

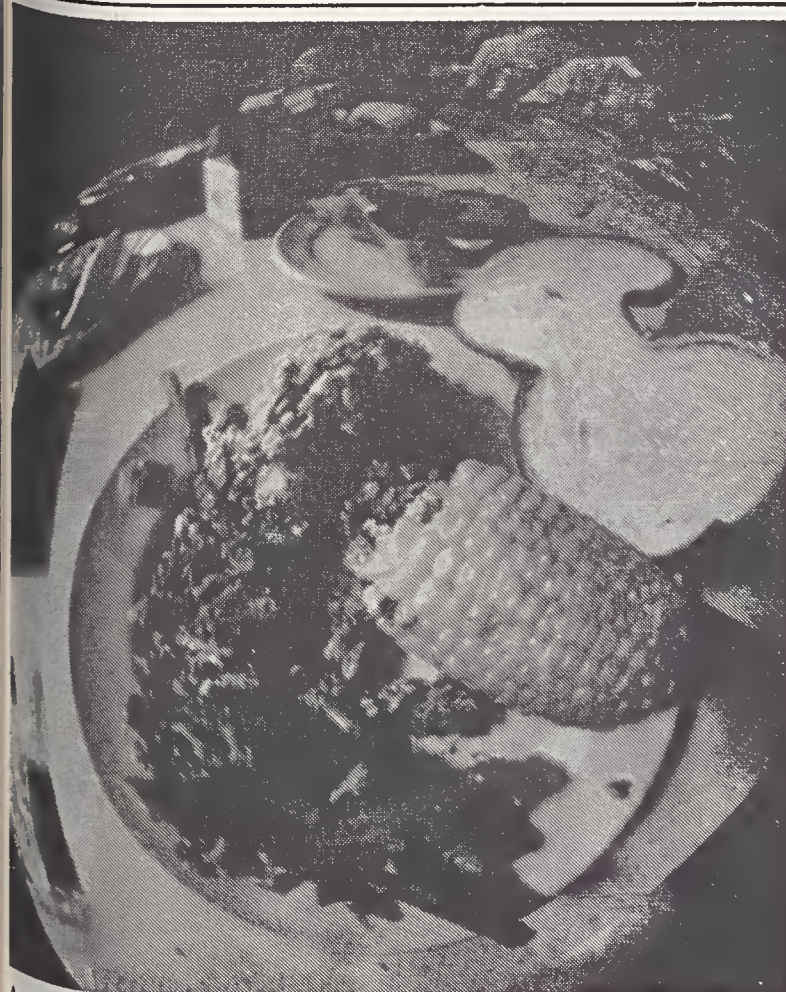


Hilltop

"WE HAVE MET THE ENEMY AND HE IS US."

Pogo

(See editorials, page 2.)



A real gut-level experience? A Food Committee, consisting of members of the student body, faculty, and administration has been appointed to study food services at the request of Student Government Association. (See adjacent story.)

Cafeteria Mess Boils Over

by John Ulmer

The rise in complaints over food preparation and cafeteria service at Mars Hill College levelled off to a comfortable plateau last Monday with the establishment of a Food Committee and promises of better food from both the administration and Student Government Association.

The Food Committee was created after Danny Ray, SGA President, discussed both major and minor grievances against the cafeteria with Dr. Fred Bentley, college president. The committee, consisting of six students, Ray, Dobby Charlton, Jeanne Bowen, Randy Phillips, Janet Lester, and David Gelber, two members of the faculty and two members of the administration, will be responsible for submitting to Dr. Bentley and President Ray a detailed report with conclusions as to the best possible means of bettering the quality of food purchased, the preparation of food, and cafeteria service. The report is due in two weeks and the committee's recommendations must be accepted by both Dr. Bentley and President Ray before any actions on those recommendations are taken.

The college employed the services of a professional consultant in the field of institutional food management—a dietician from the University of Alabama at Tuscaloosa. The results of the consultant's report will be incorporated into the final recommendations of the Food Committee.

Discontent with cafeteria service has infiltrated every student circle—from SGA legislators to football players to usual apathetics. The linkings from two possessions dear to most MHC students—stomachs and pocketbooks—have received undo irritation, according to students' complaints in Senate discussions, dorm rooms, and the crowded Slop Shop.

