

Bard College
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BARDIAN

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The Bardian

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Annandale-on-Hudson, N. Y.

September 30, 1950

Special Comm. Alters Self

The wheels of community government have been rolling on a new project. Last Thursday afternoon, the Special Committee resolved to put before the Convocation an amendment to the By-Laws. In effect this amendment would separate Community Council and Special Committee, our legislative and judicial bodies.

On September 14, the Special Committee, having elected Mort Besen of Seymour as its President, proceeded to examine its duties as outlined in the present By-Laws and review its effectiveness over the past years. President James Case, John Cotton Brown, Barbara Kiernan and Joel Shor were invited by the committee to take part in these discussions. At the end of the first meeting it was definitely agreed that the functions of Special Committee should be separated from those of the House Presidents. According to one member of the present committee, "I don't think that it's in the spirit of a democracy to have one group of people serve as investigator, prosecutor, and judge, as I've been asked to do by my house members."

Essentially, this was a repetition of thoughts expressed last year before the Committee for the Revision of the Constitution. That Committee, after a year of deliberation, proposed that a "Central Committee" be established composed of five elected students and stipulated that members of Council should not be eligible for such election.

Jud Lasser, representative from the "off-campus group" met with the Constitutional Committee on September 21 and revised this article from the proposed Constitution so as to bring it into harmony with the current laws of the Community.

The Special Committee met that same afternoon to review and alter the amendment as submitted by Mr. Lasser until unanimous agreement was reached on the following form:

Amendment to Article IV Section 5

New Colloquium Organized

"We will try to analyze the various social sciences according to Aristotle's four causes" said William Lensing in Albee Social last Tuesday evening at the first of a new series of Social Science Colloquiums. Introduced by Felix Hirsch, head of the division, Mr. Lensing explained that the four causes in question were: 1. Formal, a definition of the object or subject based on the pattern used in its making; 2. Material, concerning the natural elements employed; 3. Efficient, dealing with the energy and mechanisms of production; 4. Final, composed of the object or purpose of the subject in question.

Mr. Lensing further stated that according to Aristotle there are three kinds of science: artistic, theoretic and practical. The first "makes a material thing," the second "is knowledge for its own sake" as in physics, and the third concerns "man's doings with fellow men" as do the social sciences.

In his part of the panel discussion Gerard DeGree pointed to Charles Morce's work on the *Foundations of Theory of Science* as giving three basic

as amended in the by-laws of the constitution of Bard College.

ARTICLE V: The Special Committee
Section 1. Composition

The Special Committee shall consist of five elected students none of whom shall be a member of council, three from the Upper College and two from the Lower College, and the Dean of the College, *ex officio*. A Committee consisting of the Moderator of Convocation, the Chairman of E. P. C., and the Chairman of the Community Council shall present a slate of students to be placed on the nominating ballot. In addition to these names others may be nominated in accordance with Article III Section 2, except where otherwise provided for.

Four members of the Special Committee shall assume office at the beginning of the semester following their election. One month after the beginning of the fall semester, the Freshman Class shall nominate and elect their representative to the Special Committee.

Section 2: Officers

The Special Committee shall elect its own Chairman and any other officers it deems necessary.

Section 3. Tenure

Each member of the Special Committee shall serve for one year. If a vacancy occurs, the Convocation shall elect a replacement by secret ballot except for the Freshman member, who shall be elected by a secret ballot of the Freshman Class.

Section 4. Voting Procedure

The procedure for elections shall be in accordance with Article III, Section 2 within two weeks after adoption of this amendment.

Section 5: Function

Problems of social misconduct shall pass through the Special Committee. The Special Committee may consult with all persons concerned and shall educate any proven offender. The Special Committee may consult with all qualified persons at its discretion.

(Continued on Page Three)

Son Born To Mr. And Mrs. Paul De Man

On behalf of the entire Convocation the BARDIAN would like to express a warm welcome to Michael De Man the very latest addition to the Bard campus. We're sure he'll find everything to his liking. (Once he gets Orientated, that is.)

