comment on council editorial

The sometimes criticized Student Council, whose honesty and sincerity has never been doubted, but whose lack of perception occasionally impedes its desire (which is the desire, I presume, of every group, be it E. P. C., Administration, or Council) to enact the most beneficent legislation, convened for two weeks straight and dealt with both a loan to the Bardian and the Reis-Koenig rumor in a manner which was rather similar to its manner in the past. By which I mean, the Council, consisting of well-meaning and usually well-informed people tended to miss some immediate problems.

The first issue had to do with a loan from the Contingency fund that the Bardian wanted wiped off the books. Mr. Grove stated in a motion that the Bardian, since it will be answerable this term to the Council treasurer, could not go into debt again. He wanted the loan changed to the status of a gift.

Then quite suddenly the motion was 'tabled' and a fresher one added. The issue was no longer one of debts from Contingency, but one dealing with the Bardian's role in the community at large. Instead of a debate on the merits of loans, a new motion, presumably to clarify the word 'official' in the newspaper's masthead was made. It was then that a willingness to follow vague terms became apparent.

The new problem was this: does the Bardian, stating in its masthead that it is the 'official' publication, reflect the 'official' voice of the students. President Fuller who originally raised this question of responsibility said that this newspaper was hindering his fund-gathering efforts.

So at that time the word 'official' made the rounds. It was followed by 'responsibility' which, being a more popular word, lasted longer.

So much for the Bardian question, for on March 14, after the entire college had spent a week weighing the words 'official' and 'responsibility', an almost unanimous vote of confidence, expressing the sentiments of free-reign, was brought back to Council. In order to lessen outside confusion, and to facilitate fund raising, Mr. MacAlister's motion, along with Mr. Grove's amendment that this masthead read, "... opinions expressed in this official publication are those of the writer's", was passed as was the original motion concerning contingency.

With the newspaper question solved, this writer was ready to leave. But the next point on the agenda, that of the letters to Reis and Koenig and Fuller (see Woodbury edit, March 2nd) reopened a feeling of resentment this paper sometimes holds when the Council is mentioned. For here was an example of sincerity mixed with confusion. This Council had spent two weeks collecting information on a rumor, receiving for its trouble two 'no comments' from the teachers involved and the statement from President Fuller that he hadn't had time to answer. The president, who seems to be in an excellent position to know about the verity of such rumors, said his lack of official response was due to too much work. This answer, intimating that in a college of too much business than that of the discharge of two both able and popular teachers served to enlarge the rumor, making it more confusing and more suspicious. Yet Council was perfectly willing to accept the President's lack of reply. He had a pile of letters as yet unanswered; and Council as if it were being let in on Administration secrets smiled knowingly. They knew what he meant; they knew that letters pile up. What could be more important to the students in a small college than the status of their teachers? But no one present seemed interested in the kind of rumor that can ruin student morale, especially students in the Social Studies Division.

At this writing, the rumor persists and the Administration has taken no stand and all this concerns me much less than the Council's refusal to yell "stall" when the now-famous pile-of-letters point was offered. Certainly it is the business of the president to explain about the dismissal of teachers and not the business of the teachers affected.

In closing, I make no condemnation of Council. No one present spoke out against Progressive Education, and as far as I know there was no one dangerous in the room. And by dangerous, I mean no one openly said he wanted either Dr. Koenig or Dr. Reis fired; but perhaps such talk, were it to become 'official', might alienate Council members who, up until 'official' word, would continue believing that their interests and those of Progressive Education were uppermost among the men deciding policy.

Fred Segal

plea for insane asylums dramatized

Last Wednesday, March 16th, WXBC, the Bard Radio station presented the LSBS.documenary, "Mind In the Shadow", a radio play designed to further the cause and dramatize the plight of America's asylums for the insane.

Originally written by the CBS documentary group (which by special request twice produced it) the script was loaned to Bard Radio so that a recording here could be sent to other colleges in the college network of stations. Wednesday's performance has been recorded on wire and will be sent, in order that the cause of the insane asylum and the need for the raising of funds can spread, eventually, throughout the country.

The play was directed by John Steketee. Don Lasser, enacting the role of the Edde Albert played in the original production, did a competent job as Charles Cooke, the leading man and narrator, while other, smaller, roles were ably acted by Sheila Assman, Miles Blattner, Corinne Sherman, Alan and Shane Ostrom, Bill De Baun, Joan DeKreyer, Deborah Sussman, Bob Smith, Pete Stone, Anita Garabedian, and other Bard actors.

Assisting Mr. Steketee with technical advice was Betty Grayson of the Psychology Department.

Comment:

Included in this excellent production were the expression of many hopes and the urgent need for help. It was a propaganda play. Its purpose was to raise money so that misconceptions about insanity can be eliminated. Its purpose was to raise money so that understaffed institutions can cure.

