

LYRE TREE

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Page 1	Dean Announces College Policies For Coming Year
	Faculty-Student Meeting Is Held for Discussion of Campus Matters
	Student Council Elections Taking Place This Month
	Constitution Amendments Move Installation of Officers Ahead
	N. S. L. Asks Student L. I. D. to Help Form One Organization
	United Front Against War and Fascism Urged by Militant Group
	Columbia Suspends "Daily Spectator"
	Wechsler and Staff Unofficially Print Paper
	Athletic Committee Announces Spring Sports Schedule
	First Golf Squad To Play On Red Hook Links; Nine Holds Workouts
	Classical Club Calls Self Pi Beta Kappa Society
	125,000 American Students Strike In War Protest
	3,000 Rally at Columbia; 900 At Vassar Pass Anti-War Resolution
	Wechsler To Edit National Student League Magazine
Page 2	The Constitutional Amendments and the Council
	The Student Anti-War Movement
	Mr. Wechsler and "The Spectator"
	Nieman Elected Captain Of Basketball For 1936
	Along the Bored walk
	Sketch Book Delayed

The Lyre Tree

Volume 14

ANNANDALE-ON-HUDSON, N. Y., THURSDAY, APRIL 18, 1935

Number 7

Dean Announces College Policies For Coming Year

Faculty-Student Meeting Is Held for Discussion of Campus Matters

A faculty-student meeting was held in the Bard Theatre on Friday afternoon, April 5. Its purpose was to give all members of the campus community an opportunity to discuss, without the restraint of excessive formality, matters of general interest and concern to the life of the college. It is a radically new feature in the life of Bard campus. It is the hope of the Dean that "as the college develops it may become an important feature of the college community."

In particular it enables members of the student body to inquire more thoroughly into the policies of the Administration, and to present their criticism and constructive suggestions in the presence of the faculty and administrative staff. The Dean spoke of his desire to know the reactions of the various members of the under-graduates to what the college is doing and is proposing to do, and especially to receive the benefit of their constructive thinking on these things. He expressed a willingness to answer any questions that might arise in the minds of the students and solicited their comments.

It was announced that there would be a progressive increase in fees for the next two years. The total annual charge for resident students, now fixed at \$925.00, will be raised next year to \$1050.00 and to \$1200.00 in the year after that. This last sum is the amount deemed necessary to make possible the full realization of the Bard College educational program.

Although the Bard program tends to make the college expensive to students, the policy of the Administration is to prevent the expenses from rising to the point that they have reached in other institutions, which have adopted progressive educational programs, demanding a budget greater than that of the average conservative college. The plan is that the income received from the student will cover only the expenses of education—that is, instruction, room, board and certain minor fees. The expenses of administration, on the other hand, are expected to be covered by gifts to the college and ultimately by the establishment of an endowment fund.

Arrangement has been made for those members of the student body who cannot afford to meet this rise in fees. It will be possible for such students to receive scholarships equal to the amount of the increase. Also, preference will be given to students already matriculated in the application for campus employment. In the future, however, it is intended that the student body will be composed largely of men who can afford the newer rates. There will, of course, continue to be provisions for students of distinction and exceptional ability who cannot meet the entire amount of the fees. For the benefit of such persons the college budget will include scholarship funds equal to approximately one fourth of the total income from the undergraduate body. This is basically similar to the financial policy of such preparatory schools as Andover, Exeter and Kent.

(Continued on Page Two)

Student Council Elections Taking Place This Month

Constitution Amendments Move Installation of Officers Ahead

Fraternity balloting on Thursday, April 4, resulted in the elections of John Hicks, Richard Y. Frost, George Galloway and William Nieman as Marshals of Convocation for the academic year of 1935-1936.

The early elections followed two amendments to the constitution of the Convocation of Undergraduates of Bard College, calling for the moving ahead one month of the election and installation of student council members and Marshals of Convocation, which were passed by the student body at a meeting April 1. A third amendment, that Convocation shall hold a regular meeting in the third week of each month in the school year, was also passed.

The proposition of these amendments followed an editorial in the February 15 issue of the Lyre Tree which emphasized the need of installation of officers on May 1 of each year in order that the council might have the benefit of some experience before the pressing duties which accompany the opening of each academic year are thrown on their shoulders. The secretary-treasurer of the council, however, will remain in office through the entire school year.

