

The BUCKNELL BEACON

Volume 3. Number 4

WILKES-BARRE, PA.

Wednesday, December 14, 1938

MOLIERE'S CLASSIC WILL BE REPEATED BY BJC THESPIANS

Moliere's masterpiece, *Tartuffe*, was presented by the Bucknell Junior College Thespians in the College Theater last night to an audience of Junior College students. The play will be repeated this afternoon at a matinee performance for school children at a special matinee price. On Thursday and Friday evenings it will be presented to adult audiences. The limited seating capacity of the College Theater necessitates the several performances, and, if need be, another matinee will be given on Saturday afternoon, December 17.

After numerous tryouts the cast was selected by Miss Norma Sanguiliano, and rehearsals have been going on for the last three months. The characters in the order of appearance:

Dorine—Darina Tuhy
Madame Pernelle—Julia Place
Elmire—Twyla Burkert
Mariane—Doris Wiegand
Damis—Robert Nagle
Cleante—Jack Gelb
Orgon—Robert Graham
Valere—Thomas Slattery
Tartuffe—Joseph Horoshko
M. Loyale—Morris Gevanthor
Flipote—Robert Patton

OPTOMETRIST CONDUCTS OPTIC RESEARCH TESTS

Dr. William W. Policoff, Wilkes-Barre optometrist and a graduate of St. Thomas College, University of Pennsylvania, and the Pennsylvania College of Optics and Ophthalmology, is conducting a research in the "diagnosis and correction of reading disabilities," among students at Bucknell Junior College. Dr. Policoff is being assisted in his work by Miss Dorothy Guerra, a graduate of Misericordia College.

Tests, which started in the middle of October, are moving along with great rapidity. Dr. Policoff has examined more than sixty students since he commenced the tests. Students are given the Gray oral reading test and through the medium of an Ophthalmograph, a comprehensive analysis of student's ability to read silently, the speed of reading, the number of fixations (per hundred words), regressions, and binocular efficiency are determined.

Dr. Policoff explained that scientific data show that some of the more common types of reading disability are not due to disturbing

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SINFONIETTA PLAYS BALANCED PROGRAM

Heard By Large Audience

The Wilkes-Barre-Scranton Sinfonietta under the direction of Paul Gies opened its third season on December 6 before a large and responsive audience which filled St. Stephen's Parish House. The remarkably well balanced program included works ranging from Handel to Granger and Seibelius.

Gluck's spirited "Overture to Orpheus" was the orchestra's initial number. This classical composition was followed by the beautiful and moving "Concerto Grosso in D. major" of Handel.

The unusual "Serenade No. 6" of Mozart followed. One of the least "Mozartian" of Mozart's works, this composition was played jointly by two orchestras, the second orchestra consisting of six first desk men from the regular Sinfonietta ranks.

The seldom heard "Rakastava Suite for String Orchestra and Percussion" opened the second group. This brilliant composition,

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Sociology 100 Class Shows Conservative Trend In Poll

The results of the Poll on American Youth which was recently taken in Dr. Wilfrid Crook's Introductory Sociology class prove very interesting. Some of the more significant votes in this questionnaire from *The American Observer* are listed below.

1. Which political party do you favor?

2. Would you oppose a president running for a third term if you favored him on other grounds?

3. Do you consider yourself a liberal or a conservative?

4. Do you think the government has regulated industry too much and too harshly?

5. Has the Roosevelt administration been guilty of spoils politics to a greater extent than most other administrations?

6. When you hear of a dispute between employers and workers and before you have had a chance to study the facts, are your sympathies ordinarily with the employers or the workers?

7. Which organization do you regard most favorably: the Chamber of Commerce, the American Federation of Labor, the Committee for Industrial Organization?

8. In the main are you in agreement with the federal government's relief program?

9. Should America go to war if necessary to maintain the "open

CHRISTMAS DANCE TO BE HELD IN HOTEL STERLING; AIDES NAMED

HOPKINS HEADS SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

At a meeting held December 6, the Student Council appointed a Social Activities Committee whose function will be to assist the Council in planning the dances, tea dances and other social affairs. This Committee, which will be directly responsible to the Student Council, will meet every other Thursday and make suggestions which will be submitted to the Council for approval. The following students make up the Committee: Robert Hopkins, chairman; John Bush, assistant chairman; Thomas Slattery, Council representative; Christine White-Whiteman, William Morton; Robert Conway; James Hunt; Madge Space; Gertrude Jones; Margaret Wolfe; and Betty Schwager.

