

Bard College
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BARDIAN

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Page 1	Shor Voices O.K. on Social Ruling Roger Cook Casady Explains Freshman Rule A House Divided Cannot Stand Bob MacAlister 220 Hear Dean on Dorm Issue Jack Collins To the Community: [“With this issue the Bardian is pleased to announce a new and completely revised editorial policy.”] Bob Solotaire Community Government Dead—Segal John Segal
Page 2	“H” Bomb vs YOU Bill Lewitt Bard Forum: Red, Trotskyist Liberal Agree on Civil Liberties Charles Naef Salesman [Poem] Danny Neuman Exposing the Obvious Joan Williams, Frank Gambee, Brandon Grove
Page 4	Community Government—A Farce? Wally Kaufman Music at Bard Hall B. C. Neuman Proposes Mag. Danny Neuman

The



Bardian

Official student publication of Bard College,
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Shor Voices O.K. On Social Ruling

Dr. Shor, psychological counselor for Bard College, was recently interviewed on the current question of Dean Casady's freshman orientation program. We were especially concerned with two aspects of this question, aspects which, we feel, concern the campus at large. These are (1) the *psychological* value of the Casady Plan in general, as it has been outlined, and (2) the necessity for subjecting women to a different, and more restricted program than men.

In brief, Dr. Shor believes that the development of an orientation program for freshmen beyond the present set-up is, from Dr. Shor's experience, necessary. The counselor does not believe that his experience to date would allow him to comment upon the Casady Plan in particular. I shall give, in its essence, Dr. Shor's explanation of his position on the orientation program.

The freshman comes to college, any college, with many hopes, ideals and fantasies for his wonderful big step toward becoming an adult. At the same time, however, the young man or woman is aware of the burden of new responsibilities. Many of the old, comfortable, sheltered ways of life must be thrown overboard, and there results some conflict between being responsible and not being responsible. Added to

this is another conflict between the freshman's ideals and hopes for college life, and what he actually finds there. Dr. Shor calls this situation "freshman shock." Dr. Shor believes that "freshman shock" is especially likely to occur in the progressive college, and he feels that something should be done to help new students through that period where they are so susceptible to this phenomenon.

So much for an orientation program in general—what about this program for women? A program which seems to imply the so-called "double standard." As young people reach for social freedom it is a general tendency for them to put forward a slogan of sexual equality, at least for the time being, in order to gain this freedom for women. However, in the long run social freedom will always imply a different freedom for the different sexes, largely because of the differences in sexual feelings. Men do not want the same thing, emotionally or biologically, as women, and the social freedom of the two sexes must necessarily differ.

This is not to say that women must be restricted in a reactionary sense: a return to an old fashioned lock-up system, etc., but it does mean that their orientation program must differ from

220 Hear Dean On Dorm Issue

To the Community:

With this issue the BARDIAN is pleased to announce a new and completely revised editorial policy. Beginning with this issue the editors of the BARDIAN will make it their prime endeavor to produce a newspaper whose content will be representative of the many diversified attitudes and opinions found on the Bard campus. Editorially the BARDIAN will attempt to present to the community not one but all sides of any major issue that develops on campus.

At first, perhaps, there will be miscalculations. In the long run, however, we expect to produce a newspaper worthy of the name.

I would like to thank Frank Gambee, Brandon Grove and Joan Williams who were of immeasurable assistance in gathering together a group of some thirty persons who were interested in producing the BARDIAN this semester. It is this kind of co-operation and spirit that will make the forthcoming BARDIAN all that they should be by the most rigorous of standards.

Sincerely,
Bob Solotaire
Editor-in-Chief

the orientation program for men. Further, Dr. Shor believes that, in general, young women today are more confused than men, and consequently are more susceptible to "freshman shock" than are the men. Women are now beginning to reach for a new kind of fulfillment in living, but this new fulfillment has the potentiality of achieving for women essentially different roles than the man's. Young women (and their parents), however, are not fully prepared by their tradition to know

Continued on Page 4

The special convocation meeting of the College held at 11:40 on Friday the 3rd heard Dean Casady submit the question of Freshmen Orientation to the Convocation. The meeting was unable to agree on any subsequent action pertaining to the program. At the conclusion of the hour and a half session, a quorum no longer present, the question was referred to next Wednesday's convocation and possible action may be taken.

