

The Bennington Weekly

Vol. 1—No. 6

Friday, October 20, 1950

10 Cents

ECPO Conference Hears Octet

The annual fall conference of the Eastern Colleges Personnel Officers was held this year at the Hotel Curtis in Lenox, Mass., on October 16, 17, and 18. This is an organization of alumnae placement officers from all the New England Colleges and those from New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania. Members, also, are personnel from business and industry—including those large organizations which regularly employ college graduates each year. Topics covered in this three-day conference referred to job opportunities, campus placement, plans of big business and industry for employing more college women, qualifications for different fields of work, outlook for jobs of the immediate graduating classes, and special executive training programs for college graduates. Two of the speakers who were particularly interesting were the representatives from the Civil Service in Washington and the Navy Department. The government expects to hire HALF A MILLION ADDITIONAL people in the next TWO YEARS—due to a situation probably resulting from the Korean War.

Bennington and Williams College were invited to be co-hosts at the conference, and President Baxter of Williams addressed the opening luncheon on Monday. Mr. Burkhardt was to have spoken, but due to his absence, Miss Shelley represented the college by way of a few words of welcome at the opening of the conference.

The Williams Octet and the Bennington Octet performed at a dinner Tuesday evening. The Bennington Octet was evidently a tremendous success, for as a direct result of their performance Bennington was offered some non-resident term jobs. The Octet not only sang admirably, but bettered public relations to the extent that they were given N. R. T. jobs. Those members of the E. C. P. O. organization who knew little of Bennington before the Octet performance, later made sincere and interested inquiries into the Bennington system. A word of thanks and appreciation, girls, the annual conference was a huge success.

Dance Weekend Revote—Now It's Formal

Although the students voted in favor of a masquerade over formal for Dance Week-end, November 3, 4 and 5, at their house meetings recently, the result seemed to satisfy no one, and Rec Council, after numerous requests, decided to take a revote at house meetings Wednesday night.

As was expected by Rec Council a lot of students had changed their minds, and the formal won hands down (except in Leigh House) 87 to 47.

Rec Council would like to announce that the result is final.

North Bennington Has a Band

The North Bennington village band, which performed so creditably at a number of public concerts this summer, will be continued throughout the winter. Members of the faculty, staff, and townspeople met recently to discuss such matters as future public performances, and the best time for rehearsals. As it stands now the band will rehearse in the North Bennington firehouse at 7:40 p. m. every Wednesday evening.

Gunnar Schonbeck, of the college music faculty, has offered to help with the direction of the band.

Impact Of Disease On Philadelphia



"Each disease has its own social psychology, each has its own psychological reaction that produces a crisis. With yellow fever it was the suddenness and form of attack, and the fact that no one knew how it was carried or how to cure it", said Professor Richard Shryock, third lecturer in the Crisis series, speaking Monday night on the Yellow Fever Epidemic in Philadelphia in 1793.

Professor Shryock gave details of the epidemic; of the general exodus which reached its peak in mid-September, two weeks after the epidemic had started. The crisis was extreme: one tenth of the city's population died, civil authority disintegrated, and business came to a standstill. At one point there were three doctors able to leave their houses and six thousand people stricken with the fever.

Impact of Business on Medicine
In the American Response to Crisis seminar the following morning, Professor Shryock discussed the influence that the prevailing American business psychology has had on medical research. The United States did not develop medical research until very recently and therefore diseases such as yellow fever instead of being controlled, continued to plague the seaboard towns. He attributed this lack partially to our emphasis on mechanical improvements rather than on purely scientific research, and partially to our moral distaste for studies of the human body, and, consequently, experimentation on the body after death. He commented that this notion is still with us in vivisection controversies. Johns Hopkins, where Professor Shryock teaches, is now facing the possible prohibition of using animals in its experiments, and, Professor Shryock added, this will greatly retard medical science.

Harvard Students Always Find A Way

Reprinted from The New York Times, October 17
—Love found a way at Harvard College today in the form of "couple sitters".

