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Negotiations Settle Regulations Questions

The social regulations question reached a final settlement last Monday when Council passed the Social Regulations Committee, which had been signed by President Kline and Alan Bourne. The signatures of the president and dean were acknowledged as support for the resolution and the existing social regulations.

The resolution was the result of a frantic week of meetings and political maneuvering by both the administration and the Social Regulations Committee. The president’s signature on the resolution was obtained at 5:00 a.m. on Monday morning.

Orientation Plans Being Formulated

Preliminary plans have been made for the formation of the new student body for the fall of next year. The plan for the new students will be a joint effort of the students and the administration. The plan has been approved by the Social Regulations Committee and the administration.

The orientation period will be more organized this year than in the past. Students will be welcomed by the president and the Speakers Club, and the students will meet with professors in small groups to discuss the orientation program.

Another possibility for the orientation program is a “Survival of Clubs.” This event would give the students an opportunity to present their clubs to the new students.

The function of the Orientation Committee is to welcome the new students and to help them adjust to the new environment. The committee is responsible for organizing the activities and for guiding the new students through the first few weeks of their college life.

Dr. Leary’s Victorian Lit. Class Jolted In Seminar

By Charles Maron

Dr. Farris Leary caused a small sensation in his Victorian Prose and Poetry seminar this week. Dr. Leary asked the students to consider the following question: “What is a novel?” The students were taken by surprise and were not prepared to answer the question.

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EDITORIALS

Student Unity

The final settlement of the social regulation question stands as one of the finest examples of student unity and administration cooperation that has occurred at Bard in many years. If not for the active functioning of the Student senate committee, the social regulations committee and the house presidents committee, the community council, the student body would have had to bow to an administrative decree concerning the last two social hours. However, the student unity which formed behind the leadership of the three organizations enabled the administration to negotiate for a final amicable solution to the problem.

The student body might take heed at this example of the effectiveness of a united student voice and apply it to the other problems which now face the college. Particularly, the reinstallation of Educational Policies Committee, the future form of the Bard system, the conflict between faculty and the student body, and the size of classes, the faculty-student ratio and the preservation of the seminar system.

It must be remembered, however, that student responsibility must be present with student unity if it is to have any influence. Just as the opinions of the students on academic policies are not expected to be responded to, so student responsibility and good faith ends. We call upon the student body to recognize the unprecedented respect they have shown these regulations so that the controversy that surrounded the subject may be resolved and new regulations for so many years may now be forever ended.

E. P. C.

There has been no Educational Policies Committee functioning at Bard since the mass protest resignations of the members of this committee in February of last year. The resignations were ostensibly a reaction to the sudden cancellation of social privileged weekend policy. However, this regulation, which was not yet a year old, had been enacted by the faculty two years before. The special committee set up by Council a month ago to study the situation has prepared a report on the action of E. P. C. and is ready to discuss it with the faculty's Committee of Five.

As many of the senior professors at Bard will strongly attest, the E. P. C. of past years was an extremely important liaison between the students in the consideration of specific courses and academic policy, and one which is now sorely missed. However, E. P. C. has not as yet been revived because of the continuing resistance from some faculty members, particularly those recently arrived.

We feel that the junior faculty members who have never seen the advantages of an effectively working E. P. C. should take into account its potential value and curtail their paranoiac resistance.

New Name

With this issue we adopt our new name which we feel will lay down the burden of being "the Bardian" and be less cumbersome to other Bardians which happens to be by a literary magazine. The Editors look forward to many days in which not one of its popular songs will be known by an obscure Rosalind body's poetry is found in the "Observer" mailbox.

Ergo Ego

By David Frederickson

Alice Grosman's farewell appearance at the theatre in her senior project was, as it should be, a culminating event of a varied and interesting series of performances at Bard.

"Variations on a Theme" (to the music of Robert Prince's "N. Y. Export: Opus 8"), a fascinating excursion into technical composition, was performed with competent and at times brilliant use of theme and variation, canons, and harmonic forms. The performance suffered some from lack of rehearsal, but was redeemed by brilliant performances by all the actors. Miss Grosman, Penny Axelrod, and Ellen Kemney when they worked, the actors, really came across with a vivid clarity. Suddenly the keynote of "Three Moons" perhaps was a bit too much subtlety. There is always the danger that a too-pretentious composition will be neither dramatic enough to hold a bold audience; Miss Grosman did not sufficiently dodge this danger in the third scene of the episode. (In this judgement, I may stand open to vigorous criticism from many of the women in the audience who feel that it was, indeed, both too dramatic and immediately apparent if not its failure was due to the fact that it was in a quintessentially feminine theme.

