

— Sound Off —

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 They were a little out of date, but I was enjoying myself reading them and feeling a little nostalgic until I read something that changed nostalgia to nausea.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

will think twice before taking similar steps in the future.

If and when I get back from Viet Nam this fall, and come to 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-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 endurance 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

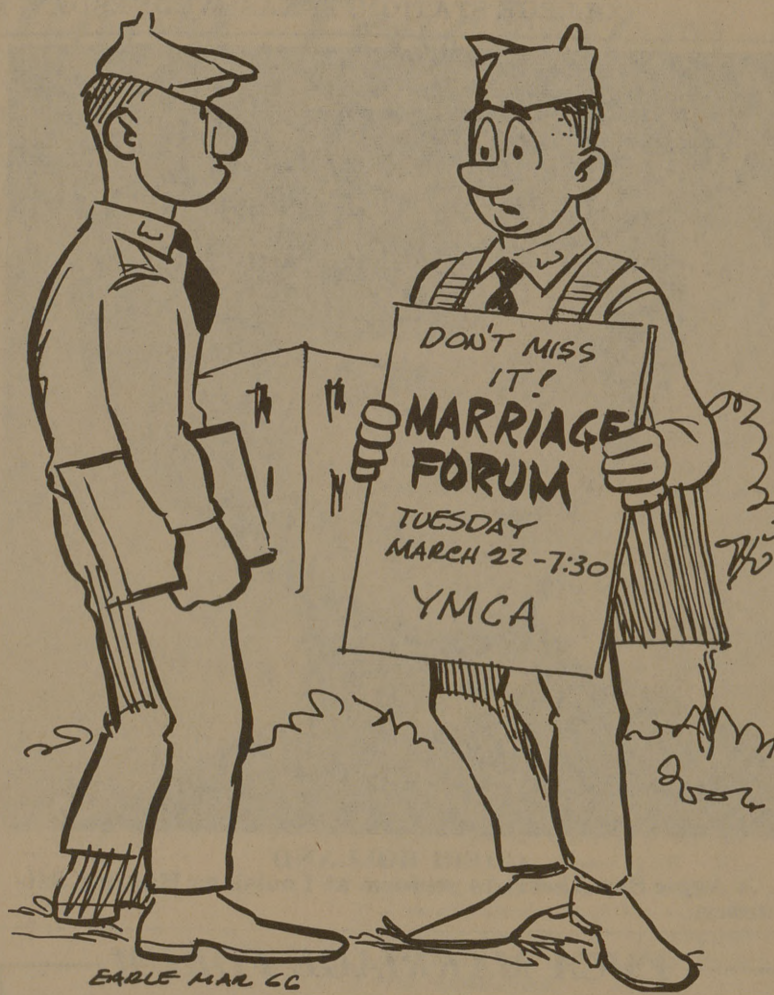
are placed in a written form if time is taken to read. There is even a date due slip in the back of every book properly checked out.

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 get his 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

CADET SLOUCH by Jim Earle



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

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.

State Library Conference Scheduled In Austin

Final program plans for the 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

the president of the Texas Library 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.

A luncheon will feature an ad-

dress by Mrs. Weldon Lynch, Oakdale, Louisiana, nationally-known 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 preside at the luncheon.

THE BATTALION

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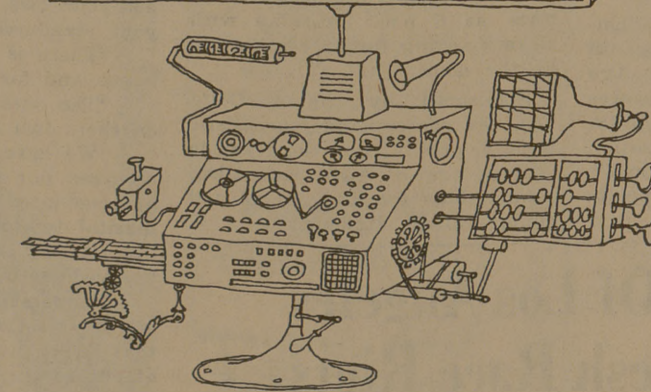
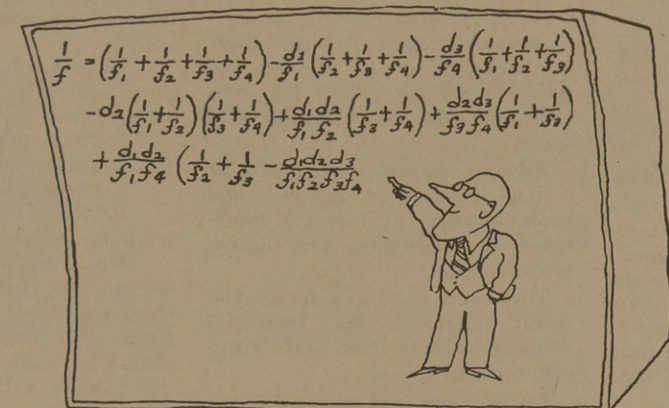
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If communications were good enough you could stay in the sack all day

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Get it done right. Get MAN-POWER... the new power-packed aerosol deodorant! MAN-POWER'S got the stepped-up penetration power, the 24-hour staying power a man needs. Goes on fast... never sticky... dries in seconds. Try it! 1.00

BY THE MAKERS OF OLD SPICE | SHULTON

Moving your body around is highly inefficient.

If communications were perfect, you would never have to. Of course, you would still have to get exercise. But that's your problem.

We want to make it easier for you to contact people, learn, get information, attend lectures, and hold meetings.

We developed Picturephone* service so you can see as well as talk when you call. And be seen, too. We introduced Tele-Lecture service (two-way amplified phone calls) to let you hear lecturers in distant locations. And so you could ask them questions no matter how far away they were.

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

