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Campus Comment, November 2, 1945

Bridgewater State Teachers College

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Full Program Planned For Alumni Weekend

Alumni weekend will be off to a good start on Friday night, November sixteenth, with 5 concert plays presented by Dramatic Club, and followed by a social in the recreation room of Woodward Hall.

Saturday morning the schedule will be as follows: breakfast will be served in the Plymouth County Room; Conferences will be held; and time will be set aside for meetings of various clubs. A luncheon will be served in Tilting last, followed by a tea dance in the Albert Gardner Boyden Gymnasium.

The committees for Alumni Weekend are as follows: General Chairman, Leonard Kelly; Hospitality (Woodward), Edith Matthews; Hospitality (Administration Building), Grace Thibodeau; Breakfast Committee, Gertrude Cerstein; Lunch Conference, Barbara Kane.

The committees for the tea dance are: General Chairman, Janice Burchard; Music, Edwina Montague; Hospitality, Lucille Paquette; Entertainment, Virginia Perkins; Equipment, Lillian Tissiari; Decorations, Edna Lahteen; Helpers, Alvarina Costa; and Food, Janet Alice.

Veteran Education Program Underway
10 Vets Now Enrolled At College

The State Department of Education has been working in cooperation with the local school authorities to bring about the pooling of educational resources toward furnishing the best possible training for every Massachusetts veteran. As yet, Massachusetts is the only state in the Union which does not deduct money from subsequent veterans' bonuses to provide this high school education. The courses taken by the ex-servicemen under this program are either straight correspondence courses, or modified correspondence courses, with some tutorial assistance. Upon completion of his work the veteran receives either a high school diploma from the town or city of his residence or an equivalent certificate from the Department of Education. The work covered is that of high school calibre, and many also be credited to the first year of college.

Dr. John J. Kelly is the director of high schools for the district, which includes five counties and extends from Quincy to Provincetown, and from Bridgewater to the Rhode Island line. Nutucket is also included.

Since October 15, regional high schools have been established at New Bedford and at Bridgewater. Courses are continued for a 50-week period, and veterans are allowed to register at any time. Selection of the faculty members for the courses are made by the local superintendents, who in turn send their lists to Dr. Kelly for approval and recommendation to the Commissioner of Education.

The program is under way at BTC on Monday and Wednesday evenings. At present there are ten veterans enrolled in the course.

Dr. Kirnacck is the instructor in English, history, and languages. Mr. Frederick Wood teaches mathematics.

Campus Comment

VOL. XIX, NO. 2 STATE TEACHERS COLLEGE AT BRIDGEWATER, MASSACHUSETTS NOVEMBER 2, 1945

Durgin, Meier Return November 5

Mr. Raymond has spent most of his time in India, fighting through the Burma and Malay lines.

Wood, Math Instructor Leaves College Nov. 5

Mr. Frederick Wood, who has been teaching mathematics and economics at BTC will leave on November 5, 1942 to replace Mr. George Durgin who had entered the armed services.

Mr. Wood received a Bachelor of Science degree in Engineering, and a Master of Science degree in Mathematics from Brown University. He continued his studies towards a Doctor's degree at the University of Illinois.

Freshman Party Held To Determine Class Officers

The Freshman Party was held on November 2, in the Albert Gardner Boyden Gymnasium, for the purpose of electing the officers for the Freshman Class. The following girls were the committee heads in charge of the affair: Ann Maxhurn, food; Marie Henry, hospitality; Phyllis Jones, entertainment; Mary R. Sullivan, equipment; Marie McGowan, decorations; Carol Hill, publicity and tickets; Lorraine Christian, cleanup.

Epsilon Iota Chapter Of Kappa Delta Pi Initiates New Members

Epsilon Iota Chapter of Kappa Delta Pi, a national honor society in education, will formally initiate sixteen new members at the annual initiation ceremony, which will be held on the evening of November 16.

The new members admitted this year are: seniors—Elizabeth Skeehan, Alice Tookey, Dorothy Chrestofori, Marjorie Mooney, Madeleine Soszi, Adele Bolts, juniors—Jean Crane, Janice Burchard, Ruth Anderson, Margaret Murphy, Dorothy Merrill, Edwina Montague, Barbara Seible, Bernice Novick, Helen Smiarz, Elizabeth Roper.

