

Bennington College
April 1, 1941

The Educational Policies Committee met on Monday, March 31, at 1 P.M. in the Red Dining Room. Present were Hilda Wheelwright, Joan Strong, Cynthia Jenkinson, Margaret Klaw, Miss Shelley, and Helen Levine.

Meetings Committee

The purpose of this meeting was to give Miss Shelley the opportunity to tell the Committee of the functions of the Meetings Committee, and to present to the Committee questions that need considerations at this time.

The Meetings Committee grew as the need for a co-ordinating group through which programs for evening meetings might be cleared became necessary. The personnel of this committee is not set, but has in the past consisted of four or five faculty members, representing as nearly as possible the various points of view on the campus, and one student who served the same function in respect to student opinion.

There is no rigid program as to the allotment of meetings according to Majors, but during the course of time, a general policy has emerged. 5:10 lectures are supposedly of specialized interest and 7:30 meetings of interest to the entire community. In addition to the program of speakers, student and faculty music evenings, drama and dance workshops, and movies are a part of the Evening Meetings Program. During the past four or five years, series of lectures have been held each spring. These series center around one theme and have sometimes been concentrated in one week, while during other years have been spread out over a period of six weeks.

Miss Shelley said that about once every three years, criticism of the Meetings Committee is very frequent. She felt that it was now time for such criticism to emerge. This term the student representations on the Meetings Committee has been increased to two---one student to represent the Arts and one the sciences. It is felt that this will be a more accurate poll of student opinion. This change, however, need not be a permanent one.

We were asked to consider the following questions:

- (1) the advisability of changing the personnel, or of leaving the ratio of faculty and students as it now is;
- (2) The value of series, or possible ways in which they might be improved;
- (3) the success of 5:10 meetings and whether it is advisable

to hold more than one such meeting at the same time.

The Committee decided to discuss these subjects soon and communicate the result of this discussion to the Meetings Committee.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted

Helen Levine, Secretary