

The Viva-Section

On the eve of the Senate's vote on the nomination of G. Harold Carswell to the Supreme Court of the United States, observers are either ecstatic or deflected. The American "silent majority", to which Mr. Nixon often refers, is quietly anticipating Carswell's nomination since they realize that his nomination represents the reactionary direction of the Nixon administration. It has been said by one Senator that Carswell allegedly guilty of racism in past court cases lacks the genius of past Supreme Court Justices. This statement was made in defense of his nomination. If this is justification of his nomination, one can only mourn the untimely American Judicial System.

At the present, the courts of America are already teetering on the edge of the quick-sand of incompetency. This incompetency of the Judicial System can be readily seen in the handling of the "Chicago Seven" trial. The decline in the ideal of justice is further enhanced by the appointment of Attorney General Mitchell by President Nixon, possibly in hopes of further securing the support of the "silent majority."

If Carswell's appointment is approved, one can simply ap-

plaud the wisdom and foresight of the United States Senate, for Nixon through his mouth-piece, Vice President Agnew, has al-

ready modified the cliché, "If you're not for us, don't be against us."

Jim Van Laan

Letters To The Editor

Dr. W. O. Fields
Superintendent of Rocky Mount Schools
Rocky Mount, North Carolina 27801

Dear Mr. Fields:

In the Wednesday, March 25 issue of the Wesleyan student newspaper, The Decree, there appeared an article on page two that concerned the Rocky Mount and surrounding area school systems. The article was written in a column "The Viva-Section" as a part of a two-part rebuttal between Assistant Editors of the DECREE Jim Van Laan and reporter Dave Siple. At the beginning of our publication of this column, the Editor, Assistant Editor and staff agreed that the opinions expressed in the column were only the opinions of the two staffers writing them and in no way reflected the position of the Editor of the DECREE, the DECREE, the staff, or the administration of Wesleyan Col-

lege. As Editor of The Decree, I am officially retracting the contents of Jim Van Laan's portion of "The Viva-Section." This retraction will be published in the next issue of The Decree, March 31, 1970.

Sincerely yours,
Julia Robinson
Editor, THE DECREE

Dear Julie

By this time of the year, it is obvious to most students that Wesleyan has a great many unsolved problems. Lots of students make their gripes heard, but when it comes time to do something about them, it's a hard task to find someone to help. Some call this apathy. I call it pure laziness and lack of ambition. But it's not my purpose to expound on the subject of apathy. I can tolerate apathetic people. But the students who make me ill are the ones who are blind to what progress is made.

Last year, a common gripe of many members of this community was the student newspaper. Mid-term last semester, a new editor came to the office and has steadily altered the paper. I consider this change to be improvement. I had thought that most of the campus did, but I still hear it defamed as the "Debris". I have an idea that these people are not even reading the DECREE. Rather than

(Continued on Page 3)

Editorial

Not A Total Loss

We note with chagrin that Dean of Students Sim Wilde has officially resigned his post. It is understandable that he wishes to resume a career that the office of the Dean of Students prohibits - that of a full time professor. It is also reasonable that the office consumed more time than he was able to devote to student affairs. Dr. Wilde commented that the job had not allowed him time for the reading and writing that he would like to do.

It is also conceivable that the position of Dean of Students often put him uncomfortable between the two often opposing forces, that of the students and the administration. As Dean of Students, he was obligated to perpetuate the rights and positions of the student body. As a part of the administration he is obligated to support the view of that establishment. It is completely understandable that an educator would have little use for a position that by virtue of its organization is forced to play between two sides.

We hope that the replacement for Dr. Wilde is chosen with discretion. Under Dean Wilde's guidance the office of Student Affairs has established both a cost and an honest relationship with the students of N. C. Wesleyan. The installation of a dean with unprogressive attitudes would set the relationship between students and administration back to where it was four years ago.

Perhaps as the head of the Education Department, Dr. Wilde can do much to further student interests and boost student morale. It is possible that without the trappings and limitations of the office of Dean, that he will be in even better position to champion student rights in the classroom.

