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House Seniority Rule **Blamed For Inaction**

Collectively, the United States House of Representatives is supposed to represent the will of a majority of the American people. The gains scored by the Democratic Party in the recent election would seem to indicate rather clearly that most Americans favor the program outlined by that party in the campaign and want to see it implemented or carried

But the gains are less meaningful than they seem because the will of the majority frequently does not prevail in the House. Very often it is thwarted and twisted because of the practices, rules and procedures under which the House transacts its legislative business.

As a practical matter, it is necessary for most of the actual work on legislation to be handled by committees, and these small groups can be dominated or ruled tightly by a single man or a small clique that agrees with him. The key then to making the House truly representative lies in the choice of the members who make up these committees and particularly, those who serve as chairmen.

It is here that the most pernicious obstacle is encountered, the House's long established seniority rule. Because of it, the chairman may or may not be in accord with the views of a majority of the members of the House or a majority of the American people. Under the seniority rule, majority committee members are advanced on the basis of time they have served in office.

As someone has said, all it takes to become a committee chairman is to live long enough and keep getting re-elected. Because of the one-party system in the South, Southern congressmen long have enjoyed greater job security than most of their colleagues, and as a result, a disproportionate number of committee chairmanships, particularly key ones, now are held by Southerners. On a great many major issues, their views do not coincide with those of a majority of the American people or a majority of the House members. Yet to a large extent they can dictate, shape or control legislation simple by reason of the positions they hold

It is hardly surprising that in the wake of the Nov. 3 election, there should be a renewal of demands in congress, especially among frustrated liberal elements, that something be done to reduce the power of committee chairmen, and make them more subject to party discipline. Rep. Richard Bolling of Missouri, for one, has proposed a revision of the House rules to give the majority party more control over committees. He would have the speaker name all committee chairmen as well as all majority members of the Rules and Ways and Means Commit-tees, subject to ratification by a caucus of all majority party members. His plan is to modify but not eliminate entirely the seniority system in selecting committee chairmen.

A strong case can be made for a change, but the chances of anything's being done are not very bright. Similar proposals frequently have been advanced in the past, and nothing has come of them. For one thing, any attempt to effect a change easily can be made to appear to be an attempt to "purge" particular individuals. It then becomes a matter of personalities rather than principle.

But the fact remains that so long as the present seniority rule prevails, there can be no assurance that the House of Representatives actually will be representative, as the Founding Fathers intended.

NAACP leader said Wednesday

tion agents in Southern states

with civil rights.

Federal Bureau of Investiga-

"I'll go further than that. J.

Henry, a Clarksville druggist.

are generally not in sympathy men.

from 5:00 p. m. to 8:00 p. m.

The Houston Post

against "their friends" in local



"But yesterday was clear as a bell!"

Honor Code Study Shows Doubtful Results

By Intercollegiate Press

Ashland, Va. — A four-man faculty committee in the Division of Language and Literature at Randolph-Macon College appointed last spring to "study the effectiveness of the Honor Code" on this campus, according to a report released here recently, did not consider it to be the committee's responsibility to define in words which all will accept what an Honor System is supposed to

Their discussions brought them to the conclusion that it is easier to observe qualities of a true Honor System than to analyze just what the sytem is; and that a successful system is more dependent upon the corporate attitude of the gentlemen who establish the compact as students and faculty than upon the status which it has on paper.

Committee findings: 1. The Honor System does not operate in the secrecy which is a basic safeguard for all its

participants. 2. Student leaders have been reported in The Yellow Jacket (student newspaper) as expressing doubt whether they would report violations.

3. Similarly, some faculty mem-

he called all civilians "dead

Mr. Matthews, can you hon-

responsibility for the crude lang-

uage used on campus? I can't,

because five semesters in the

Corps and one and a half as a

civilian have convinced me that

the blame can be spread evenly

over the majority of the student

Maybe we're in a rut. Surely

body, Corps and Civilians alike.

there is a better selection of

scapegoats available than just

the Corps or Civilians. Let's look

tion, the profs, the Board of Di-

rectors, the roommate, or as a

Bryan 2-8879

NOW SHOWING

Thomas P. O'Brien, '65

last resort, ourselves.

weights and not Aggies."

bers have lost confidence in the ing to use the legal procedures through which the system func-

4. There is ample evidence of cheating by students in at least two classes en masse, with student bystanders not acting to report violators.

