

# BARNARD BULLETIN

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## SENIOR MINSTREL SHOW.

Friday afternoon the Seniors took their turn at entertaining the Freshmen and every Freshie had to confess that this entertainment was by far the best they have seen in Barnard. The Barnard stage can boast of having had many kinds of shows performed on its creaking boards, but, since many a year it has not supported so clever a minstrel show. The minstrels were twenty of the blackest and queerest looking darkies, that ever strummed on mandolins and guitars. Never before have blondé or white handed coons given such a unique performance.

These minstrels first sang the well known song which teaches the spelling of the college name and as each letter was sung a girl dressed in white or blue appeared till the whole word B-A-R-N-A-R-D was artistically spelt out. The song of the classes was now sung and acted by a charming little girl, a frisky hockey player, a stunning ball debutant and a student in cap and gown, who though at first very grave and solemn, suddenly became so athletic that she fairly took one's breath away. Between the songs, the minstrels passed their time in asking each other conundrums such as "Why are Freshman classes like hemlocks? Because they are evergreen. Why is Dr. Knapp like an old fashioned doctor? Because he won't let his subject die. (Wild applause from the balcony.) Why is the chemistry department poetical? Because a Reimer is at the head of it. Why shouldn't Freshmen take zoölogy? Because it teaches them to cut up.

One of the minstrels at the request of her fellowmen, sang an account of a christening she had lately witnessed.—Unfortunately the child could not have lived very long, for this was his name:

George, Haskell, Meyer, Boyd, Montague, Points, Cole, Brown, Liggett, Gildersleeve, Weeks, Billy—bless his soul; Craig, Muller, Shotwell, Knapp, Caldwell, Kasner, William Krathwolh, Allen Porterfield, Algernon Tassen Snow.

"Comrades, confé, our ranks are forming" was very effectively sung and acted by four couples, dressed to represent the various sports—riding, tennis, golf, football. "The B's for Barnard with her banners Blue" was acted by seven girls, each dressed to suit her letter.

Another minstrel sang a song about "The same old story" which is repeated every year. One verse in particular seemed to appeal to the audience.

He told her the old old story  
He told her the old old story  
"Make an F and two D's  
"Take a back seat if you please"  
He told her the same old story.

Continued on p. 4, col. 1.

## ANOTHER POINT OF VIEW.

To the Editor of the BULLETIN:

Dear Madam: To tell the truth, I have for some time been diffident about expressing my views on the merits and shortcomings of the BULLETIN, for the simple reason that I have not been able to think up enough uncomplimentary things to say; that is, that I could say honestly, of course. (This may seem an absurd statement to make, but surely everyone realizes how uncomfortable it is to feel oneself out of style. Indeed, the concensus of popular opinion has been so vigorous in its branding of the BULLETIN as "dull" and "dead" and "uninteresting" that I even had a discouraging presentiment that the editors themselves might think me an unbalanced individual, if I ventured to dissent from this decision. However, I think that I have at last managed to screw my courage to the sticking point, and shall forthwith make the plunge.

The first startling statement that I have to make is that I was actually guilty of enjoying the BULLETIN from week to week during the whole of last year. I found the accounts of the less serious college doings vivaciously and (I tremble to say it) wittily portrayed in an accurate and instructive manner. Those entertainments in which it was not my good fortune to participate, I was thus enabled to enjoy, and at the same time I became properly informed of current local happenings. Barnard needs just such a journal to keep every one and every department in touch and sympathy with every one else. The founders of the paper gave expression to their recognition of this part in the very name they gave to their weekly, and surely the BULLETIN, representative of so much hard work and unsparred time, would not have survived all these years if it were not answering some real need in college. Would it be answering this need, if it consented to fill up its columns with comic stories and humorous tales, as some of its maligners seem to wish?

On the contrary, if there is to be any space to spare, I, for one, should much prefer to see it devoted to some thoughtful suggestions, for public improvement is surely the province, and even the duty of every such publication. The BULLETIN, in my opinion (which seems to be growing quite self-confident), has no need or right to seek for other realms to explore, until it has put itself above criticism in the spheres where it is so obviously needed. By this I do not mean to say that the BULLETIN is not at present doing anything towards the elevation of the tastes and habits and morals of the Barnard student, but I do think that it might afford to be even a little more conscientious about providing a fair supply of helpful suggestions in every issue. We girls

Continued on p. 3, col. 1.

## ALUMNAE MEETING.

To most of the undergraduates the Alumnae Association seems a very inactive body, but that impression was entirely dispelled in the minds of those who attended the annual meeting of that association last Saturday. Our student organization certainly have many lessons to learn from the Barnard graduates in the expeditious accomplishment of a great deal of business.

