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Missing dishes create extra food costs

by Debbie Doss

Huge numbers of dishes, trays, and pieces of flatware are being removed from the Belk cafeteria here at Meredith and are not being returned. According to manager of Food Services, Tony Hardee, "It's a terrible situation."

Since school opened this year, according to Mr. Hardee's records, 700 settings of flatware have been lost. In addition, about 500 glasses have also disappeared from the cafeteria, along with four to five hundred bowls from the salad bar.

"We realize that a small part of the loss is due to breakage in the cafeteria," Mr. Hardee said, but he added that he believes the large amounts of dishes he has had to replace this year are due to their removal from the cafeteria to the dormitories.

"We've even had several salt and pepper shakers and sugar bowls to go out of here," Mrs. Renegar, assistant manager, noted.

"This year doesn't seem to be any worse," said Mrs. Renegar, "but it's the continuation of a bad practice of the past."

Evidently, many students have ignored the cafeteria rules outlined in the Student

Handbook, one of which is that "No dishes, silver, trays or other equipment may be taken from the dining hall."

"We send people around to the dormitories one or two times each week to collect dishes," Mr. Hardee said, "and we've gotten quite a few back this way."

"However, we have to soak some of them for two days to get them clean."

Others, he added, are broken or virtually unusable.

"Many dishes have even been found in trashcans by housekeepers," he noted.

Extermination problems have also been complicated by the leaving of partially eaten food in the dormitories, Mrs. Renegar noted.

However, neither Mr. Hardee nor Mrs. Renegar believe that the cafeteria staff

should be responsible for inspecting what is taken out of the dining hall.

"I don't think we should be the policemen," Mrs. Renegar said. "It's not possible."

"I don't want to put this in a threatening manner," Mr. Hardee said. "I have not said one word to one girl walking out of here with food or dishes," he said.

However, he emphasized the economics of the situation, noting that "in the long run, girls pay for these dishes."

"We base next year's budget on this year's," he said, "and the more it costs this year, it means we will project to a higher cost next year. This could make the board rate at Meredith go up."



These dishes have been accumulating in the basement of Poteat for the last three weeks. Guards report that dishes are found everywhere, especially in the tunnels and stairwells.

The loss of dishes over a year's time is substantial, Mr. Hardee said. He added that the cafeteria dishes are more expensive than might be expected because of the special heat treatment they receive to prepare them for 190-degree dishwasher water.

Mr. Hardee also pointed out that he would like to do more special things for those dining in Belk cafeteria. "If I didn't have to spend hundreds of dollars on replacing dishes, I could do a lot more," he said.

The Legislative Board of SGA has made recent attempts to help the cafeteria regain hundreds of these lost items, and is asking the student body to become more aware of the problem, to return dishes to the dining hall, and to refrain from removing plates, glasses, cups, and flatware during the coming semester.

Davidson professor speaks on urban crisis

by Darlene Smith

"The City in Crisis: Human Values and Urban Development" was the focus of the November 29 Junior League - Meredith College Community Forum Series. Dr. John T. Young, professor of philosophy at Davidson College, presented the keynote speech.

Dr. Elizabeth Koontz, assistant State Superintendent of Teacher Education, and Dr. Ellen Winston, former professor of economics as well as former United States Commissioner of Welfare, acted as discussants following Dr. Young's address.

Beginning with a comical story about "sweet Aunt Maud" whose neighborhood grew too much and too quickly, Young set the scene for urban crisis. Aunt Maud, he said, was symbolic of the city.

Dr. Young, continuing in a humorous note, related an anecdote of his experience with the urban problems. He told of being sent to check the car tires every 15 minutes while visiting an aunt in the Bronx.

He was also amazed by a small child's foul language, which he described as being worse than any sailor would ever use. These things, he said, are a result of the city in crisis.

Some perspective in the situation might be gained through history, Dr. Young explained. Through time, he

said, cities have been known for their degradation.

Genesis has tales of cities which were "dens of iniquity," he explained. Roman poets, he added, tell of the filthy, unhygienic cities where trash was thrown out windows into the streets for lack of sanitation facilities. Egyptian cities and great structures that were built at the great expense of human lives was another example he gave. There has been a history, said Young, of fleeing the cities for a more virtuous rural life.

On the other hand, he continued, there are many that believe that the quality of life is better in the cities. There arts can flourish because of the urban economics basis.

Dr. Young expressed the belief that Americans are more aware of immigration than the influx of rurals to cities. We gracefully took immigrants into our society, he said. Why can't we do the same in urban areas? he added.

Dr. Young went on to outline the problems of improving the quality of life in the midst of urban crisis. There is first a great deal of fragmentation - many groups of people of various interests and backgrounds. Secondly, cities are more diversified than rural communities. For example, in rural area the economic basis might all be

dependent on cattle-production; therefore, familiarity and co-operation develops in the community where everyone is economically tied. In cities,

however, there are no close ties with clientele because people are not all economically dependent.

Dr. Young advised his audience not to look to the

past, but to try to push forward. Any city, he said, should exist for all the people in it. We must foresee rationally and plan rationally, he concluded.

Newsbriefs

RSW FUNDS

According to Sarah Lemmon, chairman of the Raising the Sights of Women committee, (RSW) six organizations have requested financial aid through RSW since applications have been made available.

Among the groups is Dr. Thomas Parramore's American history class, which wishes financing for publication of a magazine they are compiling.

Another organization in this general subject area, the Meredith delegation to the North Carolina Student Legislature, has asked for aid to attend the N.C.S.L. general session here in Raleigh in March.

The Psychology Club is requesting aid for two separate projects: one to provide for a speaker for the Carolinas Psychology Conference here at Meredith and the other to finance a delegation to the National Psychology Conference in Philadelphia.

Students in the National

Art Education Association also wish RSW to fund a trip to their conference in Philadelphia.

The music department is asking for financial aid to have an alumna recital here on campus. The Renaissance Singers are requesting money to have a woman composer come to the Raleigh area.

Lastly, the math department and mathematics majors have asked for RSW to fund their proposal to have a woman mathematician come to Meredith.

Tryouts Announced For "Come Blow Your Horn"

Mrs. Nancy Truesdale announced tryouts for the spring semester production of Neal Simon's "Come Blow Your Horn." The tryouts will be held January 10 and 11 at 7 p.m. in Jones Auditorium. Production dates are set for the last weekend in February and rehearsals will be concentrated between these dates.

Three major female parts and three major male parts constitute the cast along with

many openings in the backstage production company. Anyone interested in set construction, make-up, costuming, and publicity is asked to contact Mrs. Truesdale and students are urged to tryout for the acting roles.

Phi Alpha Theta - Williamsburg Trip

Six members of the Meredith chapter of Phi Alpha Theta visited Williamsburg, Va. recently on a weekend trip.

The group of history or political studies majors toured Colonial Williamsburg, seeing the Governor's Palace, Weatherburn's Tavern, Bruton Parish Church and many other eighteenth century buildings in the restored area.

Members of the Williamsburg chapter of the Meredith Alumnae Association provided housing and Virginia hospitality for the group and there was even time for reminiscing about Meredith's history department.