

Barnard Bulletin

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Honor Code

Here in Barnard our Honor system has been challenged. Little has been said of abolition; no concrete changes have even been put before the student body. Nevertheless we have been told that there are infringements of the code, and that students have been unwilling to observe the obligation of reporting these.

If the student body is to arrive at a solution of the situation, it must have a more candid discussion of it. Honor Board, who brought the problem before the students, has put it in general terms, without citing an estimate of the extent of violations, any concrete cases, or the sources of information, beyond a vague attribution of some complaints to the faculty.

The students, for the most part, have either expressed surprise or regret. However, new findings, like the ones on which the complaint was originally made, have not been made public.

It is, of course, understood that Honor Board, because of its confidential nature, cannot name specific cases. Nevertheless, under the circumstance that the individual student does not know how extensive the difficulty is, she can do little but promise individual observation of the code. Only those who know the circumstances can offer a solution.

J. W. R.

Rep Assembly

Since the new Representative Assembly will be the policy making body of the school if the proposed Constitutional revisions are accepted, it must be a strong group which is capable of considering a greatly increased agenda.

During the past year many discussions of this body evolved into aimless talk among three or four people in which previously stated arguments were repeated over and over again with neither faction offering a compromise. Interest in the subject waned and usually no new suggestions or points were offered.

How can Representative Assembly avoid such pitfalls? Parliamentary procedure contains many motions which if utilized will expedite business by terminating discussions which have completely canvassed the question at hand. Any member of the Assembly may make a motion for consideration of the previous question. If her motion is carried by a two-thirds vote it halts all debate and forces an immediate vote on the motion at hand. The use of this motion would help Representative Assembly to work with dispatch curtailing any unnecessary, irrelevant or over repetitious discussion.

An outstanding feature of the suggested motion is that it can not be exploited by a minority for the purpose of "railroading" any legislation because of the two-thirds vote it requires.

A. A.

Professor Hoffherr: Fighting Frenchman

The Frenchman of legend believes profoundly in the beauty of good food, and in the survival of France—"quand même." Mr. Frédéric Hoffherr, Associate Professor and Executive Officer of the French department, came to America for eight months after the first war, and has been here ever since. He remains a distinguished synthesis of legend . . . scholarly, humorous, energetic, and continental to the core despite a definite predilection for hot dogs, "good one, only, with mustard . . ."

Born in Lyons of an Alsatian family, Mr. Hoffherr studied medicine at the University of Lyons, became a surgeon in the infantry during World War I; was awarded the Croix de Guerre, and whetted a taste for adventure and travel by encounters with Hungary during the Bela Kun affair. With the army of occupation in Albania when the war ended, he met his first American in the person of a gallant woman surgeon in Serbia; was finally sent to America, to study graduate medicine at P & S, through an American University Union Fellowship. No, he had no special work in surgery—"during a war, you understand, one does everything . . ."

One of the founders of France Forever, during this war Professor Hoffherr has become journalist and radio commentator for France. As soon as the armistice with Germany was signed, he began his own short-wave broadcasts to France, from WIOL, in Boston, later joining the OWI. At the beginning, there were letters from those in France, letters of encouragement; today, there is nothing, except occasionally the word of some Frenchman who has found his way to England or to America. "They are very impatient for invasion, the French . . ." Professor Hoffherr's family is in France—probably safe, but there is no way of knowing. During a recent leave of absence, he lectured through the middle west, for De Gaulle; was one of the directors of Pour le Victoire, one of the first French newspapers in America.

Although originally a physician, M. Hoffherr had always loved literature, both contemporary and classic, collecting literary reviews, modern poetry, and the learned lectures of Sorbonne professors on seventeenth century literature, editing anthologies and collections on his own. In class, M. Hoffherr rambles pleasantly, carves each sentence with exactitude, con-

cludes, "bon, that's that," as each point on his outline is checked off.

Monsieur's precise and rather vivid English is flavored by a thick accent, a journalist's knowledge of "argot"—; he is occasionally bothered by rare English words whose French equivalents must be carefully groped for. His book-lined study at Milbank, filled and overflowing with the paper-bound European volumes, is a continuation of his library at home—"one doesn't know where to keep so many books . . ."

Well-traveled, as are most Europeans, Professor Hoffherr prefers Africa to all the countries he has visited; remembers as high adventure his trips in a Plymouth with Mme. Hoffherr, across the Sahara desert. As for the rest of Africa. M. Hoffherr liked the "primitive ways, the joie de vivre of these people who are so very natural; we enjoyed bargaining with these shopkeepers, drinking Eastern coffee—"

If it is indeed true that the legendary Frenchman remains a lover of food, and of France, M. Hoffherr fits the legend. Retaining the careful gallantry of the European, the impersonal "at your service," and conscientious exactitude of manners, Monsieur was also a member of the Société des Amis d'Escoffier, a large group of gourmets, named after the greatest modern chef of them all; and he remembers elaborate menus, wine lists that were sampled in preparation for long dinners. "Of your regional American dishes, I like best of all the New England clam chowder . . ." and of American restaurants, the fabulous Pavillion, and the Hotel Lafayette.

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About Town

Dress Rehearsal at 117th Street

By Nancy Edwards

"Three Lights for Corbeville," an original play by Helen and Charles Sellers opened last night at Brander Matthews. Given by the Columbia Associates under the direction of Dr. Milton Smith, the play will run through Saturday including a matinee the last day.