Forbidden to pass the time with their girls in Harvard Yard, the college boys are hiring "sitters" to circumvent the school regulation that prevents a girl staying in their room after 8 p. m. unless accompanied by another girl.

Besides providing a new source of income for girls at Radcliffe College, it permits Harvard students to entertain their "dates" until midnight.

The only requirement of the "sitters" is that the couple for whom they sit, furnish sufficient light for studying.

Value Of Health Officer Discussed

(This is a report by Sally Rounds, who recently resigned as Health Representative. The office is now vacant and the need for it under discussion by Executive Committee.)

I have asked the Executive Committee to consider the value of the Health Representative in the community, because my experience during the past year has led me to believe that the office, as it stands, does not fulfill the function for which it was set up, i. e., to act as liaison between the student body and the College Health Service. Its failure to function is due, chiefly, I feel, to the meaning which students have attached to the stated purpose of the office. To the majority the term "liaison" seems to imply that the Health Representative is a kind of "wailing wall" upon which individual complaints concerning the Health Service may be "cried out". I do not believe that this was the function originally intended for the Health Representative, but if it is, then I feel that having a special office for this purpose is unnecessary, since the job is one that can be more effectively handled by roommates, House Chairmen, and fellow-students.

I feel that having some kind of liaison activity between the students and the Health Service can be of value to the Community, if we understand what can and cannot be expected to result from such activity. I do not think the students can expect a liaison process with the Health Service to provide each student with a relationship to the Infirmary that will fully satisfy her ideas about how she should be treated. I do think, however, that if the students can work with the Health Service as a group and not as individuals only, relations between the group and the Service can be improved, indeed to the benefit of the individual.

I do not think that such liaison activities need be designated to a separate committee, because the idea of having a special "Health Service Committee", as has always been done in the past, seems to foster the "wailing wall" situation in which the potential value of the committee is obscured. Also, the needs of the students are not, I think, of such dimension as to require the effort of a special committee. I recommend that the liaison activities be handled through the Executive Committee, through written question-

(Continued on Page 4)

Student Goes To NSA Government Clinic

A "Student Government Clinic" was held last November 14 under the auspices of the National Students Association. All the colleges in the New England Region were invited. Smith, Dartmouth, Springfield, Holy Cross, Colby, and North Eastern were among those that attended.

Bennington College was represented by Marty Dow. Mr. Shapiro attended as the leader of the Discussion group entitled the "Philosophy of the Student Government". Marty was the recorder (Bennington's coming up in the world) of the Discussion group called "The Duties and Responsibilities of the 'Student Government'".

Under this it was decided that the character of the Student Government should work with the administration, but as an independent unit within itself. It should have the last word on important matters. It should be integrated as a body, but with a series of units which would serve as a liaison between the government and the faculty.

A college should not have a Student Government that can be stopped by a veto of the administration, as the Government then loses its goal and defeats its purpose.

The faculty advisers are necessary to help and advise.

Duties of the Student Government are:

- To act as a coordinator of clubs, groups, etc. (not applicable to us at Bennington).
- As a representative of the students.
- As a service organization. (embodied in our Vocational office here).
- The problem of publicity. One way of alleviating student apathy.

1. Cards containing agenda of (Continued on Page 2)

Whole Day Off Favored For Thanksgiving

Students favored a whole day's vacation over just the afternoon off on Thanksgiving 120 to 65 in the Wednesday night house meetings, with the former getting a plurality in every house but Swan, it was announced yesterday.

However, while some of the houses were not presented with the third alternative, classes scheduled as usual, in those where it was voted upon, it got substantial backing, collecting 22 out of 24 votes in Swan, 10 in Leigh, and twelve in Bingham.

Le Gallienne On Stanislavski—Says Method Is Corrupted

Eva Le Gallienne, interviewed after the program of scenes she presented last week in Williams-town, discussed the Stanislavski Method of acting. Miss Le Gallienne first remarked that the Stanislavski Method taught in American schools is a corruption of the method as Stanislavski originally conceived it. The system was formulated to be taught intensely over a period of four or five years, not once a week for six months.

