

## **TIMELINE (#16C)**

### **DINNER SANS NECKTIE INCIDENT**

#### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

1. A West Quadrangle requirement was that each male student must wear a coat and tie for dinner in the dining halls. This was strictly enforced at each dining hall entrance. This requirement is illustrated in the photograph entitled "*West Quadrangle Dining Room - Michigan & Lloyd Houses*" in the website below. Although undated, the clothing styles indicate that the photo was taken at about the time I lived there.

<http://umhistory.dc.umich.edu/mort/central/west%20of%20state/West%20Quad/index.html>

2. A student organization known as "West Quad Hall Council" was in operation. Their current mission stated:

*As residents of West Quad Hall, we seek to further our education outside the classroom, promote citizenship among our fellow residents, advance effective and efficient student government, and to administer the needs and desires of the residents.*

3. The incident below occurred during my sophomore year while I was living in Lloyd House, West Quad, and within a year of the infamous "Butyric Acid Escapade," as detailed in Timeline (#16B).

#### **INCIDENT**

1. I came to dinner one evening wearing my usual sport coat and clip-on bowtie with my usual Lloyd House buddies. They included Bruce Fox (Assistant Residence Advisor and starting player on the U of M baseball team).

2. For some obscure reason I did something unthinkable; I unclipped and removed my bowtie. This act was so insignificant that none of my tablemates noticed it or mentioned it.

3. However, somebody noticed the missing tie and reported me.

4. Within a day or 2, I was hauled before the West Quad Hall Council in the basement. Although comprised of students, the atmosphere was deadly serious. I was tried by this quasi-court and admitted to removing my necktie during the specified dinner.

5. Having my school record in front of them, they soon coupled this incident with the "Butyric Acid Escapade" and realized that they were dealing with a habitual criminal.

6. Finally, they asked me if I had anything to say for myself and my exact response was: "I think not."

7. They said that I should return after dinner for sentencing. We adjourned and dined separately in the dining hall. I did not remove my necktie.

8. I thought my penalty might be as severe as suspension from school or a stern letter to my parents.
9. My actual penalty was: **Relocation from Lloyd House to Adams House.** Apparently, they thought I was a bad influence on Lloyd House and vice-versa. (Adams House was adjacent to Chicago House which was adjacent to Lloyd House.)
10. I wondered how I would explain this relocation to my parents without admitting that I was a common criminal.
11. This judgment was immediately (the next day) appealed by Lloyd's Assistant Resident Advisor Bruce Fox. His flowery words convinced the West Quad Hall Council that I would mend my evil ways.
12. They reversed their decision and allowed me to remain in Lloyd House.
13. I lived in Lloyd House for at least another year.