

Bard College
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LYRE TREE

Vol. 14 No. 4 December 21, 1934

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The Lyre Tree

Volume 14

ANNANDALE-ON-HUDSON, N. Y., FRIDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1934

Number 4

Student Council Budget Approved By Convocation

\$800 Figure for Annual Draws Fire; Move To Cut It Fails

Following a week of discussion and controversy over the budget for the spending of Convocation funds, as drawn up and presented by the Student Council, the undergraduate body of Bard College formally approved the council bill at a meeting of Convocation, held in Preston Hall, on December 6.

The Convocation has, from a fifteen dollar tax levied upon 199 students, \$1635 with which to carry out its various activities during the college year. The council has apportioned the money as follows: \$800 for "The Sketch Book" \$400 for the Senior Dance; \$150 for "The Lyre Tree"; \$150 for motion pictures; and \$135 for other expenses.

The controversy arose over the \$800 item for the publication of "The Sketch Book," the college annual. Those who opposed this figure did so on the ground that fifty per cent of the Convocation treasury was too great a sum to be expended for one item. Several movements were on foot to cut the year book funds to \$500 but their instigators were unable to put measures through effecting this. The Freshman Class was unanimously opposed to the figures for the annual, as were a number of upper-classmen. As new men are not allowed a vote in Convocation during their first semester in residence, the freshmen were unable to take action in the matter outside of discussion. Dalton MacBee, president of the Class of 1938, urged the student body to consider the wishes of the freshmen in this matter inasmuch as over \$500 of the money to be spent came from their class.

A number of upperclassmen opposed the \$800 grant on the ground that a number of other activities could be established were money for them appropriated. Those in favor of an \$800 annual defended the amount with the argument that a book representative of the college could not be published for less money. It was pointed out that last year's annual, a thirty-two page paper bound book, had cost the Class of 1934 over \$400.

Although a number of men beside the freshman class did not cast ballots, the motion that the budget remain unchanged was passed by a 2-1 vote.

Faculty-Student Teas Prove To Be Popular

The faculty-student teas which are being held twice weekly in the Faculty Room, Albee Hall, are proving to be popular with the entire college community.

The teas are presented by the ladies of the faculty and staff and are held each Wednesday and Sunday afternoon from four until six o'clock. The success of the teas has made them an integral part of the social life of the college.

The Rev. Edward Harold Vogt, formerly of 83 Deedly Street, Camden, New Jersey, is now living at 6000 Wagner Avenue, Germantown, Pa., where he is Rector of St. Peters Church.

40 Guests Present At Fall Promenade

Scott Fisher and Band Play In Harvest Setting

The Fall Promenade of Bard College, given by the Sophomore and Junior Classes, on November 16th swung into motion to the music of Scott Fisher and his orchestra, now featured at the Coconut Grove of the Park Central Hotel. On the following afternoon a tea dance was given by the Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity. Saturday evening was the occasion of dances by both the Kappa Gamma Chi and Eulexian fraternities.

Among the guests were: the Misses Julia Harvey, Vassar; Bambie McKenna, Vassar; Margaret Hazen, Vassar; Virginia Shufelt, Millerton; Edith York, Yonkers; Virginia Walsh, Yonkers; Mary Guido, Kingston; Erma Guido, Kingston; Barbara Fraleigh, Syracuse University; Betty Fraleigh, Red Hook; McKellin Puckette, Skidmore; Norma Smith, Buffalo State College; Peggy Poor, Vassar; Betty Beach, Brooklyn Friends; Edith Miller, Mt. Holyoke; Caroline Edie, Mt. Holyoke; Marjorie Cox, Bridgeport; Grace Weeks, Brooklyn; Claire Byrne, Smith; Doris Anderson, Mt. Holyoke; Marion Agree, Vassar; Carlotta Koberlein, The Weylister; Caroline Devine, Poughkeepsie; Norma Joelson, Smith; Helen Lindley, Drexel Institute; Betty Taylor, Philadelphia; Marybeth Binkley, The Weylister; Lyn del Schwartz, New Haven; Mildred Huebner, Paterson; Blair Hawes, Vassar; Marion Melia, Fashion Academy, N. Y. C.; Ruth Geandheur; Adele Rosenberg, Chirneack, N. Y. and Mademoiselle Yvette, Montreal.

