

THE BEACON

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First Student in Bennington Graduate Department

Martha Humphreys, who graduated from Syracuse University last year, is studying piano and composition with Mr. Novak at Bennington this year. She plans to stay here a year and work towards her Master's degree. This inaugurates a new department in the College for those prepared. Plans are being made to accommodate graduate students in the literature fields.

At Syracuse, Martha studied under Mr. Novak, who instructed there before he came to Bennington. She comes from Denmark, South Carolina and went to Converse College before going to Syracuse. Along with her music, she takes one of Mr. Stange's English courses.

To be successful in music, as well as in almost everything, is, according to Martha, "to stick to it, take an objective approach, and try to achieve a broad understanding."

Impression of Bennington Is Favorable to Two New Members of College Staff

Grete Stueckgold: Voice

"Since Bennington has a high artistic standing, I felt it a great privilege to be asked to come and teach here," said Madame Grete Stueckgold, new member of the Bennington Faculty as voice instructor, and nationally known soprano opera soloist. Madame Stueckgold also said that any artist who has had the privilege of being under the leadership of such great artists as Richard Strauss, Arturo Toscanini and Walter Bruno, ought to consider it her duty to pass on knowledge from such masters.

When asked if she liked Bennington, her reply was immediate, "Who wouldn't like Bennington? I like it because of its spirit and its progressive education. Its surroundings are so beautiful, they are like a Garden of Eden. Everytime I go to New York, I get homesick for Bennington."

In relating her future plans, she said, "I hope to build up a voice department here so Bennington can finally have an opera workshop where scenes of the operas can be enacted. Since Bennington has the talent, the orchestra and

(Continued on page 3)

Importance of Non-Resident Term Emphasized by New Committee

Formed last semester by the campus survey, the Non-Resident Term Committee, consisting of Miss Funnell, Kay Brown, Susan Knight, and Sally Liberman, has begun work to make the non-resident term a more effective and integral part of the college curriculum.

Functions of Committee

The functions of the NRT Committee are (a) to act as the main body of communication between faculty, administration, alumnae, and student on all subjects pertaining to the non-resident term; (b) to study the part played by the NRT director in any ways deemed necessary.

Freshmen Indoctrinated

To explain the non-resident term to freshmen, the NRT Committee held freshmen meetings at which Kay Brown discussed the policy and purpose of the NRT; Sue Knight, evaluation of the NRT; and Sally Liberman, job procedure. Two general community meetings on the subject of the NRT are planned for the future, utilizing drama students, new and old students, and possibly some employers.

Community to be Made More Aware of NRT

To keep in touch with the community one of the folding bulletin boards in Commons will be used to present information on the work of the committee, on job findings, etc. A business letter form, which can be followed in writing to prospective employers, will be posted on the bulletin board.

The NRT Committee seeks to interpret for students the ideals and expectations of the non-resident term, what to look for in a job and what to put into it. It also desires to get a larger scope of jobs, especially in the fields of art and music, where jobs have been difficult to find.

Contact With Other Schools

The NRT Committee plans to contact other schools which have similar work periods and to share ideas with them. Greater publicity for the non-resident term is planned through work with the Public Relations Committee.

The Non-Resident Term Committee needs the co-operation of the entire community in its efforts to improve this part of the Bennington educational system.

The NRT Committee urges students to start looking for jobs earlier this year, since jobs will be more difficult to obtain.

Bennington Students Participate in Dance Festivals During Summer

Patsi Birsh Dances at Duxbury

This summer Patsi joined forces with The Resident Company of the Duxbury Playhouse, Duxbury, Mass., where she not only taught dance classes and did choreography for two original musical comedies, "Hay Holiday" and "Tammy", but also danced in them.

In the middle of the summer Pat worked for two weeks at the Cambridge Summer Theater, Brattle Hall, where the group presented Blanche Yurka in "The Rivals." In this she danced in the musical interludes.

