

Open Letters . . .

February 18, 1963
 Gary M. Garlow, President
 Student Government Association
 Wesleyan College
 Rocky Mount, North Carolina

Dear Gary:

Recently the subject of the honor system at Wesleyan has been brought to the attention of the DECREE editors. The question posed to us was this: "Does Wesleyan have an honor system, and, if so, exactly how does it work?" We referred the individual to the handbook and to the catalog, but upon checking those publications ourselves, we have found the matter to be very vaguely discussed.

For that student and for the entire student body, we would appreciate your clarification on this matter. It is evident that some of our professors are not informed as to the status of the Wesleyan honor system; some have stated openly that the college does not have an honor system, others operate under the assumption that we most definitely have a rigid code. You can easily see that the question of the honor system needs to be defined—both in terms of student responsibilities and faculty procedures. Your cooperation in answering our inquiry will certainly be appreciated.

May we take this opportunity to commend you on your fine leadership of the Student Government Association. Your efforts to coordinate the activities of the SGA have indeed been beneficial to each individual at Wesleyan.

Sincerely,
 John Gillis and Susie Black
 Editors,
 The Wesleyan DECREE

Editors,
 The Wesleyan DECREE:

To answer the question of what the honor system at Wesleyan is, it is first necessary to separate the word "honor" from the words "honor system." We do, very strongly, believe in honor but it is honor in practice and thought without a rigid system.

This belief necessarily puts the responsibility on the individual; not just on the student, but on every member of the community—faculty and administration included. This honor for which each member of the community must assume the responsibility, may be defined as a keen sense of right and wrong and an adherence to the actions and principles considered right. As trite as it may seem to say this, there is a sense of right and wrong within each individual. Each individual knows this, but sometimes due to a rigid honor code or honor system, individuals are denied the privilege of assuming this important responsibility.

It is necessary for each member of the Wesleyan community to reject the high school concept of a rigid honor system and to adopt an adult attitude of the individual's responsibility.

If everyone were to respect this practice of honor, surely an honor system would not be necessary. Even recognizing that everyone does not accept this responsibility, Wesleyan in its formation realized that the responsibility cannot be instilled in an individual by a rigid system. The only form of honor system that we have at Wesleyan is "the sense of honor," the Bill of Rights of the Community Council, and the Community Council. The Bill of Rights represents the basic rights of every member of the community. If these rights are denied, I strongly urge any member to appeal to the Student Government Association or to the Community Council. As to the responsibility of one person to amend the honor of another, the guide to follow is that the person have the best interest of the other in mind.

I sincerely hope that each individual student, faculty, and administrative personnel understands his or her responsibility in this type of a community and will continue to strive to attain the goal of "honor."

Gary M. Garlow, President
 Student Government
 Association

Mr. X Observes

Illusions were shattered recently and idealism received a shock as reality, grim and bare, presented itself in the four words spoken by a professor.

The fact is, said the professor, that college is no longer a proving ground for the development of the individual; "college is pleasing the professor!" This type of issue one usually chooses to avoid, but such truth in the statement prevents such action. Perhaps it could be considered with objectivity by a panel of college administrators, instructors, and students, for if the only reason I am here is to recite the facts and fallacies of the world to some disconcerted professor, I quit.

I would rather face the world happy and "ignorant" (if ignorance is bliss?), knowing that the accumulated knowledge of each day was well-earned, becoming part of a composite person who refuses to sacrifice his individuality for false education.

Effective and admirable are probably the least used adjectives describing the Wesleyan Code. And this is understandable. Not only do many students consider it a mockery, but also certain of the faculty and administration.

Common sense (?) and observation clearly show that the blame cannot be centered on the shoulders of any particular individual. However it is certain that if a careful review of the merits and deficiencies of the Wesleyan Code is not soon initiated, we had just as well toss the whole idea out the window and have one less item on the gripe list.

LITTLE MAN ON CAMPUS



"I THOUGHT I MADE IT CLEAR LAST TIME, CLASS, THAT EVERYONE WAS TO DO HIS OWN WORK DURING MY EXAMS."

Campus Bulletins

Reading Course

Miss Tassie Langley has announced the formation of a non-credit Speed Reading class, open to all Wesleyan students. The class will meet two hours per week for eight weeks. Interested persons should contact Miss Langley for time and place of the class.

Film Classics

The Ambassador Theater in Raleigh has planned a series of fine films to be shown one day per month March through August, 1963. On March 21, "Little Women," starring June Allyson and Elizabeth Taylor, will be featured. To be offered during the following five months

will be "Captains Courageous," "A Tale of Two Cities," "Julius Caesar," "Kim," and "The Good Earth." Admission is 75 cents.

Senate Proceedings

The Senate of the Student Government Association is now posting the minutes of their meetings on the S.G.A. bulletin board. Students are urged to check these reports as soon as they are posted.

