

THE BEACON

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Community Chest Goal \$800, for Navajos and Town

A new Community Chest Drive with a goal of \$800 is under way this week. Three fourths of the money raised will go to the destitute Navajo Indians and one fourth will be given to the Bennington Community chest. The drive was begun on June 7th and will last until the 17th. The money for the Indians will be given through Save the Children Federation, Inc.

At house meetings last week students who had worked with the Navajos described their critical situation as a result, especially, of the tremendous blizzards of the past winter. Thousands of men, women and children are in need of clothing. There are now boxes in each student house for old clothes which will be sent to the Navajos.

Will Rogers, jr., who heads the Navajo aid committee of the Federation said, "These Indians don't have enough to eat and to wear even in ordinary times." Eighty percent of the Navajos are illiterate because of lack of schools and teachers. These Indians have the highest infant mortality rate and the highest T. B. rate in the United States. When epidemics break out, they sweep across the Reservation like a forest fire. There are only six government hospitals, poorly equipped and understaffed, on the entire Reservation, which is four times the size of Massachusetts.

The Bennington Community Chest gives to the following organizations: The Bennington Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, the Y.M.C.A., the Girls Club and Teen Town; the North Bennington Refuge; the Bennington County Musical Society; the Vermont Association for the Blind, Association for the Crippled, Inc., Children's Aid, Catholic Charities, and Division of the American Cancer Society; the Jewish Welfare Fund; the Salvation Army and the United Service Organizations.

Shirley Jackson Teaching Here Temporarily

Shirley Jackson, author of *The Road Through the Wall* and *The Lottery* and wife of Stanley Hyman, former member of the Bennington faculty, is teaching two Lit classes at Bennington during the two week absence of Malcolm Cowley. Mr. Cowley, who left on June 6, will return to his classes on June 20.

Welcome Back

Miss Mary Jo Shelly expects to return to her job as Director of Student Personnel on Monday, June 20. Miss Shelly left College in the middle of April to have an emergency operation and has since been recuperating and enjoying a much-needed rest at her sister's home in Grand Rapids, Michigan. During Miss Shelly's absence Miss Boynton has been carrying on alone as Director of Admissions as well as acting-director of Student Personnel. The BEACON, on behalf of the Community, extends its thanks to Miss Boynton for doing a magnificent job and its best wishes and a hearty welcome back to Miss Shelly.

Faculty Follies

Novak Wins Ping Pong Tournament

Once again the Carriage Barn was the scene of a "family" party only this time the faculty did the honors. The evening started off with the semi-final matches of the faculty-student ping pong tournament. The students were represented by Dewey House's Marianne Byk who is ping pong champion of Vulpera, Switzerland and has had the distinction of trouncing Rita Hayworth; and Joe Liebling, who came down from the hills for the occasion. Two faculty members fondly known as "Biceps" Golfing and "Tiger" Novak were also on hand for the semi-finals. Mr. Golfing and Mr. Novak emerged from the fray victorious, but it is our private opinion that the former's battle-cry of "Baudelaire" and the latter's intimidation of the referee (after all Mr. Novak's 6'9" gave faculty members quite an advantage over their opponents. The crowd really went wild at the finals. Shouts of "Integrate - Integrate!" and "Sustain that play with independent, independent, independent shots" rang through the barn. A hush fell over the spectators in the closing minutes of play, however, as "Tiger" and "Biceps" battled it out. Then with a final blood-curdling "GRRR" Novak came through to win his second game by three points. Thus the tourney which had lasted a little under 12 years came to a close. Mr. Novak claimed his bottle of Scotch, Mr. Golfing received 225 pieces of bubble gum, the knotty-pine tables were

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New Organization for Those Interested in Dance

Special Student Membership

The National Dance Association, a non-profit making, non political organization, has come into being to serve dance in America. It is not interested in any single way of dance or in any single dance personality, but in dance and dancers. To serve dance to the fullest, NDA plans to do two things: unite dancers to campaign for the activity they represent and in which they find, or hope to find, their livelihood, and to interest, stimulate, develop and encourage America's group of dance consumers, the public. A partial list of NDA's sponsors includes: William Bales, Martha Graham, Alexandra Danilova, Anthony Tudor, Jose Limon and many other well known dancers.

The aim of NDA is to foster dance arts in America by activities at home and abroad. These activities include:

1. Sponsoring, aiding and stimulating extension of activities beyond present limitations.
2. Furthering study and activity through educational agencies.
3. Co-operating with other groups, organizations and institutions

(Continued on page 2)

Dance Workshop and Senior Projects in Drama

Dance Workshop will be held on June 23rd, 24th, and 25th in the theatre under the supervision of Ethel Winter and Mr. Bales. Barbara Corey will present her senior project, a dance called 'Carrie Nation'; Patsi Birsch will dance with Alec Rubin a duet derived from a scene in 'Winterset'; Chicky Cappel will present a Hungarian group dance and will also do a solo called 'Folk Song'; and Allegra Fuller has done the choreography for and will also participate in another group dance.

For her senior project in drama, Irene Moore has translated from Russian and dramatized five scenes from 'Anna Karenina', which will be presented in an open workshop on June 29th. Felicia Warburg has translated 'The Misunderstanding' from the French and this also will be presented in part on the 29th. Mary Louise White has taken several scenes from 'The Way of the World' for her project and these will be presented in the same open workshop.

Trustees to Add Six New Members to Board

Our fifteen-member Board of Trustees has recently decided to increase its ranks by six so that the geographic representation of the Board will cover a greater area.

The original constitution of the College provided that there should be fifteen Trustees, each of whom would serve for a seven year term, and these terms were arranged so that two members would go off the Board and two new members would be elected every year. In addition to these, one graduate student is chosen every three years to serve on the Board for a three year term, and since 1944 the President of the Alumnae Association has also been a member of the Board for as long as she remains in office.