A most important announcement was made by Mrs. Alice Duer Miller, who told of the new Graduate Employment Bureau which is shortly to be organized. Mrs. Miller believes that certain employees would be anxious to engage Barnard graduates if they knew where to reach them. Should this bureau be established, a card catalogue will be kept with the names of applicants and possible employees. The Alumnae as a whole seemed to consider the scheme a very excellent one.

Another important activity, of which most of the students know little, is the Student Aid Committee. This committee has made thirteen loans this winter to needy students. These loans are generally paid back within four years after graduation. The chairman, Miss Madeline Parsons, announced that more than \$1,000 had been netted last year at the benefit performance of "An Englishman's Home."

The Finance Committee reported a large balance in its treasury but it lamented the fact that out of 615 regular members, only 251 had paid their dues. The chairman announced that the interest on the \$3,000, the permanent dormitory fund, is being used to buy duplicate books for the library.

The president, Mrs. Madeline Heroy Woodward, spoke about an offer that had been made last spring to Miss King, of Brown University, to be Dean of Barnard, which Miss King refused. Mrs. Woodward said that a number of alumnae had suggested other possible names, but that the trustees were in no hurry to decide this important question.

The new business of the meeting consisted of the election of officers. Mrs. George Endicott (Elinor Reilly, '00) was elected vice-president; Elizabeth Thompson, recording secretary; Mrs. Harrington was elected director.

After the meeting the alumnae were attacked by groups of energetic undergraduates who were trying to sell tickets for the class plays and getting subscriptions for the college papers.

## BROOKS HALL NEWS.

The regular Brooks Hall Teas will begin on Thursday, November 4, and will be held in The Students' Parlor. All undergraduates are cordially invited to attend.

MABEL FOOTE WEEKS.

# Barnard Bulletin

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of Barnard College

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BARNARD BULLETIN,  
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NEW YORK, WEDNESDAY, NOV. 3, 1909.

In the earlier stages of the development of our colleges the personal influence and contact of the members of the faculty did much toward giving the students right ideas of the aims and opportunities of their life at college. With the increase in the number of students, this influence towards higher ideals and this feeling of responsibility for character development has necessarily been laid aside by the instructors and has not yet been assumed by the public sentiment of the student body.

After the mid-year examination period every year we hear that a large proportion of the freshman class has failed in at least one subject, and often in more than one, and the upperclassmen shrug their shoulders and say, "Well, I suppose that's to be expected—we had to learn by experience when we were freshmen." Is this, however, the attitude which should be taken by the undergraduates in such an important matter? Do not many of us know of cases

of girls forced to leave college on account of deficient scholarship, when, if they had been earnestly warned by an upperclassman, or, if they had felt a strong public sentiment against slipshod work, they would have been able to have kept up to the required standard? This type of girl is surely worth saving or she would probably never have come to college and the upperclassman surely has some responsibility in this, which we trust she will realize this year as never before. The President of a prominent Western State university presents a hopeful view of the progress that will be made along this line in our colleges. He says: "I do not guess, but I know, that sooner or later we shall arrive at a system of student government whereby the students themselves will be so organized as to maintain a high standard of living, ethical and otherwise, and the man who does not meet this standard will be helped to meet it, rather than pushed out altogether."

Now that woman's suffrage is attracting so much attention here in New York (and naturally Barnard is more or less associated with it) one may utter a timely word of warning to Suffragettes and to would-be Suffragettes.

It is as yet a comparatively new thing for women to be before the public in any big movement—and there are many difficulties to be overcome before they learn to occupy their positions gracefully. This was well illustrated at Mrs. Pankhurst's meeting a week ago. Of the four women who addressed the audience—but one (whom our newspapers call "Militant") spoke with dignity, and this was the calm, gracious, essentially feminine woman from England. It is a lesson which it would be well for us here at Barnard to apply to ourselves. We work, of course, in a smaller way, and have much less at stake—but it is possible to do that work so that it will reflect credit upon Suffragettes as a whole, instead of giving just cause for our opponents to say "Suffrage detracts from the womanly side of a girl's nature"—and "it makes her self-assertive and intolerant of any ideas save her own." It narrows down to a question of individual behavior and surely each of us can remember that we can be positive without being noisy—and convincing without being over-assertive.

## NEW BOOKS.

Rossetti, D. G. and Christina—Poems.

Coulton, G. G.—Chaucer and his England.

Lounsbury, T. R.—Studies in Chaucer. 3 vols.

Emerson, O. F.—A Middle English Reader.

Langland, Wm.—Piers the Plowman.

Gower, John—Selections from the Confessio Amantis.

