



Art for Aggies' Sake

BY WELTON JONES

Some time ago, this column promised some comments on the two-man show of paintings currently in the Memorial Student Center. A few random impressions were also contained with the promise.

Since that time, the "two-man" show has become three-fold in nature and another medium has been added with the first public viewing of the work of Josef Tompa, the Hungarian sculptor who immigrated to College Station last year following the revolts and disturbances in his own country.

It has come to the attention of this column that certain of the innocent "random comments" included last time have been received with distress in some quarters. In this vein, let this column stress again the fact that reviews of any performance or creation by this column are the honest and sincere views of this column and are not meant to be anything more or less.

PAINTING—Joseph Donaldson Jr., of the A&M Architecture Department contributed the lion's share of work to the current showing. As noted previously, he drew inspiration for his wild abandon with color from years spent in New Orleans, the Virgin Islands, Haiti and other such exotic areas.

Donaldson's works seem to fall into three loose groups. The first contains the traditional "scapes," or impressions of landscapes, seascapes and other bits of scenery. These are best typified by the dewey-eyed "Remembered City," a drawing "View from my Window" and the lush, bold "Haitian Fantasy."

His group of faces follows. These include "Prophet and Bird," perhaps the most striking work on exhibit, the less complicated "Solemn Men" and the almost realistic "Portrait Impression (Robert Boyce)". All his faces seem either to be brooding and silent or screamingly insane.

The final, and perhaps the most significant group, is that containing the "Wanderers." Brooding, bleak, unfriendly, these works seem to reflect a vague self pity. Never, it seems, can the wandering spirit find comfort.

Mrs. Emalita Terry, MSC art director, is familiar to local viewers, but displayed as they are with Donaldson's works, her deli-

cate water colors and ghostly pastel caseins are seen in a new light.

The two personalities are obvious. Mrs. Terry is at her best with a whimsy subject such as "Marsh Reflections" to which Donaldson could hardly have done justice. Likewise Mrs. Terry would never attempt anything like "Garden Masquerade."

Perhaps she needs Donaldson most in "Portrait of Zana," which still lacks the completed feeling of his treatment of similar subjects.

The six works by Mr. Tompa, all completed since his arrival here last year, reveal an artist of great sensitivity and obvious accomplishment. His two wood plaques, "Veil Dancer" and "Still Life," while perfect to the minute detail, may be considered a bit too archaic and "old-worldish" for the American viewer.

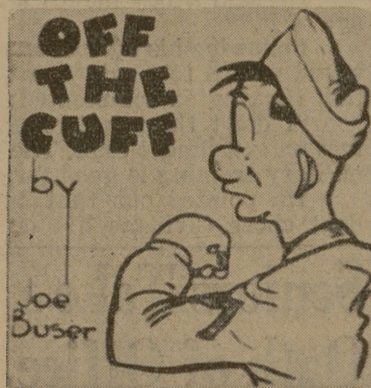
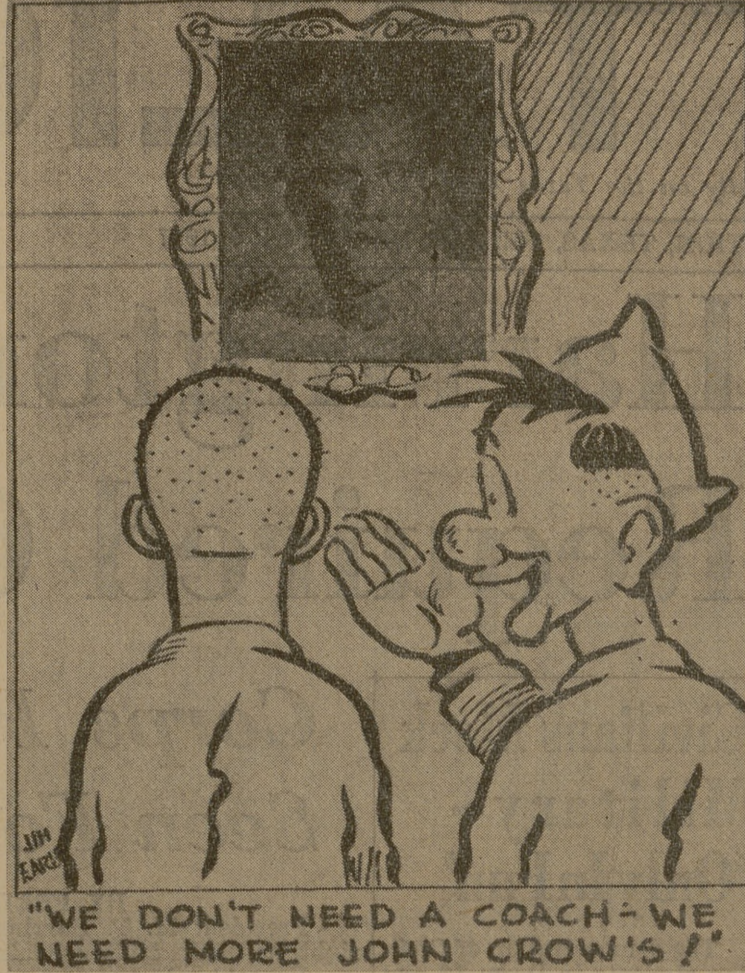
His wooden replica of a reflective monk ("Meditation") is well suited to the bold but delicate style of carving he used. His two plaster heads seem about to speak.

