

The College News

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Alliance Presents Political Conference On African Affairs, Speakers Rivlin, Sloan, And Bond View "Dark Continent"

Dr. Horace M. Bond Lauds New States

"We shall not have to live much longer before we see in the great ferment of nations the new states of West Africa." Thus, Dr. Horace Mann Bond, president of Lincoln University, concluded his lecture, the final one of the recent Alliance Conference. Dr. Bond's talk was concerned with "The Emerging States of West Africa."

Dr. Bond asserted: "These states have much to contribute to the world and it is significant that two of those that are coming into being simultaneously are headed by American-educated men, Nnamdi Azikiwe, Prime Minister of Eastern Nigeria and Kwame Nkrumah, Prime Minister, Gold Coast. These new states will be born into the true tradition of the United States, for they are to be 'conceived in liberty and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal'."

Dr. Bond, who was in native attire, explained that wearing native dress gave him a feeling of identification with the nationalistic cause, for the West Africans have fostered a rebirth of interest in the old culture, and indigenous products and handicraft are symbols of nationalism. This represents a shift in attitude; colonial Africa, highly impressed by the West, adopted Occidental names and dress, forsaking their own.

The fact that the aforementioned heads of government in Gold Coast and Eastern Nigeria are Lincoln graduates accounts for Dr. Bond's keen interest in the area. He visited it in 1949, at which time he endeavored to show the English colonial circles that American educators are not illiterate, a former point of criticism against Azikiwe and Nkrumah.

"Zeke," as friends and countrymen affectionately call Azikiwe, is the father of the contemporary nationalist movement in West Africa. He is a man of genius who has an amazingly comprehensive view of affairs, which is unusual for a politician," believes Dr. Bond. He has used American political methods acquired through years of living in the United States. Mass stadium rallies and publication of a newspaper that speaks the voice of the people have aided in the widespread acceptance of his party. Nnamdi Azikiwe has dropped the Western 'Benjamin' he used while in American residency, during which time he handled an Afro-American newspaper and learned to identify himself with the common people.

The Gold Coast is an even more advanced example of emerging statehood. Kwame Nkrumah, who has always wanted nationalism to progress rapidly in his state, has overpowered the more conservative factions.

Dr. Bond is optimistic over the awakening of American interest in the area, long-awaited though it has been. He is also confident that whatever factions and disagreements arise among the many leaders, they can only have positive results. In this instance, Dr. Bond recalls the healthy Hamiltonian-Jeffersonian conflict during the American formative period.



Alliance President Sheppie Glass with Conference speakers Benjamin Rivlin, Ruth Sloan, and Horace Mann Bond.

Rivlin Talks On African Political Ferment

Before we can see what could and should be accomplished in Africa, we must examine the "Is," those basic problems which must first be overcome. These problems, and more specifically the problems faced in the different areas of the continent, formed the subject for Mr. Benjamin Rivlin, who spoke on "Political Ferment in Africa" in the Alliance assembly on November 10.

The problem of resolving two important questions lies at the heart of the "Is," said Mr. Rivlin.

The first of these concerns the awakening of the people, in their effort to catch up with a modern world which is technologically centuries ahead of them. The second lies in the fact that as this awakening, and the general shrinking of our world, progresses, the problem of Africa's relations with more advanced peoples, and with different races, cultures, and religions, becomes increasingly prominent.

In South Africa the prime objective is the development of the peoples of the Union in terms of their own cultures. South Africa is fast growing economically stronger, but its success is very dependent on black labor. History shows that backward people in contact with an industrial society become politically alert and dissatisfied with their environment. Thus although the white population, which numbers less than 10 per cent of the total, has gone to great lengths to separate the whites and the blacks, the unrealistic situation cannot long continue.

In British Central Africa, problems are somewhat similar to those in the South, but the policy of segregation is not as strong. The population of the area (which contains Northern and Southern Rhodesia) is 96% African, and has been ruled and exploited primarily by Europeans. Here, too, the status quo cannot long continue.

Actually, since the characteristics of different areas rub off on each other, one cannot look toward long stability in any of them. This

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Sloan Says Africa Is Vitaly Important

The emergence of Africa as a vital world area instead of merely being "an obstacle on the route to India" was covered by Mrs. Ruth Sloan in her talk, "Africa in Transition," at the Alliance conference Nov. 9.

Africa, the Dark Continent, first attracted the major Western powers by her supply of precious stones, metals and slaves. In the 19th century, these European powers divided the continent into colonies and spheres of influence. But today the states of Africa are shedding their skins of colonialism with increasing rapidity. "The time table has been stepped up," noted Mrs. Sloan.

A pertinent factor is Africa's population, which consists of 145 million blacks, 55 million other colored peoples, and 5 million whites. This native predominance is transforming itself into a growing political predominance. The spark of nationalism has been set off throughout Africa. Liberia was one of the first native states formed. Its constitution is similar to ours. Yet its problems must be handled in an entirely different way. Mrs. Sloan warned against the great powers' tendency to impose their own patterns on the Africans, economically, socially and politically. "Self-government doesn't always bring American democracy," said Mrs. Sloan and noted: "Liberia, a discreet dictatorship; Ethiopia, an absolute monarchy; Egypt, a military dictatorship; Union of South Africa, an apartheid dictatorship; Libya, a constitutional monarchy supervised by three Western powers."

Mrs. Sloan finds the black nationalism in West Africa, the Arab nationalism in North Africa, and the multi-racial nationalism in Central Africa, "exciting" and a hopeful sign. Africa is surging forward to a place in the world as an equal partner with the great nations. This is of prime importance to the Africans, who remember years of condescension and patronage.

The methods of the different co-Continued on Page 5, Col. 5

Legislature Unanimously Votes 'Straw Ballot' Election System

At last night's Legislature meeting it was voted to accept the proposed straw ballot method of nominating as it stood for the League, Alliance, Chapel Committee and A. A. offices. Two major alterations were made, however, one involving Undergrad nominations and the other abolishing the nominating committee for Self-Gov.

