

BATTALION EDITORIALS

Disqualification Wheels Move — And For Nothing

The Battalion was more than a little taken aback Monday night to hear the election commission recommend the disqualification of a freshman class officer candidate for the violation of a campaign rule that doesn't exist.

That's correct. A candidate for freshman secretary-treasurer was disqualified for violating a non-existent rule. We are only glad that the disqualification isn't final, but has to be verified by the Student Senate.

The accused freshman, who tied his opponent in Friday's run-off election, was accused of campaigning in the Memorial Student Center. No where in the official College Regulations is campaigning in the MSC forbidden.

The disqualification action was based on what several election commission members called "precedent." Also it was brought out that special mention was made of the "rule" during a pre-election meeting of all freshmen candidates. The accused attended this meeting and, along with several other candidates present, says he does not recall mention of the "rule."

Meetings to clarify questions from any candidate, especially freshmen, appear to be a good thing. We feel, however, that all effectiveness is lost when new rules are thrown in and not included in the College Regulations.

In reality, a candidate for any campus position should be able to turn to the College Regulations and find exactly what he may do and what is prohibited. As has been illustrated in the past, the last time during general elections last spring, candidates often cannot find the exact rules written in the College Regulations.

Last spring, for example, the newly-elected Student Senate vice president was disqualified for putting campaign posters in classroom buildings. This is prohibited in the College Regulations, but The Battalion sincerely feels the ousted candidate simply didn't understand the passage. A sizeable minority of the Student Senate group that disqualified the candidate also agreed that the passage could be misinterpreted.

Maybe these two instances will eventually prove beneficial—at least a committee has been formed to study and possibly revise the College Regulations' passages concerning student election campaigning. But the cost of progress, if there is to be progress, has been terribly high. Already one election winner has lost his position and another has two big strikes against him.

We would hope this second candidate is not disqualified. As the College Regulations states: "Any violation of the rules will disqualify candidates." This candidate did not violate a rule, only a "precedent."



... Sir, would you give me th' class assignment for the next class meeting—my grandmother is sick and I have to leave. I'd like to have th' assignment for th' first class after Christmas, too, cause Grandpa is looking sorta bad also!"

JFK MEETS MACMILLIAN

West Seems Boggled Down Before Talks In Nassau

By J. M. ROBERTS Associated Press News Analyst

Last week's conferences among the Western allies in Europe appear to have produced little firm ground from which British Prime Minister Harold Macmillan and President Kennedy can take off in their talks at Nassau this week.

In one matter which has become a major issue despite its relatively minor and tactical nature, the two chiefs of state are having to take with them their defense ministers who were supposed to have covered the ground—Skybolt—last week.

Such information as is available on another major problem—the European Common Market—suggests that Macmillan failed to form with French President Charles de Gaulle, any sufficient-concise premise to give himself and Kennedy a firm hand-hold in their own discussions.

More and more—and more and more unhappily—it appears that Europe is arriving at a policy of protectionism such as the United States began slowly to abandon 30 years ago.

Following the De Gaulle-Macmillan talks there is now open talk—with both sides more or less accusing the other of starting it—of a three-way grouping of trade spheres in the West, instead of the two-way harassing with which the United States had hoped to confront the Communist sphere.

The British-European market disagreement and the U.S.-British-French nuclear disagreement now seem likely to crowd what should have been the major Kennedy-Macmillan topic into the background. That is how to make the best use of burgeoning Communist weaknesses.

Britain and France are so intent on duplicating U.S. nuclear power as a part of their own national political and military positions that they pay little heed to American insistence on the North Atlantic Treaty Organization as the proper holding company for both nuclear and improved conventional defense measures in Europe.

It all ties together, since Britain and France would be in a better position for economic compromise if they did not devote so much of their resources to that segment of the military posture already provided by the United States.

And the United States would be in a better position to hold back from nuclear war, which nobody wants, if conventional European forces were available to act as a strong deterrent against territorial adventures from the East.