Dean Casady spoke at some length in an attempt to clarify the needs for and the purposes of the controversial program. An explanation of the reasons for the administrative announcement of the program was also made by the Dean. As a part of the declaration, a Faculty resolution, made on Wednesday the 1st, was submitted evincing the Faculty's general agreement with the principals of the proposed orientation program, and their general disapproval of the administrative procedure so far undertaken towards the desired end.

During the remainder of the meeting, the floor was open to questions and possible action was discussed. Bob MacAlister, author of the original motion, expressed the hope, since the procedural oversight had been conceded, that ameliorative action by committee could be taken. The discussion on the floor expressed, in general, the opinion that *ex post facto* action towards approving or implementing the program on the part of the community government would admit merely a servile legislative body. A motion was made by Dr. Degre to the effect that the Convocation resolve 1) to register a protest against the unconstitutional action already undertaken by the administration; 2) to vote to accept the proposed Freshman Orientation program. This motion was judged as void since the Dean invalidated convocation power in taking the initial action.

Jack Collins

Casady Explains Freshman Rule

(The following are excerpts from the Dean's prepared report, with some extemporaneous interpolations, as made to Convocation on Friday, March 3, 1950.)

When I came to Bard last July, I expected to be permitted to begin my new duties by playing the part of an observer. I intended to devote my first year here primarily to observing how the academic and social organizations of the College function and to familiarizing myself with individuals' attitudes. Instead, as you all know, I not only had to begin immediately to make decisions as a Dean; I had also to undertake many of the duties of the President as well.

As a newcomer, and unexpectedly responsible to the Trustees for finding solutions to current problems on the campus, I immediately began to feel frustrated by the inadequacy of the customary means of communication, either for securing or disseminating necessary information. Chief Justice Holmes once said, "What we need is more exposition of the obvious." (See Exposing the Obvious this issue). To meet the present need for more exposition of what has seemed to me to be the obvious, perhaps I can best begin by quoting some paragraphs from my interim report, made to the President when he returned to the campus:

"In the particular methods and procedures that are Bard's means of individualizing its educational program, I have found much to admire. Yet the number and variety of problems that have reached the Office of the Dean, often as a result of more or less trivial conflicts of opinion or of expectations, have made it seem undeniable that these educational means are not consistently functioning as effectively as they should or could. A primary cause of such defects is probably the rapid expansion of the College, in conjunction with many changes in the personnel of the faculty, without sufficient reorganization of its structure and methods (1) to keep responsibilities clearly defined, (2) to prevent the formulation of impractical expectations, (3) or to maintain common operating procedures. As an almost inevitable consequence, in-

Continued on Page 3

A House Divided Cannot Stand Lincoln

I should like to thank the editors of the Bardian for affording me this chance to present my views on the question of the Dean's recent action on Freshman Orientation.

Like most of you, I was shocked to learn upon reading the newsletter that a radically different freshman orientation policy had been announced by the college without submitting this issue to the community government.

I have always held, that to have a community government we must have a willingness on the part of students, faculty, and administration to work together. In short, I do not believe that students must be always against any administration proposal or visa versa.

After continually repeating this thought for years, I was shocked and hurt to see our community government ignored on the question of freshman orientation.

As one who believes that community government is a vital and integral part of Bard I could not remain silent when this happened. Therefore, just before the council meeting of last Monday night, I quickly drew up a motion that would bring the matter up for discussion. That motion was approved by council. In essence it requested the Dean to submit his program of freshman orientation to the Community Government for action.

During the week I talked this matter over with many people and finally held a long conference on the subject with Brandon Grove and Frank Gambee last Tuesday night. At this time all of us agreed that it was most important to settle this incident immediately without sacrificing the principle involved. The principle involved is the question of submitting social policy to the Community Government.

Therefore we reasoned, that if Dean Cassady would agree to express his regret for this incident, re-affirm his faith in Community Government, and announce his determination to submit any issues which may arise in the future to the Community Government, the matter should be regarded as being settled

Continued on Page 3

Community Gov't Dead---Segal

At the convocation meeting on Friday, March 3rd, Dean Cassady held the floor in a sustained barrage of confusion for almost half the meeting. It was a long speech. Most of it was a repeat performance of the one he gave at the General College Meeting a week before. The reason for the Convocation meeting—whether the Dean would submit the policy of freshman dorms to Community action (referendum)—was not touched upon in Mr. Cassady's speech, and subsequent attempts to answer direct questions. The arguments and explanations for his action, in bypassing Community government were evasive. Mr. Robinson's position in the affair remained unanswered.

