

BATTALION EDITORIALS

... Our Liberty Depends on the Freedom of the Press, And It Cannot Be Limited Without Being Lost ... Thomas Jefferson

Age of Reason

The Age of Reason has been slow arriving at Texas A&M. Yet it must surely come if the college is ever to compete with other state schools. It must come if A&M is to survive in the deadly struggle with the other 17 state-supported schools for state monies.

"We cannot keep a school here (A&M) with decreasing enrollment," as John Newton, new Board member from Beaumont said.

It was with this in mind that changes in the Corps were suggested. Yet these changes have been labeled heresy and have been hooted down by cadets on the defensive about their training methods.

This is amazing since the only concrete recommendation made thus far has been to re-examine current practices of handling underclassmen in the light of reason rather than in the shadow of tradition.

Indications are only a few Corps students have looked at the problem in the light of reason. Too many have refused—they shrug off the possibility that anything could be wrong with "Ol' Army" and are frantically searching for ways to defend the old system rather than looking for ways to enlarge and improve Corps training.

Principal among these misconceptions about "Reasonable Army" as it may come to be called, is that it calls for destruction of every present condition and practice. This is not the case at all. Everything done to date can and will be kept so long as it can be justified reasonably. Again, this seems logical and one wonders how it can be refuted intelligently.

Another basic contention of those who would keep A&M unchanged is that "Old Army" trained good men—they are the foundation for our reputation today. And certainly this is true. For it's day, the training program 20 years ago was most effective.

But this is 1959 and the raw material sent from Texas' high schools is different, their training at home is different and most important of all, the world they will graduate into is radically different. Consequently, the Corps' program must be slanted for problems—it must condition the young men mentally and physically for the tests they will meet today, not the tests they would have met if they had been born 20 years ago.

A third false idea of the changes suggested is that it will destroy discipline. Nothing could be more erroneous. If anything, the interjection of thinking rather than being content to ape the past would surely improve discipline.

It all hinges on the meaning of discipline. If one believes it to mean the ability to take any sort of unorganized foolishness (as some seem to suggest) then maybe it would strike the death blow to "discipline", if that be the word.

However, if the discipline they seek is truly training which molds, strengthens or perfects, it will withstand the examination and will be perpetuated.

Basically, to keep every ridiculous, Phi Beta Corps policy now employed to belittle and discourage freshmen and to terminate it in a reasonable length of time—say Turkey Day, for example,—would be a start in the right direction. This might appease both groups. For the die-hards that insist that a man must prove himself able to "Take It and Dish it Out" it would allow an excellent opportunity for just this sort of training. By terminating it early in the year, it would allow the freshmen who have measured up to these standards to be accepted rather than force them to qualify over and over again until they see no incentive in doing well a job they must do over again.

The net effect would be well screened freshmen yet they would become real members of Corps as soon as they merited it rather than after they were exhausted.

Certainly this is not the only answer to the problem. There are others equally as feasible for putting the Corps back together as a single unit of Texas Aggies rather than four groups of boys hassling over which group is more manly than the others . . .

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THE BATTALION

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Members of the Student Publications Board are L. A. Dugwall, director of Student Publications, chairman; J. W. Amys, School of Engineering; Harry Lee Kidd, School of Arts and Sciences; Otto R. Kunze, School of Agriculture; and Dr. E. D. McMurry, School of Veterinary Medicine.

The *Battalion*, a student newspaper at Texas A&M, is published in College Station, Texas, daily except Saturday, Sunday, and holiday periods, September through May, and once a week during summer school.

Entered as second-class matter at the Post Office in College Station, Texas, under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

Mail subscriptions are \$3.50 per semester, \$6 per school year, \$6.50 per full year. Advertising rate furnished on request. Address: The Battalion, Room 4, YMCA, College Station, Texas.

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News contributions may be made by telephoning VI 6-6618 or VI 6-4310 or at the Editorial office, Room 4, YMCA. For advertising or delivery call VI 6-4415.

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Better Parking Facilities-1

Students Want to Know Where Fee Money Goes

(EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the first in a series of stories designed to answer students' questions concerning the parking lot situation on the campus. All phases of the problem will be discussed.)

By **BILL REED**
 Battalion News Editor

What was the \$35,000 accumulated last year from parking fees and fines used for? When are the student parking lots going to be paved? Why are we getting tickets at 2:30 in the morning?

These are just a few of the questions being asked every day by students on the campus. The whole thing may be boiled down to just one question that was overheard the other day. Why do we have KK's?

Students on every corner of the campus are very concerned and upset about the whole parking lot situation at A&M. They want

to know what is being done to better conditions for their cars. They want to know what the money they pay is being used for.