"The City" was an experiment in experimentalism, a cacophonic composition by Stan Krenton. (It provided the basis of an amusing and frightening picture of mass movement and individual confusion. The real element was the recurring response of a million saxophone players, which provided a foil for Miss Grosman's galvanized lyrical solo at the end. And in the end solo, with consummate skill, she gathered together, crystallized, and finally discarded the dramatic movements introduced in the group section.

Arthur Tress' film, which closed the program, introduced quite a different note. The skill of Miss Grosman and Midge Bacon was clearly demonstrated in their improvisations, but whatever artistry there was—and whatever lack of continuity and dramatic effect—was due to Mr. Tress' work. Much of the photography was superb; his skill cannot be denied. Most of the editing was pointed and relevant, but sometimes ragged and technically disturbing. The theme of the two rival sisters, playing dominant and subservient roles, is unfortunately true, overworked, and unenlightening; the film was saved from being a complete bore—by the undeniable technical skill and intrinsic interest of all concerned, and not by projection of any particularly new or clear insight.

But as an experiment in film making, I cannot but clear it. This is an interesting and ambitious use of a demanding medium, and more works in future projects will be much appreciated.

From the Antioch Record

April 7, 1961

Social Regulations

After ten weeks of debate, motions, letters and campus-wide discussions, last quarter's Council approved a resolution curtailing open hall hours. The change will not take place until after this quarter's official until passed by this quarter's Council. The resolution was passed in absentia by President Dixon in an absence speech two weeks. At that time the president declared that "we have achieved a step-in realism in student-teacher relations in this institution."

Claiming that it was "impossible to combat an analogous adverse public adverse image," Dixon announced that our standards remarkably offend the propriety of the broader community and should be carefully reconsidered.

Freshmen Dorms?

The College Hawk, Rockhurst, cited in Antioch Record.

On mixed halls: "The advantages were numerous. Freshmen would then be in contact with students experienced in what to expect from their college and what the college expects from them. They were exposed to a new, higher level of thinking. They would have someone on which to pattern them. An elimination of childishness would necessarily follow, either from good will or fear.

Letters to The Editor

Manhood

To the Editors of the Bardian:

A letter from Albee.

It is not that we in Albee do not get socialistic, humanistic, moralistic from the color pink. Pink is certainly one of God's colors. Without the color pink, the Saturday Evening Post would be in grave straits indeed. It is more often than not a little girl's color. Boys' booties are blue and girls' are pink, everyone knows.

One would think that the walls on the second floor of Albee could have been painted black, green, brown or some other masculine color. If we had to have pink, couldn't it have been a subtle pink; a pink that at least would foster the illusion that we are living in a boys' dormitory?

It is with great dismay we observe that to add insult to injury the first floor is being painted a shocking yellow. We in Albee are proud of our manhood. We want the outside world to think that there was something nauseous about it. Albee's reputation, "its public image," is at stake! We humbly request to acknowledge our manliness and give us our "blue booties" back.

May Day

The Bard Community is to experience a gilt May Day celebration over the longer than the last year when six unknown Bardians" danced around a soggy Maypole before the rest of the Community had dragged itself to breakfast. The Community is urged to participate in this gala occasion to add color to the celebration and to eradicate all community living. The celebration is to begin with a public image, should it not stamp out pagan festivities and Communist holidays? Has not Bard suffered enough in this tradition that its future? Tradition has customarily had spontaneous roots. They have been built up in response to popular demand and are part of the character of the institution. Since Bard has had short and stormy history as a liberal institution, it has not had the opportunity to develop its own traditions; perhaps the character of such an institution is traditional. If Bard is to have traditions with meaning, they should be allowed their spontaneous origins.

Sincerely,

STEPHEN M. CAHN

Bard Observer

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BARD OBSERVER, ORGAN OF THE BARD COLLEGE COMMUNITY. IT IS ISSUED EVERY TWO WEEKS DURING THE FALL AND SPRING.
Energy Marks Myers' Recital

J. L. Stock—Piano No. 4
Beethoven—Sonata in G Flat, op. 77, No. 1
Rice Water—Episodes for Piano, op. 25, No. 2
Schubert—Lieder, D. 780

As Gordon Myers approached the piano in Bard Hall he exhibited marks of great energy and impatience. Both these qualities were in evidence throughout his recital, which, to this listener, was a notable success. Obviously anxious to get on with the music, Mr. Myers would start to play immediately upon sitting down, and his breaks between movements were remarkably short, all of which permitted his playing an air of precipitation, a tension released only by his absolute concentration (and consequent, buoyancy) on the matter at hand; that quite magical communication of his feelings about a few hundred偌 small marks on a piece of lined paper.

