

The College News

VOL. 11, NO. 10

ARDMORE and BRYN MAWR, PA., WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1954

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PRICE 20 CENTS

MacNeice-Anderson Program Combines Humor And Gravity, Poetry And Singing

By Paula Dunaway, '58

On December 2, in Goodhart, Mr. Louis MacNeice and his wife, Miss Heidi Anderson, added another distinguished program to the series of 1902 lectures. Mr. MacNeice read poetry ranging from the sixteenth to the twentieth centuries, alternating with Miss Anderson, who sang ballads of corresponding periods.

The program is perhaps best described by Mr. MacNeice's own phrase, "a patchwork with a pattern."

The first selection was a simple sixteenth century love lyric; this was followed by one of Mr. MacNeice's own poems, a somber, very modern piece entitled *Prayer Before Birth*. The contrast between the two was so great as to be almost shocking.

"Mood and Period"

Miss Anderson then sang *Dialogue of King Solomon and Two Harlots*, a seventeenth century song by John Hilton. In this, as in the rest of the songs, she conveyed perfectly both the mood and the period of the piece.

The next two poems, on the other hand, were both in a light mood. *Christina*, by MacNeice, short, light, and ironic, was followed by Robert Herrick's well-known *Corinna's Gone a-Maying*.

These two were understandably among the most popular, although Mr. MacNeice's voice and rendition seemed to me to be best suited to the more serious pieces, such as the two Irish poems, one anonymous (*Devil, Maggot and Son*, translated from the Irish by Frank O'Connor), and one of Yeats' early poems, *Song of Wandering Angus*, ending with the often-quoted lines

"The silver apples of the moon,
The golden apples of the sun."

'Winter Whirl', 'Monte Carlo', Provide Entertainment for Undergrad Weekend

"Step right up and place your bets, ladies and gentlemen!" This cry was heard from Monte Carlo, more often called Rhoads Hall, Friday night, December 3. Rhoads was the scene of an open house following the first performance of *Oedipus at Colonus*.

The front hall of Rhoads and the adjoining smokers were hung with heavy drapes and decorated with potted palms. Two appropriate flags were suspended over the front door.

At the beginning of the evening, each couple was given a stack of false \$1000 bills to use in gambling. The games included Big Six, Beat the Dealer, Birdcage, and Le-Bow.

Just before the hall closed at 1:00 a.m., a chocolate cake was auctioned off. It was to go to the one who had won the most "money" gambling; however, it was discovered that several groups had pooled their winnings, so the cake was given to John Whitaker and his four-piece band which had provided dance music all night.

The refreshment committee served punch, cookies, and coffee during the evening.

One of Miss Anderson's songs, *Johnny, I Hardly Knew Ye*, tied in with the first of these Irish poems.

Another poem I found very effective was *Bagpipe Music*, which, the author explained, was "the only poem I have ever read in America to which people have ever raised objections." (He accounted for this by the fact that it was in 1939, before a group consisting mainly of "old ladies.")

"Fun and Games"

In effect, the poem imitates the sound of bagpipes. The author warned that although it might sound like nonsense, and was in a way a piece of "fun and games," it related to the highlands of Ireland and Scotland in the period of decline during the 1930's when the fast, sophisticated city life was pushing out into the quiet country.

The second part of the program began with works of the early nineteenth century, but none of the selections were the obvious ones; the very unexpectedness of the pieces made the program an interesting one.

The opening poems in the second section were certainly not great poetry, but they were amusing and completely charming. Mr. MacNeice introduced them as "poems, or at any rate, pieces of verse."

One of these "pieces of verse," *A Letter of Advice*, which involved Medora and Araminta, two highly romantic young ladies of the Byron School, was one of the most amusing on the program, as was *Edward Lear's By Way of Preface*. The two late Victorian ballads which Miss Anderson sang, *My Mother Was a Lady and Driving in The Park*, were just as amusing, and fitted in with the first poem.

The program ended with two light songs, with words by W. H. Auden and music by Benjamin Britten.