The rest of the summer was spent back in Duxbury with painting, working in the box office, and general work of summer stock, which included everything from sweeping the theater floor

(Continued on page 2)

German Scholarship Student Brought Here by D. P. Drive

By Betsey Newman



Charitas Frick

Charitas Frick, our D. P. scholarship student, is a bright-eyed, curly-haired girl who comes from Marburg University. When she heard last May that Bennington had accepted her, she "jumped to the ceiling", for she had read of Bennington and was heartily in favor of its liberal ideas in education. Her application was made last September, through the International Institute of Education, but she had no hopes of really being able to come to America.

Goals at College

"Carrie" is interested in Social Science, particularly in the international field. Here at Bennington she is taking Constitutional Democracy, Philosophy of the Individual, Language and Literature, Human Nature and Character Structure, and Sculpture. She says she doesn't find the subject matter hard to understand, but she has difficulty reading because she automatically translates in German. She is determined to overcome this very soon. She also has trouble understanding some students when they speak in low voices in class. The instructors she has the least trouble understanding are, of course, Dr. Fromm and Mr. Moselsio.

Previous Education

Marburg University, where Charitas studied for one and a half years, is north of Frankfurt in the American Zone. Her father, Mr. Frick, was president of the University and is now a professor of Comparative Religion. The chaplains of the American posts consult him on many matters; thus Carrie has had some contact with Americans and their language. She learned English in high school, from which she was supposed to graduate in 1945. In 1944, however, her entire class was drafted, so she worked as a nurse in a children's hospital until the war was over. She finally finished high school in 1947 at the age of 20.

The representative of the International Institute of Education was surprised to find that such an attractive and vivacious girl had been chosen. He told her that she was not expected to "fall in love and get married" during her stay in the United States. She replied that nine months was not sufficient time to make such a decision! Her father has told all his daughters that they must finish their education and make their own living before they can be married. Her oldest sister is a doctor, and another is a teacher. Her family is delighted to have Carrie here, and Carrie herself says, "Saying America is wonderful is—well you know—but it is!"

Free Steak Dinners

What could be more enticing than a kingly, juicy steak ruling incidental potatoes, salads and vegetables? With every subscription of the Beacon you order, you will be given a number. The lucky number, with his guest, will be chauffeured into Raleigh's to be served two free steak dinners from "Jimmie" Raleigh's well-known cuisine. Why not have your Beacon and eat it, too?

Inside Campus Committees

Constitution Revision, New Freshman Handbook

The three committees are off to a flying start this term. There are more people, there is more business to handle, more things going on than ever before. The following notes are only such items as are of general interest to the community; some of them have already been announced, but can be beneficially repeated.

Executive Committee

Executive Committee's main job has been to supervise all the work done by the three committees on the revisions of the constitution, submitted to the community last Thursday.

Note of Warning from Exec. Committee: Last term there were complaints from the Faculty about ceiling leaks. There is now a rule that there will be no privately owned iceboxes in the houses. An icebox may only be owned by the whole house and kept in the kitchen.

A new Freshman Handbook will be started soon, and should be perfected by the end of next term. The writers will be Freshmen because they are the ones who best know what is needed.

New Policy On Early Leaves

Exec. Committee has announced a new policy on early leaves. This will apply to all vacations, not weekends, including summer and non-resident term. Starting at mid-term early leaves will be handled by special sign-out slips at switchboard. The student will write down her reason for leaving, then take the slip to her counselor for his signature and comment, approval or disapproval. The counselor's disapproval will not hinder the student from leaving, but it will go on her record and should therefore be carefully considered. The slip will then be returned to the office and kept as a part of her permanent college record.