Malory, Sir Thomas—Le Morte Darthur

Marie de France—Seven Lais.

Marie de France—Four Lais.

The Mabinogion.

To the Editors of the BARNARD BULLETIN

I have noted with great interest the suggestion made by Dr. Braun in the Barnard Bulletin for October 6th that we have in our College a number of pictures well worthy of study (even though that study is not a part of the prescribed work of any particular course, and though that study will not receive any outward and visible blessing from the authorities in the shape of credit toward a degree). I had this idea in mind last year when I requested the students of Latin 19 ('Roman Life') to prepare for me an essay on Roman Life as seen in the Hall of Barnard College, etc.

I note also that Dr. Braun's suggestion that a catalogue of these pictures be made has called forth some comment in later issues of the Bulletin. For my own part I can see little difficulty in the preparation of such a catalogue (in view of the large number of students we have in College), nor can I conceive of any expense in connection with such catalogue aside from the final writing out of four or five fair copies. Speaking for the Department of Classical Philology I will cheerfully undertake to make a catalogue, with commentary, of such pictures as have to do with classical things, and to supply copies of that catalogue to any responsible or representative body that will undertake to prepare a catalogue of the pictures. Cooperative effort here, suitably guided by one or two directors, will easily achieve the results which in Dr. Braun's opinion, is so much to be desired.

Something I said above crossed by accident the theme, which, after much vexation of spirit, I had determined to risk as the subject of the later which, in a too easy-going moment, I promised you I would write. I refer to my would-be jocularly in the reference to what is and what is not prescribed as part of the students' work.

A generation or more before Cicero won distinction as lawyer and orator the leaders of the Roman bar were L. Licinius Crassus and M. Antonius, grandfather of Mark Antony. These great orators were alike in one respect, in that they made, each of them, the most careful preparation for their speeches, but they differed widely in their conceptions of the range of preparation necessary or advisable. Crassus held in effect that he who would be a great orator must take all knowledge for his province, Antonius that there were many things in no sense necessary to the training of the effective orator. These distinguished men were thus typical of the two classes of students.

When I look at elective blanks of students or have them talk to me about their futures I am often at once amused and dismayed by the curiously narrow and utilitarian attitude which they display toward the all-important matter of the determination of their courses. I should rather set out to be a Crassus or the Cicero who admired Crassus and, accepting his point

...w, deliberately made himself the most completely trained man of whom, to my knowledge, we have record in Latin writing. I know that Vergil says Non omnia possumus omnes, but, even if we cannot do all things, we can at least adopt a right attitude toward various subjects and refrain from holding that this or that thing, which is not of value to us in the plans (too often merely bread-and-butter plans) we, in our encyclopedic if youthful wisdom, are making for our present and our future. I like to think of that passage in which Lew Wallace in his fine account of the chariot race in Ben-Hur, after describing how Messala in unsportsmanlike fashion lashed the team of Ben-Hur and how Ben-Hur controlled the affrighted horses of his car, writes thus:

"Past question, every experience is serviceable to us. Where got Ben-Hur the large hand and mighty grip which helped him now so well? Where but from the oar with which so long he fought the sea (as galley slaves)? and what was this spring of the floor under his feet to the dizzy eccentric lurch with which, in the old time, the trembling ship yielded to the beat of staggering billows, drunk with their power? So he kept his place".

Charles Knapp.

Continued from p. 1, col. 2.

...just need to be brought up short sometimes in our busy college life and made to think of certain significant matters. For example, I remember, how much good it did me to read that editorial last year about a girl's influence on her friends. I myself have often been tempted to go to the unpleasant extreme of bringing up matters of etiquette in the BULLETIN, such as our conduct at teas. We all need to think of these things and it would be well for Barnard if we did. In this connection, I approve most heartily of the BULLETIN's new plan of printing letters from the faculty, for they will answer this need most admirably.

Since my courage does not seem to have the slightest inclination to descend from the sticking point of its own accord, I fear I shall have to haul it down by main force, while I reiterate that I consider the BULLETIN a useful, pleasantly written, well balanced publication, and would urge the editors to make the most of their many opportunities for true helpfulness to their fellow students.

Sincerely yours,

ANNIE STAVELY WILSON, 1912.

The Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, has offered free tuition to a graduate of Barnard College for the year 1910-1911 and for the three succeeding years, should the student's record prove satisfactory. This offer is therefore open to any member of the class of 1910 or any holder of the degree of Bachelor of

Arts or Bachelor of Science from Barnard College. Students who wish further particulars may confer with the Acting Dean.

