

Guest Editorial

Youth Air Fares Finally Defended

Rep. Arnold Olsen (D-Mont.) is fighting to save the youth discount currently offered by 24 airlines.

The discount has been challenged by the Civil Aeronautics Board because it is "unjustly discriminatory" against passengers who must pay full fare. Examiner Arthur Present has decided the youth fare should be abolished. The decision will be implemented unless the five-member CAB overrules it.

Olsen is seeking a review by the CAB in hopes it will overrule Present's decision. Olsen's arguments are:

- Permitting a young person to fly half-fare in a seat that would otherwise go empty is not discriminatory against regular passengers.
- Revenue loss from the elimination of the practice would cause higher prices for all passengers.
- Youth fares contribute to education.
- Youth fares are a "bright spot in a world that generally discriminates against young people."

The first point is not entirely accurate since many airlines have adopted the two-thirds fare confirmed reservation system. By getting confirmed reservations, the student is not always getting a seat that would go empty.

However, the elimination of the youth fare would create a definite loss of revenue and the youth fare does contribute to education.

Being able to fly at a reduced rate enables the student to attend whatever school he chooses without being severely limited by distances. It also reduces the traffic congestion on highways at vacation periods.

An important point lies in the origin of the anti-youth fare ruling. Did all those discriminated-against adults protest? No. The bus companies protested. The bus companies challenged the youth fares in the interest of ending discrimination.

Now young persons are in danger of losing their permits to reasonably inexpensive air travel, adults are in danger of having to pay higher fares and college students are in danger of having to take to the roads as one body at vacation times—and we bet they won't be in buses.

—Excerpted from The University Daily, Texas Tech

ON OTHER CAMPUSES

By MONTY STANLEY

One of the few causes of a constructive, rather than destructive, nature that have been adopted on campuses across the nation is the campaign to lower the voting age to 18. The movement, which somehow manages to maintain its progressive respectability in spite of its basic "Establishment" orientation, has seen expression at least once in each of the states, according to a Collegiate Press Service report in the Rice Thresher. Though it has been successful only in two states, Kentucky and Georgia, it remains an important current issue at the University of Oklahoma and the University of Oklahoma, Oklahoma State, Washington and the University of Minnesota, among others. The interest is especially prevalent in Oklahoma, where student leaders are involving the high school students also in their movement known as LOVE, for Lower the Oklahoma Voting age to Eighteen.

On the other hand, students are still, at this moment, rioting for what they want—for what they feel they have coming to them simply because they exist—at Berkeley, San Jose State and San Francisco State, among others. In addition, we all know that rioting has become a commonplace event, if not a style of life, in many parts of the nation. At last count, it is true, the rioters and militant dissenters were in the minority. However, as yet, still no word from that smug, supposedly vast, silent majority. Something's got to give.

The University of Houston's mascot, Shasta III, was involved in a little trouble this week. The 100-pound cougar is normally chained outside his small house on campus. According to a mother, her four-year-old daughter scratched when she went to retrieve a ball which had rolled within the animal's reach. A bad season'll do that to you, you know.

De Anza and Foothill Colleges, among other California schools, are experimenting with a form of problem-discussion known as the "encounter." In its most extraordinary form, the "marathon encounter," members of the two groups (for example, student and faculty, black and white, or even the group made up by all the workers in an office) spend 12 hours in a room, and have food and drink brought in to them. When someone has a complaint, he holds the hands of the person

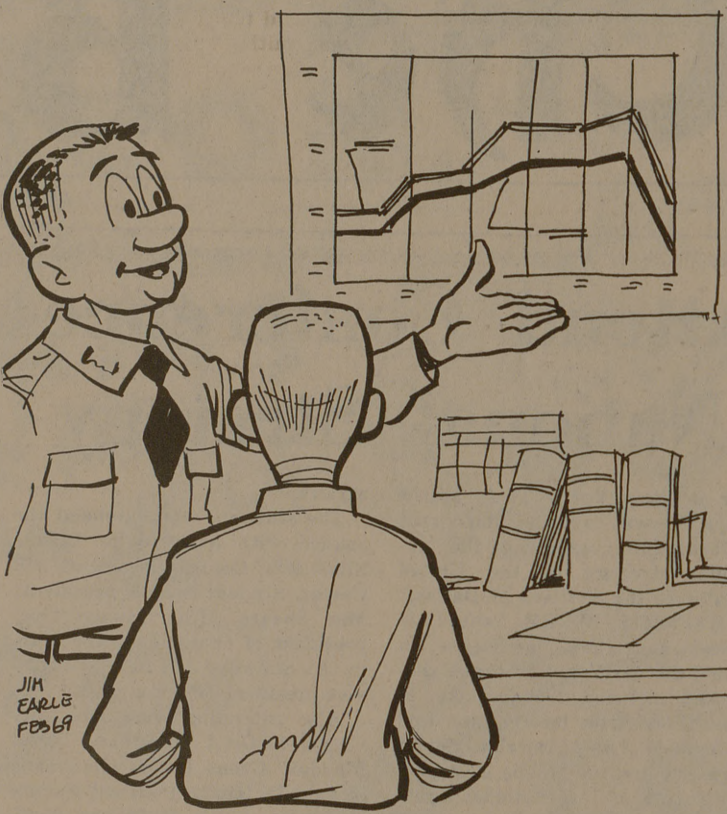
addressed, looks him in the eye, and states his feelings exactly. The theory behind this procedure is that, after 12 hours, any pretense or guarded feelings—the real causes of misunderstanding—will be shattered by the frankness and desire for understanding brought out by the close contact involved. According to President De Hart of De Anza, the method has done very well in settling discrepancies enabling one to see himself as others see him. However, it may be quite a while before the technique will be of practical value in settling differences among BG's, CT's, non-reg's, and OG's (other guys).