The Legislature voted to nominate Undergrad Board members

strictly by the straw ballot system. In other words, all nominations would be made by the class; there would be no list of suggested candidates prepared by Undergrad Board. It was voted to change the Undergrad constitution to make this system possible.

The proposed nominating committee for electing members of the Self-Gov Board was voted down, instead the straight straw ballot method of nominating, with all nominations subject to the approval of the Self-Gov Board, was instituted.

The election committee, consisting of class officers and two elected members from each class, was accepted. Another Legislature meeting will be held after Thanksgiving to discuss methods of presenting the candidates.

Friends Of Music Sponsors Quintet

The New York Woodwind Quintet and the pianist Vera Brodsky will present the following program at a concert in Goodhart Hall on Thursday evening:

Mozart: Quintet for Piano, Oboe, Clarinet, Bassoon and Horn.

Hindemith: Quintet (Kleine Kammermusik) for Wind Instruments.

Vivaldi: Concerto in G Minor, for Flute, Oboe, Bassoon.

Poulenc: Sextet for Piano and Winds.

Thursday afternoon the quintet will present a demonstration of the mechanics and capabilities of the flute, oboe, bassoon and clarinet; rehearsal demonstrations and discussion of the literature for woodwind instruments. A workshop on the mechanics and capabilities of the horn was presented this afternoon.

These events are sponsored by the newly-formed Friends of Music, which plans in the future to bring a number of workshop-concert combinations to the campus.

Announce Cast For "Much Ado"

The Bryn Mawr-Haverford dramatic group has announced the final cast list for *Much Ado About Nothing*, which will be given in Goodhart Dec. 2 and 3. The female parts are played by Jean Young, Ricky Lann, Bobby Goldberg and Nancy Moore, who are respectively Beatrice, Ursula, Margaret and Hero.

Conrad is played by Finn Hornman; Borachio by Paul Hodge; Don John by Mike Smith; Antonio by Peter Pankin; Verges by Gerald Goodman; Friar Francis by Andy Miller.

John Pfaltz, Bill Moss, Ken Geist, Harvey Phillips and John Hawkins take the parts respectively of Dogberry, Claudio, Benedick, Don Pedro and Leonato.

The Watch includes Andy Miller, Phil Miller, E. B. White and A. Feit.

In addition to the actresses and actors, there will be four girls who will play records and ten girls who will sing. The play ends with dancing and music, all of which is typical of 15th century Italy. Jane Rouillion is choreographer

Tickets for *Much Ado About Nothing* may be purchased at Goodhart box office Nov. 21 through Dec. 2 from 2 to 5:30. Student tickets are \$.75, others \$1.25.

Weekend Dec. 2-3 Run By Undergrad

Only one more week till Thanksgiving, and only 15 more days till Undergrad weekend, Dec. 2, 3 and 4.

The festivities will open Friday evening with Rhoads Hall's open house and informal dance from 10:00 to 2:30, with music until 1:00. The open house, the Bourbon Street Bounce, will feature songs by the Princeton Boomerangs, and special entertainment will include all the halls on campus.

Each hall will elect a candidate to the Queen of New Orleans contest; each candidate must also be able to entertain at the open house.

Next on the agenda for the weekend is the jazz concert Saturday afternoon in Goodhart (admission 30¢). The soda fountain will serve refreshments.

Following the College Theater-Drama Club presentation of *Much Ado About Nothing*, the formal dance, "Pink Elephant Parade," will be held in the gym from 10 till 2. President McBride, Dean Marshall, Sarah Stifler, president of Undergrad, and Judy Harris, first junior member, will receive guests at the dance. For the first time, all faculty members have been invited to attend.

The Bryn Mawr Octangle and the Columbia University King's Men will entertain, and Howard Cook's Orchestra will provide music. A photographer from the Arthur David studio in New York will be at the dance to take pictures of those couples who want them. Tickets for the dance will go on sale, at \$3.00, after Thanksgiving vacation.

Members of the dance committee under Judy Harris, are Betsy Miller and Lynne Sherrerd, decorations; Bitsy McElroy, tickets; Alice Simon and Linda Hynds, publicity; Jane Rouillion; Tulsa Kaiser; Grace van Hulsteyn; Otilie Pattison; Lois Callahan and Judy Sniscak.

Denbigh will be the scene of an open house from 1:30 to 3:30 Saturday night. The weekend will close with the Synchronized Swimming Club's presentation of *The Red Shoes*, in the form of a water ballet, at 3 Sunday afternoon in the gym.

THE COLLEGE NEWS

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A Look At Extracurriculars

The News feels that an evaluation of our extracurricular activities is a matter of such importance that we have conducted a forum on the subject in this issue. We feel that extracurricular activities are a vital and necessary part of college life on any campus. They offer students an opportunity to develop new interests or to further interests which they already have. We do not feel, however, that any student should ever be pressured into joining a club or any other organization. She should be fully informed about the organizations on campus; however, the decision to join them should be her own.

Some students who have come from schools where they participated in many extracurricular activities prefer not to become involved in them in college. Others feel that they would rather devote their extra time to their studies or social life. A student who joins an organization simply because she feels that she should join something because it is expected of her will never contribute much to the organization. She will simply be a name on the roll.

It is a mistake to judge the success of an organization by the number of members it has. Some campus activities will obviously appeal to a limited number of students. If the organization fulfills the needs of these students, it is doing a good job.

Perhaps one way for the campus organizations which have hall reps to retain the interest of students would be to do away with the hall rep system as it is now, as was suggested in the forum. Instead, any interested student should be eligible for the boards of these organizations. Since they are really interested, they will see that the work is done and that people hear about the organizations' activities. Under the present system interested people who have not been elected as hall reps feel that they are unwelcome at meetings and, therefore, do not attend.