From the outset, a relentless individualism characterized his performance, a high content of personality, which could have been (and was, in some quarters) mistaken for idiosyncrasy. The Bach Partita showed an admirable disregard for detail, a tendency to blur phrases, and a bit too much programmatic overstatement. The Beethoven, on the other hand, was an essentially romantic conception, but unquestionably meaningful. His affinity for music of the romantic period made the Beethoven, especially the Schubert, real which he brought a big but controlled tone and an equally high points, on a program of large conception. With an uncompromisingly unpleasant, fine well-made, Weber, the Schubert was a real war-horse (which, like that of the Greeks, proved in this representation to contain some surprise), and a definitively short encore (The Brahms Intermezzo in B-flat). Mr. Myers convinced at least one auditor of his ability to handle intelligently works of any period. We can only hope, in view of future successes, that he will come to temper a certain impression of haste, which might lose him potential friends among those who are influenced (God knows why) by a performer's visual aspect.

T.E.B.

Spivak Working OnLarge Murals

Mr. Max Spivak, assistant professor of art, is now completing two architectural murals. The first, for the United Parcel Service, is a blocklike facade for their new terminal building at 430th Street and 11th Avenue, New York City. Composed of one inch square and triangular tiles, its soft mauve color, will depict various aspects of packaging. The archivist, Abbott and Merkt, have planned this against an uninterupted background of larger ochre tiles.

The other, for Warner Lambert pharmaceuticals, is in Morris Plains, New Jersey. Its theme of research in motion is carried out in Venetian glass mosaic and stainless steel insertions, set in relief on precast concrete. Walter Kidde is the constructor. Mr. Spivak has also completed murals for Charles Pfizer, Johnson and Johnson, another for Warner Lambert, and many others.

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Law Schools to Demand Tests of Writing Skills

Princeton, N. J., April 14—In the future, prospective law students will be asked to pay more attention to the development of their writing skill and their knowledge of this country’s cultural background.

Beginning next November, the Law School Admission Test, now required by 86 of the nation’s law schools, will include separate tests of writing ability and general background. This announcement was made today by the executive committee of the Law School Admission Test Policy Committee at the Conference of Western Law Schools, meeting at Stanford University, Palo Alto, California.

The 80-minute writing ability test is designed to measure the student’s command of grammar and diction as well as his ability to recognize errors or unclear writing. It will test his skill in organizing ideas and require him to demonstrate his competence by rearranging and editing prose passages. The main purpose of the test of general background is to measure the student’s awareness of the intellectual and cultural context in which the law functions.

Alumnus Named Biology Prof.

President Kline has announced that Dr. Henry Kritter will join the faculty next semester as associate professor of biology.

Dr. Kritter, who is a graduate of Bard '36, is currently at the Florida State University Marine Laboratory, engaged in ecological research and will teach a graduate course there in physiological ecology this summer. He earned his M.S. and Ph.D. in zoology at the State University of Iowa.

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Softball Team Optimistic About Current Season

by De Kauft

The Bard softball team is getting ready for what they hope to be a successful season. The team was disappointed last Friday when a game scheduled with Orange County Community College was canceled when the Orange team failed to attend.

The team's captain, Ralph Levine, says he thinks the team will do fairly well against the local town team which are composed of men who practice together year after year.

The main hope of the team hangs on the right arm of their new pitcher, Mark Borestein. Mark is the first fast ball pitcher Bard has had in many years and it is hoped that he can control the ball consistently. Mark will be spelled by Richard Greenen, Don Alvion in the catcher.

Bob Knight will play first for Bard. It is hoped that Bob's bat will aid the team considerably. Mike Goth will play second for Bard. In practice games this season, Mike hit the ball with far more authority than he had last season, Alan Ners칙sky, at short, and Ralph Levine, at third, are also veterans of last season's games.

Bob Epstein, the team's left fielder, and Bob Morrow, in center, played in the infeld last year. Epstein at short and Morrow behind the plate. It is hoped that this year they can help to solve Bard's outfiedd problems. Last season, Bob Morrow was the team's leading slugger.

For right field and short field, the team can call upon a promising crop of new players: Lane Serano, Mark Lipsman, Lew Milienbach, and Lausby Lockum. 

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Classes In Folk Dance Offered Twice Weekly

Folk dance workshops have begun again. They are open to anyone who is interested in learning folk dancing. Participants receive gym credit. The workshops are usually held Tuesday, 8:00 to 9:30 p.m., and Saturdays, 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. in the gym. Since three hours are available, students who wish to may take all their gym credits in folk dancing.

At the beginning of the program, basic steps and simple dances were taught, but as the program progresses more complicated dances will also be taught. Among the dances that have been done are: Mayim, Hineh Ma Tov, Bob Dodi (Israel), the Russian Two-Step, Methol Oravla (Arabic), and Road to the Isles (Scottish).

The classes are taught primarily by Susan Gerner and Eve Osborn, but anyone who knows any dances in invited to come and teach. Some records have already been brought for the classes by the Physical Education Department, and the amount of interest and participation in the classes will determine the amount of further support the Department will give. If interest is sufficient, could become a permanent part of the physical education program.

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