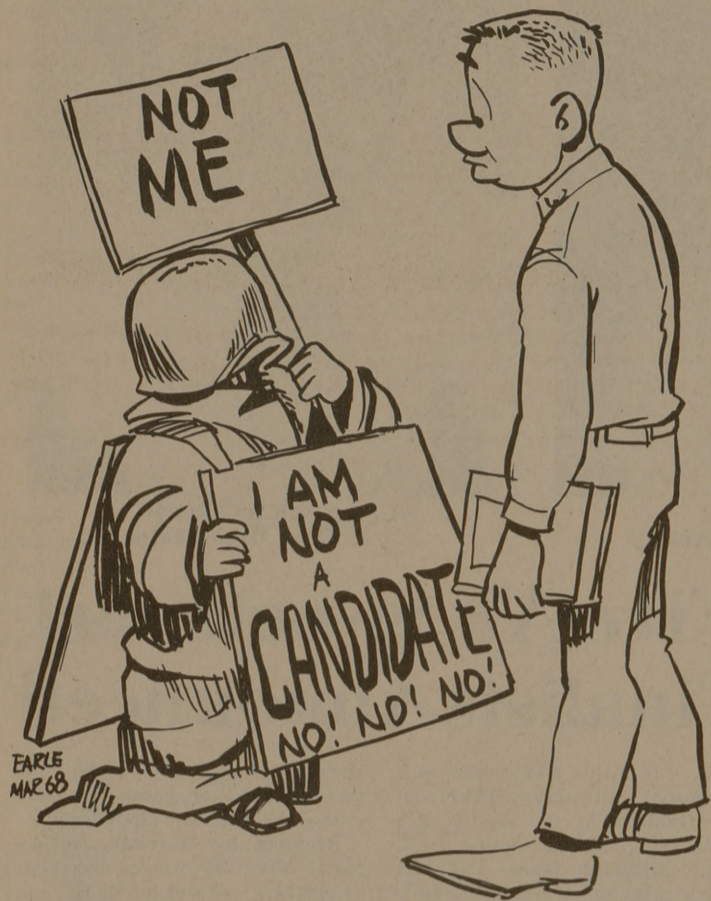


CADET SLOUCH by Jim Earle



"I've never campaigned so hard in my life!"

Mass Info Requires Improved Reading

To read this page of the Battalion may take you 10 minutes; to read a chapter of a novel, an hour; to read a chapter of Government, three hours; to read a chapter of Math or Physics, six hours; to read the daily newspaper; an hour; and to read all of the magazines, posters, leaflets and handouts several more hours.

In other words you are being bombarded with hundreds of sources of information daily, and to be able to read it all and gather the necessary facts is becoming more and more the impossible.

If you are like most college students you may read 250 to 300 words per minute, may be able to go for an hour without interruption, and may even have understood what you read—then again you may not.

In Tuesday's Battalion, special writer Vancy Manning noted a new speed reading course which is being offered to graduate students only.

Dr. Mario DiNello, the instructor, noted that the course is offered "to help graduate students read more efficiently in terms of rate comprehension."

The course is not a clip-out-of-the-newspaper-read 10,000 word-a-minute-course. It strives for a modest increase in reading speed while maintaining good comprehension.

Dr. DiNello said that if a student now reading 250 words per minute increased his reading speed by only 125 words it would mean he could do the same reading 30 per cent faster.

Imagine how much less time it would take to cover the same material or how much more time you would have to cover more reading. Thirty hours of study could be cut to 20.

Through the use of films, rate pacers, timed articles, and the important information needed to avoid time consuming mind and eye errors any student can increase his reading skill.

College is a world of books. And the world is an "in-basket" of information.

To be expected to cover a chapter a day in English or 300 pages for the next sociology test or 50 problems in chemistry has cost everyone grade points.

And it's simply because the student has never learned to read. And reading and understanding a mountain of new information will be every student's job for the next four years or forty years.

This university has made Speech 403 a requirement for graduation. Any language is of course how it is spoken, not how it is written, and each individual should be able to speak clearly and intelligently.

But this nation and the world is also the printer's dream. Staff personnel leave stacks of paperwork on their desk when the five o'clock whistle sounds as a tribute to the difficulty of being able to read fast enough.

Students often scan material which needs closer attention. And with school work, although important world events are taking place, far too many students do not even have time to read a daily newspaper or mull over a "Time" or "Newsweek."

Education suffers, understanding suffers, even "horse sense" suffers.

Industry spends millions of dollars each year to send junior executives to reading classes to improve their reading skill.

The military sends its officers for special courses along the same line and wishes that more men could read and comprehend the material necessary to know the facts and make an appropriate decision sooner.

In essence, reading is the basis for almost all continuing education.

A much larger and broader program for improved reading skills can only result in an overall improvement in the ability of each student and a better qualified graduate.

Editor, The Battalion: "TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY CHANGES NAME TO TEXAS A&M HIGH SCHOOL." Yes, I can see the headlines now. Although such an announcement might seem a bit far-fetched, in reality we only need a few more high school type rules and we could make those headlines come true.

