

BATTALION EDITORIALS

GUEST EDITORIAL

Students' Vote Criticized

(Editor's Note)—Actually, the civilian—Corps student ratio is almost even, and the Battalion did not sponsor the straw vote.

In a commendable display of journalistic enterprise the A&M College student newspaper, The Battalion, recently conducted a straw poll of student sentiment on three issues now topical at the school. The vote was of interest here because there are probably more Aggie alumni in Metropolitan Houston than in any other spot on earth.

The students were asked if they would like to have girls on the campus (coeducation), if they would like to do away with compulsory military training, (no more reveille, no more drill), and how they felt about changing "college" in the school's name to "university."

Naturally they voted for girls and no drill. Given a chance to vote, any regiment of the Army, Air Force, or Marine Corps would have done the same. No need to hazard a guess on how any Navy crew might have voted.

The students also favored the more prestigious "university" in place of "college," a change which has been well earned by A&M and is long overdue.

Tradition-imbued Aggie alumni throughout the length and breadth of the land will certainly raise shocked laments about the death of "the Aggie Spirit," as reflected in the vote on the first two issues.

Before the howls reach hurricane proportions it is well to emphasize that on both issues the vote was close. Even more to the point is the fact that an analysis of the vote shows that nonmilitary students, of whom there are a relative few at A&M, helped supply the majority on both.

We doubt if there has been any substantial erosion of the famed Aggie spirit in the cadet corps itself. And we certainly hope not. That spirit, acquired by Aggie freshmen when they set foot on the campus and sustained by Aggie alumni forever after, has made A&M unique, and an asset to Texas. Pride in the school and its traditions; pride in the cadet corps which has furnished this nation's armed forces more officers than any other school in the country, including the service academies; pride in the high quality of the thousands of engineers and agriculturists produced there, is shared by all Texans.

The Battalion-sponsored straw vote had some interesting results but, after all, it has little real meaning. Any changes in A&M policy still have to be determined by the board of regents. And no doubt the regents will give more consideration to the matter than some of the students did.

—Houston Chronicle

Read Battalion Classifieds Daily

THE BATTALION

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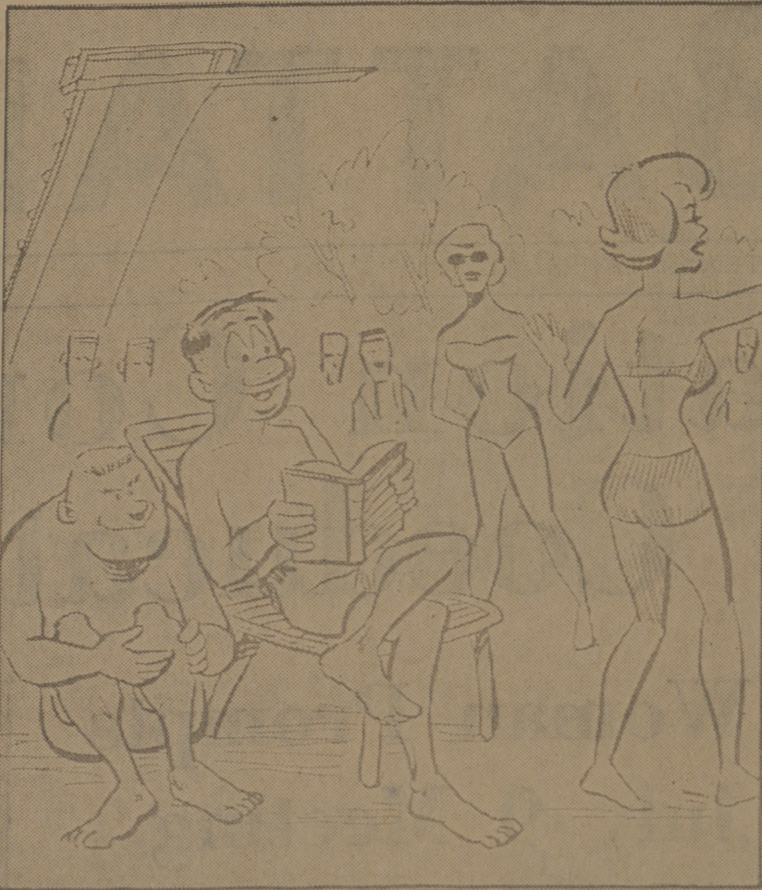
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CADET SLOUCH

by Jim Earle



"Somehow I feel my grades are going to hit an all-time low this summer!"