Under the amendment, the Marshals of Convocation shall be elected the first week in April, the junior representatives on the council in the second week, and the sophomore representatives in the third week. The second amendment states the term of office of each student council shall begin on the first of May and end on the first of May of the following year.

Mr. Hicks has for three years been an officer in his class and is a member of the Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity. He was president of the class of 1936 in his freshman year, sergeant-at-arms in his sophomore and at present holds the office of vice-president. He is also a member of the Riding and English clubs and has played in several productions of the Bard Theatre. Mr. Frost, a member of the Euxian fraternity, is co-captain of soccer for next season, belongs to the Varsity and Tri-Sig clubs, and has also taken part in dramatics. Mr. Galloway is at present the secretary-treasurer of the Student Council. He is a member of the Kappa Gamma Chi fraternity and an officer of the Riding Club. Mr. Nieman, elected marshal by the Non-Society group, has been a mainstay on the varsity basketball team for three years and played baseball last season. He holds membership in the Varsity and Tri-Sig clubs and will be captain of basketball next year.

(Continued on Page Two)

"Magic Spring" Tryout

"The Magic Spring," the Donald Blackwell-Theodore St. John drama tried out at the Bard Theatre on February 7, 8 and 9, has been rewritten by the authors and will be tried out at Stockbridge this summer.

The N. E. O. Society will meet April 27.

N.S.L. Asks Student L.I.D. to Help Form One Organization

United Front Against War and Fascism Urged by Militant Group

The National Student League, militant student organization, in its campaign to unite college men and women in America against imperialist war and fascism has proposed that the N. S. L. and the Student League for Industrial Democracy form one organization, in order that the college anti-war movement may be further intensified. These organizations were two of the most active sponsors of the college anti-war strike on April 12.

In the April issue of "The Student Review," the League states "the united front must have a clear-cut program of action, and a basis for that program, if it is not to flounder in its own comprehensiveness." Fascism in the United States, the N. S. L. asserts, would be "capitalism at the stage where it needs war as a final attempt to maintain itself." They believe the strike last Friday, when thousands of students throughout the country walked out of classrooms in an anti-war protest, has shown the need for a movement with a single purpose and direction. They also propose the continuing of the work started in the strike and a consolidation of its results.

The N. S. L. advocates that a national student anti-war congress, with a program worked out by delegates of hundreds of high schools and colleges, be held some time next fall. This congress would be similar to the International Congress Against War and Fascism held in Brussels last December.

Columbia Suspends "Daily Spectator"

Wechsler and Staff Officially Print Paper

"The Columbia Spectator", for fifty-eight years the official publication of Columbia College students, was suspended by the Student Board on March 28. On March 29 the "Spectator" reappeared on Morningside Heights slightly altered in form but pursuing the same editorial policies. These events culminated a series of disputes that have taken place in the last few years in regard to the "Spectator" serving the best interests of the Columbia under-graduates. In 1932, Reed Harris was suspended from the college following a series of rather derogatory editorials concerning conditions within the college. After a student demonstration, Harris was reinstated, but he resigned shortly.

The direct cause of the recent suspension was a change in the paper's constitution made by the Student Board. It was stated that a majority vote by five members of the editorial board was necessary to decide any news or editorial policy of the paper. Heretofore the editor-in-chief had had the entire responsibility on all such matters. On March 28 the "Spectator" appeared with all its columns with the exception of an insert decrying the injustices of such ac-

(Continued on Page Two)

Athletic Committee Announces Spring Sports Schedule

First Golf Squad To Play On Red Hook Links; Nine Holds Workouts

The first formal outdoor baseball practice of the 1935 season was held at Zabriskie Field on April 1st. An encouraging turnout, including veterans and some promising new material, went through preliminary drilling which consisted exclusively of conditioning exercises.

Although it is much too early in the year to make predictions for the squad, Coach Ackerman feels fortunate in having Dienst as catcher, from which position he should be able to captain the team most effectively. Among the newcomers, Testi and Filsinger show most promise of development.

At present the squad is constituted as follows: outfield: Miller, Cioni, Clayton, Decker, Foster, Serena, Hicks and Parent; infield: Ficke, Filsinger, Stearns and Mc Nichol; batteries: McGee, Putnam, Testi, and Thatcher. These men are the additions to last year's nucleus which consists of Jastram and Nieman, pitchers; Dienst, catcher; and Molyneaux, Mason and Scott infielders.

