

Bard College
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OBSERVER

Vol. 8 No. 10 April 26, 1966

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Bard OBSERVER

The Official Publication of the Bard College Community

Five cents per copy

Vol. 8, No. 10

ANNANDALE-ON-HUDSON, N. Y.

April 26, 1966

Council:

Statement On Drugs

The Monday evening session of Council voted not to give its approval to a Faculty-endorsed statement of the College on the "use of drugs" at this school. Six members voted against the motion, four in favor of it. There were no abstentions.

Special Posts

Linda Boldt was voted into the position of Assistant Treasurer of Council.

Fan For Sottery Hall

Council voted in favor of a motion by Tom Noonan that efforts be made to obtain a fan for use Friday evenings in Sottery when the films are shown. Dean Hodgkinson said that the Administration has a fan it may be able to supply.

Committee Elections:

The Council elected the following people to serve on the Elections Committee: Deborah Tarrow, Justin Sabiti, Andy Krieger, Tony Marzani.

These people will serve on the Orientation for next semester: Frank Meltzer, Mark Karlins, Jeff Alberts, Judi Arner, John Goodman, Tony Marzani, Bob Edmonds, Paul Schneider, Tom Noonan, Justin Babiti, Peter Minichiello, Jeff Levy, Martha Schwartz, Lynn Meyerson, Toni Chapman, Ilene Rosen, Jeff Mortimer, Linda Potter, Jim Fine, Peter Irwin, Sharon Barcan and Bob Judd. the Administration position on narcotics by a vote of 8-2-1.

Recognition does not necessarily mean approval.

Letters

VIETNAM PROTEST MARCH

To the Editor:

Allow me to modify emphasis and fact in your article of April 14th on the Vietnam Protest march in New York.

My active military experience was limited to the Army.

More to the point, however, is my position on self-defense. We certainly **did** expect trouble at the march. This was precisely the reason for organizing defense guards. As a direct result of our indicated intention of defending ourselves, less violence occurred than at the previous New York march. I believe that those who adopt a posture of passivity or non-defense invite additional violence.

I did **not** say that "the police were very good." The did do a brutal, thorough job on a young counter-demonstrator who attacked us. Far from experiencing joy and elation, I felt immediately a sickening knot in my stomach—too many times in the past I have witnessed police "protection" directed against the good guys.

I was not "assigned" to march in back of the National Liberation Front flags. I chose to do so.

No sane person likes this violence. Our march was a step in the struggle to end the insanity of "kill for peace." And for this neither a Batman nor a "Socialist Realism" view of history is adequate.

Laurence Shute

Patronize Our Advertisers

Vietnam

by Molly Kigler

A continuation of the "Observer's" study of faculty views on the Vietnam crisis revealed coincident as well as dissenting opinions among members of Bard's literature government and anthropology divisions.

Irma Brandeis, of the literature faculty, expressed decided opposition to continued US involvement in Southwest Asia. Professor Brandeis said she believes any extension of American forces in Vietnam will only bring us closer to war with Communist China. When questioned as to whether she favored the proposed "student draft," Miss Brandeis stated, "I would prefer to see no more young people drafted. I do not feel that I am qualified to select which area of the civilian population should be drafted. But in any case, I would like to see this war stopped as soon as possible."

Robert J. Koblit, professor of American Government, also favors American withdrawal from Southeast Asia. Dr. Koblit believes, "We should descale as rapidly as possible, without employing military force." When asked if he did not think that US withdrawal from Vietnam might harm America's prestige in international affairs, Dr. Koblit said he did not fear that would happen. "Anything President Johnson can do without getting in trouble with the Republicans at home won't be that embarrassing to us overseas."

Manet Fowler, assistant professor of anthropology, spoke with opposition of continued American involvement in the Vietnamese war, but her reasons were different than those voiced by other members of the community. "I am not speaking without awareness of the logic of those who advocate war... I realize that war is an unavoidable element in our culture. This is merely a personal view that wars have never been necessary..."

Miss Fowler spoke tentatively of President Johnson's proposed socio-economic reforms in South Vietnam. She stated, "It has been my personal experience as an applied anthropologist that too frequently such programs are planned and executed by people who profit far more as individuals, than the groups the programs were designed to assist." Miss Fowler said that she is always in favor of sociological assistance on principle, but she would prefer to wait for further details of how the President proposes to implement his plan before she voices judgment of the program.