Octangles-Zoombyes

Howard Cook and his orchestra provided excellent dance music, and during intermission the Bryn Mawr Octangle and Amherst Zoombyes performed. The Octangle repertoire included many new numbers, among which are *Small Hotel*, *Birth of the Blues*, *Let's Do It*, *Anything Goes*, and *Harry Raper's arrangement of I Let a Song Go Out of My Heart*.

The Zoombyes brought the house down with such numbers as *Joshua*, *How Come You Do Me Like You Do-Do-Do*, *Sweet Lorraine* and *Merry Christmas to You*.

Credit goes to Jean Young and her committee for arranging this delightful evening.

College Theatre, Haverford Drama Club Present W. B. Yeats' Translation of 'Oedipus at Colonus'



Liz Klupt, John Hawkins, William Packard (insert)

Pre-Xmas Plans Include Graduate Play Club Parties, Carols and Chapel Service

Christmas festivities began this year with a spontaneous party in the Math. seminar room arranged by juniors Liz Hall, Betsy Mendel, and Joan Polk on Tuesday, December 7.

The season will open more officially with the annual Christmas Carol Service this Sunday at 8:00 p.m. in Goodhart. The Reverend Andrew Mutch will read the Christmas story and carols will be presented by chorus, and the Haverford Glee Club.

CALENDAR

Wednesday, December 8

8:30 p.m. James Farmer will predict the "future of American Labor". Common Room.

10:00 p.m. "How should money collected for the United Service Fund be distributed"? Legislature members. Common Room.

Thursday, December 9

5:00 p.m. India will be the theme of the Alliance Meeting. Common Room.

8:30 p.m. Hear students discuss research they've done. Dalton.

Friday, December 10

8:30 p.m. I.C.G. square dance. Gym.

8:30 p.m. Freshman-Penn Mixer. Common Room.

Sunday, December 12

8:00 p.m. Christmas Carol Service. Goodhart.

Monday, December 13

5:00 p.m. "Will increasing deficits mean higher fees for Bryn Mawr Students?" Hear Miss McBride and express your views on costs. Common Room.

7:15 p.m. Mr. Berthoff will discuss the Watkins Committee at Current Events. Common Room.

8:15 p.m. "Current French Political Thought, Problems, and Strategy" will be the topic of Dr. Paul Ricoeur. Ely Room.

8:30 p.m. Join Eleanor Dulles of the State Department's Berlin Desk for coffee in the Deanery.

Tuesday, December 14

5:00 p.m. Learn about the temper of the times when Christ was born when Mrs. Agnes Michels speaks to Chapel Committee. Common Room.

7:30 XMAS PARTIES begin. See above.

Current Events" at the time of Christ's birth will be discussed by Mrs. Michels on Tuesday.

A series of Christmas parties that evening will begin with IRC at 7:30 at Radnor.

"Fragment of a Greek Tragedy", will be Classic Club's skit in Rhoads at 8:00. The first performance of the graduate mummies' productions is expected to be given there.

Goodies from the broken pinata will initiate East House as Spanish House between 8:00 and 8:30. Wyndham's Cercle Francais is next on the agenda followed by Russian Club at 9:30.

Wednesday evening the Maids and Porters will carol from hall to hall.

Dr. Wm. Fagg Corrects Misconceptions, Pronounces Future Of African Tribal Art

Dr. William Fagg, Assistant Keeper of the British Museum and Honorary Secretary of the Royal Anthropological Institute, spoke in Goodhart on December 6 on "The Tribal Artist in Africa".

Dr. Fagg briefly disposed of a few popular misconceptions of which he strongly disapproves.

The first of these was the theory that it was Picasso and a few of his friends who first discovered African Art about 1905. He pointed out the fact that this tribal art had been brought to Europe by explorers and travellers from the seventeenth century on, and that modern artists had merely adapted the superficial forms to their own purposes; all they really discover-

Tragedy Merits Qualified Praise, Decides Reviewer

By Helen Sagmaster, '58

The Saturday night performance of *Oedipus at Colonus* by the Bryn Mawr College Theatre and Haverford Drama Club was, in general, very well done. The few instances in which Sophocles' tragedy did not wholly succeed can be blamed on the many difficulties in acting and producing such a play.