There Is Basic Reason For US High Living Standards

By E. B. GERMANY  
Special to The Battalion

All of us know that Americans enjoy the highest standard of living ever experienced by any nation at any time in the history of the world. We have more conveniences, more work-saving machines, more fabulous methods of transportation and communication than have ever before existed on the face of the earth.

All of us know these things, but how many of us ever stopped to think just why this is so? Few of us give much thought to the reasons that the United States has made more mechanical and technical and scientific progress within the past century than entire civilizations made in the thousand years preceding.

There is a reason, a very basic one, but one which is consistently overlooked.

I read a little article the other day in one of the reading rack booklets that are distributed down at the plant. It gives such an effective illustration of this simple truth that I want to pass it along to you.

The article is called "Competition Does It," and is printed from a booklet entitled "Selected Reading," printed by the National Research Bureau.

It says, "Suppose, in the year 1861, you had been asked to choose the easiest among the following projects:

1. Deliver letters and packages to the country's population.
2. Deliver the human voice around the earth in less than one twenty-fifth of a second.
3. Deliver an event, like a Shakesperian drama, into any American living room, in motion and color, at the time it is taking place.
4. Deliver 115 individuals from Los Angeles to Baltimore in three hours and nineteen minutes.
5. Design and build a horseless carriage like the ones described in 1961 advertisements.

Which of the five would you have chosen as the easiest to accomplish? The first, for certain. The other four would, in 1861, have been looked upon as dreams of a Jules Verne. Yet a

Future Plans, Law Should Guide Young Job-Seekers

Future plans and federal law should be the twin guides on summer jobs for the host of Texas youngsters who hit the labor market as soon as schools closed.

That's the advice of Regional Director William J. Rogers of the U. S. Department of Labor's Wage and Hour and Public Con-

World Situation Warrant Bond For Freedom Drive

The U. S. Treasury's Freedom Bond Drive in May and June is the first nation-wide drive for Savings Bonds since 1951, during the fight against communist aggression in Korea. Why have one now?

Certainly it isn't due to any lag in bond buying or holding. In 1961, sales were up, redemptions down compared to 1960. Holdings of Series E and H bonds rose by over a billion dollars. The amount outstanding—some \$44½ billion—is at an all-time high. But the threat to the free world needs no spelling out today. More Savings Bond sales are needed to help meet the heavy cost of strengthening our defenses, military and economic.

Selling Savings Bonds helps our Treasury meet the mounting costs of keeping the peace in a way that also braces our economy against the strains that defense puts upon it. In its job of managing the debt, the government needs flexibility, and it needs the stability provided by widespread individual holdings of its securities. Series E and H bond holdings represent some 15 per cent of the total debt—a por-

tion which is anti-inflationary, working to preserve the buying power of all our dollars.

Buying these bonds also helps morale by giving Americans who are asking how they can help our country, the opportunity to do something effective in the cause of freedom. The bond drives of 1942-45 certainly helped to strengthen us in all these ways.

The billions of dollars put into Savings Bonds in the past 21

years have greatly helped avert the boom and bust queeces produced by past Fed into the economy since bond savings have benefited people beyond measuring dollars and in other ways.

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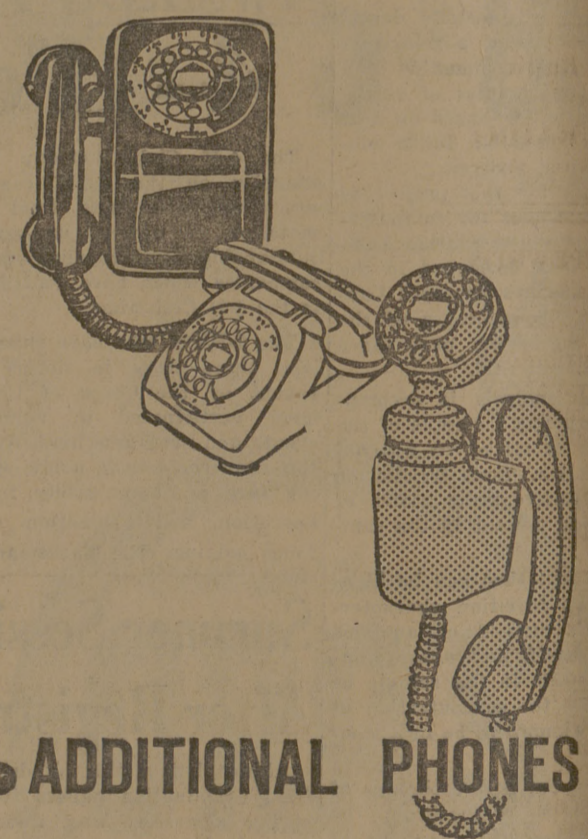
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