The Dance Committee consisted of Gordon A. Hopf, Seymour Thomas, George M. Galloway, Hugh F. Gage, Walter Miller, Clifford Burgess, Edward Grandin, John Theis, Theodore Smith and Harold Nichols.

Dean and Mrs. Donald G. Tewksbury, Miss Ruth B. Crosby, Dr. and Mrs. Lyford P. Edwards, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Fansler, Dr. and Mrs. Joseph E. Harry, Mr. and Mrs. Alfred M. Knapp, Dr. and Mrs. Abbot E. Smith, Dr. Francis M. Summers, Mr. Edward N. Voorhees, Miss Helen M. Wilken, Mr. and Mrs. E. Stewart Williams, Rev. and Mrs. Miles Lowell Yates.

Dr. Davidson and Platt Classical Club Speakers

An open meeting of the classical club was held on Nov. 14 at eight o'clock in the faculty reception room. Dr. Davidson gave an interesting and instructive lecture on Roman Britain, tracing the historical development of the island, and explaining with great detail the political, military, and economic relationships which existed between Britain and Rome throughout the period of the Empire. He discussed several points of great archeological interest, among them the mystery of the great wall, telling of the various methods whereby antiquarians ascertain dates and establish the accuracy or the inaccuracy of the information handed down by ancient historians. Dr. Davidson concluded by showing a number of slides, using them to illustrate the points which he had stressed in his lecture.

The other speaker of the evening, Mr. Donald Platt, traced the

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Semester To End With Boar's Head Dinner Tonight

Carrying out the custom established at the college in 1921, the Bard community will again celebrate the old English tradition of a boar's head dinner tonight with all the ceremony of medieval days.

Pages, hunters, trumpeters and other court figures will usher in the Christmas season in an appropriate manner. The dinner will begin with the traditional procession, in which the boar's head will be borne into the hall. As the cantor in the procession sings the history of the event, the assembled group will respond to each verse with the chorus,

Caput apri defero

Reddens laudes domino.

When the boar has been disposed of, flaming puddings will be rushed in by the kitchen staff to whom seasonal gifts will be presented.

Following the dinner the center of the hall will be cleared away and Sigmund Spaeth, well known musical entertainer, commonly called the "tune detective," will present an entertaining program of musical novelties and surprises.

Rev. W. J. Gardner Dedicates Organ

Opening Recital Played By Prof. Harold Geer

The new Austin organ, presented to the Bard College chapel by the Rev. George Dudley Barr '13 in memory of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. William H. D. Barr, and his brother, William David Barr, a former student of the college and a disabled veteran of the World War, was dedicated at the Vesper Service Tuesday evening, December 18. The Rev. Wallace J. Gardner, president of the Alumni Association of Bard College, was the officiant.

The organ, designed and installed under the supervision of Dr. Carl A. Garabedian, organist of the college, has a number of distinctive features which make it an outstanding instrument. In tone it secures a wide dynamic range, variety in color, clarity and cohesion. The ensemble is of the English cathedral type, at the same time having an adequate representation of the softer American, English and French stops. To obtain a unity of the ensemble, the three chambers of the organ speak directly into the chapel chancel, the Swell organ from the tower, the Great and Choir from the old organ chamber, and the Pedal from below the floor. The console, of simple and artistic design, is of improved equipment for quiet and efficient mechanical control.

At dinner, following the dedication ceremony, Dean Tewksbury, thanked Mr. Barr for his gift to the college. Dr. Garabedian spoke at length concerning the design of the instrument and introduced Mr. Basil Austin and Mr. Jameson, both of the Austin Organ Co., who spoke to the college concerning organ construction.

The first recital on the instrument just installed was given at 8:15 the same evening by Professor E. Harold Geer, organist of Vassar College. Dr. Geer played

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St. Michael's And Trinity Down Bard

Five Trounced Easily In Opening Encounters

The Bard College basketball five in its first game of the 1934-1935 season went down to defeat 43-23 at the hands of a strong St. Michael's five at the Memorial Gymnasium, December 3. Coach Sottery's men made a creditable showing in view of the fact that there were but two veterans in the line-up.

