

Editor, The Battalion,

At the present time I am in South Vietnam, and I don't get a chance to read many Battalions, but today I received some in the mail through a friend. They were a little out of date, but I was enjoying myself reading them and feeling a little nostalgic until I read something that changed nostalgia to nausea.

In the December 8, 1965 issue there is a letter to the editor from an unidentified senior in the Cadet Corps complaining about some corps staff juniors not working on the bonfire, and the stopping of wildcatting in the messhalls. I don't know all the details behind either of the incidents, but the ruling on the wildcatting got me particularly upset. What in the world is the Corps coming to? There was some comment in the letter about wildcatting in the messhalls being "only four years old." I know that is not correct, for it was going strong when I was a fish in 1958.

Wildcatting may seem like a small thing, but what is next? No more standing up at football games. No more bonfire? I hope not, but from the things I read in The Battalion, it may not be far away. Slowly but surely the traditions are being eroded away, and I'm sorry to see it. I hope the students and administration

United Chest Sets Meeting

The annual membership meeting of the College Station United Chest will be held March 24, Dr. Chris. H. Groneman, president, has announced.

Major items of business call for election of five Chest directors and a study of the financial statement.

Five retiring board members compose the nominating committee which will present its choices at the meeting in the A&M Consolidated High School cafeteria at 7:30 p.m. Others may be nominated from the floor.

Retiring directors include Groneman, Horace Schaffer, Dr. R. H. Davis, Mrs. Charles Richardson and Jim Lindsey.

Directors serve three - year terms. Bylaws prohibit a board member from serving more than two consecutive terms. Past directors may be renominated after one year.

similar steps in the future.

If and when I get back from see my brother, who will be a freshman in Aggieland by then, or come to a football game, I hope I will still be able to discern some flickering traditions of the Texas A&M as I knew it still hanging in there.

Sincerely Richard F. Halter, '62 1st Lt. AIS Editors Note: Wildcatting is permitted as of March 10.

* Editor,

The Battalion, The traders of news, journalists, have an admittedly difficult task in presenting factual data for the consumption of the ordinary citizen. In light of this, since phraseology and semantics play such an important role in the mere presentation, it can only be with a grain of salt, an enduring soul and a wry wit that the consumption of the products of this profession can remain palatable to those of even a half-

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informed nature. This in itself extends a taint to journalism which is of dubious value. But when journalism leaves the world of facts patently behind in lieu of establishing a bias, the bounds of enduurance are surpassed. This was the course of Gleen (Sp.) Dromgoole in his last feature article (Sic) concerning the Texas A&M Library in last Friday's Battalion, March 11, 1966.

In the first mistake, reference materials cannot be checked out of the library. In the second, assuming that perchance Dromgoole was referring to Reserve Books, the fine actually consists of 25 cents for the first two hours and 10 cents for each additional hour. Even so the maximum is \$2.50 on any fine; except when the charge is a billing of cost for a lost book.

Now in taking issue with "G. B." Dromgoole, I should like to point out that Reserve Books are there for the benefit of the student body. When a teacher assigns outside readings and the books are not on a limited time basis, there would be nothing to stop a student from checking out a book for the entire four weeks and thereby deprive other classmates of the use of the book. If Dromgoole should claim ignorance in behalf of the coed, I would have to concede the point. There are not only people present for assistance, all instructions

THE BATTALION

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will think twice before taking are placed in a written form if time is taken to read. There is even a date due slip in the back Viet Nam this fall, and come to of every book properly checked out

> Further, I fail to see the concern over the "outrageous fine" on overdue books. If the student does not need the four weeks to read a book. I hardly consider it too much bother to return the book before it becomes due. What do you want-to deprive someone else the use of the book until you happen to remember to return it? It is not necessary to wait until the last day before renewing the material if it appears that there might be a conflict. A little foresight should not be an undue strain. It should be noted also that fines were not instituted to make money, but rather to induce the borrower to return the book as soon as he is finished with it for the convenience of all concerned. The library facilities are of a communal nature.

In concluding, I strongly suggest that Dromgoole look before he leaps, and thinks before he speaks because being a supposed journalist, his shoes are larger than most. If perchance Dromgoole should like to see how the library procedure works, I suggest that he drop by sometime and ge this I.D. card punched and get his I.D. card punched so he can check out a book. I would shudder to think of depriving him of his privileges(?).

