

## Our "Well Protected" Campus

In the fall of 1964 some person or persons of the campus administration deemed it necessary to add a security officer to the staff at Wesleyan and to add a few more dollars to the rising tuition of the student.

With this new addition came new problems. One of the most apparent concerns the "arsenal" that is at present in the possession of our campus officer.

There are two major categories in which criticism of this system fall. First, is such artillery needed on campus? Second, if it is needed, is our campus policeman using this privilege in a responsible manner?

In response to the first query we must say that a .38 pistol, a high-powered rifle and a 12 gauge sawed-off shotgun seem more appropriate for Viet Nam than for our community. It does seem entirely out-of-place to have a heavy-armed policeman on a small church-supported college campus. In answer to the retort that Mr. Downing also acts as a constable both for the campus and the local community we must hasten to point out that he is paid by the college to be our security officer.

It is interesting to note that at North Carolina State and East Carolina the campus officers do not wear guns. Since these two colleges have enrollments many times larger than that of Wesleyan then it would certainly seem that they require more control. Yet, the heads of these institutions do not find it necessary to have pistols hanging from the hips of their police. The only thing that can be deduced from this evidence is that the Wesleyan student must be a pretty bad character. Since, in actuality, there had been little trouble on campus one can only consider the "weaponry" an unjust slur on the student body.

The second question that much be considered concerns the attitude that our policeman apparently takes toward his responsibility as an armed individual. First, it is a fact that last year during a water fight our policeman took out one of his double-barreled shotguns when someone dumped water on the "little red wagon." The Decree commented at that time that this gesture seemed both unnecessary and dangerous. Second, our security officer has carried on target practice behind our campus, a campus where several hundred individuals must walk each day. Again, this seems both unnecessary and dangerous. Are these responsible actions?

The above argument seems to lead to only one conclusion. The present policy must be changed and it must be changed quickly. Not only is it completely unnecessary, but also, and more important, it is a danger to the citizens of the Wesleyan community.—RCK

## Letters To The Editor

Dear Editor:

I would like to commend the writers of the two editorials appearing in the Decree's last issue. They showed good reasoning in their statements.

The writer of the first editorial showed some of the great gift of writing that he possesses. His topic on the "cashing of checks" needs much consideration on the part of the students in order to come up with a better workable plan, especially one for cashing checks when the business office is closed (i.e. Saturday afternoon and Sundays). Maybe checks at a set amount could be accepted by college business places at these times for a small amount, say between \$1 and \$5.

The second editorial definitely showed improvement over some written last year. This editorial stated a problem and gave good alternates for working out the problem in the future. These alternates, I am sure, will be considered. Unfortunately, another

article in the paper destroyed any constructive objective that the Decree might have been trying to create—or is the objective really meant to be destructive?

"Wesleyan As I See It" (through my tinted glasses) is the article in question. It is written by Duffie Monroe, who is supposed to be a co-editor? The question is, co-editor for what—the United Grippers of America?

The article is, as was stated in the first issue of the Decree, informal and one Does find anything and everything in it. But, what purpose does it serve?

The article begins by attacking our non-existent library—the pile of bricks. I am sure that if Miss Monroe would donate \$100,000 the college would be glad to start construction on the library. Another attack is the fountain that beautifies our campus. This fountain was donated by a very good friend of Wesleyan, Mr. Frank E. Brown, for the beauty it would add to the

## LITTLE MAN ON CAMPUS



SOMETIMES PROF SNARF'S EXAMINATIONS ARE WORDED IN SUCH A WAY AS TO SHOCK A STUDENT'S ENTIRE NERVOUS SYSTEM.

college campus. Many students have enjoyed the beauty it renders, especially at night—Miss Monroe has also or has she?

Further in her article, Miss Monroe mentions "...walls spattered permanently with shaving cream..." and "...those room doors, charred to the core..." Then the article states, "I often wondered why the sponsors of Wesleyan had discontinued giving money." By reading this view of Wesleyan, which is not factual, I can see why many donors might have been reluctant to donate more money to the college. Luckily for the students at Wesleyan this support has continued.

In the September 1965 issue of the College Bulletin, pages 2 and 3, one can see the lack of information used in Miss Monroe's article. Last year, according to the College Bulletin, the college donors donated "...support of almost a half million dollars..." And, by talking with Wesleyan's President, one can find that the college donors give \$400.00 per student for educational programs and plus that amount for buildings. Without this support none of us would be at Wesleyan. I challenge Miss Monroe to support her statements with facts. What about the charred doors and shaving cream?

