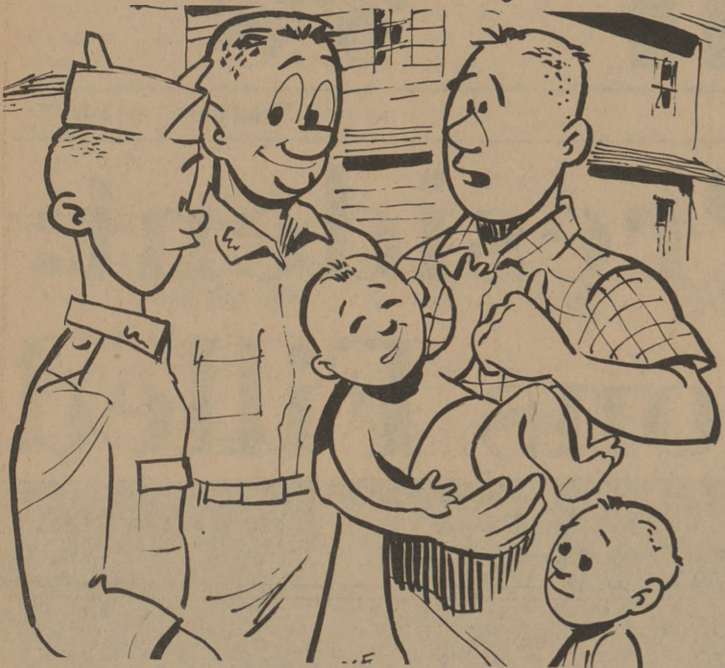


CADET SLOUCH by Jim Earle



"If you think you have a tough first sergeant you ought to see mine!"

On Restructuring 'Student Factories'

Dr. Howard R. Bowen, president of the University of Iowa, recently charged American universities with vanity "hardly surpassed by that of any other field of endeavor," asserting that "prestige for a university corresponds to profit for a corporation as the main goal."

He wasn't the first to note a similarity between American business corporations and large universities; numerous educators have drawn analogies between the factory, run by a board of directors and president and producing goods from raw materials, and the university, with similar administrative structures responsible for running the students through educational processes which turn them into marketable goods. Jack Barbash, professor of labor education at the University of Wisconsin School for Workers, has gone so far as to advocate full unionization of professors as workers in this "factory."

The impersonal mass-production techniques which this situation engenders are in violent conflict with "free university" movements dedicated to "relevancy" of teaching—and the results of this conflict can be seen in virtually any given newspaper on any given day. Some resolution of the conflict must be found, it seems, before American colleges suffer all-out warfare.

Dr. Bowen offers convincing arguments in support of the restructuring of liberal education. Students are too often treated with a "do-as-you're-told" attitude, he says; they are not encouraged to learn outside the "rigidly supervised and structured system of courses, credits, grades and frequent tests." He calls for "less attention to textbooks and more attention to great books."

Furthermore, increasingly larger classes need not involve increasing strains on teaching staffs and facilities, he argues, noting that fewer class meetings and greater dependence on films and other aids could be the answer.

But this is, after all, only part of the answer. Because the most vociferous critics of the present system seem consistently to be faculty and students of the liberal disciplines, the relative calm of technical studies is too often overlooked. Engineering and the sciences, dealing less in abstractions and more in the absolutes, are just as "relevant" to students with those aptitudes and to society's well-being as are the courses which are said to require more liberal and imaginative teaching methods.

The real solution to the apparent dichotomy probably lies in restoring the sort of separatism which came about in the 1860's and '70's, when the first technical colleges were founded. The traditional, liberal-arts and classical studies continued in existing universities; but new facilities were founded to meet what society considered new challenges. The two types differed in structure, philosophy and approach. But as more colleges began branching into new fields, a sort of muddling of the two approaches resulted. As enrollment soared, this muddling produced dissatisfaction and ineffectiveness.

Of course, the large colleges and "multiversities" will require reorganization if their liberal disciplines are to be run along lines suggested by Dr. Bowen and if their technical studies are to maintain the more efficient "corporate" systems. To prevent entering freshmen from having to decide too early between the considerably different alternatives, the curriculum for the first year or two should be broadly-based and applied to all students, whatever their eventual studies will be—as, for example, in the University College at Southern Methodist University.