In the forum, one student said she felt it would be a good idea to have faculty advisors for clubs. We strongly feel that one of the advantages of the present system is that there are no faculty advisors. Freedom and full responsibility are offered to every student in her extracurricular activities now.

J. Seznec Concludes Flexner Lecture Series; Oxford University Press To Publish Lectures

On Monday night Jean Seznec concluded the Mary Flexner Lecture Series for 1955 on "Diderot and Antiquity." M. Seznec is Marshal Foch Professor of French Literature and Fellow of All Souls College, Oxford University.

The lecture series will be published shortly in book form by the Oxford University Press. The book will be illustrated.

M. Seznec's topics were "The Imaginary Socrates," "Hercules and Antinous," "The Ghost of Ti-

resias," "A French Laocoon," "The Antiquarian Ape" and "The Genius of Paganism."

CHAPEL SPEAKER

Dr. Bertram W. Korn, Senior Rabbi, Reform Congregation Kenesseth Israel, Philadelphia, will be the speaker at Chapel Sun., Nov. 20. His topic: "Where Shall We Find Inspiration?"

As a noted author, historian and editor, his numerous books, pamphlets and addresses alone have earned him wide recognition. A graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, Cornell and the University of Cincinnati, he has been a professor of American Jewish History at Hebrew Union College. During the war he served as chaplain with the Marines in North China and has continued as a Naval Reserve Chaplain.

Letter To The Editor

Betzler, College Plumber, Cites Unfortunate Incident With Travel Agency; Warns Students

To the Editor:

Noticing an article in the current issue of the News on the Suburban Travel Agency of Ardmore, the writer feels that he would be doing a disservice to his associates at the college by not telling them of an experience he had with this very firm.

On January 15, '55, I gave them \$150 down payment on a trip via Air France to Paris and Rome and to return by the SS America to New York. Five days later I paid another down payment for my sister, who lives in El Paso, Texas. Then on April 15, I paid them the rest of the money, a combined total of \$1190.

On the evening of May 19, I personally picked up the tickets and was assured I had not a thing to worry about, everything was taken care of; the only thing they advised was to check with the U.S. lines a week or so before departure in case the departure time had been changed.

What happened? Lo and behold, on arriving at the airport in New York and presenting my tickets, I was blithely informed by the Air France personnel that our names were not on the passenger list.

Needless to say, I really blew my top, but it was not until I demanded the money back forthwith, plus our fare from and back to Philadelphia, that I got any action. We were finally given seats on a Pan Am flight, which dumped us in London. At the airport there another five-hour argument ensued ere we got seats on a flight to Paris, where we arrived 12 hours behind schedule. At the Paris airport there was a two-hour argument before we were assured seats on a plane to Rome three days later.

Just where the blame lies, I, of course, do not know. Air France

is covering up for the agency and vice versa, but somehow or other my instinct points to the male member of the agency, who on my first meeting with him, impressed me as a would-be comedian. After checking on one more item and getting the right reaction, I'm going to sue them for a considerable sum as damages for the 12 hours of my vacation I lost and the mental turmoil I suffered.

Air France is, I think, a bit worried inasmuch as they sent their Philadelphia agent out to see me. He is one of those back-slappers, promised me the red carpet treatment, etc., as if I'd fall for that stuff.

Please don't think that I am looking for publicity. I assure you I most certainly am not. I've worked here at the college so long I sort of feel I'm a part of it, and I certainly would not have any member of the college family go through the above experience, which I assure you on my word of honor is absolutely true.

Sincerely yours,

A. O. Betzler
The College Plumber

Knitting In Classes Provokes Objections

In classes I see the girls all sit And count their stitches as they knit.

I personally find this distracting As all I hear are needles clacking. (Yet it's up to the prof and not to me

To object to this show of rudity.) You girls always seem to display Your worst manners while away. Please, oh please, heed my suggestion

And do NOT knit at Haverford Collection!!

(Name withheld because of theory of self-preservation)

Off The Bookshelf

By Helen Sagmaster

A Charmed Life By Mary McCarthy

In the 13 terse chapters of *A Charmed Life* (Harcourt, Brace and Company), Mary McCarthy presents, with powerful insight, her vision of 20th century society. A few characters, drawn in a straightforward manner, and a few rather ordinary incidents, set forth her theory of the futility of life.

The inhabitants of New Leeds, as John Sinnott remarks, seem to lead charmed lives. In this decadent version of Greenwich Village, which attracts would-be artists and turns them into alcoholics, nothing spectacular ever happens. The citizens hardly ever die: they just break their arms, or trip over doorsteps, or smash the fenders of their automobiles.

To this stifling, arty atmosphere, the scene of her first marriage, Martha and John Sinnott return after 7 years of rather mild happiness together. Their reasons for coming back to New Leeds are two: to get away from the city so Martha can write, and to prove to themselves that she is no longer haunted by her past.

The latter goal is not achieved, however. As soon as Martha meets her ex-husband, Miles Murphy, who is also remarried, she realizes that he still exerts the old, strange psychological power over her.

She didn't really want to marry him in the first place: she knew that he was brutal and repulsive. But she did marry him. And when,

during John's absence, Miles stops in for a drink, she doesn't want to have sexual relations with him. But she does; and it is now that the character who has been merely ineffectual becomes a figure of tragedy.

A similar impotency infects the lives of all the other characters. At every moment the latent morality, the noble instincts, the potential talents are squelched by the perversity and ineptness which seem to emanate from the town itself.

The characters, though clear, are drawn with a delicacy and understatement typical of Mary McCarthy. She has an eye for detail, for the almost unnoticeable gestures and inflections which go so far towards revealing character. Dolly Lamb's consideration of her questionable virginity, which takes up only one paragraph, is an example of the author's ability to typify a whole personality in an instant.

