

# THE BARDIAN

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## New Constitutions To Be Given To Council

The Constitution Committee's drafts of two new constitutions (one is a Student Government Constitution and one a revised Community Government Constitution) will be distributed in Council tonight. The constitutions will be considered in Council for several weeks before they will be submitted to the Community in referendum. Two-thirds of the votes cast in the Community

## Changes Made As Result of Recent Hearing

By Iris Johnson

If Bardians want a better Dining Commons, they had better begin working toward it.

This was the consensus in a meeting between Institutional Comm.; Mr. William Asip, Business Manager; and Mr. Larkin Hoyt, Head of Dining Commons that took place last Tues. evening.

The meeting attempted to bring into the open all complaints about Commons to see if anything could be done about it. Already two improvements have occurred: a variety of daily "specials" and a generous supply of meat "seconds" are being served.

But additional improvement remains.

There is the question of cooking facilities. The college has added a new dish washer and a steam table; but a stove and broiler are badly needed.

Also there is the matter of the quality of the food being served. Bard is on one of the many Slater system plans. Of the \$420 paid each year for board, most of it goes for food.

There is a weekly payment on a per capita basis of all students registered. If a student withdraws from school, the amount to Slater is automatically reduced.

The rate paid is based on the assumption that there will be daily absentees.

"We pay them a fair price and the service is adequate," said Mr. Asip.

But students questioned this. Is it not possible to go on a higher plan - spend more money and get better food? One student said that he could not think of any student who would not be willing to pay an additional hundred for better food.

Mr. Asip did not see a need for an increase. He expressed hope that "positive results" would be brought about by the recent poll on the dining commons.

"We are already receiving first quality meats, fruits, and vegetables," he said.

"But distasteful foods can be eliminated, food can be better prepared, we can buy more (continued on page 2)

are needed for passage.

The proposed Student Government Constitution will differ from the Community Government Constitution primarily in that it excludes the teaching and administrative faculty from the Assembly and from representation on Council. At present there are two faculty members and a representative of the President on the eleven member body. In almost all other respects, the two constitutions will be identical.

Among the more important decisions, Council must decide whether the Constitution to be submitted to the Community will include a change in the election process of Council. Three alternatives have been suggested. It has been suggested that elections be held every term, that Council members serve year terms but with half elected in the Spring and half elected at the end of the Fall term. The present system is to hold yearly elections at the end of the Spring term.

The main changes in the Community Constitution are a new preamble, a general re-ordering, and a thorough re-vamping of the standing committees.

## No Career Day Event This Year

For numerous reasons, Bard will not have a "Career Day" this spring. After surveying long list of student suggestions, the administration has decided that because of the lack of time it is impossible to have the annual day.

Along with a "Career Day", Mrs. Bourn said that there is a vital need for more vocational guidance at Bard. An incorporation of this need as a "Career Day" is evident. What we need, Dean Bourne stated, is a wider view of the careers open to college graduates.

## Herberg Speaks At Bard In May

A gift from a member of the class of '48 in the form of funds for an annual lecture will bring Dr. Will Herberg to Bard this spring.

The lecture by the noted scholar in Judaism will be presented May 8. Dr. Herberg, who is professor in Judaic studies and social philosophy at Drew University, is the author of *Judaism and Modern Man* and *Protestant, Catholic, Jew*.

## New Regulations Found Successful In Evaluation

The social regulations committee will present its evaluation of the new social regulations to community council tonight for action. It shows that, overall, the system has been functioning successfully. The evaluation report makes recommendations for modifications in the house presidents' committee but leaves the hours as they now stand.

The evaluation of the one month trial period was conducted over a two week period and made use of evidence which had been gathered and the views of members of the faculty, administration, house presidents, and members of the community at large which were presented at the three open hearings.

Both Dr. Reiss, associate professor of sociology, and Dr. Hladky, school psychiatrist, praised the plan and its acceptance by the students. They, however, expressed some reservations concerning the hours. Dr. Reiss questioned the effect of the lateness of the hours on the public image of Bard, and Dr. Hladky expressed worry over the possible effects of the total number of hours

upon some individuals because of the emotional relationships which could develop.

Dr. Kline and Dean Bourne also expressed great satisfaction with the plan. The president reiterated his objections to the hours but refused to elaborate when questioned on specific points, stating that his position was presented clearly in the last issue of *The Bardian*.