Raymond, With AFS In India, To Return To BTC

Two of BTC's most popular instructors will resume classes on November 5. Lieutenant-Commander George H. Durgin was assigned to the college up until December 27, 1941 when he secured a leave of absence to return to the office of Naval Procurement in Boston with the rank of Lieutenant (jg.).

Captain Frederick A. Meier returned on campus February 5, 1942 to replace Mr. George Durgin who had entered the armed services. He was the one bright spot in the life of many a Plymouth County girl at the college until August, 1942, when he entered the armed services and was at that time commissioned second lieutenant.

The "Original Wave"

When Lieutenant-Commander Durgin first undertook duty in June, 1942, he taught seamanship in the United States Naval Reserve Midshipman School in New York. The following September he became the Executive Officer at the first enlisted Waves School at Stillwater, Oklahoma. Lieutenant-Commander Durgin later drilled Waves in the Boot Training School for Waves in Bronx, New York, where he was the one bright spot in the life of many a Plymouth County girl at the college.

At the termination of his work with the Waves, Lieutenant-Commander Durgin began to yearn, surprisingly, for contact with the masculine element. "I felt like a museum piece," he grinned, "and thought that pretty soon they would label me the 'Original Wave'."

From New York, Lieutenant-Commander Durgin was assigned to Pre-midshipman School in Norfolk, Virginia, and then to Yeabs Bayous Island in San Francisco Bay, where he was Officer in Charge of Receiving Barracks.

From his subsequent station in San Bruno, California, in February, 1945, Lieutenant-Commander Durgin was assigned to CUB 17, which laid its headquarters at Oklahoma.

When Lieutenant-Commander Durgin returned to Bridgewater, his family had moved to Cambridge so that his son could return Brown and Nichols and one of his daughters could go to Radcliffe.

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Lieutenant-Commander Durgin graduated from Harvard in 1915, and came to Bridgewater in 1926.

(continued on page 4)
So You Want A Cut System?

By cut system they mean the right to be absent from a class and chapel a certain number of times a semester per subject by merely turning in a cut slip. These cuts, of course, could not be taken on the days of exams or quizzes, and they would be utilized only when deemed necessary by the user, and would be chosen with prudence during the course of the year.

It is not our purpose to devise a plan of cutting; we are merely interested in the advisability or inadvisability of just such a system. The question of penalties imposed on those who overcut must also be taken into consideration. Whether marks should be lowered, cut privileges denied, or graduation requirements increased, again is a matter for a committee to decide.

At present, dormitory students say the only way they are permitted to be absent from class and be exempt from a failure in recitation is to secure what is termed as "excused absence". This may be had by legitimate or illegitimate sickness (let's be candid about it) or by an unexpected trip home for illness, death, or a wedding.

A commuter, on the other hand, if he so desires, may cut classes, hand in a reason which is unquestioned, and that is the end of the matter. Relying upon the discretion of the commuter, these absences are unlimited, and are assumed to be the result of illness.

Since the average age of students at Bridgewater ranges from approximately 18-20 years—which in the business world would be classified as adult—in their opinion it logically concludes that we should be treated as such.

We think it only fair at this point to provide a glimpse of the other side of the picture. Being only human, we realize the failings of the average person in the light that he is apt to become so involved with the affirmative he fails to take into account all the aspects of the negative.

To install a cut system at Bridgewater would perhaps necessitate the action taking place in the State Department to begin with and then going through the proper channels at Bridgewater. Perhaps the faculty would not approve of the system because of students missing unannounced exams and because they consider so many lectures vitally essential to their course.

Another point that should be brought to mind is the fact that in many colleges where the cut system is functioning an absence because of illness is considered a cut. A student then could use all his cuts on sickness because he was physically unable to attend classes.

If that arrangement were installed here, granted that we had a cut system, an unusually healthy person would benefit far more than an habitually unhealthy one.

The wheels have already commenced to turn in regard to this vital issue. Plans are underway for a committee to meet with President Kelly and the faculty in order to discuss the question.

Perhaps just the sound of a cut system appeals to us or maybe we have substantial reasons for desiring one—anyway, living in a democracy enables us to think as we choose. It also permits us to better our surroundings and strive to attain what we think proper.

Bridgewater too stands for just such ideals. A question has been presented two ways—the rest is up to you.