Mary McCarthy's concept of the futility of life, embodied in the town of New Leeds and its inhabitants, is too harsh to be accepted by every reader, although it is understood fairly easily. But the success of *A Charmed Life* lies in the fact that the author's vision, bitter as it is, makes a powerful and memorable impression.

MARRIED

Miriam Forman '57 to Bud Diamond.

Current Events

P. Bachrach Examines Modern Intellectual As Critic

"Today the intellectual is no longer alienated from society; he is no longer on the outside looking in," stated Mr. Peter Bachrach, Assistant Professor of Political Science, at Current Events, Monday night.

In his talk on the role of the intellectual in a conservative political structure, Mr. Bachrach first said that contemporary modern American thought is at the moment conservative. To clarify this he defined conservatives as "those who in their political hierarchy place stability, order and tradition uppermost." As for the intellectual, he called the term "subjective — existing in the mind of a man who thinks himself interested in serious topics and in ideas. Here in America today it has no real relationship with any social or economic class."

Intellectual's Task

There are four different groups of conservatives: 1) the business men, typified by ex-president Hoover, who feel that freedom is the opportunity to make as much money as they can; 2) the conservatives who embody the principles of Burke, and hold fast to the ideas of tradition, discipline, order and class; 3) the anti-politics who believe that politics are for the masses, not for higher minds; 4) the yester-year liberals, typified by the backers of Stevenson in the last election, who maintain, "Let's conserve what we have."

But in this society there is a definite role for the intellectual; it is as always his traditional task of declaring and speaking for his society. Today he says that America is as good a place to live as any other and we no longer need run to Europe for culture; however in becoming so much an integral part of our social structure he seems to have lost his detachment and thus his ability to criticize.

Hemingway, Steinbeck, Dreiser — the men who wrote of society in a critical vein, no longer criticize in the same way, but literature now focuses on smaller aspects of our life, such as army life in the novel *From Here to Eternity*.

Intellectual's Disillusioned

Many reasons exist for this, one of which is that the intellectual has become disillusioned with the "common man," for he has seen in such instances as the rise of Hitler that the common man can revolt to the right and be even more reactionary than the business man. And since the idea man has become absorbed by industry, he has become almost a sponsor of the un-intellectual.

The situation is unique and its uniqueness does not minimize its danger. Recent emphasis on Communism has made any political criticism a dangerous experiment, yet our two-party system, which is really a friendly arrangement needs force to keep us aware.

To prove his point, after the discussion, Mr. Bachrach closed with an expression of relief that no one had asked him for his own solution to the problem, for he, as the rest of his fellow American intellectuals, while aware of the danger confronting us, had formed no plan to counteract it.

Finding lists are now available at the public relations office next to the water cooler. Price is one dollar, which may be charged to payday.

The sophomore class is happy to announce the election of Sue Opstad and Kitty Milmine as director and technical director, respectively, of the Maids' and Porters' show.

Extracurricular Activities At BMC: Representative Views

Faculty Has Parallel To Students' Pursuits, Says Professor M. Lang

by Mabel Lang
Associate Professor of Greek

Any faculty member who wishes to define his attitude toward extracurricular activities may look for their parallel in his own life. If curricular activities include courses and private research, then some of the faculty's extracurricular activities are comparable to those of the students (at least in so far as both groups govern themselves and elect or appoint various smaller groups to regulate and consider particular aspects of the community life). Perhaps students will object that faculty members go to faculty meeting and sit on committees because it is part of the job. That is true. I wonder if students have similar obligations merely by virtue of being members of a community.

Students' extracurricular activities include many which have no exact parallel among the faculty, who live in a variety of communities besides that of the college and pursue particular interests apart from the college group. Where there are such particular interests they may serve as supplements to the faculty's teaching and research or as change and relaxation. In

either case they enhance the chief activity. So with students' extracurricular activities, it seems to me that they broaden horizons for those who feel cramped in a curriculum which often seems to emphasize depth at the cost of breadth. But both faculty members and students exist, and do so with profit to themselves and others, who want no outside interests. These are the ones who say, "For the people who like that sort of thing, that's the sort of thing they like."

The faculty's outside interests, because they are not so much limited to the college group as those of the students, are not materially affected by a factor like the size of the college. Students must often feel that it is a strain to keep up many of the activities found on larger campuses with scanty and often duplicate personnel. And yet no one can say that merely because a student attends a small college she must confine her interests to a few activities. There are always two, if not more, sides to these questions, and all that we can expect is that people exercise their individual preferences only after giving thought.

Editor's Note: Extracurricular activities at Bryn Mawr have been severely criticized, both by those who participate in them and by those who do not. To find out the reasons for this general criticism, and to explore possible solutions or improvements that might be made in the system, the NEWS has conducted a forum. Those participating are the Dean of the College, two faculty members and students holding various positions in campus organizations.

Mrs. Marshall: Independence, Scope Are Chief Characteristics Of Program

Dean Marshall, in an interview with the College News, discussed what she believed were the specific characteristics, and the weaknesses and difficulties, of extracurriculars at Bryn Mawr.

The two outstanding characteristics of Bryn Mawr activities are their wide scope and their complete independence, Mrs. Marshall

feels. Almost any student can participate along lines of her own special interest, whether it be music, arts, religious life, community service, sports, publications, or politics. Bryn Mawr offers practically the same variety of activities as a large university, but the numbers supporting the activities are much smaller. This creates special problems: the burden on some students becomes heavy, and special discrimination is needed so that the student may not take on too much.

There is no faculty or administrative authority over any of the activities. In general, Mrs. Marshall feels that "advice is readily available and often sought, though not necessarily followed."

