

## THE BEACON

Published Every Other Week by Students of the Bennington College Community.

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Bennington College, Bennington, Vermont

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## N. S. A. Representative Reports

During the first year of its existence, the NSA has accomplished an extraordinary amount of work. In the summer plans department, NSA has furnished a number of pamphlets on summer work and travel in the U. S. and abroad, among which is a comprehensive survey of **Work, Study and Travel Abroad**. NSA has organized a Tri-Nation tour, consisting of ninety students chosen from applicants from 100 colleges to travel in Britain, France and Holland for nine weeks. NSA action had some influence in the Maritime Commission's decision to retain two student ships for those bound for study abroad.

## Members of UNESCO

NSA is now a member of UNESCO, and is actively affiliated with other international student organizations, such as World Student Service Fund; WSSF and NSA together raised a fund of \$600,000 this year. One of the year's most decisive actions was NSA's break with International Union of Students at Prague, Czechoslovakia. Among the charges against IUS were Communistic violation of students' democratic rights and persecution of so-called reactionary students and faculty by the Communists. The NSA release stated, "If this does mark the end of effectiveness of the IUS as a center of communication between the U. S. and students of other lands, it will be a severe blow to the cause of international cooperation among students."

Currently NSA is conducting a number of surveys on educational discrimination practices, student government organizations, curriculum and food conditions questionnaires. The plan is to determine what are the current problems among the colleges and then try to establish a norm of practice which seems, in all aspects, the most advantageous.

## NSA Congress In August

In August there will be the first National Student Congress at Madison, Wisconsin, where current problems will be discussed in such panels and workshops as Travel and Study Abroad, Student Government Problems, Foreign Student Hospitality, etc. Following a summary of this year's work, it is expected that NSA will be able, as a national student body, to undertake the consideration of student issues and problems which have become apparent. NSA expects the first Congress to be a significant step toward national and international student cooperation.

S. Worcester

## Final Community Meeting

The final Community meeting of the term was held July 1 to present the final committee reports, and the election results.

The first report, that of the Community Chest, was given by Judy Seaver who has been serving this term for Mary Fox Hellweg. She gave a summary of the various drives organized during the two terms.

The October drive for the "Save the Children" fund, topped the goal of \$1000 by 27%. Besides the regular November drive for the employees' Christmas fund, and the Bennington Community Chest, there were smaller drives for clothing for the American Friends Service Committee, a year-long "Meals for Millions" collection, and a smaller spring drive the proceeds from which went partly to the United Negro College Fund, partly to the Bennington Red Cross, and partly to the "Save the Children" fund.

Nancy Hellweg reported on the activities of the Recreation Council: the open house at the beginning of fall term, the tennis and bridge tournaments, the fall and spring formal dances and the square dances. \$124.18, which was left from the proceeds of the open house, and the two formal dances, has been put in the contingency fund to help finance next year's activities.

Betsy Bacon reported for the General Meetings Committee, which not only is the clearing house for movies, EPC seminars, exhibits, etc., but arranges meetings of general interest to the community. During this year they arranged for the Communication series, Indian week, the China series, and the Stephen Spender lecture. Next year's plans include an election series, and a science series.

Sandy Crawford, as chairman of EPC, emphasized the background routine work which has been done this year, such as aiding in freshman orientation, arranging seminars, undertaking the Basic Course evaluation and the report on counseling, arranging for the meeting on non-resident term, and throughout, working with the students and faculty in attempt to coordinate educational policy.

In the Central (or judicial) report, Fran Davis, after reiterating the principles of the Committee: to act as an advisory, rather than punitive body to maintain the rules and standards of the community, made several recommendations. These were prompted by the fact that the number of infringements during the spring term was double those of the fall term. 1. It is strongly advised that men without dates be discouraged from coming on campus; 2. It is the students' privilege, right and duty to call the night watchman to take care of disturbances occasioned by unruly guests; 3. All students are held responsible for the behavior of their guests. In addition, it should be remembered that since Judicial Committee is not a police body, it can only deal with cases reported to it.