Until recently most of the men and women elected to the Board of Trustees have been residents of either Bennington or New York, for the Board meetings have always been held in one of these areas. The Board has long been aware of the value of having representatives from other regions, but none were chosen during recent years while the financial situation of the college was particularly acute, for it was felt that the New York nucleus should be retained to enable the Trustees to concentrate their money-raising efforts there.

At its April meeting this year, however, the Board passed an amendment to the Constitution which would increase the size of the board from fifteen to twenty-one in an effort to widen the geographical distribution of its ranks. Once this plan is into operation, three new members instead of the present two will be elected to the Board each year. The six newly-created openings on the Board have not yet been filled, but two new members have been elected to replace Mr. Francis Huyck Eldridge of Albany and Mrs. Henry Goddard Leach of New York whose terms expired this year.

These two newly-elected Trustees are Mr. Otis Bradley, a lawyer and partner at Davis Roke in New York, and Mr. Willard Cummings of Guilford Woolen Mills. Three daughters and two daughters-in-law of Mr. Cummings have been students at Bennington. One of his daughters, Pete Cummings '43, is still here as the wife of Mr. Paul Boepple, and Mr. Bradley's daughter, Maggie, is now finishing her freshman year here.

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Review of "Blood Wedding"

Play Too Difficult; Some Scenes, Characterizations Handled Well

A production of *Blood Wedding* by Federico Garcia Lorca is an ambitious undertaking. That it was too difficult to be handled with ease and complete skill by the Drama Department here was demonstrated in the performances last week. This is not to say that plays of its scope should not be presented here. On the contrary, colleges are among the few places where plays like *Blood Wedding* have an opportunity to be produced and certainly students should have the opportunity to work with material which is difficult for them. The only criticism of the choice of this play might be that it is a translation. Certainly there are enough outstanding English plays that could be done which would not suffer from bad translation as *Blood Wedding* so blatantly did in several places.

This criticism does not mean to im-

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Photo by Lloyd

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Study Made of Friendship Groups Among Bennington Students

Proximity Found to be Greatest Influence in Determining Choice of Friends

A few years ago a study was made of the students at Bennington College in an attempt to discover what factors, if any, are influential in determining a college student's choice of friends. The preliminary work on this study was done at Bennington by George A. Lundberg, who taught sociology and statistics at Bennington from 1934 until 1945 when he went to the University of Washington, and Elizabeth Herriott, who graduated from Bennington in 1944. The conclusions which were reached on the basis of the data compiled here were set forth by Mr. Lundberg and Virginia Beazley of the University of Washington in an article entitled "Consciousness of Kind" in a College Population which appeared in the February-May issue of *Sociometry* last year.

The following are excerpts from this article:

This paper reports on some of the conditions found to be associated with friendship in a small Eastern women's college in 1943. The study was designed to determine which, if any, of certain objectively determinable factors were associated to a greater degree than pure chance with friendship choices. More generally stated, the purpose was to determine the strength of in-group and particular out-groups as differentiated by certain selected conventional criteria or classifications determinable from the college records.

(a) Method.

The basic data on friendship choices were secured from the answers to the following question: "If it were possible for you to keep in touch with only three students after you leave college, which three would you choose?" Answers were secured from all except one student, a total of 253.

The factors selected for testing as to whether they were associated with the choice of friends to a greater degree than chance were as follows:

- (1) Year in college.
- (2) Major scholastic interest.
- (3) Common domicile and geographic proximity between houses on campus.
- (4) Scholastic standing as determined by:
 - (a) Rating of high school record by college Director of Admission.
 - (b) Standing on American Council Psychological Examination (taken by all entering freshmen).
- (5) Socio-economic status as determined by:
 - (a) Father's occupation.
 - (b) Amount of tuition paid (reduced or full).
 - (c) Whether student engages in part time remunerative work while at college.

With these data and the students' choice at hand, the analysis required the classification of all participants according to each of the above categories; and the tabulation of the choices to show the number of choices which each group, classified according to the above categories and regarding each as an in-group, gave to (a) their own group and (b) to outside groups. Tables indicating the distribution of choices according to the various classifications and the indices for each of the classifications are not included here.)

Note for a Paper Done on the Pastoral Convention

The dubious distinction of being the Farmer of the Week was afforded one Rufus Jones, who regretted the time from pasture, and the separation from his wife. He traveled to the city, and was greeted by the Mayor,

A jolly man with two nephews and a son-in-law on pay-roll.

He believed in God, and the Chamber of Commerce, and had been against WPA.

Then Rufus heard a speech, and gave one, bought some lumber, Went to a cat house, got rolled in a poker game,

And went home an Honored Man.

Now the Hero life had taken hold of Rufus;

He fretted for the open space of Main Street and the beauties

Of the Honest Joe Saloon.

So he rode back to the city, the key to the gates jangled in his pocket, And he hummed the latest Hit Laredo tune.

But Rufus found another man was Hero, And broken-hearted, shot himself too soon.

Nadya Margulies

From Table I we conclude (1) that students of all classes prefer members of their own class to members of any other; and of all others taken together as an out-group; (2) in general, of those choices given to other classes, more are given to the classes that are closer than to the more distant; (the exception is the sophomore preference of seniors to freshmen); and (3) choices tend to give to the class next above, rather than below, one's own class.

The indices of Table II, In-group Preference Among College Majors, indicate that there is a definite tendency to choose within the group of similar major academic interest. The science division has the greatest degree of in-group preference, followed in order by Dance-Drama, Music, Literature, Art, and Social Studies.