Ralph Paul's Band To Play; Record Crowd Expected

The Annual Christmas Dance of Bucknell University Junior College will be held in the Crystal Ballroom of Hotel Sterling, Thursday evening, December 29. Dancing will be from 9 'til 1.

Ralph Paul and his Music Masters will play for dancing. Having gained considerable popularity throughout the past summer during his tour of the east, Ralph Paul and his Band will be the feature of the Bucknell Yuletide dance. Every indication points to a record crowd, including many Bucknell Junior College alumni, friends, as well as members of this year's classes.

The dance will be chaperoned by Dr. and Mrs. Farley and Mr. and Mrs. Faint.

John Guiney is general chairman of the dance committee, which includes the following co-chairmen: Tickets, Robert Nagle; Decoration, John O'Malley; Publicity, John Bush. John O'Malley, as chairman of the Decorations Committee, will be assisted by the following students: Lillian Celmer, Gertrude Jones, Ruth Smith, Eugene Rogers, Jack Smith, Joseph Jimison, and James Roski.

MARTS EXPLAINS COLLEGE POLICIES

In a recent chapel program at Bucknell University, Lewisburg, President Arnaud Marts answered various questions on administration policy put to him by the Student-Faculty Congress. Naturally, not all the questions related to the Junior College, but several are. The answers presented here are not verbatim as given by Dr. Marts.

1. To what extent does the University favor student self-government?

To a great extent; as much as the students desire, with more of it as time goes on.

2. What college records are available for students, i. e., why are numerical grades not made available?

It is the practice of 31 out of 33 colleges in Pennsylvania to use the letter system, instead of a numerical one. The practice of giving letter grades is accepted generally by the educational systems of today, in high schools as well as colleges. Numerical grades may be shown to parents who wish to know them.

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THE BUCKNELL BEACON
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L. I. D. LECTURE SERIES. . . .

In pursuit of the BEACON editorial policy of reporting and discussing community events of cultural and intellectual value, we would like to call to the attention of the students the forthcoming series of discussion lectures to be presented by the League for Industrial Democracy.

The League for Industrial Democracy is a national society, which, by its own definition, is "engaged in education toward a social order based on production for use and not for profit". Towards this end, the League presents lectures by outstanding men who are authorities in their fields in cities where there are organized chapters of the League or similar groups interested in practical plans for social control.

Although the words "social control" might suggest to a few a radical group engaged in subversive activities, this far from the truth. A glance at the list of officers of the league would reveal such distinguished names as John Dewey, Harry Laidler, Norman Thomas, and Stuart Chase, and in each community the sponsors of the lectures include men of achievement and responsible position.

The speakers in this year's series of six lectures, which begins January 25 and continues through the next six weeks, are all exceptionally well-suited to discuss their particular subject. Dr. Jesse Holmes, who will begin the series with a lecture entitled "Democracy in Crises", is the Professor of Philosophy and Religion at Swarthmore College and a student of social trends. Dr. Joel Seidman, who has studied and written extensively on labor and has been associated with the Economics Department of Johns Hopkins and Brookwood Labor College, is to speak on "The Middle Class and Organized Labor." Rev. John P. Jones, of Union Church, New York City, and Dr. Frederico Bach, faculty member of National University of Mexico and special economic advisor to the Mexican Ministry, will lecture respectively on "Homes for America—A First Line of Defense" and "Problems of Mexico." "World Trends Toward Democracy and Dictatorship" will be discussed by the noted columnist and lecturer, Ludwig Lore, and the series will end with Norman Thomas, who is known to all through his books and speeches, speaking on "Democracy and Social Planning."

Readers of the BEACON may feel that this series of lectures has too limited an appeal to be treated here at such length, and that the listing of the particular speakers is not necessary or suited to the editorial page. We think that the listings of the speakers is justified by the fact that it illustrates the high caliber and qualifications of the type of people conducting the series, and that the appeal of the series to the Junior College students will probably be increased by an editorial such as this which explains a movement about which they had heard vaguely but had not been fully informed.

College students who are alert to the world about them should be particularly interested in the L. I. D. or similar lecture programs. It is at this age that most young people begin to think about social, economic, and political conditions, and, at times, either become confused in mind due to propaganda and inaccurate information, or blindly follow one guide, becoming chained to one set of ideals which appeal to them. To prevent either of these conditions of mind—confused or biased—students should take advantage of every opportunity where they can secure accurate, authoritative information.