During this year, Judicial Committee has worked more closely with counselors and since this has proved to be extremely successful, it hopes to continue this practice. In addition, it hopes to work more closely with the House Chairmen in all matters, and especially in Freshman orientation.

As a final suggestion, the present Judicial Committee recommended that a community meeting be held once a term for discussions on interpretation

(Continued from page 4)

## Seniors Graduate July 10

## Candidates for Graduation

The following students are candidates for the A. B. Degree from Bennington College in July, 1948:

ANDREWS, Nancy Perry  
BACON, Elizabeth Jane  
\*BISHOP, Diane Washburne  
BROWN, Elizabeth Huntington  
\*CARLSON, Marilyn Dian  
CARRUTHERS, Helen Clare  
CHURCHILL, Thelma Wells  
CRAWFORD, Alexandra Bayard  
DAVIS, Frances Louise  
\*de VILLAFRANCA, Suzanne Crane  
EDWARDS, Barbara Benson  
EVANS, Letitia Ellicott  
FONDREN, Mary Joyce  
FOSTER, Baba  
FOWLER, Charlotte Susan  
GANZ, Jean Elsa  
GOTTLIEB, Elinor  
GREGG, Nancy Barrows  
HELLWEG, Mary Fox  
\*JOSTEN, Eileen Selma  
JOHNSON, Jeanne Geifus  
LADD, Anne Pratt  
LYONS, Ruth Emilie  
McINTOSH, Claire LaFarge  
MacVEAGH, Edith Cameron  
MACKIE, Dorothy Dwight  
MALLIA, Margaret Jean  
MOORE, Beatrice Eloise  
MORRIS, Dorothy Gilson  
REED, Eleanor Louise  
REID, Muriel Jane  
RUDIKOFF, Sonya  
ST. JOHN, Elizabeth Lyman  
SHERWIN, Mary Elizabeth  
STARR, Margot Sandra  
SULLIVAN, Florence Lodar  
WORTH, Deane Allen  
ZERBS, Edelgarde Victoria Margaret  
\*HARRIS, Annora  
\*Non-resident this term.

Students who will receive degrees in July as of December, 1947.

AHN, Elizabeth Sook Wha  
COHEN, Eleanor Carlson  
FUJII, Sumiko  
KENT, Mary Frances  
KITCHEN, Dorothy Kathleen  
LORD, Marilyn Ann  
McCLEARY, Mary Josephine  
RUSSELL, Grace Felt

## E.P.C. Counseling Survey

The Student Educational Policies Committee has finished compiling the counseling questionnaires that were distributed to students earlier this term, and think that some of the results would be of interest to the community. The questionnaires were designed to elicit student opinion on the effectiveness of counseling, and to get concrete information about what is now done with counseling time. Most students cooperated with the E. P. C. in carrying out this survey, and 221 questionnaires were returned. This was an adequate response, but the survey would have been more effective if all students had filled out their questionnaires.

## Weaknesses and Advantages

The questionnaires give a clear picture of the weaknesses and advantages of the counseling system. The consensus of student opinion is that the counseling system is generally satisfactory and is a valuable part of their education. Only a few students feel that counseling has not been valuable to them.

Most senior division students are taking tutorials with their counselors, and

Forty-seven seniors will graduate Saturday morning, July 10 in the Barn Quadrangle. The girls will wear the traditional royal blue robes with white velvet trim and blue skull caps designed by the first graduating class. They are similar to those worn during the medieval period at Winchester College, a boys' school in England.

## Nomination for Degrees

Fifteen minutes before the exercises begin, there will be a program of Swiss bell-ringing. It will be under the direction of Mrs. George Finckel. The bell-ringers will be Janet Reibel, Marcia Ireland, Patricia Hanson, Sue Garland, and Carol Diamond. When they have finished, the graduation exercises will begin at ten o'clock. The seniors will march across the quadrangle in couples, from the science wing to the circular concrete area which is the base of the original barn silo. The seniors will be presented by Mrs. George S. Franklin, president of the Board of Trustees, and Dr. Frederic Burkhardt. They will then be nominated for degrees in their respective major fields, and a vote will be taken by the Board of Trustees. The final procedure will be the conferring of the degrees to the graduates. Part of the ceremony will be the performance of the Bennington College Chorus. They will sing two original works by Sally Whitely and Mr. Ernst Levy. Their third number will be "Repleti Sunt" by Jacob Handl.