Dean Bourne emphasized that the plan must be continually refined in the semester ahead. Both said they favored a form of student court.

Alan Skvirsky appeared as head of the house presidents' committee and was questioned about the amount of power his group had assumed beyond that implied by the regulations.

Following the hearings, the social regulations committee held several closed meetings at which all aspects of the plan were examined. In particular, two items were emphasized: the functioning of the house presidents' committee and the matter of hours. Worries had been expressed by members of the committee that the house presidents' committee had misunderstood the spirit of the plan, had assumed too much power, and was taking judicial action without adequate sources of evidence or procedures for appeal.

The social regulations committee feels that when a violation is turned in, the house president submitting the report is the only person with full knowledge of the case in question. Yet in one case brought before the house presidents' committee, the recommendations of a particular house president based upon this type of evidence were overruled.

The recommendations for modifications which would remove these weaknesses in the house presidents' committee are veto power for the house president sending in the violation over the action of referring the case to the dean (the veto can be overridden by a vote of two-thirds of the house presidents).

The second recommendation is that a person be notified when his violation has been referred to the administration and that he be given the opportunity to appeal the action to the house presidents' committee.

The third recommendation is that the house presidents' committee refer a case to the (Continued on Page 2)

## Delegates Report on Mock United Nations General Assembly Meeting

"Point of order, Mr. Chairman, point of order! The Republic of Bulgaria objects to the seating of the government of Taiwan as representative of the People's Republic of China!" These words, almost the first spoken at the opening General Assembly of the Collegiate Council for the U.N. conference in New York, made everyone of the more than 600 present immediately aware of the enthusiasm with which the Model Assembly was going to be conducted. Each college group tried to represent its country as faithfully as possible, witness the Bulgarian delegation. Bard College represented the Republic of Venezuela.

### Opening Session

The Opening Plenary Session in the U.N. building, Friday, March 24, at which Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt spoke on the responsibilities of both the U.S. and the U.N. in current crises, was just the beginning. Afterwards in the headquarters at the Commodore Hotel, that night and Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m., the delegations met in committees, preparing resolutions to present to the Final Plenary Session on Sunday. At least one delegate from each country was present on each of the six committees which dealt with specific problems such as the Congo, disarmament, trusteeship, and the economic devel-

opment of Africa.

### Meet with Missions

Most of the delegations had met with the actual U.N. Missions of their countries, and had received considerable advice on the foreign policy and the U.N. voting records of the countries. The delegation from Bard, however, was unable to obtain a conference with the Venezuelan Mission to the U.N., perhaps because the college had registered only two weeks before the Model General Assembly. The lack of this and other preparation was sorely felt, and another obstacle was the difficulty of consulting frequently to form a unified policy, since only one delegate was available to go to each committee.

### Difficulties Present

Despite these difficulties (which seemed to be shared by other delegations) the excitement of the conference affected everyone. The problems of constantly articulating ideas, of learning the conference procedure (modified from the regular U.N. rules), and trying to understand the many aspects of the issues under discussion - all these things made the conference a stimulating, not to say exhausting, experience. Very evident in

Due to mid-term exams and papers, this issue of "The Bardian" has been reduced to two pages.

the conversations among participating students, in and outside meetings, were their feelings of involvement in the problems and their desire to understand the national interest of the countries they were representing. These were the most difficult: to comprehend the factors that would contribute to a national interest and then to express the interest through votes on proposals as specific as one for the foundation of a college in a new African state.

### Sincerity Triumphs

Sometimes the participants' sincerity in wanting to solve all the problems of the world overcame their knowledge and understanding. Just before the Final Plenary Session at which proposals were to be presented, that had been passed (sometimes with great difficulty) in committees, this comment was made by one delegate: "Last night everyone forgot what country he was supposed to be representing!"

Did students suddenly forget or not care about the policies of their individual countries? Apparently so, at least in a few cases. For example, in the Committee on South West Africa a resolution was proposed to put economic sanctions or boycott on the South African Government to bring it to yield the territory to U.N. trusteeship. The United States

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Abraham Ribicoff, Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare, will be the principal speaker at the commencement exercises to be held Saturday, June 24.