College students, it is alleged, occupy that status as a result of their desire to receive specialized training, and/or to receive general mental awakening. The stimulation to careful thought motivated by lectures such as these presented by the L.I.D. is too important to allow neglect.

CURRENTLY SPEAKING

By M. E.

Sound and fury in deafening volume emanate from Washington these invigorating winter days. For the brass hats and jingos, inspired by the vast new armaments program, are very, very close to Nirvana. With their shining new arms the one hundred percent isolationist, flag-waving, "the - best - way - to - avoid - war - is - to - be - armed - to - the - hilt" nationalists, bless their hearts, will soon be ready and eager to defend the gates of Washington—in Asia or Europe. Or is it Greenland or Costa Rica?

This "fourth New Deal" as columnists are terming the armaments plan is difficult to reconcile with the sound foreign policy which Mr. Hull and Mr. Roosevelt have pursued thus far. The reciprocal trade agreements with almost all Latin American republics as well as Great Britain and Canada, the encouragement of international morality, the settlement of the Bolivia-Paraguay dispute, the belated recognition of Russia, and now the vigorous (though not vigorous enough) denunciation of Hitler's latest savagery are all distinguished monuments to the competence of our State Department. I say the armaments program is difficult to reconcile with this sound foreign policy because armaments on such a vast scale are not only unnecessary but positively dangerous. Let us consider these points separately.

I gather that the militarists want the increase in armaments (1) to lend weight to the words of our diplomats should we be involved in another "Munich", (2) to defend both our coasts as well as the entire Western Hemisphere from attack by an Asiatic or European nation, (3) to defend our foreign policies—the Monroe Doctrine, Open Door, etc.

While these may sound like justifiable reasons, a little thought discloses their shallowness. Another Munich would call for *real diplomats* rather than an increase in armaments *ad nauseam*. Competent observers agree that Chamberlain and Daladier could have secured peace without disgrace had they done less bungling and vacillating and called Hitler's bluff.

As to defend the hemisphere, it is both impossible and unnecessary. If any enemy crossed the Atlantic and landed at, say, Plymouth Rock the Plymouth, Mass. police force could probably handle them. Spain has proved that modern warfare is drawn out, and the necessity for first crossing an ocean would make an enemy's chances exceedingly slim. Major J. F. Eliot's recent book, *The Ramparts We Watch*, holds that we need a slight increase in armaments and greater administration efficiency, but anything more is sheer jingoism.

A still more pressing argument against greater armaments is the harmful consequences which these are almost certain to bring. The super-patriots, who are even now curtailing civil liberties, will be encouraged. The knowledge that we have arms will encourage us to use them on the slightest pretext; populations who feel they are powerful enough are uncanny in their ability to find a pretext for fighting a "defensive" war. The badly needed New Deal program of social reforms will probably be curtailed because the necessary funds will be used to build armaments. Worst of all, the inevitable militaristic spirit may well encourage the appearance here of fascism; we have several potential "men on horseback". Also, somebody may get the bright idea that we ought to have compulsory military training to teach young Sir Galahads to use the nice new armor. The resulting spread of militarism and the curtailment of useful production would almost certainly kill democracy. And there is always the danger that the savage procedure of using troops to quell strikes will be revived.

Here, then, is a grave situation. Fortunately there is every evidence that the armaments bill will have anything but smooth sailing in the next Congress. And it is significant that many conservative elements join with progressive ones in opposition to it. The defeat of the armaments appropriations bill would be a most reassuring sign that the spirit of democracy and true liberalism is still very much alive in these United States.

DR. POLICOFF. . .

(Continued from page 1)

According to Dr. Policoff, efficient reading is not determined primarily by intelligence, because these tests show that a student with a high "I. Q." is not necessarily a good reader. In accounting for the wide variability in reading performance, the compensatory capacity of the individual must be taken into consideration. As long as the defect remains within the limit of compensation, he may progress fairly well, but as soon as the limit is reached he becomes identified with a group which Dr. Policoff called "problem cases."

Many students who have reach-

ed college find it impossible to accomplish the required work because they cannot read comprehensively, never having developed the mechanical skill that would enable them to grasp through units.

Dr. Policoff pointed out that since 1900, the reading load of college students has been multiplied by five, and that from ten to twenty per cent of all college students show some type of reading disability. The purpose of the tests at BUJC is to determine those who are below normal in reading ability and try to help correct the deficiency present.