According to Miss Le Gallienne, Stanislavski would be the first to agree that it is up to the individual actor to choose the method which works most successfully for him: "Stanislavski, himself, would be the last person to pre-

sent his system as inviolate, or to promote any inflexible method of acting." Miss Le Gallienne believes that the Stanislavski Method is valuable in many cases, but it frequently tends to inhibit the potential actor. The drama student's approach becomes too introverted and he "spends all his time contemplating his navel." Therefore all spontaneity and communication with the audience is lost.

Miss LeGallienne told an amusing anecdote of a friend who asked Stanislavski about the exceptional performance of one of his proteges who apparently had no training. Mr. Stanislavski replied "Maybe she just has talent." S. R.

The Big Idea

By Jane Lees

(This is the first of a weekly series of articles dealing with the history of Bennington.)

If you think Bennington is a little Utopia of progressive learning that fell into our laps from El Dorado, you are only half right. The other half belongs to the credit of the Reverend Vincent-Ravi Booth who was pastor of the Congregational Church of Old Bennington in 1925. This ambitious gentleman, interested in progressive education for young women and also the enlargement of his own parish, thought Bennington an ideal site for the kind of college he had in mind. He lost no time in stimulating a small group of solicitors to contribute funds toward materializing his plan for the college; the success of his undertaking is apparent in the following quotation from the first Bennington Catalogue:

"At the outset two-thirds of a million dollars and a campus site were pledged. A charter was secured in 1925 and a definite location for the college was decided upon when the Jennings family donated part of their estate which was followed by the donation of Jennings Hall itself and the surrounding grounds. During the intervening years gifts from two hundred and thirty-four people have increased the assets to a million and a quarter dollars, a sum considered sufficient for making an actual beginning."

And we did make an "actual beginning" as the college bulletin, printed seven years later, reaffirms:

"Bennington has tested and proved to its own satisfaction the conviction that learning, to be effective, must be self-motivated, and that a true sense of discipline cannot be realized through a dependence on marks and grades and penalties. The experience of seven years has amply demonstrated that a piece of work well done, whether it be careful experiment in chemistry, a well-acted play, or a soundly composed musical work, imposes its own discipline, and re-enforces the drive for further achievement."

1928 was the big stepping-stone year for Bennington. Reverend Booth's interested solicitors, once sold on his project, put their heads together and made arrangements to start the college in 1930. Robert Leigh, the first president of Bennington, and a former member of the Social Science Department of Williams College, was to work out further details in the general organization of Bennington.

But the depression came like a heat wave, and stifled the group's encouraging progress. The college was financially unable to open until 1932.

"Birth of Bennington"

With a freshman class of 86 (according to the bulletin only 80 were expected) on September sixth of that same year, Bennington was born; but it was not until August 16, 1937, on Bennington Battle Day, that it was christened by the famous "Ground Breaking" ceremony in the Quadrangle.

Our ageless Commons, four student houses, and several offices in the barn composed the little community of Bennington in its first toddling year. The Barn was once the stables on part of the Jennings' estate;—to think we had to move those poor horses out in the cold. Whatever do you suppose happened to them? Even the chickens had no place to roost since the main offices were located

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The Bennington Weekly

Published by Students of Bennington College

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Editor Susan Liebman
 Assistant Editors Betsy Field, Suki Rayner
 Editorial Staff Lorraine Lubart, Jane Lees, Oliva Hirsch, Nan Offray, Ruth Levitan, Pat Okoshken.
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PUBLIC RELATIONS AND LIFE MAGAZINE Educational Policy

Late last July the college received a letter from *Life* stating that it planned to publish a special issue on education with a section in it devoted specifically to women. It was apparent that *Life's* view on the subject was antithetical to Bennington precepts.

