

# BARNARD BULLETIN

VOL. XIV, No. 3.

NEW YORK, WEDNESDAY, OCT. 13, 1909.

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## 1912 CLASS PARTY.

Not satisfied with the Mysteries in which so many other classes participated, 1912 gave itself a book party Monday afternoon. Every girl who came represented some book, and the class altogether made a very interesting library. The prize for the most cleverly portrayed book was awarded to Elsa Heller, who, wearing a book on architecture and another on fashions, represented Professor Brewster's far-famed "Studies in Structure and Style." One girl, carrying the picture of some frolicking freshmen, was warmly applauded as "Wild Animals I Have Known," by Sophomores, whom sad experience had taught the truth of this statement. A picture of the Williamsburg bridge stood for "The Road to Yesterday," and Lohengrin's Wedding March was said to be "What Every Woman Knows."

All the girls did their best to uphold 1912's reputation for cleverness, and the result was most entertaining.

A very exciting peanut race was held in a novel manner. Instead of chasing across the room with the peanuts poised on the edge of a knife, they were tied to the middle of a string and two girls began at the same time chewing towards them. The winners of the different races played each other, and Harriet Hale is the class champion peanut racer. The party ended with the usual refreshments, cheering and dancing. The committee is to be congratulated on its successful debut.

Pauline Cahn, chairman; G. Greene, C. von Wahl, L. Weil, G. Segee, G. Venner.

## THE ENGLISH CLUB.

Very naturally and quietly there has been formed at college a new English Club. It can hardly be called an organization, since it is merely a group of Seniors and Juniors who meet for the purpose of reading and discussing the books and essays of the day. The club consists of eleven girls: six Seniors (Harriet Fox, Gertrude Hunter, Elizabeth Nitchie, Christella McMurray, Dorothy Kirchwey, and Elsie Plaut) and five Juniors (Katherine Gay, Evelyn Dewey, Helen Crandell, Kate Tieman, and Agnes Burke.) At an informal meeting held at Brooks Hall last Tuesday, it was decided that these gatherings take place every other Friday evening in Miss Hunter's room, at Brooks Hall, and that the main purpose of the club be the enthusiastic reading and discussion of our modern literature. No new members will be elected until next term.

The Bear will contain the official accounts of its doings, and will, from time to time, publish the papers handed in by members at the meetings.

## THE SOPHOMORE PLAY.

1912 has chosen for its Sophomore Play "The Sword of the King," by Ronald McDonald. The trials for parts were held in the theatre last Wednesday afternoon, and nearly every eligible member of the class came out for the play. Tho some of the minor parts have not been definitely decided upon, the cast, in the main, is as follows:

Sir Michael Drayton.....	P. Hoffman
Phillippa Drayton.....	Mildred Hamburger
Philip Drayton.....	S. Blumgarten
Simon Emmet.....	A. Evans
Edward Royston.....	C. Von Wahl
Lady Royston.....	Mrs. Lowther
De Rondiniaque.....	G. Borchardt
William Bentwick.....	H. Hale
Prince of Orange.....	C. Thees
Sergeant Morsehead.....	L. Mordecai
Count Schonberg.....	E. Myers
First Conspirator.....	G. Fischer
Second Conspirator.....	H. Rusk

## Y. W. C. A. MEMBERSHIP RALLY.

On Tuesday, October 5, the Y. W. C. A. held a membership rally in the theatre. Mary Bailey, '10, conducted the meeting and Miss Butler, a graduate of Barnard, spoke about the purpose of the Association. She divided its work into three divisions: Christian teaching, Christian fellowship and Christian living. The Bible and Mission study classes aim to give an opportunity to all to learn more of the Bible and of the work in the Mission fields. The social committee, with its teas and receptions, and the visiting committee, are endeavoring to bring more Christian fellowship into the college, and the Association as a whole tries to deepen the Christian life.

