

Bennington College  
July 14, 1943

A meeting of the College Council was held on Tuesday, July 13, 1943, at 1:00 p.m., in the North Dining Room. The following members were present: Janet Frey, chairman, Miss Adams, Geraldine Babcock, Dorothea Douglas, Mrs. Garrett, Miss Grimwood, Virginia Leigh, Miss Peplau, Edith Stevens, Ann Strieby. Mathilde Zwilling also met with the Council.

#### REGISTRATION WEEK

The chief question before the Council was that of planning freshman registration week next fall. Whether the Recreation Council should be asked to come back early was discussed, and it was decided that this was not necessary, since the House Council could plan the few functions that would be possible in the first few days. However, it was agreed that anyone on the Recreation Council who wished to return early should be encouraged to do so.

Mrs. Garrett told the Council that an after-dinner coffee party in the Center Dining Room was planned for Thursday evening, Aug. 26, and that Mr. Jones would greet the freshmen informally at this time, and the students would have a chance to meet the faculty. There will be House meetings on Friday night, to familiarize the freshmen with the College regulations and customs, and these may be followed by social gatherings. Last year there was a Square Dance on Saturday night, which was a success, but the House Council can decide whether it wants to repeat this event or try another form of entertainment. Sunday evening will be the first community meeting.

Methods of bringing students and faculty together to discuss courses was argued, the faculty not wishing to duplicate what is already in the catalogue over and over to each individual student, and the students, on the other hand, are bashful about going to members of the faculty and demanding to know what the courses are about. It was suggested that faculty panels in each field be chosen, as well as a panel on Basic Courses, and that these meet with interested freshmen and discuss the courses in their fields. Mrs. Garrett agreed to take these suggestions to the Faculty E.P.C. and to report their findings to the Student E.P.C. It was also suggested that the chief function of the upperclassmen during registration week was to help the freshmen to orient themselves in the community, find their way round geographically, know the customs of the College, etc., but that all upperclassmen should be asked to exercise judgment in talking to freshmen about members of the faculty and the curriculum, so as not to fill the freshmen with prejudices which might influence their choice of courses in a harmful way.

Respectfully submitted,

Gertrude M. Grimwood, Secretary pro tem