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## The Editor Comments:

# “MERRILY WE BULL ALONG”

Without a doubt the easiest way to go places without doing things is in that well known American institution commonly referred to as bull-sessions. Go places? Well that is putting it mildly to say the least! For instance, how could anything be so different as is the war situation on the one hand and the theory of the universe on the other. Yet, these two extremes merely represent the beginning and the end of a good bull session. The topics discussed between these end points follow logically from one to another, each subsequent topic bearing some similarity to the previous one, more or less. At any rate one does get there; therefore, he must have gone places. And as for doing things, barring highly excitable or over zealous participants, there is practically no physical exertion other than the opening and closing of the mouth. It is now a proven fact that talking (for most of us) is merely a reflex action, or better, an involuntary reaction; thus, it requires no special effort in a physical sense as far as participating in a good bull session is concerned. And everyone admits that the mental exertion is negligible in most cases.

One essential for a successful bull session is that it requires at least two or more persons as participants. Any fool knows that one person would have a difficult task in attempting such a feat by himself, and, if carried to extremes, he would probably spend the remainder of his life behind steel bars from which point of vantage he could watch the foolish world go merrily past. Let it be here said that such persons as these, when left free in this world are commonly referred to as authorities on something or other. Likewise, if one person were to do all the talking, the situation degrades from a full fledged bull session to a low-brow lecture as exemplified in our present day college classrooms. Thus in the optimum, we must have two persons or more, each of whom is

capable of presenting his contribution to the general topic under discussion.

Also there must be a motivating force to drive the participants into these discussions. Nothing is more effective in doing this than the thought of other work or duties which should receive primary attention. This gives rise to the illusion that he is working under pressure thereby permitting the development of a “so what”, carefree, careless attitude which is essential in such a debate.

Thus mentally prepared the discussion is in that delicate state from which blessings will flow with “malice toward some”.

The subject matter offers no problem. The sky is the limit in choice of topics; however, they usually begin on a much lower level than that. In an all male group the general theme of wine, women, and song makes a good starting point; the economic structure always needs an overhauling; and if worse comes to worse, the old but unreliable weatherman comes in for his share of abuse.

It is in a bull session that the true personality of a man is revealed. There's the domineering type who bullies everyone into his way of thinking. Those who agree with the theory of the attraction of unlikes will admit his most suitable opponent is the “yes” man. This person will agree to anything and will thus make a hit with the former. Then we have the deep thinking type who wisely refrains from statements until everyone else has shot his wad. He then proceeds to tear apart each man's conclusions until he has everyone contradicting himself. Then, of course, we find the interrogative type who continually asks the embarrassing question “Why?” No answer ever succeeds in satisfying this question. The “pop-off” will be in his glory, for what he may and usually does lack in depth, he amply compensates for in volume, referring to both loudness and quantity—not quality. The “doubting Thomas” who can be led, step by step, through the addition of two plus two, and who will, at the last step refuse to believe the sum total is four, can always be found among his sort of session. However, there does not seem to be any place for the strong silent type in bull sessions; but this is of no importance as his breed is practically extinct, being only a hangover from the Stone Ages.

In conclusion let it be here emphatically stated that although no bull session has ever solved or settled any question whatsoever, it has always given the most entertainment for the least money of any sport or amusement known to man.

Here's for bigger and better bull sessions!

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