Helen Worrall, '10, chairman of the membership committee, spoke of the membership cards and asked those who had heard of the Association before and knew that they wished to become members, to sign them. An opportunity to join will be given later to those who did not do so on Tuesday.

## 1911 CLASS MEETING.

The first regular class meeting of 1911 was held on Tuesday, October 4th. It was devoted chiefly to a discussion of the advertising policy of the Mortarboard, and to reports of various committees. The whole class was asked to assist the Business Manager in getting advertisements and thus do away with a regular advertising agent. Laila Coston was elected sub-treasurer of the Undergraduate Association.

To the Editor of the BARNARD BULLETIN:

A great part of the social life at Barnard centres around the drama and yet how seldom, in the general discussions at college is the value of the play to the students mentioned? One hears—"That ought to make a lot of money, it was a big hit on Broadway" or "It's a star play, but what do you care; ——— can fill the role," or "I'm not going to try for a part, only the 'big girls' have a show."

What are we coming to at Barnard? Is our stage to become a miniature Broadway? Are the same stars to have the leading parts for the four years of their college career? Are we merely to produce plays because they are costume plays so that we can make enough money to pay for an extravagant junior ball?

Our Barnard theatre is slowly drifting towards professional standards without our being aware of the fact. Tendencies shape themselves so gradually that it is difficult to realize that they are tendencies when they have already become realities.

There would be no good in all this if nothing were done, but the students should have the solution of the problem in their hands.

I do not presume that my scheme for changing the dramatic program of Barnard is the only scheme, nor that it is the right one. I merely offer it as one plan among the many other better ones which I hope my letter may suggest. I think that both the sophomore and junior plays, in their present form, could be abolished. There is not enough real talent in Barnard to give more than one finished production in the year. All the dramatic seriousness of the students should be centered in the Undergraduate Play.

There is seldom enough dramatic ability in one class to give a production of the first order. I believe that, instead of using this talent in the stagey overambitious plays that we have been seeing at Barnard during the last few years, it could be used to greater advantage in original skits, such as "No-tasho," "Barnadesia" and "The Dippy-drome," or in short (one or two act) comedies which need but few rehearsals. We want to give Barnard plays, not Broadway plays.

Under the present regime, long, weary weeks are spent in rehearsing for plays whose dramatic result does not seem to me to warrant such expenditure of time. Each one of you can remember cases of girls who have broken down at the end of the year, after running or acting in their class play. We hear it frequently said that a girl cannot stand more than one big play a year.

Continued on p. 3, col. 2.

# Barnard Bulletin

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BARNARD BULLETIN,  
Barnard College, Columbia University, N. Y.  
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NEW YORK, WEDNESDAY, OCT. 13, 1909.

In answer to Dr. Braun's excellent suggestion, which was printed in last week's BULLETIN, we wish to say that already his advice has been productive, for the question of cataloging our college pictures is at present being discussed by a group of interested girls. If possible, they would like very much to edit a small pamphlet, which would contain in a few lines all the essential information about each of our reproductions. For example, in describing the Mona Lisa, it would perhaps be sufficient to name the artist, Leonardo de Vinci, to state that the original is in the Louvre, at Paris, and that our photographic reproduction hangs in the second floor corridor. In the case of this, and the other most famous paintings, it might also be very interesting to give a short extract quoting the opinion of some great art critic.

As yet this entire plan is in a very crude and indefinite condition. The money question, as usual, forms the chief stumbling block, and it is rather doubtful whether the combined interest of alumnae and undergraduates would pay the necessary expenses.

It is the hope of the BULLETIN, however, that the Undergraduate Association will take up this matter, and, by authorizing a committee to handle the scheme either as here suggested, or in some more feasible way, will secure for all of us the many advantages which the publication of such a catalog would surely bring with it.

To the Editor of the BULLETIN:

Dear Madam:—In answer to the rather scathing letter regarding the "Mysteries," printed in your last issue, we would say a word to justify the state of affairs on Friday the 1st.

