

Students Protest Cafe. Food

"We shall overcome."

On Friday, January 15, the cafeteria was the scene of an almost total boycott on the cafeteria food. Students proceeded through the food line, heaped their plates and then returned them to the garbage crew, for the large part untouched. As the movement gathered steam the students sat down at the tables and, after some hesitating, began to chant "We shall overcome," "We want meal tickets," "Hardees, how we love you, how we love you, our dear old Hardees," and other pleasantries. After a few speeches were made and two German Shepherd puppies were refused service the group disbanded to return to classes--or to the snack bar. The protest had definitely made an impact, judging by the shocked expressions on a few faces.



"Fill it up; dump it out" a typical scene in Wesleyan's cafeteria food protest movement.

Shortly after this incident the Senate Grievance Committee met with Mrs. Richard's Vanderslice, Supervisor Auxiliary Enterprises, to try to find a ground of common agreement and work toward a solution of the food problem.

General criticism from the students was expressed by the following points: (1) the food is generally of poor quality, (2) It is served in an unattractive manner, (3) The students are dissatisfied with the portions served, (4) Because of the poor attitude of some of the cafeteria help the line often moves very slowly, (5) There is no variety in the foods, (6) The students who do not eat regularly feel that they are in reality paying for the food of others

These points were further elaborated and discussed by Mrs. Vanderslice and the committee at length. The following suggestions were these:

(1 and 2) It is the general opinion that the food could be improved by the removal of excess grease and water. It is also felt that the food is adequate or superior in quality when purchased, but becomes sub-standard during preparation.

Mrs. Vanderslice stated that excess water did produce a messy plate and that she would reinstruct her help to exercise more care in draining the food during the serving. Excess grease, it was determined, came not from the cooking, but from the draining of the food. Steps will be taken to correct this. As for the quality of the food, it was acknowledged that mass preparation of food did somewhat lower the quality but that this is a problem with any institution. (3) As for alleviating the problem of quantity the students feel that: (a) Larger portions could be served when a student initially passes through the line; (b) The line be kept open five or ten minutes after closing, for anyone who desires seconds. Also there was a suggestion to install a "mechanical cow."

Here (part a) it was pointed out the adequate portions were served but that many students return their plates relatively untouched, therefore, wasting a lot of food. Also, a student can return for "seconds" after the rest of the student body has been served. As for part b., the line is kept open for such a period (or is supposed to be kept open) after the cafeteria is closed for anyone who desires second servings. Meat is the most expensive item on the menu and there are always two meats; a "preferred" and a "second". Everyone may get one serving of the "preferred". If seconds are desired, the "second" will be given to them. Mrs. Vanderslice said that she would see about getting a larger percentage of the "preferred" in order that seconds of this will be served rather than the "second." This, however, may not be feasible--they do operate under a budget. (4) It seems that some of the cafeteria help is always pushing the students to decide what they want, but the tone of such a request often causes a student to return a comment, thus again slowing up the line. A posted menu and labeling of the foods would prevent time-consuming decisions at the counter also an occasional smile does not seem unreasonable.

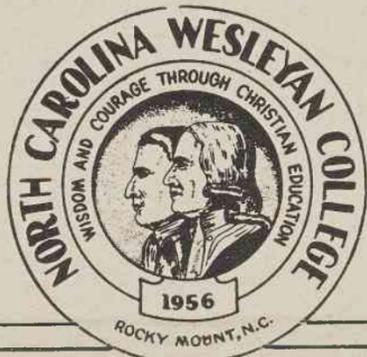
The answer to the first part of this and the (very last) seems to lie with the students. It was pointed out that constant remarks to the staff every day, three times a day would be enough to demoralize anyone, and that perhaps the occasional smile should pertain to the student too. As regards the second part, menus are now being posted and it is hoped that these will serve their desired purpose.

(5) The planned weekly menu offers little or no variety as is evident by the fact that the same meals appear on the same day of each week.

(a) The suggestion has been that, when seafood is offered as the Friday meal, at least one other meat should be offered also. If a student does not want fish he should be allowed to have a meal of shrimp or scallops.

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The



Decree

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Wesleyan Players To Present One - Act Play In Spring

The N. C. Wesleyan Players are approaching the spring season from a slightly different angle this year. Dr. David Batchelor recently revealed plans to deviate from the usual procedure of producing one longer spring play by bringing out three one-act comedies instead. The three plays to be presented are: "Spreading the News" by Lady Gregory, "Bed-time Story" by Sean O'Casey, and "Passion, Poison, and Petrification" or "The Fatal Gazo-gene" by George Bernard Shaw. There are various reasons for doing this.

In the first place, this will broaden the experience of the Players, not just from an acting point of view, but also from a technical stand point as well. Each participant will receive valuable experience from this change with less time being required. This, after all, is one of the primary objectives of this organization.

In the second place, this will also provide a change for the audience. All of us benefit greatly from the productions turned out by the players, and these three plays should add greatly to our experience.

A third reason for such a move is to enable more of the students to participate in a play this semester. Naturally three plays require more actors and technicians than one longer play. By doing this more students will be

able to gain valuable experience. It is even conceivable that an actor in one play could switch to some other job in another play, thereby widening the scope of his theatrical skills. In addition to this the length of the plays will enable the players to present a production with far more theatrical polish than before--though they have never been lacking in this department.

Finally, the last play "Passion, Poison and Petrification" by Shaw, will be entered in competition. Dr. Batchelor has plans to enter the play in the district competition of the Carolina Dramatic Association (of which the Wesleyan Players are a member). Play Festival at Louisville College in March. From there he hopes to go to the state competition in Chapel Hill before bringing it back to Wesleyan. The play will be entered in the "play production" division of the Festival, which is divided into play writing and play production.

Dr. Batchelor also points out the fact that the Wesleyan Players are not an elite group who move about in their own esoteric realm. Parts for the plays are open to all, and skill and previous knowledge are not by any means mandatory. Much talent lies dormant here on campus and the only way to strike the spark is to try out for a part. Enough participation will lead to a membership in the

Wesleyan Players which is an honorary, educational group.

An added feature will be a guest director, Mr. William A. Rawls, who has had previous experience in the New York Theater. Although Mr. Rawls is no longer in the theater professionally his interest, nevertheless, still lies strongly in this direction and Dr. Batchelor hopes that the players' experience in working with him will be a fruitful one.



Dr. Batchelor discusses with Ed Lewis the Spring Season of the Wesleyan players.

Attention!

On February 4, 1965 there will be a meeting sponsored by the North Carolina Wesleyan College Young Republicans. The purposes of the club will be announced at this the first meeting of 1965. There will be a guest speaker on a subject relevant to current social problems in this state and in the nation. The time will be 8:00, and the meeting place will be announced and also posted on the doors of the Administration building on the night of the 4th.

All Democrats, Republicans, and non party aligned members of the college and Rocky Mount area are invited.