

# EDITORIAL

## Someone Could Get Killed

### ARE SCHOOL CARS SAFE?

I had quite an experience returning to Montreat one Sunday night. The plane ride into the Asheville airport was eventful enough. But the ride back to MAC in a school car made the plane trip seem like a merry-go-round ride.

The Volkswagen bus had no brakes. That's right no brakes! The brake fluid was checked and it was discovered that there was no brake fluid present! Needless to say, someone could have been killed.

Upon checking into the matter I found that my experience was not so unique. It seems that Montreat has no system for regularly maintaining its school cars or seeing that they are in safe running order.

When a student driver discovers a malfunction, he may report it and something may be done. Usually nothing is done about the malfunction until the car becomes so bad that it will not run. Then someone from the maintenance department comes up and gets it.

Many other experiences comparable to mine have been reported to the Business Office to no avail. One of the V. W. buses which the tennis team was using to transport members to a match last spring, had a blowout. Upon examination, it was found that the tire had been worn down to the tube. This experience could have proven fatal just as mine could have.

After almost two months of complaining, a large hole in the floor of the back seat of the 1961 Chevrolet was finally repaired only after almost losing a student on the way to Mars Hill.

Another situation which might lead to accidents is the occasional over-crowding of buses. There seems to be an idea that there is always room for one more. One instance was reported before Christmas vacation in which eleven passengers besides the driver plus thirty odd pieces of luggage were crammed into one V. W. bus. Of course, each passenger was required to pay the full fare of three dollars. The total amounted to thirty-three dollars for a single trip to the airport. I'm not trying to say that I am concerned about the profit which is being made

## Should Chapel Be Required?

The students at Montreat do not count. If they did, they would not have to listen to sermons given during their weekly chapel. These sermons are often compounded of boring cliches and purely revered ideas of God. They are presented without resourcefulness or atmosphere; they maltreat Scripture in an effort to satisfy a personal obsession.

There is no excuse for some students being forced to submit to forty minutes of what might be termed "pious irrelevance" while they twitch in their seats. They should demand more out of their time at Montreat; they should seek answers to the questions which hammer within them.

In order to find these answers, the students should alert the administration to the inadequacy of the present system. In various ways the students previously have conveyed their feelings to the administration. Whether the administration saw the changes were necessary the result has been the formation of partially effective committees which have provided negligible improvements in Chapels.

The chapel attendance rule states simply that each student is allowed to miss only three chapel services each semester. This rule can be adhered to by the students while they ignore the implications of it. The student merely must attend, he does not have to participate. If the student does not wish to participate, he should turn his back to the speaker. He should read, play cards, study for the third period test, or whatever, while the participants sing and pray. The students should relax and disregard what is going on around them, as sometimes the administration does.

as much as I am about the safety of the passengers.

With all these incidents and many more which space does not allow to be printed, it is obvious that with the safety of Montreat students at stake the school should immediately look into the whole matter of student cars.

# Letters To The Editor

Dear Editor:

In last week's *Dialette* (Feb. 23, 1968), Mr. Joe Pothier's letter to the Editor on the policy of Lookout Lodge was one of the worst examples of factual presentations I have ever read. The reason for this is that the author, Mr. Pothier, was using the newspaper for personal revenge and what he said was so irresponsible that all this writer can say is that the author went out of his way to put his foot in his mouth.

Regarding Mr. Pothier's complaint about receiving five demerits for missing a dorm meeting: the simple fact is that Mr. Pothier had been the only resident of Lookout Lodge on whom this punishment had to be used. Mr. Pothier cannot say that the council was being unreasonable because he had missed two prior meetings and had been excused graciously by the President of Lookout Lodge at those times.

The idea that the boys of Lookout Lodge must pay 80 cents for the door damage is to insure that the men of Lookout Lodge will not have their room-damage money taken away. The reason also is that it is best to help the majority rather than worry with the minority as in the case of Mr. Pothier.