Throughout all the confusion in the meeting, one truth persisted: The act of passing this policy without normal democratic procedure is the act which has proved that we no longer have "Community Government." Council's powers and Convocation's powers have been cut off. We no longer are a Community of interest, action and democracy. We are in the state of most colleges—the administration rule, the students learn, and the faculty teach. This statement is simple, direct, but more it is honest. Yet we hear that we should play the game of government in the childish hope that we are a "Community" Council. Those people interested in conciliation talk about the one mistake that was made; the one undemocratic procedure, and try to make us believe that it does not affect the role of the present Council. These people feel it would be an unfriendly act to call ourselves a Student Council, when it is actually the only honest name we can take. This one mistake—let's be friendly and call it a mistake—has knifed "Community Government" at Bard. Any attempt to heal this wound through action short of rescinding the freshman dorm legislation is an insult to our intelligence.

It is a farce to believe that the council has any duties which concern the community. If we retained the title "Community Council," we would only be

Continued on Page 3

"H" Bomb vs YOU

One of the most pressing problems of our time, "Is the Hydrogen-bomb man's undoing?", came under formal discussion last Thursday evening at a joint meeting of the Natural Science, Saint Stephens Society, and Social Science Clubs. The three phases of the bomb, scientific, moral, and social were reviewed by speakers from these three fields.

President Fuller, former professor of chemistry and member of the Manhattan District (A-bomb project), opened the panel discussion with a well qualified talk on the mechanics of nuclear reaction bombs. A description of subatomic particles and the principles of the fission type reaction (characteristic of the original A-bombs) culminated with the principles of the new fusion type H-bomb. The relation of equivalence of mass and energy as in the famous Einstein equation $E=mc^2$ was one of the most understandable and rigorous explanations that this reporter has ever heard delivered to a lay audience. The consequences of such a weapon were pounded home in the statistical language of the physical conditions of an H-bomb explosion.

The findings of Nuclear Radiation Biology, which deals with the effects of nuclear and high energy radiations on the human organism, were presented by Bill Lewitt, a science major who spent his field period under Dr. H. S. Martland, one of the originators and leading men in this science. The profound and shocking reactions of the body to air, shock, heat, radiation, and possibilities of pathological developments yet unknown were reviewed in the first part of his discussion. Counterbalancing applications of atomic energy such as the use of tracers in medicine, agriculture, metallurgy, and engineering were recognized. Bill closed with an optimism that the most important consequences of the release of atomic energy are in directions not as yet predictable.

The Reverend Fuessle spoke of the moral considerations in the production and use of the new weapon. He read a statement from the Council of Christ Churches calling upon the nations of the world to bring their deadlock to an end and begin positive steps to insure the peace of the world.

The problem of the bomb in relation to sociology was presented by Miss Ruth Gillard, Assistant Professor of Sociology and one of the organizers of UNESCO. Miss Gillard expressed the belief that we will have international cooperation only when we find out more about human relations and the dynamics of individuals and groups. When this knowledge is gained, Miss Gillard continued, we shall be able to control or sublimate destructive tendencies; until that time we must desperately strive to hold the line with strength and work within the organizations of international control.

Billie Caminer gave a brief historical review of the United States' position since the start of the atomic era. She said that the world blames the U. S. for developing such an absolute weapon and their resulting insecurities. The world, she said, is full of suspicion that must be dispelled through communication of peoples which can be affected through propaganda, exchange-students, and a general lowering of the barriers to travel.

In the audience discussion that followed, Dr. Wolff expressed the belief that world peace could be attained only through self-realization, realization of the guilt that everyone has because of his shaping world policies. He urged that the members of the convocation present at the meeting write a collective letter to legislators urging them to act for peace in this emergency.

As the joint meeting was closed the large audience left in a hushed, pensive mood. Bill Lewitt

Bard Forum: *Red, Trotskyist* *Liberal Agree On Civil Liberties*

Nearly one hundred members of the Bard community were attracted to a panel discussion sponsored by the Bard Forum last Wednesday, March first. The topic, "Was the Trial and Conviction of the 11 Top Communist Leaders in Line with Democratic Principles?", was dynamite in itself, the representation on the panel augmented the vivid interest in this occasion.