Judicial Committee Revision of Standards and Rules

The biggest job for Judicial committee this term has been to revise the Standards and Rules and to definitely establish their position in the Community's body of law. This committee has asked the houses to discuss any omissions, changes and additions that they might have. Then they compiled

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Beacon Issues to Come Out Fewer Times Per Term

This term the Editorial Board of the Beacon has felt it necessary to cut down the number of issues published per term from seven to four. The price of the subscriptions has gone down proportionately. There are several reasons why this decision has been made. Last year there were many cases in which reporters did not have enough time to get their assignments in under the deadline. The girls on the Board would have either to do that assignment themselves or write something in order to make up the space difference. As time went faster and paper time closed in toward the end of the term, the Board found this to be happening not less than seven or eight times per issue. None of them could afford the time. Also, they felt that five girls should not be responsible for writing nearly every article in the newspaper which represents ideas of some four hundred students, faculty, administration and staff. This situation was not due to the fact that the community was not interested in the Beacon. (Last semester our circulation was higher than ever before). The fault lay mostly in the fact that reporters understandably felt that credited academic subjects merited more time than non-credited reporting. Finally the Board decided that fewer issues was the only answer to giving interested students journalistic experience as well as having a publication which reflects Bennington opinion and activity not only to our own campus but also to outsiders.

Now, instead of being given three or four days to write an assignment, reporters are given ten. In this way the Board will have more time to meet with staff individually to show them what is wrong with written articles and to synthesize a more readable, easier-to-write journalistic policy.

Leopold Feldstein

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The Poetess

You know, I think that I'm a poet!
I really do. A poetess, that is, of course,
But honestly, in all seriousness I must be.

You see, whenever I watch the sunset
Whenever I find the time that is
The beauty of it positively flays my soul.
My God! I can sympathize with Keats about Clouds.
Or was it Shelley? Anyway, I know what sensitivity is.
Let me tell you how I was awakened.
I went walking in the hill—alone—
Quite alone—being perfectly mad you know,
And I paused to look and drink in the stillness.
The wind quite ruffled my hair and blew my tweeds.
Well, did I say it was evening? It was, you see,
And there, across the valley were the other hills
All golden and green and shimmering in the light.
Well, suddenly, a great dark shadow swung
Down from absolutely nowhere and blotted out
All the innocent gold and green. Black hills!
And then it struck me, the thought, that is,
That life, metaphorically speaking, (as we poets will)
Is those golden hills
And the shadow, swift and cruel is—
Well, it's almost too dreadful to say, but
It really rocked me, I can tell you.
I wanted to flee, but I just braced myself
And stood there in the wind.
God, it was dreadful. Little demons everywhere,
But I stuck it out.
And then the sun came out again,
Don't you realize what that did for me?
No, you couldn't know, but I know.
It proves, don't you see, that if only
You'll stand bravely in the wind and shadows
And lift your chin against the fear
That beauty and prosperity will follow.
I made that discovery all on my own, you see,
And just perhaps, if you should walk in the hills
You might find something of the splendor that I did.
And then we might sit out in my garden,
And talk and drink tea, don't you know,
Might share our secret by ourselves
In the fearful shadows and the wonderful, wonderful sun.

Dusty Hutton

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for a GOOD time
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CRESTWOOD

Bennington Students Participate in Dance Festivals During Summer

(Continued from page 1)

to marching through the main streets of Plymouth in hoop skirts to advertise their latest musical show.

Allegra Fuller Teaches At Perry Mansfield

For eight weeks this summer, Allegra taught ballet at Perry Mansfield Camp in Steamboat Springs, Colorado. The two summer productions with which she worked were "Blood Wedding" in which she danced and 'Brigadoon', part of which she choreographed. She spent the rest of her time working backstage and trucking around the scenery. Both productions were presented at camp and then again at Laramie, Wyoming, where they were successful, however, only after several tense hours. The two leading actors of "Blood Wedding" had somehow got lost in the shuffle and the whole show had been recast in a matter of hours. Even Allegra tried out for several leads. However, the former actors turned up in time to go on.

"Brigadoon" was done in Denver for the benefit of crippled children. The afternoon dress rehearsal was performed for the children. Allegra feels the summer was a very worthwhile experience.

Nancy Holmes Studies Dance In New London

Nancy spent most of the summer at The New York University and Connecticut College School of the Dance, studying under Valerie Bettis, star of "Inside U. S. A.", Jose Limon and Louie Horst.

