home-town classical band (with strings).

These three Aggies think "Sir Thomas Beecham, Bart.," who beat time throughout the evening, "brilliantly conducted the Houston Symphony Orchestra." I agree that Sir Thomas did do that.

They say Sir Thomas "is one of the foremost (perhaps the foremost) conductors in the world." Having heard only a few of the celebrated maestros conduct, I will not venture an opinion. I have read, though, that he is one of the best.

These three Aggies think "The Arts are the highest manifestations of Man's creativeness." Bully!! In simpler words I imagine I would say about the same thing.

I agree wholeheartedly with them that Sir Thomas "deserved the highest acclaim an audience is capable of giving." That "he received an insult" is preposterous. That "Texas A&M suffered a set-

back Wednesday night," is so much bunkum.

These three Aggies feel that "continual applause between movements" was one of the sources of insult. Few artists, I think, regard it an insult to be applauded. It is true that one does not forbid it, however, and when the performance merits it, separate movements of a piece of music are often applauded. Lack of sophistication is not insulting. It is probably refreshing to "Sir Thomas Beecham, Bart."

Their second point is perhaps better taken. But here again, I'm sure, it was not a matter of insult but one of a lack of sophistication or, perhaps, of good taste. The three Aggies were disturbed by "a wolf-whistle directed at the first cellist." I must admit that when I read the letter, I too was disturbed momentarily, but was relieved to see that the correspondents had added parenthetically that the cellist was "a young woman." I am sure that the Aggie who gave the wolf-whistle, I did not hear it, enjoyed the concert twice as much as those who enjoyed only the music. I am sure that the first cellist enjoyed the concert twice as much as the assistant cello soloist who was not whistled at, for even though she does play classical music, she is a female human being. If Sir Thomas heard it, I do not think he was insulted by it or held A&M in less regard because of it. He has probably run across far more scandalous conduct at Oxford or Cambridge.

It doesn't pay to be too stuffy and correct about anything. This music was played to be enjoyed. I think even though Wednesday night's program was pretty heavy stuff for the uninitiated, it was enjoyed. I don't think anyone was insulted, except possibly the assistant cello soloist and the other ladies in the band (with strings) who didn't get a wolf-whistle.

John Otis Kirkpatrick '56
P.S.—I do think that Sir Thomas contributed more than a correct beat to the performance.

Editor, Battalion:

Thank you so much for your enlightening editorials on the race situations. Your pattern of thinking seems to follow closely that of several Northern newspapers. As an editor who don't you do a little positive thinking for a change and stop sounding like all the rest half-informed anti-segregationists. Never before in a Southern crisis has there been so little positive thinking.

Most people, especially outside the South, do not dig deep enough to find the true reasons for segregation.

They are not interested in determining whether the dual system is to the best interest of both races in the South. All that people outside the South are concerned with are the Till Murder Case, the Sugar Bowl trouble, the Montgomery bus boycott and the rioting at the University of Alabama. Not one of the instances show the Basic merits of segregation, especially in Southern education. The only things these instances indicate are isolated and temporary troubles that are used to further prejudice our antagonists and to give them propaganda to be used against not only the South but the nation as a whole. Many people believe that the only argument they can offer against integration is physical resistance—this is where editors of newspapers can best serve their country. Not by presenting only one side of the question, but by showing the readers how this crisis may be cleared up without violence.

The time has come for a "Declaration of Principles"—these principles do not necessarily have to be a product of a legislative body, they may be a "Declaration of Principles" set by the individual for himself. This should not be a declaration of what will not be done, but what will be done. The people of the deep South simply say, "We will not integrate." Politics should not enter this declaration, either. "The patriotic motive, not the political motive must prevail."

This should be an affirmative declaration. It should clear up some of the thinking relating to the racial crisis. First of all, the South must assert herself as being firmly opposed to brutality, bigotry, intolerance, prejudice and lawlessness. Just to set the records straight, let's look at some of the latest statistics of Mississippi. They reveal that "six Negro deaths were at the hands of white men, eight white deaths were at the hands of Negroes and 182 deaths of Negroes were by members of their own race." Thanks to editorials and one-sided news stories, the belief still continues throughout the world that the Southern

people are trying to annihilate by butchery a mass race.

This "Declaration of Principles" should boldly assert a program for the continued improvement of the Southern Negro. May I suggest, Mr. Editor, that some time you take a poll of the Southern Negroes and find out how many of them want their children to go to school with whites. The school program of the South should have, as its ultimate aim, the determined provision of the same educational facilities for both races—"brick for brick, dollar for dollar, degree for degree." Not only should this apply to education, but justice too—"acquittal for acquittal, penitentiary term for penitentiary term,

death sentence for death sentence as the law and evidence decree"—"justice under law irrespective of the defendant." Let's take this several more steps and have goals of economic justice for all races. It should be recognized, officially, by all people everywhere that there is no conflict between "... the dignity of the individual and the ideal which upholds the maintenance of racial integrity."

The third thing that this declaration should bring forth are the real reasons for the Southern "stubbornness" to keep a dual system. The people in America are led to believe, by misrepresentation of the (See LETTERS, Page 4)

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BUT—I WON'T. WHY NOT, DOCTOR? IF SHE SEES YOU AS YOU ARE—NOT THE FAMOUS MOVIE STAR YOU PRETENDED TO BE—BUT A POVERTY-STRIKEN, UNDER-NOURISHED KUNT—

THAT'D SPARE HER THE SHATTERING SHOCK OF FINDING OUT WHAT I'M GULPY REALLY LIKE!! EXACTLY.

By Al Capp THAT SECOND SHOCK MIGHT BE INCURABLE—

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