Muriel Lee Rowell

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We Are Not Free

To be free we must be informed, and many Americans are misinformed. We snatch up isolated sounds and statements, digesting them indiscriminately, indifferent as to whether or not our mental food has been adulterated. Ominous phrases still intrigue us: "labor strikes" . . . "the atomic bomb" . . . "Communist menace" . . . "World War III" . . . but we have slight comprehension of their actual import.

World War II might have been averted but for smug ignorance; now that America has emerged victorious from the battlefield, are her people really any wiser, any more open-minded or intelligent about the crises engulfing them?

The majority are not. We may be slightly more aware of international situations, but we are certainly no better informed. We are still attracted by the speaker with the loudest voice, the most colorful promises, or the most startling bits of sensationalism. We still fail to check the veracity of the propaganda so glibly tossed at us.

We are still biased and bigoted; even when we realize this fact, we are generally too lazy to arouse ourselves from stagnant oblivion to do anything about it.

We must develop the power to think critically. It is absurd to be lulled into the belief that it is possible to revert to the pre-war status quo. The world has progressed, and shall continue to progress, whether or not we Americans prefer to ignore what is so inevitable. It is essential that we reach the kernel of new ideas, that we gather specific information from many diverse sources, and that we formulate opinions upon facts, and not upon slogans.

We must revolutionize our mental scope. Because the world has become an inseparable unit, we can no longer live in our isolated little sphere within a sphere. Our breadth of comprehension must be enlarged to encompass all angles of global situations.

Persons who are capable of thinking critically can never be swamped by short-sighted prejudices. Persons who never indulge in analytical thought are the most vulnerable to distortions of the truth. What is said and done by the world powers today will affect us dynamically tomorrow. We must keep ourselves informed. To use our minds now will prevent our bodies from being used as ammunition for another war.

Yes, we so casually mention "freedom"—we so blithely think and say that we are "free". It is tragic that we are so ignorant. We are no longer playing cowboys and Indians on a wild, unsettled territory—we are living in a highly industrialized and mechanized, if not civilized, world of nations. "Freedom" is not merely the release from physical bonds—there are intellectual shackles as well.

B. Mazer

Campus Comment

State Teachers College, Bridgewater, Massachusetts

For November 2, 1945

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EDITORIAL

As this is being written, one quarter of the college year is practically behind us and still, in some classes, textbooks for the course have not arrived. The library does have some of these texts but not enough, unfortunately, to adequately supply the whole class. These books, therefore, are not available at all times, and it generally happens that they are not at our disposal when we most need them. Though these books are on the reserve list, occasionally students forget to return them after the allotted time, and this, of course, makes the distress more acute.

Whether these texts are out of print, or whether the publishing houses are just slow in filling the orders we do not know, but would it not be wise to order the books in the spring for the succeeding year, so that if a situation arose that would delay delivery it could be ironed out during the summer months, and by September the book would be on hand in the bookstore at the beginning of the course?

In the spring the instructors should be able to decide on maintaining the old texts or choosing new ones, just as well as in the fall, thus enabling the students to order books then, and be reasonably certain of securing one before the first quarter of the following year has ended.

M. L. ROWELL

Autumn Altar

Rise up, O Flame, and burn Thy spurs of fire reach high Consumse the sacrifice Rise up to touch the sky

The offering at thy feet Regrettfully is laid The lanterns of spring By winter’s breath betrayed.

Now brown and withered they Are skeletons bereft Of majesty and green The soul alone is left.

Exhausted, dying leaves In too brief glory burn, And toil these bare arms lift Awaiting their return.

O Flame, thy work is done Where tongues of fire rose high, Gray smoke alone ascends To touch the sky!

The soul alone is left. Of majesty and green. Thy spurs of fire reach high! Consumse the sacrifice! Rise up to touch the sky!

WAA News

What with bare trees shivering under many suits and fur-clad squirrels scurrying about in preparation for a cold winter, W.A.A. has taken the hint and pulled its collar over its ears, rolled up its tennis courts, moth-balled its hockey equipment and has turned its blue nose toward the warmth of indoor sports for the next sixteen weeks—indoor sports that offer such a diversity of selection, no man and woman member should feel inhibited from participating in any of them.