Social Studies seems to have the least cohesiveness as a division. Their in-group preference in relation to all other groups is the lowest in value, and none of the other divisions seem to have either a strong preference or a decided non-preference for the Social Studies division. This would seem to be logical inasmuch as this division includes several areas of interest.

The Music and Science divisions mutually prefer each other, next to themselves, to any of the other divisions. These two divisions are, in turn, ranked lowest in order of preference by the other major divisions, except for the Literature division. The Literature division might be termed the most generally popular group.

Field of major interest might be considered to be more closely allied to personality factors than some of the other categories with which we have been dealing, and the temptation to embark upon theories as to the art-interest or science-interest type of personalities is correspondingly great. However, it is quite possible that the degree of attraction represented by these indices may be accounted for by the factor of proximity, i. e., attendance at the same classes, rehearsals, etc. We shall return later to this subject. In the meantime, Table III (Distribution of Choices Among Houses on Campus) provides striking testimony of the influence of this factor of proximity.

All of the specific indices in Table III are very large, by far the largest indices that occur in the whole study, indicating that residence in the same house is the factor most highly associated with the choice of friends. Proximity in the sense of geographical proximity of the houses on campus does not seem to have such great importance, however. The campus is divided into two distinct sides, the East and the West, with six student houses on each side. From the indices it would seem that students within houses on the East side have a definite self-preference for their own house; but once outside the house they distribute their choices with little consciousness of their own side of the campus. Houses on the West side, with a lower mean of self-preference, distribute the majority of their outside-house choices within the West side. All of the specific indices are very large, however, indicating so much in-group preference among the residents of each house that any generalizations about the order of preference given outside the house is of relatively little significance.

The fourth category to be studied in terms of its influence upon the choice process is scholastic standing. The tendencies which appeared in the distribution of choices among the high school scholastic groups seem to be substantiated only in part by (the American Council Psychological Examination) indices. As may be seen from Table V, both the general and specific indices show a great

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New Organization for Those Interested in Dance

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whose aims are consonant with those of this organization.

4. Aiding in the collection and preservation of historical and documentary material.

Immediate Projects

Immediate projects of NDA include the establishment of a subway circuit over which to tour a series of programs preceded by a lecturer with, wherever possible, motion picture material; the raising of funds to establish such circuits on a national plane; to hold dance festivals at least every two years in various parts of the country; to investigate conditions over the nation relative to the types and numbers of performances now being given and the local machinery available for sponsoring touring and local dance attractions; to launch a program for the co-ordination of dance studies in educational institutions; to investigate the possibilities of dance motion pictures; to raise funds for a theatre dance plant, a permanent dance home in New York City, and to issue bulletins and appropriate publications as an information service to members. Committees are already preparing to work on several of these projects. In addition to striving to bring touring attractions to many communities, NDA expects to foster and to encourage local dance groups through organizational prestige and expert assistance from experienced professional dancers.

Membership in NDA

There are two kinds of membership in NDA:

1. Class A consists of non-professional members.
2. Class B consists of professional members.

Dues for both classes are \$5.00 per year. Students are eligible for membership as Class A members at \$2.50 per year. Any student interested in joining NDA should consult Betty Anne Gillette for further information.

Joan du Brow

c/o R. S. V. P.

Letter Box

Sacramento, Calif.
May 27, 1949

Dear Editor:

May I call your attention to an elementary mistake in grammar, which appears in the last sentence of the article entitled "Mademoiselle's College Forum on Freedom and Security", in the May 19th issue of "The Beacon". The article was written in such an intelligent style that the incorrect use of "I" for "me" seems inexcusable.

If you will refer to pages 457-8 of "American Language" by H. J. Mencken, or to any sixth grade grammar, you will find justification for my criticism.

Hopefully,

A Subscriber

To the Editor:

The ignorance of the fire regulations on this campus is appalling! Hardly anyone knows where to go or what to do and the general behavior of the community is anything but efficient and disciplined when the siren blows.

The drill held on June 7th was very revealing. The number of siren blasts meant nothing to most people with the result that only a few individuals knew the supposed location of the fire. The truck arrived in record time, and praise is deserved in that respect, but by the time the hoses were attached to the hydrant and the water turned on, Cricket Hill would surely have burned down.