Because of novelty of style and wide-spread unfamiliarity with the many details of Oedipus' story, it is almost impossible for an audience to "lose itself" in what is happening on stage. Some individual speeches did have this almost hypnotizing effect, but a large part of the time, the most that the cast could do was to interest and stimulate its audience.

The role of Oedipus presented a challenge to William Packard; it is not easy to portray a blind man convincingly without stumbling about the stage. For the first few minutes Packard was a little stiff, and seemed to forget that he was blind, but he improved quickly, and for the rest of the play, did an excellent job of acting. His movements were those of an old and broken man, and his voice that of a nobleman who has seen better days. His prayer to the Furies and the curse he put upon his sons were particularly well spoken.

John Pfaltz was well cast in the role of Creon, the usurping king of Thebes. His voice, his gestures, his whole manner, bespoke kingly arrogance. Throughout his time on stage he exemplified Oedipus' words, "audacity, professing the highest motives that you may deceive!" Pfaltz's portrayal was altogether one of the best of the evening.

John Hawkins as Polyneices gave another effective performance. His rather high-pitched, complaining voice and scooped posture brought out the character of a scolding, treacherous son. When he was taking leave of his sister Antigone, he became suddenly tender, and succeeded in creating a very moving scene.

Continued on Page 3, Col. 1

THE COLLEGE NEWS

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Parents' Day

Bryn Mawr's first parents day was held two years ago. Its success has stimulated a repeat performance which is scheduled for April 16.

The problem of introducing Bryn Mawr to parents in one short day boils down to the question: how much variety is possible and what should be stressed?

Of course there will be a speech with Miss McBride and a faculty tea. The third major event in 1953 was a series of department meetings. Here professors spoke of their aims in teaching a particular field, or its high spots, or students described their honors work.

Departmental meetings, or a substitute for them, are the center of question in present plans. What will interest parents who were here in 1953 and yet answer the questions of others? How can the curriculum be presented without merely repeating the catalogue?

Open classes present the problems of lack of continuity for parents or students, lack of space, and conflict in schedule. Speeches thrust the burden of planning for variety and coverage on the faculty.

In our imagination we see a debate on some current issue, a lecture on one phase of art or one historical figure.

A simple description of some current research in science, poetry reading or perhaps another look at honors work by students in the department are other possibilities.

It's very nebulous now—and rosier then it will seem later on when work on parents day will be uppermost. There is a need for considering the time and enjoyment of three groups; parents, students and faculty. We wish Weezie Simpson and her committee the best of luck.

Prance And Dance Courtesy Of I. C. G.

especially contributed by Ann Harris, '56

With a native Texan caller and a group of professional dancers to demonstrate, the forthcoming ICG square dance promises to be a great success. Herb "Tex" Prince, perhaps the most renowned caller in this region, will call.

As an added attraction ICG will have a group of expert dancers to help out novices, and to entertain in general with fancy Western style maneuvers.

The square dance will be attended by students and faculty from twelve schools in this area. By the way, Haverford, Swarthmore, and Villanova have guaranteed a supply of unattached males.

Friday evening, December 10th, is the date; 8:30 p.m.-11:30 p.m. the time. So, for the time of your life (plus 75c), show up at the hoe-down.

ENTERTAINMENT

Hedgerow

Caine Mutiny Court Martial: Dec. 9, 10, 2:30 p.m.; Dec. 11, 2:30 p.m.

Academy of Music

Bach Cycle No. 3: Fri., Dec. 10, 2:00 p.m., Sat., Dec. 11, 8:30 p.m. Pastorale "Christmas Oratorio" Brandenburg Concerto No. 5 Suite from Bach's "French Suite" Piano Concerto in A major Toccata, Intermezzo and Fugue

Arena

Ice Follies of 1955: Dec. 25-Jan. 2.

Bryn Mawr Theatre

Gone With The Wind: Wed. Thurs., Dec. 8-9. Betrayed: Fri.-Sat., Dec. 10-11.

Ardmore

Seven Brides for Seven Brothers: Wed.-Sat., Dec. 8-11.