## After Ceremony

The diplomas signed by Dr. Burkhardt and Mrs. Franklin and the senior tutor will be presented in Mr. Burkhardt's office after the graduates march back into the science wing. After the degrees have been awarded it is the custom for the main doors of the barn to open and the graduated class to emerge.

The Senior class extends an invitation to all undergraduates to stay for the commencement. In case of rain, however, the graduation will take place in the Carriage Barn. Ushers for commencement exercises are being chosen from students planning to stay here until the tenth of July.

Dr. Fromm will deliver the commencement address on Friday, July 9, in the Carriage Barn. Before the address a buffet supper will be served in the Fairview garden for the faculty, graduating seniors and their guests. At that time the college orchestra, the chorus members and the octet will give a concert. Graduation robes are under the supervision of Petrie Manning.

find that this time is spent effectively. The questionnaires show that the main problem is with junior division counseling. In most instances, the weaknesses of the counseling system lies in an unsatisfactory student-counselor relationship, or in a lack of adequate orientation for counseling. Many students do not seem to realize that they can change counselors if they are not satisfied with their counsel or assignment; students should be aware that this can be done through the student personnel office, at the student's request.

## Counseling Work Done

The questionnaires show that there is great variation in the amount of work students do for counseling and in the amount of time spent preparing this work, depending upon the student's particular needs and interest. However, part of this variation seems to be due to inadequate information

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*The Beacon  
congratulates the members  
of the graduating class.*

Editorial

The past year at Bennington has been one of change. Not only has a new president come, but we have also worked out a new Constitution. This has made for a time of restlessness and rumor. Since so many things were changing, it gave a generally unsettled feeling to the whole campus.

Now, however, that the period of change is over, the college is entering into the next step of development, that of proving the changes and making them work. Now that our direction is more or less settled, there will undoubtedly be an end to some of the more extreme rumors, and the time and energy used in talking about them can be turned to more profitable ends. It is to be hoped that the new Constitution, with any amendments that may appear necessary in actual practice, will be a potent and successful implement of community government, and will help further the aims of Bennington as an educational force in the important field of community and social living.

JESSIE WOOD

Dresses - Coats - Suits  
Sweaters - Yarn

Phelps Belts and Sandals

Mary Chess

Cosmetics - Perfumes

Fromm Speaks at Seminar

At a social science seminar on Sunday June 27th, Dr. Erich Fromm spoke on "The Application of Psychoanalysis to Society". His historical approach centered on three specific methods of analysis to treat the problem of the individual and society.

Freudian Method

Dr. Fromm first discussed the Freudian method. Freud saw the relation between the neurotic symptom and the individual character structure, and what impressed him was the unchanging pattern which underlines and motivates behavior. Through observing the character traits of love, greed, envy, etc., he concluded that these passionate strivings were related closely to libidinal development. Freud's theory was the beginning of the application of psychoanalysis to society. Seeing character as the determinant of behavior and actions, he then sought to apply this method to a social group, seeking to discern what particular sexual strivings a group of people held in common. However, it was soon learned that a cultural group cannot be studied with the same method as the individual patient and the early naive Freudian method was revised.

Kardiner's Approach

Kardiner studied in more detail the social and cultural life of primitive peoples. His method centered around the "basic personality", the nucleus of character structure common to most people of a culture. Seeing early training as the key to character structure, the problem was then to study the nature of the "primary institutions", or a culture's method of bringing up their children. But this approach failed in two aspects: first, instead of emphasizing attitudes of feeling, it focussed upon the technical side of child care; secondly, it did not explain why a society used any specific method of child training.

Family Unit

The approach of modern dynamic psychology, the "socio-psychological" method, studies the function of the social character. The problem is to discern the pattern of action which is ingrained in the individual by society, both for the smooth-functioning of the social group and for the satisfaction of the individual. By this method it is possible to reconcile early training with the process of social conditioning. The family is molded by society, and in turn transmits those traits to the child which are desirable and necessary if the child is to become well-adjusted. The family, conditioned by the culture to which it belongs, is obligated to produce a certain type of social character.