Classes Compete For Plaque

Inter-class competition for the coveted plaque promises games of keen rivalry and action in basketball, particularly with a new crop of breezy freshmen to blow the mustiness and kinks out of the upperclassmen. Last year the class of 47 tripped off with the award but if the playing on the freshman hockey team this fall can be used as an indication of what we might expect during the hoop season, upperclassmen will be doing some tall stepping to keep the plaque in their possession. Dorothy Mackin, basketball activity director, announces Tuesday and Thursday from 4:15 to 5:30 is given over to basketball and urges those interested to watch the gym bulletin boards for further announcements concerning organization, playing schedules, etc.

Bowling is looking forward to another bang-up season under the capable leadership of Glorie Bolles. This day reserved is Monday afternoon and, if so desired by all the members of the group, any other afternoon where it will fit into the W.A.A. calendar.

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The World Belongs to Men

A woman never has a chance. In marriage it’s the same;

The man may only lose his hair.
The woman’s lost her name.

No matter what a man may do,
It’s termed a “noble feat”;

A woman does the same darn thing—
And she’s called “indiscreet”.

Convention rules a woman’s life,
While man’s a pioneer;

A man is deemed “original”—
A woman’s always “queer”.

A man can be a bachelor,
And still have lots of fun;
The bachelor girl just sits at home,
And dreams of things undone.

If women say they’re virtuous,
You know their lives are dull;
Men never hear of virtue, yet,
Their sins are always null.

A woman must be saccharine,
A man can take a poke;
For women’s life’s a foolish farce,
For men it’s one big joke.

A woman must be delicate,
And tuck her brains away;
What fun men have is “one of the cut”—
But women have to pay.

Yes, men are free, while women are just all inhibited;
Those bits of spice that look so nice,
Are all prohibited.

If women have the fortune,
They’re rebels now and then;
Still, in the end, they must contend,
The WORLD BELONGS TO MEN!!!
Club News

DRAMATIC CLUB
At the meeting of Dramatic Club on October 9, it was decided to send boxes to past members who are now in the service. David Weinstein was presented a gift by the members at a going-away party held in his honor in Tillinghast Recreation Room. President Kelly and members of the faculty were present.

K-P CLUB
Phyllis Clayman at the first meeting of K-P Club on September twenty-six welcomed the members. Miss Frances Sullivan, the speaker for the meeting on October third, spoke on reading readiness. Miss Betty Raymond, guest speaker for October nineteen, lectured on Progressive Teaching.

FRENCH CLUB
Initiation of the new members of French Club was held on Thursday, October fourth. Plans are in progress for the Mardi Gras which is to be held in March.

GLEE CLUB
The Glee Club has changed its rehearsal periods from three o'clock to four o'clock Monday afternoons. Rehearsals are being held for the Christmas Program which may be presented over station W.B.Z.

NEWMAN CLUB
Father John Sheehan was the guest speaker for Newman Club on October twenty-four. He spoke on his experiences while a Japanese prisoner in the Philippines.

KAPPA DELTA PI
The pledge ceremony of Kappa Delta Pi will take place on Wednesday afternoon, November 7. The official initiation ceremony is scheduled for Wednesday evening, November 14.

MENORAH CLUB
A regular meeting of the Menorah Club took place on Wednesday, October 24th, at 4:15 p.m., with Jack Herman, president, presiding. Plans were started for a social hour to be held for the Alumni when they return here November 16th. The guest speaker was Miss Shirley Pincus, Campus Field Secretary of the National Zionist Youth Commission. Refreshments were served.

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Durgin, Meier Return
(continued from page 1)
Meier Sees Action
"My most exciting adventure was flying home", laughed blond, bronzed Captain Meier.

Captain Meier, now on terminal leave, has just returned from the European theatre of war where he was a group adjutant with the Army Air Forces.

Upon entering the service, Captain Meier was sent to Fort Meade, Maryland, where he attended the sixth special service school of the Army Air Forces. He then spent a short time at Battle Creek, Michigan, with the 313th Troop Carrier Division before being assigned to a base in Florence, South Carolina, where he directed an athletic program.

In March of 1943, Captain Meier was sent overseas and stationed in Sicily, where on July 9 and 10 he was with the group that dropped the 82nd Airborne Division in the first of the American attacks.

Captain Meier's group participated in seven campaigns: Sicily, Romanino, Salerno, Normandy, Holland, the easing of the Rhine, and Niermagen. During the invasion of Normandy, Captain Meier's men dropped the first paratroopers the morning before the invasion, and returned to drop supplies later.