These changes will be expensive and difficult, and possibly even somewhat traumatic. But the stakes involved—the future of the next generation as productive members of society—could hardly be higher.

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 Lindsey, 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.

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Listen Up the batt forum

Editor, *The Battalion*:

As most black students can attest, we definitely have problems on this campus. However, there are members of A&M's population who have been blinded by the evil cloak of racism, thereby making them immune to these ills. But never has this racist attitude been so overt and seldom has it tarnished my soul as last week.

Regretfully I attended my first Student Senate meeting. The Senate, at first wanting to throw me and my comrades out, passed a punitive measure on racist votes. That is to say, the Senators were not concerned with the resolution's content but only wanted to reprobate the Afro-American Society. Therefore, the reprobation of the Afro-American Society got their vote—not the content of the resolution. And although the content of the resolution might have been just, the vote that passed it was distinctly racist.

But much worse than the above was the discussion of major "problem areas" of A&M black students with President Rudder. For three hours we talked without one solution. Our hang-up was that the President refused to acknowledge that we had prob-

lems. About midway through the meeting, he announced that he was not concerned with social inequities on this campus, or for that fact, social conditions in general. Instead he was more interested in the "educational process" which he implied did not include social transgressions. Finally we left his office with more problems that we came in with. In fact the only positive thing he said was, "I'll talk to Stallings."

Now we ask, "Whom do we turn to now?" Certainly not to the Senators who have not the courage to acknowledge their unresponsiveness; and certainly not to our president, who seems not to have the veracity to acknowledge what his eyes see. But if not they, then who?

Allen E. Giles
See story, page 1. —Ed.

Editor, *The Battalion*:
In the May 13 issue of *The Battalion*, Jimmy Adams based the platform of his program on the destruction of individual freedom for the good of the society. This way of thinking may work on a football field, or in a government system like that of Adolf Hitler's regime, but it certainly has no place in a democratic community. He says that A&M should

not be caught "in the violent demonstrations, sloppiness, and atheistic attitudes of our times." The first statement is a fair one. The second statement is a matter of his opinion (perhaps his standards are considered sloppy by others.) The last statement is outrageously biased. Obviously, Jimmy Adams felt it necessary to denounce what he could not understand. Let Jimmy Adams think about the most popular man in history, Jesus—his person was anything but clean-cut. Thank you.

Frank Stolpman '72
★ ★ ★

Editor, *The Battalion*:
I would like to express my thanks and sincere appreciation to the Texas A&M University students who contributed blood to my son's credit recently. The 30 units through the Wadley Blood Center in Dallas "cleared out" our deficit at the Beaumont Blood Center. Our son, a victim of Christmas Disease, required close to 50 units since the first of the year.

Many, many thanks, boys, and a Special Thanks to Senior John Ray from Beaumont who arranged the mass donation.
George J. Huckins '43
3815 E. Lynnwood Dr.
Beaumont, Texas

At The Movies

by Mike Plake

"Support Your Local Sheriff" proves that, yes, Virginia, they still do make movies rated "G" outside the Walt Disney Studios.

And strangely enough, there was no animal, not one, in the lead parts. They were all people, of one type or another.

By that I mean there was Walter Brennan, the leader of the bad guys. Jack Elam, who has played villain more times than you've visited a Sears store, plays a town "character" reformed to

deputy sheriff by the prodigious Jason McCullough, played by James Garner. Joan Hackett plays the daughter, Prudy, of Harry Morgan, playing Calendar's mayor. All of which, rounded off, is funny enough to make for two hours of rib-punching on the part of the Palace audience.

It's strange how this movie comes of so much stronger than "Sam Whiskey," which had so much more "leverage" with an "M" rating. Burt Reynolds was good in his part, Angie Dickinson also did a fair job; so did Ossie Davis and Clint Walker. But something didn't swing; their final product didn't have the suave comedic tints of the Garner flick.

Watching "Support Your Local Sheriff" was fun; watching "Sam Whiskey"—well, you had to help it out a little with your imagination.

The movie producers, home of so many mergers of so many types, might do well by merging some of their talents in the different flicks. Burt Reynolds and James Garner would be an interesting pair to watch. Garner has the flair and the moxie for comedy, but Reynolds has a knack too.

