

BENNINGTON COLLEGE LIBRARY

The Bennington Weekly

Vol. 1—No. 8

Friday, November 3, 1950

10 Cents

Should National Student Association Stay On Campus?

No, Maintains Exec. Committee

by Georgie Maxfield

The question I would like to answer is whether or not the NSA is wanted or needed on the Bennington campus. The information I have has come solely from what the present NSA committee has reported to the Executive Committee in the several meetings we have had together.

I feel that the one strong argument for retaining the NSA on this campus is that it would affect our Public Relations. However, in light of all other things, I question whether or not we should retain our membership for that reason only. First of all, I feel that the promotion of our educational ideas should come at the high school level rather than at the college level for the following reasons:

1) The present college student has already committed himself to certain educational standards and methods. In the course of his four years in college he serves not contemporaries, but the coming generation of college students. It may be argued that through the NSA our ideas can be given to other schools so that they can set the machinery in operation for our type of education. However, we can not say that our way is any better—if we think that it is, then it is up to us to prove it. I believe that it will be of more value to prove it to prospective college students.

2) Laboring under the assumption that the prospective college student is of more importance than our contemporaries I doubt seriously if the membership in the NSA would mean much either way to a high school student and, therefore, the Public Relations would not affect us.

3) Within educational circles, Bennington College is well known,

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Yes, Says NSA Representative

by Betsy Field

A fact really implicit in education is that we have the right to improve ourselves and our colleges. From this rather obvious statement I shall attempt to show you why Bennington College should belong to the National Students' Association.

It is presumptuous to suppose that Bennington is such an excellent institution that it needs no improvement. It is also rather selfish of us to say that because we are the "experimenting grounds" for new educational theories we should keep them for ourselves. Belonging to the National Students' Association gives us a chance to come in contact with other colleges on an official basis, not only to gain ideas, but to show them how the things that they are working for have been already put into effect at Bennington College. It gives us a chance to share with other colleges those things of which we are proud, and a chance to appreciate their achievements.

Because of the variety of types of colleges found in the National Students' Association, we are provided with a very efficient means of communication in a vast area of ideas and activity within the student's life. Art tours, exchange of music groups, ideas as to the improvement of the student's economic welfare can be organized with a great deal more efficiency than would ever be possible on an individual level. We would have contacts with colleges that would never be possible except for a national organization.

Specifically, the National Students' Association can do two things for Bennington. The first is to provide excellent public relations in a field heretofore untouched either by Ted Goodman's

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Hartz Talks On Nullification

Discusses the Problem of Minority Interests in Gov't.

How to achieve a balanced political system whereby the minority is protected from the majority and the diversified interests are able to achieve a unity of policy, was the main question raised last Monday night by Louis Hartz, American Values speaker, in his discussion of the Act of Nullification.

Professor Hartz said that the crisis of 1832, when South Carolina declared a state sovereign and therefore constitutionally within its rights to nullify a federal law, or to secede from the Union, did not produce a peculiarly American response.

Growing Economic Differences

The philosophy which prompted South Carolina, an agricultural state, to attempt to stop adverse measures put through by the manufacturing north, was an aspect of their growing economic differences. In the south wealth was based on real property and the slave economy, but these interests lagged behind the powerful industrial north with its base capital of cash. These differences were only momentarily allayed by the compromise tariff of 1832, and finally broke out, as is usual in such deep-seated controversies, in war.

Nullification Argument

The nullification argument which South Carolinians set forth was a contradiction in terms, Professor Hartz declared, since at the same time that it proclaimed the right of minorities (and in this case the states) to nullify federal law, it suppressed the minority interests within its own framework—namely, the Unionists.

If the theory of plurality rule as against the prevailing system of majority decision were put into practice, the ultimate result would be anarchy, from which the minorities might emerge in an even less elastic position than they previously occupied, since the reaction leading to an authoritarian state is an almost invariable rule of the political process.

The situation in the Security Council today, Mr. Hartz concluded, where each interest has a veto, is analogous to the system which South Carolina attempted to defend. In both cases the interests concerned retain their individual sovereignty.

Students Help Community And Themselves At The Same Time

The main project of Mr. Hanks' Community Field Work class is now well started under the guidance of Sondra Tschachasov. She has developed a competent system of finding the posts which need filling in the community and discovering interested and equipped students to fill them. Sunny Batlin and June Wineburg are doing art and recreation with the children at the North Bennington grade school.