Suburban

The Malta Story: Wed.-Sat., Dec. 8-11. The Human Jungle and The Shanghai Story: Sun.-Tues., Dec. 12-14.

Greenhill

Runaway Bus.

Letters to the Editor

Professor Submits Some Pertinent Information Concerning Religious Beliefs Of U. S. Scientists

To the Editor of the College News:

As there seems to have been considerable interest, at Bryn Mawr and elsewhere, in the religion of an atomic scientist, perhaps the students would be interested in some information about the religious beliefs of U.S. scientists in general, which was gathered in 1914 and in 1933 by James H. Leuba, Professor of Psychology at Bryn Mawr for many years.

Different Knowledge

The percentages of Believers in 1933 were lower than in 1914; it is possible that this trend has been reversed since 1933; I doubt that it has.

With regard to the order of the sciences, Professor Leuba states, "... the different kinds of knowledge possessed by these several classes of people is to be taken into account. A physicist may think it useless to pray for divine action in physical nature, for he

knows that the laws of nature rule in this sphere; but, because of his comparative ignorance of biology and psychology, he is, in those spheres, more ready to believe in God's action in response to human supplication. The moral life in particular may seem outside or beyond the determinism apparent to him in the physical world.

"Incredible Myths"

Although very probably the majority of scholars, in the humanities as well as in the sciences, believe the prevalent religions to be full of incredible myths, they usually prefer to keep silent on this subject; many believe that most people (including college students) need myths and should not be "deprived" of them; many just aren't interested; many believe that religious beliefs are epiphenomena which don't really matter; some believe that what they would have to say would have no effect anyway; and many simply lack the integrity and courage to express themselves (and this should not be blamed on McCarthy).

Sincerely yours, JOE K. ADAMS, Asst. Prof. of Psychology

Silverman Protests Against 'Speech Curtailment' In Controversial Debate At Sophomores' Meeting

To the Editor:

The issue of class meetings has long remained dormant—just as the meetings have remained passively and/or badly attended. But this is not the real problem; rather it is one of the amount of discussion encouraged or permitted on issues of concern to the class and the school.

The issue was sharply brought to light on Monday, December 6 at the sophomore class meeting. The importance of the "curtailment of speech" transcends the importance of the particular meeting. A new idea was brought up and was under discussion. Obviously, it was not in accord with the beliefs of the class body.

One might discount my contention of this "curtailment" and claim it was due only to expediency, to the lack of time for class meeting. This can easily be disproved by the fact that the class found time for, and even encouraged, the continuation of the meeting so that officers might be selected.

Of course there was a deeper issue at stake here than at the usual class meetings: the "clear and

present" danger or threat to tradition. The tradition of Bryn Mawr lies far deeper than the mere continuation of certain "rites". It is to me, instead, the tradition of inquiry, of exchange of ideas—of openness to progress through these new ideas.

I question not the majority voice and will, but rather the use of this will to silence the dissenting minority and its plea for an adequate hearing.

Ellie Silverman, '57

WBMC PROGRAM

Wed., Dec. 8 7:30-8:00 p.m. WBMC's Forum of the Air, Your Right to Say It, discusses "Purposes and Aims of Women's Education." Moderator: Ellie Silverman. Mozart: Concerto No. 10; Mozart: Concerto No. 20. Gershwin: Rhapsody in Blue played by Iturbi. Thurs., Dec. 9: Chopin: Polonaises. Beethoven: 4th Movement of the Ninth Symphony. Sun., Dec. 12: Tchaikovsky: Aurora's Wedding; Bizet: L'Arlesienne Suites. Mon., Dec. 13: Cesar Franck: Symphony in D Minor; Mendelssohn: Concerto in E Minor.

Current Events

Lang, Mellink Discuss Near Eastern Countries

Mabel L. Lang, Associate Professor of Greek, and Machteld J. Mellink, Associate Professor of Classical Archaeology, presented a combined lecture at Current Events on the situation in the Near East.

Speaking on Greece, Miss Lang pointed out that, after the war, Greece concentrated on the centralization of the government, trying to make it more efficient. Papagos, leader of the right wing, directed the cutting down of Parliament and the decreasing of electoral districts.

