

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Editor,
 The Battalion;
 Well, Sanders, here is the letter you have probably been waiting for—a letter from an angry non-reg. But I'm not angry, I just want to express my idea of non-reg life and why there are non-regs. Or did you think everyone is supposed to be a military man?

To me, military life is a fine disciplinary way of living. It builds leadership,—but what else? There is no self-confidence, independence or originality in the Corps. All independence is lost in the race to conform.

Some of you are like pebbles on a beach, when the tide shifts, you shift with it.

You show no real individualism, the characteristic by which men are made. Your self-confidence is gone because you are governed by others. You have lost the power to exercise your own beliefs, ideas and principles to conformity. Your thinking is done for you. You have lost, or you are losing, the ability to stand up for what you think is right.

On the other hand, a non-reg life fills in these gaps. A non-reg can make decisions for himself. He can build his life around his own ideas and beliefs, not those of outsiders! He can mold his life the way he wants it molded—the way it suits him best. He will have no one influencing his character. This is the best way to grow up. Remember, you have to live with yourself, so why not build

your own character instead of having someone else do it for you?

In reply to your accusation: "Are the non-regs the men that the people of Texas can point to and say, 'there is an Aggie?'"

I believe your conception of an Aggie is the same as mine. An Aggie is a person who stands out among men. Does a conformist stand out among men? I should say not.

Also I don't believe the sit-down handshake is exclusive with the non-regs. It is the character of the individual that makes him sit down, not the environment. I have seen several "regs" sitting down and shaking hands.

Perhaps you disagree and say I have no basis for my reasoning. But ten years in military schools gives me my basis. Perhaps if I hadn't spent ten years I would succumb to your letter. But I write mine from experience, not opinion.

This is why I believe that the advantages of non-reg life should be introduced to all prospective Aggies.

Robert A. Nelms '60

Editor,
 The Battalion,

Congratulations—you have done it again! I refer to your annoying habit of printing that fraction of the news which supports your usually narrow position. If one did not know better, it might well be deduced from reading the 1956-57 "Battalion" that your policy is

common among journalists. Fortunately this is not quite the case everywhere. The specific instance I refer to is your editorial of March 6, 1957.

You stated that the primary purpose "... for A&M's existence is education." Had you printed all the information, your readers would know that, as a land-grant college, A&M has a responsibility in time of war. This was the intent of the original provision, and the need exists more than ever.

Further, the reputation that A&M College now enjoys was created mainly by men who went through the old Corps as it existed to provide proper military training. That this Corps is no longer with us is due largely to the efforts of the "mamma's boys" who "couldn't take it." Are these the ones you so vigorously defended in your editorial?

Can you honestly say, and believe it, that these quitters will ever measure up to the standards set by two thousand Aggies who died in WW II? Or will the boys who quit the Corps after two weeks of the Fish year ever be the man that James Sarraan was when he gave his life to save two others?

Why don't these "high school Harrys" go to some school comparable to their personality? There is a good one in Austin, I hear. The tuition is the same as at A&M, also. And you, Mister Editor, before you write another editorial like the one in question, take a good look at the ring you wear. Then try to run your newspaper in a manner befitting the men who made that ring mean what it does.

Harless R. Benthul '57

Dear Mr. Editor,

I am very disappointed with the football coverage of the Aggies spring training. All I've read in the Battalion so far is the type of exercises and other irrelevant notes about the team. How about a little more information on the accomplishments of each individual player, how he is developing, what positions are weak or strong, etc. Pictures would help too!

Sincerely,
 Otis L. Robinson '49

Editor,
 The Battalion

In answer to Phillip R. Anderson's letters of seven and eight March, we, as members of the Corps of Cadets, have this to say:

The statement was made concerning hazing of men without average aptitudes, thus preventing them from holding their grades to the optimum, also the part about, "the poor bugger that is working his way through college" and etc. What about the mention of the "bullring" on Saturday afternoon and four-point C Q?

The term "hazing" should be used carefully, because a freshman coming to A&M and staying for a year can truthfully say that he has learned to work under pressure. Without the ability to do this, what is an officer going to

do while under fire on a battle field commanding a company of men? If he can learn to function well under pressure, then he can surely hold up his grades—a goal for us all to attain!

If a man can use his mind to the best extent and learn to "ration" his off-time for working and studying, he can hold his grades to a satisfactory level. More than just a few men in the Corps (and non-regs, too) work, study and "have a ball" in the allotted 24 hours of a day, maintaining O K grades. If a man can't do this, he doesn't belong at A&M—or at any other college, as far as that goes!

Walking on the "bullring" is usually as a result of being penalized for violation of some rule or regulation. For some 150 years or so, there have been written regulations in the U. S. Army stipulating punishment for the breaking of same. If the Corps is a military organization created to orientate men to military life, then what is to be done when a cadet breaks a rule? He can't be fined monetarily, so the "bullring" is the apparent and very effective answer. Is it possible that P. Anderson is bitter against the Corps because of the "bullring" and disciplinary action of the Corps?

