

# BARNARD BULLETIN

VOL. XIV, No. 1.

NEW YORK, WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 29, 1909.

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## THE RECEPTION OF THE Y. W. C. A.

According to the usual custom last Friday afternoon each Freshman was escorted by a member of the Association to the Y. W. C. A. reception at Earl Hall. The guests were received by Mrs. Merritt, Mary Bailey '10, and Louise Allen '11. After being presented by Miss Allen with cards for the summer party they were led by their escorts to the various social and educational groups. During the afternoon conversations about subjects interesting to Freshmen they dealt with the various college organizations. The presidents of the different societies were asked to speak themselves in order to give the Freshmen an idea of the character of each club. Among the societies represented were the French and German clubs, the Equal Suffrage League, the Student Government Association, the Church Club, The Bulletin, the Y. W. C. A., the Mortarboard, and the various fraternities. In the evening there was an excellent dancing program.

After the dancing program...

## 1911

The class of 1911, to use a phrase especially characteristic and applicable, "blew" into college last week in noisy crowds and troops and with all flags flying; ready as usual for a good hard year of academic work, including plays, dances, teas and all the general social explosions which college girls affect. In spite of the busy season of 1911, (in which at least) the members of this class have spent their summer in many diverse lands and ways. One, for instance, is sojourning ever now in the Hawaiian Islands, some have condescended to come down from the sunny summits of intellectualism to the "helping mother." But whatever they have done or left undone, they are all glad to get back. The feeling is natural, and though hard to explain still true. Whenever September comes around the girls are glad and willing to lay aside their summer clothes and come back to college with their usual school frocks and greetings to their friends.

## THE SILVER BAY CONFERENCE.

Take six or seven hundred girls, all about the same age, and all interested in about the same things. Put them all together in the midst of the most romantically beautiful scenery you can imagine. Mix in a few hills to climb, a lake to row on and bathe in, a basket ball field and some tennis courts. What a wonderful place for ice cream cones.

This is a recipe for a perfect good time recommended by the twenty-six Barnard delegates to the Y. W. C. A. Student Conference at Silver Bay, Lake George, this summer. In every possible way we found the convention a great success.

In the first place we certainly did have fun! We walked through the "wilderness" we rowed on the beautiful blue lake, one day we all went up to Plouffe's and saw the ruins of the old fort and of the queer old battlements that had just been raised from the bottom of Lake Champlain where it had lain for centuries. On College Day, on which we were represented by the Y. W. C. A....

class of 1911... Members next year... its methods. They... of the old... several... both... a piece entitled "The... The Association will... still... them in... '05, accompanied... son, '11... songs. After... Under... words... fined the... all-round... goods... Dancing... program, which... excellent idea of... life at Barnard.

...at least... Freshmen feel a trifle... they have been shown the... of college life in the way of... the elevator. Some... for the Freshmen is to take place, but it has not been definitely decided as yet.

The play committee, composed of Madeline White, Mary Pothemus, Vera Fuchs, Stella Block, Jeanette... is working on the... play... for which will... of October. The committee has... of coach Miss Florence Gerrish, who staged so successfully their production of the "Little Minister."

## 1909'S PARTY TO ITS SISTERS.

On Wednesday evening, September 22, after the evening exercises at Columbia, the class of 1909 gave a party to their grown-up sisters, 1911, and their new sisters, 1913. The 1911 and 1913 girls were much in evidence, and had a beautiful time dancing together in the theatre and eating the lemonade and cake provided by 1909. The hostesses were very popular and were so surrounded by 1911 that they could scarcely be seen. Adelaide Richardson, Blanche Samek, Julia Goldberg and Eleanor Gay were dispensing lemonade and cake at the senior steps in the Cloister; and in the hall the Smithers, Eva von Baur,

...of us... was the... And a... hoarseness... when a... and our...

...of... and... Study... F. J....

...speakers, among whom were... New York; the Right Reverend... A. C. Hall, Bishop of Vermont; and... McDowell of Chicago.

One of the very finest things about the convention was the opportunity of meeting "other people." Girls from Japan, from China, from... And as there is absolutely no... Silver Bay, it was very easy to... acquainted." And "getting acquainted" is not only a very pleasant process...

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# Barnard Bulletin

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BARNARD BULLETIN,  
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NEW YORK, WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 29, 1909.

"We don't have to listen to you," said several 1913 girls at the Y. W. C. A. reception, "we subscribed to the BULLETIN this morning, and that's all that's necessary to show our interest." This is indeed a very practical proof, but we want very much to have not only the Freshmen but also the other students realize that they can help the BULLETIN this year in still another way. You are all specially interested in some institution or custom at Barnard,—most of you have very decided opinions about the various ways they are managed. Surely many of these views are justifiable, and THE BULLETIN wishes to give the entire college an opportunity to hear public opinion as expressed in individual judgments. So write your ideas to THE BULLETIN, instead of keeping them all as confidences for your friends,—criticize, whether it be to blame or to praise. If modesty makes you hesitate about signing your name, be comforted by the fact that the editors have decided to print these contributions anonymously, on condition that only the editor shall know

the concealed authoresses, and please remember that by expressing your opinion and firmly upholding the stand you adopt you may be the means of curing a long-established evil, and you surely will be helping to arouse and interest all the readers of THE BULLETIN.