Manufacturing Risen

The devaluation of currency did much to put Greece on its feet economically. As a result prices are creeping up gradually; however, both exports, which are extremely important, and manufacturing have risen even more quickly.

Miss Lang showed the group a government bond that she had bought in Greece. These bonds are sold as part of a lottery system whereby the purchaser receives not only the annual interest but a chance to win \$50,000 and many other prizes. They are based on the dollar instead of the Greek money, which fluctuates more.

Much, of course, is being done to bring tourists to Greece, and this business last year went far beyond expectations. "This is good," said Miss Lang, "because when a country is as barren as Greece it needs another type of support."

Turkey-Experimental

It was not until thirty years ago that the people of Turkey started thinking in political terms, stated Miss Mellink. A person entering the country now has the feeling that everything is on rather an experimental level and wonders if it can stand the test of time.

Though Ataturk, who was the leader until the late thirties, enforced his policies in a way that was not really democratic, he took great steps toward the modernization of the country. "I have great admiration for what he did," said Miss Mellink.

After the war, the younger Turks started looking toward America for inspiration. They organized the Democratic Party in opposition to the Republican one, which had previously been the only party in existence.

This new party became extremely popular with the peasants and those people who had not been influential under the Republican rule. In the 1950 election they were swept into power and their leader, Celal Bayer, became president.

The illiteracy of the people is one of the great problems in this country, where everyone over twenty-one can vote. There is a lot of "Bronze Age" thinking, where the party in power takes credit or blame for everything that happens. And although the Democrats have been doing well so far, Miss Mellink believes "There would be a sweep the other way if there is a major calamity."

CHAPEL SPEAKER

Was the time historically ripe for the coming of a Savior when Jesus was born? The "current events" of the time will be the subject of an informal talk by Mrs. Agnes K. Michels on Tuesday, December 14, at 5:00, in the Common Room.

Her theme will be "In the fullness of time Christ was born." Mrs. Michels, Associate Professor of Latin, is currently teaching Literary History of the Bible. In the past she has taught Rise of Judaism and Early Christianity.

"Oedipus" Performance Generally Satisfactory; Novelty of Greek Chorus Presents Difficulties **Former Bryn Mawr Professor Speaks on New Lab Methods; Improving Chemical Equipment Heightens Student Interest**

Continued from Page 1

The roles of Antigone and Ismene, played by Elizabeth Klupt and Eleanor Small, were no more than adequate. The deficiencies in these female parts did not detract from the play as a whole, however. Especially at the first, both of them seemed painfully conscious that they were on a stage before an audience, though as the play proceeded, they improved.

The management of the chorus was one of the most interesting aspects of the production. The idea of giving some of the choral lines to one individual was a good one, and Catherine Rodgers, the leader, was very convincing as a knowing old busybody.

But here, more than anywhere else, the production ran afoul of the novelty of a Greek-style chorus. A present-day audience is not accustomed to a group of women commenting and questioning in unison.

The long poetry passages, beautifully translated by William Butler Yeats, were somewhat marred by the gesturing of the old women. This difficulty was quite noticeable at first, but became less and less obvious as the play continued, and the movements seemed almost natural when they spoke to the accompaniment of thunder.

William Moss did about as much as could be done with Theseus, king of Athens. As the part is written, there is very little opportunity for interpretation; he is a good and noble king, and this character Moss portrayed very satisfactorily.

Eric Koskoff, the messenger, had

the utilitarian task of describing the death of Oedipus, which he did with just the proper amount of awe. The stranger, Chris Fischer, spoke very smoothly, though she seemed in a hurry to get her words out.

Techniques Excellent

The set, designed by Elizabeth Gordon, was consistent with Greek tradition, and the applause which followed the rise of the curtain is ample proof of the audience's reaction.

Lighting and sound effects were likewise handled in a praiseworthy manner. Costumes seemed appropriate and the make-up staff did an excellent job in most instances. Oedipus, Creon, and the chorus leader were extremely well made up.

The moment of silence which preceded the applause after the curtain fell is a tribute to the quality of the performance and shows the audience's appreciation.

The advice of the director, Mrs. Dolya Goutman, went far toward making Oedipus at Colonus the success it was.