Obreshkov Dead

Vasil Obreshkov, for 25 years Professor of Biology at St. Stephens and Bard, died suddenly on July 14 at his summer home in Ellisburg, N. Y. Dr. "Obey", as he was fondly known to members of the Bard community, collapsed of a heart attack on leaving a fishing boat.

At the Baccalaureate service last June 16 Dr. L. Edwards, Professor Emeritus, presented Dr. Obreshkov with a token of the esteem of his colleagues and students in honor of his 25 years of service.

The editors of *The Bardian*, on behalf of the community, would like to extend their sincere sympathies to Mrs. Obreshkov and express the deep sense of loss that comes with losing so fine a man and so valuable a professor.

Case Takes Lead In Policy Information

"Live for what you believe in," urged President Case in an inaugural address before the Academic Convocation on Wednesday, September 13. Mr. Case said that this was his hope for present students, adding sadly that there are many Americans who of necessity are dying today to preserve their ideologies and ideals. He stressed the thought and expectation that the students would seal their knowledge in an envelope of wisdom. "Knowledge," he remarked, "doesn't keep any better than fish."



President Case

The title of Mr. Case's speech, borrowed from an old nursery rhyme, was "Who then, Sir?" He maintained that each and every one of us must carry part of the burden of responsibility for improving the world we live in rather than loading his share on others. As Mr. Case stated, "The worst fate is not falling short of a goal but the lack of one."

The Inaugural speech centered about the following three lines of inquiry:

1. "What Makes Sammy Run?"
2. How can we remake a world in ruin?
3. What has this to do with me?

He stated that the self can only be realized in the realization of someone or something else. This might occur in devotion to an abstract idea such as beauty, truth or goodness which has kept "Sammy running" throughout the centuries. It might be the desire for money or power although Mr. Case asserted, these are not in themselves sufficient goals. The crux of the answer to the second inquiry lies in the combined social, religious, and humanistic regeneration of mankind and society. Mr. Case believes that more important than the achievement of scholarship is the acquisition of the qualities of scientist, poet, saint, and statesman. This he feels should be a common goal for all Bard students. In combining all four of these personalities, according to President Case, we will gain a deeper and broader understanding of the world about us.

Helaine Kopp

At this semester's first Convocation president Case presented to our community both a forceful program for the college and a forceful personality that would become the guiding spirit of that program. In a straight from the shoulder, off the cuff talk, Mr. Case won the admiration of the Convocation before he was finished speaking.

Regarding the constitution and its relation to social regulations Case outlined a plan whereby a field period Task Force of students would make a study of the community governments extant in other colleges with the emphasis on Antioch, Goddard, Bennington, and Sarah Lawrence.

Members of the Task Force would, upon completion of their inspection tour, present carefully prepared reports of their findings to the Convocation. In their reports they would make recommendations for a constitution to be passed by Convocation no later than the end of next semester to go into effect at the opening of the fall '51 semester. In the meantime we shall continue under the present constitution.

As an offshoot of this Task Force a book about Bard might be written. "An intelligently done book about Bard," says President Case, "would be the very finest of promotional material."

From the problem of the constitution Case went on to discuss the new addition to the campus night life, the campus proctor. His two primary duties will be, first to protect college personnel and property, (a function for which he is properly deputized.) and secondly he will police the campus for the purpose of reporting serious offenses to the Special Committee.

"He is not," emphasized Case, "a tool of the administration."

Discussing hours for freshmen women Case explained that it was his lot to find the policy of freshmen hours but it was devoid of any means of implementation. Hence the plan was decided on whereby those women who returned late to their dorms would be admitted by the proctor who is to report them.

Case said, "I'm not particularly happy about it in that I am more interested in opening doors than in locking them. If there are any better suggestions I'd like to hear about them. There should be no law on the books which the Bard community is not willing to enforce."

Bob Solotaire

Student Counsellor

Dr. Joel Shor, the Student Counsellor, is on the campus every Wednesday of the school year. His office is located on the third floor of Ludlow Willink. Students may go directly to his office anytime during his office hours. Students may also drop a note to him through campus mail, or speak to Mrs. Fyffe or to either of the resident counsellors about making an appointment.