But it is in his wood-carving "Anonymous" that he reaches heights. Perhaps it is his reaction to experiences in Hungary showing through, but the speechless power of the figure makes it the best work of art in the MSC today. As a monumental life-size, it would be frighteningly overpowering.

MUSIC—The Fine Arts Quartet, a most accomplished string quartet, will be presented by the MSC Recital Series in the MSC Assembly room tonight at 8. The group promises an enjoyable evening for admirers of chamber music.

They will perform Beethoven's C minor quartet, the first work that master composed when he realized he was soon to become totally deaf. Also on the program are Dvorak's Quartet No. 6 in F major and Ravel's Quartet in F major.

Cadet Slouch by Jim Earle



Job Calls

The following interviews will be held in the Placement Office:

Tuesday

P. G. Bell & Company, Inc., Houston, interviews architectural construction majors for jobs as estimator and job expeditor and work in cost accounting.

Columbia Southern Chemical Corporation. A subsidiary of Pittsburgh Plate Glass Company) interviews chemical, civil, electrical, industrial and mechanical engineering, accounting and chemistry majors.

Dresser Industries, Inc., Dallas, interviews aeronautical, chemical, civil, electrical, geological, industrial, mechanical, petroleum and architectural engineering, geology and geophysics majors.

Tuesday and Wednesday

U. S. Soil Conservation Service interviews agricultural, and civil engineering, agronomy, plant and soil science, range and forestry, animal husbandry, dairy production and entomology majors. It also interviews the above majors for summer employment.

With all the buzzing on the geampus and the rush to go out and buy soldier suits, several interesting things have turned up in class.

In one class in particular, during a heated discussion on the subject, one soon-to-be-compelled type student said, "Let's hear something from the Boy Scouts."

Wherein, the instructor of the class commented to the un-look-alike that "that was a little below the belt."

But he indicated that it would be all right if one of the "scouts" spoke to the class and even offered to maintain order, as senior patrol leader.

A small riot almost started last night at the Senate meeting.

The meeting was about to begin when one Jim Bradyish senior

leaped out of his chair and dashed for a door, screaming, "I left my ring, my senior ring, in the 'restroom'!" He found it.

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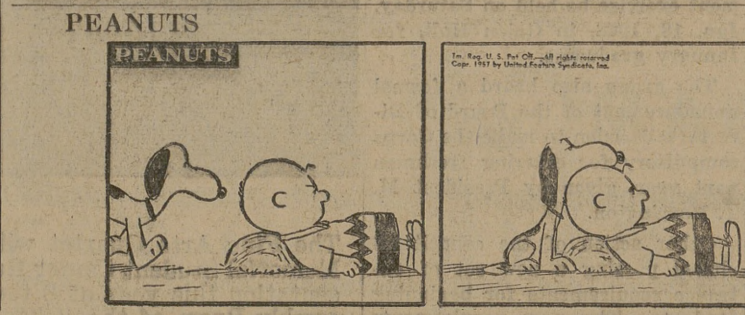
"Dance With Me Henry"
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PEANUTS

Written by Charles M. Schulz



Letters To The Editor

Editor:

The Battalion

The biggest thing that makes the Corps look bad in the Battalion isn't editorials by the editor but letters from Corps members who seem to think anyone who doesn't agree with them should keep quiet and not express his thoughts.