Council Professor

by Linda Potter

A student-supported professorship at Bard was proposed by David Young at the April 10 meeting of Community Council. Briefly, Mr. Young's proposal consists in the use of Convocation funds for the hiring of a professor from outside the College, who would teach one or two courses and be available to students and faculty for discussion in his field. Mr. Young's

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Microfilm: Master Or Fool

by Carole-Jean Smith

Microfilm or bound volumes? This is the issue which has the usually apathetic Bard campus stirred up. For some the Library's decision to exchange certain periodicals for microfilm and equipment is just one step further toward a computerized highly mechanized educational world in which the individual student is often left out, while for others it is a tremendous step forward in adding to the resources of the Library.

Several members of the faculty have charged that the Library is giving away "one of the most important rights that a student at the college has, the right to browse at random among the open shelves of our periodical collection. How can you browse with microfilm?"

Another faculty member commented, "I'm sure that when man first stopped writing in stone and started using paper there were some people who objected."

Last spring Community Council donated \$3,000 to the college, with the thought in mind that it could be used to improve the library's periodical collection. This money waited in abeyance until Mr. Fessler took the library director's post this semester. The distribution of the first money was the first

problem that Fessler handled. Council's suggestion in mind, Fessler took stock of the periodical situation: the school receives 300 subscriptions, and it lacks the space to shelve and store them. Many are stored inconveniently in Blithewood attic and basement and are mildewed beyond repair. Fessler thought of microfilm as a solution, and recommended using the \$3,000 for a long-term program of purchasing microfilm, machines, and cabinets for storing the film. The library already owns one microfilm reader.

At this same time, the Bard library was contacted by Academic Archives, Inc., Raleigh, N.C., which offered to exchange whatever complete or incomplete sets of our bound periodicals we wished for the completed sets on microfilm, 4 machines (one of which both reads and prints an exact copy of the page being viewed), and 2 storage cabinets. Fessler, skeptical of such a generous offer, contacted two other schools with whom A.A.I. has done business, and was greatly reassured as to its respectability and reliability. The library budget pending, Fessler accepted the offer, and brought the matter before both faculty and administrative committees who voted approval of the action. Of our 300 subscriptions, we are giving A.A.I. 68

bound for 68 microfilmed versions, all of which date no later than 1957. Had we bought the very same equipment which they are giving us, we would have paid \$600 for the 2 cabinets, \$750 for the 3 machines, and \$1250 for the reader-copier. The exchange is still in process. Completion is expected in 30 days. We now have 70 per cent of the material granted in the exchange.

A few of the periodicals which are microfilmed are: American Journal of Psychology, American Political Science Review, Chemical Review, Classical Journal, Harvard Business Review, Isis, Journal of Personality, Mind, Mississippi Valley Historical Review, Modern Language Journal, Social Forces, South Atlantic Quarterly. The machines give a clear and distinct rendering of the page, nevertheless, Fessler purposely chose all scholarly publications rather than ones which depend upon photographs and artistic drawings. The copier prints white-on-black, and it has not been decided yet of the library will supply the paper, or if there will be a small fee charged.

The problem of the \$3,000 still remains. A committee composed of Mr. Fessler, Dean Hodgkinson, Mr. Terrence Ded-

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Letters To The Editor

LETTER FROM KINGSTON

To the Editor:

The goals of the Kingston Community Action Project are the goals of the people of the 6th and 7th wards. We spent the field period trying to create an indigenous movement within Kingston's ghetto. The KCAP is not so much an organization as it is a focal point for united community action.

A number of concrete accomplishments can be pointed to, but there is no end or resolution to the problems of the people. Our major effort was concentrated in the area of housing. The city of Kingston is divided into five areas to be inspected for violations of the city housing code. The 6th and 7th wards were left as the last area to be inspected. This meant that it would be at least five more years before the ghetto was to be inspected. By that time projected urban renewal plans would have made inspection all but impossible. We went before the city housing committee with the tenants of one apartment building in the 6th ward and presented their problems as typical, which they were, of most of the people in the ghetto. The result of that meeting and later meetings is that the 5th and 6th wards will be inspected immediately for violations.