Dr. Louis F. Fieser, Sheldon Emery Professor of Organic Chemistry at Harvard University, spoke on "New Methods in the Organic Laboratory" Wednesday, December 1, in Park Hall.

Formerly Professor of Chemistry at Bryn Mawr, Dr. Fieser is the author of Experiments in Organic Chemistry and, in conjunction with his wife Mary, of Textbook of Organic Chemistry, two volumes of which are currently being used in this school.

Dr. Fieser has been engaged in developmental research, a type of research which tries to find better methods of running experiments. He has overcome many difficulties which before made it impossible for beginning students to use a great number of interesting experiments.

"They've been standard for thirty

years too long!" said Dr. Fieser of the reactions found in a typical first year organic chemistry laboratory manual. They are exercises, teaching the principles only. "No expert would ever do it that way!"

Quality and Prices

The quality of equipment with which he can work is what distinguishes the expert from the beginner. And of course the price is what makes much apparatus unobtainable.

Dr. Fieser has done much to en-

able the student to work as the professional does on a smaller scale. One stand which he devised serves as a suction tube support, test tube holder and microburner base.

One valuable improvement is that affecting the fractionating column. When "Gottschalk's" bronze kitchen sponges are stuffed into the column in place of glass beads, the fractional distillation curve obtained is much better.

If students have such a superior column and temperature control they can be asked to analyze unknowns and thus the work can be more interesting.

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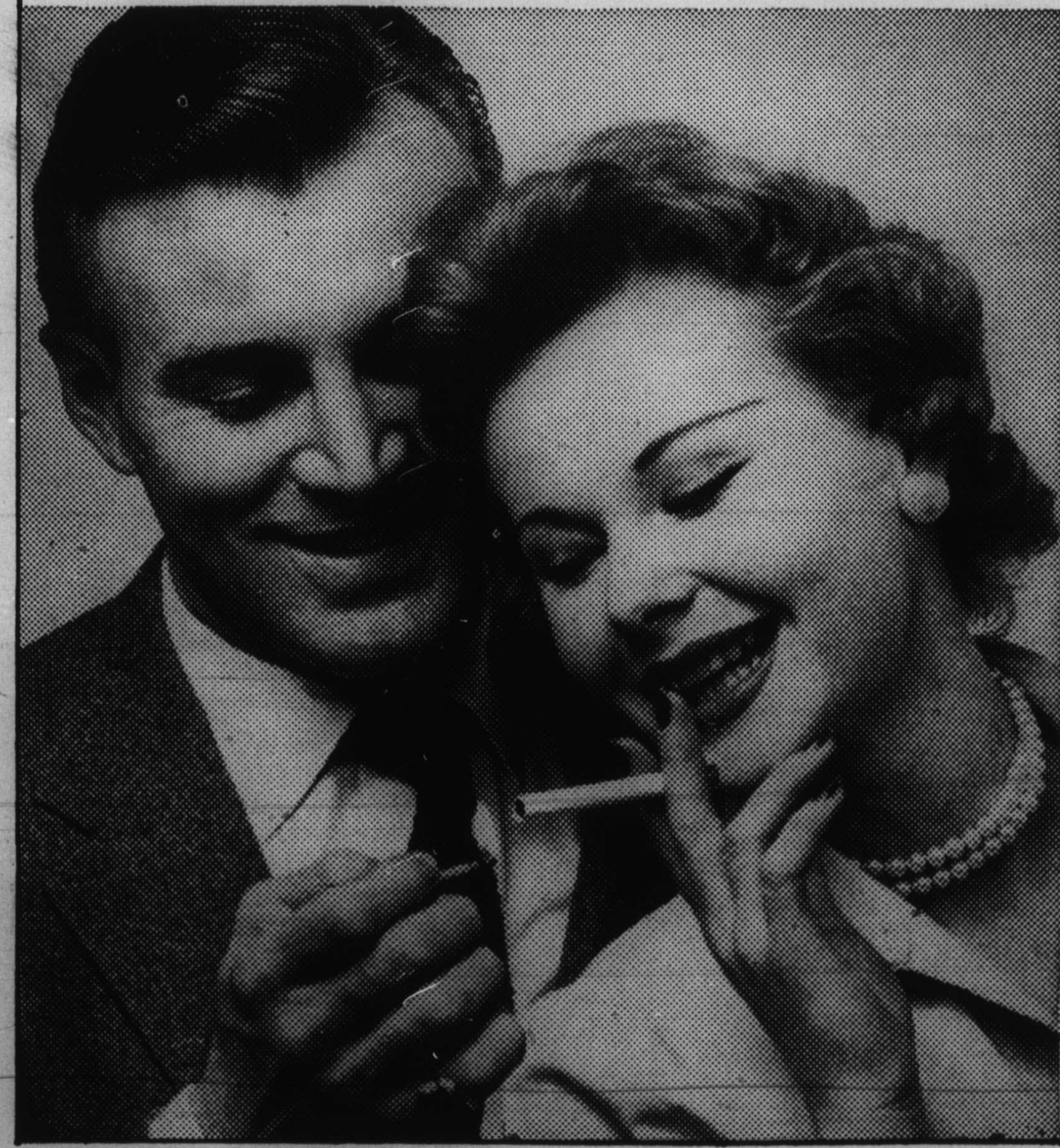
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Two Professors and Five Bryn Mawr Students Give Panel Discussion on Epistemology

