

Editorials

Community Trust--A Reality?

In our last issue, we mentioned the Wesleyan Community and the Bill of Rights. We said that they must be realistically achieved by faculty, staff, and administration working directly with students to create a community where men of good will exercise wise self-government.

Many of us believe that this dream can become true. But we sense that it will come only when mutual trust becomes a reality—when the adults really apply the faith in us that they profess. There will be those who will say, "Wait a minute; this will never be real; it is impossible." And we are forced to agree—unless something is done now!

There are many things that could be done to make this a real community, a mutually respecting community. Because they are older and more experienced, perhaps the adult members should take the longer step. What is that step? It is simply the recognition that most students are young adults, striving for maturity and good will among themselves. Now, admittedly, this is a lot to accept. Past incidents and dealings with students have tended to show that many are not responsible, mature young adults. At this very point the older members of our community must be willing to hold steady, to maintain confidence in most of the younger members. For don't responsibility and maturity and judgment come when students are given a chance to exercise them?

This brings to mind several incidents on campus which suggest that Wesleyan students are often treated like grammar school children instead of young adults. Take the abrupt removal of a sensational campaign poster. Was this hasty action taken in the true spirit of the community? Or take the incident of the broken ping-pong ball: Several students found to their surprise that their word was NOT taken without question—despite the Bill of Rights. Though these boys knew (and stated) that the ball was cracked when they received it, the adults in charge refused to accept their simple assertion—and demanded another quarter or no hall. Is this a helpful attitude to take? No, it is a direct violation of the campus Bill of Rights. Incidents such as these prove to students that they are not yet respected as adults, whatever words may claim.

Without pointing an accusing finger at anyone, we wonder if the adult members of our community really accept this dream of establishing the community "conscience" and the Bill of Rights. And at the same time, let it be said that students must, when given this chance, prove they deserve it!

Students Need More Activities

Sometimes we feel that our campus lacks the definite college bustle and excitement of other colleges. Perhaps it is because we are still small and in the "experimental stage." But on the other hand, this could be an advantage. Now is the perfect time for us to begin thinking about how we can make Wesleyan more lively and desirable from all levels.

The Special Events Faculty Committee has recognized this as a problem and is sponsoring movies on campus twice a month, in addition to the excellent college Arts program of concerts and lectures.

In an effort to keep students on campus week ends, the Senate is sponsoring an Anti Suitcase-College Campaign, and will through its various Commissions try to plan activities for both Friday and Saturday nights.

But is this enough? We think not. There are a few suggestions of things which might be done to make our campus a more desirable place. A campus Bookshop, well filled with a variety of paperbacks, would be an excellent place to start. Not only would it be a place where students could make individual purchases, but it would also be a place where many a student would spend hours browsing and looking and enjoying the warm atmosphere one cannot help but feel when surrounded by books.

A swimming pool, a necessity on most campuses, would be a welcome addition. A putting green would please many student (and faculty) golf enthusiasts, while additional equipment such as archery sets, a tennis practice wall, and hurdles on the football field, would appeal to our sports minded students.

While trying to gain a more collegiate atmosphere on campus we need to "Think Big," and remember that future activities depend largely on what we do now to make them a reality.

Let's get to work!

LITTLE MAN ON CAMPUS



"BUT I REALLY MUST GO IN, WORTHAL—I SEE OUR HOUSEMOTHER GOT BACK."

SLA Is Judicial Body Of Student Government

The Student Life Association is the judicial body of the Student Government Association. It is composed of an elected chairman, the presidents of the Men's and Women's Dormitory Councils and of the Day Students' Council, and the Director of Student Life or his appointed representative.

The present members of the S.L.A. are: Joan Lamberth, chairman; Kay Hobbs, Women's Dormitory president; Richard Tripp, Men's Dormitory president; Dan Jacobs, president of the Day Students' Council, and Dr. James R. Hailey, Director of Student Council.

At present the S.L.A. meets only for called meetings but late on in the year regular meetings may be held.

The S.L.A., working through the three Councils, cooperates in providing effective penalties involving disciplinary problems and major infractions of the campus regulations. Appeals from the student councils are reviewed by the S.L.A. The

function of the S.L.A. is to maintain and enforce the rules and regulations of the Campus Code and to co-ordinate the various disciplinary councils it represents.

The S.L.A. may interpret rules which appear in the handbook or in any official supplements to it. These interpretations are then signed by the Director of Student Life unless he sees fit to refer them to the Administration. The S.L.A. may also recommend to the Administration changes to the Handbook rules at the request of first the Councils and then the Senate.

Halloween Dance

A Halloween dance will be held Saturday night in the Student Union, sponsored by the Social Commission.

Admission is 50 cents for costume and \$1.00 for those without costume.

Prizes will be given for the best costume.

Russian Visitors Spark Interest

Yuri Vasukueu and Valentin Shorin's visit, the second and third secretary to the Russian embassy in Washington, D. C., to our campus proved interesting to all concerned. Their lecture, "Economics in Russia," actually told us no more than (1) that before 1917 Russia was poor and underdeveloped (2) the two world wars left her almost devastated, crippling any attempts at redevelopment (3) that communism is the ultimate goal of Russia's present socialistic regime, and (4) that any failures to live up to Marx's theory by this regime were merely the personal mistakes of various leaders.

At the conclusion of this lecture, we noticed two attitudes developing among the student-faculty audience. There were those that shrugged their shoulders and remarked in not nearly such a casual way that "Vasukueu and Shorin really gave us the old party propaganda," or "surely you don't believe anything they said—they're communists."

And then there were those of us who realized that the two men had been so thoroughly indoctrinated with socialistic theory that they were very sincere and believed every word of what they said, even as absurd as it may have appeared to the audience.

It is hard for us to realize the sincerity with which they spoke. But it shouldn't be. For would we not be equally as convincing and evasive if the situation were reversed?

At any rate, it was an educating experience, and one we'll remember for a long time.

Needles

By MONA COZART

The Decree's editor submitted this poignant verse:

I.

Frothy waves somersault into the shore
And then retire for an instant
Amid the repetition—
Leaving behind a crumbling sand castle
Unaware of any intrusion.

II.

Blue, yellow, green, white skim lightly over the channel in gay competition.
Careful hands hold tight a rope, loosen the hold, and tighten again.
A rudder bears hard to the left as a sun-bleached head peers 'round the jib, happy to have missed a buoy.
The hot sun beats down on the brown young body.
The sailboats go.

III.

The sun is almost gone. Swimmers reluctantly leave the surf and gather buckets, coolers and blankets. Nothing remains now but empty Sea and Ski bottles, soggy sandwiches, a discarded beer can, a forgotten beach towel, and echoes of laughter and fun: Remnants of the season.

MR. 'X' SAYS

Rumor has it that the class ring committee is considering contracting with the same company that designs and makes rings for State, Duke, Carolina, and Atlantic Christian. How about posting a report on your progress, committee?

Some students are worried about certain teachers only giving mid-term and final exams. It's a bad situation when a low grade on one test could possibly make a student fail a course. After all, even the brightest people mess up sometimes . . . I wonder if the opposition of Catholics being required to attend Chapel has been smoothed over? Rules are rules, you know . . .

Casting and rehearsals for Wesleyan's first theatre production have started. Mr. Johnson has an extremely difficult job ahead of him since we have no props, no costumes, no playhouse. Please don't let Mr. J. down students. He will need people for acting, staging, publicity, and a hundred other things.

Don't forget the piano concert by Dr. and Mrs. Sasser tomorrow night. It will be well worth your time.

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