Ruth Becker has organized two after school groups for the children at the Hick school at the Church of God, which the Reverend Foreman has been generous enough to lend for that purpose. Ruth has done a great many things with her groups, ranging from hikes and popcorn parties to painting and modeling in clay. Cynthia Morton is taking a twenty-four hour training course with the Red Cross which will enable her to do some social work with families of servicemen

Sundgaard Writes Biology Book

About two years ago Arnold Sundgaard was innocently sitting on a train bound for Urbana, Ill., when he started a conversation with the man next to him. In the course of the conversation, the man said he was an architect—primarily a designer of operating rooms—and at this time affiliated with the Medical College at the University of Illinois. When Mr. Sundgaard said, in turn, that he was a writer, the architect asked him if he would like to write a book. Mr. Sundgaard said yes—and this is the incident that precipitated the writing of the book, *The Miracle of Growth*, which was published this year by the University of Illinois Press at Urbana. The book was written in collaboration with the University Committee on Medical Sciences, and the information in the book is based on the University of Illinois exhibit at the Museum of Science and Industry. The exhibit which was shown at the Museum had been so interesting that visitors asked for pamphlets concerning the material in the exhibit. The Medical College of the University responded to these requests with *The Miracle of Growth*.

Mr. Sundgaard has been preparing himself for writing such a book since 1938 when he worked for the Federal Theatre and wrote a play called *Spirochete*—in collaboration with two doctors—tracing the medical history of syphilis. In 1940, he worked with the U. S. Public Health Service, and since then he has been extremely interested in the medical field. He did research for the book in New York in the summer of 1949 and wrote the book in the fall of 1949 "between counseling periods".

The Miracle of Growth follows life from the embryo through adolescence. It discusses the fetus and the mother, birth, heredity and environment, the infant, pre-school years, and adolescence. The purpose of the book is full-filled in that it is easily understood by the layman—child or adult. The language is simple, and as unscientific as possible. Illustration Studio at the University of Illinois carefully drew up the illustrations which complement the text. The book is well-

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Dance Plans Completed

PROMISES TO BE GOOD TURNOUT

Dance weekend is here and it promises to be one of the best ever. It is still not too late to get your ticket and join in the fun that has been carefully planned by the Recreation Council. Come one, come all.

A ticket for the entire program costs \$8 and includes the following events:

Saturday lunch in the dining rooms—12:30-1:30.

Baseball game—5:00.

Cocktail party in Kilpatrick house—5:15-6:30.

Dinner—6:30.

Drama Production—8:15.

Dance—10:30-2:00.

A ticket for the dance alone costs \$5. This does not include dinner. You must buy regular meal tickets and show your dance ticket upon entering the dining room. Tickets must be shown at all meals, at the cocktail party and at the dance.

The dance is formal and an eight piece band from Dartmouth, The Green Collegians, will supply the music. The octet will entertain at the dance and at the cocktail party. Refreshments will be served.

Men must be off campus by 3:00 on Saturday night.

The State Line will stay open late after the dance but in order to get in you must be there by 3. The faculty and the administration are cordially invited to attend and it is the sincere wish of the Recreation Council and the students that there will be a large turnout.

The Big Idea

Majors Were a Matter of Chance in Early Years

It is a policy at Bennington to encourage the student to explore various fields of study until she discovers for herself where her interests lie. This idea, to some extent, may have taken root in the "Trial Major" system which was tried upon the first student body in 1932. When a girl entered Bennington, then, and this is generally true at the present time, she had no specific focus in a particular field. In order to give her some kind of direction in her work, she was immediately assigned to a faculty counselor who presented her with a tentative project on which to start working, as though it were her major. The system was not successful, however, because it curtailed exploration into other fields. For the most part, counselors forgot that the meaning of "Trial" was exploration. They used a kind of imperialistic method of grabbing a good student and forcing her to work in one line of study, or, if she did not appear very bright, they might transfer her to another field. In any case the emphasis was placed upon faculty rather than student decision.

Among our first graduates in 1936, Bessie Schonberg is still outstanding in the dance field. She taught at the initial Bennington Summer School of the Dance, and is now Director of Dance at Sarah Lawrence.

Early N. R. T.