There is a section under "Advice to New Students" in the Blue Book which reads: "Watch the Bulletin Board opposite the Registrar's office for official notices. Students are held responsible for changes in administration and academic affairs noted there. A failure to observe these notices is not accepted as an excuse for the non-performance of any college duty." The Freshmen, it is true, for several weeks after reading these instructions, diligently scan the Bulletin Board, but in a very short time this practice becomes spasmodic, and by the beginning of sophomore year, there are no traces of it left. As a result, many questions are asked and requests made in the office which might easily have been avoided by a careful perusal of the official notices. Yet the girls cannot understand why their requests are refused. A junior for instance, is much aggrieved when she is told that it is a week too late to change her course, and is greatly surprised to find that the notice announcing the time-limit has been up for over a week. "Why," she exclaims, "I never think of reading the Bulletin Board!" Many of the girls seem to think that because the first few times they looked at the notices, there was nothing which particularly affected them, there never will be. However, the exceptional is bound to happen sometime, and ignorance of new regulations through sheer negligence is no excuse. And not only the official Bulletin Board comes under this discussion: the student and class boards are more generally read, it is true, still, notices posted there are often overlooked, and notes for individuals often remain unclaimed for days. A few minutes devoted to a daily examination of all these Bulletin Boards would be profitably spent.

WEEKLY BULLETIN.

- Nov. 5, 3.00—Sophomore Play.
- Nov. 6, 2.15—Sophomore Play.
- Nov. 9, 4.00—1913 Class Party.
- Nov. 9, 12 M.—Mr. Jacob A. Reis will speak in Chapel.

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To the Editor of the BARNARD BULLETIN:  
 Dear Madam:—In regard to the letter signed "Radical," which appeared in a recent issue of the BULLETIN, may I say a word or two to show in what respects I agree with and differ from the writer?

In so far as saying that too much energy is expended on the plays, I quite agree with her. I also believe that the Undergraduate Play should and must be the important show of the year. But I really think that original skits are very apt to grow tiresome. In a college atmosphere they are always linked together by the same ties: jokes on the professors, the lunch-room, or the elevator. When a class has produced one such show in its four years of existence, its fertility is exhausted—two would be its extreme limit. I think that the day in the Blue Book, headed "Freshman Entertainment to the College" should be stricken from the calendar of events. Then there would be no getting around the law which definitely says "no Freshman Show," and instead of it the Freshmen could entertain each class in turn, and so, with much less expenditure of energy, time and money, the same social results could be obtained.

Then, in Sophomore year, the classes could give their original skit, and could save their first legitimate show till they were Juniors. By this time the girls know who has dramatic ability, and who hasn't, and they are much more able to judge how much time they can justly afford to spend on a single play.

The selection of a really good play will make the study of it beneficial to the actors, and the witnessing of it a pleasure to the college audience.

The regulation of our class plays in some such way would, I am certain, bring out more girls, and arouse greater enthusiasm and interest throughout college, for the Undergraduate Play.

Sincerely,

DEAN SMITH, 1909.

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During another intermission Mr. Nicholas Murray White and Mr. Alexander Otto Green obliged by the company with a combination recitation, in which the hands of the one, and the facial expression of the other proved so delightful that even their surprised fellow darkies called loudly for an encore.

Especially humorous was the work of the endmen, Mr. William Terney Blue, and Mrs. Nicholas Murray White, and it would take quite a large joke book to record all the old and new stories with which they amused the crowd.

Miss Case, Miss Schoedler and Miss Eggleston led the minstrels in the different class songs, and after a final lyric outburst, promising the Freshmen to be good friends to them, "the whole year thru," black and white actors came down from behind the footlights, and showed 1913 that Hallowe'en food and dancing make a splendid finale—even to as successful an entertainment as this "last appearance" of 1910's undoubtedly was.

**ELECTIONS.**

"Elections!" what does the word suggest to Barnard girls? Practically everyone merely exclaims, "Oh, yes, we had a holiday Tuesday!" It might be interesting for some statistician to come up to college and find out how many girls know who were the candidates for Mayor of New York, and what their respective parties stood for! How many girls, for instance, with the exception of the ardent members of the Inter-collegiate Socialist Society, knew that a man

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called Cassidy was the Socialist candidate for Mayor?

Maybe the students have no time for city elections, or their issues. But when it comes to class and undergrad. elections, then is the time that Barnard girls show how well fitted women are to have the vote. They carefully consider the different people that are up for an office, and in what way they are suited for it. Never do they let friendship influence them; and, having once made up their minds—without any assistance from the candidate's friends—they stick to their decision, and always vote for the girl whom they think will best fill the office for which she has been nominated.

If they thus seriously consider and reconsider elections at college—why can't some thought be given to those outside?

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