Captain Meier also took part in the early North Africa campaigns. From May until September of 1944 the helped move the Germans out of the area", he confessed—quite modestly. "Africa was interesting," Captain Meier admitted, "but the Arabs are a strange lot."

When coaxed for the narration of his most exciting experience, the handsome Captain considered quite thoughtfully. "Well", he finally answered, "I guess it was in March of 1944, when we flew from Sicily to England. The Germans had control of the coast. We lost two planes from our outfit—one of them hit a mountain in Casablanca."

Captain Meier was overseas 28 months. "I thought I'd never get home," he grinned.

Captain Meier graduated from Boston College in 1932. He did graduate work and acted as instructor of chemistry at BTC the following year and was awarded his Master of Science degree in 1933.

WA A Conference
(continued from page 1)
At nine o'clock on Friday morning, following a hearty breakfast, all the students, faculty and the delegates gathered in May Hall, where they were greeted by President O'Connor and welcomed by Shirley Mason, president of the Framingham W.A.A. The theme of this year's conference was "Our Part in the War World" introduced by Mr. Philip Cummings, noted commentator on war affairs. Virginia Godfrey, Bridgewater's president, of W.A.A., contributed her share of ideas.

Following this, the first business meeting of the conference was held. Mr. Daniel J. Kelly, state supervisor of Physical Education in the schools in Massachusetts gave a very applicable talk on the values of physical education in the schools at present, and as he hopes they will develop in the future. A film containing contributions from all the colleges was shown at this meeting, including swimming, softball, hockey and campus shots. Archery and dancing had been donated by B.T.C. Following lunch and registration, a second business meeting was held at which Captain Yanko from Cushing General Hospital spoke on the rehabilitation of the veterans. The following ten commandments he stressed: (1) welcome him, but do not overdo this. (2) listen understandingly but do not be too inquisitive. (3) face the reality of any disability. (4) treat him as a normal, competent person. (5) command efforts to succeed and ignore slips. (6) expect him to be different; help him to become readjusted. (7) allow time and freedom for readjustment. (8) encourage him to do things but do not push him. (9) get professional help if necessary. (10) let your own faith and spirit be your guide. By the time three o'clock had rolled around on Friday afternoon, the athletically inclined individuals felt the need for some relaxation and muscular activity, so they resorted to a game of basketball with four teams playing against each other. Food followed: coffee and doughnuts always hit the spot.

In the evening the Fine Arts club presented their play "Tomorrow the World." Compliments are certainly in order for this performance and fine presentation.

The final business meeting was held Saturday morning, when at that time each college reported on their W.A.A. activities and exchanged ideas.

The final activity on the program was a hike to a spot called "The Ledges," located about two and one half miles from the campus. It was a brisk walk on a cold morning in a setting of glorious autumn foliage, with lots of congeniality, and good humor. With this the conference broke up although those interested remained to tour Cushing General Hospital.

Ballot
The following cut system has been proposed. Please consider it carefully, indicate your attitude, and deposit this ballot in the box in the campus recreation room by 3:30 on Friday, November 9.

Total semester cuts will be based on the total number of credit periods taken.

Chapel cuts are to be included in all cases.

No excused cuts shall be given for a single day's absence. The first day of an extended absence shall count as a cut day. All others shall be excused if (1) Doctor's certificate specifying the illness is presented.

(2) The Administration Office is notified by telephone or letter within a specified time.

Freshmen will not be allowed any cuts during the first semester except for illness and college representation.

The regular allowance of cuts may be cancelled for a given period for scholastic failure, probation, or other causes as may be established by the faculty.

No cuts will be permitted on the day immediately preceding or following a college recess, or a regular or special holiday.

Upperclassmen who, in the previous semester have had no grade lower than B and a quality point ratio of 3.68 may have unlimited cuts except of chapel, Physical Education, laboratory work, and recitation days. Such students, in regard to examinations and other stated requirements will have to subject to the provisions of the departments in which they have courses. If a student on the unlimited cut list is at any time reported by an instructor to have an average classification below B, he will be allowed no cuts in that subject for the rest of the semester. An instructor may withdraw the unlimited cut privilege in his course if he deems this to be in the best interest of the student.

Penalties: If a student should over-cut, then he shall be dropped one degree of rank in any class in which his cumulative cuts exceed the number of credit hours.

Please check one of the following:

I am in favor of this plan
I am not in favor of this plan

Suggestions

SUGGESTIONS

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