The early Non-resident Term did not stress jobs so much as it did experience in travel and study. It covered a period of six weeks instead of the ten we are now accustomed to. December

(Continued on Page 4)

Fowlie Work on Surrealism Out Nov. 15

First Study of Subject By An American Critic

Professor Wallace Fowlie, of the language department at college, will have his full-dress study of surrealism, *Age of Surrealism*, published by The Swallow Press and William Morrow and Company, New York, on November 15.

The doctrines of surrealism have persistently affected American writers and artists, and Professor Fowlie's—the first by an American critic—study is expressly designed for Americans. He gets to the heart of his subject by discussing eight of the most important men in the movement: Lautreaumont, who provided the temperament; Rimbaud, the doctrine; Mallarme, the myth; Apollinaire, the poet; Breton, the manifestos; Cocteau, the theater; Eluard, the doctrine of love; and Picasso, the art of surrealism. He rounds out his study with a general survey of the growth of surrealism and a summary of its achievements and its place today.

Professor Fowlie is a native of Brookline, Massachusetts, and was educated at Harvard (A. B. 1930; A. M. 1933; Ph. D. 1936). He taught French at Harvard, Bennington College, and Yale, and from 1946 to 1950 was Associate Professor of French Literature at the University of Chicago.

Cries of Obscurantism Bring Change in Silo Policy

This fall the Silo, Bennington literary magazine, will undergo a change in policy, members of the board announced last week. November 15th, the deadline for the submission of all literary and art material, will also be the deadline for the submission of papers done in the field of art history, drama, dance, music, political science and natural science.

It is hoped that with the inclusion of work done by other than people whose primary interest lies in literature per se the Silo will expand in bulk, arouse more widespread interest and invalidate the accusation that Silo has been veiled in literary obscurantism.

Writing being done outside of classes would be of particular interest to the magazine, the board feels. Plans are being formulated to publish sections of senior theses. An influx of material on a variety of subjects and in a variety of forms would be welcomed by the Silo staff in the conviction that literature includes any formal writing.

Mr. Arnold Sundgaard and Mr. Oliver Garceau have been elected to the board as faculty advisers in the fields of drama and social science.

The new adviser in the field of literature is Mr. Robert Stange. Mr. Francis Golfing and Daniel Shapiro continue as advisers in literature and art respectively.

The Bennington Weekly

Published by Students of Bennington College

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES

On Campus	\$1.40 Per Term—\$2.75 Per Year
Off Campus	\$1.50 Per Term—\$3.00 Per Year

EDITORIAL

When a problem like NSA standing on campus is brought to the attention of the Community it is news the first week, of slight interest the second, bothersome the third week, and forgotten after that. And justifiably.

When no action is taken on such a matter, people begin to get tired of the endless talk; even the students who originally instigated the matter become discouraged. The particular body in which final decision of NSA standing ends is then free to do what it pleases, since the Community, whatever its original wishes, has now ceased to care, or even have an opinion.

Executive Committee has been discussing the National Students' Association, and what its function should be on campus, since the second week of Fall Term. Executive Committee does not think that there is a place for this body in Bennington, but it has been considering the matter, since NSA does exist, and since its representatives think it should be an active organization. Now even the representatives are tired of trying to force action.

Executive Committee is now free to do what it pleases, which will probably be to discuss it for a while longer. If any decision at all is forthcoming, it will be solely its own, since plans to present it to the students at Community Meeting were thought about (in that second week of fall term) but never crystalized.

No, Maintains Exec. Committee

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but only in the higher educational circles. The fact that it is known means that we don't have to propagate our ideas other than to remind them that our system does work. If Public Relations is the problems then we should concentrate on propagating our ideas to the high school level of education through school principals, administration, etc., in order that interest in Bennington can be stimulated, and I don't see how the machinery of the NSA can achieve this.