The Trinity College quintet, one of the strongest teams in the East, trounced the Bard five 56-23 at Hartford, Tuesday, December 18.

The visitors went into an early lead, and maintained their advantage at the end of the half, 23 to 12. The St. Michael's second team opened the second half and for a time the fives battled on even terms. With the return of the first team the score mounted for the visitors. By the close of the game a complete Bard second team was on the court.

Captain Molyneaux and Bill Nieman, playing in the forward positions and Bill Baldwin, center, were high scorers for the Bard five. Scott and Leone, playing their first varsity games at the guard positions, were effective. Ruggiero, left forward for the St. Michael's team, was high scorer with fourteen points. Stanley at right forward and Perreault at center were also outstanding.

The St. Michael's game line-up:

Bard	
Molyneaux, L.F.	7
Filsinger, L.F.	0
Nieman, R.F.	5
Mason, R.F.	2
Baldwin, C.	6
Grandin, C.	0
Scott, L.G.	2
Stearns, L.G.	0
Leone, R.G.	1
Drogula, R.G.	0
	23
St. Michael's	
Ruggiero, L.F.	14
Wells, L.F.	3
Stanley, R.F.	8
Branon, R.F.	4
Perreault, C.	9
Meade, L.G.	2
Simmons, L.G.	2
McGlynn, R.G.	1
	43
Referee—Palen.	

Riding Proves Popular As 15 Join Bard Club

The Riding Club, organized at Bard College early this Fall, is daily proving its popularity among the students, faculty and staff as a part of the comprehensive athletics program now going on in the college.

Fifteen members are now enrolled in the club which was started when Mr. Ward Melville, of the Board of Trustees, loaned to the college four horses and equipment that riding might be established at Bard.

The club has been granted the right to use the Ward Manor bridle path which affords a pleasant ride through the grounds of the river estate.

Officers of the Riding Club for this year are, Pierre Oustinoff, president; Messrs. Cyril Harris and Abbott Smith, of the faculty, honorary vice-presidents; Frederick Roberts, treasurer; and Jacob Cremer, secretary.

Many Interesting Plans Are Made For Field Period

Winter Vacation To Be Tried For First Time In Men's College

A winter field and reading period will be tried for the first time in a men's college this January when Bard College will include a four weeks period of independent study and research in the curriculum of each undergraduate. The period will be treated as a semester in itself.

The purpose of the period is that each student may spend four weeks in field work and reading connected with his own curriculum. Student and faculty members have been encouraged to make specific plans for work and study during this time. A written report of the work accomplished will be given by each student to his general adviser, under whose direction the work is planned. The winter vacation is designed for the opportunities which it will bring to both faculty and students. Professors will find in this period a chance to pursue the lines of their individual study and research. Many students will be able to find practical work in the fields they intend to enter.

The administration has decided, contrary to its original intention, to allow freshmen who "have given considerable evidence of intellectual maturity and independence" to make plans for field work which will necessitate their absence from the campus during this period.

Several students intend to spend their time in Washington studying at the Congressional Library and working in the offices of government bureaus. One student has secured a position as temporary assistant to the technical director of the Theatre Guild. Another drama student will devote the vacation to designing and constructing stage sets. Another undergraduate will work with the New Jersey Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control. This will include direct experience in connection with raids, seizures and judicial proceedings. Two astronomy students expect to construct a telescope. Many men taking social sciences have made plans for sociological research in various localities. One pre-law student has secured a position in a law office. A number of men intend to use the opportunity to do creative literary work in which they are particularly interested. About twenty-five percent of the students will remain on campus during January.

Roche and Rockwell Lead Meeting of English Club

On Friday evening, December 7 the English Club met at the home of Mr. Cyril Harris, who placed his parlor at the disposal of the club when it became evident that the Science club had commandeered all the available chairs in both Albee reception rooms.

