

OBSERVER

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Bard OBSERVER

The Official Publication of the Bard College Community

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ANNANDALE-ON-HUDSON, N. Y.

JUNE 17, 1963

Evaluators Criticize Bard Plans

The Evaluation Team which visited the campus on March 4-6 has emphasized that Bard's financial status is still precarious.

Recommendations submitted to the College and to the Middle States Commission on Higher Education stated that Bard's plans for the next five years lack the necessary clarity and force.

The present administration has made considerable progress toward financial stability, but three-quarters of Bard's endowment funds have already been used to meet current expenses. The team expressed grave concern with the condition of the endowment funds and commended the present administration for its earnest efforts to repay the money borrowed from endowments.

The team doubted that Bard could depend on a 50% increase in student and only a 12% increase in faculty as a means of achieving financial stability. They cited the experience of other colleges in pointing out the student fees can never cover the bulk of the college expense; the more students there are, the more endowment funds are needed.

They also questioned whether the College could afford to offer so many majors and still continue its status as a sound liberal arts college. Even the Six Point Program might not be enough to continue the major conference.

The Evaluation Team criticized the sabbatical leave program as being unsuited to the College's financial capabilities. In addition, it practically assures the absence of every professor for at least one-eighth of a student's academic career.



Dean Hodgkinson's seminar in Social Stratification presents a pastoral scene on the main lawn near the tennis courts.

Bard Roads to Change Direction

The road system as Bard will have a new character by next semester. Administration plans, according to president Reamer Kline, include the fencing off of what is now the main driveway. There will be blockades at the Faculty Circle Road where it passes the Library and in front of the president's house. The Main Entrance across from the Chapel will be closed off as will the Stone Row hill at a point half-way down.

The Stone Row hill will be blocked by the addition to the dining commons anyway so truck delivery will have to be by way of the lower hill next to the firehouse. The other buildings will be able to be serviced from the rear—the trucks entering through what is now the service road, which will be turned into the main entrance. The service road is being widened and will feed cars into the new parking lot which has not received its share of traffic this semester.

The pavement on the Stone Row Drive will not be removed next semester (although removal and grassing over are eventually planned) since unseen problems caused by the blockading might make a permanent grassing impossible. Since there will be no Main Entrance, the dirt road behind the Gym leading to 9-G will be gravelled and widened. A branch

of this road, the one along the pipeline, will lead to the upper, or Eastern road at Ward Manor. The President has decided to block off the lower road which goes from the gatehouse, past Robbins house, to the Manor House which Bard will occupy. The reason for this is that some of the elderly people still living at Robbins might be disturbed by autos in the late evening or early morning. Students are asked to use the other road which will come out near the new back way to the gym.

The President has plans of making this back access the eventual Main Entrance to

the College—directly off 9-G. There will be a sign at the intersection of the two roads saying "(—Main Campus, Ward Manor Campus—)".

Other roads which will be created will service the new Art Building (see article last issue). The crossover from the dump road to the road to the Patrick house will be extended into the field behind the Chapel where the Art Building will be located. There will be a walkway, an extension of the parking circle to the south of the Chapel, which will go from the Main Hill to the Art Building. Any other new buildings will get their own roads too.

New Parking Lot Now Ready for Use



"Winter's Tale" Given at Blithewood

by Charles Hollander

Many wonderful ceremonies take place at the end of our spring semester, but the loveliest of these is the outdoor drama production at Blithewood. Last weekend's performance of "The Winter's Tale" was no exception.

"The Winter's Tale" is a comedy close to tragedy. We recognize a familiar tragic idea in the jealousy of Leontes, akin to the delusion which seizes the heroes of the Iliad at intervals. Although all the lost characters

are found and all the old griefs dispelled at the end, the tragic notion is not fully resolved. Spring comes to "The Winter's Tale," but the winter has been long and bitter.