4) The NSA committee feels there are several other advantages to belonging to the organization. The first thing is the problem of student apathy. Due to the makeup of this campus the ideas and suggestions that the committee has already obtained and has suggested, I do not feel are practicable. If interest is to be stimulated then it must come from within the campus and most especially the house unit. I feel that the apathy we are acquainted with is of slightly different color than that of other schools. The aim of the college, briefly being the development of the individual, does not call for a unified campus, or rah-rah college spirit if it is to be called that . . . and I'm not too sure that our educational principles could be maintained under such a situation. However, from what I have gathered, the committee is concerned with apathy in the realm of participation in student activities (fund raising drives, social activities, elections, etc.) If these are the things they are concerned with and the apathy in these areas is a problem, then I have a tendency to feel that the interest of the students could be stimulated by

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Yes, Says NSA Representative

(Continued from Page 1)

office or Miss Shelly among college students themselves. The second function is to provide a coordinating committee on campus that will provide for Bennington's activities on a wider scale outside the bounds of the college. It will keep new ideas circulating, publicize the student government activities on and off campus, as well as keep a close contact with general problems of the college with which the existing committees are too busy to deal.

The program for the N. S. A. committee on campus this year, for example, is to institute a system whereby the student of Bennington College will get a ten per cent discount on all merchandise bought in a N. S. A. store. It will arrange for the exchange of the Octet, and the String Quartet groups with corresponding colleges, and will help wherever needed.

One of the most important aspects of the National Students' Association, however, is its relationship to outside groups. The N. S. A. is the representation of the body of American students. It would be a great pity if a college with as much prestige, and significance in the educational world as we have, would not be able to be represented in what is itself a new educational idea; it would be a great pity not to be able to influence the policy of an organization that affects the lives of so many students in so many colleges.

Never before has the United States had a group within its boundaries that worked specifically to better the lot of the student in the educational, cultural, and economic aspects of his life. Never before have the students in the United States had the means by which they can make themselves heard on a level that will

Employers Judge College By the Students They See

Do you realize how much responsibility rests on your shoulders when you are applying for a job and then holding down a job during the non-resident term itself? Every student is responsible for herself as well as Bennington College. Oftentimes an employer can only judge the college by your interview alone. That is why it is particularly important to handle yourself in the best manner possible . . . But what does this mean?

Here is a quote from an employer: "If you and Bennington College will pardon the observation, I might say that one of the first lessons which would be advisable for your students to learn would be to make up their minds what they want to do, or whom they wish to 'contact' before troubling the busy officials of major institutions".

Many students follow up leads when they are still undecided as to what kind of job they would really like to have. They are prone to accept the first job offered them and then if something better comes up, to change their minds in favor of the second job. The student never made it clear to the first employer that she was undecided and not sure she would take the job offered her. It is extremely annoying and inconvenient for the employer. Naturally, after a commitment he expects the student to follow through with her plans. He then gets the idea that all Bennington students are "flighty" and not suitable for the business world. Such action leaves a bad impression indeed.

A helpful way to avoid such a mishap is to do some straight, practical thinking on what you actually wish to accomplish in a job. Narrow your choices down to the minimum, and then contact employers who most fit these ideas. If the first employer offers you a job, it is an excellent practice to tell him you are undecided, and "could you let him know in a week or two?", etc. Don't make promises to employers that you don't intend to keep. Generally, an employer can wait for your answer for a week or two, so don't be afraid to tell him the truth.

If you decide not to take a job offered to you and you know another student who would be interested in it, perhaps you could tactfully suggest this to the employer.

be recognized by educators, statesmen, and politicians. A large organization such as this becomes a power which must be reckoned with.

We are more than Bennington College students, we are American Students with a responsibility to work with others and to help others that are less fortunate than we. This is a way in which we can lend a direct hand to improve education not only for ourselves but for future generations of college students in the United States.

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of oval thoughts
Peek around
A ragged circumference.
Imagination's
Lucid glass;
Wafer fragility
Splinters in the palm of Chance.
S. C.

TEA

Buckle up your words
To shine and curl
In sweet vapors
Around their heads.

Small almond eyes
Slip their way.
The bigger men sing
A come along song.

S. C.

Notices

What are the ideas that transform to action? How do we consciously set about the refinement, the mastery, of our mental and spiritual nature?—Release a new force!

To grow into oneself is to grow to group-consciousness.

Let's clarify our ideas, through discussion. Next meeting: Monday, November 6, at 7:45 in Stokes-Sanford, room 11.

If anyone would be interested in attending a Friends' Meeting held weekly in Arlington would she please get in touch with Barbara Allen. Transportation is available.

Missing from the library—Steps to Parnassus, by Fux.

THANKSGIVING DAY OFF

There will be a whole day's vacation on Thanksgiving this year, instead of a half day, it was announced recently, since the majority of the Community preferred it so.

