

# SAM MOORE FURNITURE INDUSTRIES

JOHN K. BOARDMAN, JR.  
PRESIDENT

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BEDFORD, VIRGINIA 24523  
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November 23, 1983

Dr. John D. Wilson  
President  
Washington and Lee University  
Lexington, Virginia 24450

Dear John:

Thank you for sending me an advance copy of your paper discussing coeducation at Washington and Lee.

It is a clear and studied analysis of the situation that defines the problems and addresses all of the issues, yet carefully avoids creating an atmosphere of panic. Your deference to the traditions and history of W & L is both considerate and thoughtful.

Not long ago I mentioned these deliberations to the president of another college here in Virginia and he said he did not feel it was "the answer to W & L's problem". By both his attitude and the way he worded his response I knew right then you were on the right track. It was clear he realized that at present we were not competing for his best new students, but if we became coed, we would be.

John, I feel it is the right move at the right time for Washington and Lee and I will support it in any way I can. Please let me know how I can help.

Kindest personal regards and best wishes for a joyous Holiday Season.

Cordially yours,



November 30, 1983

Mr. John K. Boardman, Jr.  
President  
Sam Moore Furniture Industries  
[REDACTED]  
Bedford, Virginia 24523

Dear John:

Thanks for your note. It is most helpful to have your view to share with the Board.

I think the people at Davidson have concluded that if we admit women we will "once again be in competition" with them. Sam Spencer has passed this along to me. I think Norma Fintel, an old friend, also hopes we will not.

Whatever we do, we must protect our ability to choose our class with care. We have always been selective, choosing various talents from a broad geographic spread. I do hope we do not lose this special character. It makes us the respected national institution we have become over the years.

Anyway, John, thanks very much for your helpful observations. They will be most useful to the Board.

Sincerely,

John D. Wilson  
President

JDW/bcb

bcc: Mr. Hotchkiss w/enclosure ,