

A Report of Two Weeks At Skidmore College

Editor's Note: Reprinted below are excerpts from a report given by Nannie Poole, one of the six Bennett girls who recently spent two weeks on the campus of Skidmore College as exchange students.

On April 12 at 9:40 p.m., with the able assistance of Mr. Scarlette, six excited Bennett students boarded the train en route to Skidmore College in Saratoga Springs, New York. Some 13 hours later we found ourselves being carried to the Skidmore College Police office where we met the chairman of the exchange program committee who directed us to our respective dormitories, or in reality, houses. Before retiring for the night we met our big sisters who acted as special hostesses to us during our two-week stay.

During the next two weeks we gained insight into the way of life at Skidmore and had many varied experiences that embodied the academic, social, and religious activities of the college.

Students there may select majors both in the field of liberal arts and specialized fields with direct emphasis on pre-professional training. One of the major differences we found was the absence of elementary education in the curriculum.

Most instructors teaching history, philosophy, and government employ lecture method in the classroom. In contrast to this no lecture hours are provided for some science courses, and all emphasis is placed on laboratory work with one hour a week designated as a reading period and period for individual conferences with the instructor.

A very extensive art program is offered at Skidmore. Included in this program is a course in weaving in which the culminating activities of the semester is the weaving of material and the making of a garment from it. The jewelry workshop produces work of such perfection that students have been able to receive as much as \$40 for a single piece of jewelry.

The percentage of students entering the field of education is low. The grading system is quite like

ours . . . It was quite evident that even though students may strive to pass their courses, little effort is put forth to excel in their academic work.

The college government association embodies all members of the college, both faculty and students. It has immediate responsibility for the student life. Since 1926 the foundation of the association has been the honor system. Most of its work directed by the honor system is channelled through the Honor Board, Legislative Council, Executive Board, and Judicial Board. The student body is headed by the "Big Four." This term is applied to the four young ladies who are chairmen of the aboved named branches of the College Government Association and preside at mass meetings of the student body.

All mass meetings as are regular Sunday vespers are not compulsory, but each student is expected to attend a certain number each semester.

One of the most important organizations on campus is the National Student Association Board. This board is responsible for planning and directing a program of activities for all other campus clubs and organizations. In addition to this, the board sponsors all foreign students enrolled at Skidmore, and this year for the first time, it directed a student exchange program.

The social life at Skidmore is directed mostly off campus. There are four big social weekends each year sponsored by each of the four classes. We participated in the final one for this year which was called "Singspiration" weekend.

The big sister relationship at Skidmore begins by any sophomore, junior, and senior filing a request for a freshman sister during the coming school year. Before the close of the school year she is assigned one of the prospective freshmen and during the summer they communicate, acquainting themselves with each other and Skidmore.

Each Bennett girl who went to Skidmore feels that this was a most enriching experience. We do hope that from this two-week program, an annual semester exchange will develop.



BENNETT "MOTHER OF YEAR"—Mrs. Dolly Turner, dance instructor, chosen by the student body at Bennett College, Greensboro, N. C., as "Mother of the Year," has rose corsage pinned on by Miss Nancy Kirby, of Haddonfield, N. J., at program Sunday in the David D. Jones Student Union. Mrs. Turner, a native of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, and in her first year at the college, was chosen "because she best exemplifies the characteristics and qualities of an ideal mother."

Your Inquiring Reporter

Question: "What is your opinion concerning the recent recession?"

Dr. Rose Karfiol, instructor: "I think it is temporary; and if the consumer will keep up his optimism, they will pick up the slack. I believe government spending will have a vigorating effect; and that if necessary, a tax reduction should be granted, but caution should be taken that this later method should only be applied if employment does

not pick up during the next two or three months. Tax reductions have always an inflationary trend."

Yvonne Redcross, '61: "At this point of the recession, people are worrying over tax cuts, their biggest fear being inflation. Even big industrial areas are feeling the pinch of the surprise recession mood. Congress, as far as I am concerned, needs to reorganize their whole program. They need to cut income and excise taxes. The individual American is now more aware of the "slump" our U. S. is in. It is no longer a recession, but a deep rooted depression in the minds of the American people. However, I do want an elevation in economics even to the point of increasing educational possibilities. The recession, I feel, is an awakening agent to let individuals know whether their taxes are being squandered or utilized effectively.

Gloria E. Brown, '60: "It has been called a "recession" and a depression". It has been given set name phrases such as the "saucer recession" and the "Polkadot recession." However, the question still remains prevalent in our thinking, in what kind of conditions does business find itself? The general consensus of opinion seems to be that the recession will not get any worse. It could imply then, from the latter statement, that the present economical difficulty did and is going through a recession.

"This new, somewhat optimistic outlook, might be encouraging for numerous business' concerns, but for those who have kept their eyes

Hurok Signs Erroll Garner

S. Hurok, leading concert impresario, has signed pianist Erroll Garner for exclusive concert representations in North America. This marks the first time that a jazz artist has been booked under the Hurok agency. Garner joins a roster of Hurok artists which includes Isaac Stern, Marian Anderson Gregor Piatogorsky, Artur Rubinstein, and the Moiseyev Dancers, among others.

Regarded by critics throughout the world as the most original and widely-accepted contemporary pianist to emerge from the jazz genre, Garner has won awards at home and abroad for his activities as a pianist and as a composer, including the Grand Prix du Disque from the French Academy of Arts. Earlier this season, he played to capacity concert crowds in Europe and the United States. Henceforth, Garner's annual plans will be key-stoned by his spring and fall concert tours, booked by Hurok. Remaining time will be divided between theaters, television and recording dates, and supper club appearances. Garner also plans an annual leave to work on his compositions, latest of which are included in his OTHER VOICES and SOLLIQUY albums at Columbia Records.

Garner's unusual scope on records, including his best-selling Columbia lp, CONCERT BY THE SEA, has won him the most cross-sectional audiences, ranging from jazz fans to long-hairs. In concerts, Garner, accompanied by a bassist and drummer, will continue to play improvisations based on some of his best-known recorded works, as well as treatments of works by other writers, and some of his own original unrecorded works. He currently is working on an extended composition for piano and orchestra, and is nearing a completion of a ballet score.

The Hurok Agency currently is setting concert dates for Garner's fall, '58 appearances, including a concert at Carnegie Hall. In signing Garner, Hurok announced that " . . . Garner is a unique and creative artist. It will be my pleasure to present him on the concert stages of the world".

Garner is the only jazz soloist scheduled to appear on the Ravinia, Illinois, summer Festival program, with two concerts, on July 2nd and 4th.

on heavy durable goods, especially steel and automobiles, have found the picture still depressing.

"It is my contention that more intensive studies should be made of the present economical problem. Secondly, action should be taken as a result of these investigations to prevent further injury to business."

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ROUND AND ROUND AND ROUND—Traditional wrapping of the May Pole is performed by Bennett College students at beginning of "A Wonderland fo Sports and Dance" presented Saturday afternoon by the physical education department.

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