Some of the courses she took were preclassic forms, rhythmic training and composition. The biggest project Nancy participated in was a dance production, a student trio choreographed by Gloria Newman.

The only difficulty Nancy experienced was in a particular class where everyone had to announce the title of her dance before performing. It seems that Louie Horst was rather hard of hearing and yelled back to her "Love in a French what?". She soon overcame her difficulty by using written signs. Nancy also thoroughly enjoyed her summer.

The Fires are still cooking at
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Inside Campus Committees

(Continued from page 1)

notes and worked out the revisions for presentation at Community meeting. These will be submitted to written ballot for final approval this week. The committee worked with Willie Eaton, of the Judicial Procedure Commission, on the amendment which should establish a Judicial Appeal Board. In doing this they used the recommendations of the Judicial Procedure Commission and those suggestions which came from House meetings last week. They went over the Judicial Committee sections of the constitution in order to see what changes should be recommended on the basis of their experience and the Commission's recommendations.

House Chairman Seminars Changed

The House Chairman seminar with Dr. Fromm has been abandoned. But there will be three seminars, this term, of a similar nature. They will include discussions of standards, policies, and general problems. The committee will then meet with each House Chairman several times during the term to discuss particular observations and problems more thoroughly.

Meets With Williams Student Council

Last Wednesday the Committee met with the President and one other representative of the Williams Student Council. They discussed the Standards and Rules of both colleges. It is hoped that the knowledge gained by each council will lay the foundation for better cooperation and understanding about any problems which may arise.

Meetings With Night Watchman Continued

The Committee instituted regular meetings with the night watchman last year and will continue to hold them each Monday evening during the term. At these meetings they discuss any problems and misunderstandings are ironed out.

Regular luncheon meetings of Judicial Committee have been scheduled for Monday noon. Any member of the community who wishes to meet with the committee is welcome to attend, providing a member is notified in advance.

Recreational Council

On the agenda of the Recreation Council are such items as student-faculty field hockey games, and a pool tournament. A large campus party is planned for the end of the term. The date for the fall dance has been definitely set for the weekend of November fifth. Incidentally, the Williams Square Dance will be on October eighth. All in all it looks like a pretty gay term.

GREETINGS

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Impression of Bennington Is Favorable to Two New Members of College Staff

(Continued from page 1)

the choir, there is no reason why it could not be done."

Harold Kaplan: Literature

"I like to teach when the students like to study as they seem to here," said Mr. Harold Kaplan, literature instructor and well-known writer, in commenting on Bennington. "I'm exceedingly impressed by the students' eagerness, activity, alertness and particularness in their work. The bad obstacles to teaching such as the rigid curricular requirements, grading system, standardized course material and teaching methods seem to have been removed. In general, the countryside is beautiful, the faculty congenial and the work stimulating."

Mr. Kaplan teaches three literature courses: Language and Literature, Prose Writing and Modern American Novel. He is a recognized writer and has contributed poetry, short stories and reviews to various literary magazines. When asked if he had any particular interest in his field, he answered, "I dabble in poetry when I have time."

As are several other faculty members, Mr. Kaplan is interested in the efforts of searching out synthesis courses that take up humanities and various visual arts, and which would be a sort of faculty education in that the teachers could learn from each other.

Interviewed by Kit Carson

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Betsy Winslow Summers in Norway and Catherine White Studies Photography in Italy

Do you want a cow for comfort, a camera for companionship? Go to Europe. Something along that line is bound to turn up. Betsy Winslow and "Cookie" White discovered just that, and things did turn!

Scandinavian Adventure

Betsy went to Norway this summer with the Experiment in International Living organization. There were ten students from all over the United States in this group, five boys and five girls, ranging in ages from seventeen to nineteen. The purpose of the trip was to acquire an understanding of people of different cultures by actual acquaintance with them and their country.