C. Black

Last Concert of Term

The last faculty concert of the term was given Wednesday, June 30, in the Carriage Barn. The program, which consisted of Four Scriptural Songs by Brahms, Sonata No. 3 for 'cello and piano, by J. S. Bach and Sonata for piano, opus III, by Beethoven, was performed by Paul Matthen, Ernst Levy and George Finckel.

Mr. Matthen, in the Four Songs by Brahms, showed a nicely placed tone and delicate feeling. He sang with great perception. The balance between the voice and the piano was excellent, making a harmonious whole.

In the Bach Sonata, both Mr. Finckel and Mr. Levy had a fine tone throughout. Mr. Finckel was especially good in the middle section. Mr. Levy made the accompaniment a part in itself, dynamic in feeling.

It would only be possible to do a technical analysis of Mr. Levy's playing of the Beethoven Sonata, since his interpretation was so immense in scope. The audience gave him an enthusiastic ovation for a superlative performance. Part of this, undoubtedly, was not only for this particular piece, but also for the others of this group of Beethoven's last five sonatas, which are all too rarely heard, that Mr. Levy played at previous concerts.

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CLAIRE McINTOSH

Above—as a freshman  
Above right—as a senior



Photo by Lloyd



Photo by Lloyd



ELIZABETH BACON

Above—as a freshman  
Above left—as a senior

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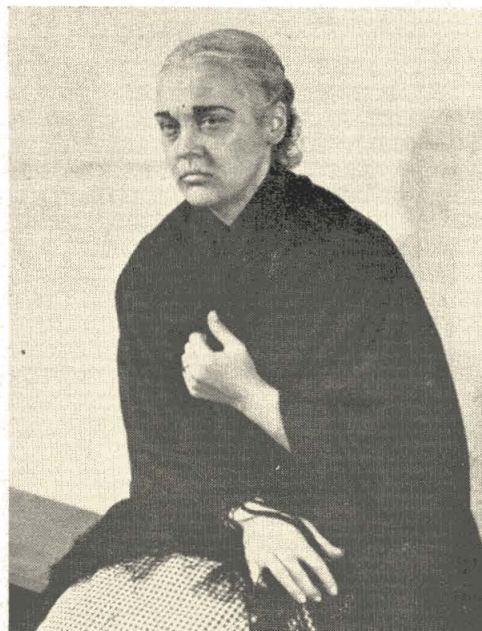
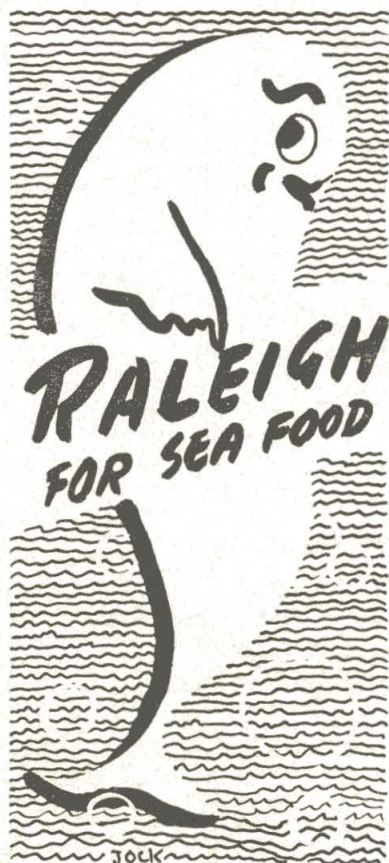


Photo by Lloyd

MARYLYN CALSON

Left—as a freshman  
Above—as a senior

## EPC Counseling Survey

(Continued from page 1)

about what is usually done for counseling and about what type of work can be undertaken. Counseling periods are most successful if the student and counselor, at the first of the term, plan what they will do with counseling time, then try to follow this plan.