The first paper to be presented to the meeting was an essay on Petrarch, read by its author, Mr. Roche. Sketching briefly the historical and literary period of which Petrarch was so important a part, Roche then plunged into an account of the sonnets which place Petrarch among the great poets of

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The Kingfish Goes Collegiate

Senator Huey Long, Louisiana's Führer, determined that his position in his home state shall be strengthened in every way possible, has seen to it that he be appointed to the board of supervisors at Louisiana State University. A seething university campus has been the result of this particular bit of action. Since his appointment, the Kingfish has seemingly used his dictatorial powers on matters of university management. Dr. James Monroe Smith, president of Louisiana State, has shown on several occasions that he is strongly influenced by the pugilistic senator. A front page editorial in "The Revielle," the undergraduate newspaper, attacking Long for attempting to appoint Louisiana's star halfback to the state senate, was wiped off the journal at Long's suggestion while the presses were still running. The writer of that editorial and the editor of the paper were both expelled for printing the attack. When twenty-six students of journalism protested this action, the result was suspension of each by President Smith. When the students of Louisiana State, under the auspices of their student council, sought to meet in order to discuss the aforementioned expulsions and the censorship of the campus paper by Senator Long, President Smith refused to permit the meeting. As a result he was hanged in effigy from a flagpole in the center of the university campus. Huey Long for some time commanded attention as America's leading political clown but he no longer affords amusement. It is high time for his circus tent to be pulled down.

The Budget

As a result of the vote in favor of the Convocation budget, as presented by the Student Council, the Class of 1935 has been granted the funds necessary for publishing a fine annual. Although a two to one vote decided the issue as to whether or not fifty per cent of the campus tax money should go for this one item, the number of students opposed to the publication of "The Sketch Book" exceeded those in favor of the year book. Had the freshman class been permitted to cast their ballots, the book would have been voted down. We are not at this time going to enter into a discussion as to whether or not it is worth spending half the money for an annual, but we prophesy that unless the tax is increased in years to come, the Class of 1935 will publish the last book to appear here for some time. Those opposed to the spending of \$800 on the book seemed unable to realize that such a figure is the minimum for which a fine annual can be published, although last year's effort is a proof of the fact. The Class of 1935 stated they would bring out no "Sketch Book" at all unless funds for a fine one were assured. Now that the funds are assured it is up to the class to prove to the doubters that "The Sketch Book" should be retained as a yearly feature. We favor an annual in this college for many reasons. We also advocate an appropriation for a literary publication to appear at regular intervals during the college year; a broader social program, including a number of informal dances; some activity from the many clubs which spring up and then quickly fade each year. These things are in line with the suggestions proffered by those men who protested the printing of the year book. They are all needed and laudable activities. A slight increase in the amount of the campus tax would not only permit the printing of the "fine" annual but would provide for the other projects as well.

Contributors' Column

To the Editor of the Lyre Tree:
Recently there has been considerable discussion in regard to the \$1635.00 budget of the Student Convocation. Most of the objections seemed to center around the \$800.00 appropriation for a year-book in honor of the graduating class. In a Convocation meeting on Tuesday, November 27, this budget was passed by the vote of 24 to 22. On Thursday, December 6, another meeting was called to reconsider the matter, since it was evident that a large portion of the student body was discontented. At this time the budget was again passed, this time by the vote of 32 to 17. However, the Freshmen, who are constitutionally deprived of a vote during their first semester, expressed themselves through their class president as opposed to the budget. It is, therefore, ap-

parent that a majority of all the students at Bard College is in favor of some kind of revision of this budget. Those who have investigated in the matter assure us that a year-book of which we may be proud and which will be a good advertisement for the college will cost at least \$800.00. The question is, therefore, are we to have an \$800. year-book or not at all? The proposal to get out a \$500.00 year-book and to use the remaining \$300.00 for something else, would be to waste the \$500.00 and probably the \$300.00 as well. One possibility seems to have been overlooked. The Lyre Tree might be changed from a monthly paper to a quarterly magazine appearing at the end of October, the end of the first semester, the end of March, and the end of May. The May issue might be made large enough to contain the pictures of all the Seniors, all the athletic teams, all the extra-curricular organizations, and a number of views of the campus, as is customary in year-books; space might be

