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The Bardian



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The Bardian

Official publication of the students of Bard College,
Annandale-on-Hudson.

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EDITORIAL

Despite a dynamic first hand report by a man who should know, a number of us at Bard seem very reluctant to acknowledge the hunger which is becoming the despair and deathly fear of the peoples of Europe. Apparently last weekend we were too busy with our thoughts of progressive educational policies and a champagne dance to give Herbert Lehman's idea much more than a passing thought.

"I make a plea for support of the Marshall plan and for immediate substantial economic assistance to war-ravaged countries of Europe . . . We must act quickly . . . If we do not act promptly I am afraid there will be chaos in all Europe . . . There will be tragic hunger, cold, unemployment and serious social and political unrest." These were Mr. Lehman's words.

The amount of animal fodder which Mrs. Smith sells to the neighboring farmers indicates that Lehman was all wet.

It has come as a startling surprise to a number of Bard students to learn that anyone in Europe is even thinking of starving. The war was over two years ago. Anyway, UNNRA takes care of that sort of thing. Perhaps even more surprising in our sort of ivory tower is the news that Mr. Lehman was only echoing the sentiment in which President Truman several days previous had asked all the people of our country to assume a self imposed ration. And UNNRA is out of business—bankrupt.

The repercussion of the Community Council's decision to comply with President Truman's re-

quest is something of which we can scarcely be proud. If the grumbling was of our stomachs and not of the invalid idea that some great injustice was being imposed upon us, it would be a different story.

It may well be a disastrous thing for us to ignore this hunger plea from across the Atlantic. On numerous occasions we have used the ocean as an excuse. We were quite isolated in 1915 and again in 1939.

A very real way in which we can help is in the conservation of food in our dining commons. Food in the garbage can is waste. Let's see that it doesn't get there. And as our part of a nationwide movement, a meatless day and an eggless day are hardly unreasonable to ask—at least not after a little sober consideration.

The precedent which was set by last year's Community Council in requiring its candidates for member-at-large to make a public appearance prior to election day has proven of great worth. Those people who were chosen on this basis for the last Council were outstanding members. Tanny Polster and Jim Rosenau were both overlooked in the house president popularity poll, yet both were extremely beneficial in putting our community government in order.

Again in this year's election several very competent people have been appointed to the Council. This is primarily due to the fact that we could pick from among a number of candidates, each of whom was given the opportunity to brief us with his ideas.

It is a refreshing departure from the previous practice of watching the guy or gal with the most acquaintances be handed the electoral vote without any consideration of what interests or ideas he might profess.

However, in the selection of several of our community government representatives, the popularity theme is still in effect. House officer elections are largely made on this basis, as well as the appointment of division members to the E. P. C.

In view of our successful experience in promoting members-at-large of the Community Council, would it not be advisable for us to set into motion some device whereby all candidates for elective office would be chosen more on the premise of ability and availability than by reason of no good reason in particular?

By JOHN M. STEKETEE

MUSIC NOTES

PIANO CONCERT MR. GEORGE HADDAD

George Haddad, a Syrian-Canadian pianist, entertained the Bard Community with an evening concert on October 5. The program opened with three sonatas by Scarlatti. The performance revealed a certain technical incompetence. The **Chopin Sonata in B Minor** was probably most expressive, but was, none the less, laborious.

Mr. Haddad then played the **Estampes Suite** by Debussy, and two lesser-known works of Granados and Ravel, entitled **The Lady in the Lake** and **Albarado Del Brazioso**. This group highlighted the concert. These pieces did not demand as exacting a technique as the other works, and were, therefore, better received by the audience. Mr. Haddad, in these compositions, succeeded in showing some technical cleanliness.

A rather old rendition of the **Sonata in A Major** by Schubert followed a ten minute intermission. Three Syrian folk songs and a Syrian desert chant, special arrangements by Mr. Haddad, were charming but too elaborate—to much a showcase for these basically simple themes.

Strangeness of Heart by Harry Somers, was an interesting and well-rendered concluding number. In response to the warm applause, Mr. Haddad obliged with pieces by Aaron Copeland and Frederick Chopin.

Mr. Haddad has been performing in Canada, and will have his New York debut in Town Hall on October 18.