When the calendar was revised last Spring, calculations were made assuming this to be a one-day holiday so now, with the Community's concurrence, the original plans are being carried out.

MANCHESTER PLAYHOUSE

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Sun., Mon., Tues., Nov. 5-6-7
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Wed. and Thurs., Nov. 8-9
"SIDE STREET"
Friday and Saturday, Nov. 10-11
"THE GOLDEN GLOVES STORY"
also
"ROLL, THUNDER, ROLL"
Sunday and Monday, Nov. 12-13
"BORN TO BE BAD"
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COMMITTEE FUND ALLOCATIONS

Once each term the college contributes \$100.00 to be distributed between the committees under the Student Fund. Judicial and Executive committees have been allocated \$30.00 each, and Recreation Council \$40.00.

This money will go for phone bills, guests' meals, secretarial services, in the case of Judicial and Exec, and will be used for athletic equipment by Rec. Council.

COLLEGE ENTRANCE DINETTE

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What's News

By Lorraine Lubart

Liz Ivory is going to spend this Non-Resident Term in Wendover, Kentucky, with the Frontier Nursing Service.

Charmian Duce is returning to college today after recuperating from pneumonia.

Halloween was very quiet on campus this year. Aside from the usual spooks, there was a small party in Franklin and about ten small parties going around from house to house "trick or treat". These last looked very much like certain members of the faculty only smaller.

True friend of the week: Fay Sigel, who wore Ken Hamilton's fraternity pin for reasons of friendship.

Mary Lynn Hart, Leila Inslee, Helen Schenker, Herma Schiffer, and I will appear on "Leave It to the Girls", on WMS next Thursday evening at 9:30. We're going to discuss the social problems of Williams boys again.

On alternate Thursdays one may probe the aethiological secret of aleitological occurrences in Stokes 22-23.

A student who spent her week-end down at Williams, reports that the fraternity which she stayed at served a new and fascinating dish for Sunday. Beef-steak a la Hasenclever! Counted the kittens lately, Mrs. Montesinos?

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What One Teacher Thinks Of His Students

Or—If Your Term Paper Is Late, Don't Use These Excuses

1. I was drunk.
2. It was too nice a day for work.
3. This Williams boy said he had some notes I could use...
4. I'd rather not do it at all (hand it in late) than not do a good job...
5. One of the girls in my suite had an engagement party, and it was impossible to work.
6. I broke (sprained, got a blister on) my typing finger.
7. I gave it to this girl to type, and she left college for the week-end.
8. It's written but not typed yet.
9. I was just bringing it over when it blew away (got wet in the rain).
10. Someone spilled a drink on it.
11. Judicial Committee took up so much time this week (one way and another).
12. I was working so fast the type faces melted.
13. reserved
14. Was it due today?
15. Didn't I hand it in last Thursday?
16. I spoke to three other girls and they hadn't done theirs.
17. This is a very long paper.
18. I couldn't get the books.
19. The lights went out from ten until five last night.
20. You can't blame me more than I blame myself. (No?)
21. I had papers to do for Mr. M.... Mr.... and Miss.... (in other words, what the hell is so important about your course?—teachers always favor this one)
22. I fell asleep.
23. I did it but I tore it up. I couldn't hand in a thing like that—I guess I'm just a perfectionist.
24. A very dear friend suddenly got married (divorced, ill, murdered) and I had to be there.
25. I wanted to use some information in my paper for Mr., but I haven't got it back yet.
26. (Mystical and special... rare). I don't feel I've quite reached a final integration.
27. I think I understand the work... but I just can't seem to get it down on paper.
28. Rehearsal for workshop (drama, music, dance). This is a general area covering also Silo meetings and all extra-curricular activities which are, it is implied, of inconceivably greater value than any course).
29. I'd planned to be back Saturday night and work on it all Sunday, but (here followeth the natural calamity

314-Year Ban Stripped Off For Harvard Art Students

Reprinted from the New York Times,
October 28.

Cambridge, Mass., Oct. 27—The faculty of the Fine Arts Department of Harvard University decided "in a quiet business-like way" today to break a 314-year-old ban and let art students sketch nude women.

The students requested permission to draw and paint nudes because they were tired of painting apples and landscapes. The models will pose in the studio of the Harvard Art Association atop Sever Hall, and only the twenty-two members will be allowed in.

