

# INTEROFFICE MEMO

Bennington College

To Miss Foresman, Miss Jones, Mr. Jones

Date 10.21.41

From Hildegard Peplau R. N. Re: Glassware in kitchen and dining rooms.

I realize that the Health Committee is dealing with the problem. However, I think that the glassware that has been exploding ad lib during the past year must not be used. The college could be sued for a considerable sum for the loss of an eye if a sliver penetrates the eyeball of a student. The Insurance company would be very irate, I am sure, if they knew that the proper precautions for employee safety were disregarded. Complaints about this hazard to community safety have been numerous, accidents have continued to happen and the glassware is still in use. The employee injured this morning was indeed fortunate that the sliver of glass embedded itself in the mucous fold rather than in the eyeball. The many student who have been showered with glass, both from drinking glasses and soup dishes, were fortunate to have escaped so lightly. Eyes cannot be replaced. The measure of safety we offer at Bennington College could certainly be increased if we considered such items a personal responsibility.

I sound upset, I am. I should hate to be called upon to treat a student with a sliver of glass embedded in an eyeball. The incident this morning comes closer to this possibility than is good for my mental comfort.