We also met with the mayor several times. The citizens of the 5th and 6th wards presented their problems and made suggestions as to what should be done. The mayor has taken only limited concrete action at this time. However, he did come out publicly telling the people

in the urban renewal area to stay in their homes and make urban renewal fulfill its legal obligation to find them decent, standard apartments to move into. He has also begun a pilot private project to help people in the UR area to own their own homes. As a result of meeting with him a proposed bill to create a 2 per cent wage tax was changed so that people earning less than \$3,000 a year would be exempted. Changes of a minor nature were also made in government personnel.

Meetings were also held with Cong. Resnick and his staff. It seems likely that he will come out publicly for more public housing and a change in eligibility requirements for public housing in Kingston. We also met with Gov. Rockefeller, but he has taken no action thus far. We have had several meetings with officials from the local and federal Urban Renewal Agency. More people will be added to the relocation staff as a result of these meetings, including a Negro from the 6th ward, but little else has changed. A mass meeting was held and the people from the Urban Renewal area were given the chance to question various officials publicly. This meeting helped to educate the people downtown as to their rights and it also gave them a chance to state publicly their objections to the present UR plan.

We circulated a petition in the downtown area calling for a change in the UR program. We asked for more housing built for and by the public and that such housing should be situated

on sites that would give the people living in the project a sense of dignity. We also asked that the requirements for admission to public housing be changed. The vast majority of the people of the 6th ward, the current Urban Renewal area, signed this petition. We also forced the alderman of the 6th ward to present a bill to council asking for more public housing by demonstrating, through the petition, the feelings of the people who elected him.

We taught children after school and worked with other groups in trying to aid the quality of education in Kingston. We also helped to organize the people who were from the ghetto on the antioverty board, so that they had a voice in their own program. Documents and letters were sent to various church and civic leaders explaining the problems of Urban Renewal and urging them to take action. We also met with many of these same people, and today there are three different groups working on the problems of Urban Renewal.

We have also come a long way in making the KCAP a truly indigenous movement. Dozens of people worked actively with us and I hope this number will increase in the months to come.

Guy Farrell

Answer To A Conservative

To the Editor:

I am appalled at the irresponsibility of John Faylor's attack on the Bard Racial Action Committee. His arguments

(Continued on Page Two)

Bard Observer

THE BARD OBSERVER, the official publication of the Bard College Community, is issued every two weeks during the Fall and Spring Semesters.

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Editorial RUSSIAN ROULETTE?

The draft is now, as it has never been before, a subject of general concern. Students are now subject to military call, with grades and the deferment test being the determining factors. *The Observer* would like to cite several passages from the editorial in the current Saturday Review, entitled "Russian Roulette in the Classroom." It was written by Norman Cousins.

"And now it is officially decreed that good grades are required for draft deferral. The effect is to make military service a form of banishment. 'The teacher doesn't exist and the computer has yet to be devised that can peer deeply enough into the mind of every student to calibrate precisely what is happening to him in the process of learning . . . When the determination involves which youngsters are to go off to fight in Vietnam and which youngsters are to continue their education without interruption, even the best (determinations) aren't good enough. No self-respecting teacher will welcome this kind of power . . . It converts the report card into a scorecard for Russian roulette.

And a final thought:

"The new draft regulations are helping to reduce to an absurdity the role of marks in the making of an educated man."

P.M.

A SLUM

There is probably a very good reason that the demolition of the Dwelling Units has been in a state of suspension for the last seven weeks just as there was probably a good reason that the destruction of the old army barracks took more than a semester last year.

But the age of good reasons has come to an end. We are tired of being embarrassed by this pop art creation when parents and friends come to visit.

LETTERS TO EDITOR

(Continued from Page One)

against BRAC display complete ignorance of our goals and accomplishments over the past two and a half years. Mr. Faylor has never been to a BRAC meeting, nor has he ever talked to the people in the sixth and seventh wards in Kingston. John, pray tell us the source of your incorrect information?

Mr. Faylor accuses BRAC of "proselytizing" in Kingston. Are we "converting" members through the dance program, the tutorial, or the arts and crafts? Surely, there must be easier ways of "bringing our doctrine" to the people other than teaching them how to dance.

What of the community organization project? The people who have worked in this project believe in . . . the establishment of a democracy of individual participation governed by two central aims: that the individual share in those social decisions determining the quality and direction of his life; that society be organized to encourage independence in men and provide media for their common participation . . .

