

Political Clubs Issue Faces Another Test

The Texas A&M Board of Directors returned the monkey to the Executive Committee's back last week when they failed to take action on campus political clubs.

In refusing to consider sanctioning the organizations, the board did not express disapproval — nor approval — of the Student Senate resolution urging the university to reverse its unsympathetic policy toward student political groups.

The Board only said the issue should be handled by the same Executive Committee that last denied club recognition on April 24, 1964.

Senate president Roland Smith claimed early this week he would prepare the resolution for Executive Committee consideration "at the earliest possible date."

Dean of Students James P. Hannigan said the committee hasn't been faced with the issue since its 1964 ruling. Several political organizations have submitted applications and constitutions for approval, but Hannigan has rejected them for being "a mere restatement" of previously disapproved documents.

Since the Student Senate stepped into the picture with its January 6 resolution, however, the future of political clubs has looked its brightest in years.

The resolution proposed university recognition of campus political groups, but also

lay down rigid guidelines for the organizations to meet. The Senate action appeared quite adequate to Hannigan, and he has permitted Young Democrats and Young Republicans to meet on campus for organizational purposes in recent weeks.

Executive Committee approval of the resolution would restore official sanction to the organizations, but there is no assurance the administrative body will view the proposal favorably.

Rejection of campus political clubs has been based on Section 2, Article V, House Bill 86 of the 58th Legislature which states:

"None of the moneys appropriated by Articles I, II, III and IV of this act, regardless of their source or character, shall be used for influencing the outcome of any election, or the passage or defeat of any legislative measure."

The Senate resolution, with its restrictions on campus political activity, in effect proposes political study clubs, and the Executive Committee could approve the resolution without overturning its strict, conservative interpretation of House Bill 86.

Study and practice of politics should be an important phase of a university education — certainly for Texas A&M with its emphasis on excellence. A great university cannot preach excellence in some fields and advocate ignorance in others.

A&M Consolidated — Part 2

Local School System Plans For Future, Meets Needs

By LARRY R. JERDEN
Battalion Associate Editor
One of the best measures of a school's proficiency is the quality, state of training and equipment used by its teachers. In this field, A&M Consolidated compares favorably with other

school systems of its size. In addition to having a faculty with a high number of advanced degrees and a continuing program of education in the latest techniques, the system possesses the best in educational equipment.

Under the supervision of Fred Hopson, the school system employs extensive audio-visual aids, including film strips, overhead projectors, 16mm movies, phonographs and tape recorders.

Foreign languages are taught with the aid of language laboratory equipment, and plans for the future call for a continuing influx of audio-visual aids.

"We have a better than average faculty due to the location," said superintendent W. T. Riedel, "and we realize we are in an education-minded community."

"Most of our teachers' time is actually spent teaching, and we have teacher's aids to work with the educationally deprived in the lower grades," he added.

"Our courses are primarily college-prep oriented, including two classes of computer science taught in conjunction with A&M University."

"We have just completed an occupational survey of the area and have thoughts of adding to our vocational course offerings. We now have courses in vocational agriculture and homemaking, with plans to expand into distributive education," he explained.

Riedel said the system will strengthen this phase of the work as the occupational trends in the area become less centered around the college.

Physical facilities will be expanded in the future, insured by the passing of a \$500,000 bond issue recently. With these additions, it is hoped system needs through 1970 can be met.

Included in the expansion program are two junior high classrooms, a band and choir building. Existing facilities are to be renovated, upgraded and equipped, with streets, drainage, walks and grounds improved in the junior high area.

A new elementary school is to be constructed with necessary supporting facilities on a recently acquired site. This should be ready for occupancy by the fall of 1967.

These improvements will be the result of money and interest put forth by civic-minded community citizens. When it is noted that A&M Consolidated IDS enrollment will reach 4,593 by 1980, the need for continuing expansion and improvement is readily apparent.

In a world based on education, the quality in its basic levels can not be overstressed. Now that the close of public school week is here, let us give day-by-day throughout the rest of the year, our fullest support to our schools and those who serve us there.



"... you must be mistaken—we didn't whistle at you! As a matter of fact, I have a pair of shorts myself! I think everyone should wear shorts..."

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Prudence And The Pill Population Boom In Old England

By LARRY R. JERDEN
Battalion Associate Editor
Prudence and The Pill; Hugh Mills; J. B. Lippincott Co., 1966. This charming little volume is set in a very rich country region of merry old England. And the deeper one becomes engrossed in the book, the merrier England really appears to be.

The mood and plot are set early, and once the reader is into the second page, chances are he will begin reading and turning pages at a furious rate till he has literally sped through its 139 pages.

The central characters are Gerald Harcastle and his wife Prudence, whose marriage has now lost all its fire and intimacy, but who live together comfortably enough in their Buckinghamshire estate.

