

Hasty Action

Saturday morning the Southwestern Journalism Congress Student Press Club meeting at East Texas State University passed a resolution, 17 to 4, which was supposed to censure the A&M administration for firing the student editor of the Battalion, Tommy DeFrank, last fall, without giving him any public reason for his dismissal.

The resolution in its final form contained the following statement: "Whereas the final determination of editorial authority of the student newspaper now rests with the Texas A&M administration . . ."

THIS CLAUSE in effect says that the present student editor of the Batt, Winston Green, does not NOW have the authority to set editorial policy.

It seems strange that the delegates at the convention were not willing to accept Winston Green's flat statement that he DOES determine the Batt's editorial policy.

No matter how true it may be that the administration refused to let the previous editor of the Batt (whom Green replaced) set his own editorial policy, no facts were cited to support the statement that this condition exists now — and the editor and members of his staff deny that it does.

A second clause in the resolution stated "Whereas the administration of Texas A&M has made it clear that the student newspaper does not have the right to criticize the university administration . . ."

AGAIN AT the meeting, Green stated, upon being asked, that he feels he does have the right to criticize the A&M administration when the situation warrants.

It may be pointed out here that Green was asked if he had as yet editorially criticized the A&M administration. He said yes, then cited the editorial and the situation.

However, some delegates did not feel that in this specific example he had "criticized." It was evident that the word "criticize" was being used in different strengths by both parties. However, most delegates chose to pass over Green's previous statement that he felt he could criticize the administration editorially.

Another point which should have been considered by the delegates was that in hearing both DeFrank and Green, they were not hearing objective reports. Each person was emotionally involved.

JOURNALISTS are supposed to be devoted to printing of the truth. However, these student journalists made their decision to condemn A&M on the basis of what they heard from two people themselves involved in highly controversial and emotion-packed incidents, and on what they heard from two other schools who had sent reporters to A&M and had been barred from meetings by the administration there.

What it boils down to is that objective unbiased truth was never presented during the discussion on the subject. And discussion was cut off by a call for "question" before many delegates felt they knew all the facts. (However, they went ahead and voted, even not knowing all the facts.)

If the press club wished to make a statement of policy concerning the A&M incident, it should have investigated the incident through an unbiased committee which could have then presented its findings to the body at the convention or through the mail to the members schools for voting.

IT SHOULD have given the delegates more time to think and question before forcing them to vote on an "incomplete" picture.

And certainly it should have made certain that everything in the resolution was factually true and supportable.

The delegates themselves should have done more thinking for themselves and not allowed themselves to be pushed by the emotion connected with "censorship" and "freedom of the press."

"The Daily Lasso," Texas Woman's University

History Members To Attend Meeting

Three members of Texas A&M University's History and Government Department will be in Austin Friday and Saturday to attend the Texas State Historical Association's annual meeting.

They include department head Dr. J. M. Nance, history professor Dr. Herbert H. Lang, and as-

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.

Members of the Student Publications Board are: Jim Lindsey, chairman; Dr. David Bowers, College of Liberal Arts; John D. Cochrane, College of Geosciences; Dr. Frank A. McDonald, College of Science; Charles A. Rodenberger, College of Engineering; Dr. Robert S. Titus, College of Veterinary Medicine; and Dr. Page W. Morgan, College of Agriculture.

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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CADET SLOUCH

by Jim Earle

Engineers

(Continued From Page 1)

Heroy Jr., president of the Geotech Division of Teledyne Industries in Dallas.

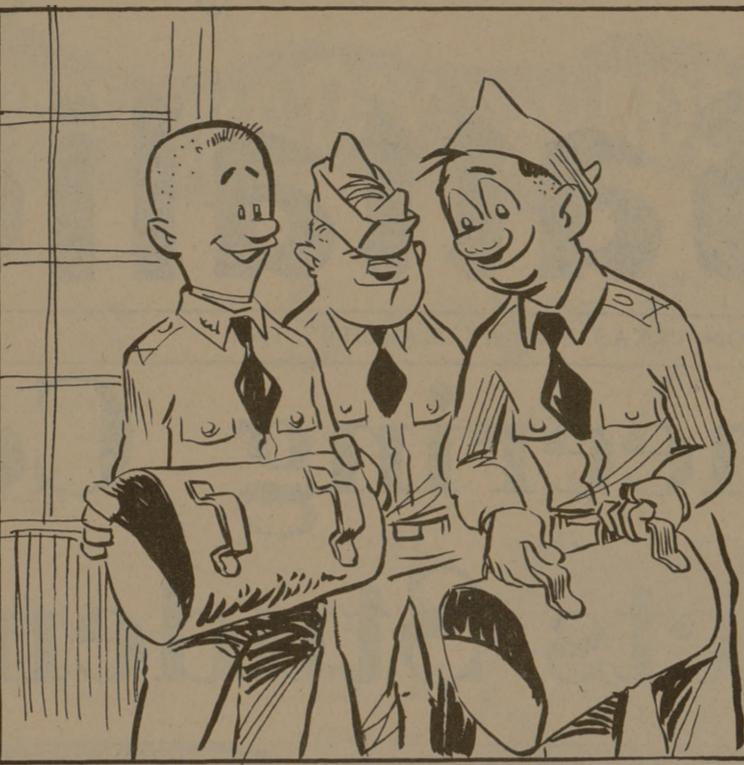
Dr. John C. Calhoun Jr., vice president for programs at Texas A&M and former science advisor to Secretary of Interior Stewart Udall, will discuss "Resources Engineering" at a 7:30 p.m. banquet in the MSC.