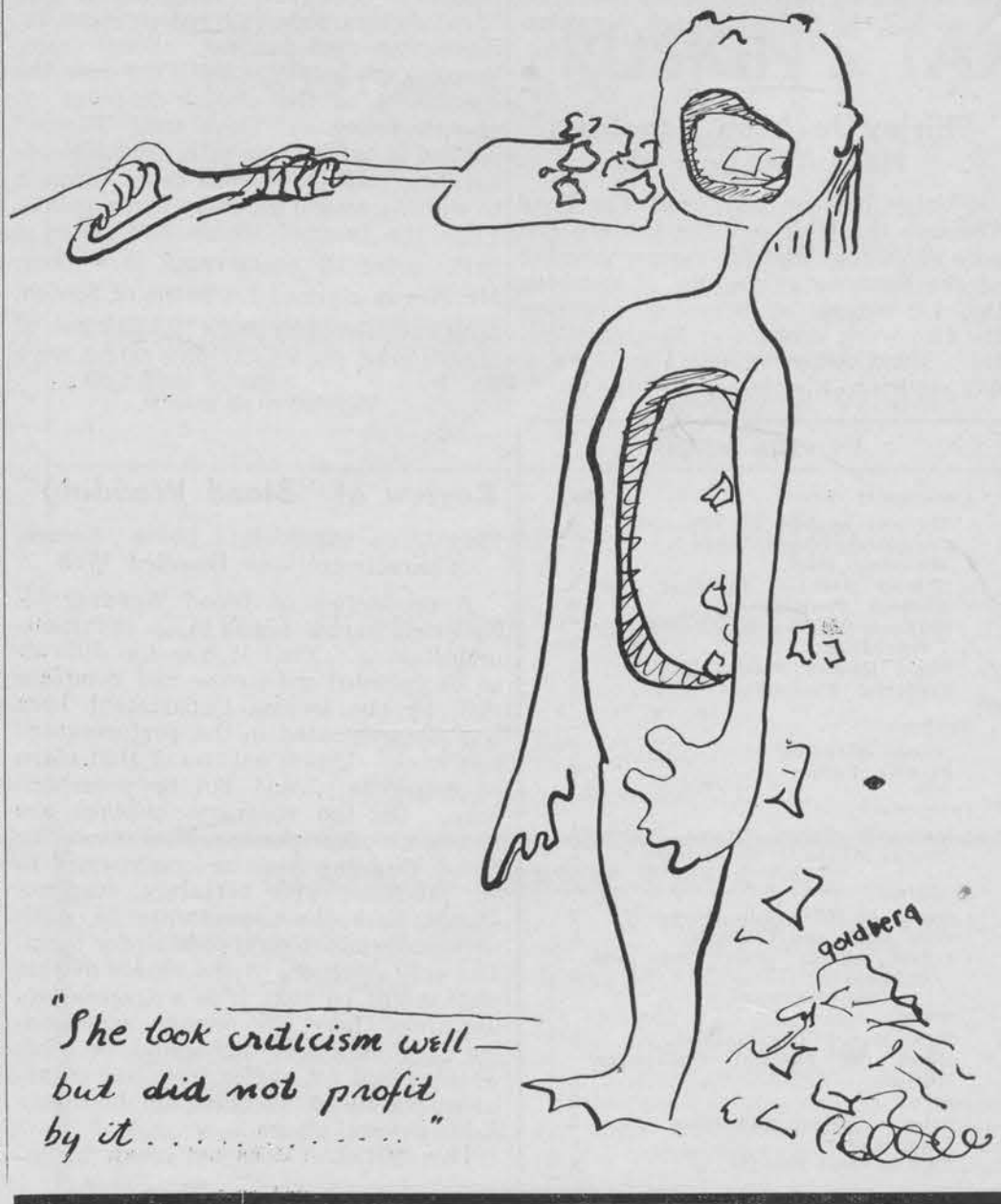
Are individual house drills ever held at night? There was a time when besides the Community drills every house on campus was put through a rigorous test and unless the house "passed", which meant that within an established time all extinguishers had to be at the scene of the fire, all windows and doors closed, all lights on, shades up and all students outdoors, (except for the fire crew), the drill was repeated until it was considered successful. House faculty were equally diligent and they too performed certain duties.

What would happen if there were a fire at night when neither students nor buildings and ground men were here? Faculty and staff resident on the campus in the summer and during Non-Resident Term should be especially familiar with, and know how to use, all fire equipment.

I strongly urge that the Community take fire drills more seriously for I dread to think of the results if a real emergency were to occur in our present state of unpreparedness.

Sincerely,

Rebecca B. Stickney



"She took criticism well —
but did not profit
by it"

Review of 'Blood Wedding'

(Continued from page 1)

ply that there were not some moments and characters that were done well. The main problem would seem to be one of consistency, consistency on many scores: individual performances, contrasted performances, interpretation, movement on stage, costumes, the setting, and the lighting. This is a play which is at once primitive and sophisticated, ritualistic and historical, stylized and lyric. It is possible to pick on one of these things and to play a scene or part in terms of only one. Particular scenes seem to lend themselves more easily to one facet than to another, but the play loses as a whole when a central interpretation controlling the complexities of the play has not been determined and maintained. Since almost in spite of itself a production of this play by American students would be sophisticated, historical, and lyric, it would seem that such stylization as was attempted in the woodcutters' scenes, the scenes between the moon and the beggarwoman, and the scenes of the two girls winding wool should have controlled the rest of the scenes as well. The set stressed the stark ritualistic qualities of the play by a simply ramped floor and an elementally emphasized proscenium arch; but even though it was effective and a unity in itself it was, instead of being properly sophisticated, too pat, perhaps too modern for the play. For example the projections on the hangings in the rear were not an integral part of the play but rather were "added attractions." The properties, except for the very effective trees, were a motley aggregation, frequently unsuitable to the set. Even the costumes were inconsistent not only among themselves but to many of the aspects of the play. Some of them were too realistically Spanish in relation to others like the striking one of the beggarwoman which was without period. Movement on stage was unfocused; the crowd scenes were disorganized and cheapened by bits of realistic slapstick comedy; and the choreography of the group on the way to the bride's house seemed arbitrary, static, and haphazardly performed. In addition, the singing was poorly done, in contrast to the instrumental music which was generally very fine.

Two of the excellent moments of appropriate stylization were a result of the combining of music and the speaking voice: the servant's speech at the beginning of Act II which begins, "A-turning, the wheel was a-turning"; and the final speech of the mother beginning, "Neighbors: with a knife." Another lovely scene was the result of movement so strongly stylized as to be almost dance combined with dialogue; this was the scene between the two girls who were winding wool. Still an-

Gyorgy Kepes to Speak Here: Noted Artist and Writer on Vision, Design

Gyorgy Kepes, now professor of visual design at the M. I. T. School of Architecture and Planning, will be at Bennington June 16, speaking at a general meeting in the evening and an art seminar in the afternoon.

His subject for the evening address will be "Education of Vision".

Professor Kepes, formerly of the School of Design in Chicago, often called the American Bauhaus, is the author of "Language of Vision." The magazine **Architectural Forum** has said Kepes is "admirably equipped to fuse the interest and understanding of popular and commercial arts."

