Dr. Reamer Kline Sends An Open Letter

I deeply appreciate this opportunity, offered me by the editors of the Bardian, to greet the Bard community, and to tell you how happy I am at the prospect of coming to live on the campus, the expression of encouragement and support, and friendship which was so visibly expressed particularly by the student body vote after I met with them; and in the stimulating and very interesting meetings I had with members of the senior and junior classes. Perhaps the chief characteristics of Bard people that stand out in my mind after these visits, are mental keenness, complete frankness, and honesty. I like all three!

I trust that after a few years, I will be able to count upon your loyalty, your cooperation, and your patience.

I think we shall get along well together, and I hope that in the not too long a time, you will come to know me and to trust me, and to think of me as your friend.

Now about Bard in the days immediately ahead. Since all of you have been so very honest with me, I will be honest with you. More than anything else, I have been asked about a division between the present free spirit of Bard, and the convictions of the Episcopal Church.

"Is Bard still going to be the Bard we love," some people have asked, "or is it going to be an Episcopal college?"

I do not think it is a case of "either or," but a case of both of us. I realize that many people at Bard have beliefs which are different from mine. I hope they will continue to hold them with integrity and to express them with conviction. I think we will both be better for this confrontation. For both people and ideas, I think, rise to their noblest stature in confrontation. "All real living is meeting," the great philosopher Martin Buber tells us.

I think the days ahead are going to be great days for Bard College, not because of me, but because of a new spirit which others will tell me they feel in the air. If all of us together share in making a better Bard College, this may well be what we look back upon at the end of life as the best thing we ever did. But slightly to paraphrase very famous lines:

"He that outlives these days and comes safe home Will stand on tip-toe when these days are nam'd! I hope you find the prospect of our work together as full of promise as I do!"

Reamer Kline

Dr. Reamer Kline of New Britain, Connecticut, who has accepted the position of president of Bard College, will assume his new duties on July first.

Dr. Kline is on the faculty of St. Mark's Episcopal Church in New Britain, where he has been since 1944. A native of California, Dr. Kline graduated from Middlebury College in 1922. He holds a master's degree in English literature from the University of Michigan and a bachelor of divinity degree from St. Mark's Episcopal Theological School. In 1935, Middlebury conferred on him the degree of doctor of divinity.

To carry on the work of enrolling the faculty, he has enrolled in the newspaper work.

He has served as chairman of the department of Christian Education in the diocease of Connecticut for 15 years and has also been a member of the Executive Council of the same denomination. Prior to entering the ministry, he was employed in the publishing business.

Among his community activities are the chairmanship of the New Britain Civil Rights Commission and also the Advisory Committee of the New Britain Council of Churches. He is a member of the New Britain Commission on Urban Development and Convener of the National Conference on the Church and the City.

Tender is the year of his administration, St. Mark's Church has grown to be one of the largest and strongest Episcopal parishes in the state. He has wide recognition for his work, especially among young people. This interest in them and in education has come naturally to Dr. Kline as his father was for many years a professor of history at Middlebury.

To-morrow evening, May 17th, at 8:15 p.m., the Music Club of Bard College will present a program, A program will be given by Miss Heflin. Assistant at the piano by Miss Heflin. The program will consist of a recital of heard compositions by Vivaldi, Handel, Gluck, Wolf, Brahms, and Ravel.

Six Faculty Members To Leave in June

Six faculty members will not return to Bard for the semester beginning September, 1960, according to Dr. K. Leonard Woodruff.

Miss Irma Brandeis, Chair­man of the Literature Division, who has been with the faculty since 1944, has submitted her resignation.

Mr. Robert J. Siverson, Principal of the Kindergarten and Primary School, has been granted a leave of absence for the summer in order to participate in a doctoral program at Teachers College.

Mr. Stephen Roussas, Associate Professor of Economics, has submitted his resignation to the office of the president. Mr. Roussas plans to teach next year at the University of Maryland.

Other resignations were received from Mr. Victor Bach, Assistant Professor of Mathematics and Physics, and Mr. Donald Pinkle, Instructor in English.

Other teachers not coming back next term are Mr. Allen Briggs, Instructor in Music, and Mr. Mordecai Garelik.

Mrs. Chapman, who was elected to the board in 1953, resigned because of personal reasons. Mr. Davis, who has served on the board of trustees since 1954, offered his resignation in advisement of his doctors.

Mr. Hecht, who is education editor of the New York Times, was elected to the board in 1957. He believes that serving on the board of trustees of a particular institution is not compatible with being the educational editor of a large metropolitan newspaper. For this reason he forwarded his resignation.

The faculty voted for reinstatement of the Senior Project and winter field period programs as they were prior to September, 1958, at the faculty meeting of May 11.