Ely Room, December 1—Five Bryn Mawr students met with two professors, Joseph Kane of Rosemont and Edward Monahan of Villanova, to discuss the problem of knowledge. The panel met under Philosophy Club auspices.

Each of the professors offered a few brief remarks as to the nature and historical evolution of the problem. Mr. Kane stressed the implicit separation between sense knowledge and intellectual knowledge and traced its beginnings to the philosophies of Heraclitus and Parmenides.

Mr. Monahan posed the belief that the existence of knowledge is a fact. Since in order to know we must have knowledge of an object, the problem in epistemology is to

discover the nature of the object, and not whether or not there is one.

A great deal of the discussion was devoted to a clarification of the definitions of the terms used in the preliminary comments. Three members of the Bryn Mawr philosophy department, Messrs. Nahm, Leblanc and Ferrater Mora, also participated.

The student panel consisted of: Judianne Densen-Gerber, president of the Philosophy Club; Molly Epstein, Joyce Mitchell, Leah Shanks and Marcia Storch.

MARRIAGES

Anne Martin to Ernest Johnson, Jr.

Four Students Comment On Individual Research At Bryn Mawr, Haverford Science Club Meeting

At the first joint meeting of the Haverford and Bryn Mawr Science Clubs on Thursday, December 9, at 8:30, in Dalton, four students will talk about research they have done.

Two Haverford juniors, Jerry Inness and Bill Masland, will discuss Bone Study in the Chicken

Embryo and Transmission of Action Potential in Nerve Fibers, respectively.

Sugar and Dieting will be the topic of Mary Skinner, a Bryn Mawr freshman who worked at Jackson Memorial Laboratory.

Another Bryn Mawrtyr, Joan Smith, will speak on Cancer and Chemicals.

ENGAGEMENTS

Helen Hagopian to Blake D. Prescott, III.
Beverly Hope Singer to Dr. Murray Leon Cohen.
Isabel Waud to Richard Hurd.
Ann Lutes to Charles Johnson.
Jane Tucker Marks to George Marshall McHugh.
Joan H. Auerbach to Nicholas LeRoy King.
Gwenyth Howell Johnson to Mid'n John William Roberts.

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DEC. 20	Pittsburgh
DEC. 21	Cincinnati
DEC. 22	St. Louis
DEC. 23	Milwaukee
DEC. 27	Chicago
DEC. 28	Detroit
DEC. 29	Cleveland
DEC. 31	Fairfield
JAN. 1	New York
JAN. 3	New York (2)

Cast

Mike Hammurabi... Tom Pettus, '55
Dr. Kidna Stone... Albo Ninilley, '55
Dr. Christian Pepper... Ted James, '57
Rosetta Stone... Ron Friedrich, '55
J. Edgar Westinghouse, John Macrae, '55

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