The association is accepting no new members.

- or Act of God—snow, flood, breakdown, collision, etc.)
30. I showed it to Christabel, and she said that wasn't what you wanted at all.
 31. I've wanted to talk with you about my problems for a long time...
 32. Don't you feel that's an awful lot to deal with in one paper?
 33. If only you'd made the assignment (or the deadline) a little earlier.
 34. I gave it to my counselor to read, and he said I'd better not hand in anything that looked like that.
 35. (tears).
 36. Why don't you just flunk me? I know I'm no good. I've had a lot of trouble this term.
 37. If you gave me an incomplete I could send it to you from Paris.
 38. I've got so interested in this subject, I don't see how I can deal with it in one measly term paper.
 39. I didn't come to college just to get good reports.
 40. I'm not coming back next year anyway.
 41. I got a slight neurosis over the week-end, but I'm better now.

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Coming Movies At College

"Tawny Pipit", starring Wendy Hiller, and "Ivan the Terrible" are the last two films in this term's series. They will be shown on November 11 and 18 respectively.

"Tawny Pipit" is a comedy about an English community which is devoted to watching a rare bird called the Tawny Pipit. Various complications set in not least of which is the war and the company of soldiers which is scheduled to march through the bird's shrine. Their route, however, is successfully diverted thus averting a major catastrophe.

"Ivan the Terrible" is a biography of events occurring during the reign of the Czar, and bears upon the development of contemporary Russia. The musical score was composed by Prokofiev.

Looking back upon the total program for this term, the variety of languages represented has been a veritable one man United Nations project. There have been films in English (from England), English (from the United States; there's a difference), French, Italian, Russian, and Yiddish. There was a German film scheduled which for technical reasons had to be withdrawn; however, the intention was there.

Next term an attempt will be made to correlate part of the program with the evening lectures in the American Response to Crisis Series. In so far as possible certain lectures will either be preceded or followed by an appropriate film. For example, around the time of the lecture called "The Dust Bowl" in which soil conservation will be discussed "The Grapes of Wrath" will be shown.

ADAMS CLOTHES SHOP

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And This Is How It Happened—

One of the Bennington Community who has been "waiting on" for this half of the term, went home this week for a well deserved rest. She reports the following frightening dream however, which might possibly serve as a warning to the Community at large:

"I was standing by a 'ten' in the Center Dining-room and I kept on asking, 'How many milk, coffee, tea, how many milk, coffee, tea; but nobody would answer. So finally I started back to the kitchen. Just when I was half way back, somebody screamed, 'I want coffee! I want coffee.' I went into the kitchen. I got the biggest cup of coffee I could find, about a tub-full. It was boiling hot. I took it back to that girl and poured it over her head. She was burnt to a crisp..."

When asked by a Williams man if a horse had stepped on her face she replied, "Oh no, I go to Vas-sar".

—Stolen from Yale Record.

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No, Maintains Exec. Committee

(Continued from Page 2)

methods that we all know (announcements, talks, enthusiasm on the part of a committee involved, etc.) and would question the use of having the NSA as the promoting factor in this stimulation. I don't think that this campus needs any new ideas and I'm not too sure that apathy is a problem (except maybe to Rec. Council). What is needed is student body officials, having been elected to the committees by the students taking the lead which heretofore has never been done to any great extent.

The next matter to be considered is that of the educational advantages to be obtained from membership in the NSA. The committee seems to feel that it would be a great advantage for Bennington to have the contacts, which could be had through the membership, for obtaining college touring groups, and the opportunity for having Bennington groups on tour. Here I would say that the NSA is stepping into the work of our EPC. Having served a year on that committee I have had the opportunities to learn a great deal about our educational system and the limitations of a division representative. I strongly feel that the division representative can serve the same functions that the committee is sponsoring and I don't feel that the NSA could do any more than she could, unless it be that the NSA would have information for the representative on file. EPC members as a united committee can serve the Community to a wider extent than it is already doing. The division representative is also in a position where she can arrange for the students to make tours, take part in exhibits, etc. It would certainly require a lot more work than the division representative is used to, but the fact remains that she is in a position to do it. It might be argued that the division representative already has a job and this overloading of work is too much to ask of her and therefore the NSA service in this realm could help her. Here I think it is necessary to keep in mind the fact that the division representative, by working closely with the division can appoint or have elected any number of students to help her. By working closely with the faculty members of her division she also can make good contacts by their recommendations for speakers; student suggestions, another source for such things. . . . Also in relation to the subject of our contacts with other colleges in this area, the division representative and/or the EPC can do a great deal for establishing contacts on the academic level if the students feel that this outside contact is wanted.