Gerald's brother, Henry, and his wife, Grace, find their 16-year-old daughter in bed with a young man after their weekly night out, and discover the next day she has been taking The Pill. When her mother asks her where she got them, she said calmly, "I've been taking yours."

In fact, she had been taking them one-a-day, carefully replacing them with aspirin, while her mother had been curing headaches for the past several months.

When Gerald discovers a bottle of Pills in his wife's dresser drawer, he performs the same trick, knowing too well that he has not caused any need for them.

The plot moves quickly from there to its climax, at which time nearly everything female for miles around becomes pregnant, including Prudence, Grace, Geraldine (the daughter), Gerald's mistress and the downstairs maid.

The book is smoothly and freshly written, without dipping into vulgarity, and is as delightful a bit of humor as has come around in many a day.

If one's first reaction to the book is that it should be made

into a motion picture, it merely echoes that of Fitzroy-Kenwood Productions, a group that intends to film the tale in color later this year.

The effort represents the author's first venture into comic fiction, after enjoying a number of film and London stage successes.

All-in-all, an enjoyable way of killing a few hours chuckling at a family's reaction to what some consider a serious problem: an unexpected, miniature population explosion that everyone dreads only until it happens.

Books

(Compiled by Publishers' Weekly)

FICTION
THE SOURCE, Michener
THE DOUBLE IMAGE, MacInnes
THOSE WHO LOVE, Stone
THE LOCKWOOD CONCERN, O'Hara
THE BILLION DOLLAR BRAIN, Deighton

NONFICTION
IN COLD BLOOD, Capote
A THOUSAND DAYS, Schlesinger
GAMES PEOPLE PLAY, Berne
THE PROUD TOWER, Tuchman
A GIFT OF PROPHECY, Montgomery

Bulletin Board

FRIDAY
Deep East Texas Hometown Club will meet at 7:30 p.m. in room 3B of the Memorial Student Center.

MONDAY
Brazos Bowmen Archery Club will meet at 8 p.m. in room 2B of the MSC.

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.

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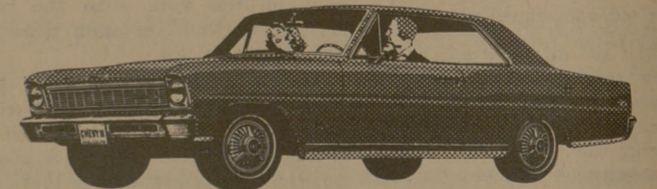
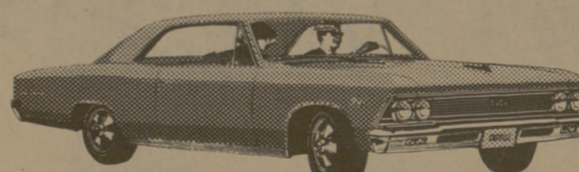
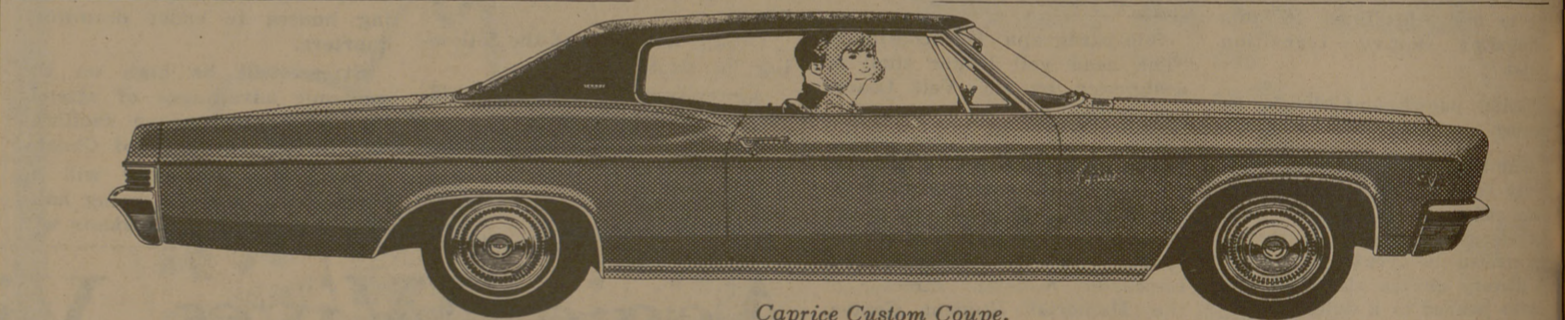
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PEANUTS

I FEEL A LITTLE GUILTY ABOUT THOSE BABY BIRDS...

MAYBE I SHOULDN'T HAVE MADE THEM LEAVE HOME SO SOON...

OH, WELL...THEY'RE PROBABLY FLYING AROUND UP THERE ABOVE THE CLOUDS SOME PLACE HAVING A GOOD TIME...

By Charles M. Schulz