To the Editor of the BARNARD BULLETIN:  
Dear Madam—It is with much pleasure that I reply to your invitation to write a letter to the Opening Number of the BARNARD BULLETIN, on some topic of interest to the students of Barnard College. I suppose the great question that is agitating all of us, instructors even as well as students, is what may be done to make this year a successful one? That question I, personally, find some difficulty in answering, and even greater difficulty in answering it for any college student, since I have never been an undergraduate in a woman's college, and consequently do not know just how undergraduates feel; but, in the words of Portia, I am not yet so old but I may learn.

The great secret of success in college life would seem to me to lie in not attempting to make it vastly different from any kind of life. That "college life" is something peculiar, rare, curious, remote, choice, esoteric, and that students in coming to college are doing something peculiarly wonderful, are instances of a sentimentality that it sometimes takes four years to be rid of, but this feeling is fortunately, I think, not very current among us. As a matter of fact, the more nearly college life conforms, ethically at least, to the better standards of any society, the more successful it will be. A temperate concern for health, an interest for ideas in general and an enthusiasm for particular things, constant consideration for the rights of ones neighbors, are the things which make college life, like any life, successful.

The chief advantage then that college life has over other forms of existence is that it affords practically four years of more opportunity than most people have for the cultivation of various virtues under conditions so systemized that they may be productive of the highest result. The peculiar value of the liberal education lies, if anywhere, in the cultivation of interest and enthusiasm for intellectual things, whether literary or scientific, in the attainment of just standards, and in the solid basis of friendship which these interests and enthusiasms may properly afford.

Since that is the case, I am inclined to think that a number of you, like students in other colleges, do not fully realize the opportunity. Too many of you are studying somewhat too frantically "to make the points," unconcerned as to the way in which you make them. A general rivalry among students and a desire to do better than one's neighbor in intellectual work, as in athletics, is an admirable feeling to

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possess and often leads to excellence of far more lasting quality than elsewhere. Rivalry in scholarship is certainly a far higher motive for work than the wish to make a large number of points, but, after all, the thing which is going to be most valuable, is not the beating of some other student in a spirited intellectual competition, but the development of an interest in the affairs of the mind that will be lifelong. Friendly competition may engender this, but it is very doubtful if point-hunting and mark-hunting ever will.

The evil of point-hunting is partly logical and partly material. The practice assumes, in the first place, that when a definite number of points are required some definite progress is made toward a momentous end, whereas only a certain number of steps have been taken toward the attainment of an A. B., which should be the symbol of mental power, not of mechanical motion. Hence students occasionally come to regard each step as a sufficient end in itself and unrelated to other steps, so long as the whole number figures to a correct total. In a natural but unwise eagerness to take as many steps as rapidly as possible, to cover ground, in short, students may fall into the error of over-tasking themselves to no worthy end. That is the mechanical evil of point-hunting. Whereas the fact is that the intellectual life knows few tasks definitively done; there is no interest, properly followed out, that fails to lead to more interest and newer fields. Not unless you regard study in the light of an exact test, set each day by a task-master, rather than as the pursuit of truth stimulated by a teacher, can you clear up your intellectual desk each day. On the contrary, all that you can really hope for is to do as much each day as your physical and intellectual power permits you to do,—six, seven, eight, at most ten hours of work,—regularly.

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Wer Ist's?—1909.

Continued from p. 2, col. 3  
steadily, and persistently, without hope of definite accomplishment. That is a consideration that should show the true significance of the life you are engaged in. The assembling of a large number of students in one building, while it gives abundant opportunity for association, nevertheless, at the same time, demands unusual consideration on the part of each student for the communal rights. The larger the body in a community and the more orderly and public-spirited it is inclined to be, the more any one unruly or selfish member can disturb the peace of her neighbors. That is another consideration which I would have you all bear in mind if you wish to make the year a successful one.

I am, with kindest wishes to all Barnard students, for a successful year.

Very truly yours,

W. T. BREWSTER.

Acting Dean.

1912

When 1912 issued forth, last June, from the doors of its newly acquired Alma Mater, it felt that a serious task lay before it. In four short summer months it was to change from the proverbially green freshman class (tho' 1912 finds it hard to believe that it ever was really green) to the most wonderful, awe inspiring, tyrannical, brilliant and altogether perfect group of sophomores that ever graced the halls of Barnard. Not that 1912 thought it would be a difficult task, all dear no! It simply felt the responsibility of its changing state and was serious.

