

'Moving Out Of The Dorm;' May Lead To Liberalized Regulations

Our friend at MEP tells us that the women over there in sororities are afraid the university is trying to destroy their organizations. This is very interesting in view of the fact that the university wants them to build a common pan-Hellenic house. This common-house would be apart from the regular dormitory space and would be a refuge for tired coeds from the stresses of close quarters in the dorm.

The very idea that the university should be thinking about allowing the greek coed to move out of the parental control of the dorm is unpalatable to many. But this indigestion over the university's suggestion seems silly. It won't destroy the sorority system but should make it stronger.

If a greek coed wants to live with a "sister" or wants to live on a floor predominantly filled with "sisters" then this will still be possible. The fraternities have not maintained suites in the dorm for some time now but the various groups still find ways of living on the

same floors together and rooming together. The only difference is that the formal organizations of the coed dorm sorority suites will be eliminated.

The university will finally be out of the sorority business and into the business of providing living quarters for students. Those students that feel there is discrimination in the coed dorms are correct. The discrimination is in the fact that the sororities by paying the university a rent can set aside a certain floor and maintain a suite on that floor.

With a common house the sororities would have individual floors and actually much more room for recreation and meetings. With the common-house the dorms would have space and university provided facilities for relaxation and recreation. The end result would be the strengthening of the sorority system and a sign of good-will to the university.

This sign of good will would be a tremendous bargaining lever for the women to use in obtaining vastly liberalized rules under the new code

of conduct that the Student Government Association will probably begin drafting in earnest this winter and that should be ready for use next fall.

With liberalized hours and the elimination of the sign-in—sign-out procedures the greek coeds could enjoy the common-house for study and recreation at any time of the day or night.

The idea of being walled in is anathema to the male student and should be anathema to the coed. So why should the Greek coed insist that her sorority activity and sorority life be walled in also. Consider the advantages of freedom of movement and the ability to study late in an area not infested with the anti-like dorm life of MEP.

The merits of a common-house far outweigh the advantages of suite life especially when viewed in the context of liberalized regulations and the implicit notion of organizational responsibility that is part and parcel of the notion of "moving out of the dorm."

By Tom Cauthorn

Amortization-Poor Food

Quite recently I ate at the Wesleyan College dining hall, and much to my surprise the food was not merely good but was excellent.

After finishing the meal I remembered that two years ago there was talk here of getting a national food service to run the Mercer Cafeteria. That idea was buried under tons of statistics from the administration; a few carpets were put down and Mr. Krakow was hired as the director of food service. He has vastly improved the fare in the MU cafeteria but the student still expects more for his dollars.

The business office recently stated that the money is sufficient and the food purchased in the cafeteria is of a high enough quality but that the equipment is of poor quality and the university does not have the available funds to replace the worn stoves, etc. This admission by the university does not stack up very well against what the business experts of the university told the 1968 Waverly Conference of student leaders. At that time it was understood that the auxiliary enterprises (Cafeteria, Co-op, Bookstore, Post Office) have in their budgets an allowance for the depletion of equipment and its replacement. The university deducts for this depletion in the income from these enterprises but now says that the funds are not available.

It would seem even to

the dullest observer that the university is providing for the amortization of this equipment in its statement on these facilities but that a commensurate amount of money to correspond to this deduction is not kept in the enterprise budget to replace the equipment.

It seems that the auxiliary enterprises of the university are being bled white for some other sectors of the university. If this is the case, it is not a very healthy fiscal policy to maintain.

If the equipment cannot be maintained then it would seem that some food service like SLATER, which is at Wesleyan, would be the answer. They would pay for the use of the kitchens and the university would then be forced through contractual procedures to maintain the equipment and replace it when needed. The meal ticket would cost about \$15 more per quarter but then it would be worth more.

That meal which I so enjoyed was a fare of cornish hens, green beans, almondine, saffron rice, rolls, salad and a dessert of nut tort pie made in their own kitchens. It did not taste like it had been made for 700 people but rather had that home-made flavor that comes when things are home cooked. The Mercer Cafeteria, even at its most sumptuous moments, has never come up with what is the normal fare of the SLATER people at Wesleyan.

Plymales Leave Rich Heritage In Death

Mrs. Helen Bruner Plymale and Dr. Riley B. Plymale, both former members of Mercer's faculty died during the month of November here in Macon.

Mrs. Plymale, who died November 7th in her home, was a native of Baltimore, Md., and had lived here since 1943. She was an associate professor of English at Mercer from 1943 until retirement in 1966.

Mrs. Plymale received her A.B. degree in English in 1918 from Bessie Tift College in Forsyth and the M.A. degree in English from Columbia University in 1929. She also attended Chicago University.

She taught history from 1918 to 1923 at Locust Grove Institute and was teacher of English and dean of women at Tift College from 1923 to 1927. She was the author of "Historical Sketch of Mercer University" which was published in the Southern Association Quarterly in November of 1946.

Her husband, Dr. Riley Plymale, who died on November 26th, ended a 53 year teaching career when he retired as a professor of mathematics at Mercer in 1966.

He began teaching at Cyrene Institute in 1913, served a year in the U. S. Army in 1914 and moved to Locust Grove Institute

in 1915, where he served as headmaster, commandant, treasurer and teacher until he came to Mercer in 1925.

He transferred to Tift College as dean in 1928 and resigned this post in 1942 to return to Mercer, where he taught until his retirement.

The Plymales dedicated their lives to serving the education of Georgia youth and it is for this complex, and at the same time, simple devotion that they will be remembered by those whose lives they touched. Their joint careers spanned more than a century of teaching as they lived and taught at first separately and then together.

Final Exam. Schedule

Wednesday, Dec. 11, 1968

9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon
All 3rd period classes
2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
All 5th, 7th & 8th per. classes
7:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.
All 9A period classes

Thursday, Dec. 12, 1968

9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon
All 1st period classes
2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
All 2nd period classes
7:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.
All 9B period classes

Friday, Dec. 13, 1968

9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon
All 4th period classes
2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
All 6th period classes

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Letter To The Editor

Dear Editor:

This letter pertains to the validity of an unsigned article in the November 22 Cluster entitled "SGA Stimulates Student Involvement; Food Services Quality Investigated; Board to Oversee Auxiliary." The article should have been titled "Student Involvement stimulates SGA." Action on both the food and library issues was started and has been pushed forward by students, not the SGA. Credit is not being placed where it should.

It is stated that Van Hale and later Allen Wallace and "concerned students" presented grievances against the cafeteria. I would like to inform you that Mr. Hale did arouse SGA concern but has done little beyond that. The majority of the work for better service and food has been done by four people, Dean Doughty, Tim Page, Gary Smithy, (whose names just happen to have been spelled

wrong), and before the SGA ever appointed a food committee. They were instrumental in getting the food petition signed. They sat at tables outside the cafeteria for hours getting names on those petitions. These four people spent much valuable time meeting with Mr. Krakow and Mr. Haywood, calling wholesale houses getting food prices, and inspecting the cafeteria and kitchen.

At times they have had to talk some students out of throwing food in the cafeteria. They should also be thanked for Mr. Krakow's brilliant idea of a soup and sandwich line. These people have been working for the good of the student body, not for themselves, and should receive the credit they deserve.

Sincerely,
Jan S. Cochran