PROFILE

Bard's master of ceremonies, Mr. Frauenfelder, has a new claim to fame. He is now proprietor of a hideout for students who "want to be alone," the famed Frauenfelder's basement. Inhabited at present by Chick Steketee, it provides peace and quiet and the music of Marco Frauenfelder playing the piano at seven a. m.

"Uncle Willie" Frauenfelder is an enthusiastic Bard fan, a good teacher, and a talented Elsa Maxwell. He is known on campus for an interest in Bard which extends far beyond his duties as Professor of Spanish and German. It was he who originally thought of the "Freedom Weekend" which was sponsored by the Social Studies Club last year. Numerous campus committees count on him for help; his most recent appearances were as chairman of the Inauguration Committee and Marshal for the academic procession.

Next term Mr. Frauenfelder will get away from Bard problems and committee work when he goes to Europe on sabbatical leave. He wants to see for himself what has happened in Germany. He will do research on Goethe's influence in Spain.

David and Marco are practising their French so that they can go to school in Switzerland, and "the whole family is excited about it."

Mr. Frauenfelder came to America from Switzerland after the first World War. He finished high school in California, and entered Pomona College there.

"I left discouragement and many fears behind me when I came to the United States. The New World looked very exciting to me, in fact, it still does."

For generations there have been Frauenfelders teaching in Switzerland, and "Uncle Willie" followed in their footsteps. He decided to teach German because there was a demand for language teachers who were trained in American methods. He transferred to Columbia, and became an instructor there upon graduation. He now teaches Spanish as well as German. Post-graduate work followed at the University of Munich and the University of Basel. He came to Bard in 1934.

Bard education is one of Mr. Frauenfelder's favorite subjects. He especially likes the way languages are taught here. "It is extremely hard for an American student to really master a language under the artificial teaching conditions in our schools and colleges. In Europe a student learns a language because he knows he will use it. He can get on a train and be in a different language area within a few hours. This incentive is lacking in America where a hotdog is a hotdog from Maine to California."

Mr. Frauenfelder is pretty happy the way languages are taught at Bard. "No one is in class because he is required to take a language. Classes are small and informal which is a prime prerequisite for good language teaching and learning." In the last analysis, he thinks, a language should become the door to a better understanding of another civilization. "If we can break down language barriers between nations, a beginning is made for breaking down prejudices and superstitions. I should like to think that some good in this direction will come out of my teaching."

By PHILLIS ORAM

SENIOR PROJECTS

Realizing that it will take at least an Invasion from Mars or some similar catastrophe to prevent the Senior Project from becoming a reality, we have caught and cornered a few students in the Social Studies division who are at work on their projects. With pulmotor and benzedrine at hand, we asked them about that mysterious animal, the Senior Project.

Pushing aside numerous tomes and voluminous notes, Monty Scharf informed us that his project **Management and the Human Factor** will strike a

warning note to personnel departments. **Monty** feels that since Communistic and Fascistic states cater to the worker and employ such effective personnel plans, the United States, for like effectiveness, should institute a personnel plan. For his project, **Monty** has been able to capitalize on his field period work which placed him with the personnel department of the **Crucible Steel Company**. There, he was able to observe that little personal touches toward the worker increase production. (Attention B&G).

Marty Weiss has haunted the Congressional Library and the National Archives in connection with his project, **An Account of the First and Second Continental Congresses**. **Marty** is mainly concerned with the spectre of sectionalism and, on the basis of his research, shows that the majority of states voted in a like pattern during the era of the Congress. Incidentally, one of the popular myths that **Marty** will puncture is that the British surrender of Yorktown was the finale of the Revolutionary War.

On the more controversial side, **Jim Rosenau** has chosen **Nationalism as a Source of Twentieth Century Wars** for his project. His thesis traces the role of nationalism from World War I up to nationalism as a possible source of World War III. In the discussion of these varied possibilities **Jim** deals with the element of nationalism found in the United Nations veto and in the control of Atomic Energy. **Jim** spent last summer working at the American-Russian Institute . . . mmh! Nationalism as a source of twentieth century wars . . .

By PRIS ELLIS

ART EXHIBIT

Orient Gallery opened Friday, October 10, with an exhibit presenting the work of Mr. Stephan Hirsch, Mr. Harvey Fite and Mr. Richard Burns, all Fine Arts Division faculty members.