All the information that Mr. Pothier seems to know about should be given to Lookout Dorm Council and not written in an irresponsible way in the school newspaper. The dorm council would have been pleased to hear Mr. Pothier's complaints if only he had thought to tell the full dorm Council rather than to tell separate members of the Council in a non-chalant manner. In relation to Mr. Pothier's many complaints about school regulations, he should go to the S.G.A., and tell them the problem rather than write a letter to the Editor for the only reason of trying to make himself seem like such an important member of the college community.

Mr. Pothier's reference to why Lookout Lodge is an exception to the rule is obvious for all that are serious and reasonable. The dorm as a whole at the beginning was one of the least responsible on campus. This was because some members of Lookout Lodge (Mr. Pothier mainly) did not take the rules and regulations seriously and felt that they did not have to follow the rules; they make themselves an exception.

Speaking of rules, why is it that Mr. Pothier dumped his trash on the roof of Lookout Lodge rather than walk 20 feet and dump the trash? Mr. Pothier has also the nerve to pay \$2 to a fellow member of Lookout Lodge to clean the roof and then turn around and brag about what he did. This kind of irresponsible action could be one reason why a new dorm council was set up.

I am very happy to note that Mr. Pothier has regained his sight after his unfortunate accident when he ran into a tree. It is amazing to me that Mr. Pothier's sight has not gotten any better as evidence shows from the way in which he cannot clearly see the issues.

The reports coming to me seem to indicate that Lookout Lodge is doing very well even though Mr. Pothier is not happy with the situation there.

Mr. Pothier might also explain to people how he knows so much about the rules and regulations since he fails to go to any dorm meetings (except the one which he childishly

## Let's Reach A

## "Happy Medium"

Dear Editor:

During the last few years much has been said about police brutality in many cities throughout the United States. These outcries are usually heard when peoples rights are infringed upon. I submit that police brutality would be much better than the incompetence or at least indifference that the students of Montreat-Anderson have to deal with.

We are told that the Police Department is a separate institution from the College, but warning tickets, parking tickets, and even thefts are acted on by the College and specifically the Dean of Students. The Police Department has, on several occasions, taken orders from the school rather than the Chief of Police.

Recently a theft was reported to the Police, and the victim of the theft was told to talk to Dean Kester. One can hardly wonder what would have happened if the theft had been reported by one of the residents of Montreat rather than by a student. Or even more stimulating, if the theft had been a large sum of money rather than an inexpensive item taken from a car.

It would also seem apparent that the Mayor of our town would step in and make a distinction between the town and the college. However, our Mayor may be somewhat confused as to what the difference is. This could stem from his dual positions as Mayor and President of the College.

As this letter is written, I still hope that a "happy medium" can be reached. A sense of realism invades my mind, however, and I seriously doubt if a remedy to this situation can be readily found.

Respectfully submitted,  
TERRY GRICE, Student.

Dear Editor:

Complaints about the food, the number of people who cut in front of the line for seconds is surprising to me. I can understand the complaints; college students everywhere seem to need something to eat, and most of them pick on the food.

What I can't understand is why people who have already had a chance to eat should hold up others who have classes to go to or who have stood in line patiently only to have five or six people cut in front for seconds. This sometimes entails waiting again until more food is ready to be served. If you have already stood for 15 minutes, the extra five needed to refill the steam table can seem like eternity. I would very much like to see the people who want seconds have to go to the end of the line.

ARLENE MONTNEY.

stomped out in the middle.) This action should seriously indicate that he is not well-informed on the rules and regulations and he is expressing only very prejudice views because he feels that he should have power in Lookout Lodge. The single fact is that Mr. Pothier is far too irresponsible to have any position of such importance.

Mr. Pothier has asked the question of why the dorm is an exception, but the fact stands that the only exception appears to be Mr. Pothier.

Bill Jones.

# THE DIALETTE

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