"We hope to do this (coverage of women's education) in the form of a picture story which would show briefly some of the courses at the various women's colleges which are aimed specifically at women."

"We're especially interested in the kind of courses which are designed for women's needs and the kind of life they'll lead after graduation."

In reply Dr. Burkhardt wrote, (and we quote at such length because it clarifies the college educational policy) the following:

"It (the college) was founded pretty firmly on the principles of the so-called 'Progressive' movement in education and was one of the first colleges of its kind. To a certain extent this has little or nothing to do with its being a women's college, and in fact it has always been part of our educational philosophy that the problem of women's education is not solved by courses which are designed in terms of the women's needs or interests in any narrow-gauged sense. Our emphasis has been on the broad education of our students as cultivated citizens. For this reason our curriculum contains no courses in Home Economics, or Clothing or Flower Arrangement."

"The fact that our students are women is of course of great importance—but specifically female needs and interests are dealt with throughout the curriculum, rather than being relegated to specific courses."

Obviously, then, for Bennington to be included in a section devoted to education aimed at meeting the needs of women is a contradiction in terms. In regard to public relations, the dangers should be clear to everyone.

The Stereotyped Dancer

The Bennington stereotype is one of those animals we live with but never see. She's very easy to picture though: a dark, brooding creature given to dramatic poses—a dancer.

The fact that this is not Bennington, not what our educational system aims at producing, is rather hard to combat, especially when such an article as appeared in *Life* last week, which includes a photograph of this "representative" girl, is practically the only first hand publicity that reaches the interested but uninformed public.

It would seem that no publicity is better than this. Not only does it harm Bennington, it also makes suspect progressive education in general, since the college is considered one of its leading exponents.

If any parent is hesitant about sending her daughter to Bennington through fear of her getting a too one-sided education, that picture certainly won't help. And, after all, it's the parents who pay the bills.

For Bennington to be included in the article at all seems to be a mistake from the standpoint of bettering our public relations. To be in it with another dance picture is doubly unfortunate. If it's a choice between bad publicity and none at all, certainly it's better to have the latter.

Student Goes To NSA Government Clinic

(Continued from Page 1)

the meeting distributed to each individual.

2. Roll call vote taken in the meeting and published in the news from council and committees.

4. Cartoons . . . on perspective, also printed in the paper.

Extent of Student Government Jurisdiction.

a) Student Government should have final say in all matters, but

smaller organizations can do much in:

1. Orientation of freshmen. (E. P. C. here at Bennington).

2. Advising of courses. (E. P. C. and counseling system).

3. Small problems within the houses. House chairmen, house council).

b) Disciplinary problems.

1. Smith . . . students and faculty.

2. Holy Cross . . . all faculty. Financial Problem.

Dartmouth, council is almost entirely financially independent.

1. Collect money from (a) parking fines, (b) dance week-ends, (c) 10% on all concessions, (d) money from fines.

SEPC Against Later Library Hours

At our meeting October 10, 1950, we discussed the request for longer library hours. For the following reasons we find it impractical:

(1) There are problems in staffing the library until 11:00 o'clock. The library could do this no more than one night a week, which doesn't solve the problem.

(2) It affects too many people for the few it would benefit.

(3) Reserve books going out at 11:00 p. m. is too late. The student body already does too much studying at late hours from reserve books.

Priscilla Norton, Sec.

Recent Additions To The Library

Association of American Universities—Proceedings and Addresses of the 50th Annual Conference.

Bemis, S. F.—A Diplomatic History of the United States 3rd ed.

Ch'ien, Tuan-sheng—The Government and Politics of China.

Conant, J. B., ed.—The Overthrow of the Phlogiston Theory.

Ford, F. M.—Parade's End.

Fry, Christopher—The Boy With a Cart.

Gaster, T. H.—Thespis.

Literature Francaise (Bedier et Hazard) 2 Vols. (Reference).

McCarthy, M. T.—Cast a Cold Eye.