In conclusion, I would like to add that the characteristic feature of our student government is its flexibility. Changes can be made with relative ease and there is ample room for suggestions and participation by everyone connected with the college. With such a

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The Big Idea

(Continued from Page 1)

twenty-third until February twenty-third marked the opening and closing dates in 1932. The period was lengthened by President Jones after the second World War because the ration board did not allow the college enough oil to maintain itself during the winter. Mr. Jones also felt that practical experience in holding a job was generally more valuable than work directly connected with academic life.

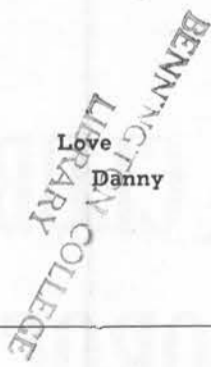
Mr. Brockway and his wife were actually the instigators of job getting at Bennington during the infancy of the N. R. T. They combined culture and practicality by taking a group of six girls to Mexico City one winter and helping them to find work. The girls saw native artists and sculptors at work in Mexico City, and took horseback rides through the colorful countryside, and to several of the local schools. As a result, one girl was inspired to paint some aspects of this new life, while another student made a study of the Mexican rural school system, and all returned to college filled with enthusiasm for the new N. R. T.

Library Hours Lengthened

Last Tuesday marked the inauguration of an experiment to lengthen library hours, which Mrs. Leslie is trying out: opening the library at 1:30 p. m. after the kitchen closes, instead of waiting until 2:00.

If enough students and faculty members take advantage of this extra time, it will become a permanent change. Otherwise the original one hour closing time, from 1:00 to 2:00 p. m., will be resumed.

situation I wonder if the NSA would fit in any better than our existing governmental system. If the membership in the NSA can give this campus better government, organization, and unity of purpose, and that is what the students want, it should be inaugurated. On the other hand, if the NSA can do no more than what our existing committees have the potentialities to do or are doing as the case may be, then what is the purpose of changing? As I understand it, the NSA as one committee would serve as a clearing house for the material and information that we already have separate committees working on. Is it not more functional to have one committee working on one aspect of our campus life than having one committee concentrating on all the functions? And, if our separate committees are not functioning well is not a possible solution found in a re-evaluation of the responsibilities, and obligations of the committees to the campus and the obligations of the individual members to their committees.



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Octet Sings At Skidmore

The Bennington College Octet sang, last Friday, at a "song fest" held at Skidmore College in Saratoga Springs, N. Y. The octet was under the impression that it was to be a small, informal gathering at which the various groups would swap songs and talk shop over beer. On arrival, however, they were informed that the performance was to be held in College Hall before an audience of one thousand people.

Seven groups participated, the program being opened by the Skidmore Sonneteers, followed by a newly-formed octet from Hamilton College "The Buffers", the Bennington College Octet and the Amherst "D. Q.'s". After a brief intermission the President of Skidmore and the head of the music department played a concerto for two pianos and a march by Rachmaninoff. The program was concluded by the "Schwiffs" of Connecticut College for Women, the Colgate '13' and the "Smiffen-poops" of Smith College.

The songs offered by the Octet were: Yama Man, Mood Indigo (done also by Colgate and Smith) I Gave My Love a Cherry, Waitin' and Careless Love.

The evening was very successful, judging from the audience reaction and the Octet is considering a song fest to be scheduled here at Bennington in the spring.

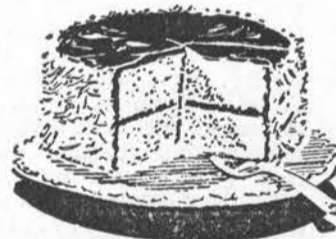
Sundgaard Writes Biology Book

(Continued from Page 1)

written and beautifully illustrated—extremely attractive and artfully compiled.

At present, *The Miracle of Growth* may be obtained from the Faculty Collection in the library.

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