And, the **Magazine of Art** said of Professor Kepes' book, "This is an extraordinarily stimulating book . . . perhaps the only work on the subject of vision current at the moment that makes sense."

other effective scene was the first one between the mother and bridegroom. One believed in the scene because the actors believed in themselves.

The most consistent performances were given by Jerry Fritz as the bridegroom, Mary Lou White as the mother, Patricia Hogan as the wife, Linda Borden as the servant, and Anne Borman as the neighbor. The bridegroom, a part not so difficult as some of the others, was done steadily and well; as was the wife. The servant and the neighbor were well handled supporting roles. The difficult parts of the bride played by Irene Moore and Leonardo played by Coe Norton were erratic, at times believable, sometimes not. The moon played by Alec Rubin and the beggarwoman played by Joan Tewksbury could both have gone even further in stylization of the parts and in strengthening of the eerie quality of the action. The moon's movements were arbitrary and lacking in force; the beggarwoman was more successful in creating belief. The outstanding performance was given by Mary Lou White as the mother. Always wholly and believably the character of the mother, her final speech which closes the play was simply and beautifully done.

The particular beauty of the more stylized sections (or in the less successful instances at least the effectiveness of these sections) would indicate that an organization around the formal qualities would have unified and strengthened the whole production of the play. Still this was a definitely successful advance over the earlier productions of the year and its best moments will be difficult to better.

Nancy Smith

Friends Service Committee To Hold Seminar Here This Summer

Will Start July 8

The American Friends Service Committee will conduct an International Service Seminar for foreign and American students this summer at Bennington. The Seminar will start July 8 and will last five weeks, ending August 12. The Seminar group will be made up of thirty students, American students and foreign students already in American colleges. They will study with visiting faculty members, specialists in their fields, "the economic, historical, cultural, psychological, ethical, philosophical and political aspects of international understanding and cooperation." There will be five visiting faculty members who will each remain with the Seminar one week. The subjects discussed by the groups are not discussed in the abstract or from the point of view of theory alone, but from the point of view of each person in the group and what the problem meant to him or her in the light of the history, culture and resources of his or her own country. The programs of the Seminars usually include participation in the activities of the communities near Seminar locations.

Resident Dean to be David E. Swift

There is a resident Dean and Director at each Seminar. David E. Swift will direct the Seminar at Bennington. Among the visiting faculty who participate in the Friends Seminars are Alger Hiss, Philip Mosely, George N. Shuster and Ernest J. Simmons.

Students to Occupy Swan and Woolley

The members of the Seminar will occupy Swan and Woolley Houses. They will do all their own work such as cleaning, cooking and waiting on tables. Mr. O'Brien, a member of our staff will be in the kitchen to supervise.

Other Seminars in New England, West and Southwest

There will be other Seminars in New England and Holderness School, Plymouth, New Hampshire and at Indian Mountain School in Lakefield, Connecticut. Seminars will also be held at schools and colleges in Minnesota, Illinois, Massachusetts, Arizona, California, Washington and New Mexico or Colorado, and possibly in France or Finland.

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Exchange of Note

The music faculties of the New England colleges are working out a system whereby the faculties may give exchange concerts. The recent Dartmouth concert at Bennington was the first of these exchanges; the system should be in working order by next term.

Student Projects Include Working With New Chorus, and Town Teen-Agers

Several Bennington students have undertaken interesting projects this year. Among them is a new chorus, organized and directed by Thumper Whitely, this term, as part of her senior project. The chorus is made up of sixteen music students who meet to rehearse once a week. They are working on some music of Aaron Copeland, William Bird and Orlando Lassus and hope to give a concert in an open music seminar soon.

Using the town of Bennington's teen-agers as her subjects, Irma Hageman is conducting a study entitled "Youth in Industrial Society". She has become so engrossed in the activities of the Girls Club and Teen-town, the local youth groups that she works with, that, at the Bennington BANNER'S request, she is writing an article for them about her project.

Pat Crowley had a class last term teaching South American dancing to the teen-agers of Bennington. She held her classes in the evening at the youth canteen, Teen-town.

Has anyone seen my head? Tede Loch. . .

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Students Work on Revision of Nominating Procedure

Time Too Short to Try New System This Term

Since much dissatisfaction with our present procedure of nominating candidates for Community government offices was expressed at the time of the Spring elections earlier this year, a committee made up of student volunteers was formed to work out a new nominating procedure. It was hoped that this new procedure, if it seemed workable, might be tried out as an experiment in this month's elections, but this would require a Community vote either to revise the Constitution or to bypass the present Constitutional procedure in favor of the new method. The students who volunteered to work out a new procedure included Katie Kingsford, Kay Brown, Betsy Winslow, Judy Kanin, and Martha-Jane Woodcock. These five, aided by Virginia Allen, had only a few weeks in which to set up a new procedure which would correct the weaknesses of the present system. They worked very hard on it and the suggestions which they came up with were well thought out and seem on the whole to be sound, but by the time their proposal was ready to be submitted to the Community, it was too late to secure Community approval of it in time for the coming elections. The committee's proposal will not be forgotten, however, but will be presented to the Community some time well in advance of the next elections which will take place early in the Spring term of 1950.

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celebrates it's
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with a big sales event.

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the Store all this month.

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Local Color

We discovered Miss Bedela Buck quite by accident. Driving around nearby dirt roads in search of local Vermont color, we had just decided to turn back as it was getting dark. We passed an old house. It was huge and dilapidated. The front door was hanging by one hinge, windows were broken, shingles were missing from the roof, and part of the porch had given up and fallen away. Yet the house had preserved some of its original dignity, for elaborate gingerbread woodwork still remained hanging from the edge of the porch roof and healthy wisteria vines ran over the entire house. We decided that it was only these vines which held the house together. But the strangest of all was the pin-point of light which we saw in a window, which upon closer examination proved to be the light of a single candle burning deep within the house. Perhaps some tramps who had stopped here for the night had lit the candle. Or maybe it was gangsters — or was it a ghost? Certainly the house was just right for haunting.