Moore, H. P.—A Life of General John Stark.

Neumann, Sigmund—Germany: Promise and Perils.

The Oxford Book of American Verse, ed. by F. O. Matthiessen (new ed.)

Palyi, Melchior—Compulsory Medical Care and the Welfare State.

Portland (Oregon) Art Museum—Native Arts of the Pacific Northwest.

Post, C. R.—A History of Spanish Painting, Vol. 10.

Rabinowitch, E. I., ed.—Minutes to Midnight, the International Control of Atomic Energy.

Reichard, G. A.—Navaho Religion, 2 Vols.

Roller, D. E.—The Early Development of the Concepts of Temperature and Heat.

Thomas, B. P.—Theodore Weld, Crusader for Freedom.

Traz, Robert de—Switzerland, Land of Peace and Plenty, 3rd ed.

U. S. Congress. House. Select Committee on Lobbying Activities—The Role of Lobbying in Representative Self-government.

Hearings, Parts 3-8.

U. S. Women's Bureau—Women's Jobs, Advance and Growth.

U. S. Steel Corporation—Business, Big and Small, Built America.

Who Was Who in America, Vol. 2 1943-50 (Reference).

Barnard College Ends Cut System

Penalties for cutting classes were abolished for all but freshmen Dean M. C. McIntosh of Barnard College announced recently. This decision was the result of a compromise between the students' demands to abolish all penalties for cutting classes, and the old system of roll call and a reduction of point credits earned toward degree requirements if absent.

The new system as it stands now insists that roll call be taken and absence for three consecutive times reported to the registrar. This, however, is only a precautionary measure in case of unreported sickness or absence from college.

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 Maundering among trees that would disown
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And by the river where a sloping down
 Conducts inferior reptiles up and down,

You gloss the vegetation, and your tact
 Presumes each detail of the scene intact,

Though some peripheral branches in the rear,
 Charmed by your tenor, might be seen to rear

And the apple, sovereign orb of this vignette,
 Adam, of your teeth shows the imprint yet.

Francis Golfing

A DIALOGUE

"It is my favourite season of the year
 when fluid error manages to freeze
 Within the gilded cadre of my glass
 And, freezing, grows determinate and truth.
 No longer gaze on the deserted air
 But wonder at my formal aviary."

"Engross the winter with experiments:
 Humours will change, and over oblique roofs
 Water will gaily splash onto your mirror
 And spray will settle in your halcyon hair,
 Deriding the barrette where white birds kiss."

Francis Golfing

Notices

Psychoanalysis and Religion, by Eric Fromm, was published Tuesday. Yale University Press, \$2.50.

For those students who would like a short, concise summary of the subjects treated in the American Response to Crisis lecture series, Mrs. Leslie suggests the Dictionary of American History.

The Chapin Library at Williams is exhibiting a collection of books printed by the Peter Pauper Press, a small personal press which publishes literature in fine format. The exhibit is open daily from 9 to 12 and 2 to 4, and from 9 to 12 on Saturdays, throughout October.

Billy Eckstine and George Shearing will perform at the RPI Field House in Troy Saturday, October 21.

DON'T FORGET—The Halloween party October 29, eight to ten o'clock.

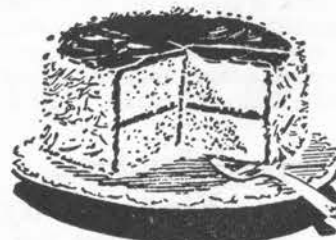
Not Really?

By Olivia Hirsch

A student from Bennington College recently had the unhappy experience of flunking her driver's test. The reason given for this failure were the facts that she maintained a speed of fifty miles per hour at all times, and made a point of ignoring all traffic regulations. Upon learning of her defeat, she was heard to mutter, "We don't believe in tests, and anyway, I did sustained and independent work!"