Some people apparently believe that

\[\text{(Continued on Page Three)}\]

\[\text{A Deinol photograph of acts of the actors in "Mind in the Shadow"}\]

Lutani recital

Miss Suzanne Block, distinguished the Depart and champion of pre-Medieval musical comedies, was heard here on March ninth in a recital of lute, virginals, and recorder music. Her accomplishments by way of reviving and performing much of this fine music are widely known, and proved a welcome addition to the concert series at Bard.

The first group on the well arranged program was devoted to sixteenth and seventeenth century music for the lute and consisted mainly of such Renaissance examples as the molds ofercare, fantasia, and pass, the early ancestors of the classical fugue and sonata forms. Miss Block gave an accurate and interesting account of each, and appears to have met the formidable technical problems of the lute with mastery and ease.

The second group was given to music for the virginals, an Elizabethan instrument comparable to the harpsichord, except for its smaller size and range. Here Miss Block was equally charming, both in her playing and in her comments about Elizabethan and Renaissance style. She turned next to the recorder and played three Elizabethan songs on Ayres, among them the familiar Greensleeves.

The program ended with a group of songs ranging from thirteenth century troubadour melody to the French chansons de cour of 1600, all of which were equally sung, Miss Block closed with two songs of her own from Alice in Wonderland, which were delightful satires, much enjoyed by the receptive and sizeable audience.
I firmly believe that undue government influence over the press is detrimental influence even though Bardian time he covers a news event. The state what control must be held accountable for its business which accrue to us. (1.) Not necessarily the editors accept any well written non-be required to institute changes in its The Bardian. Two points of view; in fact it down in writing; then submit your thing about gardening. It wasn't gardening that stopped those roots from bloom­ ing during the field period. Instead it was our own unwillingness to be a part in the scheme of the Bard College en­ thusiasts who advocated the plan of the Rec. Hall. The Editor of the Bardian was urged by members of Council not to protest to the Rec. Hall on the grounds that his dissuising opinion would wreck the campaign. These people were so sure of themselves, so confident that they could do no wrong that they couldn't imagine valid objections to their program. The Convocation that was held to discuss this campaign was, like most Convocation meetings, sparsely attended by all except the staff. The Rec. Hallers who were at the meet­ ing ran on. The opportunity of con­ ducting a referendum was offered to people in a motion by Mr. J. Segal but immediately turned down by the members present. In spite of the fact that the success of the campaign depended upon the complete support of all members of the Convocation, the Rec. Hall sup­ porters on the Council were guilty of a deliberate attempt at manipulating us not as the members of a democracy, but as the members of a mob. Do we need a Rec. Hall? Do we need anything else? Are there three membership, the less frequently each performing group will be called upon, and therefore more thought and planning can go into each performance. Membership is open to all. No student need fear that his (or her) busines­ men for business purposes? —a moral question, this. These are a few of the questions I can imagine. I think they are worthy of consideration because I think the tremendous educational good enough. The group is informal, and entertainment is its only object. Contract Elliotis Hall­ pern about any idea you have which you would like to see executed. He will discuss it with you, and also help you choose volunteer assistance fromamong the standing membership. A few questions concerning magazine drive and rec hall failure. The scheme to sell magazines and give Bard College a Rec. Hall has failed de­ spite the explanations of those who sup­ ported it. Even now in spite of the nega­ tive response of the college the Rec. Hallers are still persisting in their task of turning students into sisselmen. The chief objection I have to those who advocated this affair—from the edi­ tor of the Bardian who referred to the Rec. Hall as “truth in an editorial to Mr. MacAllister who called its opponents “people in a motion by Mr. J. 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Dr. Henry M. Wriston, president of Brown University, promised swift action to break the fraternities unless discriminatory pledges are ended. The president told a mass meeting the student organizations were not merely social but political: They also believe that insanity is inherited.

Below, the cast of the recent drama production, scenes from English comedy. Left to right: Al Haulenbeck, Janet production, scenes from English comedy.

The grass shifts, the fruit falls, and the sweet juice of dead ripe summer runs off with joyous taste into the loam.

Iris Lipskar

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T. Djinis, Prop.

plea for insane

(Continued from Page Three)

should be sent to them. This is the ad­
dress: The National Committee for
Mental Hygiene, 1790 Broadway, New
York 19, New York.

The Bardian would like to thank
Radio Bard for beginning this campaign.
Its pages will be open for any publicity
or further information concerning the
drive for funds for mental health; any
space needed to further publicize this
cause will always be available. For in
presenting "Mind In the Shadow", Radio
Bard did more than merely break
away from routine radio works-disk
jockeys, canned music, etc.—it justified
its existence. What after all is an inde­
pendent radio station for, if not for such
purposes? What could be of greater im­
portance than the dramatization of a
forgotten, or, as in some cases, a politely
ignored blight, the smell of which per­
meates our most modern communities?
What could be more honorable than the
propagandizing of a desperate want and
a million needs with which understaffed
asylums continue to operate? If any
radio show attempts to destroy an apathy
which works as a wall does in shielding
our under-equipped institutions, then it
has done an honorable thing. Like the
wall, the motto, "people are helpless to
prevent insanity", remains to be torn
down. It is the business of radio to
destroy such walls.

Fred Segal

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