The panel, ably moderated by Dr. DeGre, featured the following speakers: Mr. John Lavin, Chairman of the Westchester County Communist Party; Mr. Michael Bartell, representative of the Socialist Workers Party, more commonly called Trotskyists, and candidate for Mayor of New York in the 1948 elections; Mr. Morton Goodman, Labor and ADA (Americans for Democratic Action) leader from Poughkeepsie. Judge Hamilton Hicks, prominent lawyer and Republican leader, phoned a few hours before the meeting that he had been delayed in Washington by a snow storm and urgent unfinished business. Hamilton Fish, conservative figure of long repute, likewise withdrew on short notice his acceptance to attend the discussion. For these reasons, the panel did not quite represent a cross section of American public opinion, as had been planned. Nevertheless, it was one of the most educational and interesting discussions at Bard in a long time. It proved that the formation of the Bard Forum filled a desperate need for bringing outside basic controversial issues to a college campus. Though the topic was narrowly defined, focusing the question, it evolved into a general discussion on our civil liberties. It was an impressive show of strong belief in democratic principles which were shared by almost everyone in the audience. Many may have left with greater resentment against certain ideologies, yet our Bill of Rights had its heyday for a few hours.

The staff of the Bard Forum is determined to carry on its work with even greater vigor and success. We invite everybody who has the time and zeal to help preserve and advocate the freedom of expression on our campus.

The next highlight on our program will be a panel discussion on euthanasia (mercy killing), co-sponsored by the Science Club.

Among the groups sponsored by the Bard Forum, an Atlantic Union Chapter and an SDA (Students for Democratic Action) group are in the process of formation. If you are interested in either one of these activities, watch out for forthcoming announcements.

For the Bard Forum,
Charles Naef

The forum opened with a series of remarks by Mr. Lavin of the Communist Party in the United States. Illustrating his case against the trial he pointed out that the Federal Government had not chosen witnesses which were a credit to our society. They had, indeed, relied upon the testimony of informers, professional criminals, and former management bullies. The communist speaker said that the right to think was really on trial. Professor Cafree's famous and much quoted statement on the nature of civil liberties being absolute, and on the Smith Act being directed not only at Communists but other Liberal forces, was quoted by Mr. Lavin. Mr. Lavin told of the long history of alien and sedition legislation which had included litigation against such now respected groups as the Jeffersonian Democratic Party.

Mr. Bartell spoke for the Socialist Workers Party. His party had undergone similar trials in Minneapolis which led to the conviction under the Smith Act of such notables as Farow Dobbs, Socialist Worker's Party Candidate for President of the United States. Dramatically, Mr. Bartell voiced his dis-

approval of the Smith Act and sarcastically went on to denounce the right to convict Communists upon "Marxist" grounds. The stand of the Socialist Worker's Party he said was one of diametric opposition to all forms of thought control. In conclusion, Mr. Bartell discussed the desire of his party to transfer real control of a nation and its wealth into the hands of the working class.

Mr. Goodman, calling himself a "Liberal sheep" sought to provoke his "doctrinaire" opposition. He too was against the Smith Act, but thought that democratic means only should be used to fight it. Americans for Democratic Action, he said, is a common front against reaction and anti-labor forces which he identified with the Smith Act. Nevertheless, Mr. Goodman thought that Communists would lead America to destruction. Mr. Goodman did sense a difference between the two left-wing speakers—one was in power and the other was out of power.

Dr. DeGre in an excellent summation of the points of agreement noted that all concurred on the disgraceful character of the Smith Act. He further thought that every member of the panel questioned its constitutionality.

The chairman, Charles Naef, then asked if anyone refuting the conviction of the communists would care to speak. Dave Eggerwald then gave a brief resume of the successful infiltration of communists into American life and the necessary use of the Smith Act or some other legislation to avoid this evil.

Salesman

He and his foot (do not stare!)
And his body betrayed to his crutch,
Hands unheld, all the lacings undone,
All the color of him ashen,
Sat, selling his laces,
Box of many colors, all wound,
Sorted; sat, on the concrete
And I passed.

Danny Neuman

Bardian

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He who molds public sentiment goes deeper than he who enacts statutes or pronounces decisions. —Abraham Lincoln

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Exposing the Obvious

EDITOR'S NOTE—"Exposing the Obvious" is the first of a series of articles which the BARDIAN will carry regularly this semester.

Once again Bard has reached a crucial period in its existence. Because of our love for the college what it has meant to us while we have been here, and because we believe that its ideals are attainable, we are writing this article.