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What's News

By Lorraine Lubart

Wooley House threw a square dance in the Carriage Barn on Friday before last. The farmers came from Williams, Dartmouth, and Marlboro. Don Gray of Williams' Phi Delt called, and everyone had a bang up time. The time was so good, in fact, that some one couldn't restrain himself and had to steal the clock.

Jo List became a sister for the third time last October 7. The baby's name is Viki Laura.

Three conquests: Nan Gualtiere, who is pinned to Chuck Alberti, a Williams graduate and Columbia Law Student; Anne Wasson, who is pinned to Carl Bastress, a graduate of Rochester where he is now taking his M. A. in mechanical engineering; and Pat Wheelock, who is pinned to John P. Taylor, a senior at Colgate.

Evelyn Penney has been studying fortune telling and is fast becoming a qualified medium. Telephone her if you'd like some inside information on your future.

Swan and Booth houses were seen out on the athletic field playing hockey and touch football with various Williams fraternities . . . two separate games, of course.

Doris Robbins is planning to take a tutorial in Evil with Mr. Nemerov. Sue Lemberg is planning one in Trouble with Mr. Wilcox.

Last Thursday evening at 9:30 Leila Inslee and Mary Lynn Hart were heard over the Williams-town radio station as one half of a panel which discussed the Double Standard. The Adelphi Society of Williams formed the other half.

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In Times Of Undue Strain

An incident of unexplored significance took place in a certain house on Campus last week. An unnamed student, upon becoming aware that there was a mouse in her room, set the Hasenclever cat to the hunt! Events were such that at twelve o'clock, the mouse was still enjoying its freedom. About one o'clock, however, our student's luck changed. A dark form scurried into her closet! The mouse! She slammed the closet door shut and went happily to bed. When she awoke the next morning, she found the mouse in the middle of her floor, and the cat, almost smothered, in her closet.

Our Prolific Lit Faculty

Having some spare time on our hands the other day, we decided to browse through the library magazine shelf and see what our creative Lit faculty has been doing for the past few months, and this is what we found:

Kenneth Burke, "Action, Passion, and Analogy", a review of Francis Fergusson's *Idea of a Theater* (a former Bennington teacher) in the summer 1950 issue of the *Kenyon Review*.

"The Conspirators"—a poem—in the summer 1950 issue of *Furioso*.

Wallace Fowlie, "Eliard's Doctrine of Love", an essay on the French surrealist poet, in the winter 1950 issue of *Accent*.
"Paul Valery", an essay on the French symbolist poet in *Poetry*, August, 1950.

Howard Nemerov, "Of Giants and Islands", reviews of six recently published novels including "The Primitive", by Feike Feikema, "A Summer's Tale" by Gerald Warner Brace, and "I, My Ancestor", by Nancy Wilson Ross. *Sewanee Review*, summer 1950.

We also came across (but not in the library this time), a program of the second largest radio network in Austria *Rot-Weiss-Rot* and found out that two of Francis Golfing's poems were read on it to commemorate his fortieth birthday, "but", says Mr. Golfing, "they wrongly ascribed it to September".

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Art Exhibit Poses Questions

By Elizabeth Ivory

Looking at the exhibit in the Student Lounge the other night I found myself overwhelmed by my ignorance of the artists and their mediums. To add to my plight there was no explanation of the origin of the works because only a few names were intelligible.

So having heard that art should be appreciated for art's sake alone I crept away. But not without a happy impression of: some wonderful animals by Zussin, a long-suffering "male dancer" by Guzik, an intriguing puzzle by Virga called "Two Hats Two Dogs", and several powerful abstract woodcuts by several artists whose names were too originally written for me to read.

Surely there was some reason for grouping these artists together, I thought, as I gathered my crumb of information.

Then a fellow student, wise to the mysterious ways of art exhibits tipped me off.

This exhibit is representative of the students of Gabor Peterdi. And Gabor Peterdi is a member of an exciting artistic group "Atelier 17" which came to this country from Paris in the thirties. (Atelier 17 was the address of the founder in Paris).