Rumors have started circulating on the campus insinuating that the money collected is being used for things other than what it is supposed to be used for.

A committee has been set up by the Student Senate to investigate the situation. At the present time the committee is making proposals to better the parking lots with the hope of making Aggies happy.

Several student lots on the campus have been paved, but the majority have not. College officials have said that in the near future the rest of the lots will be paved.

Fred Hickman, chief of Campus Security, said yesterday, "We don't know when these lots will

be paved, but we are hoping to have them done in the near future."

Moon Rocket Stops Climb Begins Orbit

NEW YORK (AP)—Before noon today, the new U.S. space probe reached the top of an invisible gravity mountain in space.

Then the little gold-plated satellite and its companion rocket approached their closest to the moon—perhaps within 38,000 miles.

Their long climb against the gravity attraction of the earth became less taxing, less important. Gravity weakens greatly with distance.

At 3,000 miles, the earth's gravitational attraction for Pioneer IV was about a fourth what it had been at blastoff, astronomers say.

Nine-tenths of the way to the moon, the earth's gravity becomes so weakened that other forces are more important. First the moon's gravity predominates. Then the sun's gravity—the major force of the solar system—takes over as the major influence on the course of Pioneer IV.

It's as if Pioneer had to climb a mountain to the neighborhood of the moon—steepest as it left the earth but becoming nearly a plateau in the region of the moon.

Beyond the moon would lie a sort of downhill slope—and it is here that Pioneer would gather speed as it hurries into an orbit around the sun.

The big Juno II rocket gave Pioneer a kick of some seven miles a second, insuring that the space cone had enough speed to conquer the earth's gravity mountain.

The earth's gravity slowed Pioneer with each succeeding mile—but could not slow it enough to bring it back to earth.

Interpreting

Berlin Situation Indefinite As Mac, Nikita Halt Talks

By **J. M. ROBERTS**
 Associated Press News Analyst

Prime Minister Harold Macmillan has ended his exploratory trip to Moscow without being able to map new territory.

The expedition found itself in a cul-de-sac surrounded by sheer precipices, confirming that the Soviet Union is unwilling to give up any of its objectives for the sake of a better peace.

At the same time, when Macmillan indicated he had almost broken off the talks soon after their beginning because of Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev's undiplomatic treatment, the Kremlin leaders did do enough of an about face to suggest that they don't want war, either.

Aside from confirmation that the Communists are determined to perpetuate the partition of Germany, perhaps the most significant result of the meeting is the new projection of the shadow of cold war far into the future.

For a time it appeared that the conference might actually contribute to the danger of war, by opening the door to expressions of animosity on all sides.

In the end, however, some good may have been accomplished by the Allied display of unity and

determination in the face of Khrushchev's repeated threats.

To that extent, tough talk in the United States about what would happen if the Reds tried another Berlin blockade may have provided Macmillan with a persuasive background for his warning about the danger of unilateral action.

At least Khrushchev is on the record, for whatever it is worth, as relying on negotiations rather than force for settlement of international issues.

Macmillan says he is convinced the basic aim of both sides is to prevent a war.

If that is true, then the basic problem for the West remains as it has appeared for several years—how to prevent the international Communists from grabbing the fruits of war without actually fighting.

CAMPUS

LAST DAY

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 Walt Disney's
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Social Whirl Wee Aggies

Civil Engineering Wives Club meets tonight at 8 in the South Solarium, YMCA. Mrs. Fred Hale will present a talk on "Tips on Buying a Home."

Geology Wives Club meets tonight at 8 in Room 2-C, MSC.

Wee Aggies like to read about Wee Aggies. When a wee one arrives, call VI 6-4910 and ask for the Wee Aggie Editor. . . .

Mr. and Mrs. Malvern G. McFarlin, '58, are the proud parents of a future Aggie sweetheart, Patricia Ann, weighing in at 5 pounds, 14 ounces, arrived Saturday at 7:46 p.m. in North Louisiana Hospital, Shreveport, La.

Tickets Available For Prof Banquet

Tickets are now on sale for the annual banquet of the A&M Chapter, American Association of University Professors in the Assembly Room of the Memorial Student Center on March 11.


The tickets may be purchased from members of the chapter or through their departments for \$2. Speaker for the banquet will be J. W. Riehm, Assistant Dean, Southern Methodist University School of Law.

The purpose of the AAUP is to stimulate interest in furthering education. A&M's chapter has a membership of 125 and is one of 537 chapters in the United States.

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How about dropping by the Placement Office and arranging to talk to these officials?

By Charles M. Schulz

hail, hail # the gang's all there!


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 Schulz