

Scientific papers

The lighter side of editorial living . . .

Among the more interesting pieces of mail that cross my desk every day are the scientific and professional papers.

Take today's batch for instance. Without one word of warning or a single letter of explanation I received papers with the following titles:

Irrecoverable Three-dimensional Stress Strain Relationships for Christie's Sand; The Determination of Experimentally Induced Load-Deformation Properties of a Mine Filling, and finally, Controlling Cockroaches Without Synthetic Organic Insecticides.

Looking over this all-star lineup I decided to check into this business about the cockroaches. After all, I had believed for years that synthetic insecticides and organic insecticides are two separate things. I had to find the truth so I read on.

Here are some of the startling facts. Comments in parenthesis are my own and can be construed in any way you like.

The article began kind of slowly saying that cockroaches were on the homeowners list of pests. It further explained that cockroaches contaminate food with excrement (whose excrement we never know) and that they have an unpleasant odor (you would

too if you spread excrement on food . . . or anywhere else for that matter).

In the second part, entitled 'Cockroach Description and Biology,' I learned that cockroaches are in general (or for the most part) flattened insects with oval shaped bodies, spiny legs and long filamentous antennae (Now we're getting to the heart of the matter).

The article further stated that young cockroaches resemble the adults but are smaller and have shorter wings (I suppose you can check this out for yourself). It also states that young roaches can be found in the same places as the big ones (probably where they learn their nasty habits).

And did you realize that the female roach drops or glues the eggs in out-of-the-way places? (If you were as well loved as a roach you'd hide your eggs too.) However, egg hiding cannot be generalized to all roaches. The German roach carries the egg case with her until the eggs are ready to hatch (just goes to show you can't trust a German roach).

In part three, I learned that I should identify which roach species are present before I try to control them. (This raised a question in my mind as to how I should identify them.)

always believed that what was deadly to one roach was deadly to another. In deference to me however this question was never answered.)

What the authors did at this point however was to launch into a lengthy discussion of the different types of cockroaches. Their names read like an ancient Latin rogue's gallery. *Periplaneta americana*, *Periplaneta fuliginosa*, *Blattella germanica*, *Supella longipalpa*, *Blatta orientalis* and *Periplaneta brunnea*. And without further fanfare this was the end of part three.

Under the heading 'Cockroach Control Measures' the authors finally got down to discussing what they meant to discuss in the first place (roach control). The part about controlling roaches through sanitation is ridiculous (everyone knows or should know that you can't sanitize a cockroach. It's just impossible. Roaches move so fast that it's hard enough just to try and step on them, much less sanitize them). Of course the next section, labeled 'trapping,' might provide an answer

Editor's notes

Aggietoons



—Brad Foster

An instant replay of away games?

Bus stop gripe

To my surprise, I discovered that the A&M Athletic Department does not supply a film of away games to be shown to those unable to attend.

After listening to the great winner of LSU, I was very anxious to see the Aggie football team in action. I led the athletic office to find out at what time the showing would be. I was disappointed, to say the least, if no film would be shown.

I know that the Emory Bellard show is televised the day after the game and features highlights of the game. But there is no way that a full game of highlights such as the LSU game can be condensed into a 30-minute program and satisfy the urge of Aggie fans to see "their" team so well.

This is a relatively small thing to the Athletic Department distributed only 24.8 per cent of the acquired tickets for the Tiger game to the students. It would not be difficult to supply a duplicate of the film to KAMU TV for showing at a later date or presenting the film at the Rudder Theater. They could charge a small fee, if they wished, to help deter the cost or possibly even make a profit, for I am sure that there are many Aggies that would pay 25 cents to 50 cents to see a display of talent.

How about it Athletic Department? Give us a chance to see our team. Support the 12th man.

Kevin Venner

Editor:

The shuttlebus is transportation that many students use to get to and from campus. I'm sure it's difficult to work out routes to please everyone, but complaints from students living in Scandia II Apts. need to be considered.

When the route sheets were given out, they showed the buses stopping near Scandia II's office, not requiring students to walk a great distance. The route has been changed to split the load between two buses. The bus now stops a block down. Students have to walk to the stop. The walk is not bad when the sun is out, but weather is changing.

Compare the time it takes to drive down a block so that students wouldn't have to walk in the rain, with muddy shoes and bad colds. I find the comparison slanted to the students side. Please try to think of some way to remedy this situation. Perhaps coming down a block to pick students up is just the remedy.

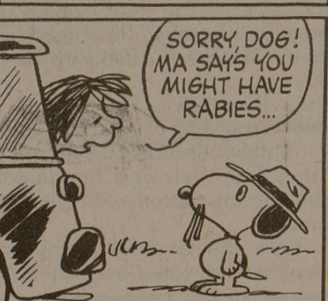
Karen Smith

Tradition

Editor:

Emerson Rutherford (see "Listen Up," Sept. 25) and all others that think traditions and especially the "War Hymn" are obsolete should be abolished.

Bill Raley



The Battalion

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