There are many who give lip-service to this conception but in terms of actual programs, no one is acting upon it. Witness the welfare system which is manipulative, tyrannical, and inadequate. Witness the federal anti-poverty program which is controlled by businessmen and well-intentioned ladies who can organize charity balls but know nothing about poverty. Witness urban renewal, and city redevelopment programs which turn out to be negro removal and community destruction projects. If you think these are exaggerations go to Kingston, Newark, Harlem, Roxbury, or Watts.

Mr. Faylor states, "There are people on this campus who do object to BRAC's notion of Civil Rights in 1966. There are people on this campus who would question the proposition that the attainment of civil rights demand 'radical social change.'" But these people remain outside the purview of BRAC's liberality. . . . How do they know? They have not spoken to the twenty people most active in BRAC. As for "radical social change" this is my own personal conception, not BRAC's official policy; it has none.

Along with the other members of the Gadfly contributors, Mr. Faylor criticizes the purchase of a "community vehicle." The combined travel allowance allowed for BRAC and "The Observer" alone has totaled at least \$2,000 over the past two years. It is false econ-

ART REVIEW:

Student Show

by Dana Haussamen

The main criticism I have always heard about the Bard art department is its lack of seriousness. "They're just messing around down there," one Literature major commented. This exhibit proves that the students are working, and the result is good.

More importantly, the exhibit shows a group of individuals struggling with their own ways of expression. In other words the work doesn't smell of anatomy classes and text books. A lack of discipline is another criticism of the art department, and one which I agreed with before seeing this show. One can see that the students are imposing their own discipline, and this is far superior to any academic training. They have not learned drawing before composition, or composition before color; they are struggling with all of these, perhaps concentrating on color to resolve this painting or referring to anatomy to improve another. So that the result is a personal expression, not a slick or commercial piece of mediocrity.

The new graphics department and Mr. Philips' special studio have added a much needed variety to Proctor, and the results are professional and sensitive.

Of the student's work particular note should be taken of the paintings by Nancy Newman, one large, impressive torso (painting) by Lonnie Yongue, David Houston's work, and the etchings by Jane Van Loon.

The Proctor Art Center is doing well. I urge everyone to see the show, and find out that they are not "just messing around."

omy to continue paying for private vehicles. Plainly, BRAC had the greatest need for the vehicle and could not continue to function without it. But this by no means excludes the use of the bus in the future by other college organizations.

John Faylor who is co-chairman of the Bernard Iddings Bell Conservative Society, clearly does not see eye to eye with me as to what civil rights means or what BRAC should do. Mr. Faylor like so many others of his kind seems trapped in an ivory tower of conservative platitudes, always willing to criticize those in the streets but unwilling to act himself. If Mr. Faylor really wants to know let him come to the sixth ward, let him talk to the people, and then perhaps he can tell us what he thinks is needed.

Craig Livingston

Barn Sessions II

by Robert Judd

The nature of discussion itself is, perhaps the most vital element in determining the successful continuation of the barn session concept. But the pitfalls of discussion are many and the unwary easily fall into irrelevant digression. Thus, the willingness of the participants to labor after constructive and increasingly precise answers is necessary in order to avoid what would otherwise become "intellectual masturbation."