The time hardly has arrived for a British inquiry as to the U.S. attitude about an English-speaking front in case England, the Commonwealth and Britain's

Outer Seven partners are left in the European cold.

England and the United States already have reaffirmed their partnership, this time in arrangements for defense of India which may become more and more formal as time goes on. They will make their national policies clear on a wide range of common interests.

But the atmosphere here seems conducive to firm decisions. It is a time of flux, and of finding-out operations, in Western affairs.

The speculation of the last few weeks over Communist intentions and the effect of the Cuban confrontation on the world's future beginning to shake down a little bit.

Communism is not surrendering. The secretary-general of the United Nations has joined the populated ranks of those who think there is a leavening in Soviet attitudes, that there have been changes in the Communist world front since Stalin which offer room to compromise. He thinks the West is too afraid that compromise means surrender.

The corner stone of the current belief in the possibility of change in world affairs rests off-center primarily on quick Soviet retreat from the Cuban attempt to apply fear in political maneuvers against the United States.

Another of the rather shaky supports of this theory is that the internal fissures in the Communist monolith, as displayed in world party reaction to the split between Moscow and Peking, represent an important weakening of anti-capitalism.

The Red Chinese punchpulling indexing related to the Soviet punchpulling in Cuba.

The Communists, as a world force, are off balance, and among the wishful thinkers, are subject to a change of heart as well as a change of tactics.

In the basis of hard reality, appears more likely that Communist retreats are from positions which they undertook primarily calculated risks, from which they could safely withdraw if the reaction proved too strong.

Both of the main Communist entities are in trouble. They are in danger of losing the momentum upon which their existence depends.

— Sound Off —

Editor, The Battalion: We are two little sisters of eight and ten years of age, named Margaret and Virginia. We live in a small country—Uruguay—where, without the great resources you have, we must face however, our daily existence and our education. Here there are few opportunities for little girls to earn money, and that is why we ask for your help. We sell collection of ten colored postcards about Spanish monuments, landscapes, seascapes and Uruguayan customs for \$1. We also offer a collection of 30

stamps of Uruguay for \$1. We need not only your contribution, but your friends'. Please tell them about this kind help. If you accept our offer, please send a money order by the nearest post office, your name and address, as soon as possible. By return mail you will receive the collections. Thank you very much for the attention you could pay to our request. Margaret and Virginia Fernandez Cobas, Casilla de Correo 1060, Sub Central, Montevideo, Uruguay, South America

Editor, The Battalion: Something seems definitely awry to me when an organization such as the Memorial Student Center at an all-male school such as Texas A&M refuses to stock such normal magazines as Playboy, Nugget and Gent in its bookstands, but instead makes available such abnormal magazines as The Demigods, The Young Physique and Modern Build. Take a close look at them. One thing we don't need is male pin-ups. Bob Hipp, '63

PRESIDENT WINS FOR THIRD STRAIGHT TIME

Kennedys, Cuba Tops In '62 News

By The Associated Press The Kennedy family and President Kennedy's historic decision to enforce a Naval blockade of Cuba proved to be the top news personalities and events of 1962, according to the annual Associated Press year-end poll.

For the third straight year, President Kennedy was named Newsmaker of the Year—primarily in 1962 for his stands on the Cuban problem and the big steel disputes. Mrs. Kennedy won hands down to be named Woman of the Year.

Faced with evidence that Russia was building and equipping bases in Cuba which could handle nuclear missiles, Kennedy's reaction was: get them out or else. In a grave TV talk to the na-

tion Oct. 22, Kennedy outlined a seven-point program for fast military and diplomatic action to stop the Cuban buildup. He also said, "Should these offensive military preparations continue, thus increasing the threat to the hemisphere, further action will be justified. I have directed the armed forces to prepare for any eventualities."

Russia backed down. With steel, the President used his powers of persuasion to bring about a new contract which would hold down the inflationary spiral. The contract called for no pay increase, was reached without a strike.

But when the major steel companies raised prices only a few days later, Kennedy went beyond persuasion. Atty. Gen. Robert Kennedy threatened antitrust suits and a grand jury investigation of price fixing.

