

Letters To The Editor

Dear Editor,

I think the "student" newspaper called "THE DECREE" has again goofed in the fact of only publishing a one-sided, biased, and shaded view of what really has happened. I am referring to the article in Volume XI, #4 Tuesday September 30, 1969 on the front page entitled "Elections Disputed; Assault Threatened."

Through the course of this article a reader unfamiliar with the college "law" would really question the student's ability to responsibly fulfill college rules. It seems that the editor of this paper is in total agreement with the aforementioned article which would indicate that he is ignorant of the Wesleyan Student Government Constitution.

In reference to the remark about a "political holocaust;" who made it one. Certainly not the, at that time, official winners of the election, certainly not the officials who presided over the election, but the loosing faction of Mr. Tom Mowbray and his followers. The election was conducted properly contrary to the published statement. Bob Leyda, an A.R.C. and David Walker, an elections commission member were present as specified by the Constitution on page 64 in the "BISHOP'S L.A.W." Nowhere in the "BISHOP'S L.A.W." is there any reference or statement saying that the ballots have to be printed therefore the "illegal" ballots were, in fact, legal. If the ill-warned residents of South Hall would refer to the "BISHOP'S L.A.W." and be familiar with it, they would realize that this election in dispute was held correctly and on the right day; the last Thursday in September.

I agree to the statement about "Wesleyan's infamous 'definite lack of communication' which is steadily deteriorating," but not due to incidents such as this, but due to the student newspaper which prints articles such as the Elections dispute article.

Bob Leyda's job as A.R.C. brought him to second floor "to quell" your "outburst of spontaneity" which I wonder if it really was spontaneous. It was his job to order you to "cease and desist". Your "dismay and disbelief" seems to indicate that you (the demonstrators) have no respect for college rules and the enforcers of these rules. If Leyda seemed as a "monitor in elementary school" it was only due to the elementary school attitudes and behaviors of the demonstrators.

James W. Gill, "followed by his muscular storm troopers from Ferrum College" (probably friends who were just

with him at the time) only resorted to the system of logic he did due to the fact that it was, most likely, the logic that the "spontaneous demonstrators" could or would understand. Off of campus for him to carry out his threat would have been assault and battery and the "law of the land" would be applicable; but not so on campus where James Gill interprets college law as he sees justifiable and fit. I remind you that a law more powerful than your measly faction, Mr. Mowbray, exists inside these walls of sanctity and you and your little group, as well as all of the rest of the students, are subject to them. Maybe you and your faction can understand the "law of the land" if, first you understand the "law of the campus."

I hereby ask that an apology be printed in the next issue of "The Decree" to Bob Leyda, James W. Gill, and to the students for the insults published. The insults to the students intelligence and the insults to the characters of Bob Leyda and Jim Gill, and also that the incorrect statements be retracted.
Bill Watson

Dear Wesleyan,

The hot-headed hubbub that has seemingly passed over our campus has been the cause of great concern to many. It appears to me, however, that the entire pile of doo-doo presents more than enough evidence for any college administrator, parent, or run-of-the-hill redneck to give a well-documented argument positing the foolish immaturity of Wesleyan students.

Certainly nobody who is concerned about the plight of the poor or the possibility of man's destroying his entire planet could give a Pan-dam whether Tom Mowbray or Santa Claus were elected President of South Hall. Yet we have pivoted on this and similar issues to justify the use of subterfuge and misplaced power almost to the point of violence--against each other!

How, in the name of All That Is Sacred, can we expect the college to turn over the greater part of its administration to us if we have to run to Dean Wilde for settlement of our petty quibblings!

If is one of my dearest hopes that Ed Smith has had his wimpy-willys scared off enough to realize that there are more important villains to attack than John Roberts and that the aforementioned President has recovered from his loss of face in time to see that a newspaper is better as a friend than as a foe.

In short, if we are to succeed (at anything), a united front must face the practiced organization of its critics. Rather than being on opposite ends of a see-saw, the S.G.A. and THE DECREE must exist as the two foci of the all-important ellipse of Insight and Action.

To all concerned over profanity in print: I hope I have avoided the use of "four-letter words" to the everlasting glory of the obscene euphemism.

In utmost sincerity,
Dan Davis

Dear Sir:

Prior to last year, THE DECREE was another publicity outlet for Dr. Cordts. Ed Smith removed the paper from the domain of the administration and placed it in the hands of the students. That the students have been too lazy to accept this responsibility is evident in last week's absolutist action by the S.G.A. President.

Prior to Ed Smith's Editorship, complaints against THE DECREE consisted of two categories: exclusive coverage of athletic events, and omission of any coverage of cultural events on campus. The situation was remedied through letters to the editor and the election of a staff willing to cover the dilettantes' viewpoint. The publication of THE DECREE was increased from once every two weeks to once a week specifically to assure more and more varied coverage of all student activities.

Unfortunately, however, student interest in the campus' controversies was nonexistent that not one letter to the editor (before last Tuesday) has been written this semester; anyone can check this fact in back issues.