devoted to articles by and about members of the graduating class. In short, it could feature the Senior class, thereby fulfilling some of the functions of a year-book and at the same time fulfilling better the present function of the Lyre Tree as an expression of the literary ambitions of the individual members of the student body. In place of the \$800.00 appropriation for the year-book and the \$150.00 appropriation for the Lyre Tree, there would be a single appropriation which would certainly be less than \$950.000. Whether this solution is satisfactory to a majority of the student body it is impossible to say. Just how much it would be necessary for Convocation to lay aside for this quarterly magazine is likewise impossible to say without investigation. However, it is an idea worth considering and investigating.

H. M.

Dr. Harry's 'Greek Tragedy' Still Drawing Attention

Favorable reviews and comment on Dr. J. E. Harry's latest work, "Greek Tragedy," published last year by the Columbia University Press, continue to appear in papers and classical journals the world over. A recent review by Professor B. E. Perry, University of Illinois, in "The Classical Journal" for December 1934, speaks highly of Dr. Harry's searching study of the Greek tragedians. "Professor Harry," writes Dr. Perry, "is well known as a veteran commentator on the texts of the Greek tragic poets. For the past thirty-five years he seems to have devoted almost his entire energies to this field of study, during which time his wide and constant reading of Greek authors and his keen grammatical observations have ever been focused upon the numerous problems of text criticism and interpretation that these plays present" . . . "One will find in these pages much information that is not obtainable elsewhere" . . . "Professor Harry's grammatical learning, his ingenuity, and his intimate acquaintance with Greek tragic poetry, have probably enabled him to arrive at the correct reading in a number of passages where others have failed." . . . "In view of the richness of its contents, this is a book that no serious student of the tragic poets can afford to overlook."

Dr. Davidson and Platt Classical Club Speakers

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development of the Roman mind in art and literature from approximately 754 B. C. through the reign of Augustus. He emphasized especially the various foreign elements which were assimilated by the Romans, and stressed their contributions to the Roman mind, describing the various changes in form and color which the imported ideas in question underwent during the adaptive process. Platt divided the whole of Roman literature and art into three periods, namely, first stages, 754—400 B. C., youth and enlarging horizon due to conquest, 400-41 B. C.; middle age and the first signs of decadence, 41-14 B. C.

Rev. W. J. Gardner Dedicates Organ

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the Toccata in F Major, by Bach; Choral-Preludes, Opus 122, by Brahms; Choral in A Minor, by Cesar Franck; Psalm-Prelude, Number 3, by Herbert Howells; Prelude on Rhosymedre, by Ralph Vaughn Williams; Toccata on O filii et filiae, by Lynwood Farnam; Clare de Lune and Scherzetto in F sharp minor, by Louis Vierne; and Symphony in F. minor, Number 5, by Charles Marie Widor.

Roche and Rockwell Lead Meeting of English Club

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history. In a penetrating and scholarly manner he showed how the poems in question reflected the Medieval conflict between the spirit and the flesh, the ideal and the idea, mystical intuition and reasoned judgment. One of Mr. Roche's most interesting points was the fact that Petrarch is to be considered the forerunner of all the great English sonneteers. After the reading, there ensued a discussion which centered about the Renaissance in general.

Mr. Hugh Rockwell then read two essays, one on Joseph Conrad and the other on Aldous Huxley, attempting to show that the essential difference between the two men is the fact that one is an impressionist and the other a realist. Speaking of Huxley, Rockwell said, "Like a musician who has composed a long series of variations on a theme, Huxley commits the unpardonable artistic error of over-emphasis of verbal and analytical tautology", while the "method of Conrad is that of genius itself,—a sudden flash of insight into things dark and hidden, a phrase which pierces the sham and subterfuge and exposes the quivering heart".



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Columbia Professor Among Nobel Prize Recipients

Professor Harold Clayton Urey, of Columbia University, has been honored at the thirty-third annual distribution of the Nobel Prizes. Professor Urey was given the prize in chemistry for the discovery of "heavy water."

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