From the world of miscellaneous facts with which to impress the local waitresses at all the fantastic restaurants comes this AP report. The smallest player ever to gain a varsity starting position on a major college team plays for the Bradley Braves of the Missouri Valley Conference. His name is Frank Sylvester and he is 5-foot-4, weighing 140 pounds. His very original friends have nicknamed him "Little Frank."

Campus cause of the week coming up. In case some readers haven't been on a commercial flight for a while, there is great concern presently over the report of the Civil Aeronautics Board concerning youth fares. Examiners from the CAB have suggested termination of the student discount rate. While not direct news of other campuses, the upcoming final decision will affect nearly all college students. Many students are from places (for example, California) which restrict them to just one visit, or at the most, two visits per year. Of these, many could not have afforded even that one trip without the special rates offered to youths. This may not seem like such a big deal. Actually, maybe it wouldn't be, except that this writer is one of those students.

CADET SLOUCH

by Jim Earle



"I think we've got something here! It appears that there's a definite relationship between grades and study time!"

Bulletin Board

MONDAY
Association of Students from Mexico will meet at 6:45 p.m. in room 106 of the Academic Building.

Industrial Education Wives Club will meet at 7:30 p.m. in room 107 of the Mechanical Engineering Shops Building. Dr. S. W. Kowierschke will present two films on The Modern Woman.

Army Cadets' Wives Club will meet at 7:30 p.m. in the Texas Room of Bryan Building and Loan Association. Maj. Edmund Solymosy will speak on "The First Two Years."

Civil Engineering Wives Club will meet at 8 p.m. at Stacy's Furniture Store in Townshire. Bring recipes for cookbook.

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Let's Do It Again

This could be the start of something great.

Last week, Battalion reporter Tom Curl came up with a simple but novel plan for getting complaints about local telephone service: just announce a given time for readers to call in their gripes to reporters manning the Batt phone. As a result, many of the complaints that had been making good dinner-table conversation but accomplishing little else were presented to General Telephone officials. This in turn produced the give-and-take article in Wednesday's issue; in the long run, hopefully, it will result in better service from the company.

At any rate, we believe the procedures in the Battalion Intelligent Telephone Criticism Campaign can have future applications. We won't even have to change the name, in fact; "telephone" can refer as well to the means as to the subject of the complaints. And that way, the name can retain its acronymal (acronymous? acronymic?) charm.

We'll keep on the lookout for a situation that lends itself to another happening. In the meantime, we're open to suggestion. Keep those cards and letters coming, folks.

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.

LETTERS POLICY

Letters to the editor should be typed, double-spaced, and must be no more than 300 words in length. They must be signed, although the writer's name will be withheld by arrangement with the editor. Address correspondence to Listen Up, The Battalion, Room 217, Services Building, College Station, Texas 77843.

Members of the Student Publications Board are: Jim Lindsay, chairman; Dr. David Bowers, College of Liberal Arts; F. S. White, College of Engineering; Dr. Donald R. Clark, College of Veterinary Medicine; and Hal Taylor, 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.

Represented nationally by National Educational Advertising Services, Inc., New York City, Chicago, Los Angeles and San Francisco.

MEMBER

The Associated Press, Texas Press Association

Mail subscriptions are \$3.50 per semester; \$6 per school year; \$6.50 per full year. All subscriptions subject to 3% sales tax. Advertising rate furnished on request. Address: The Battalion, Room 217, Services Building, College Station, Texas 77843.

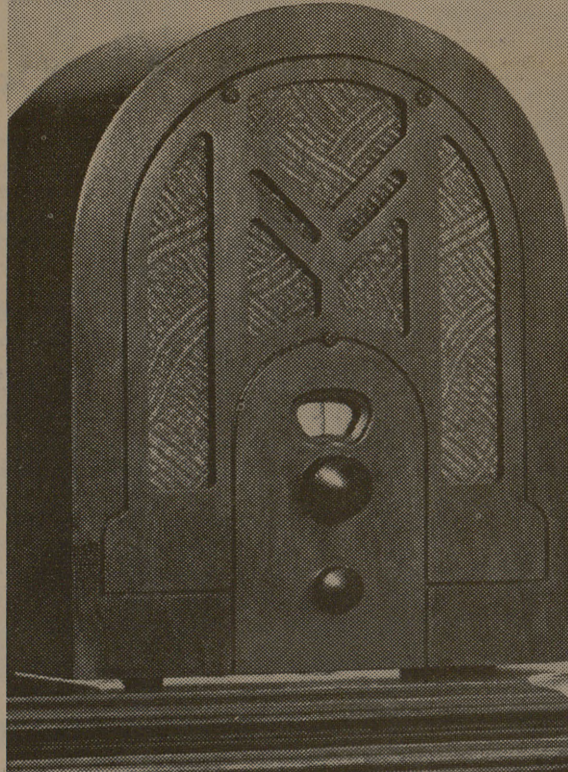
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PEANUTS



By Charles M. Schulz

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