This group was interested in new uses of the graphic medium because, and I quote Atelier 17 in our library, "The graphic medium is particularly congenial to the surrealist artist, whose images gain effectiveness when rendered with the precision which this technique demands".

And "the group seeks to explore the human subconscious and to render concrete the myths and intangibles of modern life".

The prints in our lounge are the work of the second generation of this artistic philosophy and if you want to see the very revealing difference between the two decades see: "Book of Fine Prints", Carl Zigrosser, "How Prints Look", Ivins, and Atelier 17, in our library.

A Plea: Would the girls from the advanced dance class please refrain from watching the beginners?

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the trees
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Freeze

Love
Danny

A Bird's Eye View Of Experiment Life

Highlights from the diary of Priscilla Baird, 1950 Experiment leader to France, reveal typical moments in her summer from cathedrals to cafes. Well qualified because of her five summers in France, Miss Baird led one of the forty groups that went abroad under the auspices of The Experiment in International Living during the past summer. Living with families at Orleans, the group also traveled through the Loire valley with its historic chateaux and had ample opportunity to see Paris.

July 2—Hattie Walters and her French sister off to Paris for a few days. Since we were so close to Paris (an hour and a half by train) almost everyone went at one time or another with her French family.

July 4—Courses continue in the morning—10:00 a. m. to 12:00 a. m.—our French leader, Jacques, not working this week, gave us a series of lectures on Catholicism, Joan of Arc, the history of Orleans, the problem of the worker today, the social security system and the French educational system.

July 8—Bike trip to the Loiret, stopped in a small cafe on the edge of the river—all twenty of us—had lemonade and talked. At six p. m. we were received at the mayor's with sixty Scottish boys and girls visiting in Orleans at the same time.

July 13—Visit to Chartres in a bus—twenty strong—guided by a seminary student, cousin of Jacques. Spent the whole day there—picnic lunch, time to make sketches and take individual walks around the town.

(Continued on Page 4)

Campus JACKETS

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"OUR VERY OWN"

Value Of Health Officer Discussed

(Continued from Page 1)

naires, opinion surveys, and House discussion groups. I would suggest the former of these ideas, in as much as there is a danger of the discussion groups deteriorating into the proverbial personal "gripe" sessions.

I think a beginning for improving relations with the Health Service may be made by asking them to issue to the Community a statement of policy dealing with such things as:

The set-up of the Infirmary, and the reasons for this set-up.

The attitudes of the Health Service on the conduct of students in the Infirmary. What conduct do they expect of the students, and why. The methods used to treat the more common campus ailments such as cold, headaches, etc. What medicines are used, and for what purpose. What the student can do to help her recovery.

Explanation of the use of Insurance Policies in meeting expenses incurred while in the Infirmary. How these benefits may be secured by the students. I would like here to suggest that the Infirmary keep a file, readily available, of the insurance coverage on each student, both college and family or personal policies. The connections, if any, between the Infirmary and the Putnam Hospital. What means are there of meeting an emergency on campus, where hospital attention is required.

Certainly, more can be added to the list. Clearly, it is largely information that is here asked for. But just such information may help to clear the road of the superstitions and ignorance that block the achieving of workable relations between the Health Service and the student body.

Opinion surveys, issued after the statement of the Health Service had been published to the Community, would be able to register student opinion of the Infirmary, of its present set-up, and would make it possible for the Executive Committee to arrive at conclusive evidence of the needs of the student body in regard to the Health Service. I think the biggest task in dealing with this particular liaison activity is arriving at a point of understanding; of helping the students understand the position of the Infirmary in relation to them, and of helping the Infirmary understand what they can do to improve their use to the group they serve. I think this understanding can be, at least, started by setting a few facts and policies before the Community, then improving upon them.

Respectfully submitted,
SALLY ROUNDS,
Health Representative,
1949-1950

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Interview With Claude Frank

Since his debut at Times Hall in 1947, a piano recital in New York City has been a part of Mr. Frank's yearly routine. While last winter it was skipped in favor of several European concerts, this year—to be exact: on Friday, November 24th, at 8:30 p. m.—it will take place at Town Hall.