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- SPORT SHOTS -

The Alumni basketball game has been scheduled for Wednesday December 21, at 2:00 P. M. . . Eddie Davis, Duncan Thomas, Leon Kolanowski, Don McHugh, Bill Atherholt, Vincent Loftus, Bill Thomas, Andy Giermack, "Snitz" Reimensnyder, and Coach "Shorty" Thomas will battle the Jay Cees in an attempt to garner their first win in five years. . . A reception will be held in Chase Hall for the Alumni immediately following the game. . . .

The M. I. T. faculty keggers will tangle with an All-Star team to be selected from the Intra-mural league. . . The list will be posted this week. . . Watch for it. . .

The Annual Alumni bowling match will be staged on Friday, December 30. . . John Bush, Jack Berry, Joe Curley, "Slats" Obitz, and Walt Thomas are out to avenge last year's defeat at the hands of a superior Alumni outfit. . .

The girl's ping pong tournament, contrary to reports, is in the last throes of what seems to be a fatal illness. . . There was a time when a terrific outcry was heard from the members of the fair sex because they received no benefit from any physical education program. Now that something has been done about it, interest in the program has fallen flatter than the proverbial pancake. . . Chris Whiteman has done everything in her power to arouse interest, but to no avail. . . Is it a swan song for the female sex? Must we insist that you play your match under supervision? Why not snap out of the etherial regions and cooperate with the physical education department and Chris Whiteman. . .

Another group of students need a father's advice. Whoever has the habit of breaking the pool and ping pong equipment should be made to pay for the same. . . Why not work it on the basis of. . . I break—I fix. . .

GIRL'S TABLE TENNIS TOURNAMENT UNDERWAY

An active interest has been shown in the ping-pong tournament by the girls of BUJC. When the announcement was made a fortnight ago, the members of the fair sex forgot entirely any new wrinkle in dress-wear and could not pause long enough to talk about "hats," but they hastened to the recreation rooms in Chase Hall to demonstrate their superiority in the fine art of table-tennis.

Amid cheers (and laughter) the novices sauntered forth with great optimism and were defeated in the series by more experienced players. The Sophomore Sportswomen were completely surprised at the ability of the Freshman Fems. Although the tournament is not yet com-

Basketball seems to be the revived art since the team has overcome the weaknesses so evident in the Y. M. C. A. game. . . Long Island Frosh, next opponents of the Jay Cees are in for a busy night according to Coach Thomas. . . Swanberry, Hopkins, Baker, Secunda, and Hershkowitz form a smooth offense and a zone defense that is hard to break up. . . Bill Thomas, Earl Haeffe, John Kuschel, and John Dooley form dependable reserve material. Reports are that the Jr. College has the most evenly balanced squad in its history. . .

The swimming squad, under the capable direction of Slatz Obitz, is headed for its best season in many years. . . Too much cannot be said of the fine spirit displayed by the team and the manner in which they go through their practice routine. . .

Tryouts for freshman and sophomore volleyball teams will be held after the Christmas Holidays. A varsity squad will be selected from these teams.

Steve Gacha will inaugurate his boxing program also immediately after the holidays. . . Bouts will be staged during the regular gym periods with practically every male student participating. . . The weights will run from 95 to the heavyweight division. . . Bill Thomas, Bill Morton, John Emanski, and Irwin Freed reached the finals in their respective divisions last year. . . The winners receive suitable awards at the Annual Letterman's Banquet in May. . . .

The examination in physical education will cover rules in basketball, volleyball, and handball. . . Marks will be based upon attendance, willingness to participate in gym activities, and the test mark. Those who have not completed the number of hours required in physical education will not be allowed to take the examination. . . A list will be posted shortly. . .

pleted, the final series promises to be hard-fought. Among the final participants are Christine Whiteman, (who is in charge of the tourney), Darina Tuhy, Joy Bodycomb, and an upper-county entry, Doris Wiegand.

The list of the victors and vanquished is posted on the bulletin board in the recreation room in Chase Hall.

