The Search: Transfers Look to Barnard

By MARILYN BAIN

One student, a junior, the transfer student is now regarded as one more product of the pattern of American mobility. It is the type of the business executive and the professor, with some reason, termed "mobile" and middle class, is the type that is good for Barnard. Barnard, necessarily, must be flexible, must be interested in all those who are interested in her schools. The question is, are there in the schools, any who are interested in Barnard the school, or in Barnard the college? Or is the interest, if there is any, superficial, a passing interest? The answer to this question is, "Yes, there is an interest." But, in what form? In that form of interest, is there a possibility that the school will be interested in the student, and the student in the school? So it is not easy to take Columbia courses is practically non-existent and should be stated as such in the catalogue.

New York!

Despite criticisms of the academic of Barnard life, transfer students are unconcerned in their prizing of at least one aspect of Barnard: New York. Withdrawing from the Wordsworthian mobility of country living, the transfer student delights in the urban anonymity and impersonality that Barnard in New York can offer.

For all-is-but, transfers find New York remarkably beautiful. One sophmore characterized New York as "very, very beautiful and vast and at all costs." Banding together a seasoned veteran of New York's renowned stock, another transfer commented, "We're dirty but it's great. Everybody, everything that happens, happens here."

Echoing the sighs of Barnard, Columbia, one junior told Barnard's "transfers are flying high" but that the "school's culture can't compare."

Social Life?

Though Barnard is a women's college, her affiliation with Columbia University, both academically and social, was particularly attractive to transfers coming from liberal, non-educational schools.

Transfers from girls' schools come the very concept of a coeducationally-aggregated school. One transfer reviewing her experiences at Smith and at Barnard stated emphatically, "Girls' schools are the worst possible idea." And though looking forward to a collegiate social life, many transfers said that Barnard social life was "bad," much worse than they had anticipated.

Many transfers criticized the mixer as the "most frequent significant in Barnard's social life."

"For a junior, mixers are hangovers," cried another transfer.

Orientation

Most transfers ignored our questions on orientation activities. The feeling that "transfers already know what college is like" and don't need extensive orientation was a common one. One transfer even quipped "I never went to the meetings." Those who "did attend the orientation activities had mixed experiences, some coming away impressed, others less so. One student, an English major, said that "we only met other transfers" or that "I never met the girl who was supposed to orient me," but most girls found it "practical" and generally "adequate."

New Experiences

To transfer meant, for most girls, to be exposed to new people, ideas, and experiences. And few girls regretted it. In fact, several recommended transferring even for those who are not in contact with the schools they attend. A sophomore from Elmira College perhaps summed it up best with, "I recommend transfer, even if temporary withdrawal, because too set by going straight through high school and college. Changing gives different perspectives on yourself and on others."

Academia

Many transfers from small colleges with limited course offerings, hoping for a "more creative and stimulating" academic life, found that courses at Barnard were "more traditional, less experimental" than at their previous schools.

On the other hand, Columbia classes were generally graded. Real one-credit, "term-paper" courses at Barnard are a bit dull and take up a lot of time. My Columbia College and the graduate faculties see a contradiction between these two goals: "Are we doing business with Columbia? Isn't it a business?" The solution, according to Columbia, is to have Columbia classes that are "fun," that are "more interesting." The question is, "Is Barnard really worth coming to?" This seems to be the question that most transfers are currently pondering. The answer, at least for the time being, is yes. But the question of whether Barnard is worth coming to is "still being addressed."

Impressions

The bad: "The isolation is overwhelming," "I'm an introvert and it's hard for transfers to get into the dorms, so it's hard for me to make friends."

Barnard simply is not a community. It can't be. If they've got to have a sense of community, that means that they can't be a typical New York school. This isn't necessarily bad, since community-type schools may get too oppressive, but I do wish it were a little easier to meet people."

The good: "I'm studying a lot." "I've never been as contented as I am."

The interesting: "I think Barnard is a non-resident. She doesn't get many chances to meet people."

Shakespeare Festival

"A Midsummer Night's Dream" and "The Merchant of Venice," and Jean Anouilh's "Antigone," are among the plays announced for showings during the Preewon Season this season. American Shakespeare Society is also presenting "The Merchant of Venice."" "A Midsummer Night's Dream" is a part of the Shakespeare Festival, directed under the direction of Cyril Ritchard who will also portray the characters Oberon and Bottom. In an all-star production of "The Merchant of Venice," Morris Bennenson, well known for his interpretation of the title role in "King Lear," will also be Shakespeare. Mario Testo returns to Stratford in Jean Anouilh's modern classic "Antigone." "Antigone" is written in France during World War II, and is a study of an individual over a conformist state. "Antigone" is also the title of a play announced for showings during the Preewon Season this season. American Shakespeare Society is also presenting "The Merchant of Venice."" "A Midsummer Night's Dream" is a part of the Shakespeare Festival, directed under the direction of Cyril Ritchard who will also portray the characters Oberon and Bottom. In an all-star production of "The Merchant of Venice," Morris Bennenson, well known for his interpretation of the title role in "King Lear," will also be Shakespeare. Mario Testo returns to Stratford in Jean Anouilh's modern classic "Antigone." "Antigone" is written in France during World War II, and is a study of an individual over a conformist state. "Antigone" is also the title of a play announced for showings during the Preewon Season this season. American Shakespeare Society is also presenting "The Merchant of Venice."" "A Midsummer Night's Dream" is a part of the Shakespeare Festival, directed under the direction of Cyril Ritchard who will also portray the characters Oberon and Bottom. In an all-star production of "The Merchant of Venice," Morris Bennenson, well known for his interpretation of the title role in "King Lear," will also be Shakespeare. Mario Testo returns to Stratford in Jean Anouilh's modern classic "Antigone." "Antigone" is written in France during World War II, and is a study of an individual over a conformist state. "Antigone" is also the title of a play announced for showings during the Preewon Season this season. American Shakespeare Society is also presenting "The Merchant of Venice."" "A Midsummer Night's Dream" is a part of the Shakespeare Festival, directed under the direction of Cyril Ritchard who will also portray the characters Oberon and Bottom. In an all-star production of "The Merchant of Venice," Morris Bennenson, well known for his interpretation of the title role in "King Lear," will also be Shakespeare. Mario Testo returns to Stratford in Jean Anouilh's modern classic "Antigone." "Antigone" is written in France during World War II, and is a study of an individual over a conformist state. "Antigone" is also the title of a play announced for showings during the Preewon Season this season. American Shakespeare Society is also presenting "The Merchant of Venice."" "A Midsummer Night's Dream" is a part of the Shakespeare Festival, directed under the direction of Cyril Ritchard who will also portray the characters Oberon and Bottom. In an all-star production of "The Merchant of Venice," Morris Bennenson, well known for his interpretation of the title role in "King Lear," will also be Shakespeare. Mario Testo returns to Stratford in Jean Anouilh's modern classic "Antigone." "Antigone" is written in France during World War II, and is a study of an individual over a conformist state. "Antigone" is also the title of a play announced for showings during the Preewon Season this season. American Shakespeare Society is also presenting "The Merchant of Venice."" "A Midsummer Night's Dream" is a part of the Shakespeare Festival, directed under the direction of Cyril Ritchard who will also portray the characters Oberon and Bottom. In an all-stars