The best statement one can utter about any newspaper is that it is biased. Partiality affords the "disagree-er" the opportunity to voice his opinion and so broadens both viewpoints. Controversy is the most important method of learning.

However, when controversy is met not by intelligent disagreement but by complacent apathy, education is at a standstill. Ninety percent of the students at Wesleyan were unable to meet the challenge of controversy, and, in true self-satisfying style, decided to eliminate the disturbing element without the meddlesome business of thinking. Wesleyan College has indeed lynched "the new nigger."

Sincerely,
Eileen M. O'Grady

Dear Editor:

As one who always takes time for a thorough reading of the weekly DECREE, I wish to make a few suggestions:

I was always under the impression that the Decree was a newspaper published with the student body in mind. But, after reading the papers published so far this semester, I fail to see how this paper could interest more than 10% of the student body. It seems that the majority of the articles concerning students on this campus reflect the interests of two groups: The APO Fraternity and the Theatre department. Granted, both of these organizations play an essential role in Wesleyan Student Life, but doesn't this campus have anything else of interest to write about? Many other stu-

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especially those that are religiously affiliated, are on the "down." Private colleges are in a crisis partly because of the lower tuition costs of State-supported schools. Institutions like Wesleyan are barely managing to stay in the black, because they are not able to compete with the financial support that State schools acquire.

The 35% of a student's education that he does not pay himself has to come from business or from individual donations. Through fund-raising campaigns and gifts, Wesleyan has managed. In the past years of Wesleyan's establishment it has been the responsibility of the president, vice-president for college development and the director of college publicity to present the college as a worthy financial investment.

This meeting of NCFCRC faced the source of support head on; North Carolina business. Wesleyan had five representatives who hoped to gain support from those at the meeting. Dr. Collins, Dr. Allen Cordts who is the vice-president for college development, Mr. Bill Joyner who is the director of public relations and Mrs. Lynda Homes who is the assistant director of public relations. Connie Murray represented the Wesleyan Student Body in the absence of the SGA president. Each of the college representatives attended separate meetings to learn more about the Foundation's guidelines for achieving the \$850,-

000 goal for the coming year.

The student representatives met in the morning for a "get acquainted" period with the other schools' programs and general conversation about curriculum and student government. I am proud to say that no one mentioned any special study programs such as our May term or community projects that our faculty organized for our students. Some did mention that just this year students were allowed to sit in on the Board of Trustees meeting but had no voting power. At the "kick-off campaign luncheon," business representatives and our college officials encouraged student understanding of the goals of the Foundation: increasing the knowledge of Educational programs and increasing the goals of financial support in order that the quality of education in private institutions may continue to progress.

Mr. Paul Kolb, Executive Director of the Foundation, met with us saying that the Foundation had its fingers crossed in asking students to this meeting. He added that it was advantageous because the best representatives of good investment in education are students. Allowing students to participate is the significant strong point of the NCFCRC, and it is hoped that the Wesleyan Student Body will also recognize that Student-Administration relations are improving and that each of us will want to communicate with these officials to strengthen Wesleyan's development.

Fire Prevention Week Designated Oct. 5-11

In a special message to the people, North Carolina's Governor Robert Scott has proclaimed October 5-11 as Fire Prevention Week.

The culmination of this week's activities in Rocky Mount will be the annual Firemen's Parade on Thursday afternoon at 4:30. The parade will feature units from the fire departments of Nash County and the City of Rocky Mount.

Also, members of the various departments have been touring schools throughout the area. Lectures on fire safety in the home have been given and posters distributed. Emphasis was placed on the necessity for the students to hold safety inspection in their homes.

Rocky Mount Fire Department will hold an Open House on Sunday afternoon, October 5. Number 1 station, Rocky Mount's newest, will be the

center for these activities. Off duty firemen will conduct the tours.

The volunteer firemen of APO will ride on Stony Creek's units, the fire truck and one ambulance. They have also given their time to construct a float for the Junior Fire Department of Stony Creek.

APO also sponsored an exhibit here on Saturday, October 4. In conjunction with both Parent's Weekend and Fire Prevention Week, the Brotherhood set up a display of ambulance equipment and techniques. The center of the display was Stony Creek Rescue Squad's Cadillac ambulance.

The members of APO have considered making this an annual event. It will also afford them the opportunity to raise funds for this fire volunteer organization.

Notice

To Whom It May Concern:

Miss Maydee Elizabeth Ward was charged with violation of "Residence Regulation for Men" and of women's overnight rules on Sept. 29, 1969, by the Supreme Court.

The defendant pleaded not guilty and asked for administrative trial which took place on Oct. 1, 1969. The verdict of the administrative jury was suspension for this Fall term.

James W. Gill,
Attorney General,
Ed Smith,
Defense Counselor

The Decree

OFFICIAL STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF NORTH CAROLINA WESLEYAN COLLEGE

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