

- EDITORIALS -

### Sophomore Proficiency Protest: A Calculated Insult

The recent protest against Sophomore Proficiencies can be seen as little more than an example of the use of very poor judgment on the part of many students. The walkout staged by a number of students can be considered nothing less than an insult to the remaining members of the Wesleyan community.

Sophomore Proficiencies, while carrying no quality point or hour value, are nevertheless a very worthwhile, and as it often works out, a very revealing part of the academic picture at Wesleyan.

As they are designed, the tests call for a student to demonstrate that he, when called upon, can successfully communicate through a very short essay on a given topic and can spell a random selection of words which have proven to be some of the more commonly misspelled words in the language.

These tests, easy though they may be, are nevertheless a very handy device for checking a student's proficiency in two very vital areas. Anyone unable to pass them should seek a non-academic, non-social profession.

It takes a very unique outlook for a person to expect to receive a college diploma when he cannot write a legible and sensible essay on how to ride a bicycle or spell a word of such tremendous difficulty as "consequence."

The most common argument posed by students was that "the tests have no real purpose. I can't see any value in them." And as one well meaning young man put it "They don't make no sense. I ain't taking 'em."

The real fact is that the purpose for the tests as a requirement for graduation has never come under consideration. A protest of the tests is most likely an admission on the protesting party's part that he has very little faith that he can pass them—a fact that he certainly wants to keep secret.

This writer urges that the faculty disregard the student plea to do away with the tests altogether and, if any action be taken, it be taken in the direction of making the tests even more demanding than they presently are.

### Letter To The Editor

Editor:

Most Wesleyan students know that the college annual covers the entire school year and as such is a fall delivery book, generally distributed on campus in September. However, students that do not plan to return to Wesleyan in the fall tend to overlook the fact that they should make arrangements with the yearbook office to have their book mailed. Some students prefer to have friends stop by the yearbook office and pick their annual up, while others living near campus prefer to come by and claim their book. IF YOU DO NOT PLAN TO BE AT WESLEYAN IN THE FALL, PLEASE MAKE ARRANGEMENTS WITH US FOR THE DISPOSITION OF YOUR YEARBOOK. No books will be held for students after October 1967, so make your arrangements as soon as possible.

This year I am happy to say that the Dissenter has had a "staff." A staff which I feel confident will give you a good book, a book which will be produced by many students and a book that I hope you will value for many years to come. The staff members responsible for the 1967 Dissenter and their sections are: Student Life, edited by Ann Thomas Gill (Features); Dianne Mallalieu and Tom

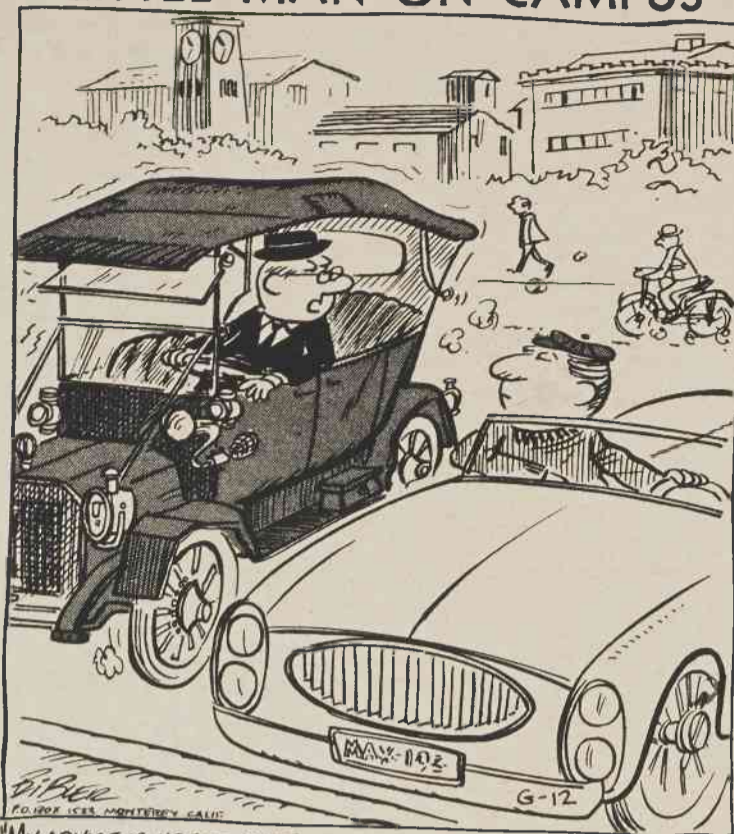
Knapp (Sports); Nancy Gresh and Danene Dabel (Organizations); Academics, edited by Mary Ann Walden and Mayo Ashley Wood (Faculty); Classes, edited by Alice Faye Powell and Richard Monk. Shirley Hildebrand, managing editor, has been instrumental in coordinating layout, copy and photography. Photography has been handled by Paul Robinett. We contracted with Apeida Studio from New York to take all student portraits and with Peter Julian, a professional photographer, to take candid photography of faculty and students. Our adviser has been Mr. Vance Mizelle and our business manager has been Dave McNamee.