At present work is being done for improving the field, which has not been ready for practice because of weather conditions. A major improvement has been the removal of the backstop from the southeastern corner of the field to the north center. This change will mean no sun for the outfield and no direct sun for the batter. Besides this, the left field area will be considerably enlarged by the new arrangement.

The team will be managed by Dick Stevens, head manager; Gordon Hopf, junior manager and a group of assistant managers including Beattie, Putnam, Ficke, Shelov, Grandin, Cullum and Cioni.

The schedule, as issued by Coach Ackerman, includes the following games: Saturday, May 4, Hamilton, away; Saturday, May 11, New Paltz, at home; Saturday, May 18, Drew, away; Wednesday, May 22, Albany State, at home.

Although rain has prevented work on the tennis courts, which consequently will not be ready until the end of the Easter recess, the Athletic Department recently issued the following tentative announcement of matches, some of which are tentative, both as to team or date: April 25, Poughkeepsie Tennis Club, away; May 2, Kingston High School, at home; May 16, Albany State Teachers College, Wagner, Connecticut

(Continued on Page Two)

Classical Club Calls Self Pi Beta Kappa Society

The Classical Society, inaugurated last Fall, announces that it has reorganized as a formal body and will henceforth be known as the Pi Beta Kappa Society.

Mr. Stewart E. Williams, instructor in art, spoke before the Pi Beta Kappa Society on Wednesday evening, March 27, on Greek architecture. The talk dealt to some extent with the history and different schools of architecture in classical Greece, but mainly with the aesthetic principles involved. Informal discussion followed.

125,000 American Students Strike In War Protest

3000 Rally at Columbia; 900 At Vassar Pass Anti-War Resolution

125,000 college students participated in the international strike against war on Friday, April 12. At 11 A. M. the strikers left their classes, in most cases without faculty sanctions, and began to assemble at various strike centers. With the exception of two minor outbreaks, one in Los Angeles and the other in Chicago, the demonstrations were generally orderly. In most cases they were not the parades that characterized the affair last year, but mass meetings with speakers drawn from students, faculty, and prominent outsiders. In some cases the strike was a complete fiasco. The most prominent instance of this was at Harvard where the Mullins Chowder and Marching Club very effectively burlesqued the strikers' activities.

Columbia University had the largest group of the day with 3,000 crowding the gymnasium to hear Roger Baldwin, Elspeth Davies of Barnard, and James Wechsler of Columbia. The College of the City of New York and New York University were second and third with 2,500 and 1,200 respectively.

Vassar Strike

Vassar College observed the strike with 900 students parading from Main Hall to the chapel where they heard three speeches and unanimously passed an anti-war resolution. The first speaker was President Henry Noble MacCracken who chose a text from St. Paul's epistle to the Ephesians and proceeded to attack the militaristic women's organizations, such as the Daughters of the American Revolution, the Women's Auxiliary of the American Legion and others. Dr. MacCracken finished his talk with the declaration, "peace without victory is consistent with national honor." Arthur Kent, of Bard, followed with a talk in which he discussed the necessity for a strong youth movement in this country, and outlined several objectives for such a movement. He was followed by Betty Welt, Vassar '36, of Detroit. She decried the "undirected emotionalism" of last year's Vassar demonstration. Elizabeth Hoyatratt '34 of Bronxville introduced the three speakers and read Edna St. Vincent Millay's "Apostrophe to Man" and the anti-war resolution. "Baa-baa Bombshell" of 1934 fame was again used and this year and produced a catchy song with the refrain:

"We shall spend every cent
We can get to prevent
An imperialistic war."

Wechsler To Edit National Student League Magazine

James A. Wechsler, editor of the Columbia Spectator, publication of which was suspended recently by university authorities as a result of the staff's refusal to a new constitution for the daily, has accepted the editorship of "Student Review", official publication of the National Student League.

1934

Kirk Brownell and E. Yale Clark returned to the college last Sunday.

THE LYRE TREE

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Annandale-on-Hudson, N. Y., April 18, 1935

Published throughout the college year by the students of Bard College, Columbia University.

Editor-in-Chief.....ARTHUR T. S. KENT '35
 Managing Editor.....HOWARD R. MURPHY '36
 Assistant Editor.....MARTIN GOLDSTEIN '35
 News Editor.....WILLIAM SANER '36
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The Constitutional Amendments and the Council

The action of the student body in passing the amendments to the constitution of the Convocation of Undergraduates, calling for installation of the new Student Council on May 1 as advocated in The Lyre Tree for February 20, should aid considerably in getting students interested and activities off to a smooth start at the beginning of the next academic year. With a bit of experience in running student affairs, the new council members ought to be able to cope with a minimum of difficulty with the problems they will face next fall. The revised sections will make the constitution much more satisfactory.