This is my third year at Wesleyan and I can say that I have never seen a wall with shaving cream permanently on it (shaving cream does evaporate, or it does when I have used it) or a door charred to the core. If they are here, who is to be blamed for it—the students. Can Miss Monroe give us some definite facts on this damage? But, what is the article about? It seems like a poorly written gripe section and it certainly doesn't do any good.

Is this an example of future articles in the Decree? If it is, the Onliwon Tissue Company will go out of business for the Decree will take the place of this much used commodity.

It is my sincere hope that the Decree will continue to improve and be used to rally students around problems after getting all the facts on these problems and instead of having a destructive air about it, have a constructive air for the betterment of our college community.

Sincerely,  
Billy Norton

HMMM

I guess it's just me--  
Never The Decree.  
Paper with prudence,  
Published by the students,  
perhaps;  
perhaps!

Didactic to inspire--  
Complaints never tire.  
Opinions, notable act,  
News brief with facts,  
Surely;  
"Potpourri."

Editorials of sorts,  
Coverage of sports.  
Drink on the team,  
The axe--like a beam,  
no smoking;  
you're joking.  
To cash a check--  
Frustrating as heck.  
Too much expense!  
Logical cents.

My, My;  
goodness, goodness.  
It's Thursday morning,  
In Chapel we're joining.  
No winning of friends or influencing of people,  
By shouting against this compulsory steeple.

There, feel better?  
No, to The Decree a letter!  
The food is po'  
My buddy said so.  
No opinion of mine,  
Will make it fine.

criticism;  
idiocism.  
Gratitude? Don't pipe;  
For the future--I promise gripe.  
Problems are nice,  
Life they spice,  
without 'em;  
no poem.

George Watson

SLEPT YOU ILL AT EASE!?

by King Fun Ho

Dews sparkle in the prairie;  
birds twitter from within.  
Tranquility in Nature---  
forecasts the peace of man.

Slept you ill at ease!?  
And awaken'd with a-shudder!?  
No fear, my child! No need!  
For no sooner sets the curtain-dark;  
then blooms the earth again,  
in its fullest splendor.

Oft have you wondered,---  
over man, perhaps over self!?  
Then fear overcomes you---  
you shiver---you cry---you lament;  
and work yourself into despair.  
"Mm! This won't do," you mutter out loud.  
Then gathering up yourself;  
you open your arms to Nature,  
and start anew again.

## Potpourri

What is your reaction to the recent student riots all around the nation? What do you think about the so-called "intellectuals" who are protesting everything that the administration has done? Do you condone those students who have reportedly burned their draft cards? I certainly hope no one in the Wesleyan community agrees with these actions!

I agree, of course, that everyone does have the right to protest. I do not think that anyone has the right to misuse this privilege in the way it is now being abused by the people of the United States, especially the college students.

Since this column is personal opinion, it is my opinion that the student riots show ignorance on the part of those participating. These pseudo-intellectuals do not really even know what they are protesting. Are they against the United States being in Viet Nam, or are they against being sent themselves? I do not hesitate to say that I think they are protesting the possibility that they might be sent to fight, not the general foreign policy of the nation.

I am not trying to appear as a super-patriot, but maybe we are in need of a few semi-patriots, instead of a group of anti-patriots! These students are genuinely scared of the prospect of being sent to Viet Nam. I am scared too, but if the need arises I don't think I would shirk what I consider to be my duty and privilege.

I sincerely hope that the reports of the demonstrations and riots in the United States do not have an adverse effect on the morale of our troops which are now in Viet Nam.

The need to defend Viet Nam is the paramount issue now facing this nation. These riots and protests, while they are a part of the privileges we have by being born in 20th century America, are exactly what the communist agitators have been hoping for. The right to protest is an intrinsic part of American life, but the abuse of this privilege will weaken rather than strengthen it. A few students marching on Fort Bragg or even 10,000 scared intellectuals or, most of all, the statement of a minority group of college professors speaking as if for the majority, will NOT change the policies of the administration. These incidents will only engender strife in the United States and misconceptions about general public opinion throughout the rest of the world.

"This is the revolution we can, we should, we must offer to the people of Viet Nam--not as charity, not as a business proposition, not as a political maneuver, nor simply to enlist them as soldiers against Communism or as chattels of American foreign policy--but a revolution of their own making, for their own welfare, and for the security of freedom everywhere. The Communists offer them another kind of revolution, glittering and seductive in its superficial appeal. The choice between the two can only be made by the Vietnamese people themselves."

John F. Kennedy, June 1, 1956

Express Your  
Opinions in  
Letters to  
The Editor

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