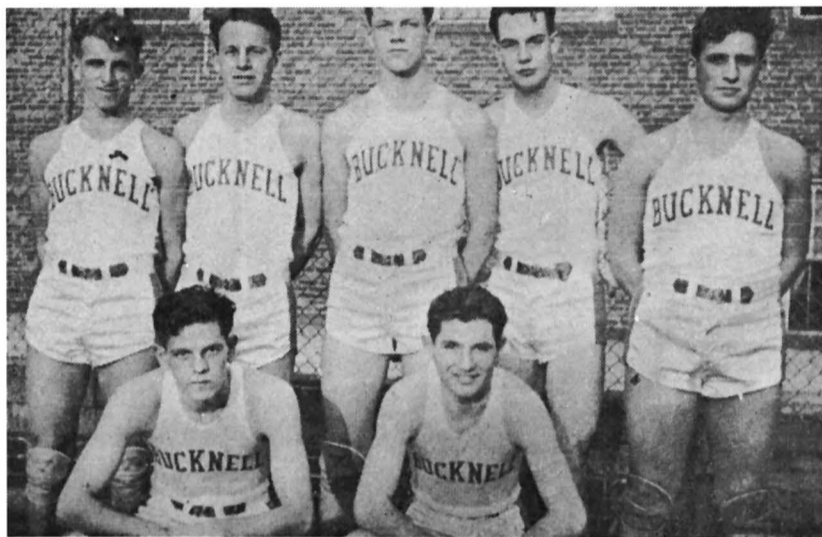
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CAGERS TO BATTLE STRONG L. I. FROSH ON DECEMBER 28

On Wednesday, December 28, the Bucknell Jay Cees will swing into action against a veritable troupe of goliaths in the form of the Long Island University Frosh, an undefeated high-scoring team of national fame. This game will be the high spot of the Bucknell season, and if our Jay Cees come through with a victory, Coach Shorty Thomas will call this a

Islanders can be estimated by the following heights of their players: Applegate, 5'11"; Schaefer, 6'2"; Gimpel, 6'3"; Simon, 5'11"; Schneider, 5'11"; Denberg, 6'2"; Zeithen, 5'11"; Mulhern, 6'4"; Rathjan, 6'2"; Walterson, 6'2"; Cantor, 6'; Luckiger, 6'2"; and Melofchik, 6'.

Coach Thomas has the following men, undoubtedly of smaller sta-



Swanberry, Hopkins, Secunda, Kuschel, Hershkowitz, Haeffe, Dooley. Captain Baker was absent when picture was taken.

banner year, regardless of whether the rest of the games are won or lost. Last year, more than 600 fans packed the local "Y" gym to see the Long Island team win out over the Jay Cees in a hard fought, close scoring game. A similar turnout is expected to witness these teams play again this year, the valley fans being well aware of the calibre of the Long Island team.

This is the only game of the year at which the Student Activities cards will not be recognized. A reduced price of twenty-five cents is being offered to the students of the college. The amount of student admission to this game should hardly be thought of since two games will be played, the opening game at 7:30 bringing together the Scranton Jay Vees and the Wilkes-Barre "Y".

The towering size of the Long

Islanders can be estimated by the following heights of their players: Applegate, 5'11"; Schaefer, 6'2"; Gimpel, 6'3"; Simon, 5'11"; Schneider, 5'11"; Denberg, 6'2"; Zeithen, 5'11"; Mulhern, 6'4"; Rathjan, 6'2"; Walterson, 6'2"; Cantor, 6'; Luckiger, 6'2"; and Melofchik, 6'.

Coach Thomas has the following men, undoubtedly of smaller stature than the Long Island team, from which to choose his starting five: Swanberry, Hopkins, Secunda, Baker, Hershkowitz, Thomas, Dooley, Padlick, and Wazeter. On Friday, December 2, the Jay Cees journeyed to Selinsgrove to defeat the strong Susquehanna quintet in a thrill-packed game by the score of 54-52. The smoothness and swiftness with which the whole team cooperated was the telling factor in the victory for the Jay Cees. Starring on the offense were Captain Albie Baker and Bob Hopkins. The stalwarts on the defense were Dave Secunda, Wayne Swanberry, and Wes Hershowitz. "Bim" Thomas played a bang-up game throughout, frequently coming through with a two-pointer when it was needed. At no time during the game did either team possess more than a 5 point lead.

MARTS. . .

(Continued From page 1)

3. What is the attitude of the University toward cuts?

Students are supposed to attend all classes. Mr. Marts added his opinion, which was that if you are paying ten dollars a semester hour for your classes you are "balmy" if you cut.

4. How does the University justify the requirement that a portion of the last two years be taken outside the field of concentration?