### Personal Problems

Slightly more than half the students feel that time spent on discussion of current events is valuable; almost all feel that discussion of community activities is profitable, and that it encourages greater student interest in the community. Discussion of educational policies, Community Meetings and seminars was found to be particularly useful for new students, to give them opportunity to learn more about the community. The survey indicates that freshmen are particularly in need of help with personal problems; other students want help on occasion, but only if the problems relate directly to their work. However, all feel that the student should be able to ask advice if she has an important problem. Students feel that help with work for a course should be given by the instructor rather than by the counselor, but the counselor should help the student with any major work problems, such as difficulty with the mechanics of writing. It was suggested that more time be spent in discussion of the student's reports, and that counseling be used to help the student formulate plans for her program.

### Constructive Suggestion

Most of the suggestions received were constructive and useful, and all have been considered in formulating plans to improve counseling. In accordance with the suggestions, the E. P. C. plans to pay more attention to orientation of new students for counseling; entering students will be given a pamphlet clarifying the principles and practices of the counseling system. This will include:

1. A statement on the purpose of counseling;  
2. Suggestions on what type of work can be done for counseling;  
3. Examples of what has been done by other students for counseling;  
4. The amount of time normally spent on work for counseling;  
5. An explanation of the procedure for changing counselors;  
6. Information on E.P.C. availability for advice on matters relating to counseling.

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2. Suggestions on what type of work can be done for counseling;
3. Examples of what has been done by other students for counseling;
4. The amount of time normally spent on work for counseling;
5. An explanation of the procedure for changing counselors;
6. Information on E.P.C. availability for advice on matters relating to counseling.

The E.P.C. will also meet with new students to answer any further questions they may have about counseling.

### Picture to be Defined

The Student E.P.C. and the Faculty Committee will meet with new faculty at the beginning of the term to discuss the counseling system, and to give them a clear picture of what is expected of them as counselors. Both faculty and students will be informed as to what type of counseling work has been considered successful by the students, and it will be emphasized that all counseling work should be in accordance with the student's needs and interests. The reciprocity of the counseling relationship cannot be overstressed, and it will be made clear that each student must assume a large part of the responsibility for the success of the counseling experience.

Barbara Birsh  
Patton Galloway  
Sally Liberman

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**Final Community Meeting**  
(Continued from page 1)  
of the standards and rules of the college community.

**ELECTION RESULTS**  
**Judicial Committee**  
Two Terms    Ann Hellweg  
                  Phyllis Johnson  
One Term     Virginia Allen  
Faculty        Mr. Smith  
**Executive Committee**  
Two Terms    Petrie Manning  
                  Stanja Lowe  
One Term     Sue Pierce  
                  Cynthia Lee  
                  Phyllis Sidenberg  
**Recreational Council**  
Two Terms    Janet Roosevelt  
One Term     Phyllis Sidenberg  
                  Martha Holt  
**House Chairmen**  
Bingham—Eleanor Cohen  
Booth—Jennifer Brown  
Canfield—Katherine Edwards  
Dewey—Gail Greig  
Franklin—Martha Klein  
Kilpatrick—Edith Dulles  
Leigh—Kathryn Ballantyne  
McCullough—Marjorie Wood  
Stokes-Sanford—Olga Landeck  
Swan—Gertrude Yang  
Welling—Wilhelmina Eaton  
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**LINDA BE GOOD**      Elyse Knox, Marie Wilson  
**IN OLD LOS ANGELES**      William Elliot  
Special Children's Matinee, **TOM BROWN'S SCHOOL DAYS**  
Sunday and Monday, July 11, 12  
**APRIL SHOWERS**      Jack Carson, Ann Sothern  
Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, July 13, 14, 15  
**HOMECOMING**      Clark Gable, Lana Turner  
Friday and Saturday, July 16, 17  
**HEAVEN ONLY KNOWS**      Robert Cummings, Brian Donlevy  
**INSIDE STORY**      Marsha Hunt, Charles Winninger  
Special Children's Matinee, **FLYING DEUCES**  
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**B. F.'s DAUGHTER**  
Barbara Stanwyck, Van Heflin, Charles Coburn  
Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, July 20, 21  
**MR. BLANDINGS BUILDS HIS DREAM HOUSE**  
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