Mr. Hirsch has a number of oil paintings on exhibit. Two of the smaller oils titled **Sun Bird** and **Moon Bird** are delightfully fantasy. They are fresh and brilliantly colored, tenderly rendered with a piquant primitive charm. Probably the most important of Mr. Hirsch's work is **Old World Trilogy** composed of **Debut**, **Nuremburg** and **Death Survives**. **Nuremburg**, is a large, rich and masterfully composed painting of the medieval city in flames; it has an air of torment and chaos. The areas of flame burn with a vitalistic sense of futility. **Death Survives** is extremely interesting with a red-winged Angel of Death treading through suggestive cubistic ruins wearing a look of horror and despair at the ghostly remains. **Debut** is less interesting than the other two paintings of the trilogy. It shows an ugly

colored reddish-pink new-born babe held up by red hands; the child is seemingly born amid flame. Somewhere it misses the general tone of the rest of the trilogy.

Leaf Jungle and **Fern Jungle** are more delicately conceived than any of the other Hirsch paintings exhibited; they show a lovely "colorist" quality. Four other paintings and two studies for the imposing **Nuremburg** complete Mr. Hirsch's contribution.

Mr. Harvey Fite is represented with some excellent pieces in wood, stone and bronze. A beautifully carved seated mother and child is full of movement and contains an element of companionship or rather a sensitive feeling of love that is unusual. This figure and two torsos, male and female respectively, are the best of the carved wooden figures. An interesting stone madonna is simple in line and gains this interest by virtue of the fact that the stone itself must have suggested the figure. The stone was taken from a river bed, the water having eroded it to its present shape; the face and hand were then chisled into the stone, and the rest was left intact. An amusing camel and elephant are also in stone.

Three photos showing two completed figures and one in progress are part of a large project Mr. Fite has undertaken at his home near Woodstock, N. Y. This project is a virtual landscaping of part of Mr. Fite's grounds with great flagstone terraces and ramps with his sculpture exhibited in prominent places.

Richard Burns, a newcomer to the Bard staff, gives up a glimpse of his ability to capture the mood of a play in his renderings of scenic design. The luminous pastels for **Volpone** and the somber set for **The Trojan Women** show versatility and an ability to strike just the right chord with the design for the material at hand.

The humorous "Blithe Spirit" is seen with a new approach in a setting of whimsical sobriety. Burns' work for Theatre Design is altogether appealing and we hope to see more of it soon.

COUNCIL NOTES

There will be a special convocation held Saturday, October 25th, in connection with the presentation of a degree to Dr. Lyford Edwards.

Council would like to go on record thanking the members of the Orientation Committee, the Entertainment Committee, the Safety Committee, and everyone else on campus who helped out during this past week-end.

Dr. Fuller announced that if we keep on buying food at the same rate as we did in September, the end of the school year will find us 13,000 dollars in the hole. Council asked the Dining Hall Committee, newly formed, to see what it could do about cutting down waste and seeing us through this crisis. Food prices are way out of hand but let's

hope we can come through without a raise in board for the whole community.

On the agenda of Council there is a suggestion that Bard organize a placement bureau for graduates. This will be discussed at some future date.

CONTEMPORARY ANNANDALE-ON-HUDSON POLITICS

(With all due apologies to Mr. Bertelsmann)

With the advent of fall at Bard the males are getting their racoon coats out of the moth balls, while the females are doing the same with their mink-dyed muskrats. At the same time new blood is being injected into the political life of the college, both among the house presidents and the members of the E. P. C.

It is interesting to note the high mortality rate among house presidents. Only George (I'm from Pawling and I hate Dewey) Coulter, of North Barracks, and Bob (Mrs. Smith's personal adding machine) MacAllister, of South Barracks, remain from last year's crop. The rest, it is rumored, have applied to Wassaic.

Pete Chamberlain was chosen to represent the pajama boys of South Hoffman, while Dick Kennedy was selected by the tee-totalers of the Kap House. Both are post-graduate students who at last seem to realize that nothing is extra-curricular at Bard.