Bringing out both sides of any question is the only way to come to any intelligent conclusion about anything. That's the American system. Freedom of the press is one of the things we have a Corps to protect.

Are we in the Corps afraid of criticism? Are we afraid to look at our organization or have anyone else look at it for fear they might find something wrong? I don't think the majority of us are. Anything worth a darn won't be hurt by criticism. A far more dangerous situation is holding something up as a sacred cow not to be touched by anyone.

If the Corps hasn't matured us enough by the time we're juniors and seniors to take criticism with an open mind or hear either side of the argument intelligently even if we don't agree, then something's wrong somewhere and we might as well go ahead and be done with it.

Kenneth Haggard '58

Editor:

The Battalion

I kinda feel sorry for you as I wonder how you are going to get along in this world with your one-sided ideas! There are many on this campus who are getting sick and tired of reading day after day your prejudiced views expressed in a publication representing Texas A&M.

Who are you to the ask the board of directors to reconsider their decision? Does our Editor think he is qualified to "request" one way or the other?

Jim Burke '57

Editor:

The Battalion

After reading your editorial concerning the announcement of a compulsory Corps dated 4, December, 1957, I was finally convinced of what your attitude has been since you have taken the reins of *The Battalion*. Since your editorials always expressed the views of the non-reg, I feel that it is necessary to express what I know are the feelings of the Corps of Cadets.

First of all the function of the Corps of Cadets is not primarily to mass produce military officers like those of West Point. The function of the Corps is to train and produce men who after leaving this college can cope with problems that will face them. This means the Corps is

trying to teach discipline and instill in every Aggie a certain quality that in the past has been easily noticed by the people of Texas and the rest of the United States. There is nothing in the Corps that you can claim to be detrimental to the life of a clean cut American male.

Teaching a man to schedule his time and to take the best advantage of it is something non-reg life does not teach you.

Living off of the reputation built by the Corps of Cadets is something non-reg life does teach you! The Corps is what sells the college and is the same organization that backs it to the hilt. Almost every structure on this campus has been built by the cooperation and finances of Aggie Exes, all of whom were in the Corps.

Just what progress has the Civilian Student body made? The only progress that I have seen is the path that is being worn across the drill field and MSC grass.

It seems to me that the reason that you so violently object to a compulsory Corps is that your non-reg followers might have to cope with something more in the future. They might have to put up with their fellow men and learn what it is to be an Aggie.

They might have to learn how to show respect where respect is due and also learn how to humble themselves when necessary.

You say that a man should have a choice of whether or not he should be in the Corps. I say NO, he should have a choice all

right, the choice being whether or not he wants to be an Aggie. Let's not let a four-year mistake mar an 81-year record which the Corps has built for A&M.

Nick Courtney '59
James Hataway '59
Don Weinacht '59
Bob Skupin '59

Editor:

The Battalion

Well, what can we say after the Turkey Day game? We were all there tearing our hearts out for that Fightin' Texas Aggie Team, but they must not have heard us. We could tell, too, that the whole team was playing their hearts out, but to no avail.

We were glad to see that good ole' Twelfth Man defend the goal posts after the game. We would have been very disappointed if those Aggies would have sat there and let those sorry Teasips tear down our goal posts. But of course, we know Aggies better than that.

We are now looking forward to Dec. 28, when the Aggies will really give that Gator Bowl crowd a real thrill. We hope that Jacksonville, Fla., will survive all the Aggie victory parties. The password around here now is, "Beat ole' Tennessee!"

We here at SHSTC hope that all of you have a very Merry Christmas and a real Prosperous New Year.

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