Student cooperation this year has been better than in previous years, but as in the past, not every student has had his picture taken for the class section. However, we experienced a record turnout this year of 457 full-time Wesleyan students which constitutes about a 70 percent plus response by the student body. Last year the percentage of student response was only 60 per cent.

We hope you will like the 1967 Dissenter and, if you do, I hope you will let those people listed above know as a partial reward for their time and effort.

Respectfully,  
J. Blaine Adams  
Editor, 1967 Dissenter

### LITTLE MAN ON CAMPUS



"MY ADVICE IS NOT TO QUIT COLLEGE TO GO INTO YOUR FATHER'S BUSINESS -- TODAY A YOUNG MAN NEEDS TO BE ABLE TO RELY ON THE SECURITY & REWARDS OF A COLLEGE EDUCATION."

### Clubs Hold Elections

A new music club has recently been organized on campus. Affiliated with the national music club, M.E.N.C., the organization held its first meeting Thursday, April 11, at which time officers were elected and the groundwork laid for the club.

Officers selected to head the first year's activities are Sara Nell McBride, president; Maggie Poole, vice-president; Barbara Crawford, secretary; and Donna Bradham, treasurer.

Meetings of the club will consist of programs provided by both student members, faculty and guest speakers.

Bill Litchfield was elected president of the Circle K Club in a recent meeting and will head the organization for the 1967-68 school year.

Other officers elected by Circle K, a member of Circle K International and sponsored as a service organization by the Kiwanis, were Jerry Merritt, vice-president; Gil Spruill, secretary; and Ricky Kraft, treasurer.

Dail Harris was elected president of the Student National Education Association's first annual elections held April 4.

Miss Harris, a junior English major, will head the newly formed teacher organization as it begins its first full year of operations in the fall. Other officers elected to direct S.N.E.A. were Danny Lea, vice-president; Karie Naylor, secretary and Charlie Kemp, treasurer.

The S.N.E.A. has scheduled a meeting for May 18 at 7 p. m. at which time a discussion will be held on the Teacher-Education Program at Wesleyan. All students interested in teaching as a career are urged to attend this meeting.

Faculty advisor for S.N.E.A. is Dean Sim O. Wilde.

### Martin To Head Newly Elected SLA

Ray Martin, a sophomore political science major, was elected chairman of the Student Life Association in recent campus-wide elections.

Martin, outgoing treasurer of the Student Government Association, will head the SLA, the primary judicial body of the student government association, for the 1967-68 school year.

In rather close balloting, six other students also won seats on the judiciary panel. Following Martin, Barry Buck received the next highest number of votes with 166, only 14 more than any of the other five elected. Martin polled 211 votes to win the chairmanship.

Others elected to SLA seats were Ricky Kraft, a freshman; Sally Andrews, junior English major; Charles Hollis, junior mathematics major; Ellen Parsley, a freshman and the present Senator from North Hall; and Greg Tapson, a junior English major.

The seven were elected from a panel of twelve nominees. They will assume official duties with the opening of school in the fall.

### Dean Issues New Policy: Faculty Action To Be Reported

(The following is a memorandum received by the DECREE from Dr. Sim O. Wilde, Dean of Students.)

On April 25th the faculty voted the following policy: That the Dean of Students inform the President of the Student Government Association and the editor of *The Decree* of all matters legislated in faculty meetings that directly pertain to the student body. The interpretation given to me was that I should determine those things which directly pertain to the student body and should then pass them on to you two for whatever purpose you might want to use it. I am assuming that they meant that the information from the faculty should be published in *The Decree* if the editor sees that it is of significance.

Accordingly, I am passing on to you faculty action of April 25th which, in my opinion, is of significance to the student body.

1. The faculty approved a recommendation from the Curriculum Committee that the following changes in course numbers and interpretation of Humanities 51, 52 be made in satisfying Humanities Division requirements:
  - a. that the upper level division of Humanities 51, 52 be reduced to Humanities 21, 22.
  - b. that a person may offer a maximum of nine hours from the following courses: English 23, 24; 25, 26; Humanities 21, 22 toward satisfying the Humanities Division requirements.

It is recommended that these changes go into effect September 1967.

### THE DECREE

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