There was nothing in the whole plan of the "Mysteries" as presented to and approved by Student Council which warranted the deprecatory remarks from "an Upper Classman." The fact that the 1912 "Mysteries" were a little more original than formerly does not prove that the "limit" has been reached, but rather that the task of "reformation" has begun. This year's "Mysteries" were worked out upon a much more systematic plan, calculated to insure order and prevent roughness. The evident and much regretted "rough-house" was due entirely to two causes—the unruly and too violent conduct of the Freshman class, and the encouragement they received through the presence and shouts of the Junior class. Let it be remembered that by law of Student Council the Juniors are supposedly forbidden to take any part in the "Mysteries" whatsoever.

It is not "the sort of entertainment offered," that would be more appropriate in a boys' preparatory school than in a girls' college, but the schoolish spirit with which it was taken. By this we do not mean unduly to rebuke the Freshman class, but to suggest the cause of the criticized disturbance. 1912 considers the remarks of "an Upper Classman" a personal insult to its dignity and reputation. 1912.

## BULLETIN NOTICE

Several alumnae subscribers have not sent back signed subscription blanks, signifying their intention to subscribe to the Bear, the BULLETIN, or to both publications at the reduced rates. This issue of the BULLETIN will be sent to all former subscribers, and any who want to renew their subscription and have not yet done so, will be simplifying matters greatly if they will notify the Business Manager of the BULLETIN at once.

In case the blanks have not reached them, the rates are quoted below:

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\$1.00 for the Bear.

During the week copies of the BULLETIN will be for sale in the Exchange, so that non-subscribers can buy any copies in which they are specially interested.

To the Editor of the BARNARD BULLETIN:

One of the most valuable phases of college experience, I have always thought, is the business and executive training a student gets in the management of various organizations, committees and publications. The knowledge of the Parliamentary Rules which should govern meetings, and the tactful and commonsense application of them, so as to get business expeditiously despatched before the assemblage melts away towards the lunchroom; the compilation of clear and really informing minutes; the effective grappling with the strange hieroglyphics involved in proof-reading; the achievement of supplying attractive refreshments to seventy-five people for not more than \$2.15, or thereabouts:—all these problems give a girl training which is highly useful later on in business, professional or philanthropic work, or domestic affairs.

So far as I have observed, college women are much better trained in such matters, more businesslike and pleasanter to work with, than most other women; and I have always had great respect for the sensible and good-natured way in which Barnard meetings, as I have known them, have been conducted. But I think that even in these academic circles there is vast room for improvement. In carrying on alumnae work I have frequently yearned for prompt and more efficient despatch of business. Some of our graduates have heard alumnae Presidents lament that it took months to appoint a committee, because girls to whom they offered positions delayed for weeks in answering their letters. No one is undergraduates infallible. Some time since I met an alumna who was protesting because a letter of inquiry addressed to the Secretary of one of the most important college organizations had elicited no response whatsoever.

We shall all be fallible always, of course; but I think we can improve our present standard. Much of the trouble arises from our accepting more positions than we really have time for, and then contenting ourselves with slipshod methods of carrying on the work. Consciously allowing ourselves to do anything in a slipshod way is always more or less demoralizing. Limit the number of your activities, therefore. Undertake only those tasks which you can really handle, and vow that you will perform them in a thoroughly first rate, businesslike way. For example, if you are a presiding officer, study the conduct of meetings. If you are a treasurer, or have to submit any financial statement, inquire enough about book-keeping to make your accounts correct in form and comprehensible. If you are entrusted with the proof-reading of any paper, magazine, or programme, resolve that, in spite of the worst the printer can do, that sheet, if human effort can achieve it, shall be correct to the most insignificant comma. Above all, try to make arrangements to receive your mail promptly, always answer every

and answer it at once. His little sermon sounds like a cross between a counsel of perfection and a repetition of trite rules that everybody knows. If we followed them more closely than we do, we should enable the world to get considerably more work accomplished, and should spare our friends much vexation of spirit.