A new president is to be chosen in a very short time. What kind of a man is needed? We feel he must be intimate with education, possess outstanding qualities of personality, and be a capable administrator. His ideas must be fresh and adventurous, his mind receptive to the needs and suggestions of the community. He must be sympathetic with Bard's basic philosophy and the educational policies outlined in the catalogue.

We are reportedly on the verge of a financial crisis; much more important: we have been having an educational crisis for years. This college has faced financial situations before. It has always pulled through successfully. For the past few years, however, the educational process has been mediocre. There is no room in progressive education for stagnation and deadwood. Because it lacks both institution and tradition, Bard must constantly be in flux, never ending the search for improvement.

Without an excellent faculty Bard will be mediocre. Every teacher must possess educational ideals, ambition, enthusiasm and ability. Each must excite experimentive education among the faculty and in his students. Faculty recruitment must take place at the best sources; jobs at Bard must be made more tempting.

We are told we must save Bard. However, we believe that Bard should only be preserved if it can remain on the educational frontier and be in name and practice progressive. Bard should not be perpetuated as one more college. Rather than to have it fall into this slough, we would prefer to see Bard die, leaving its classrooms to collect dust.

A scholarship is going to be awarded to a Tel-Aviv student. Particular effort is being made to select the best possible candidate. Is Bard worthy of this student? We do not wish a scholarship awarded because it may do the college good; the student, as well, must benefit from coming here. Similarly, we are interested in the fact that our National Advisory Council members have big names only if they demonstrate a sincere concern for the future of Bard.

At the general college meeting there was stress on the exposition of the obvious. We submit that the obvious is not the financial or admissions situation, but rather the question of how to improve education at Bard. If the college fails to meet its financial requirements, three alternatives have been suggested: a return to Columbia, affiliation with the State, or curtailment of the educational program. Why continue under compromise?

Joan Williams
Frank Gambie
Brandon Grove

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MacAllister---continued

as satisfactorily as possible under the new circumstances. We also thought that, if the Dean would propose a joint student-faculty administration committee to implement this program, the situation would be improved.

You will remember that in my motion of last Monday night I called on the Dean to submit this question to the Community Government for action. The understanding which Brandon, Frank, and I reached on Tuesday night obviously contradicts that statement. Therefore I am happy for this opportunity to explain and admit a mistake of my own. I realized before even talking to the Dean, that it was impossible from a practical point of view for the administration to withdraw their policy, since it had been publicly promulgated and women students had been accepted on that basis.

In other words, we are confronted with a 'fait accompli'. Whether we like it or not, a definite statement of policy has been made and publicised.

Since the Dean has acknowledged this mistake and expressed his regret, as well as promised to refer such questions in the future to the Community Government, I feel that we should forgive and forget. I foresee nothing but chaos, hard feeling, and internal strife if we continue to harp on this matter; possibly, the downfall of Bard. Since our college faces a financial crisis it is imperative that all of us pull together and produce a great deal of constructive work which will assure the continuation of our school. To drag this issue out all term can lead to nothing, for it is apparent that the administration cannot change its policy at this late date.

To say that Community Government is dead because one issue was not submitted for approval, seems to me a completely negative point of view. It is true, that this is a matter which should comprise a large portion of the government's work. I do not see why a joint student-faculty-administration committee which the Dean has asked for, cannot participate actively in the implementation of this proposal. There is certainly much work to be done in this field, work which the Community Government should and must participate in.

Therefore, as one who loves Bard and who has had two years of thorough experience in the Community Government, let me urge you to make every effort to abandon animosities and grudges which have built up over the last year and a half. As intelligent persons and essentially people of good will, we must attempt to get rid of the prejudices that we all hold and make a determined effort to gain the funds which our college needs to survive.

It is my honest opinion that Bard is still exceptional and excellent enough to attract liberal money. However, no one will invest in a *house divided*.

What I have said should not be construed as allowing no place for honest disagreement; for differences of opinion are the signs of a living democracy.

Finally, let me vigorously urge that early in November of 1950 the question of freshmen dorms for the year of 1951-52 be submitted to the Community Government for their action. I respectfully suggest that the administration affirm their willingness to do so now. In my opinion it would be the finest progressive publicity in the world for Bard to announce that since the new freshman orientation program is on a trial basis, it is intended to submit this plan to the Community Government for their action early next November. If this would be done, the government could act on the matter well enough ahead of time for the Admissions Office to make our policy known. By taking this question up early in November we would have a chance to actually see how the program functions and what effects it has on Bard.

