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"I take it you're in favor of optional laundry for the fall of 1974?"

## Your Job Or Your Wages

At the recent National Student Lobby Conference held in Washington, D.C., student college representatives were given an opportunity to lobby their congressmen in support of a minimum wage hike proposal-one that would include teen and student workers.

At the time of the conference, students were led to be-lieve that the new Secretary of Labor, Peter Brennan, would support this type of legislation. One wonders what influence the Nixon Administration had over him when he announced Tuesday a proposal calling for an eventual wage hike to \$2.30, but disqualifying youth for the raise during a 13-week period for 18- and 19-year-olds and 20 weeks for workers under 20.

More exactly, the proposal calls for an increase of \$1.90 upon enactment, \$2.10 a year later, \$2.20 in 1975 and \$2.30 in 1976. Brennan had opposed a youth differential when he appeared before the Senate Labor Committee for his confirmation in January

We don't envy the position Brennan is in, either with the administration or the nation's students—it's a real hot seat for trouble.

Arguments in favor of the sub-minimum wage focus on "creating jobs for unemployed teenagers (16% unemployed). However, U.S. Department of Labor statistics show that youth unemployment fluctuates with the state of the economy rather than with adjustments such as the sub-minimum wage for students and youth. Most observers expect some employers to replace older workers with teenagers if this legislation passes. Almost all observers agree the basic prob-lem is unemployment in general, and that jobs can be created by Congress directly through domestic programs such as mass transit, health care and pollution control.

Students of the nation's economy may try to strike this proposal down, but youth generally looks upon the situation in this manner: It's better to have a low-paying job than no job at all.

Because youth on the average doesn't have as much to offer employers in terms of experience, youth doesn't have as much to offer others in the majority age bracket.

If legislation is passed with a wage increase across the board, youth will find that employers can't afford all the employes they want to have, and so, won't hire them. Since we most assuredly won't be able to get the ideal situation—no minimum wage at all—we propose that it would be in the best interest of all emperned if the mini

would be in the best interest of all concerned if the minimum wage were not increased for anyone. Sure, some students might be hired at the higher wage even without the sub-minimum provision, but the majority of youth would find mowing lawns for the summer not very interesting. Whichever side is taken on the proposal, it is noteworthy of attention. An Aggie ring and a smile is not much to offer an employer who faces a higher minimum wage payment.

## **Campus 'Litter' A Problem**

Editor: The Student Government has

reached the end of Election Trail 73 with a run-off and a flourish (Hail, Layne Kruse!). But for those who suffer from instant nostalgia, the long, hard road to victory (everybody wins) has not, to date, disappeared. They can ramble down memory

lane anytime simply by walking past the University Hospital or, better still, between Hart and Bizzell Halls. The way is clearly marked by broken signs and leaning placards — battle debris. Apparently, the candidates' cleanup committees are not quite as enthusiastic as their campaigners, and everybody loses in the litter.

Brenda Wauson '76 Amen.-Ed.

\* \* \* **Editor**:

Last night I attended a very interesting Great Issues program which featured Rod Serling. His talk was excellent, and the question and answer session demonstrated that Serling is indeed a very informed speaker. However, the Great Issues Committee, in their usual manner, tried to se-verely limit the time for the ses-

sion; further, they limited the questions to six which they selected. Serling refused to stand for this, and invited questions from the floor. In the process of answering a second question, Serling was rudely interrupted by a spokesman who said that anyone having a question should come to the front microphone. Again, the question and answer session was broken off promptly at 9:30, even though Serling appeared quite content to continue.

This procedure seemed strange until it was discovered that the Great Issues Committee planned a private party for Serling at an apartment complex near the university — attendance limited to a pre-selected elite. Personally, I resent paying to bring a speaker to the campus, then having him whisked away to a private party. To my thinking, this should not be the purpose of Great Issues, or any organization sponsored by MSC funds.

D. H. Crawford '74

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Editor:

Last September when Arab guerrillas attacked the Israeli olympiads in Munich you published an article on the incident so biased that it should have won the Zionist Propaganda Nobel Prize. Yet following the Mu-nich incident you failed to let your readers know that 136 innocent Lebanese civilians were murdered by Israeli commandos in retaliation to the Munich killings. You have also failed to publish that 113 Libyan Arab civilians were ruthlessly murdered last February when their unarmed civilian airliner was shot down by Israeli fighter planes.

If you wish to continue to publish articles on the Mid-East situation at least give a two-sided story instead of the Zionist propaganda that you have been feeding your readers with in the past. Fouzi Ben-Ali

As issues arise we try to give them full coverage. For example we will follow a court trial, periodically printing stories on it until it is is resolved. Frequently lack of space will not allow us to extend full coverage to world events. Israel and the Arab world have their problems, we have ours. Sorry if it seems biased. -Ed.

**Editor**:

In a desperate, last minute search for information for a paper on adolescent behavior, ] scan the Readers Guide. The references on my narrow research topic are few. The importance to my course grade significant the paper counts fully half my semester grade. I rush to the isle containing one of the few precious references. I pull the copy from the shelf. Yes, this is the right one. I rapidly flip to the article I need to fill the final gaps in my paper. What? My God, it's gone? Torn out! What now? Why didn't they just use the Xerox machine? It was only four pages. Or maybe just have taken notes. Instead they ripped it out - and left! M. T. Cochran

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## Battalion

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Letters to the editor must be typed, double-spaced, and 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.

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