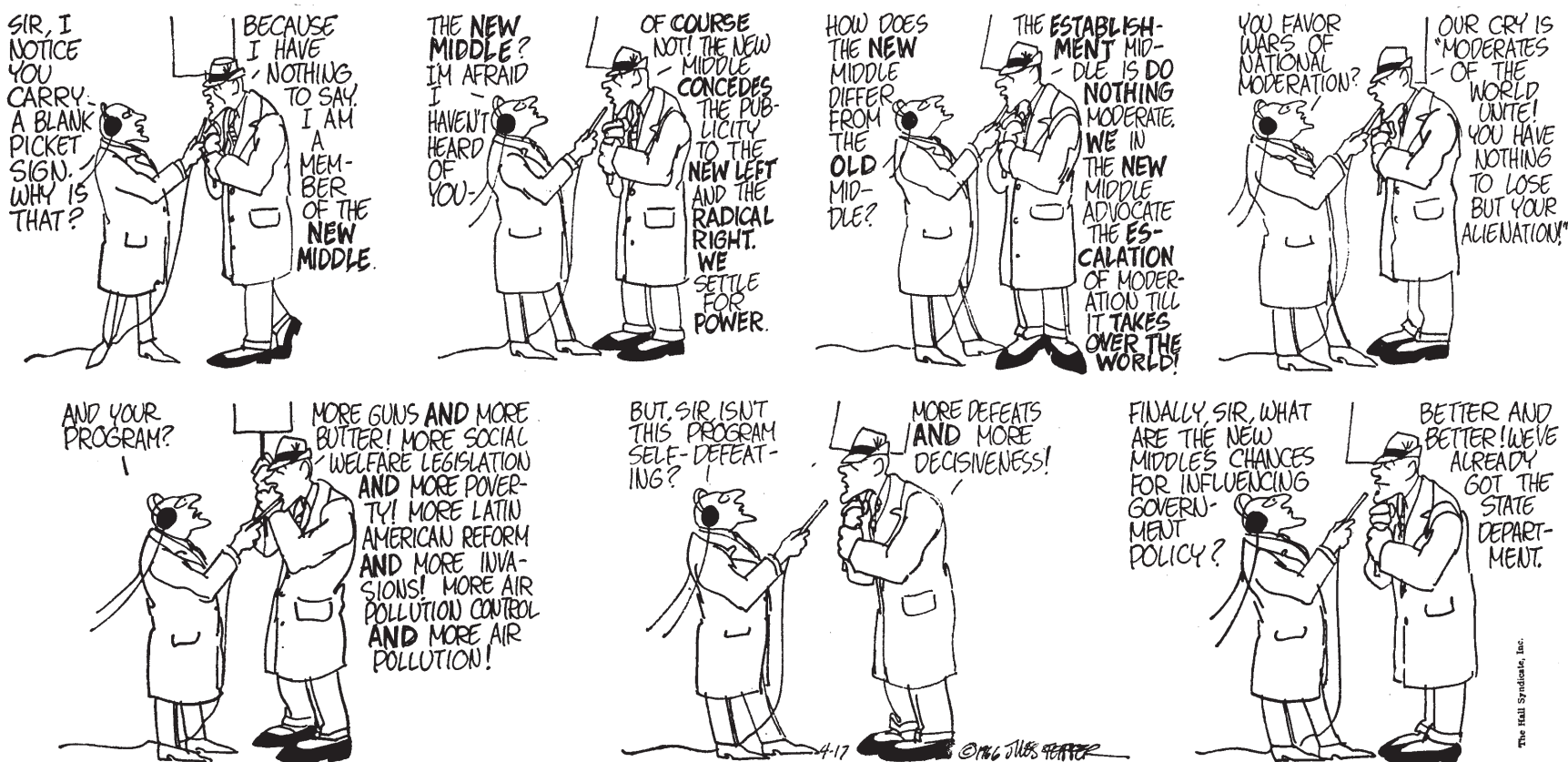
There are two basic elements implicit in the barn discussions and to grasp these is to understand what the participant must demand of himself.

The first of these fundamentals is called "structured spontaneity." It is agreed that no one wants to stifle the spontaneous development and exchange of ideas, but spontaneity uncontained would lead to chaos. Therefore there must be some general basis, some "common denominator" from which to start discussion and to which it should be returned whenever it is felt that minds have wandered too far. Some coalescing factor such as basic reading of one text, or the advance announcement of a general topic serves to structure everyone's frame of reference, but it does not impede spontaneity. This also allows the individual the advantage of prior preparation, if he or she is so inclined.

The most uniquely "Helleristic" aspect of the discussion is the concept of "killing it." This process is uncomplicated, involving the asking of a question; and the re-asking and asking and asking over and again until one finds that he can no longer ask—he must answer. If one can accept his own answer, it is hoped that one will act; whether to implement change where change is demanded or to reinforce beliefs in the light of truth strengthened by its collision with error.

The barn sessions, so far as they embody the Bard approach to education, have a significance which cannot easily be overlooked. Thus as long as interest persists in such endeavors, it seems to me vital that these interests should not go unattended. Yet with the increasing response these sessions are attracting, there is the risk that discussion will stifle itself by becoming too massive to be able to cope with complexities in a meaningful way. What this situation seems to imply is the need for a diversity of discussion groups particularly adapted to meet the needs of varying interests and concerns.