Bard Democrats Organize

Dutchess County normally goes Republican, and in the last election the Republican candidate carried the County by about 90,000 votes; their opponents, however, did not put on a vigorous campaign. This year a freshly-organized Bard Democratic Committee is joining with Democratic groups throughout Dutchess County to campaign for Jim Bourne, candidate for Congress, to help elect Walter A. Lynch as Governor of New York, and to return Herbert Lehman to the United States Senate. If the Democrats win in Dutchess County, it will be their first victory here since 1912.

The Bard Democratic Committee, counting among its active members seventeen students as well as faculty members and other residents of the Bard campus, was organized on September 15 to work for the election of these Democratic candidates at the polls in November. The Committee will stage rallies on the campus, ring doorbells and talk with voters, and help bring citizens to the polls on registration and election days. The proceeds from a fund-raising campaign will pay for the printing of posters and leaflets, which Committee members will distribute throughout the neighborhood. It will also be used for research by Committee volunteers in search of the areas of greatest potential Democratic strength and thus help the Committee to concentrate its efforts in crucial localities.

After preliminary remarks by Mr. John C. Brown, the Committee unanimously passed the following resolution: "Resolved that

1. The Bard Democratic Committee cordially invites Jim Bourne to address a rally on the Bard campus at such time as can be most conveniently arranged.

2. The Bard Democratic Committee joins with any Bard group supporting Mr. Bourne's Republican opponent to extend a cordial invitation to both candidates to meet in open debate at a rally on the Bard campus to be sponsored jointly by both groups and to be open to the public.

3. The Bard Democratic Committee authorizes its Executive Committee to invite Senator Lehman and other Democratic candidates to address rallies at Bard that will be of interest to the Bard community.

Charles Naef was elected Chairman of the committee. Other officers include Clarissa Hall, Vice-Chairman; Nina Doerfler, Secretary; Warren Kaufman, Treasurer; Mr. John C. Brown, Walter Vogl, and Maurice Richter Jr., delegates at large. A special committee on fund-raising activities includes Mary Kelbert, Alison Sayre, and Herbert Landegger, while Charles Marks, Alison Sayre, and Herbert Landegger will be in charge of publicity.

Members of the Bard Democratic Committee realize that their chances for victory are slim but feel that no matter who wins, the renaissance of the Democratic Party in Dutchess County will make the people of the County more keenly aware of the issues at stake between the two parties, and will pave the way for future Democratic victories.

Maurice Richter, Jr.

My first impressions of Bard were basically confused:

The campus is architecturally lovely as far as the ivy spreads, but otherwise is uncomfortably whimsical. My fellow freshmen are fiercely cynical and mundane but I suspect them to be secretly excited and expectant. My roommate snores too much and certain speakers talk too much. The road to Annandale is black and beautiful at night and the sun looks beautiful on the lawn but the meat they served last night was uneatable and there are too many people in the store. I can't remember this fellow's name but I had a dream last night in which I pushed him off a dock and I wish I had the courage to break my alarm clock.

And finally an impression more serious and lasting than these came strongly to mind and that was about my fellow students. Considered as a group they seemed to lack several qualities. There was none of the traditional "Go to Hell" attitude in the seniors and none of the freshmen seemed to hate the seniors. There were no beanie's and no fraternities and sad to say there was no crabby old prof in an academic tower which everyone hated. There were no talks of hiking to Vassar to dynamite some obscure (but Vassar-cherished) statue—and in short there was none of what I had come to regard as school spirit.

Individually the students seemed to lack one quality. They were apparently purposeless. Lolling around talking to each other while I knew well that in other colleges, seniors who were not gleefully molesting freshmen were striding along with a briefcase on their arm and a grim look on their face and they were going somewhere where they would do something. Bard seniors—indeed all of Bard, seemed not at all grim. They gave the impression of being nebulous and negative. And perhaps this last word describes my feelings best.

The manner in which I saw my preceptions to be misled may not be an original one; indeed this whole transition that I describe may be common. I sincerely hope so for it seems a worthwhile lesson in values.