It is with great sadness that I must report the following item. After going steady for all these years, Potter and Mc. Vickar have broken up. Now each has its own house president while only Potter has a telephone. Louise (Hi You All) Tachau was elected prexy of Potter. Mc. Vickar chose Priscilla Ellis, one of the mainstays of the Bardian staff.

Charlotte (Culbertson) Andrews is the new president of the bridge playing girls of South Hall. I have been unable to find out whether she was chosen because of the excellent game she plays or the nice convertible she drives.

Warden's Hall has also been split with two presidents, Fred (My mother told me some day I'd be president) Segal of Fairbairn-Hobson and Bob Corregan of Fairbairn-Seymore, representing it.

Mary Perrott is the new president of Albee, while Carl (Fugitive from Fairbairn) Gutmann is the big man among the boys of the dwelling units. Dick Richardson represents the married vets and off campus students.

All of the aforementioned "students," with a little help from the newly inaugurated President, make up the Special Committee—that group of your fellow students who advise you so well if and

when you break one of the many rules here at Bard.

The turnover was not as great for the Educational Policies Committee, that forlorn body who must listen to the complainings of their neurotic fellow students concerning the "sadistic" teachers here at Bard.

Juliet Woodbury, Roger Isaacs, and Bob Sherman were elected by the Language and Literature Division. Bob's only previous claims to fame are his being the editor of this literary gem, and the brother of "Raise high your cup and drink" Dick.

The Science Division chose Lenny Pearlberg and Sy Forman to help Bill Schenker decide what, if anything, Bard should do about the atomic bomb. Should we reveal our secret to the Lilliputians?

Shirley Butler joins Janet Zimmerman and Dave (Baldy) MacDonald as representatives of the Division of Art, Music, and Drama.

The Social Studies Division elected Mort (another fugitive from Fairbairn) Leventhal and Lucille Edwards to aid Bob Hawkes in plotting the campaign of the 1948 presidential election.

By HENRY FROTHINGHAM

SPORTS REVIEW

By AL HECHT

The play in the Intramural football league has become so rough recently that some of the players are beginning to wonder if it wouldn't be better to try to gain ground against Army's line. While the game that is being played is still officially called "touch football", who ever heard of a touch football game before in which stiff-arms, cross-body blocks, and center bucks were employed profusely? Of course, Bill Asip's astigmatic corps of officials try to prevent as much slaughter as possible by calling everything they see, but how much can a man with 20/400 vision see?

Aside from the roughness, everything has been progressing smoothly. As was expected, Fairbairn-Seymour, with the aid of a few lucky breaks, is riding along smoothly on top, while the Kap House is being beaten regularly by astronomical scores. The highlight of the season so far has been the tricky, and sometimes weird plays dreamed up by the strategists. Fred Segal, the Knute Rockne of Bard, has been experimenting with a new formation which has been christened "The Inverted Z". The only way in which it can be described is to say that when the players line up their formation looks remarkably like a soggy pretzel.

Not to be outdone by the other masterminds, the hapless boys of the Kap House have also come up with some new plays. One they haven't used so far, but are saving for their last game is called "The Beer Barrel Play." On this play the ball is snapped back to Bob Andrews, who is immediately picked up by Flash Taylor and placed inside a beer keg

(empty of course). Then the top is nailed down Jerry Fox and Jerry Brown roll the keg down the field and over the goal line, while the rest of the Kap House players are led in a rousing chorus of "The Beer Barrel Polka" by Dick Kennedy.

As for South Hoffman, they're scorning all this trickery, but it is expected that in their next game Harold Littledale will issue one of his spare flutes to each of the gridders so that they can use them as clubs. If this novel offense doesn't work, they have another trick up their sleeves, but even to the most impartial observer it sounds like desperation attempt. Al Ostrom will stand on the line of scrimmage and read several of his "humorous" stories to the opposition, with the intention of con-

vulsing them with laughter, so that all he will have to do is pick up the ball and walk across the goal line. In theory this seems like a wonderful idea, but if you've never even read one of Al's stories you know that before he has finished reading more than a sentence or two all the men on the field will probably string him up from the nearest tree.

E. P. C. NOTICE

The Educational Policies Committee will hold open meetings each Tuesday evening at 7:30 P. M. All members of the Bard College Community are invited to attend this continually important function. Pertinent problems concerning both students and teachers are to be discussed and acted upon.

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