

Bennington College
September 18, 1940

The Educational Policies Committee met on Wednesday, September 18 at 6:30 o'clock in the Committee dining room. Present were Vida Ginsberg, Phoebe Arnold, Antoinette Larrabee, Sylvia Thayer, Elizabeth Plimpton, Mary Berna, and Margaret Dudley.

Montpelier Women's Club

The secretary reported that the Montpelier Women's Club had written requesting one or two students to speak at one of their meetings on Bennington's educational methods. Sylvia Thayer and Phoebe Arnold volunteered to go, and Mary Berna was asked to appoint some member of the Community Council to accompany them.

Committee on Student Writing

Antoinette Larrabee read a report to the faculty from the Committee on Student Writing, of which she is a member. It gave the procedure suggested this year for the teaching of expository writing. (see p.38) *check*

Freshmen Orientation

The following suggestions were made in reference to the orientation program of this year:

1. The meetings of the faculty of each major with the Freshmen varied extremely in effectiveness. The EPC members who attended these meetings reported that the Art and Drama-Dance-Design meetings were excellent, and the Social Studies very poor. The Social Studies representative said that she would speak to her faculty about this at the next faculty meeting and offer suggestions for improvement.
2. The attendance at these meetings with the faculty was not good after the first few. Emphasis should be put next year on the importance of attending all of these meetings, even if the student does not intend to take any courses in several of the majors.
3. It was suggested that efforts be made to schedule the Carriage Barn meetings better. Often Freshmen would have one hour between meetings in that building, which meant a waste of time.
4. The orientation program should include early identification of the EPC members so that Freshmen will know who to come to for individual assistance.

Social Studies Special Committee on the National Election

Margaret Dudley reported that, after consultation with Mr. Leigh, she had appointed Helen Cummings and Eleanor Metcalf to act as a non-partisan committee for the distribution of information about registration and voting. This committee is ready to cooperate with the EPC and Community Council in any plans for an Election Day program which may be forth coming.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30.

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret Dudley, secretary