D. S. Kirkland, '65



"I was supposed to tell everybody 'bout the last forum yesterday and forgot, so I'm gettin' an early start on next

State Library Conference Scheduled In Austin

Final program plans for the the president of the Texas Libra-First Texas Governor's Conference on Libraries, March 23 in Austin, were announced by State Librarian and Conference Coordinator, Dorman H. Winfrey.

Governor John Connally will deliver the keynote address on the conference theme, "Library Excellence: Today's Necessity." Robert Vosper, UCLA librarian, and president of the American Library Association, will speak on "Library Support, A Shared Responsibility." As head of the nation's number one professional organization for librarians, he maintains a heavy speaking schedule and will leave Austin immediately after the conference for Honolulu.

Vosper will be introduced by

ry Association, Heartsill Young. C. Stanley Banks Sr., chairman, Texas Library and Historical Commission, will deliver the official welcome. Chancellor Harry Ransom of

the University of Texas will discuss "Library Development in Texas" as part of the morning program.

dress by Mrs. Weldon Lynch, Oakdale, Louisiana, nationallyknown lecturer on library problems, and past president of the American Library Trustee Association. Her topic will be "Libraries Need Citizen Support." Mrs. Lillian Moore Bradshaw, director of the Dallas Public Library, and immediate past president of the Texas Library Association, will A luncheon will feature an ad- preside at the luncheon.

eynolds' By Mike Reynolds -

The columns of this paper have been filled recently with various and sundry comments about poor government among the students at Texas A&M. Those that choose to attack this near-dead animal usually single out the Student Senate. In passing, they pause to kick the Civilian Student Council and then go on to the organization that is supposed to represent the entire student body and leave the CSC behind.

The Student Senate deserves some credit, certainly, for it at least managed to consider one issue of note this year, namely political clubs.

On the other hand, the Civilian Student Council has managed to get together once every three or four weeks, hear a report on their treasury, decide some miniscule amoun of business concerning Civilian Student Weekend and then adjourn. This has not been the case just during the past few days when the big weekend is around the corner, but also the case for the past school year.

The Council can not really be blamed. It is just a group of "don't-cares" representing a bigger group of 'don't-cares."

I had the opportunity recently to help the editor of the Aggieland try to come up with some activity shots typifying the civilians.

We soon found that the most representative shot of the civilian would be a disappearing license plate.

Many students of this university has termed a certain college to the east of us a suitcase college. Students attend classes five days a week and disappear for the weekend.

That college was and is in a advantagous position. It is but 70 miles from Houston, and many students commut Twenty more miles to A&M won't really make that much difference. The Law Parking Lot looks like a desert of Friday afternoon. Sure the Corps leaves too, but there are many events such as class dances, Military Weekend, Cot ton Ball, etc., and other entertainment that seem to hold the cadets much better than the civilians.

The Civilian Weekend is one lone event in a nine month wasteland of events to which students should look forward

Social activities are not the only sore point. New student week for civilian freshmen and transfer students is practically non-existant. There are no dorm meetings which students must attend for information, indoctring tion, or what have you. There are dorm daddies which fill out the roster at registration and the next time you see him, he is checking you out in the spring. Pity the poor soul that tries to find him any other time.

Few people in the dorms know their president or other officers and even fewer know what they are for.

Regulations are present, but in many cases treated with great laxity. Students are allowed to live in what ever degree of squalor or cleanliness which they choose. Dress follows in the same fashion. College clothing regulations are flaunted day in and day out.

Maybe some are trying, but there is no united effort. The Council would be a good place to begin.

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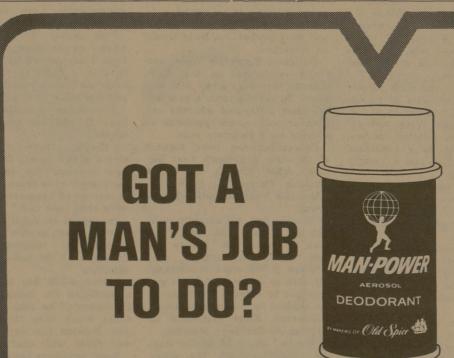
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Right now, many students can dial from their dormitories to a language lab. Soon a student will be able to dial into a computer thousands of miles away to get information for his courses.

Depending on the nature of the information, he might get his answer back audibly, printed on a teletypewriter, as a video image, or a facsimile print.

Some of these services are available now. Others are being tested.

For the next week or so, better get a move on.

*Service mark of the Bell System