We had to know what it was that had lit the candle so we climbed out of the car and pussyfooted through the overgrown garden to the front door. A dog started barking inside the house. We couldn't have been more startled if a gun had gone off. We retreated back a few yards and the dog became quiet. Then a little crackling voice said, "I say, who is it?"

This was our introduction to Miss Buck. We told her shakily where we were from. We couldn't see her very well because she hid behind the vines on the porch. She talked quickly, explaining to us that she had been "smoking". We pictured an old stone smoke house in the back of her house, but when we asked what she had been smoking, she replied "Why, my pipe." She went on to explain to us that her settin' room was untidy so she could not invite us in. She said that in the summer she had many visitors, but they stopped coming in the winter because the road got right snowy.

Although it was obvious that she did not want to be seen, she seemed glad to have some people to visit with. She skirted around behind the vines busily chatting about how she had been born in that very house and had lived there ever since—she was now goin' on eighty-one, she thought. She mentioned that hewing wood for the stove had been a little hard on her back lately.

As we were about to leave she said, "You can leave your calling cards here on the front stoop, if you'd be so kind."

We explained to her that we were out driving and hadn't expected to pay any calls, so we had left our calling cards home.

"My land," she exclaimed, "I didn't know folks went out without calling cards nowadays."

By inquiring about Miss Buck from a neighbor, we heard that she is considered "tetched". She is known to climb in and out of windows most of the time because she does not like doors, and in the summer she often walks to town (a distance of about two miles) bedecked in old furs, patent leather pumps and black stockings. We found out that years ago the farm where she lives was one of the largest and wealthiest in Vermont and they say that in her younger days Bedela was the belle of the county and would drive around the countryside in her basket cart pulled by beautifully groomed hackneys. She was said to have had

Faculty Follies

(Continued from page 1)

silently folded away and the Follies began!!

Follies a Tremendous Success

Bob Alvin, the master of ceremonies for station N. E. THING (or did he say PING?) GOES, who had kept a really funny running commentary going during the matches first introduced Mr. Woody and his German Band. Almost all the other musicians in the band we have been informed were Mr. Woody's kids. The whole family was sensational. Their opening number was the Lone Ranger Overture and they brought their concert to a close—much too soon—with "Ach, du Liber Augustine."

After a "paid advertisement" from "Rebecca the Squeeze Me Sponge" Company by Ruth Alvin, her husband introduced the famous roving reporter Biff Hanks. Mr. Hanks inspired us all to join the "Save a Match Campaign" because, well it is true, "A match scrounged is a match saved". Then with the proper sound effects, courtesy of Mrs. Hanks, he introduced us to various correspondents around the globe—Danny Shapiro from Washington, a mustached Phil Sperling from Rome, Dick Deacon from Berlin, Nora Hasenclever from Moscow, a turbaned Ned Hall from Delhi, Coe Norton from Tokyo in kimona, and Jane Wasey from Pownal—. Each commented in appropriate accent about various world shaking situations including: men and women, the yen, on-the-spot coverage of B'ton girl up-a-tree, and an offer made by Moscow to aid that famous U. S. school for Progressive Education in its present financial difficulties with a shipment of a 1,000,000 litres of vodka and a ton of caviar. Fred Wohnus couldn't be located in Buenos Aires, but the sound effects left no doubt where he was. This whole program was well done and very, very clever.

Then came Tom Brockway's hilarious Mr. & Mrs. Coffee Hour. Mr. Brockway did admirably taking the parts of Mr. Coffee, Mrs. Coffee, sponsor, and engineer. To make the situation even funnier and to leave no doubt who was speaking he changed hats with voices. High points in the evening were his Russian songs, and his impersonation of the modern dance.

Mrs. Foster's pantomimes of Queen Victoria after a duck dinner couldn't have been better; ditto for Mr. Shapiro's ambiguous, original nursery rimes.

Annette Shapiro, looking more like a student than a faculty wife, and Coe then did a take off on a counseling period. This too was extremely clever, and we might add, funny.

The closing number was a little song by Mr. Sperling about "a nice girl, a Bennington girl" sung by the faculty chorus including Biff Hanks, Danny Shapiro, Coe, and Deke. The song was hilarious, but so was the barefooted pink-wigged chorus.

The evening ended with free beer and three long, loud cheers for our amazing faculty.

an illicit love affair after which she never went away from her own home. Now she and her dog stubbornly live there alone in the midst of rotting brocade drapes and cobwebs. She and the house seem to be one: both old, dilapidated and going back to puritan Vermont dust.

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Study of Friendship Groups Among Bennington Students

(Continued from page 2)

deal of variation. We must conclude that, as here measured, similar "mental" scores are not strongly associated with in-group preference, although most of the indices indicate preference for their own group.

As the student body under study is, as a whole, of a generally high socio-economic status, analysis of in-group choices on this basis was not expected to yield very striking results. . . . The indices from these data (father's occupation, full or reduced tuition, self-help) indicate that there is a tendency to choose within the group of similar economic status. The in-group preference of the students who received scholarships is a little higher than that of the "no scholarships" group There is also noticeable a tendency to prefer, after one's own group, the next closest group, and to have the least preference for the group most distant in economic status.

The "self-help" classification used only two categories: (1) a "no" group consisting of students who earned less than \$25.00 a term; and (2) the "yes" group consisting of students who earned more than that amount in one term. The in-group preference indices for these two groups support the findings stated above. That is, both groups show a slight in-group preference.

(c) Conclusions.