5. Some recent actions taken under the present system have, this committee feels, had a detrimental effect upon the morale of both students and faculty members proportionate to their degree of contact with the system and their observation of the present application of the Honor Code.

The faculty committee's conclusion is that the Honor Code is seriously in need of reevaluation and restoration on the basis of its "original status."



NOW SHOWING

FAIL SAFE

TONIGHT 11:30 P. M. Late Show Frollic

IF YOU HOWLED AT "NOT TONIGHT HENRY" YOU'LL ROAR AT you'll be guilty of the same mistake Captain Sanders made when

"EVERYBODY LOVES

estly charge the Corps with full OUR LATE SHOW FROLLIC "No One Under 16 Will Be Admitted"

LAST NITE Peter Sellers

In somewhere else, the administra-

> James Bond "DR. NO"

OUR SAT. NITE BIG 3 1st Show 6:30 p. m. "FBI CODE 98"

2nd Show 8:30 p.m. Chuck Conners In

"GERONIMO" 3rd Show 10:15 p. m. Tony Curtis

In "PERFECT **FURLOUGH"**

Renault-Peugeot British Motor Cars Sales—Parts—Service "We Service All Foreign Car 1422 Texas Ave. -----

> Mink Art Supply Picture Frames 923 So. College Ave-Bryan, Totas

"Sports Car Center" Dealers for



FRIDAY 7:30 P.M.



And

"WE'VE NEVER BEEN LICKED"

The Movie That A&M Made Famous! Starring Robert Mitchum & The Fightin' Aggies!

SATURDAY 1:15 P.M.



And

"WE'VE NEVER BEEN LICKED"

SATURDAY MIDNIGHT ALSO SUNDAY 5:30 P.M.

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CORRECTION

Thursday, November 19, 1964 Battalion SAFEWAY AD Should Have Read

(Excluding Cigarettes)

— Sound Off

The Battalion:

This is in reply to Mr. Benson, who considers himself a leader. Like Mr. Wilson, I am a graduate student who did not do any undergraduate work at A&M. This is beside the point. Never in my life have I heard an organized yell directed at the officials of an intercollegiate contest, until the Arkansas game. The official had to make a judgement call. The Aggie defender went for the ball, missed, and fell into the Arkansas receiver with his hands. It was unintentional, but according to the rules, it is still pass interference. Granted, it came at a very inopportune time for the Aggies, but those are the breaks of the game. If you are such a good referee, Mr. Benson, why aren't you getting paid for it?

If tradition includes being poor sports, you can have all your tradition, Mr. Benson. In the third quarter, when play was stopped by the noise from the stands, the other yell leaders tried

to quiet the crowd, but there Scouts" because of a few, or stood Sportsman Benson, egging them on in direct defiance of the pleas from the officials, the public address announcer, and even the Aggie players. This show of stupidity on your part was further mirrored in your letter. You missed the whole point of Mr. Wilson's letter. He wasn't knocking your tradition, he was knocking your sportsmanship.

by Jim Earle

In your letter, Mr. Benson, you made it sound like the policemen were occupied the entire evening throwing drunks out of the Arkansas section. I was sitting (excuse me (standing) next to that section, and I saw only one man escorted from the stands, and he didn't look very drunk. Before you start hauling out other people's dirty linen, you better make sure yours is clean.

One more thing — Wilson and I, and all other graduate students who are not graduates of A&M, are students here now, we paid to get into the games, and what goes on there is part of our bus-

Ed Durall Graduate Student * * *

Editor.

The Battalion:

Tom Matthews, '65, seems to have some strange ideas about the Corps and about A&M in

Sure, there are a few men in the Corps who need a uniform to make them feel as tall as anyone else on this campus, but why not let them have their day? This is probably the only chance those few will have to be somebody big. They'll take that Aggie uniform off one of these days and find that they have to make it on their own record not on the uniform's or on A&M's. Those few are insignificant, however, compared to the number who will continue to be a credit to their uniform.