It is a sign of confidence in the Bard audience that the Drama Department chose to produce this play rather than a lighter comedy. It is true there are many low comic moments (notably the scenes with the Shepherd, the Clown, and Autolycus, hilariously presented by Harvey Bialy, Dixon Powell, and Charles Kakatsakis), but the darker scenes need to be assimilated into a whole sense of the play.

William Driver presented "The Winter's Tale" as a lovely spring ceremony. Appropriate to the occasion, this conception also works quite well in explaining the conclusion to the play. The beautiful discovery scene at the end was successful because the whole performance pointed toward this final celebration.

Because his jealousy is so sudden, Leontes is a difficult role. Robert Rockman was additionally hampered by the necessary (and quite skillful) cuts which further reduced the space within which his character could develop. Yet he gave a very convincing performance; the scene of the indictment, the oracle, and

Leontes' penitence was truly moving.

Mr. Driver took the part of Polixenes and gave a stunning performance. His was a beautiful character, beautifully presented. David Johnson gave us a fine Camillo, Susan Veit's Hermione had royalty and nobility.

Blythe Danner was lovely and quite at ease in the role of Perdita, but Paul Gabriner brought little intelligent characterization to his Florizel. His sense of the poetry of his lines was seldom matched but the character was missing.

Stuart Whyte's sets were once again beautifully suited to the performance. We wonder, however, whether it were not high time to carpet the platforms used for this production. The painted surface is slippery enough, but with dew and crushed flowers added, the actors have to step gently at every moment.

53 Seniors Graduate

53 Seniors will graduate in the Commencement ceremonies to be held in the Chapel next Saturday.

The formal rehearsal took place yesterday, with seniors and faculty in full dress.

Paul L. Ward, President of Sarah Lawrence College, will speak at Commencement. John Bard Scholarships and other awards will be given out.

Additions Planned For Kitchen

By Dick Cross

A complete modernization and expansion of existing dining facilities will begin within the next few weeks, with completion anticipated for the fall semester. The project will cost approximately \$80,000 and will provide a dining capacity of about 600—a marked increase over the existing facilities which were built to accommodate 200. Total area will be increased by twenty-five percent.

Financing will be handled by the College, in co-operation with the Slater System. However, Mr. Asip, Business Manager, informed the *Observer* that this arrangement would in no way bind Bard to a contract with the Slater System. At the School's discretion, the financial obligations could be transferred to another catering service.

While a new wing will be added to the existing structure, the project will be primarily directed at improving the efficiency of existing space. Hence the present faculty dining room will be released for student use and will remain partitioned off from the main dining area for use by small groups. The new wing will provide a faculty dining area for 24-30 people.

(Continued on Page 4)

Ward Manor Arrangements Completed

Bard has completed its arrangements with Community Services and the Aetna Life Insurance Co. for the purchase of Ward Manor. The college paid \$400,000 for the property, which consists of two large buildings to be used as dormitories, a Gate House, several smaller buildings, and 90 acres of land.

President Reamer Kline said that the property would provide housing for approximately 150 students at a cost far below what would be necessary for the construction of a new dorm. The Manor also contains a modern infirmary, additional space for offices and classrooms, and living quarters for at least four faculty members.

"The new facilities will permit Bard to become a college of 550 students," President Kline said, "and educational authorities currently agree that the small liberal arts college needs to be of at least this size if it is to maintain a strong program of instruction in the principal academic fields."

EDITORIAL

With this issue I relinquish my duties as Editor of the *Bard Observer*. The Editorial Board has selected Donald Baier for the position for next year.

I am grateful for all those who have helped in the operation of the newspaper,

Observer

THE BARD OBSERVER, the official publication of the Bard College Community, is issued every two weeks during the Fall and Spring Semesters.

