

Dr. L. Worth Seagondollar Speaks On The Implications Of The 'Atomic Age'

journal photo by dean hubbard



Dr. L. Worth Seagondollar, chairman of the Department of Physics at North Carolina State University, gave an informal talk in the Denny Building on Tuesday evening, November 12.

His topic was his work in estimating the size of critical mass of 92-Plutonium-239 necessary to sustain a continuous nuclear reaction, a vital step in the development of the first atomic weapon and some of his experiences related to the 'Manhattan Project'.

Dr. Seagondollar described how he first came to work for the government in the Spring of 1944, how he became an integral part of one of the many teams of physicists involved in research for the War Department at that time, his experiences at the Alamogordo testing site in New Mexico, and his impressions as an eyewitness to the first detonation of the

atomic bomb.

he also voiced his opinion as to the necessity of the 'bomb's use in ending World War II, suggesting that in the long run more lives were saved by an early end to the war than would have been should a full invasion of Japan taken place. Although this controversy is still debated, and while there are as many diverse opinions of the event as there are experts in the field, Dr. Seagondollar's special position of being able to relate, first hand, many of the details and stories surrounding those months and says that marked man's entrance into the 'Atomic Age' proved to be nothing short of fascinating to the audience. We were able to feel what it was like to be roaming the New Mexican mountains hours before the blast to complete some final experiments and to gather some last minute

by douglas m. lerner

information; we heard how possible fatal mishaps had been narrowly avoided and what it was like working in a compound that might have to be evacuated at any moment (nobody really knew how large the blast would actually be); and we were told what it was like contending and working with one of the largest bureaucracies in the world.

While this was not meant to be a technical lecture delving into the physics behind an atomic explosion, I feel that most of us gained some insight into how great discoveries are found and developed, an idea of the amount and type of work involved, and what it is like to work as a scientist within a government operation. Dr. Seagondollar's talk remains of interest to many areas of the university community, in both its historical an physical context.

Dorm Students Boycott Servomation

by susan sluss

Servomation Incorp., whose responsibility it is to provide not only adequate but appealing meals for resident students of UNCC has been brought under severe criticism by the student body which resulted in a boyco. The boycott, which was held Thursday, November 7, was initiated by the R.A.'s of Moore Dorm. David Dorries, Food Service Director said 1400 students usually eat supper on Thursday nights, but on boycott night, approximately 1100 students ate.

When asked the purpose of the boycott, Jim Sledge, R.A. on the 4th floor of Moore said, "We the R.A.'s of Moore Dorm are under the opinion that the

general quality of the food and service from Servomation does not meet minimum standards as designed by the 1973-74 Food Committee."

Commander Chuck Colby, Resident Counselor for Moore Dorm said he felt the reasons behind the boycott varied with the individual, but all thought something needed to be done to show the administration that students here are not happy with servomation.

When asked what he thought the purpose of the boycott was, David Dorries said "I have no real idea. No one came to me. They should have come to me and told me what was wrong, given me a list of

complaints, and if I didn't at least try to solve the problems, then they would have a right to boycott". Mr. Dorries added, "Everything could have been handled by a simple meeting".

A list of complaints containing the R.A.'s grievances plus those collected from the Student Media was given to Residence Director Chuck Lynch. A meeting is planned for Friday between Servomation officials and the R.A.'s of Moore to discuss the complaints and work out the grievances.

Mr. Sledge said that Servomation can produce good food, they've proved that, but as a general rule they are not up to par. He's not suggesting they

spend more money, but take more pride in what they produce.

According to the Minimum Performance Guidelines, Servomation is to maintain a three (3) week cycle of menus, they are nto to serve the same meal in a three week period. Many students complain that the same food is served day after day, for example chicken and fish, and that variety is inadequate. Food Service Director Dorries broke down the three week cycle into 63 meals being served without any repetition. He asks for anyone who can produce a menu for 63 meals without any item being

used twice to please turn it into him.

Dorries said, "I feel we're doing a good job for the money - regardless of the money, I feel like we're doing a good job. We offer variety and quality food. I feel most people who were here last year feel we've improved this year".

Servomation Incorp., which has been with UNCC since April, 1972, has a three-year contract with a stipulation stating that it can be broken by either party at the end of an academic year with a 60-day notice. Servomation is paid \$1.69 per day, per student.

Parrish Concerned About Media Space Problems

by michael evans

Student Media Board's meeting of November 18, 1974 was highlighted by the cooperative actions of Vern Parrish as related to the Board by Chairman Steve Morris.

Morris told the Board that Parrish wanted to have a meeting with the editors of the three publications and the station manager of WVFN to find out where the space problems lie in the Media. Parrish, prompted by a letter received from Donna Hoover describing the present space

conditions, told Morris that he would see what could be done to provide the needed space for the Media.

Parrish also has agreed to pay one half of the total price for new combination locks on the Media facilities. No one has yet taken Parrish up on the offer.

In the Media reports, Joe McCorkle of Sanskrit told the Board that the arts magazine would go to the press over Thanksgiving. He added that Tuesday November 26 was the

publication's deadline. The magazine should be out sometime during the exam period.

Dick Wyzanski presented the WVFN report. Wyzanski said the Chancellor accepted the station's proposal for FM. The Chancellor sent a letter to the Student Broadcasting Association (SBA) stating that an engineer could be hired. Wyzanski added that he is now in the process of filling out the applications. The station has

decided to transfer the ownership of the station to the Board of Trustees for legal reasons. The application should be sent in by December 15 and the FCC should approve the request by March 1.

Wyzanski said the carrier-current station was going well. The station will run until the last day of classes and begin full swing again at the first of January. Wyzanski said the FM station was going to purchase stereo equipment as it would

make the operation cheaper in the long run.

Ben Barnes, the Darkroom Coordinator, gave the Darkroom report. Barnes said \$150 had been spent on badly needed equipment. He added that the other \$150 was not going to be spent until the second semester unless there was an emergency. The locks are also being changed on the darkroom. The keys will be distributed to each staff, to the darkroom coordinator and the Media Board Chairman.

THE JOURNAL