The second day of the convocation will be devoted to presentations covering energetics, materials and environment.

W.E. SHOUPP of Pittsburgh, vice president for research at Westinghouse, will open the session with a paper on "Energetics and Energy Conversion in the 70's."

"Electric Energy in Texas" will be discussed by H. R. Drew of Fort Worth, executive vice president of the Texas Atomic Energy Foundation.

The executive director for the Materials Advisory Board of the National Academy of Engineering, Nathan E. Promisel of Washington, D. C., will cover "Materials: Horizons of the 70's."



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Aggie Marines Command Three Vietnam Divisions

By MANUEL PINA
Special Batt Writer

"Of the four Marine divisions in Vietnam at the present time, three are commanded by Aggies," Lt. (USMC) Ted Hopgood said Wednesday night.

"This is no bull, I have just returned from Vietnam and the Marines always take their objective," Hopgood said to members of the Texas A&M Semper Fidelis Society. The society is composed of students hoping to be officers in the U. S. Marine Corps.

Hopgood, a former Aggie yell leader, recently returned from 13 months in combat in Vietnam. He spent most of that time near the demilitarized zone (DMZ).

He took part in several small unit missions, operation Hastings last July and August and in the taking of Hill 400 which was written in Newsweek Magazine.

"As a platoon commander you may be on a mission from one day to two weeks," Hopgood explained. "During this time you will have complete control of your 45 or 50 men and all the decisions to be made will be on your shoulders."

"Stay in shape, your life and the lives of your men may depend on it," Hopgood said. "At summer camp and basic school there is a lot of information thrown at you. The more you retain the better off you will be. So study hard when you are up at Quantico (Va.)."

"There is no doubt in my mind," Hopgood said, "that during bombing ceases that supplies start flowing in. The Ho Chi Minh trail comes right down to the DMZ then spreads out in a network of trails ten miles wide."

"I flew with an air observer at

night and using flares we could see what looked like a traffic jam of trucks at the DMZ."

"The enlisted marine in Vietnam is as enthused and ready as the officer," Hopgood said. "You will find that even though some

may not have a lot of book knowledge, they do have a lot of common sense".

"I found it a real privilege to lead these Marines," he said, "and chances are pretty good that you will too".

Art Association Sponsors Third Regional Exhibition

The former Woolworth Building in downtown Bryan is the site selected for the 3rd Annual Regional Exhibition of paintings, sculptures, prints and drawings, scheduled for April 8-9 by Brazos Valley Art Association of Bryan-College Station.

"All artists, including students, 16 years of age and over of the Brazos Valley area within a fifty-mile radius," stated Mrs. W. H. Andrew, Jr., exhibit chairman, "are eligible to submit three entries each, with a limit of two in any one category."

Submission date for entries is Thursday, April 6, from 4 to 8 p.m. at the show location. Entry fees will be charged non-members and members for each work selected for exhibition. Refunds will be made on work that does not pass the jury.

Show categories are: (1) oils, acrylics, and casein on canvas, Masonite, or plywood; (2) water solubles, on paper or illustration board; (3) graphics, (including prints, and drawings in all media); (4) mixed media; and (5) sculptures.

Qualified judges will award cash prizes, donated by Bryan-College Station Chamber of Commerce, to Best of Show, and First Place in all categories. Two gift certificates will be donated by

Mink Art Supply. Ribbons will go to First, Second, Third, and Honorable Mention in each category.

Award-winning work will be displayed in the community for four weeks following the exhibition.

All work exhibited must be original. With exception of sculptures, all must be framed and equipped for hanging. Name, address, title, and price (if for sale) must be designated on the back of each entry. Work exhibited in previous local annual shows is unacceptable.

Tables may be brought by persons wishing to exhibit or sell superior handcrafts. A small entry fee will be charged.

"Through these annual shows," Mrs. Richard H. Thomas, president of the Association stated, "we seek recognition for artists out of reach of exhibition opportunities in the larger cities. We hope they will respond by bringing in their work."

Information leaflets giving details of exhibit regulations may be picked up at Mink Art Supply, or will be mailed, on receipt of a stamped return envelope sent to Mrs. Robert S. Huffaker, publicity chairman, 731 Garden Acres, Bryan, Texas.

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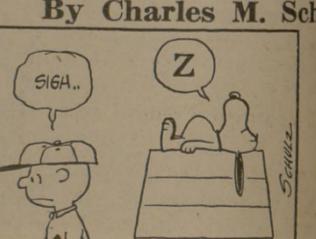
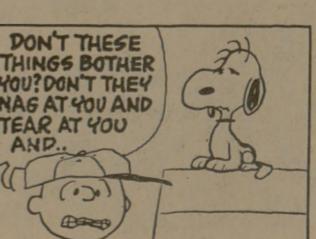
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