Mrs. Marshall said that one of the weaknesses of the present system is that "We are slow to catch up with the changing times, if the change means a 'fading' interest. We don't let organizations die quietly, but go to all lengths to preserve a spark of life, to whip up new interest and recruits, when possibly the quiet death would have been better. Artificially maintained enthusiasm is not worth the trouble. A college generation is quickly replaced, and new generations will revive old interests if the need is real."

"We are not slow to pick up

High Pressure Living, Ipso Facto Membership, Problems Of System

by Phillis Hall
Head of Chapel Committee

To restate the problems of high pressure living in American colleges and more specifically, on the Bryn Mawr campus, is to run the risk of being trite. One has only to look at our over-crowded bulletin boards or listen to the quantity

of hall announcements each day to catch the flavor of the breathless round of activities offered the student at every turn. And as anyone who has ever attempted to enlist help for an extra-curricular "cause" well knows, there is a universal cry against the complexities of schedules already filled beyond imagination. Where then is the problem? Is it that our campus provides altogether too much to do in its non-academic fields? Are the sirens of diverse interests luring us mentally, even if not always physically, from our favorite library carrel?

And what of those on the side of Tantalus . . . the organizations that are struggling to generate the interest of an apathetic student body? There is a cry of another

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Nancy Potts Feels Activities Valuable

by Nancy Potts
President of League

I am not alone in asserting that the value of extracurricular activities on campus is easily discernible; consequently, my point of view will be strikingly obvious to most students. However, as part of one of the Big Five organizations I should like to discuss a few of the benefits, which I feel can be derived from these activities.

In my opinion, there are three assets in particular, which extracurricular activities offer at Bryn Mawr. In the first place, one has the chance to gain practical experience in a special field of interest; for example, in the League, not only sociologists, but also psychologists, work at the mental hospitals, the summer camp, and weekend workcamps. Not even the most obdurate opponent of organizations at Bryn Mawr can argue the value of such experience when applying for a job. Thus, this aspect of becoming an active member of a committee or team is not to be overlooked.

On the other hand, there is the problem of the girl without definite ideas or plans for her future. From my standpoint, Bryn Mawr extends the opportunity, to a far greater extent than a larger college, to explore many fields. Whether many of us like to accept the fact or not, this chance for experimentation comes readily through college activities and not through changing jobs periodically after college.

My third point in favor of participating in campus activities far outweighs those previously mentioned. Because Bryn Mawr is a small college, we have the peculiar advantage of working with people from different departments, halls, and environments in our organizations. Frankly, I challenge the person who denies the value of this fact.

Furthermore, organizations make it possible to be in close contact with not only the students, but also the professors and administration. Personally, I find the situation unique and vital to our campus.

To those who complain about the extracurricular activities, I would like to suggest their reflecting upon these three obvious advantages: the preparation for a future specialty, the opportunity to investigate diverse fields of interest, and lastly, the exceptional chance

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Marcia Case: System Lacks Drive, Importance And Senior Participation

by Marcia Case
Editor of the College News

Extracurricular activities at Bryn Mawr are definitely secondary to academic work, in practice as well as in theory.

The students themselves place relatively little emphasis on extracurricular work. There are no true "big wheels" on campus, no honorary societies for campus leaders, no mention in the yearbook of various activities in which students participated.

Bryn Mawr is probably composed of a great number of former "high school wheels" who in many cases didn't even try out for activities at Bryn Mawr. Part of this is no doubt because these students participated in extracurriculars in high school largely because they found the scholastic work unsatisfying. They are willing to sacrifice extracurricular activities here and devote more time to interesting academic work which they missed in high school. Then too, they meet with the general indifference of the student body, and don't try out.

At Bryn Mawr students are seldom "driven" to participation in extracurricular activities by an indifference to study. Their academic work is at best challenging; at least, time-consuming. In a large university on the other hand, liberal arts students often become dissatisfied with the "classroom education" which they are receiving, and turn their energies to outside activities.

But at Bryn Mawr the student seldom does her best work in the extracurricular field. She feels her first loyalty to her academic work, a loyalty which is fostered by the college itself and by the student body. This is not intended as criticism, but rather to point out that students who are dismayed by the quality of extracurriculars here as compared to those at other schools, should realize that at many schools the student devotes the greater part of his time and energy to activities.

One interesting aspect of extra-

curricular life at Bryn Mawr is that few seniors participate with the noteworthy exception of most of the presidents of the Big Five. Many seniors participate in extracurricular activities in their earlier years, and then with a sigh of relief and a feeling of duty done return to the academic fold.

This absence of seniors may account in part for the poor quality of some of the activities. In other schools, students work up slowly through organizations, and by the time they are seniors they "run" the school, with the benefit of three years of experience. At Bryn Mawr, the student rises quickly, largely because of a lack of competition, and assumes positions of responsibility by her junior or sophomore year. The previous experience of the seniors is largely lost.

But the extracurricular system at Bryn Mawr definitely has good points.

Almost every student with an interest in an activity has an opportunity to take advantage of it, and to rise quickly to a position of responsibility. And the student may exercise a good amount of freedom and initiative in her work.

For the student participating in extracurricular work, it seems to me to be a good idea to remember that what she notes as "student apathy" is due in part to the size of the college; out of 600 students there is a limited number interested in any particular activity. And at Bryn Mawr, although the results may not be so professional as at other schools, the opportunity to profit from them and to have fun are perhaps greater.

I also feel that the student body, which is critical of extracurricular work in general (as being poor in quality and time consuming with no good results), might do better to criticize specific wrongs that might be improved. At the same time, they might realize that the most valuable part of extracurriculars is learned by the girl who does the dirty work, and who profits a great deal more than the one who merely complains.

H. Muss Bemoans Lack Of Interest Caused By Ipso Facto Membership

by Helene Muss
Co-Chairman of Coatesville Group

There is no doubt that extracurricular activities play a definite part in one's college "career." However, the ratio of students who actively participate in these activities is amazingly low when compared to the enrollment of the college. Why?