Editor: Charles Hollander

Associate Editor: David Jacobowitz

Business Manager: Alexander Lindsay

Feature Editor: Allan Zola Kronzek

Copy Editor: Dick Cross

Copy Board: Don Baier, David Johnson, Steve Chalmers, Dixon Powell

Staff: Anne Schneider, Pat Johnson, Jim Banker, Kathy Stein

Photographers: Dixon Powell, David Jacobowitz, Charles Hollander, Steve Dane

Continuity: Lane Sarasohn

but I regret that so few members of the Community have joined in this happy effort. I earnestly hope that many more students will come to Don's help in publishing the *Observer*.

This has been a good year on many accounts, and the newspaper has flourished along with the college. More news has been printed than ever before in the five years of the present regime; we hope that quality has kept pace with quantity.

Yet a newspaper at Bard College is bound to be a precarious operation, and the transfer of organization from one year to the next is a difficult process. There must be a sound basis from the very beginning, but often very little is preserved from the old order. I wish Don the best of luck next semester in an uneasy business, and I remind the Community that the *Observer* is everybody's business, since everybody pays for it.

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Higgs Speaks on Civil Rights

by Rick Smith

William L. Higgs, Mississippi lawyer and graduate of The University of Mississippi and Harvard Law School, will be disbarred later this month for making public a Southern judge's warning not to represent James Meredith. Higgs is now a fugitive from law in his home state. His talk at Bard on May 16th was one of the most impressive and meaningful events of the semester. It is only too bad that so few students and indeed no faculty members attended.

Mr. Higgs outlined his plan to prevent re-election of the racist Southern Congressmen who, because of seniority, have so much influence in Congress that civil rights bills rarely survive. He feels that through active support of Republican nominees, the seemingly invincible fortress of white supremacy can be weakened substantially in the South. He feels also that as soon as the Federal Government forces southern states to loosen restrictions on the Negro voter, there will no longer be a "solid south" and that, in fact, the South will lead the nation in the fight for civil rights. He foresees this within the next six years.

Higgs attacked the Kennedy Administration for "playing politics" during the riots at Oxford and for being more concerned with property rights than with civil rights. He said that Kennedy should have sent troops into Mississippi at the first sign of violence rather than waiting until a full scale riot was in progress.

Currently Mr. Higgs is involved in a suit against The Federal Bureau of Investigation. He charges the F.B.I. with not responding to calls for help from Negroes whose houses were being attacked and with failing to provide protection for Negroes who were registering to vote in Southern towns where violence was inevitable.

Higgs' ready sense of humor erased a tension which could have broken the spirit of the talk. Everyone was quite pleased to hear a Mississippi white refer to the likes of Eastland and Barnett as "those jokers."

Let us hope that future lectures are of the caliber of this one and of the one last week given by Northrop Frye. The community thanks Mark Mellett for persuading Mr. Higgs to speak.

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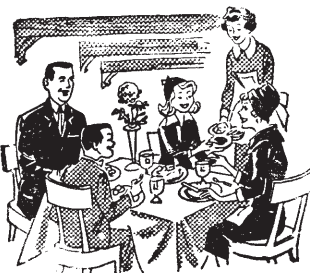
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Kitchen

(Continued from Page 1)

A cafeteria system will continue but a second service line will be added to reduce waiting time. Modern counter-service will eliminate the need for students to pass through the cooking area of the kitchen. Arrangements for self-service tray return to a separate dishwashing section are also planned.

Internally there will be new cooking equipment consisting of baking ovens and modern gas ranges. Storage facilities will also be improved with the addition of new freezers and refrigerators. Better service is expected to result from new display stands, hot-food tables, and food-warming units.

As a result of these improvements, use of the dining facilities at Ward Manor is not expected at the present. Mr. Asip explained this decision by citing the economic impracticality of operating two separate dining halls as this would require a double staff.



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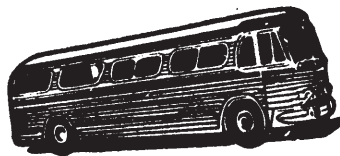
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