

EDITORIAL

Since IRS weekend students have been evading open discussion of a very distressing situation. As everyone knows, approximately \$430 worth of damage was accumulated in the gymnasium the Saturday night of the IRS dance. No one knows exactly who contributed to this desecration of school property—although several people and their friends seem to know more than anyone else. Supposedly—and I should say, hopefully — the people who destroyed the equipment were not Salem students or affiliates, but outsiders who freely entered the unlocked equipment room without breaking and entering.

This incident has created problems for the physical education department, IRS, and the entire student body. The equipment door was unlocked, so insurance will not cover the damage; since the damage occurred during or immediately after an IRS-sponsored function, the school holds IRS accountable for paying the \$430 damages. Every student, moreover, is a member of IRS, which means that students are indirectly responsible for repaying the school.

The great question in this matter is, who pays for the damages? IRS cannot begin to pay the school \$430 unless it takes the money from next year's budget allotment. This means IRS will have a drastically reduced allocation with which to plan next year's events. It also means that next year's freshmen will pay for this year's damage, while this year's seniors pay for nothing.

It has been proposed that the money be collected from all student organizations on campus, which limits the burden of responsibility to individuals affiliated with these organizations. These organizations, like IRS, would have their budgets pared too thin to allow for creativity in their structures. In addition, the student organizations and classes have used most or all of their fiscal allotments for 1971-72, thus, the money—once again—would come from next year's budget, which would involve people unrelated to the incident in any way.

It also has been proposed that student groups raise part of the money to cover the \$430 damage. The year is almost over, however, which prevents the initiation of any fund raising drives before next year, which again involves unfairly new students.

People have suggested that we ask one of the administrative offices for a monetary allotment to cover part of this \$430 fee. One thing we, as students, cannot afford is for the administration to be induced in this manner to believe that we are not capable of handling our problems as they arise. We have cried "responsibility" too often in the past to turn around and avoid this issue, which could evolve into a legal crisis for the students.

Some people may believe that since the incident occurred at some nebulous time connected with IRS weekend, IRS alone should be responsible, excluding uninterested members of the community from responsibility. (After all, many people did not take advantage of the IRS weekend for which they already had paid.) However, if one considers this carefully, she realizes that IRS is an organization to which every student belongs. This organization does us a service by providing entertainment and recreation for the student public. Since the dance was a student service merely sponsored by the IRS Committee, all of us potentially benefitted or—as in this case—lost by the service. Thus, the IRS acted as an activating and organizing factor between us and our desires. Should, then, we students not be held directly accountable for the detrimental actions of a few, unidentified individuals?

The only feasible solution to this pressing problem lies with us, the '71-72 student body. Although most of us are in financial straits at the present, we cannot in the long run afford to avoid answering the call of our much-distressed IRS. Each student individually and on a voluntary basis must carefully consider donating money to the IRS Emergency Relief Fund. If every student donates approximately one dollar, IRS can accumulate the \$430 to pay the debt without destroying any campus plans for next year, and the problem will be dealt with by the responsible student body, rather than by innocent newcomers. This is our solution, so let us try it, we might like it . . . at least, better than anything else we would have to do. —LD

Letters to the Editor

Library, Refectory Policy Bug Readers

Dear Editor:

Come Lord Jesus our guest to be, And bless these gifts bestowed by Thee.—Amen.

This "mumble-jumble" that's repeated in unison before our meals seems to me to be a hypocritical farce for which we youth tend to be critical of the older generation. How many of those who say this blessing sincerely want Jesus to be their guest while dining in the refectory and want Him to bless their food? Maybe for some it's a moment to express gratitude for refectory food, but I dare say very few even take it that far. More would fit it in the "tradition" bracket.

My suggestion is if the prayer means something to you in an authentic sort of way—say it. But for those who, like myself, can think of more spiritually-uplifting words to suit their needs, they should keep their mouths shut when the blessing is said instead of mumbling

through the prayer in a devil-may-care manner.

To those readers who would denounce me for not believing in God, motherhood or the flag, I say that I'm not writing in objection to—or defense of—the Moravian blessing and prayer in general. My concern is the lack of authenticity with which we lead our lives.

Sincerely,
Irene Kimel

To the Salem Library, c/o Salemite editor:

Yesterday I was acquainted with the new look of the periodical room. I was shocked. Previously the room has always been a mess because of the absurd rule that students cannot replace used periodicals on their shelves. It used to be typical to see fifty or so periodicals lying all over the room. Pity the person whose desired information was among the pile.

Podium: Students Speak

Cafeteria Food Intrigues Students

Recently there has been much talk of Salem's Refectory changing to a cafeteria style meal instead of the family style meal that we now have. Students were asked what they thought of changing to cafeteria style meals. Here are some of the comments:

Gwen Smith: If the food would be improved by cafeteria style, then I'm all for it. I would hate to do away with the family style tradition, but if it would make a difference in the food, I'll go with a change.

Chris Moran: I am definitely against the cafeteria style not because I am afraid of change, but because I feel that Salem would lose so much of her sense of tradition and grace by converting to the assembly-line routine found in most other schools. The family style gathering at meals is one thing that makes Salem so different.

Susan Milner: I am opposed to a total cafeteria style of service—perhaps breakfast and lunch could be served that way for a compromise—the family style gives you a chance to see and meet people and is instrumental in Salem's close student body. I don't think the food would be changed unless we went to a cafeteria catering service, and they are usually bad.

Gin-Gin Bruce: I am against changing the system by which we eat. The only problem now is that the food is not always very good, and it seems we have the same thing too often. I don't foresee that the change of style will make the food better.

Pam Ritter: I would not like to see the cafeteria system employed at Salem because I feel that the family style of eating is better ordered and conducive towards a more relaxing meal. Unless the food would improve in this new system, I don't feel that we need to change.