## From The President . . . Changes Made

(Continued from Page 1)

From time to time I am asked in this column to comment particularly "upon our problems at Bard,"—often with the additional suggestion that "social regulations, a student court, E. P. C., size of classes, and limitations of student political power" are the main problems.

Increasingly I am coming to feel that our greatest problem of all is our preoccupation with just such things as those listed above!

For here at Bard we are apt to appear at our worst in our obsession with ourselves,—our "rights," our "privileges," our "freedom."

And conversely, Bard shines with a glory not often seen, on those few occasions when we drop our self-concern, and face the outside world.

Let me give you a couple of illustrations.

The other night I had supper with a group of 30 or so visiting guidance counsellors. They had met and heard from faculty, administrative officers, the president—and from students. There was no question what had impressed them most favorably. It was the students they met, and the enthusiasm with which those Bardians told others of what it meant to learn in this place!

Or take this incident. A few weeks ago a very notable school head visited Bard with his own son and another candidate from his school. A week ago he wrote me, just to praise the student guide who had shown him around,—the most effective spokesman for a college of any he had met on quite an extended tour of colleges!

I was delighted therefore when a freshman student and a student returned after a leave, motivated a Council

meeting otherwise pre-occupied with "social regulations" to provide for Bard representation at the mock UN assembly.

The other day a Bard alumna of the early 1950's stopped in to visit, and left copies of what I had not known existed—Bard yearbooks of 1950 and 1951. They tell of our campus Community Chest, which in those years raised money and gave half to the Rhinebeck Hospital, and divided the other half among the Salvation Army, Friends Service Committee, Fresh Air Fund, Negro College Fund, and World Student Service.

I am sorry that we have no such activity at the present time, that as far as I know as a college community we send forth no hospital volunteers, no scoutmasters, no blood donors.

A few weeks ago I participated in a discussion panel on love. From the standpoint of audience participation, it was a brilliant and stimulating evening, as intellectual discussions involving Bard students almost invariably are. But the meeting ended up by concentrating its attention upon the privileged status of the lover, and his immunity from outside standards and values!

I believe that love above all else involves concern for another above concern for self;—and that communities can express true love only in this same way;—and that (though the lines may have been worn thin by too frequent quotation in the last 20 years) it is still true that "no man is an island,"—and that it is time for us at Bard to lift our gaze from its fixation on ourselves, and behold the world.

—Reamer Kline

## French Table in Dining Commons To Be Regular Wednesday Event

The first table in French in the past few years was held Wednesday, March 28 in the Alcove, and a second one took place April 12. The three tables, filled by the twenty students and four faculty members attending, were served by a waitress also speaking French (with assistance from M. Abramo Spangnoli, chef in the kitchen). The conversation was all in French, but not without difficulty. Some would be Fernandels had to be turned away because zair names were not on zee list and because

there was not enough room for people who had not planned on coming.

Opportunity still exists for other people interested in coming to the French table - - - Wednesdays at the second seating of supper, in the Alcove - - to sign the list on the Hegeman bulletin board. For the first meeting the group received a special meal, and Mr. Hoyt has expressed his willingness to help in any way possible, perhaps by providing another French meal.

## The Bardian

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seasonal fruit, and kitchen and student help can be required to wear head coverings," he said. "But the students will have to demand it."

Concern had been expressed over stray bits of hair in the food and the "over all sloppiness of the table service". Waiters were either too fast or too slow. Food was being passed down the table rather than being placed near enough for the student to reach his own plate.

Both Mr. Asip and Mr. Hoyt said that someone from the Slater District office could come to the campus and train waiters free of charge, if students felt it necessary.

They also said that they would like to have more suggestions on what to serve. Luncheon specials could vary widely. Soups, salads, cheeses, anything that is "modest and easily and quickly prepared" can be served if students request them.

"We do have a limited budget," said Mr. Hoyt, "but we could prepare anything within reason.

"Second helpings of meat will not always be possible. But when they are available, we will serve them.

Serving of yesterday's dessert will be discontinued, he said.

## Delegates

(Continued from Page 1)

deligation voted for this proposal in the committee meeting, despite the fact that the U.S. is decidedly against a policy of economic sanctions. In the final Plenary Session of the Model U.N. the vote was finally reversed, but still, much confusion was caused by problems like this one.