"Mr. Roberts"

The latest in the Wesleyan fine film series, "Mr. Roberts," will be shown Friday, March 1, at 8:15 p. m. in Room 105, Gravely Building. Admission is free.

SNATCHES

By BUTCH NICHOLS

Grip those grips
 Bar the doors
 Boredom, interpretations, hunger
 Oops! Too late—new ruling—quicksand.

Got things to do, they say.
 Got no things to do—the fact.
 Ambitious—who? Quicksand
 Learning. Teaching worse off.

Fun, amuse, collegiate
 Lend time, pay back—quicksand
 Serious, adult, responsibility
 Committee—no aid or grade!

Summarize: dogmatic dogma
 All right, all wrong—decipher
 No? Value lost in quicksand
 Where is it. Stop and think.

Requiescat in Peace

"To yield is heresy,
 To press on is to die;
 Don't thwart society;
 Be an individual, not a lit."

Is it better to live a lie,
 Even to live at all,
 Or to be true to yourself, and die
 Because with society you didn't crawl.

Be true unto yourself,
 Be kicked in the teeth,
 And when you're on a marble shelf,
 Perhaps, someone will send a wreath.

And a minister will give this spiel,
 "He defied society and lost.
 He tried to live up to his ideal,
 But look at what it cost.

His is an example of what not to be,
 His thoughts were dangerous.
 The way to live and be free
 Is to join the crowd, be one of us."

—Sidney Wilbur

Wesleyan-High Point Students Talk

After a successful trip to High Point College with other officers of the Wesleyan Student Government Association, Guy Rouse, treasurer of the S.G.A., reports that his discussions of student government finances with the treasurer of High Point's student government were very fruitful. Rouse stated that our S.G.A. allots certain funds to each commission; each group then entails the responsibility of working within its own allo-

cation, and maintaining detailed accounts of its expenditures.

Our S.G.A. treasurer works closely with the business office and maintains surveillance on the financial records of each commission. In contrast, High Point's S.G.A. has found its treasury system much encumbered with formality, causing delay in obtaining funds and overwork on the part of the treasurer. All dormitories and commissions are directly respon-

sible financially to the college. Their S.G.A. treasurer and a number of signatures must accompany a check before it may be cashed.

Rouse related that the treasury systems of both colleges have their advantages and disadvantages. He believes that a judicious blending of the two systems could provide both S.G.A.'s with an exceptionally efficient and elastic treasury system.

Dennis Stockdale, chairman of the Orientation Committee, also accompanied the group to High Point. He informed the Senate in a written report that new insight was gained, some of which his committee might advantageously incorporate in our Orientation program. High Point's orientation procedure encompasses the entire student body of the college. During orientation week, speakers are invited to stress the seriousness of students' properly accepting the academic challenge posed in higher education. Yet, the committee does not overlook the importance of college social life. Included in orientation week is a freshman-upper classman tug-of-war and a traditional "beanie ceremony."

The consequences the freshmen encounter from either winning or losing the contest are the same as those now traditional at Wesleyan. Stockdale concluded that originality of thought on the part of his committee and new ideas gained from his visit to High Point (Continued on page 4)

Editorial Note

The DECREE is now in need of reporters to work about two hours per week covering various areas of the college community. Students interested in newspaper work are asked to contact Susie Black or John Gillis.

New in this issue of the DECREE is a classified column, initiated for faculty and students alike. Items for sale or trade will be featured as they are offered, and the column may also be used as a lost or found announcement medium. All notices will be accepted free of charge. Contributors are requested to submit their advertisements to any DECREE staff member.

Student creative writing for publications in the DECREE is welcome at any time. Butch Nichols, author of the "Snatches" column, will be happy to

accept original work from students or faculty.

Your letters to the Editor are also welcome and encouraged. Letters should be as brief as possible and to the point—the shorter the better. They should be no longer than 300 words, and they should appeal to the general college community, not to one particular group. All are expected to be in good taste, and are subject to condensation by the DECREE editors.

Letters to the Editor must be signed—no unsigned letters will be considered for publication. However, names will be withheld if the Editor is shown justification for doing so. Comment or features or editorials could be a valuable asset to the entire college; the newspaper can be an influential voice in student-administration relations. We urge you to make it so.

The Wesleyan Decree

Official Student Newspaper of
 North Carolina Wesleyan College.

Printed bi-weekly in
 Nashville, N. C.



EDITOR
 Susan Black

ASSISTANT EDITOR
 John Gillis

BUSINESS MANAGER
 Vann Massey

ADVERTISING MANAGER
 Walter White

REPORTERS

Bill Hartley, Susan Burkle,
 Sharon Nichols, Share Leslie,
 Ginny Eason

SPORTS

David James, David Reeves

TYPIST

Ginger Nesbitt