Mary Lou Cunningham: I would hate to see our style of eating changed here at Salem, and the termination of a wonderful, close-knit tradition.

Betsy Beard: Why can't we compromise? I'd love to have a salad table, fruit table, sandwich table, and desert table at lunch. We could still eat together, and have the choice that cafeteria-style meals offer.

Cindy McCosh: I don't really understand what cafeteria style could entail, but I'm for any attempt at improving the present system—cafeteria, replacing maids with students especially—anything!

Beth Perry: Both cafeteria and family style have merits and bad things. I don't know whether I

would want to change completely to cafeteria style, but breakfast and maybe lunch with sandwiches and salads would be nice.

Mrs. Chatham: YUCK!!!

Kathryn Kirkpatrick: Fine for breakfast and lunch, but I'd still like dinner to be family style.

Trena Griffith: I don't want to go cafeteria, but I think we should have students working and serving instead of having maids!

Mary Ladd Johnston: I think it would be good to have a variety,

but unless something could be done about the lines, such as an early lunch hour, then I don't think it would be worth it.

Adah Parker: I think it would be good; but keep the traditional family style for Sunday dinner.

Frere Sands: I like it because meals would be hotter, and there would be more variety.

Sharon Parks: I think that the tradition of the school should be kept and the quality of the food changed.



of cabbages and kings

by Sarah Dorrier

If you are pinned, engaged, or just plain marriage-oriented and somehow can't turn on to the women's lib movement, you should have gone with me to hear Martha McKay.

Mrs. McKay is presently Chairwoman of the National Women's Political Caucus and a founder of the North Carolina Women's Political Caucus. She is a graduate of UNC, married, a mother several times around, a president of McKay and Associates of Chapel Hill (firm for community development).

In 1971, North Carolina finally ratified the Nineteenth Amendment giving women the right to vote. Mrs. McKay jokingly said the NCWPC was founded in celebration!

The NWPC is a bi-partisan group dedicated to working through existing party structure. It organizes at the local and state levels to achieve fair representation on state delegations to the national party conventions, to encourage women to run for political office, and to agitate for the passage of legislation that would halt discrimination.

According to Mrs. McKay, the NWPC is more politically oriented than NOW or the League of Women Voters. There is no formal structure with meetings once a month. Rather, it is a movement to get women into the decision-making process as soon as possible. The caucus chooses narrow targets and attempts to realize its goals through lobbying and political strategy.

Continuing education for women is a primary concern of the NWPC. If all goes well, Salem can play an important role in this area since counseling facilities for women in North Carolina are almost nil. Pre-school child care and public kindergartens are other phases of education that the NWPC considers necessary.

Women tend to be more issue-oriented when voting than do men. The NWPC has its way, no-fault divorce laws and minimum wages domestic help will become political focal points in the near future.

Currently, the prime objective of the NWPC is 50% representation of women on state delegations to national party conventions. The party have been hounded into setting up affirmative action programs; if there are no results, the NWPC plans to protest through challenges at the local party unit level and through complaints to the media.

The NWPC endorses the Equal Rights Amendment and is seeking ways to enforce equal pay for equal work. It sponsors research on discriminatory laws, especially in the areas of credit, insurance, property, and taxation.

one last thought

Did you know that the highest office held by a woman in the state of North Carolina is that of Burial Commissioner?!!

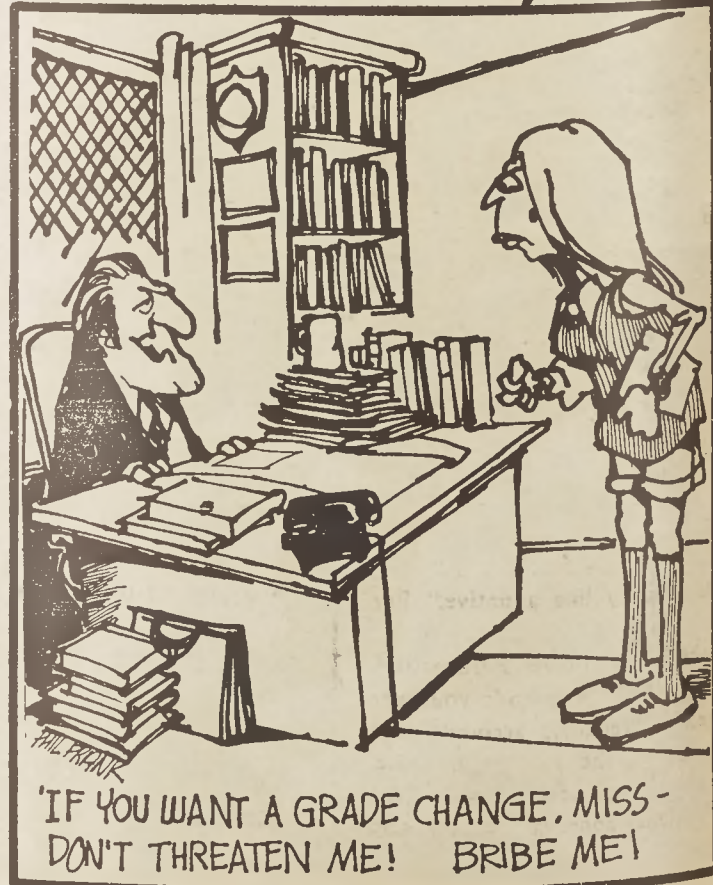
For further information write:

NWPC
1302 18th Street, NW, #603
Washington, D. C. 20036
Phone: 202-785-2911

In North Carolina the address is:

NCWPC
Box 908
Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27514

FRANKLY SPEAKING by Phil Frank



©FRANKLY SPEAKING/ BOX 1523/ E. LANSING, MICH.