Excitement over the venture on Mr. Frank's part is either non-existent or effectively hidden. "The audience", he says, "is made up to such a large extent of friends and acquaintances that I feel almost rude about not waving to them or talking to them or showing some sign of greeting other than the conventional bow. Many years ago, I used to play a lot for people individually; now it is done collectively with only two differences: it involves greater expense on both sides, and it involves wearing tails. Unfortunately, this does not prevent nervousness when the time comes—but then I am almost equally nervous when I play at Bennington, or at other places, or for fewer people, or even for no one else".

About his program, Mr. Frank was at first most non-committal. "How should I know on October 21st what I want to play on November 24th? Programs are living things, changing all the time..." A few casual questions followed: Didn't managers request an exact program? And: Didn't pianists usually practice before preaching? He finally admitted that the program was made up. Schubert's B-flat Major sonata (Posthumous) and Beethoven's sonata op. 111 will be the major works. He feels almost guilty, he says, about including both these extraordinary works in the same concert, "for their extreme difficulty and beauty have frightened better and more experienced players".

A Bird's Eye View Of Experiment Life

(Continued from Page 3)

July 30—Free day to stay with families.

August 6—All day trip to Versailles, visit of chateau, gardens and attendance at the evening fete, ballet, music and spectacular fireworks with illuminations of the fountains, rendezvous with French friends for camping.

August 17—Visit of Pointe du Raz in Brittany, western extreme of France.

August 20—Visited all-day folklore festival in Concarneau on southern coast—fascinating singing, dancing, did a lot of sketching.

August 27-31—Free time for group in Paris.

NRT Experiment Group

Bennington students who joint an Experiment group during the non-resident (January 2 to March 14) will participate in a similar program in France, Sweden, Germany (English-speaking) or Italy. Miss Bertha H. Funnell, Director of Non-Resident Term, or Betty Winslow, Bennington, Representative of The Experiment, can give detailed information about the program. Applications can be obtained from The Experiment in International Living in Putney, Vermont.

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The Big Idea

(Continued from Page 1)

in the stimulating atmosphere of a chicken coop until 1932, when it was revamped (unfortunately for the chicks this time) into a tenant house.

The first mighty aggregate of houses nestled close to each other in a foursome on the west side of campus, and were named for prominent promoters of the school both educationally and financially. President Leigh, of course, was the reason for Leigh House, McCullough owes its name to the McCullough family who have showed continued interest in Bennington throughout its existence. Booth for Dr. Booth, and Kilpatrick for Dr. Kilpatrick of Columbia University. The title of Jennings Hall is attributed to another great family, the Jennings, of which Philip B. Jennings was a member of the first Bennington College Corporation, and it was this corporation which formed the 1925 charter, and elected the initial Board of Trustees.

"Money Loss"

Suddenly, however, the funds declined enough to allow for the building of only three houses during the following two years. Bingham and Welling in 1934, and Franklin in 1935. Attention, students to Franklin House! Did you know that your innocent dwelling was the first to instigate the double room system? The reason?—Lack of space, what else! And last but not least, we come to Stokes-Sanford, doubly named because it was doubly supported by two kind ladies, Miss Helen Phelps Stokes and Miss Mary Sanford.

Miss Shelly pointed out to me that the "Aims" stated in the first college catalogue of 1932 were the basis from which our present educational policy owes its origin. I think that the tenth "Aim" is a good generalization of our policy:

"That the college, jointly with other educational agencies, should accept responsibility for cultivating in its students by all available means attitudes of social responsibility, social participation and cooperation rather than aloofness; that it should promote a sympathetic but objective and realistic understanding of the world of our own day as well as a sense of perspective derived from understanding of the past; an attitude of suspended judgment towards the strange and the new, and tolerance toward persons and customs alien to the student's own experience."

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