At this time we would proffer a few suggestions to the new council. The first is to spend some time in consideration of the budget for next year. Give organizations and activities supported by convocation funds a chance to present tentative programs for next year and a statement of how much Convocation money they will need. Also, and this we have been urging without results for longer than we like to think about, increase the campus tax so that the greater part of the money will not be devoted to just two activities and that a number of organizations, now struggling for existence, may be given a chance to expand. We would also urge that the Freshman Handbook be prepared this spring for publication. In the past the task of writing and editing this book has fallen to one or two individuals during the summer vacation. This practice is nonsensical. The book could easily be finished and ready to hand to each freshman without one member of the council having to touch it on his vacation. Also the handbook should be a self-supporting publication. It can easily prove a worthwhile advertising medium for local tradesmen, especially next year when the college expects the largest freshman class in its history.

We congratulate the four campus groups and the Classes of 1937 and 1938 on the men they have chosen to serve on the council. To the latter we extend best wishes for a successful term of office.

A Student Anti-War Movement

The anti-war activities of 125,000 college students will be more than justified if they contribute in any way to the building up of a will power strong enough to enable college men and women to say "No" in the face of impending war. Such unity of purpose will be a source of strength to the morally weaker sisters. Knowing that there is a strong anti-war sentiment on almost every campus will break down the fear of rebuke from friends if they refuse to go to war. Whether or not this peacetime spirit will be able to resist the charm of military music, the glamour of uniforms and the journalistic appeal of jingoism will probably be apparent within the next decade.

Both Miss Welt and Mr. Kent, in their speeches at Vassar, suggested a youth organization with peace motives. There is one point in regard to this that cannot be overemphasized. The certain stigma that is attached to the word "youth" causes our elders to say that such things are signs of healthy minds, but they must not be taken too seriously. For that reason any such movement would necessarily have to have the highest standards of intelligence, integrity and leadership to maintain prestige.

Mr. Wechsler and "The Spectator"

The recent outbursts at Columbia and Syracuse concerning the management of student publications have been the cause of much controversy on Eastern campuses. At Columbia it appeared that a considerable number of both students and faculty felt that the Spectator, under Mr. Wechsler's direction, was not serving the best interests of the body that was supporting it. Some restrictions which the Student Board felt would alter this were imposed. Mr. Wechsler and his henchmen immediately unleashed some of their finest brand of editorial venom about 'reaction', 'fascism', 'freedom of the press', and 'Administration-controlled policies'. The result was the official suspension of the Columbia Daily Spectator.

It would be wise for Mr. Wechsler to study the history of journalism and learn for himself what an intangible thing 'freedom of the press' really is when most publications are controlled by vested interests. He would also profit by studying the relationship of a paper to its supporters. We do not discredit the Spectator's politics and we do not advocate faculty-inspired editorials but we do scold Mr. Wechsler for indiscretion in foisting his ideas on a group that apparently did not want them.

Columbia Suspends "Daily Spectator"

(Continued from Page One)

A Student Board meeting was soon called at which Editor-in-chief James Wechsler promised that if a referendum of student opinion were taken he would abide

by the results in the future. Nothing was done about his suggestion, however, as two previous referendums had proved fruitless and the Board suspended the paper and instructed King's Crown to withdraw financial support.

Wechsler and his staff solicited advertising and contributions and the paper appeared the next morn-

ing. The name Columbia was taken from the masthead and instead of being Vol. LVIII-No. 107 it was marked Vol. I-No. 1. The staff believed that sympathizers would make it possible for the newspaper to appear indefinitely.

Athletic Committee Announces Spring Sport Schedules

(Continued from Page One)

State and Drew are being considered, but nothing definite has been decided in reference to these matches.

A new addition to the Bard athletic program, which has aroused much enthusiasm in certain quarters, has been arranged through the efforts of Dr. Barnes, who has concluded arrangements with the Red Hook Golf Club by which a Bard College squad will be permitted to use the links from the time of their opening on April 20th, to the end of the semester in June.

The arrangements as they stand now will permit a group of from 10 to 15 Bard students to use the links on any day for any length of time, with the exception of May 30th. This squad when selected will be a permanent one, which will not be changed, nor admit substitutions. The cost involved for the use of the course will be carried by the Athletic Department, except for a fee of one dollar which the student will be requested to pay as an expression of good faith and the intention to stay with the golfing unit for the remainder of the semester.