First of all the college society that inspires the usual form of school spirit is necessarily a superficial one. The concept of the different levels of academic life tormenting each other is psychologically sound for there are few things more unifying than common dislikes. But it leaves few of the participants enriched at the end of their careers (except for jokes that will mean little out of college circles). The community government may be dry and parliamentary but it gives a chance for intelligent participation and enlightenment.

As for the idea of individual negativity it grows out of a loss of labels and guideposts. There are no lectures which are forced upon you, there are no stagnating and comfortable musts which have to be conscribed to. The individual has to choose his study and the individual has to choose the social pattern that he will follow.

Ray Rudnik

Freshmen Feel Independence

My first look at Bard was the one made long ago, sometime last winter, when I looked into the orange catalogue. In my imagination I formulated pictures of what it would be like, and what I would learn and in what ways I would change inside.

My ideas were colored by what colleges looked like and what college students talked like in magazines.

My second look at Bard, when I arrived, was a less up-in-the-air one. I came to classes and was happy in the easy atmosphere of learning new things and hearing the opinions of many kinds of people; people from other cities and other countries than mine.

I began to understand what the catalogue meant when it said: *Increasing responsibility is thrown upon the student for directing and deepening his own inquiries.*

I saw exactly how much there actually was that I would be doing completely by myself and for myself, the many decisions I would be making without the aid of fond parents.

I was wonderfully happy that here was a new plan, a so much more satisfactory one, to provide for each student the educational experiences which will be of most value to him.

I made friends quickly because the common feeling here was—we're all in this together; that is good.

My third look at Bard, when some of the first day glomour had worn off, was, I think, for me the most accurate and critical. It was Bard seen through spectacles, but not rosy colored ones.

I was still happy, yet greatly concerned about a number of things at the college. They disappointed me. They went against my glorious new ideas of Bard.

Most striking to me was the lack of active participation in the many offered activities of the college by the great body of the student population.

We are small, and yet facilities for growing within are open to us in many ways. We are proud of our freedom of choice, of community government, of speaking our minds. Yet attendance is poor at the community council meetings, at the newspaper meetings, and at the forum meetings.

Only one or two political views are exhibited as organized campus groups.

The majority of the college sits in the store and talks of the Bard system. This was to me an amazing thing—That it is possible for so many members of the community to spend so much of their time coffee-drinking.

The social standards at Bard were also to be my own personal ones. The decisions would be hard ones, yet the making of such decisions would be an important step in my growing-up process. The Bard curfew regulations defeat this feature of the Bard plan—the decision making.

The curfew is unfunctional because it is easily disobeyed, it merely stands now as a symbol of something which is bad at Bard.

Undoubtedly there are students who need the control of a curfew, yet these students would realize quickly enough by themselves that it is impossible to

continue with classes and with the main function of college for very long without the sleep and study hours necessary.

This aspect of campus life however, must remain a personal opinion; the feeling of each student examining himself.

The greatest of all the problems I found at Bard pertained to the academic life, the learning program.

I imagined that Bard's purpose was to serve as a kind of a pasture field, open and new, to be changed and enlarged and molded by us.

Yet many of the students seem not able to survive in such a sink or swim environment. It is true that this is only the beginning, and no definite conclusions can be drawn so far but so much time seems to have been wasted.

The difficulties of one class a week and much preparation on your own in between, are healthy ones, and I believe that they can be workable, yet too many of us lie on our beds and loaf because of the lack of closer guidance.

The subjects that we are taking are of our choice, and therefore it is assumed that there is a burning interest on the part of the student. So far I have not found this passion.

The system is an idealistic one, and I have heard many of the students condemning it as such. I believe, from what I have seen up until now, that the Bard idea is also a practical one, yet the people putting the idea into practice are not always so hopeful.

Nina Doerfler

Bardian Staff

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

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Pete In Paris

"So you're one of those rich, pseudo-intellectual dillaintants that went to Europe this Summer, eh?" Why, yes, yes I am. I went this Summer and last Summer. I went the first time out of sheer curiosity; I returned with the frenzied excitement of knowing I would repeat the most fascinating education and experience I had known; I did. Starting in this issue is the first in a series of boring travelogues that everybody will not read. Recognition, Faugh! I am bubbling.