The plot of "support" is very simple. Calendar discovers gold in her hills. She grows up quickly, without the direction of a lawman. A sheriff is hired, after three fail to fill the office. The sheriff this time, however, does.

He outdraws everybody in the world, enforces the law, and insists he have permission to leave at any moment, because for the last four years since he left the East, he has been headed for Australia.

He confronts Brennan by sticking a finger in his pistol barrel, dozens of guntoting Danby (the bad guys) men with a wave of the hand and a fighting mob with the help of a fire hose full of strong spray.

In addition to this, he's the faster gun anywhere, and mows down gunfighters who come to town to take him. He's sort of a James Bond, never-say-die hero with a sixgun.

He wins, with the support of a strong cast.

"They Came to Rob Las Vegas" was filmed in Spain, partly. It uses steel-walled tank trucks to

PRESIDENCY

(Continued From Page 1)

runners-up; class of '71 — Kent Caperton (51) and James O'Jibway (73), with Paul Scopel (39) and Robert Haggard (38) as runners-up; class of '72 — Craig Bradley (76) and David Moore (88), with Dale Foster (50) and Don Mauro (45) as runners-up.

College of Agriculture, class of '70 — Robert A. Easter (81) and Charles T. Head (85), with Roger L. Blackwelder (70) as runner-up; class of '71 — Randall Betty (43) and Marcus Hill (57), with Billy Frank Craddock (29) and Gerald Witkowski (31) as runners-up; class of '72 — Ray Geistweidt (86) and Kenny R. Hensley (77).

College of Science, class of '70 — David Cardwell (19), with John D. Cunningham (15) and Neal Ely (13) as runners-up; class of '71 — James Russell, (22), with Morris Petterson (16) and James Hawthorn (15) as runners-up; class of '72 — George Hester (43), with Joe Schriever (36) and Robert Clayton (41) as runners-up.

COLLEGE OF ARCHITECTURE, class of '70 — Joe McCall (21), with Raleigh Lane (14) and John Russell (8) as runners-up; class of '71 — Melvin C. Hamilton (19); class of '72 — William Hartsfield (46).

College of Geosciences at-large representative — Thomas Fitzhugh (27), with Michael Essmeyer (25) and William Reed (12) as runners-up.

Pre-vet representatives elected are Lyndsay Phillips (43) and Joe Kornegy (49). Veterinary Medicine second-year representative is Blaine Purcell (100), and third-year representative is Robert Hase (4).

Henderson (1,178) was elected second vice-president of the Civilian Student Council.

MEMBER
The Associated Press, Texas Press Association

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Sports Photographer Mike Wright

Bulletin Board

TONIGHT
Mid-County Hometown Club will meet at 7:30 p.m. in the lobby of the Memorial Student Center. Plans for end-of-school party will be discussed.
Panhandle Area Hometown Club will meet at 8 p.m. in room 3B of the Memorial Student Center. Officers will be elected.
FRIDAY
Aggie Christian Fellowship will meet at 5:30 p.m. in room 3-B of the MSC. Topic: "A Freudian Psychologist Looks at Christianity."

NOTICE ALL T-ASSOCIATION MEMBERS

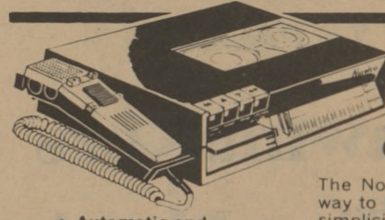
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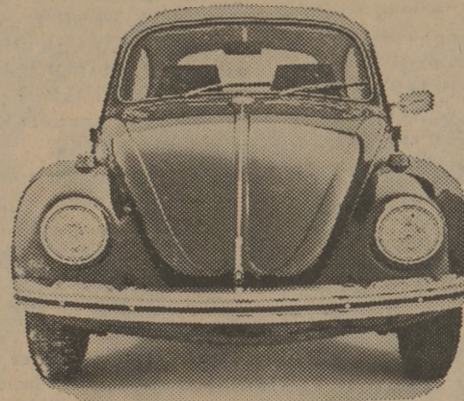
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Thursday May 15, 1969

By Charles M. Schulz