VIRGINIA C. GILDERSLEEVE.

To the Editor of the BULLETIN:

As evinced by the letter in last week's issue, there seems to be a good deal of discussion in college as to the continuation of the Mysteries in their present form, or as to their abolition altogether. It seems to me that as Mysteries they have outlived their significance. No one who has undergone the ordeal in the last three years has seen any thing akin to "mystery" in the hoodlum "rites" and practices observed, and it may not be generally known that the real basis of the name and ceremony has completely disappeared. When the Mysteries were organized some years ago, it was for the purpose of transmitting to the Freshman class a mysterious book kept each year to preserve sacred and inviolate jokes or puns perpetrated at the expense of the Faculty. This book was solemnly given over to the incoming class by the and whatever went into its ~~cept as a state secret.~~

this seems trivial to us, but if origin of the matter.

be nothing sacred or awe-inspiring. How can Freshmen respect Sophomores who are not their equal in pugilism? Why do we imitate so feebly our Columbia friends? There is a large sized fence on the campus, and it would have been infinitely better for health and spirits if the classes had stormed that, instead of forcing macaroni into unwilling mouths. We were not born to haze, so why attempt to do it? Of course, people may object that the Mysteries is a means of unifying the Freshman class, and that the opposition between Freshmen and Sophomores is natural. It most certainly is a natural feeling, so why, if it is there, are unnatural means used to foster it? Could not some more serious and dignified form of rivalry be found? Let us keep the oaths, the solemnity, and the hair-raising voice in the dark hall,—but, for the sake of the lunch-room floor, let us do away with the hard-boiled eggs and the Italian spaghetti.

AN ONLOOKER.

NOTICE.

The use of flash-lights for any purpose whatever in the buildings of Barnard College is forbidden except in the presence and under the supervision of a professional photographer.

By order of W. T. BREWSTER,  
Acting Dean.

Continued from p. 1, col. 3.

There seem to me but two objects in giving class plays: first, to give the class a general good time, and second, to raise money. I am omitting the educational value, because I think it is so slight that it can be ignored.

The present kind of class plays does produce a good time for a small part of the class but the cast is usually so small, and the effort to make the play really professional so great, that the chairman has little time to get the majority vitally interested. Original plays and short comedies, given frequently, perhaps four times a year, will bring out more girls. The girl who is seriously interested in college might not object to one week of rehearsals, where she certainly makes a stand against spending four afternoons a week for five to six weeks to rehearse the present type of class play. When you come to think of it, what better motive can there be for giving a class play than the general good times it will bring to the class? The kind of plays I suggest, because of their elastic quality, because of their large casts, and because of the few rehearsals necessary, will arouse in every class a wholesome social spirit. We might not be uplifting the dramatic stage, but as far as I can judge Barnard has not done very much on that direction thus far.

One of the main reasons for giving elaborate class plays is that money must be raised. I admit that with skits and plays arranged in a short time, it cannot be expected that the pecuniary returns will be great. But isn't that a pretty low motive for giving a play, anyway? We must remember we are living in an economic world it is true—but can we not pretend, at least for the four years we are in college that there are things better than a large treasury? Aren't we getting very extravagant when we think that a dance cannot be given properly unless hundreds of dollars are spent and the best ball rooms are hired? The kind of plays the classes are producing are given so that we can have the expensive dances. Ought not there be a better reason for giving plays than this?

All that I have been saying sounds very

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crude. I have probably been extreme in many of my statements. I hope you will pardon me where I have erred.— If my letter succeeds in arousing some interest and thought on this very important phase of our college life, I will feel that it has accomplished a great deal.

Sincerely,

RADICAL.

CAPS AND GOWNS.