Paris! My God, what a place! I don't mean the Paris of story, song, and anecdote. I mean the real city, the only healthy, live city left in this gall-stoned world. At first the American feels a little cheated. At first glance the only people left in Paris during the Summer months are Americans and those who sell to Americans. But only those living at the Hotel George V fail to succumb to the disease that is immediately contracted—Parisianitis. An American is not an American in Paris as soon as he opens his eyes. Of course there are those who never get beyond the first post-card salesman and the nearest representative of the oldest profession. But Paris is free and so is everybody in it.

All right, tonight is your own, no commitments, where to? Orson Welles is opening a little fiasco at the Edward VII, but that's too expensive and too American. I would suggest dinner first at a little cafe on the left bank. Here bearded American expatriots talk out the arts with low-necklined barmaids, and black-robed ecclesiasts park their motorcycles, doff their berets, and share a half-litre of red wine. Dinner will run you about 250 francs, but it seems worth it. (Even more so when a rapid calculation reveals this sum to be 80c.) Dinner over—the time now is close to 8:00—you have nothing to do, Paris doesn't come to life until 11:00. But as midnight draws near, there is a little bistro, or cave, or joint—have it your way—up on Montmartre that deserves a look-in. Montmartre is a section in the north-center of the city surrounding and including a small hill, and topped by the Sacre Cour, a gleaming white Moorish church that comes to life in moonlight. The name of the little place is Lapin Agile, the Agile Rabbit. A small room with wooden benches and tables lies at the head of a head of stairs. Here only cherry or plum cordials are served, and continuous entertainment is going on. Balladeers, singers, instrumentalists go on in a never-ending parade that includes you. The smoke gets thick, however, and you're heavy from the brandy. Let's get out of here.

It is now after 1:00 in the morning, and the Metro, the efficient subway system of Paris, and busses have bedded down. A taxi is the only answer. Now normally, a Paris taxi driver would rather lose an arm than take you anywhere. Conditions must be right; the vehicle must be pointed in the right direction, no meal-time can be impending, and the driver's homelife must be in fairly good shape. However, with the Metro and busses stopped, prices are jacked. After a little haggling, you get him down to a price that is only twice as much as he intended to go, and he takes you to Les Deux Magots, The Two Magots, for a nightcap at a sidewalk table.

Here a strange thing invariably occurs, something that defines Paris to me. Somehow, three or four strangers have joined you—Americans from the South, Chicago, and Nevada—and you are arguing about the most important things of all. You fight, insult, pull, tug, and orate on politics, religion, art, sex, and philosophy. At four o'clock, you suddenly realize the hour, excuse yourself from your friends—close friends—regretting the fact that you'll never see any of them again.

Paris is the most exciting, beautiful, stimulating place on this earth except for—but that's next week.

Pete

American Maupassant Scholar, Artinian Participates At Etretat Festival

*Je soussigne Offola de Maupassant
Renée Simone niece et lectrice
de Guy de Maupassant autorise
Monsieur Artinian Artinian a
publier les lettres de Guy de
Maupassant qui sont en sa possession
sous réserve qu'elles ne portent aucun
préjudice au renom et à la mémoire
de l'écrivain et de sa famille
Paris le 15 Février 1950
Simone Offola*

Authorization from De Maupassant's niece for publication and use of hitherto private manuscripts.

During his ten months in France, Artine Artinian completed work on two books: *Correspondence Inédite De Guy De Maupassant*, and *Enquete Sur Maupassant*. Dr. Artinian was in France under the auspices of the Fulbright Research Grant to locate more original letters and manuscripts by De Maupassant and to obtain the permission of the De Maupassant family to publish his findings, a permission that they had previously denied other scholars.

The first book consists of more than one hundred letters written by De Maupassant to his family, friends, and other writers, among them, Emile Zola. As none of these letters had been published before, they make an important contribution to the understanding of De Maupassant's work and personality. There has been a persistent misconception that De Maupassant was an irresponsible playboy. Dr. Artinian pointed out, however, that any man who publishes 300 short stories, seven novels, over 200 articles, a volume of poetry and several plays and travel folders in a period of ten years must be something more than a playboy. The book emphasizes the extent and prolificness of De Maupassant's work.