The faculty's decision to re­instate the Senior Project and winter field period programs at Bard College is a significant step forward. The faculty expressed the opinion that the project system be effective in September, 1960, that students will have until three weeks before the end of the spring semester to submit their projects. One reason for this decision was that some divisions have found that more time is needed for the student to work with his advisor in revision of the project. Another reason was that especially literature where fac­tors such as style in writing the project must be done in­dependently by the student over the Field Period.
Is Bard Progressive?

by Linda Garfinkle

We, the students of Bard, pride ourselves on having liberal social regulations. Because we are students of a progressive liberal arts institution, we believe that our own liberalism, however, of the student government, must be critically examined.

Can it be said that an institution regardless of how unusual its present program, which is characterized, could ever be an institution that most Bard students are this mature.

The administration seems to have the somewhat—superficial view that the liberal social regulations will leave the academic and intellectual atmosphere of Bard untouched. Even, well, even this term there are still quite a few students of St. Stephen's society, which is to say there are still quite a few students of St. Stephen's society, who have, in some sections, this term has been terminated. The Bard Academics, which, although only a couple students are involved, should be proud of Bard students in their work and in their standards of intellectual maturity and originality, this term is sometimes marked trouble finding independent students interested enough to submit their papers for publication. The budget committee has this term, for the first time, set limits (to the Literature Club an extra twenty dollars per speaker (or ten per student) in order that the Literature Club might entertain these men with the respect which has become a Bard tradition, and for which Bard has been proud.

The Literature Club takes this situation so seriously that they have been known to sacrifice a speaker in order to maintain this tradition. Yet, the budget committee — how absurdly — the sort of man who would engage in anti-semitism even to the extent of quota systems, but even if he were, there are so many Jews and gentiles alike with such integrity on the faculty. Our policy could not be permitted. Secondly, I was very impressed by Dr. Kline's views of student government at Bard. The second short coming of the student government stems partly from the first one, and partly because integrated elections are held. Under the present system, no one is ever a candidate because of his or her political beliefs. The present method is not, alas, even a beauty contest. The candidates place their name on a list and a few days later we place a cross next to their names on a ballot without even knowing what they intend to do in office. Bardians pride themselves with their non-conformity, but the very act of having a student government is conforming to the oldest man's traditions. Since we are conforming, then I suggest we conform fully to the tradition prevalent in this country. I believe if we were to integrate elections, the candidates for divisional clubs to the members of the division, we will be able to choose with discrimination and, perhaps, wisdom.

Our concern, more than ever, students influencing world politics. They are destroying dictatorships and establishing youth and progressive governments. They are preserving antiquated traditions with courage and sacrifice. We cannot even manage the affairs of a small community. I believe we can find a solution to our dilemma in the following words of Aristotle: "If liberty and equality, as is thought by some, are to be found in democracy, we are best attained when all people alike share in the government to the utmost."
Mr. Woodruff Resigns From Post Will Head Program For Amer. U.

K Brent Woodruff, Acting President of Bard, has announced his resignation from the administration of Bard College, effective June 30.

The Board of Trustees of the American University in Washington, D.C., has elected Mr. Woodruff Vice President, in rector of Development, effective August 1. It will be Mr. Woodruff's responsibility to direct a long range program for the expansion of facilities and resources presently estimated to require the raising of over $12,000,000.

Mr. Woodruff was elected Vice President in charge of fund-raising in the fall term by the Bard Board of Trustees. Upon Mr. Woodruff's resignation from the presidency, Mr. Woodruff assumed the office of Acting President.

Heavy Theft Empties Bard Library Shelves

A large proportion of the 750 titles on the missing Bard Library shelves are believed to be stolen.

Few Replacements

The lists from the Science and Art Libraries totaling 150 books are for June 1958 to June 1959. The Main Library containing 1000 titles is far 1974. The most painful losses are from the breaking up of valuable and difficult to replace sets. The Library can replace very few of the stolen books because of its limited budget.

Can't Check

Lack of funds also hampers the Library in preventing thefts. The Queens College Library hired a guard who reportedly stopped enough losses to pay his salary, but Bard cannot afford this experiment. The regular librarians are too busy with other work to perform check-out duties. A sign asking students to stop at the desk when returning books checked was ignored. Some colleges have instituted a turnstile, but here again ours does not have the necessary funds.

Perhaps if the offenders are discovered frequently enough because books that need have also been stolen, they will read the cards saying that they are doing the community a service.

Student Poets Read From Own Works: Halperin Represents Bard

Mark Halperin attended a poetry reading at Mount Holyoke College on April 28, at which seven undergraduate poets from Bard, Dartmouth, Harvard, Mount Holyoke, Sarah Lawrence, Smith, and Western Reserve University read from their own works. The following poem is one of the three which were read.

BEFORE IT RAINS

The sky turns that

Before it rains, Emitting a weak breeze

That cannot teach To rustled leaves

A new direction, So they remain Pointing to open books On window ledges— Inside, sleepers made Alone in dreams Toss with the restless pages.