CINEMASCOPE - COLOR BY DE LUXE

DOUBLE FEATURE Kirk Douglas In "THE RACERS"

The Bowery Boys In But don't call them all "Boy "HOLD THAT LINE"

SUGAR 5-Lb. Bag 19¢ With Purchase of \$2.50 or More

Accommodations From 10 to 200 Persons

Book Your Banquets and Special Parties Early.

Ferreri's Triangle Restaurant

Friday's Featuring Our

FISH SPECIAL

All the fish you can eat for \$1.00 at 12:00 noon and

THE BATTALION Opinions expressed in The Battalion are those of the student writers only. The Battalion is a non tax-supported, non-profit, self-supporting educational enterprise edited and operated by students as a university and community newspaper and is under the supervision of the director of Student Publications at Texas A&M University.

Members of the Student Publications Board are James L. Lindsey, chairman; Delber McGuire, College of Arts and Sciences; J. A. Orr, College of Engineering; J. M. Holcome, College of Agriculture; and Dr. R. S. Titus, College of Veterinary Medicine The Battalion, a student newspaper at Texas A&M is published in College Station, Texas daily except Saturday, Sunday, and Monday, and holiday periods, September through May, and once a week during summer school.

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Houston Pharmaceutical Associ-

Leader Hits FBI

Henry, here to address the police departments.

"This accounts for their inept ation convention, made the re- activity," he said. "Now, they marks in an interview with news- can find a pumpkin containing microfilm on a 40-acre farm of He said the feeling among Whitaker Chambers that convict- general. Negroes and civil rights sym- ed Alger Hiss, but they can't Edgar Hoover himself is not in pathizers is that FBI men would find the murderers of three boys tune with civil rights," said Aaron be reluctant to take legal action in Philadelphia."

> Henry was referring to the disappearance and deaths of three civil rights workers in Mississippi and the failure so far to apprehend any supects in the case.

Henry, a member of the board of the Mississippi NAACP, said the most important goal of civil rights workers in Mississippi was full suffrage for all citizens.

He said at present only six per cent of the Negroes qualified to vote are able to register in his home county because of a Mississippi law requiring a voter to satisfy a circuit clerk's question about any section of the state constitution.

ATTENTION ALL HOME-TOWN AND PROFESSIONAL CLUB REPRESENTATIVES

The hometown club and professional club section of the "Aggieland" staff has announced that the last date for scheduling club pictures for the "Aggieland" will be 18 December, 1964. Pictures are to be scheduled at the Student Publication Office, Y.M.C.A. Bldg. The final day for having the pictures made will be 1 March, 1965. Please make arrangements to have your picture scheduled before the deadline.

Dave Baker, Section Editor Mike Rosbury

ATTENTION All civilian dorm counselors and officers

The civilian section of the Aggieland staff announces that the last date for scheduling group pictures (dorms) for the '65 Aggieland will be 1 December 1964. Pictures are to be scheduled at the Student Publication Office, Y. M. C. A. Bldg. The final day for having pictures made will be 1 March 1965, at which time all other items to go on pages and payment (\$55.00 full page, \$30.00 one half page) must be turned in. We will appreciate your cooperation and any ideas. John Holladay, Section editor John Holladay, Section editor

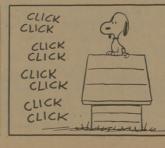
GIRLS POWDER - PUFF FOOTBALL GAME Falcon High School Girls Team BEATLE-ETTES VS. SPRAY NET DEMONS

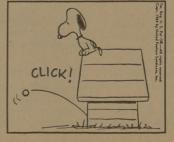
Sunday, Nov. 22nd, 3 p.m. - Bronco Field - Bryan, Texas Queen Crowning and Other Half-Time Activities Children Under 14 – 25c – 14 Yrs. and Over 50c Refreshments

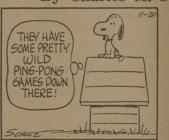
Aggies Cordially Invited

PEANUTS









By Charles M. Schulz