Social Commission Lacks Involvement

By MARSHALL OLD

Almost any Wesleyan student will complain about either the lack of social life on campus or the quality of social life. The fact that a social problem exists is not denied by either the SGA Administration or the Social Commission.

The Social Commission is charged by the SGA Constitution to plan and co-ordinate a social program for the Wesleyan campus. In reality, the social program takes the form of Homecoming, the Spring Formal and several dances. To many students, this program leaves something to be desired. Why is not there more diversification? Many students would like to see (in addition to the dances) concerts, lectures, and other related events. Social Commission Chairman, Sarra Askew said that the limitation on money prevented providing more than the favorite dances.

Another problem within the Social Commission is lack of manpower. The Commission is composed of an appointed chairman and one representative from each class. Only the Senior and Junior classes sent

representatives to the Commission. Any other Wesleyan student that is interested may join the commission; yet this year's Commission has operated with only six to eight people. This lack of manpower is particularly evident when shows or dances must be prepared for.

This lack on man-power has been explained as the result of lack of information. Students are not aware that they can serve on the Commission; they do not know where to go for information about the Commission; or they do not know who the chairman is. Since few students work with the Social Commission, charges arise that the Commission is not representative or responsive. These charges doubly hurt the Social Commission because they generate unconcern to social functions and discourage others from aiding in the work.

The Wesleyan Social Commission though beset with problems will receive a new chairman in the near future. This person will be charged with the duties of operating a viable social program. Hopefully, they will, in effect, be establishing "social security" for Wesleyan.

'70-'71 Student Budget Under Consideration

John,

Ned Hill opened committee business at the March 23 Senate meeting with a report from the Board of Directors. He stated that complaint forms were presently available to any student who wishes to bring a complaint before the Board. President of the Junior class, Ken Carter, informed the Senate that the majority of the Junior class was in favor of a

meal ticket system. Carter further said that a class representative will attend the next Board meeting to pursue the question. There was no business from the other standing committees.

Old business was opened with reports from the senators concerning their efforts in soliciting funds from their constituents for the Capital Funds

(Continued on Page 4)

ANNOUNCEMENT

Students Must Re-Apply For Financial Aid For The School Year 1970-1971. Forms Are Available In Room 237 Braswell.

Wilde Discusses Job

(Continued from Page 1)

the large universities, rules are as stringent as here at Wesleyan. Actually we are much more liberal than most parents and supporters expect us to be, and this often causes us trouble. We've been rather tolerant. Our attitudes toward many things: drug problems, sex on the campus, diversity among students, etc., have been very

open. And in a period of time when there has been a great student unrest across the country, we've had very little.

DECREE: Do you think a major adjustment either by the students or by the new dean of students will have to be made?

Wilde: No, I don't.

DECREE: In the recent SGA campaign, the speaker noted that the Dean of Students office is largely colored by Rocky

Mount morality. Do you agree?

Wilde: I think to some extent, yes. I admit it.

DECREE: Then you are implying that it's not a healthy situation?

Wilde: I am. We are, however, in a precarious position because we are in a bind for money and things that happen on this campus do hurt us financially. If this were not so, we could very often tell these people to go jump into the lake.

DECREE: Students caught up in this will claim very justly that this is "selling your soul."

Wilde: Right. Yet we can only guess at the best way to handle it.

DECREE: That for the most part covers the questions with which the DECREE had been concerned. Do you have anything to add?

Wilde: I want it understood that this particular decision at this time is a personal and professional one. It's not a giving up in despair--a conclusion that the young people are going to hell and I'm not going to be a part of it. I have a great confidence in the students here, and still will be very much involved with students. My position in Education will hopefully allow me to be involved in a way that I have been unable to be as Dean.

The Decree

OFFICIAL STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF NORTH CAROLINA WESLEYAN COLLEGE

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PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY WESLEYAN STUDENTS
Opinions Published Do Not Necessarily Represent Those Of Wesleyan College.