At present, matters like transportation to and from the links are not definitely settled, but will be taken care of most probably by the Athletic Department with student cooperation. Likewise, arrangements as to the purchase of golf balls from the school, or school provision of same at half cost, above the issuance of a limited number, are under way. Further information will be forthcoming from the Athletic Department in the near future.

Following a recent meeting of the Student-Faculty Athletic Committee the following changes in athletic awards have been made: The official athletic award will be a new letter, a six inch round block B of scarlet chenille set on white, accompanied by the usual certificate. To men who earn their letters in their senior years, a sweater, heavy white, crew neck style, with a six inch scarlet round block B interwoven will be awarded by the Athletic Department.

Student Council Elections Taking Place This Month

(Continued from Page One)

The sophomores elected Bartlett Chappell and William Easton to serve on the new council. The former is a member of the Eulexian fraternity, and the latter of Kappa Gamma Chi. Chappell was elected to the Dragon Club last fall. He is a member of the cross country squad. Easton is on the Lyre Tree staff, and a member of the Rifle and Pistol and English Clubs. He is also on the staff of the Bard Theatre.

In the freshman elections for student council members, which took place yesterday afternoon, Wallis Smith and James Pennock were chosen. Smith, a member of the non-society group, has been prominent in dramatics at the college, serving as stage manager in the Bard Theatre tryouts of "Wuthering Heights" and "The Magic Spring". Pennock, a member of the Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity, hails from Albany, N. Y., and has also been associated with the theatre group, playing in two shop productions.

1933

Hugh Handsfield is now with the McGraw-Hill Publications, 330 W. 42nd street, New York.

Dean Announces College Policies For Coming Year

(Continued from Page One)

The Dean went on to announce that, in addition to the generous donations received from the Carnegie Corporation and the expectation of further appropriations from that organization, he had recently obtained definite assurance of continued financial aid from Columbia University. The university has, since 1928 when it took over the college, stood ready to meet the deficit in the college budget, but this is the first time it has pledged financial assistance to cover a proposed increase in expenditure with the budget already balanced.

Finally the Dean re-stated the college's policy in regard to examinations. The underlying principle is that what examinations are given will in no case be considered as final and conclusive evidence as to whether a student is deserving of a degree, but will be regarded as "supplementary experiences" to which the student will be subjected and which will be considered later, among other things, when the time comes for the final estimate of his worth. There is no set proportion of emphasis which will be given to the results of these supplementary experiences. The faculty will not estimate a student's worth on a mathematical basis, but will form a critical judgement in each individual case.

Nieman Elected Captain Of Basketball For 1936

The election of William Nieman '36 as captain of the Bard College basketball team was announced at the winter sports banquet in Preston Hall Tuesday night.

Nieman has been one of the mainstays of the five for three years. He is also a member of the choir, a non-society man, and has won his letter in baseball. His home is in Amityville, Long Island.

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Along the Bored Walk

The other day we took a long trip to Poky in search of things. Being allured by the scintillating glamour of the dime stores, we entered one in quest of seven surprise pink balloons. There seemed to be a shortage of them, so we tried to get out of the place. This was finally accomplished with the aid of a pocket compass and a toy periscope snatched from the hands of a little brat near the candy counter. Once outside we started away from the place with a strawberry shortcake (old-fashioned—15 cents) in mind. However, we remembered passing a counter of goldfish back in the store, so back we went, drawn by the all-too-fettersing, soul-stirring, gaze of the fan-tails. The sales girl sold us some fantails with black pock-marks and an albino with a tremendous paunch. You point out the fish you want and the girl makes a few wild passes in the water with her fish net. You take what she happens to get, along with an eye-full of water. The girl was feeling good that day so she threw in a whisp of Spermatophyte for nothing. One could take his choice of mermaids with red hair, white bodies, and green tails, or he could have a very conventional goldfish chateau. Bowls are a necessity in the care and feeding of goldfish. When it came to buying food, we got the regular proletariats plain stuff. Feeling facetious we asked if they had whole wheat food.

"Oh, Yes. Five cents extra!"
 W. E.

Sketch Book Delayed

"The Sketch Book", originally scheduled to appear on May 1, has been delayed and will be distributed later in the month. A few copies will be available for extra subscription.



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