For once the problem of creating the atmosphere of discussion, is solved, the remaining question is that of the individual's willingness to participate. In such a case, were the barn session a matter of limited consequence important to one person only, the deprivation of such activity would still be of great concern.



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Council Professor

(Continued from Page One)

principle concern in hiring such a professor would be to bring to the College a person who could teach courses not presently taught at Bard and provide his own unique scholarly approach. Hhe would also be available for discussion and debate with Bard faculty, with vesity lecturers, and with student panels.

The money to support this professor could either be set aside by Council in a lump sum, as port of its budget, or could be raised by increasing each student's Convocation fee by \$5 a semester. This increase would amount to between \$5,000 and \$6,000 a year and could be divided in several ways, according to the judgment of the Committee set up by Council to administer the funds.

The plan calls for setting up a Committee, appointed by the Community Council, to poll the student body for its suggestions, to investigate the possibilities for hiring those professors proposed, and to handle finances. Exactly how the membership of such a Committee should be divided among students of different divisions is still under consideration by the Community Council study group, but David feels that the division of EPC membership is a good model. He believes that requirements for membership and standards of procedure should be very flexible, varying from semester to semester.

The questions of who would be invited to fill such a position and in what area of study will be placed in the hands of the student body itself. The Committee would ask for suggestions by way of a questionnaire. Those professors suggested would be investigated by the committee, and the faculty would be consulted as to each man's competence in his field. Then a list would be submitted to the student body for a final vote. The person receiving the most votes will be considered first choice, and so on.

In such a way, Bard students could have a direct share in filling whatever deficiencies they find to exist in present course offerings. The possibility of a different approach to education provided either by a controversial man who has earned his reputation justly, or by a strong scholar in a specialized field not offered at Bard, is an integral part of David Young's proposal.

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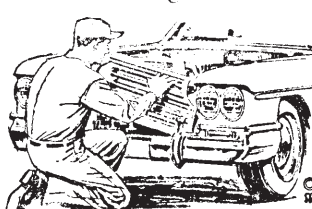
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MICROFILM

(Continued from Page One)

snap, and Council representatives Harvey Flettwood and Toni Marzani decided upon: \$1,000 for new subscriptions, \$1,000 to have our collection of the New York Times put on film, \$1,000 for new film.

Mr. Fessler said he plans to begin this summer to put the library's collection of Senior Projects on film. This, however, will be paid for out of the library's regular budget.

Fessler explained that the microfilm program is designed to aid such problems as preserving the periodicals intact, allowing Bard to increase its collection, and making this collection more available for use. The copier is a boon to the reserve-book situation, and although microfilm cannot be taken out overnight, copies can be made of a book's essential pages. The machines are available for use whenever the library is open—this includes weekends.

Some objections to the use of microfilm here are 1) that it is difficult and time-consuming to use. It is no more difficult or time-consuming than learning what books are located on what levels in the library. 2) The possibility of vandalism or machine damage will greatly reduce the

availability of the material. This complaint is better applied to the bound volumes. If a machine is broken, it can be repaired. If a book is stolen, it is stolen. And the chances of machine theft are much less than that of book theft. How often has it happened that someone has not returned the reserve-shelf material on time, or that the particular issue of the magazine you needed didn't seem to be anywhere around? And unless a person has a microfilm reader in his room, he will not benefit by stealing the rolls of film. For those of us who are yet

attached to the bound volumes, the question may be asked: "What are we interested in?"



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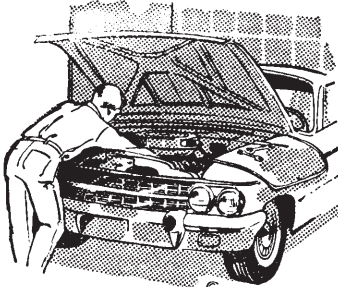
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SAVE 75% on your Dry Cleaning

DRY CLEAN — 8 lbs.	\$1.50
9 DRESSES (approx.)	1.50
10 SLOPOVER SWEATERS (approx.)	1.50
3 LIGHTWEIGHT or 2 HEAVY SUITS	1.50
DRYERS — 50 lbs.	10 min. .10
WASH — 8 lbs. DRY WEIGHT 25	25 lbs. .50

Harold's Snack Bar

ANNANDALE-ON-HUDSON



DAVID SACKS, Prop.

Sandwiches
of All Kinds

BEER
WINE
LIQUOR

Closed Tuesday