The "Mysteries" committee began discussing blood-curdling plans long before college closed for the summer. By the end of June, its chairman (Maude Brennan) had grown thin, an dits members sleepless and hollow-eyed, so long had they brooded on blood and thunder. The summer succeeded in quieting their nerves and also in producing a set of plans calculated to inspire the incoming "freshies" with a proper spirit of awe and reverence for their "intellectual superiors."

As for the Sophomore play committee, that thought and talked and planned most energetically until the 25th of June. After heated discussions "Jeanne D'Arc" and "Ben Hur," (with its famous chariot race), were given up as impracticable because of the size of the Barnard stage. It seemed difficult to find a play suited both to the greatness of 1912's genius and the smallness of that stage—until June 25th, and the final marks came. The soph. play was not spoken of, nor the committee heard of, for some

weeks thereafter. Now 1912 is thinking of some modest little play resembling a dialogue!

1912, individually, has been scattered well over the globe this summer. Some sophomores (to be) went abroad; one spent her time in California; several roamed among the White Mts. and the Catskills and still others dotted the Maine and Massachusetts coasts. A goodly number of energetic ones were so loathe to leave seats of learning, that they took courses in the summer school, and one girl (Florence Rees) capped the climax by traveling about Labrador all summer. What other class, I should like to know, can boast of a representative in Labrador? You see 1912's spirit will never rest until it has reached the highest in everything; so, if you watch out, you may read, some day, of a 1912-er beating Cook and Peary all to nothing—by placidly sitting for a whole month at the very tip top of the North Pole!

BULLETIN BOARD MEETING

At a special meeting of the BULLETIN Board, held last week, it was decided to postpone the election of the three 1912 editors until the first regular meeting in October. As some of you may remember, the basis of the competition for elections is a letter written to the BULLETIN, entitled "What I Think of It." The election was postponed so that more of the 1912 girls could hand in their letters. It is strongly advised that girls who wrote letters for this competition last Spring, will write others, instead of trusting to the merits of their former ones, and all the Sophomores are urged to hand their letters in before October 18.

Continued from p. 1, col. 3

but it leads inevitably to a widened social outlook.

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were absolutely crammed with enjoyable minutes. It would be no use to try to tell you any more about them for one could write and write and still "the half would not be told." We just want to say very emphatically "Go and see for yourself."

Continued from p. 1, col. 2

Florence Gerrish and Florence Wyeth were making 1913 feel at home. Everyone was delighted to see the newest grads, who enjoyed their first reunion almost as much as the rest did.

To the Editor of the BULLETIN:

There is a group of girls down town which can make very good use of clothes which are not worth saving for next summer. I am sure that many of the Barnard girls have such clothes, which they want to give away. The great trouble is that many of us do not know just what to do with such things.

Most of the girls wearing such clothes make this appearance because of their position by the magazines. Many of them are very poor. Few of them have good shoes or coats for the winter. They are girls pretty much the same as you Barnard people.

If you have any wearing apparel which you think will be appropriate for these girls, will you kindly drop me a postal to that effect and I shall be very pleased to send some one for it.

Sincerely,

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1910

The class of 1910 has spent its vacation profitably, for besides having a good time the girls have been getting rested for the coming year and have been trying to acquire senior dignity. The class was well represented at the Student Conference at Silver Bay in June by a delegation of thirteen, consisting of Helen Crossman, Elise Eddy, Mildred Downs, Vora Jaques, Gertrude Hunter, Christella MacMurray, Dorothea Mahon, Naarnie Maison, Florence Read, Florence Ross, Hazel Wayt, Alma Wiesner, and Helen Worrall. They have given glowing accounts of their stay there.

Some of the members of the class taught in the vacation schools of New York City and we feel quite sure that they did credit to Barnard and to the principles of teaching acquired in Ed. A.

Following the precedent established last year, a class "round robin" was started in July and to judge from its enthusiastic welcome by the girls we are certain it was a success, altho perhaps not from a literary standpoint. The class was divided into sections and a "round robin" was started by one girl in each group. After all the letters had finished their circuits in their respective groups, they were exchanged and read by others.

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**IN MEMORIAM.**

Edna E. Frank (Mrs. Harry C. Michaels) Barnard, '06, died at her home 151 Central Park West, on September 11, 1909, in her 24th year.

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Continued from col. 1

Three members of the class, Elsie Plaut, Mary Nammack and May Herrmann, have been abroad all summer. 1910's senior president spent the summer in Maine, thereby showing remarkable foresight for there's nothing like Maine air to brace one up for such a great ordeal as piloting a senior class safely thru the last year at college.

Some suspects in the engaged line have been discovered the details of which we will not divulge for what would a senior class be without these mysterious rumors?

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