### Bard No Exception

Bard's deligation met with similar difficulties, on a smaller scale of course, but not every group did. The Indian deligation had met several times with its country's Mission to the U.N. and was very well informed. The Soviet bloc countries were also well informed and coordinated. The conference may have failed to find solutions to all the current problems - the United Nations has not found them yet - but it certainly served to build greater understanding of the problems.

It is the hope of all the Bard delegates to this year's Model General Assembly that the college will take part again next year, and will give its deligation adequate time (beginning in November or December at least) to prepare thoroughly for active participation. The delegates would like to think Community Council for sending them, and Janet Hall of the MGA Secretariat for telling the college about the conference. They would also like to express their willingness to discuss the conference with anyone who is interested in hearing more about it. Robert Kaufmann, Richard Morrock, Eve Odiorne, Sandra Rosenthal, Steven Snyder, and Stuart Small, Delegates

## Letters to The Editor

### Bard Festival

To the Bardian:

We of the Art Club, feeling the need of an Art building on campus, submit the following proposal to the community for a Bard Festival, to be held at the YMHA in New York in spring of 1962:

#### What would the Bard Festival be?

- Art exhibit—students, faculty, and alumni participating.
- Drama production—original play or improvisations.
- Dance concert.
- Music concert—chamber music or solos.
- Cocktail party—for informal speaking with interested parties.

—all to be held on two or three consecutive week-end days.

#### Why a Bard Festival?

- Money for Arts building, to house music and art facilities.
- Publicity for Bard.
- Direction for student activity.
- Could be community project, with students, faculty, and alumni working together.

#### Why an Arts building?

- Art department facilities are incredibly lacking.
- Funds for an arts building are more difficult to obtain than funds for buildings such as libraries and dorms.
- Arts building a necessity for the whole community.

- Virtually all Bard students take at least one art course before graduation.
- One third of the student body is enrolled in art courses in any given semester.
- There is an urgent need for an art gallery, a concert hall, a new lecture hall, more art and music studios and classrooms, offices for the arts

faculty; most, if not all, of these facilities could be incorporated into a new Arts building.

#### How will the Festival be organized?

- As community project; minimal operating funds could be appropriate by Council.
- Students, faculty, and especially the newly-formed alumni groups could be active in the organization.
- A Club Presidents' Committee, with two members from each of the divisional clubs, could, with faculty and alumni representatives, act as steering committee.

#### Benefits

- Money for the arts building.
  - sale of paintings and graphics
  - sale of Bard publications
  - donations from sources interested by Festival in Arts at Bard.
  - Publicity
    - Arts building would be good "publicity gimmick".
    - Good news item for magazines and newspapers.
    - Festival will interest new students and donors.
- Submitted by the Art Club

### Science Library

I wonder if some action could be taken concerning the lack of an adequate place to return Science Library books. Since the library is only open at certain hours it is inconvenient for students to return many books. Would it be possible for a box to be placed outside the door or even a hole in the door? I am sure the librarians would also appreciate this addition. Thank you.

Nan Feldman

### Evaluation

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administration without any comment upon it.

In the evaluation report, it was made clear that the house presidents' committee is an executive group, not a legislative body; they can interpret the structure of the plan, not alter it.

The social regulations committee recommends that the hours remain unchanged. Their reasons, in brief, are that no evidence from any source has shown that these hours are harmful to the individual, the school or the plan itself; that no objections to the plan have come from the faculty, student body, trustees of the college, parents or any outside individuals or groups; that the changing of the hours might have an adverse effect upon the working of the plan as a whole, particularly in the area of enforcement.

### Kaleidoscope Invites Novelist to Speak Here

On April 27 Kaleidoscope will present a lecture by the noted novelist Merle Miller. Mr. Miller is the author of numerous books, articles and screen plays. His latest novel *A Gay and Melancholy Sound* was published Feb. 20 1961 and was greeted throughout the country by rave reviews.

His novels deal with contemporary America with "no punches pulled approach". He also used his talents in factual writings for the American Civil Liberties Union for whom he wrote a report on blacklisting in radio and television. His talk for Kaleidoscope will be on American Society Today. While he is visiting the college he will be entertained by President and Mrs. Kline.

For those who are interested the book store has available copies of his novel *A Gay and Melancholy Sound*.

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