I shall be happy to receive comments on my thoughts. For my part, I believe I am ready to co-operate with anyone who offers a quick, constructive solution which does not sacrifice any principles which are vital to a progressive Bard.

Let us not sell our house down the river until we are honestly convinced that it is no longer worth inhabiting. Right now our house needs plenty of altering, so what are we waiting for?

A HOUSE DIVIDED CANNOT STAND!
Bob MacAllister

Casady---continued

dividuals of intelligence and good will unexpectedly find themselves frustrating each other's efforts . . .

"For almost a year a Special Committee (known as Bard's Hoover Commission") has been making a study preparatory to recommending a comprehensive revision of the organization and regulations of Community Government. Although I have not yet seen this Commission's report, which is to be submitted early in the second semester, in my opinion the Community Government exhibits the same structural weakness as does the academic organization. Both fail to provide: (1) sufficiently clear and generally understood delegations of responsibility and definitions of expectations; (2) sufficiently understood and generally acceptable methods of communicating necessary information to particular individuals or of disseminating it widely; (3) sufficient means of accountability to lend support whenever an individual is tempted to neglect or postpone meeting his obligations, to himself or others . . . As a handicapping consequence, whenever the tutor denies an advisee's request, or rejects his excuses for not having a paper in on time, he often has to accept also the liability of having the student assume the decision is inconsiderate, arbitrary, or capricious."

I should like to emphasize that these quotations of what has seemed to me obvious are offered as an explanation for my decision to announce publicly the inauguration of "The Freshman Year as Orientation." I am making this report in hope of dispelling misunderstandings concerning how and why that decision was arrived at during the Field Period, when the absence from the campus of most faculty members and students made it impossible to follow other customary procedures of consultation or formal action.

In the autumn, when the President became ill and the primary responsibility for the continuing success of the Bard program first became temporarily mine, the need to stimulate wider understanding and appreciation of what Bard can uniquely offer to students became obvious to all. In a commendable effort to help, the Student Educational Policies Committee undertook to investigate how this end could be achieved. The efforts of this committee coincided with my own analysis of the program, for I assumed it to be primarily a matter of Educational Policy, which in turn would affect both Admissions and Public Relations. Success would, in my opinion, require securing more adequate dormitory facilities and strengthening our orientation program for freshmen. Accordingly, I began asking others to suggest ways and means. Various possibilities were discussed informally at a meeting of E.P.C., and also with the Faculty Policy Committee. Also at a Faculty meeting I pointed out the necessity of taking constructive actions in the near future and reported on a number of possibilities that had been recommended by many secondary school officials, parents, alumni and trustees.

Reaching a decision concerning what actions should be taken was, however, complicated by the fact that Congress had before it a bill that would permit Bard to secure the funds necessary to build a new dormitory. Until January it was anticipated that Congress would act favorably on the bill in time to enable Bard to construct a new dormitory by next autumn. At that time information was received that Congressional action would be too long delayed to do so. This necessitated coming to decisions, which were then announced informally at a meeting held early in January to inform parents of general college problems. In January I also drafted the contents of a statement of this experimental change in educational policy and submitted it individually to a majority of the members of the Policy Committee, as well as to several other members of the Faculty who were then on campus. As its publication would no longer be delayed if the announcement were to stimulate Admissions for next year, I then authorized its formal release.

Out of these present differences of opinion concerning these actions can, and I sincerely hope will, come a constructive and cooperative effort by every member of the community to redefine and clarify specific delegations of authority and responsibilities, as well as the creation of practicable and commonly understood operating procedures.

Segal---continued

acting as a lure for Mr. Robinson in speaking to prospective students. We would be the tool of the Public Relations Department, but nothing else. Mr. Robinson could speak about the "great institution of Community Government," but in actuality it would be just so much talk. I refuse to be a member of any group which serves as a screen for administration rulings, and a catch word for Mr. Robinson. It is not the question of hypocrisy that bothers me as much as the idea of being *used* dishonestly by some segments of our college who are more interested in what we look like from the outside, rather than how clean we are within. No crisis at Bard is extreme enough to dictate a policy which is undemocratic, and then ask us, the "Community," to help in the face-saving. We are a student government. Not by my saying so, but by the action of the administration.

If we continue as a body called "Community Government," we are living a lie.