There are organized on campus various clubs, committees and associations which try to respond to both the more established and changing interests of the students. (This is evident by the new committees appearing on campus each year and the disappearance of previous ones). Some say there are too many organizations on campus and others say that too many overlap. I say that since these organizations reflect the interest of the students, that interest is reason enough for their existence. However, all too often the beginning of the semester finds many students interested in joining, forming and participating in these organizations, while as the semester progresses and students lose interest and feel no responsibility towards that organization which has been led to hope for their active support.

I think that the actual set-up of organizations on campus hinders active participation by the majority of the students. Every student is told that she is an "ipso facto" member of League, Alliance, Chapel Committee, etc. When a student makes no conscious effort to belong to a group, when this is done for her automatically, I feel that she loses all sense of responsibility to that group or organization. For example, we are all quite aware of the current controversy concerning required and fined class meetings. If at the beginning of the freshman year each member of the class were asked to sign a statement saying that she was either interested or not interested in being a part of that class, then I think this

problem would not arise. This idea of ipso facto does not give the individual student the opportunity to join that group in which she is mainly interested. The voluntary act of joining is that which gives the impetus to a feeling of responsibility towards that organization. I therefore propose that one be asked to join all or any of these organizations in which she is interested, as an active participant. Every member of the col-

Continued on Page 5, Col. 3

Poor Organization Ruins Enthusiasm

By Liz Radin

Why does a lethargic attitude toward extracurricular activities exist on Bryn Mawr's campus? To deny its existence seems impossible when the enthusiasm of an incoming freshman and the soporific state of an upperclassman are juxtaposed. The problem is that freshman enthusiasm is stifled when faced with the following organizational set-up:

The institutionalized activity remains simply because it is, and only to frustrate and plague the poor soul elected as its chairman. These activities clutter the campus and impair the development of the few good organizations. An activity can serve its purpose in the course of one year. If the need for it is felt the following year it can be revived; if not, drop it or substitute something which answers the immediate interest. The inability of the activities on campus which suit current college interest to present an appealing program can be solved.

A faculty advisor could constructively direct groups which get so entangled that they spend years in a rut or running rapidly in circles. Money, which remains a perennial problem, can be spent in

Continued on Page 6, Col. 3

Channeling Interests Into Program On Campus Makes A Better Organized College Life, Says Ros S. Harrison

By Ros Harrison
Senior Song Mistress

One of the mysteries of Bryn Mawr College is the terrific apathy of the ordinary student in regard

to campus activities. It sounds like the familiar statement, but actually it is rather surprising when we realize the really impressive number of activities that students

have seen fit to establish on campus and the introduction to them given everyone during Freshman Week.

It seems to tie up with what I call the myth of Bryn Mawr College: the idea that there is more work than can possibly be done, that the exams are impossible, and that the only way to enjoy oneself is to escape from the campus every weekend. This myth is perpetuated although Bryn Mawr is not what it was in 1899, and the student who does lots of outside activities, is usually the one with the good grades.

Actually, for any student who is interested in doing more than book studies, there is no secret to success. It is simply organization! It

Continued on Page 5, Col. 5



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EASTERN RAILROADS

Mrs. Diez Cites 'Loaded' Program

by Martha Diez
Assistant Professor of German and Foreign Student Advisor

Some years ago the faculty attempted unsuccessfully to put the brakes on what seemed even then to be a runaway situation in extracurricular activities. Has the time now come, I wonder, for the students to take the matter in hand themselves and to enforce a reduction since outside lectures, meetings, committees and activities in general have multiplied in the meantime in addition to an increased amount of campus "absenteeism" on weekends, late sign-outs, etc.? (I am the last one who would advocate reducing off-campus privileges, but it seems quite apparent to me that interest and time for the multifarious campus activities have suffered by attempting an increase of both.)

The lectures or conferences which I have attended in recent years were carefully planned and well advertised, but never were they well attended. Frequently the campus participation was pitifully small. It must be desperately embarrassing for the students responsible for bringing the president of a university to our campus for an address of vital current interest to walk into Goodhart Hall five minutes before "curtain time" and to find an audience of a dozen people including several off-campus visitors! We are after all a small college and have the shortest, most concentrated academic year in the land.

Liberal Education Requires Balance

by Mary Darling
President of College Theatre

Writing this in the fifth week of senior year, I find myself taking a nasty glance back over three years, in order to try to evaluate the place of extracurricular activities at Bryn Mawr. This entails a definition of "college education", which I would describe as that process which develops to the greatest extent a person's mental capacities for the pursuit of learning. It is a process which includes at the same time the awakening and stimulating of those interests which lead a person out of herself, just as the former pursuits emphasize the Self as center. I feel that extracurricular activities as we know them here are a necessary and integral part of education in order that it may be as full as possible.

On the first level, such all-campus activities as Chorus, Science Club, the Synchronized Swimming Club and WBMCC provide an easy way for girls of similar specialized interests to meet people they otherwise might not know—those in other halls or different classes. From writing for Counterpoint to playing chess with the veterans at Coatesville—we have some group to jibe with almost every talent or point of view, and always the opportunity to start something new.

A college community is in some ways self-sufficient if not downright isolated from the cross-currents and complexities of the big wide world. Our life here is perhaps necessarily, but nevertheless inevitably, a self-centered existence designed largely to fit our demands. The effect of participation in any of the college activities is bound to broaden the participant, for taking part in a

Continued on Page 5, Col. 2

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Surplus Activities Pressure Students

Continued from Page 3
 sort: a "big name speaker", hours of planning, only to see a half-empty, or if you are more charitable, a half-filled auditorium.