Big steel backed down. Mrs. Kennedy's trips to India and Italy were given as devoted reportage as if they were summit meetings. When she rode to the hounds, took a turn on a surfboard or appeared with a new coiffure, everybody discussed it. She became a television personality to reckon with after she conducted a televised tour of the White House she had refurbished. No trivia escaped attention. When Leonard Bernstein, the New York

Philharmonic conductor, gave her a chaste peck on the cheek at the opening of Philharmonic Hall, the question of the social kiss became a topic of the day.

The tense story of the Cuban blockade and Russia's eventual backdown was an easy winner in the editors' poll of the top news events. Running neck-and-neck for second were the stories of John Glenn's orbital flight and Negro James Meredith's admis-

Top News Events

The Associated Press's top ten news stories of 1962:

- 1. Russia establishes missile bases in Cuba, U.S. successfully blockades. 2. Three-orbit flight of Astronaut John Glenn. 3. James Meredith enrolls as the first Negro student in the University of Mississippi, two are killed in rioting. 4. The drug thalidomide is found to have caused thousands of babies to be born deformed. 5. Worst stock market dip since 1929. 6. Red China invades India. 7. Steel price rise is rescinded under pressure from President Kennedy. 8. Off-year election. 9. Two Russian spacemen orbit for several days and establish visual and radio contact. 10. Investigation of business manipulations of Billie Sol Estes.

sion to the University of Mississippi.

Kennedy's decision to blockade Cuba left a jittery world waiting while Soviet ships with unknown orders steamed toward the U.S. Naval blockade.

The Navy came alongside 55 Cuba-bound ships, then let them pass through.

After a series of statements

that began with bluster and moderated to surprising compromise, Premier Khrushchev agreed that Russia would demolish its missile sites in Cuba, took his rockets and jet bombers home and said a UN team could conduct on-site inspection in Cuba.

Cuban Premier Castro balked at on-site inspection, but the high tension had eased.

Top Personalities

The Associated Press's top news personalities of 1962:

Newsmaker of the Year—President Kennedy

Foreign Affairs—Fidel Castro

Science—Dr. Frances Kelsey

Business—Billie Sol Estes

Labor—Arthur Goldberg

Religion—Pope John XXIII

Sports—Sonny Liston

Entertainment—Marilyn Monroe

Literature—John Steinbeck

Woman—Jacqueline Kennedy.

THE BATTALION

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PARDNER You'll Always Win The Showdown When You Get Your Duds Done At CAMPUS CLEANERS

GIVE A BOOK a guaranteed gift THE EXCHANGE STORE "Serving Texas Aggies"

PALACE Brgan 2-8879 To All Aggies & Their Families and To All Our Other College Station Patrons The Management and Staff Of The Palace & Queen Theaters Extend A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR NOW SHOWING "I SPIT ON YOUR GRAVE" QUEEN LAST NITE "TRAPEZE" & "THE VIKINGS"

CAMPUS The Management & Staff Of The Campus & Circle Drive In Would Like To Extend To All Aggies & Their Families Along With All Our Other Patrons A MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR NOW SHOWING "VIRGIN SPIRAL" CIRCLE LAST NITE "GONE WITH THE WIND" & "SEA WIFE" (Both In Color) By Charles M. Schulz

PEANUTS comic strip panels with dialogue: TELL MOM I DON'T THINK I'LL GO TO SCHOOL TODAY, TELL HER I'M EMOTIONALLY EXHAUSTED... SHE SAYS TO GET OUT OF BED THIS VERY MINUTE! NICE TRY! YOU DON'T KNOW HOW LUCKY YOU ARE! THERE ARE TEN THOUSAND PUPPIES AND KITTENS BORN IN THIS COUNTRY EVERY HOUR, AND YOU ARE ONE OF THE VERY FEW WHO HAS HIS OWN HOME... HOW CAN YOU ENJOY IT WHEN THEY MAKE YOU FEEL GUILTY?