The entire population of a small college answered the question: "If after leaving college, you could keep in touch with only three students now in college, which three would you choose?" The results indicate an always definite and in some respects a very strong tendency to name people belonging to one's own in-group as regards (a) common domicile, (b) college class, (c) major scholastic interest, and (d) socio-economic status. On the other hand, (e) scholastic standing, and "aptitude" as here measured showed little or no significant association with in-group preference. The in-group indices were high with respect to each criterion approximately in the the order mentioned above, common domicile being by far the most conspicuous in-group factor reflected in the indices.

Frequency of association is perhaps also the most important factor in the choices among the various years and majors. In the discussion of the major indices we noted that those divisions with the largest degree of necessary contact, i. e. Drama-Dance, Science, and Music, in which most of the work is done in close association with the other members of the division, had the largest degrees of in-group preference.

The high degree of in-group preference of the different classes must also be attributed, in part at least, to such association, i. e. attendance at the same classes. Another factor in the intra-class choices may be that as each class enters college they find a community whose friendship groups are to a large extent already set, and are therefore forced to make friends among their own class.

The question will arise as to whether the observed in-group preferences result from the choice of association or whether friendships already formed on some other basis cause students to choose a house, major, classes, etc., in order to associate more closely with the previously preferred members of the group. It is impossible to resolve this completely on the basis of the data we have at hand, save to point out that on this particular college campus, a majority of students remain in the house in which they tend to make friends because of the house association, rather than move to be with friends chosen on some other basis.

There are strong presumptive grounds for believing that propinquity is the prior or dominant factor which largely determines the positive in-group indices found also among the other factors. That is, the accidents of propinquity determine, first of all, the universe from which choices are possible. The nature of college and class organization will automatically throw together with greater frequency the members of a particular class and of a particular academic major. As for the in-group value of a common scholastic standing, the measures of this factor in the present study are admittedly crude and the indices secured were of negligible size. Socio-economic status, even in a highly democratic student-body, again would be likely to find some expression in the fact that students of common socio-economic status, quite aside from any deliberate or conscious choice or discrimination on this basis, would be thrown together disproportionately more frequently by the fact that larger numbers of each status group would be engaged in common employment, amusement, etc.

Student Evaluations Hailed a Success

In an attempt to determine the value of self-evaluation by students of their own work, the Mid-Term Report sheets this semester—as last semester—contained spaces for comments on the student's work in each course by both the student herself and her instructor. To our knowledge no attempt has yet been made to measure the success of this second experiment, but in the interests of educational policy we offer the following example of such a report as proof of the fact that this method of work evaluation, if taken seriously and used intelligently by all concerned, can be of great value to the student in helping her to recognize her own progress and shortcomings and to integrate her various studies as well as of great assistance to her instructor who must also evaluate her work in his class and to her counsellor who must ultimately pass judgment upon her total academic performance:

Bennington College

..... SpringTerm, 1949

STUDENT'S MID-TERM EVALUATION

StudentPetrie Manning

CourseSeminar in Oriental Religions

Instructor ...Nash, Nado Murphey ...Counselor ..Robert Woodworth, Sr. ...

Junior Division Senior DivisionX

Candidate for: ...Senior Division ...BaptismXGraduation

1. Description of the work you have accomplished: (Please type or use INK)

1. Balinese Dance—They taught us stretching and fainting in coils, from which we proceeded to a demonstration of the native dance, Bali Boola Bali.
2. Snake Charming—special emphasis on pythons and cobras, with occasional use of boa constrictors.
3. Contemplation of the navel in ten yoga positions. Primary concentration on celery.
4. Special study of the sacred parrot of Buddha.

2. Evaluation of the work you have accomplished: (Please type or use INK)

I'm having some difficulty finding a relationship between the eating habits of the boa constrictor and the yoga mental processes. However, I'm able to see a straight line of development from the primitive Balinese dance up thru the methodological paradox of the flying and nesting habits of the Buddhist parrot. My paper on the sustained integration of flute music and the rhythms of celery mastication was invaluable in aiding me to correlate, integrate, appreciate, conjugate, and make this course have meaning for me.

This course has been especially relevant in Professor Griswold's course in Pedecurology. It has greatly aided me in tying together my other six quarters: History of deep sea fishing, Pre-dent, Animal husbandry, Switchboard, Gold mining and refining, and Peddling. Above all this course has been completely constructive and productive in giving me the ability to clarify and solidify my views on modern American architecture.

Student's signature X

3. Instructor's comment:

This youd lamquid ceegs el integersity ni la cosmolateral ether on the suppodictorial intrapolation rathma nath el absorred augubelligorse. She shudavmensiondthisbe4. How* Persnil plumlymes allten unspnd in cymala onolitorasion or sumlow a sigmolateral swoop. Sluch resanoba ar no allner trusforred. Buk mewed acralo. Buthacoloymaguesalotauvdifference, Slissh landscrapper is supralert. intelliastic, effilient, al sensamalde.

Satisfactory work.

Instructor's signature ..Arodilad

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DRYSDALE'S

Blue Jeans and Leotards

By Valerie Bettis

(The following is an excerpt from an article which appeared in the June issue of *Mademoiselle*.)

Eleven years ago this summer I finally talked my skeptical parents into sending me to Bennington to study The Dance. Bennington, of course, was synonymous with Dance for me, as it then was for every young hopeful. In residence were four great innovators: Martha Graham, Doris Humphrey and Charles Weidman, Hanya Holm. I'd never seen any of them perform, but their very names spelled magic. I was actually on my way, quivering with ambition and awe, when the car I traveled in turned over, and I never did get to Bennington. I confess this in a whisper, because for many years attendance at those summer sessions was the caste mark of the initiate. If you hadn't been there you simply weren't a dancer.

