

An Editorial

Point of No Return

Yesterday a new staff assumed the responsibility for The Battalion, a 65-year-old publication well respected in collegiate and professional circles. For this group of young journalists, yesterday was a point of no return.

No longer are they able to pass the responsibility for decisions; no longer are they shielded by the experience and wisdom of the men they replace. The success or failure of the newspaper is now solely in their hands.

Putting out a newspaper at best is a tremendous task—especially for young men who do it in addition to regular college duties. But their task is remarkably lightened when they achieve even a small degree of success with their labor.

The new staff will make some changes and being only human, some mistakes too. But so long as their ultimate goal is making Texas A&M a better university, these mistakes will not weigh heavily in the final analysis of their success or failure.

The Battalion's purpose is two-fold: service and education. To fulfill these purposes and at the same time keep ever constant the goal of better A&M the new staff could find no better guide than the one written by Walter Williams, first dean of the University of Missouri School of Journalism, which reads in part . . .

" . . . the public journal is a public trust, and all connected with it are, to the full measure of their responsibility, trustees for the public and acceptance of a lesser service is betrayal of this trust.

"Clear thinking and clear statement, accuracy and fairness are fundamental.

"A journalist should write only what he holds in his heart to be true.

"Suppression of the news, for any consideration other than the welfare of society, is indefensible.

"No one should write what he would not say as a gentleman; a single standard of helpful truth and cleanness should prevail for all; and the supreme test of good journalism is the measure of its public service.

"Journalism that succeeds best—and best deserves success—fears God and honors man; is stoutly independent, unmoved by pride of opinion or greed of power, constructive, tolerant but never careless, self-controlled, patient, respectful of its readers but always unafraid, quickly indignant at injustice, unswayed by the appeal of privilege or clamor of the mob, seeks to give every man a chance, and, so far as law and honest way and recognition of human brotherhood can make it so, an equal chance; is proudly patriotic while sincerely promoting international good will and cementing world-camaraderie; is a journalism of humanity, of and for today's world. . ."



Meet the Battman

Buser Assumes Editor's Duties

With teeth gnashing and wings thrashing, Joe (Battman) Buser hovered over the editor's chair Tuesday night and promptly at midnight plopped into the seat to begin duties as the 1958-59 Battalion editor.

Thus the blond, crew-cut lad of 20 added his name to a long list of Battalion editors dating back to 1893.

Buser has had two years experience on the "Batt", serving as a reporter during his sophomore year and a news editor as a junior. This year he became renowned, more or less, for his column, "Off The Cuff."

Last summer the leader of "The Battmen" was editor of the Hondo Anvil Herald, a weekly newspaper in South Texas. He will take a Texas Daily Newspaper Association internship with the Wichita Falls Record-News this summer.

For the past two years Buser has been a member of teams of Aggies publishing weekly newspapers during Easter holidays. He was junior editor on the crew taking over the Liberty Vindicator this year.

He has been a member of Sigma Delta Chi, national pro-

As you grow ready for it, somewhere or other, you will find what is needful for you in a book. —George MacDonald

fessional journalistic fraternity, for two years and served as parliamentarian during the past year. Last fall he was the A&M Undergraduate Chapter's delegate to the national SDX convention in Houston. Recently he was elected 1958-59 vice president for the chapter.

Buser is a member of the White Band and a former member of the Drum and Bugle Corps.

Other accomplishments at Aggie include membership on the Student Senate and on the Memorial Student Center Public Relations Committee.

The new editor is the son of Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Buser of Arp. He has one brother and one sister.

Letters To The Editor

Editor,
 The Battalion
 I have just read the editorial about Citadel type uniforms for A&M entitled, "Why Can't We?" I would like to ask, "Why should we?"
 The uniform doesn't make the man, the man makes the uniform. You can add as many plumes, brass buttons, lace—what every you please to it and it is superficial except for the cost

involved.
 The Citadel is a small, military school which prepares a man totally for a career in the service. A&M is a fairly large, land grant college, in reality now a university, where a man can get a broad education. The military training involved is only secondary to this.
 Therefore why should we copy The Citadel? I'm proud of the uniform we have. In my mind it stands for far more than any plume covered, brass-buttoned, expensive one ever will.

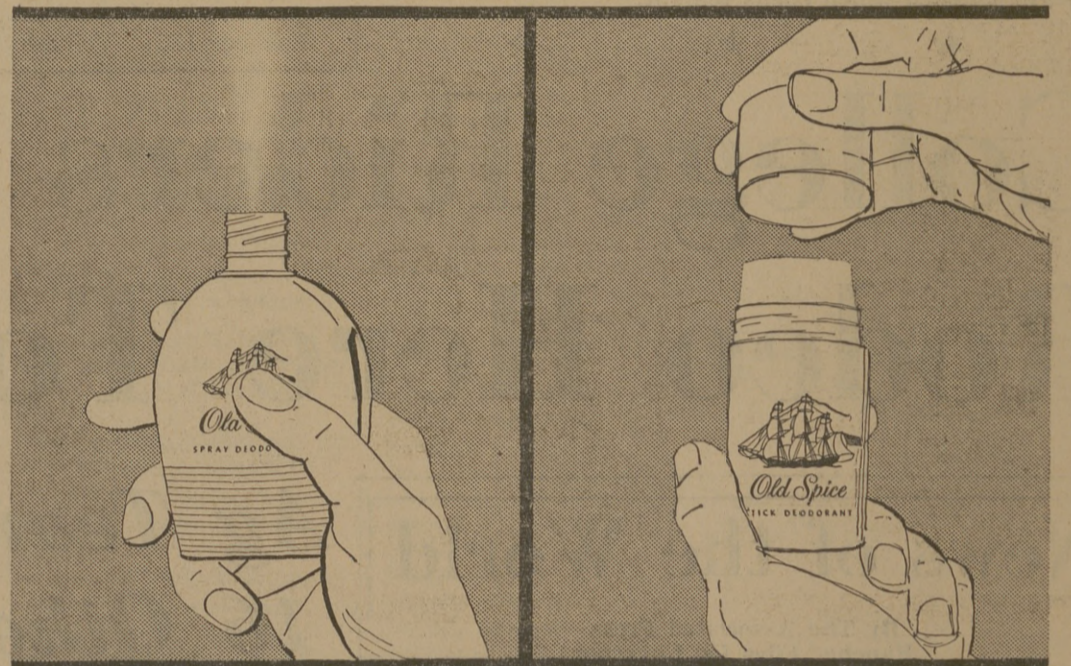
Sincerity, a deep, genuine, heart-felt sincerity, is a trait of true and noble manhood.
 —Lawrence Sterne

What's Cooking

7:30 p. m.
 Baytown Hometown Club meets in room 106, Academic Building, to elect officers for next year.
 Southwest Texas Hometown Club meets in room 128, Academic, to discuss plans for annual party May 6.

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STUDENT FLORAL CONCESSION

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