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Page Three
Skeleton Fire Dept. Is Disbanded by Pres.

by Bill Senfeld

The disbandment of the Fire Department was announced in a letter to the community by Mr. Woodruff on May 3. In some respects this was not unexpected. Since the fires of last year there had been a definite trend towards this disbandment. Last semester after its failure to attract new members, the Department was declared to be inactive. It was to function only as a control in case of fire on this campus until the Red Hook Fire Department had arrived.

The causes of the recent disbandment were many, but they seemed to hinge on a few basic factors. After last spring's fires, the members of the department found themselves in an awkward position: they were not only responsible for fighting the fires, but were also considered prime suspects in the area of pyromania. They were not only harassed by police and detectives, but were also under su­ per­ cise academic pressure. This feeling of pressure was only heightened when certain members of the department did not pass their modifications. It was found that after the summer vacation, the department had hit a low of less than a dozen members.

Both Mrs. Bourne and Ex­ Fire Chief Bob Kitchell felt that another cause of community antipathy was that the Fire Department had the reputation of being a fraternity­ like organization. Mrs. Bourne stressed that this feeling of belonging and engaging in group activities was important and that unfortunately there was not enough of it on campus. She added that a few more organizations of this sort would be of benefit to the community, not, regrettably, was of no benefit. She said that it was not only antipathy, but a feeling by the administration that the department for the present had ceased to be useful, which caused the disbandment.

Mrs. Bourne also expressed hopes that in the near future again become a feature of the Bard Community.

Plans Completed For June Fete
By Herman Tietjen

The Centennial Planning Committee has completed work on its events for the month of June. Upon that day, the Committee sponsored a special evening program of music and art, and drama as part of its Centennial Year celebration.

The Centennial Planning Committee was formed by Acting President Brent Woodruff in February, 1960. The Committee is composed of members of the faculty, administration, and student body. Regular attending members are: Mr. Woodruff, ex officio; Mr. Driver, chairman, and Mr. Fris, Mrs. Bourne, Mr. Gum­ mers, Mr. Banker, and students, Deanne Rothstein, Stephen Snyder, and Herman Tietjen.

The Committee was charged with the task of arranging, at a very late date, an observ­ ance of the St. Stephen's/Bard's Centennial Year. From the outset, the Committee was con­ cerned with a lack of funds, the shortage of time, and the question of student participation. Nevertheless, it pro­ ceeded with its job.

The first meeting of the Committee was held on February 25, 1960, at which time plans for Charter Day were discussed and consideration was given to a later event. As a result of the Committee's efforts, and with the special assistance of Mr. Gould and Dr. Weiss, Charter Day did not pass unnoticed. The Committee, in later meetings decided to hold the Centen­ nial celebration on June 18, 1960 and combine Parents' Day and the Centennial observance. Mr. Driver suggested a plan for an evening fest of music, drama and art. The Commit­ tee's major efforts during its weekly meetings in March and April were concentrated on improving and formalizing Mr. Driver's plan.

The Parents' Day Centennial Program agreed to by the Committee for June 18 is as follows:

2:45 P.M., open house on the campus for parents.
4:30 P.M., free time on the campus for parents.
5:15 P.M., a parents' meeting at Blithewood.
6:30-7:30 P.M., a community supper at Blithewood, with the student body, parents and guests eating together.
8:00 P.M., an evening concert by members of the Mu­ sic Department.
9:00 P.M., an outdoor play,

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Tennis, Softball Teams Off to Poor Beginning

By Wally Law

Both the Bard tennis and softball teams went down in defeat in their first meets this season. The tennis team lost 1-8 in their match against the Manhattan College team, while the softball team lost 9-4 and 5-2, to Red Hook.

Tennis Matches

The members of the tennis team and their opponents in the first match are Ed Golden, who lost to Ehrlich 4-6, 4; George Rothschild, who lost to Loza 4-6, 4-2; Dick Rocher*bowing to Lattano 4-6, 6-2, 6-4; Gary Davidson, who lost to Bard 4-6, 2; Eric Koenig, who scored the only victory for Bard, taking Myers 6-2, 6-1, 6-4; and Jack Baum, who lost to Warburton 2-4, 6-4.

The next scheduled tennis match is slated for Wednesday afternoon at 3:30; Coach Charles Patrick and the members of the team have good reason to believe that the team will make a much better showing against teams which have an approximately the same amount of experience as does the Bard team. In a game where experience is one of the greatest determining factors, the year's "Mid­ Summer Night's Dream," sponsored by the Drama Department under Mr. Driver's direction.

Any member of the Bard Community interested in taking part in the play is welcome to do so inside the mansion at Blithewood, there will be an art exhibit, an exhibit, and senior projects will be on display in the Main Library.

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