Today that's all changed. There are many places now, strung all across the country, where the neophyte, the professional, even the out-and-out amateur can get good training from excellent teachers. Some of them offer straight college courses for credit—though you don't have to be an undergraduate, at least in the summer, to get in. The best choice among these is a course conducted by a teacher whose technique particularly interests you; if you can't afford that one, the one that's closest geographically. Almost any of them can be wonderful training for the student, wonderful fun for the amateur.

Some are as valuable to professional dancers and choreographers as to students. That's why I'm so excited about my invitation this year to Connecticut College in New London. It's an open invitation to give full rein to the impetus to dance; to get right away from the normal struggle-for-existence pressures and turn intuition and imagination loose for study and creation. Specifically, for the serious student, a summer at Connecticut is a chance to study concentratedly with several teachers, maybe to try her hand at composition in the workshop or get another view of the problems and possibilities of her own art through a study of some of the allied arts—music and drama. For the professional dancer it's a chance to freshen her approach to dance as an art form, rather than a commercial enterprise, by performing in new works. For the choreographer the conditions are almost ideal—she's released from the winter's scattered, haphazard rehearsals, free for intensive work with dancers of her choice, free to perform her works in a good theatre surrounded by people who are interested and eager to help.

Connecticut's curriculum includes music, acting and the dance, and the faculty list is long and distinguished. Its dance festival—sponsored jointly by New York University and Connecticut—owes its existence and vitality to N. Y. U.'s Martha Hill, who used to be the guiding spirit of Bennington's summer sessions. This summer's session will extend from July 6 to August 14, and eleven concerts will be given from August 12 to August 21. The resident companies will be Jose Limon's with Doris Humphrey as the artistic director; the Dudley, Bales, Maslow Trio with the New Dance Group; and mine.

Latest Advice from Jones and O'Riley

William B. Jones and Richard H. O'Riley, the authors of *For Men Lonely and Weekend*, have recently come up with some more advice on college weekends. Their book, *For Men Lonely*, brought out two years ago, is a college man's guide to Eastern women's colleges, and their second book, *Weekend*, published last year, is a girl's guide to the weekend at men's colleges. Their latest effort, a brief discussion, very broad, of college weekends in general, is reprinted in full as follows:

By the time you're a Senior you'll have probably decided that one particular man's college is the place for you to do your weekend. More and more it'll be the man that counts and not just the particular shape or form that a party takes.

Perhaps you'll like the Williams man, who always manages to look like the country gentleman just back from looking at the new colt or the gentlemanly Tigers from Princeton where everything but the glint in their eye is orange and back. Some girls tour to Yale their first year, go for three more, and never seem to tire of it. A West Point weekend is always worth attending. No girl ever seems to get over the thrill of a Cadet on her arm. Maybe Harvard will be the college, it always is, at least when they play Yale. As for Dartmouth men, they realize just how long the trip to Hanover is and excell in the subtle art of persuading you to stay until Monday. Anyway, no matter where your invites come from, go—even with a blind date—you'll remember these parties a lot longer than anything else you learn your first year.

Before you start out on any weekend it's best to have pretty well in mind just what your date is planning. Is there a formal dance? Is there a picnic Sunday? Are there any hay rides? On what day does he really expect you?

Remember you pay for your transportation to his college and back again. He has plenty to finance in paying for your room, your food, your dance tickets, and countless other expenses.

A college weekend costs your date anywhere from 35 to 60 dollars.

Finally, a few hints about the weekend itself: try to figure out the right clothes. On many weekends you may want to ski or skate or play tennis. Bring your own gear. Stopping in the middle of a party to find skis or extra socks for a visitor definitely slows down the weekend for everyone, so think ahead. Next when at a college where there are fraternities, never call them "frats" or "frat-clubs," those terms are torture to any fraternity man. And when on a weekend, don't be constantly in search of friends in other houses. Nothing is more annoying and less complimentary to a man than a girl who "just has to see a girl from school who is staying over at the Theda Pi house" or "Bob Smith from home who's in Piller Club." He asked you for a weekend to see him, don't spoil it searching all over the campus for old friends.

And most important of all, whatever you do anywhere, have fun, it's the party spirit that counts—just writing about it we can hardly wait for fall.

Tips on Good Posture for College Girl from John Robert Powers Staff

From a Miss Virginia Russell (via a press release from the John Robert Powers charm school in New York) come some words of wisdom for Bennington girls "who want to retain their trim figures now and after graduation."

Miss Russell, a physical education expert and lecturer on "body alignment" at the Powers' school, sums up her advice to America's future career girls, as follows:

1. "Beauty is not important if your posture is bad. Stand erect, but relax. Relax the knees and shoulders. Keep chest and head high.

2. "To prevent round shoulders, resulting from long periods of bending on a desk, do this: Clasp hands behind the neck, roll head in circle. This exercise can be done without leaving your chair.

3. "To avoid hip-spreading, do more walking. Do moderate exercises at home or in the dormitory at least once a day.

If you do not find time to do the above, participate in some sort of sports. Swimming, bowling, bicycling, badminton, archery, and skating (roller or ice) are good for figures, says Miss Russell.

"Development of a good figure—important in any career—begins in college," she says. "At this stage a girl either gets careless or meticulous about her appearance."

What's wrong with the average college girl's figure today? "They're too hippy," says Miss Russell. "And speaking frankly, this is due to carelessness or laziness."

She suggests a good portion of the summer months be used to get in trim for the big job in the fall.

Blood Donors Badly Needed

The Bennington Red Cross still needs blood donations urgently. All members of the Community are asked to contribute.

Transportation every Tuesday and Friday afternoons at four o'clock is provided, if necessary. Please sign up with Louise Dickson.

Permission from parents is required if the donor is under 21.

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