Great was the excitement about a year ago, when the senior class decided that there was not enough "senior precedence" in Barnard, and that if seniors were given the exclusive right to wear caps and gowns, it would remedy the matter to some extent. There was quite a little opposition from the other classes, but the seniors and some far-sighted juniors were firm, and the rule was passed by the Undergraduate Association. But alas for the good intentions of 1909! The present senior class seems woefully unimpressed with the importance of senior precedence, for the majority of the class never dons cap and gown unless forcefully compelled to by a few members who feel the grave importance of this matter. Various explanations come to mind in accounting for this peculiar state of affairs. It may be due to the fact that the seniors do not feel that they need this to distinguish them from the rest of the college; that they prefer dignity unadorned. Then again the fall styles are here, and even seniors are human and why should one conceal one's "light under a bushel?" There is still another reason that may influence 1910 somewhat—they may dislike to make the other classes feel their insignificance and utter unimportance, fearing to hurt their feelings. We are inclined to think that the law of diminishing returns is operating here, but nevertheless 1910 may well remember that this is the last year this privilege will be theirs and caps and gowns are very becoming to any style of beauty.

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**1913 CLASS NEWS.**

1913 held another class meeting on Monday, Oct. 4. It was a very noisy and unruly half hour (ye scribe is mildly surprised) but then, some of the business was completed, so it may be regarded as successful. Miss Marley was elected chairman of the Decoration Committee and Miss Lockwood chairman of the Constitution Committee. Most of 1903 decided that they would like to have 1909's redoubtable bulldog for their mascot—not the long suffering and long deceased "Bob," but one like him. The rest were so dissatisfied with the result of the ballot that they declared it invalid and moved to vote again. By this time the meeting had become so heated that it was not safe to broach the class color and flower question, so it was moved to adjourn.

**ATHLETIC NEWS.**

A special meeting of the Athletic Association was held on Friday, October Eighth, at twelve o'clock, with the new president, Ethel Leveridge, 1911, in the chair.

The reports of the secretary and of the treasurer for last and this year were read and accepted. The chairman of the tennis committee reported that preparations were being made for a fall tournament. The chairmen of several committees were elected: swimming committee, Phoebe Hoffman; baseball, Hazel Woodhull; bowling, Miss Fleischman; hockey, Vera Fueslein. The elections were all unanimous, and the girls seemed to show very little interest in the meeting.

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After the Athletic Association meeting the basketball team of 1911 had a meeting to elect a captain for the year 1909-1910. Lillian Schoedler was chosen by a vote of five to three against Elsie Gleason.

**1910 CLASS MEETING.**

The first special class-meeting of 1910 was held Wednesday, Oct. 6. After the reports of the secretary, treasurer and the chairmen of the entertainment and song committees were heard, the class voted to enroll the following new members: Miss Ritch, Miss Russell, Miss Tiffany and Miss Bishop. Miss Fleming was then elected sub-treasurer of the Undergraduate Association and Miss Nammack, song and cheer-leader. The election of the chairman and member of the Undergraduate Play Committee will take place at a special meeting to be held Wednesday, Oct. 13, at noon. Owing to the change in the day set aside for chapel service, the class voted to amend the constitution so that class meetings should come the first Wednesday of every month, instead of Thursday. It was decided that the regular weekly Senior Teas be held every Tuesday afternoon. An entertainment will be given by the Seniors to the Sophomores on Monday, October 18.

**1912 CLASS MEETING.**

1912 held its first regular class meeting on Wednesday, Oct. 6th. Nina Dakin, chairman of the Sophomore Show Committee, resigned her position because she was carrying too many points according to the new point system. Hazel Bristol, who had already done very efficient work on the committee, was elected in Miss Dakin's place and the latter was given a place on the committee. Bertha Junghans was elected sub-treasurer of the Undergraduate Association and Mildred Hamburger class representative for the Undergraduate Play Committee. It was voted to have an associate member of the class, who, without taking any course of study at Barnard, would be a good friend and take a lively interest in 1912. Susan Leerburger, ex-1912, was unanimously chosen, as best able in every way to fill this position. The rest of the business was put off for a special meeting, which is to be called next week.

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