It would seem that a Senior or even a Junior in college would be mature enough, and know how to study well enough to be allowed to live off campus if he so desires. However, apparently Mr. Zinn does not think so. I refer to the article on student housing policy appearing in the March 20 issue of The Battalion.

In the article, Mr. Zinn states that in order for some of the dorms to pay for themselves, they must be filled to capacity. I would like to know why such rat-holes as Milner, Dorm 13, and Leggett Hall have to be filled to capacity. Aren't these "dorms" paid for yet?

Why not let some seniors move off campus if they want to and let the people living in worst of the "older" dorms move into something decent. Every semester we see the headlines: HOUSING OFFICE FACES SHORTAGE OF ROOMS, and yet Mr. Zinn seems to think that the A&M campus

would become a virtual ghost-town in regard to dormitory students if he allowed off-campus living for juniors and/or seniors. Really now, Mr. Zinn, with the off-campus housing facilities as meager as they are now, I find it hard to visualize any deserted dormitories on this campus in the near future. I believe that freshmen, sophomores, juniors and the seniors who don't live off campus could keep the "livable" dormitories full.

This is a great school and I'm proud to be an AGGIE. I can see the reasoning behind most of the rules set forth by the "High Command", but the housing rules are ridiculous!

I believe most students oppose this regulation, and I don't believe any Aggie wants his senior ring to read; TEXAS A&M HIGH SCHOOL.

William C. Babb '69

Editor,

The Battalion: I would like to make a comment on an editorial written by C.H.R. During the past few years there has been somewhat of an uproar about the fact that the Administration has squelched attempts by students to comment on the issues in The Battalion. After reading the editorial entitled, "Things To Come", it is becoming clear that maybe they have the right idea.

C.H.R. said that George Wallace "got the ball rolling" for the recent riots in Omaha by the mere fact that he was in town.

Would C.H.R. state one instance where George Wallace was directly responsible for the law being broken in Omaha? George Wallace was in Oklahoma exercising his right to express his opinions and those who were interested in his views were invited to come and listen to them. In no way can it be construed that a man expressing his opinions gives call for a lawless element of the population to riot and kill people. And it may be pointed out that that element which is so interested in civil rights made every attempt to stop George Wallace from exercising his, namely, freedom of speech. How hypocritical. I think that every American should examine the motives of these so called "civil rights" groups.

Bob E. Nilson '66

Editor,

The Battalion: I find myself with mixed emotions after reading the Tuesday, March 26, edition of The Battalion. I am glad to see that the Student Senate is not blind to the wishes of Aggies to Muster on April 21. I am sorry to hear that so many civilians won't be able to make it, but I'm sure there will be a 100% turn out by Aggies. Since when has it been important how many people show up? Muster is not an attempt to see how many people can be crowded up in front of the administration building.

Aggies will Muster! Bob E. Nilson '66

Bulletin Board

TODAY

The Polo Club will meet at 7:30 p.m. in Room 203 of the Animal Industries Building.

The Peace Corps Club will organize at 5 p.m. in Room 2D of the Memorial Student Center. All return volunteers and anyone who has applied for the Peace Corps is invited.

The Corpus Christi Hometown Club will elect officers for next year at 7:30 p.m. in the Memorial Student Center.

The Bell County Hometown Club will meet at 7:30 p.m. in Room 205 of the Academic Building.

The Lubbock - South Plains Hometown Club will make plans for an Easter party at 7:30 p.m. in Room 3B of the Memorial Student Center.

The Garland Hometown Club will meet in the Lounge of the Memorial Student Center at 6 p.m. and go to Willow Grove for dinner.

The Mechanical Engineering Seminar will hear John M. Pierce of the Johnson & Johnson Manufacturing Plant in Sherman at 10 a.m. in Room 303 of Fermier Hall. Pierce will speak on the role of the engineer in a manufacturing plant.

The Fort Worth Hometown Club will make plans for an Easter party at 7:30 p.m. in Room 2B of the Memorial Student Center.

The Mid-County Hometown Club will make plans for an Easter party at 7:30 p.m. in Room 2C of the Memorial Student Center.

The San Angelo - West Texas Hometown Club will meet at 7:30 p.m. in Room 108 of the Academic Building.

FRIDAY

The A&M Women's Social Club will meet at 3 p.m. in the Ballroom of the Memorial Student Center.

Curtis Claims Legal Laxity

WASHINGTON (AP) — Sen. Carl T. Curtis, R-Neb., says arrest and conviction records show "far too much leniency in Detroit" after the July riot.

The comment came after staff witnesses told a Senate investigations subcommittee Wednesday only 22 of the 666 people charged with riot-connected felonies were sentenced to prison terms.

"There wasn't any harsh or cruel punishment administered, to say the least of it," Curtis said.

Sen. Karl Mundt, R-S.D., added that only four of the 22 "really got anything tougher than a rap on the knuckles." He said most got light sentences.

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 at a university and community newspaper.

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EDITOR CHARLES ROWTON
Managing Editor John Fuller
Features Editor Mike Plake
Editorial Columnist Robert Solovey
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