John Segal



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STARR

March 10, 11—"Mrs. Mike," Dick Powell, Evelyn Keyes; March 12, 13, 14—"Jolson Sings Again," Larry Parks, Barbara Hale; March 15, 16—"Lost Boundaries," Mel Ferrer, Beatrice Pearson, and "Ranger of Cherokee Strip," Monte Hale.

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STEAKS COCKTAILS

COMMUNITY GOVERNMENT—A farce?

There has been a controversy on the Campus since the appearance of the Feb. Newsletter. I do not intend to discuss the policy put forth in that publication. Rather I wish to state as clearly as possible the effect that policy has on the Community Government at Bard.

First I should like to make clear that though disagreement may exist on the new Freshman Orientation policy, or on the method of its announcement to the Community, we are faced with certain facts. The State of New York has granted a Charter to the Trustees of Bard College to run an educational institution. They in turn have delegated authority to the President of the College and the Administrative Staff to organize and run the school. Thus, on the campus final authority in all matters rests in the hands of the President and the Administration. Because of these facts, Council and Convocation never have been able to do more than advise on administrative policy. This is recognized and accepted.

However, the Administration has seen fit in the past, for educational reasons, to delegate authority for legislation and implementation in the field of SOCIAL CONTROL of the campus, to the Community at large.

From the Bard College—1950-51—
P. 67—Community Govt.

Bard College has adopted a form

of community government which calls upon the students to participate in the formulation and administration of the standards and regulations UNDER WHICH THEY LIVE. Students, faculty, administrative staff and other residents of the campus form the legislative body, the Convocation of Bard College. An elected Community Council, made up of representatives of all these groups, is EMPOWERED TO GUIDE AND CONTROL ALL SOCIAL ACTIVITIES and to take action tending to promote the general welfare.

This is a clear delegation of authority and has always been subject to Administrative revocation. The following statements in the Newsletter of Feb. 1950 constitute in my mind, that revocation. In an article by Dean Casady under the banner of, "New Program at Bard," the following pertinent statements appear.

Certain dormitories will be reserved for Freshmen.—and—

Between specific hours all freshmen women will be required to be within the walls of their own dormitories.

I must remind readers that no exception is being taken to this program.

Rather, I wish to show the contradiction which exists.

The difference between the Catalogue of 1950-51 and the Feb. '50 Newsletter cannot be denied. One grants full control of SOCIAL conditions to the Community Government. The other, under the signature of an administrative officer clearly restricts the actions of the Government. In another sense, one segment of the community (the administration) has exercised its rights to regulate another segment of the community (the students).

I now am forced to question the truth of the catalogue statement on Community Government's position as the group which controls SOCIAL conditions. I maintain that one part of the community has set down a policy which makes Community Government helpless in a large part of its stated objective.

Under this ruling the community could not propose the two following hypothetical statements for legislation.

All freshmen shall live in rooms with sophomores and juniors in order to facilitate their intergation into the community.

Or there shall be no hours specified for students return to dorms at any time, since the Bard System is designed to develop maturity, and such regimentation would tend to retard an adult outlook.

The above could, before this term, have been considered by the community. They certainly come within the sphere of the SOCIAL life of the community. At this time neither could be considered as legislation. They are in opposition to an administrative policy. Stop now and ask yourself: What is community government? What does it mean? What can it do?

I maintain that we know our sphere as set out in the catalogue. In the face of the new policy I doubt that Community Government, as stated, any longer exists. I wonder what our rooming regulations mean in the new light, and what the status is of open house?

I believe now that we have what is called a Community Government which can no longer operate under the accepted definition. I call for a clear statement from the administration (where the legal responsibility and power resides) which should include a new and realistic definition of "Community Government" which would be based on a comprehensive summary of the fields in which we can effectively legislate. When such a summary is presented I would be strongly in favor of a critical examination of its contents in order to determine the propriety of the name of the government, and any changes which might be obviously called for by the properly delegated authority.

Wally Kaufman

Music at Bard Hall

George Finckel, cellist and Lionel Nowak, pianist, at Bard Hall, Tuesday, February 28 at 8.30 P. M. with the following program:

Chorale Bach
Sonata for cello Debussy
Sonata for piano (1947) .. Gail Kubik
Suite in C major for cello Bach
Sonata for cello and piano
Lionel Nowak

The recital given by George Finckel and Lionel Nowak on Tuesday night was a great treat for Bard. They are talented musicians and demonstrated their talent by performing works of uncommon and diverse interest.