Anderson stated that he had lived both as a cadet and non-reg. Well, why did he go non-reg? Is he physically unqualified? He said he left due to his grades, but that the Corps had its advantages and disadvantages. Does he feel bitter against the "bullring" because he maybe spent many Saturday afternoons walking off punishment hours?

Another item: Did he spend time as a prisoner of war in a prison camp, subjected to physical torture? Is he a veteran (of anything)? There is more, but it would be fruitless to continue.

We, the undersigned, know the above rhetorical remarks to be accurate because we have lived with P. Anderson in the same outfit of the Corps and feel qualified to answer some of the outrageous statements he made.

John R. Billingsley, '58
 A. E. Percival, '58
 Robert Saldivar, '58
 Hank Endara, '58

AF Names Flying Cadets

The following cadets are eligible to participate in the Air Force Flight Program at A&M beginning March 15.

Acheson, H. H.; Allen, Ben H. Jr.; Alsop, Willie III; Andrew, Richard N.; Arneson, Donald G.; Ayres, William T.; Bedford, Billy B.; Benavides, Louis H.; Bourn, Lawrence N.; Brown, Dwight, Jr.; Brown, Robert Y., Jr.; Brumfield, Tom W., Jr.; Burrow, Don R.; Cain, John D.; Carlton, William A.; Carpenter, D. C., Jr.; Cashion, Jerry L.; Chewning, Jack; Cordes, Alfred H., Jr.; Creel, Paul J.; Crim, Bobby L.; Crockett, S. B., Jr.; Crow, J. Marcus; and Davis, William S.

Dedeker, Bryan W.; Denton, Murray B.; Dreyfus, Jack M.; Driskill, Melvin M.; Dunkin, Dial M.; Dye, Johnnie L.; Easley, William K.; Edwards, Robin W.; Fernandez, Alberto T.; Fisher, Buford D.; Foerster, Leroy C., Jr.; Foster, Robert A.; Furqueron, Edward A.; Gray, Elbert B.; Green, Donald W.; Greer, Allen S.; Gregory, James C.; Griffith, Selman D.; Hampton, John W.; Hancock, Robert N.; Harris, Jimmy D.

Poultry Dept. Adds New Facilities

Using a \$20,000 grant from the Texas poultry industry, the college poultry farm is completing facilities for making random sample poultry egg and meat tests.

Dr. John Quisenberry, Poultry Science Department head, has worked extensively with industry leaders in developing the new testing program here.

Included in the list of new equipment and buildings are two new multiple-unit brooder houses 32 feet wide and 120 feet long and two cage houses with a capacity for 1,600 hens.

RE Films On 'Review'

Films of the Religious Emphasis Week at A&M will appear on the Humble Company's "Texas in Review", March 11, 12, and 13, over 23 television stations, including KPRC TV in Houston March 11, at 9:30 p.m.

Haynes, Gerard T.; Heard, John F.; Hicks, Donald E.; Hilgartner, Lee M.

Hoff, Bert J.; Hopkins, John H.; Huddleston, Billy P.; Herzik, Jack E.; Jenkins, Charles W.; Johnson, Philip, E.; Johnson, Vardaman F.; Johnson, Warren B., Jr.; Keahey, Kirby M.; Keptra, Donald F.; Killough, Carroll P.; King, Byron W., Jr.; Klett, George E.; Koegl, Robert M.; Larkin, Frank E.; Lee, Clarence W.; Lee, Larry E.; Loggins, John L.; Lunsford, Jack H.; Matthys, Leroy D.; May, Bobby E.

Mays, Lester L.; McKnight, Louis G.; McLendon, Larry F.; McMichael, Gene L.; Meahaffey, George L., Jr.; Moore, Donald L.; Moore, Billy J.; Morton, Dickie; Newberry, Allen W.; Nolen, Kenneth B.; Norton, Thomas E.; Penland, Robert B.; Pixley, Earl L.; Poldrack, Nelson E.; Powell, William D.; Priest, Edward C.; Pruitt, James L.; Raynaud, Walter L.; Rhodenbaugh, Dan C.; Rice, Glen E.; Richey, Alan E.; Saad, Edmond D.; Sandhop, John R.; Savage, Galen E.

Selensky, John D.; Sharp, James

C.; Shaw, Thurman A.; Spath, Bernard A.; Sprague, Nelson J.; Smith, Allison F.; Smith, Rodney H.; Springer, Karl J.; Steel, Jack T.; Steward, Weldon C.; Terry, Condon H.; Thomas, Jack W.; Tyler, Curtis E.; Ullrich, Dale R.; Von Gonten, William D.; Wall, Richard M.; Warnick, Harold B.; Warren, Alton L.; Weatherby, Jerry R.; Webb, John A.; West, Dale G.; Whitwell, John B.; Wilkerson, Elton R.; Williams, Alfred L., Jr.; Williams, Billy D.; Williams, Charles D.; Willis, Charles L., III; Wright, Philip C.; Williamson, Robert D.; Wilson, James W. and Winn, George N.

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