Interested in an understanding of the issue based on further clarification, the Hilltop sponsored a random poll concerning the issue for on-campus students. The poll, which went out to 309 students, was carried out in each dormitory and cottage. Results of the poll reflect the opinions of 20.6 percent of the student body. They are as follows:

- How would you rate the preparation of food in the cafeteria?
 - A. Very good 0%
 - B. Good 7.3%
 - C. Mediocre 30.5%
 - D. Poor 36.5%
 - E. Very poor 25.2%
- .6% of those polled did not respond to this question
2. How would you rate the efficiency of cafeteria service?
 - A. Very good 2.5%
 - B. Good 21.5%
 - C. Mediocre 29%
 - D. Poor 26.5%
 - E. Very poor 19.5%
3. Would you rather the college program funds for:
 - A. improving the physical appearance of the cafeteria .5%
 - B. improving the quality of

- food purchased 99.5%
- 4. Approximately, how many meals per week do you eat in the cafeteria?
 - A. 1-5 meals 11%
 - B. 6-10 meals 23%
 - C. 11-16 meals 27%
 - D. 17-21 meals 39%

5. Do you believe that payment for meals should be a mandatory college fee?
 - A. Yes 3%
 - B. No 97%
- (All students who responded negatively to question 5 were asked to (Continued on page Three))

Select-a-Service Seeks Aid

by Linda Baldwin

According to some, giving a damn is never as effective as giving one's self. Perhaps an awareness of this philosophy, boosted by a bit of imagination concerning the possible practical applications of this philosophy, was the motivating factor in the establishment of the new Volunteer Services Program. The program, which coordinates all student volunteer services, is co-sponsored by Student Government Association and the Community Development Institute.

Danny Ray, president of SGA, developed the idea of the program and presented a proposal for it to the Executive Committee of the Service-Learning Board, chaired by Dr. Richard Hoffman, Vice President in Charge of Academic Affairs. The proposal was accepted and the program became operative late last month.

Donna Vaughn, a junior majoring in elementary education, has been appointed Director of the program. Assistant Director is Perry Springfield, a junior majoring in math. Faculty advisor is Mr. George Peery of the political science-sociology department; he will act as a communications channel between the pro-

gram and the Service-Learning Board. The Board acts in a policy-making capacity for all service-learning endeavors sponsored by Mars Hill College.

The program, at present, sponsors several art and music lessons in communities throughout Madison County and plans to extend these services to Buncombe and Yancey Counties.

Projected service programs include the establishment of a "buddy system" for youth in the Swannanoa Juvenile Detention Center and the establishment of a tutor training corps. The latter would, using local tutor expertise, train high school students in the three-county area to tutor younger pupils.

Efforts have already begun to provide voluntary student assistance to a tutorial program coordinated by Harry Quiet and sponsored by Asheville area churches.

The limitations to this program will be determined by the imaginations and donated time and efforts of students. Anyone interested in volunteering ideas or time to the program should call Donna or Perry at 689-1127 or go by to see them any weekday afternoon in Room 209 of the Office Building.



Donna Vaughn and Perry Springfield

Desert War's Heat High, Crisis Blisters Peace Hopes

Editor's note: The political implications of the power vacuum left in the Arab world by the recent death of Egypt's President Gamal Abdel Nasser are being speculated in capital buildings, classrooms, and streets around the world. The following article, written by Keith Clark shortly before Nasser's death, and printed in The Appalachian, offers stimulating arguments for the world's careful attention to the political development of the Middle East.

Even as the guns fall silent, the ten days of civil war in Jordan should be an incentive for careful reflection in international relations generally and the Middle East particularly.

One may recall that he heard little from the United Nations lately, particularly during the Jordanian crisis. Although Syria violated the U.N. charter and although the interests of the superpowers dictated a cessation of hostilities, the United Nations played no major role. This is just the latest indication that the world organization is little more than a diplomatic club.

Indications were that the Soviet Union had little initial success in persuading Syria to cease military support of the Arabs. This could mean that loss of the United States influence is in part related to greater independent, nationalist sentiment among smaller nations, particularly in the Middle East.

Although they seek the fruits of the cold war, they will not give much in return and seek their own gain in playing East against West and vice versa. The President's intention to sup-

ply Jordan with military supplies is enlightening in several respects. First of all, it points to the relatively weak military posture of the Arabs, contrary to what the pro-Jewish lobby would have us believe. Secondly, it demonstrates the fear which the U.S. has of the Palestinian commandoes; clearly the administration wants very much to see Western-oriented leaders like Hussein remain in power.

Finally, it shows that the U.S. has as great, if not greater, interest in the stability of the Arab world as in the preservation of Israel.

With this in mind perhaps a reversal of the Fulbright proposal might be far less "way out" than it sounds: Force Israel to withdraw to its 1967 borders and then guarantee the territorial integrity of the Arabs as long as they respect Israel's border.

Again we have evidence that no easy solution, if any solution at all, is anywhere in the future. Even a proposal that would please Nasser would do little to quiet matters as long as Palestinians are barred from their homeland.

Likewise, we see that about all the Arabs have in common is fear and resentment of Israel; abolish Israel and they would then turn at each other's throat.

The over-riding, long range lesson of the Middle East problem is slowly emerging. Unnatural imposition of a government contrary to normal criteria of national development, so common in the present century, is not conducive to world peace. And all Nixon's ships and all Kosygin's missiles can't make it any other way.