Each of the ten student lived with a Norwegian family for a period of three weeks. Betsy's "family", the Johnsens, lived on the southern coast on the outskirts of a fishing town, Arendal. The eldest girl gave concentrated doses of Norwegian history, customs, and culture. This food for thought was just about the only variety she got from the diet of potatoes, bread, cheese and fish.

At the end of the three weeks, the group of Americans reorganized, adding to their numbers the hosts and hostesses from the ten Norwegian families. This enlarged group went on a three week tour of the country during which time the expression "Where do you live, in a barn?" gained in import for them. They lived in barns, or rather, slept in them whenever there were no better facilities.

Camping—Norwegian Style

The tour had others ups and downs. The group went mountain climbing, fjord crossing, and such. "Definitely not a trip for the weak," said Betsy.

One of the things that impressed Betsy most was the wonderful generosity of the people. This is quite interesting because Cookie White, who was in Italy, also remarked about the enormous hospitality of the people she met.

"Cookie" and Camera in Italy

Cookie was in Italy for four of a six months' trip to Europe. Her closest and most constant companion was a 5x7 view camera. She took many pictures, striving mainly to catch the essence of Italy. Although there was ample subject matter, dark rooms were at a minimum, so "diverse bathrooms" had to serve instead.

Carol Husted accompanied her, and together they tried to get acquainted with the Italian people and culture. They would stop people in the streets to photograph them, to talk to them, and often, to be invited to their homes for meals and conversation.

A great deal of time was spent in Rome, and it was there that Cookie met Mr. Paolo Tamburella, the co-producer of the film, "Shoe Shine". Not only was she given an opportunity to watch a new film in production, but was also offered an apprenticeship job with Mr. Tamburella.

In Rome, too, she met a number of the contemporary painters and sculptors. It was the Sienese and Florentine museums that she developed a fuller appreciation of Italian art.

Freshman Gauntlet

Wednesday, Sept. 7th—Barn, Barn, where's the barn?

We get our first papers. Click—We're preserved for the files. What, no fingerprints? "Can you tell me how to get to Blank house?"

"Look on the map." Roommates meeting; polite phrases, veiled hostility; (VENI VIDI VICI)

Hordes march to dinner headed by house chairmen; Faculty join us, "Why did you come to Bennington?—Heh, heh, heh."

First house meeting; We learn that our pajamas can stand unaided on return from laundry, and are instructed in how to return after 11:00 P. M.

Hungry freshmen discover milk-bar.

Ascent, decline, and fall of double deckers.

Phenomenon observed at Bennington—13 o'clock. Who lives in the belfry? Is it a bat?

Thursday, Sept. 8th—Sleepy strangers meeting in steamy showers.

The vocational tests; some prick their fingers, others their desks.

Meeting of counselee and counselor. Mad dash for faculty members;

"Who are you?"

"What do you teach?"

"How do you teach?"

"Oh, no thank you."

The hike to Jennings for music test and audition;

"Do you know your intervals?"

"Who wrote this?"

"Can you sight read?"

Faculty concert; We hear excellent music and look forward to the fortnightly concerts.

Friday, Sept. 9th—Further pursuit of faculty.

Letter writing; first impressions go home.

E.P.C. party—listless groups descend on beer and potato chips. Announcements by people we could not see concerning organizations about which we knew nothing.

Mr. Burkhardt welcomed new students and faculty to community and reviewed the aims of the college.

Saturday, Sept. 10th—Final schedule checked by counselor and Miss Shelley.

More letters—We look for as well as write.

The telephone rings, rings, rings again, and rings...

Curiosity about lack of buttons in the cinema.

Sunday, Sept. 11th—Long sleep, no eat; What is this thing called two meals?

East and West on top of Southern fried.

by Sheila Stires and Fredrique Leser

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Sunday and Monday, Oct. 9 and 10

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Friday and Saturday, Oct. 14 and 15

"MANHANDLED" and

"YOUNGER BROTHERS"

Sunday and Monday, Oct. 16 and 17

"OUTPOST IN MORROCO"

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday

Oct. 18, 19, 20

"MIDNIGHT KISS"

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