This review is based on the dress rehearsal performance seen Monday evening. In the past it has hardly seemed necessary to mention that a play was viewed under rehearsal conditions, for it has been the custom for the dress to be all but the opening night job. This time however there had been evident difficulty in obtaining properties with the result being that actors were using many for the first time. It should be only too clear that the play was seen under most disadvantageous circumstances.

Slow First Act

It is our genuine regret that we cannot say that despite all the halts and false starts of a rehearsal the true merit of the play shone forth, thereby convincing the reviewer that the diamond merely needed polishing. One has only to recall the slow and limping first act to wonder how the play ever passed the reading stage.

The play deals with a familiar theme, a favorite of at least a half dozen movies and strongly reminiscent of *The Moon Is Down*. No new approach or angle is given to the story of the subjected people (in this instance it is the French) and unfortunately the already recognizable pattern of plot does not come up to the level of many of its predecessors. Our criticism really begins and ends with just the play and it alone. Technically, artistically it fails pretty miserably. Dialogue and plot structure are weak throughout and only sheer physical action gives a certain gusto to the other acts which at times contrives to recapture interest momentarily.

Play's Shortcomings

Perhaps aware of the play's shortcomings, the directors have concentrated on maximum effect through performance and staging and at times comes very close to making up playwrighting deficiencies. The characters of the young girl (competently handled by Evelyn Wall) and the Informer really come to life once in the murder scene.

The entire cast turns in an excellent performance in considering the material given them. John Leighton as the German captain gives a surprisingly convincing portrayal. The woman playing the second feminine lead (we are sorry that some names are missing but programs had not come back from the printer's Monday) sustained much of the mood of the play and was by far the most at home on the stage and in command of the most business.

All told we strongly hesitate to recommend a play which allows the heroine to cry for assistance in "the extremity" she is in or permits the action to halt perilously while the little child comments on the almost esthetic qualities of the crisis and the appearance of the heroine—this all going on with planes practically overhead and an angry Nazi lurking about with a loaded forty-five. That is kicking reality just a little too hard for our money.

Dining and Dancing Spots

Around a circular dance floor, of brightly-colored glass, the Raleigh Room at the Hotel Warwick is dim, quiet, decorated with handsome Elizabethan murals. The names of visiting celebrities have been carved just below the murals, which feature the well-known incident of Raleigh, and the garter of Elizabeth.

The Townsmen furnish pleasant music for dancing, on the floor which is really opaque glass; comfortable, large tables line the room—none of these coin-size tabletops without room for your elbows. Food is good, with a fine bar in one corner; but the restaurant's best features are its comfortable air of well-mannered quietude, its high-ceilinged elegance, and, of course, the elaborate murals. Try going there some week-day evening, when the dance floor is not too crowded.

The Hotel Dixie, with its large Plantation Room, boasts a comfortable dance floor, Al Trace's highly danceable sweet music. Although they call themselves the Silly Symphonists, the band is best at sweet swing. The Plantation Room's food is also excellent.

For those who prefer noise and informal atmosphere with dinner, the Wiwel has smorgasbord into the bargain. Not the best of its kind, certainly, but fun nevertheless, the crowded smorgasbord table furnishes entree to a long dinner. The dance floor is taken over for a lively floor show, unevenly involving dancers, singers, the usual magician acts, and featuring one of New York's most extroverted M.C.'s—who flits from table to table, later does a Calypso-like improvisation about all those in the audience he has spoken to, demonstrating a wonderful memory—and doing it all to music to bott.

J. Z.

Constitutional Changes

Article 6, Section 4. The Treasurer Part II. Duties:

Present Rules

1. The Undergraduate Treasurer shall take charge of the funds of the Association and shall disburse them according to the direction of Representative Assembly.

2. The Treasurer shall see to the auditing of the accounts of all organizations. The accounts of the Undergraduate Association shall be audited three times a year by a certified accountant in June, November, and March.

3. The Treasurer shall collect all fines and extra assessments levied by the Association.

4. The Undergraduate Treasurer shall choose a Budget Committee of six, of which she shall be the Chairman, subject to the approval of Student Council. The previous Treasurer shall be an ex-officio member of the Budget Committee.

(Subdivisions A and B of this part deal with the duties of the Budget Committee).

C. All funds over and above the amount allotted to dependent organizations by Representative Assembly in the fall shall be petitioned for to the Representative Assembly through the Budget Committee, which shall issue a statement to Representative Assembly upon each request.

Proposed Changes

1. Same as old 1 (see left).

2. The Undergraduate Treasurer shall submit a tentative budget to Representative Assembly as soon as possible after installation.

3. The Treasurer shall see to the regular auditing of the accounts of all chartered organizations and the accounts of the Undergraduate Association by a certified accountant.

4. The Treasurer shall receive all fines and extra assessments levied by the Association.

Old 4 (concerning Budget Committee) entirely omitted.

5. The Treasurer shall require an itemized budget from each organization etc.

6. The Treasurer shall supervise the discharge of the duties of the treasurers of all chartered organizations.

7. (old 4C) All funds over and above the amount allotted to dependent organizations by the Assembly in the fall shall be petitioned for to the Assembly through the Undergraduate Treasurer, who shall issue a statement to the Assembly upon each request.

(All further mentions of the Budget Committee in connection with the finances of the clubs are also automatically stricken out.)

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