Having participated in both positions, and guilty also of uttering both cries, I feel there are things to be considered from both points of view. Those in the position of organizing should not count the worth of their efforts solely in numerical terms. They need to keep always before their minds that theirs is not the only activity on the campus, and that they are fulfilling a particular area of interest which they cannot expect to be universal, however dedicated they are to it themselves. Keeping this on one end of the balance, on the other side should be weighed a sensitivity to student interests which whets their appetite but does not over-stuff them. This implies a realization that there is an academic side to college life in addition to heavy non-academic schedules, and that one can offer too much.

Leaders may find some small comfort in the awareness that apathy is not a problem isolated to Bryn Mawr. It is their challenging task, however, to ferret out its causes, to proceed from there with imagination and courage, and, I might add, to hold fast to an unwarranted faith in human nature! One finds that lending to such inertia as may be discovered in those upon whom much of the extracurricular machinations depend is the fact that tasks are not seriously outlined at the time of election. It is such vagueness that can be a factor in crippling a genuine sense of responsibility.

On the side of the "ipso facto" members, I think it must be assumed that students mature enough to have our present social and academic honor system, are mature enough also to make their decision among all the extracurricular activities, arranged in their varied wrappings like a window display before them. How long, to echo Thomas R. Kelly, are we to bewail "the poverty of life induced by the over-abundance of our opportunities?" This assumption of maturity may be too great, and it is possible for the student to confuse the true origin of the complexities of her life. But then the assumption of the maturity of the individual, whether 16 or 60, is always large and heavy with risks!

But let us beware that our "ipso facto" membership does not lull us into that happy contentment to become perennial "window shoppers". The academic side of our life has an importance that cannot be stressed too much in view of the onslaught of so many diversions, for after all, that is our essential purpose for being here. But let not our maturing be lop-sided. The advantages to be gained from the point of view of learning responsibility, of expanding our interests into untried regions of activity, of contributing something of value in terms of our time and ideas have their relegated importance.

Extra Activities Quite Necessary

Continued from Page 4
 concrete rather than an abstract or theoretical experience effects the stimulation of hitherto untouched sides of her.

The opportunities which we have for taking part in college as well as larger community events are endless, and these provide outlets for that energy which one might feel goes to waste during the long hours in the library. By this I do not mean to lessen the importance of our academic obligations and pursuits, but rather to try to effect a balance somewhere between our scholastic and non-scholastic education.

The concentration of our academic life, which accounts for the widespread name of Bryn Mawr as a scholarly institution, is almost equalled in its pressure by our extracurricular program. Indeed, the extent to which participation is urged in class activities and campus bureaucracy during the first two years means that the demands of these two features of college are continually fighting for supremacy; the outcome of this situation is too often reactionary apathy. At times it seems that the traditions of the college are carried on solely through the efforts of the sophomore class, which never stops running things from Pallas Athena to presidential elections. Therefore, one may induce that there can be and often is too much of a good thing in the matter of the pressure a Bryn Mawr education entails. However, I am certain that in a mean between the extremes of the worthy aims and the overdone actuality of our extracurricular programs the needs of the students would be more satisfactorily met, and the result would be a college in which the students' education consists of liberal arts in the broadest sense we understand.

Opportunity Offered By Outside Activities

Continued from Page 3
 to cooperate closely with students, faculty and administration, all with varying viewpoints. It is evident, in my opinion, that Bryn Mawr succeeds in giving its students a "special offer," which should not be overlooked, much less deprecated.

Disinterest Causes Many "Headaches"

Continued from Page 3

lege is a member of the League. How many actively participate? Then why should they be considered members? They are non-participating members of an active group and thus serve no function as members.

I also think that the policy of limiting the number of hall representatives is a hindrance to the active participation of many in these groups. Many who are interested in expressing their views in certain organizations feel that if they have not been elected as their hall rep and, therefore, have no vote in the meeting, that they really should not attend the organization's weekly meetings. Too many students wrongly feel that by attending meetings, though they are announced as "open to the public", they are usurping the power of the hall rep and, therefore, do not go. This is detrimental to both the girl and the organization. If, instead, all volunteers for these positions were accepted as a group representation of their hall, I think the gain on both sides would be immeasurable.

Just one more comment. I think it is a disgrace the limited knowledge the faculty and administration have of these campus activities. These activities are a great part of one's college life and education. The number of students actively participating in these organizations is not helped by the lack of support and encouragement given them by the faculty and administration.

Dean Discusses Program's Scope

Continued from Page 3

new interests, only slow to drop old ones. The result is a constant increase in the number of activities. Do we stick to traditions for traditions only?"

In conclusion, Mrs. Marshall feels that the collective achievements of undergraduate activities are "impressive." They are "certainly worthwhile, certainly marked by determination and independence, certainly a fine way of testing skills and trying out interests. "Anyone who makes of college

'Political Ferment' Mr. Rivlin's Topic

Continued from Page 1
 is particularly true in North Africa, which has been in contact with Europe much longer than the other areas.

Bringing up the question of the U.N. and its influence in Africa, Mr. Rivlin cited the story of Somaliland. Since 1950 it has been a trust territory of Italy, which controlled it entirely before World War II. In 1960 it will become independent; this will result in tension in the area as this independence rubs off on surrounding countries. Most important, little is being done to prepare Somaliland for its independence.

Orchestra Plans Informal Concert

A group of Swarthmore students will be guest artists at the second of the informal concerts being sponsored by the Bryn Mawr-Haverford Orchestra this year. The program will be presented in the Ely Room, Wyndham, at 5, Sun., Nov. 20, with tea at 4:30. It will feature mostly woodwind and piano music, probably including works by Mozart and Persichetti.

Possibly the audience may also have a chance to hear some of the music of Peter Schickele, a Swarthmore senior, whose violin concerto is to be performed at Swarthmore Jan. 13 by the Swarthmore orchestra. He is a "very amazing" composer, according to Mr. Reese, conductor of the Swarthmore and the Bryn Mawr-Haverford orchestras.