Graduate schools write to the University requesting that students have as much cultural background as possible and that the grad schools do the concentrating. College is the only place where one has a chance to get a good cultural background in all fields.

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- TRIVIA -

By B. L.

A few of you who are faithful readers of this column (and judging from the volume of criticism we get there (must be more than a few) may remember that several issues back we indulged ourselves in self-pity because no one ever contributed anything to us, and that we lamented the fact that we never got any fan mail. Also these same faithful readers may remember the column in the last issue in which we attacked those people who demand a gossip column and in which we thought we justified this column's policy of *no gossip*.

Both these columns have been answered—and in one blow. Our lament on the lack of fan mail has been answered by a letter which is at the same time a response to our attack of the gossip-lovers. Even the fact that this is a nasty letter containing derogatory remarks to ourselves does not kill our pride in receiving this column's first legitimate letter.

In view of the BEACON'S policy of acting as an outlet of student opinion (and also in view of the fact that this letter is just as trivial as anything we could possibly think up) we print in full the letter.

B. L. who writes Trivia:

In the last edition of the *Beacon*, we the students, found two columns under an appropriate heading—Trivia—(don't believe the dictionary—it leaves out the "l".) which holds itself up as a model and scorns a gossip column which we believe is the spice and life of all school papers.

To quote a part of the contents, "and the most often repeated complaint deals with the desirability of having a gossip column." So we understand that since the most of us desire a gossip column, the policy of the paper will be "No Gossip"! Because the German people want freedom

of press and religion, Hitler's policy is "no freedom of press and no freedom of religion." Of course we wouldn't say that there is any similarity of policy there—or would we?

Do not misunderstand us. We do not mean that we itch to find out who kissed Margie behind what bookcase in which library, but we do believe that such true nonsense would create a lot of innocent fun when read in the *Beacon*.

Don't believe that college students are different from high school students. People don't change over night.

In closing we suggest that the author of *Trivia* discard the word gossip which hints "Old maids." That is far from what we want our column of dirt and humor to be.

Finally we hope that the warped humor of the author of *Trivia* becomes enlivened before it goes to seed and that a few gallons of moist spice be sprinkled to irrigate the *Trivia* Desert.

We will try to answer this letter point by point—leaving out those points which are obvious to our more intelligent readers.

(1) The writer says we are trivial. We admittedly are and would hesitate, after reading this letter to be any more intellectual for fear that certain of our readers would not understand.

(2) Although we still do scorn a gossip column, we do not set ourselves up as a model, but merely pound out so many words an issue trying not to violate too many of our ideals.

(3) Regarding the second paragraph, we fear the writer either reads too hastily or understands too slowly. We did not say that most of the students want a gossip column, but that most of the *students who complain* com-

plain about the lack of a gossip column. Of course, this may be too fine a point. Regarding Hitler and us, do you think you would be able to express your opinions about him in a paper whose subject matter he controlled?

(4) Personally we do not see where "such true nonsense" would create "a lot of innocent fun", but then, some people play bridge or pinochle and others get just as much fun out of tiddleywinks—so there you are.

(5) If college students aren't at all different from high school students, the professors have certainly been fooled for a long time. They think, and base their teaching methods upon it, that college students are capable of more and better thought, but we think this wrong attitude of theirs may be cleared up by your letter.

(6) This last suggestion, that we discard the word "gossip" because of its connotation had us baffled for awhile. It seems that "gossip", which word we use, has a not-very-nice connotation, but that "dirt", which our "fan" uses, is practically synonymous with clean, wholesome humor.

(Continued from page 1)

unmistakably Sibelian, is one which we should hear more often. It is poignantly expressive and the orchestra's exquisite rendition of its lovely lyric contrasts was enthusiastically applauded. Grieg's "Nordic Tunes for Strings", reflecting the beauty and simplicity of the Norwegian countryside, was also well received. The scheduled program concluded with "Mock Morris Dance" by the modern English composer, Percy Grainger.

In response to the prolonged applause Professor Gies obliged with two encores: an original dance by Franz Schubert and a burlesque composition, "Oh Dear, What can the Matter Be!" by Cyril Scott.

Well played throughout, the program displayed the versatility of which the Sinfonietta is capable. The mellow quality of the violins and celli was exceptionally fine, and the use of tympani for the first time in a Sinfonietta concert was justified by the added fullness which this innovation lent.

By B.G. and M. E.

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