The second book, *Enquete Sur Maupassant*, is a collection of critical opinions of De Maupassant by 150 contemporary authors including Andre Gide, Theodore Dreiser, Sherwood Anderson and Aldous Huxley.

In addition to collecting new material, Dr. Artinian made five broadcasts concerning his work, and his activities were reported in the French equivalent of *Life Magazine*, *Match*. Part of his collection was borrowed for an exhibit on De Maupassant at his birthplace, Etretat.

Dr. Artinian's collection of original manuscripts, letters, and other material on De Maupassant is the most extensive in existence. Bard College, in fact is synonymous with De Maupassant in literary circles. Literary scholars, men writing theses on De Maupassant and others consult Dr. Artinian's material.

As a result, Dr. Artinian was elected Vice President of Les Amis Guy de Maupassant, an international Literary society. He is the only non-Frenchman to have received this honor.

An article concerning these books, which will be published in France in October can be found in the current editions of *Books Abroad*. A second article on De Maupassant also written by Dr. Artinian, appears in the September issue of the French Magazine *Mercure re France*. Both are available in the library.

Pat Rose

International Scholarship Brings 6 New Students

Last spring, Convocation unanimously endorsed the Bard College International Scholarship Program. It was successfully launched this fall with the arrival of a group of foreign students representing Colombia, France, Germany, Israel and Switzerland.

Olga Andreyew who entered Bard last spring was the first recipient of a scholarship designated for sons or daughters of personnel of the United Nations and specialized agencies such as the International Labor Office and UNESCO and thus was a technical forerunner of this year's entries. Olga comes from France; her field of special interest at Bard is literature. The other holders of U. N. scholarships for the current year are Jorge Duque (Colombia), a science major with an eye on an engineering career; Gerard Abensour (France), who is interested in a diplomatic career; and John Munzinger (Switzerland), a student at the School of Economics in London interested in international relations.

Arnon Gafney is the recipient of a scholarship specifically donated for a young man or woman from Israel. He comes from Haifa, and is interested in social studies and in a diplomatic career.

Scholarships were also awarded to two German students. They were sent to this country under a program for the reorientation of Germany sponsored by the State Department and the Department of the Army and administered by the Institute of International Education in New York. Guenter Remmling hails from Berlin where he is a student at the free University and Herbert Speckner is from Bamberg where he has just completed the Gymnasium course. Both are interested in international relations and journalism.

William Frauenfelder is advisor to these students.

Poem

IV

Bric-a-brac snow
tumbling in the air
Leans on the wooden quay
Where boats stand still as birds
with heads tucked under wings
To linger while the winter fondles them.
Where once there was a cuticle of moon
the upturned shelves
Spill flakes like china figures
Till they lie upon their backs
and gather at the tracing of a woman
Lying lost as cluttered stuff
Left in back of open
Heat-warped doors.

B. Walker

Special Committee

(Continued from Page One)

If the Committee after due deliberation, feels that action is necessary, it shall make recommendations to the Dean.

The Special Committee shall have the duty of exploring the effectiveness of social regulations adopted by the Convocation or Council, and shall seek to improve them.

All proceedings of the Special Committee shall be confidential. The Committee shall report its general activities to Convocation once a semester.

Nothing Bard

Nothing Bard, the first all-student production to be seen here in five years, will be presented on Friday and Saturday nights, October 20 and 21. This musical comedy variety show was written by Jessica Thomas with additional dialogue by Margo Neumann. It is the outgrowth of plans made by Scottie Sherman and Bob Smith last year and was completed over the summer.

Bard's Community Council, the Administration and the Drama Department have all given the production their heartiest approval and enthusiastic encouragement. The general response in the community has born out the idea that such a project presents a welcome

opportunity to interest students in all divisions.

Rehearsals are closed to the public in order that the production may be offered on opening night to an entirely fresh audience.

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