A cordial invitation to the concert is extended to all members of the college community by Eleanor Dickerman, Orchestra president.

an ivory tower of experience, does so because of her own choice—and that is as it should be—the choice should be there."

ENGAGED
 Sophia Sonne '51 to Alexander E. Campbell.

R. Sloan Talks On Africa In Transition

Continued from Page 1

lonial systems have left their distinct mark. The British believed in developing the people towards self-government within the Commonwealth by sending the elite to study in British universities. They started from the top down. In the Belgian Congo, the Belgian government wanted a broad educational base (primary and secondary schools) in the colonies before higher education was established. Not wanting "ersatz Europeans," they did not send Africans to European universities as had the British and the French. Now that this broad base has been laid, the Congo is developing its two universities.

Harrison Advises Strict Scheduling

Continued from Page 4


means channeling your interests into activities on campus, arranging your work hours, using that hour between classes and doing studying during hours of maximum effectiveness (rather than during the wee hours of the morning), and then just taking your education in stride.

The student who doesn't care to participate in activities won't be in the least interested in this argument. But, any girl who realizes that she will get more enjoyment out of her four years of college by being part of her class can take heart in the fact that even the married students, living off campus, can find time to participate in a few activities. There is no doubt that Bryn Mawrters are taking the life out of their college by being such sticks in the mud!

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CALENDAR

Wednesday, November 16
 8:30 p.m.—Miss Bliss will address the Science Club. Dalton.

Thursday, November 17
 4:00 p.m.—Workshop by the New York Woodwind Quintet. Discussion and demonstration of woodwind instruments. Music Room.
 8:30 p.m.—Concert by the Quintet and Miss Vera Brodsky. Goodhart Hall.

Sunday, November 20
 7:30 p.m.—Chapel Service. Address by Rabbi Bertram Korn, Reform Congregation Keneseth Israel, Philadelphia. Music Room.
 5 p.m.—Informal concert by the Bryn Mawr-Haverford Orchestra. Tea will be served at 4:30. Ely Room, Wyndham.

Monday, November 21
 7:15 p.m.—Current Events. "Has Socialism Succeeded in England and Scandinavia?" A discussion by Mary Cahn and Kirsten Andresen.

Tuesday, November 22
 5:00 p.m.—Edward Wright, American Friends Service Committee Director of the Overseas Work Camp Program, will speak in the Common Room, sponsored by the Bryn Mawr League. Slides.
 8:30 p.m.—Dr. MacKinnon, former Bryn Mawr faculty member, will speak at a meeting of the Psychology Club. Common Room.

Wednesday, November 23
 Thanksgiving vacation begins after last class.

Monday, November 28
 Thanksgiving vacation ends at 9 a.m.

Tuesday, November 29
 8:30 p.m.—Patrick Gardiner, Fellow of St. Anthony's College

Mrs. Lord Of UN Will Speak Here

Within the next several weeks the League, with the cooperation of the Alliance, will sponsor two of its most prominent speakers of the year, Mrs. Mary P. Lord and Mr. L. De Geer.

Mrs. Lord, who is the United States representative on the Commission on Human Rights, a position formerly held by Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, is also a member of the United States Mission to the United Nations. Her talk, "They Know What Freedom Means," will concern her recent trip around the world and her meetings with various women political leaders. She will talk in the Deanery November 30 at 8 p. m.

Mr. De Geer, consul in the office of the Royal Consulate General of Sweden in New York, will speak on the development of social welfare legislation in Sweden. He will discuss such topics as co-operatives, social security benefits and the housing development for the aged in his country. His talk December 5 at 4:30 in the Common Room will be the first in the League's symposium on social welfare legislation and its growth in the Scandinavian countries.

Because of Thanksgiving vacation, the next issue of The College News will not be published until Wednesday, December 7.

and Visiting Professor of Philosophy at Columbia University, will speak on "Philosophy and History." Common Room.

Wednesday, November 30
 8 p.m.—Mrs. Oswald B. Lord, United States Representative on the Commission on Human Rights and a member of the United States Mission to the United Nations, will speak on "They Know What Freedom Means." The Deanery.

AT THE MOVIES

BRYN MAWR
 Nov. 16-17: *Story of Three Loves and Innocents of Paris.*
 Nov. 18-19: *Wichita and The Living Swamp.*

Nov. 20-21: *Seven Cities of Gold and The Phoenix City Story.*
 Nov. 22-23: *The Little Kidnappers and The Wizard of Oz.*

ARDMORE
 Nov. 16-19: *Gentlemen Marry Brunettes.*
 Nov. 20-23: *The Private War of Major Benson and Stranger on Horseback.*

ANTHONY WAYNE
 Nov. 16: *Ulysses.*
 Nov. 17-19: *Man Alone.*
 Nov. 20-21: *The Private War of Major Benson.*
 Nov. 22-23: *Country Girl and Lady and the Tramp.*

GREENHILL
 Nov. 16-23: *Chance Meeting.*

SUBURBAN
 Nov. 16-19: *Ulysses.*
 Nov. 20-21: *Man Alone.*
 Nov. 22-23: *The Left Hand of God.*

Lethargic Attitudes Rampant: E. Radin
 Continued from Page 3

one sum on one specific good project a semester, rather than many poor ones. Student leadership and participation in panels and debates is more interesting for a college student than is a bad speaker.

I also feel college nominees for chairmanships should realize that these positions are not given out for their prestige, but should be approached with a consideration of the qualities required for the position. Their inadequacy becomes apparent when good ideas are introduced in meetings and never

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properly carried through. Possibly a faculty advisor could help here with weeding out the extraneous proposals which take up time and detract from those which should be developed.

These are some of the difficulties involved. I am not presenting any one of them as an absolute, but feel that most exist in varying degrees in all extracurricular activities on campus.

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