There could hardly be any instrument more beautiful than a well-played cello. It is an instrument with a soul; it requires more than a competent musician. Mr. Finckel made his cello voice its soul. It always had a richness and depth of tone; it always sang as only a cello can sing.

Mr. Finckel played the Bach Chorale well but without unusual profundity, but the Debussy Sonata was indeed a noteworthy experience. It is a work of unusual structure and exceptional value, and Mr. Finckel did not blunder into the pitfall found in most of Debussy's music. Specifically, he did not over-sentimentalize the work and allowed it to express itself with clarity and without superficiality.

The performance of the Suite for cello by Bach was a forceful one. It demonstrated academic interpretation and precise discipline which Bach demands in order to be wholly effective. The *Sarabande* was exceptionally vivid with its fine expression of melodic line. Mr. Finckel has shown himself to be a musician of unusual perception.

Lionel Nowak had the possibly unfortunate duty of performing two works unfamiliar to the audience and written in an incompletely understood modern idiom.

The first work, the Sonata for piano by Gail Kubik, was difficult to comprehend. One cannot reach a conclusive opinion when such an opinion is

based on the initial hearing, but this composition appeared to be purposeless and without direction. The rhythmic pattern seemed rather stylized and most of the work was quite repetitious and monotonous. Each movement began with pleasant thematic and rhythmic material but petered out because of faulty organization. The fourth movement was more satisfying than the rest of the work. It gave a certain amount of relief with its light and sensitive construction, and was harmonically superior to the previous movements.

The real highlight of the evening was Mr. Nowak's Sonata for cello and piano. Although he plays his instrument expertly and with fervor, his abilities as a composer are overwhelming. The work has its tragic, satirical and humorous moments, but it is always forceful and dynamic. Every section is carefully woven into a tapestry of remarkable texture. The work is a brilliant and perfectly balanced composition; the composer is one of musical importance. —B. C.

Shor—continued

what to do with the freedom society has allowed them for the achieving of their new "fulfillment."

Dr. Shor believes that the answer to the problem of the freshman woman is to be found not in regression to an old fashioned situation, from which they would strongly rebel, but rather in some plan which would be worked out in progress, and "arrived at from the common experience of the members of the community." "This plan must," says Dr. Shor, "be set up with the express understanding that the program may be revised, and that the freshmen will be allowed to have some part in its revision."

Finally, we must expect some rebellion against a plan which in any sense is of a restricting nature. Dr. Shor, however, tells us that the rebellion against the father or the father-image (here the administration) is in the way of healthy human nature, and it is through compromises with this rebellion that progress is eventually made.

Roger Cook

Neuman Proposes Mag.

It is both sad and strange that Bard College does not have a magazine of literature and intellectual criticism. Sad, because this is a school devoted to creative work in all fields, and because such work is in a rich abundance here, yet is generally unknown or unshared. Strange, because this school is founded on co-operative learning, a school that is intent on recognizing individual achievement of all kinds. Strange, also, because the idea has been continually suggested, yet no action has been taken.

So it is time that a practical step is taken—especially at this time. We are in a period of questioning and change, and are in search of those elements in Bard education that will give it more substance.

Time, then, to bring together the now isolated and underground creative work of all fields, to publish for our own benefit the poems and scientific papers, the stories, literary criticisms, sociological and historical researches, to recognize merit where it exists and share knowledge when it is vital. A major problem here (and in our country) is the isolation of intellectuals from each other and especially of artists from one another. A magazine, both in the special workout of its creation and as a product, is a medium of exchange, a challenge to isolation.

But these are only general reasons

for such a magazine. Specifically, it would serve to publicize Bard. For even if the magazine were printed only for the Bard community at first, in time it might be sent to many other schools and universities to attract those outstanding students Bard definitely needs. Also, it would serve as a permanent record of the intellectual and creative efforts of each year.

These are but a few reasons for such a magazine. Specifically, it would draw its material from term papers, senior projects, as well as from more independent work. It might well include photographs of the outstanding sculptures and paintings of each semester, and print original musical scores.

For these reasons, with these aims, the Bard Community Council will be asked on Monday, March 6, to recognize a Bard Magazine Group as an official group on this campus, and Convocation will be requested to grant money to cover part of the printing cost.

It is felt by those who are interested in such a magazine that part of the problem of Bard education is to coordinate individual creative work, to bring it to light for evaluation and enjoyment, and that a magazine can help to re-formulate our intellectual and creative community.

Danny Neuman

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