

The OBSERVATION POST

DEADLINE
Thursday, March 17
 to apply for
OP Board of Directors
 See Editorial, page 2

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 LIBRARY G. G. N. Y.

Vol. V—No. 5

March 15, 1949

Three Committees Study Proposed M'ville Purchase

At the Board of Estimate meeting last Wednesday, the Manhattanville Purchase, with the endorsements of important city officials and prominent City Alumni, was referred to three committees for further consideration. The three committees, those of the Budget Director, the Commissioner of Planning, and the Realty Expert for New York City, will determine the feasibility of the Purchase, and a proper price. All three should report back to the Board of Estimate within four or five weeks so that direct negotiations for the property can begin.

Mayor Sympathetic

Speaking before the Board, Mayor O'Dwyer was strongly sympathetic with the needs of the College for expansion and hoped that the purchase would be successfully expedited.

Ninety of the College's most prominent alumni also came before the Board to speak in favor of the purchase. Mr. Jacob Shapiro, Chairman of the Steering Committee of the Centennial Fund, was spokesman for the group. He introduced important City graduates, such as Gano Dunn, President of the Cooper Union Institute, Judge Stanley Fuld, of the New York Supreme Court and Mr. John Schulman, famous New York attorney.

Prospects Look Good

Mr. Lester Nichols, head of the College's Public Relations Office, said that although nothing is known for certain, the prospects for the purchase of Manhattanville look very good. Mr. Nichols also stated that instead of easing back on the letter writing campaign, City students should intensify their efforts. However, they should now address their letters to the Board of Estimate, instead of to the Mayor.

Awards Offered

The New York School for Social Research has invited CCNY to nominate three senior students and one alternate for the Alvin Johnson Prize Graduate Scholarships in Social Science. These scholarships lead toward the Master's and Doctor's degree, in any of the following fields: Economics, Political Science, Public Administration (Govt.), Philosophy, Psychology, and Sociology. The award becomes effective in September, 1949. Students who expect to be graduated in June, 1949 may apply, provided that their field of concentration or specialization is one of the above. At least a "B" average in the field of concentration is also required. Applications, which must be filed not later than April 15, 1949, may be obtained from any of the Social Science offices.

Nine Students Called 'Anarchistic;' Council Fails to Act on Question

Inside OP This Week

- Plant's Dragon p. 2
- L. U. S. p. 3
- Frosh Five p. 4

Group Approves New 'OP' Charter

With the approval of OP's charter by the Student-Faculty Committee on Student Activities, the *Observation Post* Staff Association today publishes the first issue under its sole sponsorship. Previous to this issue sponsorship was shared with AVC and the Veterans' Association, while it was in existence.

The charter provides that the editorial policy of the paper shall be decided upon by a board of directors that shall consist of the following:

1. Three representatives of the OP staff association.
 2. One representative of a departmental organization of the School of Technology.
 3. Two representatives of two departmental organizations of the School of Liberal Arts and or the School of Education.
 4. One representative of the American Veterans Committee (National 790) provided the chapter operates in accordance with its charter and has 75 members in good standing.
 5. And sufficient representatives of other organizations which are members of the Student Council.
- It also states that, "No organization shall be a member of the board for more than once in three consecutive semesters, except for the OP staff association and the A.V.C."

Seven organizations have already applied but applications will be accepted until Thursday at 2 p.m. Please mail all communications to OP, Box 207, CCNY-Main.

Boatride Planned

Come rain, shine, or high water, the annual College Boat Ride will take place on Sunday, May 22, according to Jerry Gross, Chairman of the Student Council Boat Ride Committee and Class of '51 President. Ticket sales have tentatively been set for April 19.

All interested in joining the Boat Ride Committee are advised to see Jerry or Flo Goodstein, Chairman of the Publicity Committee, any afternoon in the Student Council Office, Room 38, Main.

Prof. Cross Addresses SC During Meeting; SFCSA Gets Wallace Club Elections Case

By Phil Scheffler

Publication and distribution of two leaflets accusing nine students of being "anarchistic" and "unscrupulous" in connection with their activities in an anti-Davis and anti-Knickerbocker demonstration during the City-NYU game at Madison Square Garden,

led to protracted parliamentary bickering at last Friday's Student Council meeting. The leaflets were distributed by the Young Liberals and the Young Democrats Friday morning.

During the course of the meeting, a motion was introduced to advance eight points on the agenda—the discussion of the Garden incident. It was at this point that the bickering began. "Party whips" rounded up potential votes and the air became filled with numerous points of order, privilege, and parliamentary inquiry.

Nothing Accomplished

Despite the urgency of the issue and the need for lifting the weight of worry from the accused, nothing was accomplished on the question during the meeting.

Preceding the debate on the Garden incident, Professor Ephraim Cross (Romance Languages) told Council that there is no need for another investigation to provide a basis for a trial of Professor William E. Knickerbocker, accused of anti-Semitic practices in the Romance Languages Department. Professor Cross added, "City College is a microcosm. We have here, within these four walls, all the evils of the outside world."

Suspension Possible

During the question period following the talk, it was brought out that President Wright could have exercised his power to suspend members of the faculty who have been charged with mis-conduct, as in the case of Professor Knickerbocker.

Earlier in the meeting, SC voted to bring Students for Wallace before the Student-Faculty Committee on Student Activities on charges of failure to obey a Council ruling of last semester. The ruling ordered Students for Wallace to apologize for a violation of election regulations, but up till now, the club has refused.



Professor Ephraim Cross has been intimately connected with the Knickerbocker case since 1945. In that year, he and three other members of the Romance Languages Department charged Professor William E. Knickerbocker, Chairman of the Department, with anti-Semitism in regard to promotions, hirings, and remarks within the department. Since that time, the question has been reviewed by a committee of the general faculty of the College, the Board of Higher Education, both of whom exonerated Knickerbocker, and the City Council, who supported the charges. The case is currently before the State Commissioner of Education as a result of a petition sent to him by Student Council, the four complainants, and the American Jewish Congress.

Legislature Debates Measure Barring 'Subversive' Teachers

By Ed Rosenberg

Taking a cue from the Ober Bill which has now become law in Maryland, the New York State Legislature is considering a bill which would automatically bar from school employment any person affiliated with an organization listed as "subversive" by the Board of Regents.

This bill is intended to replace the Maahs Bill which had already passed the Assembly and, according to Ben Karr of the Teacher's Union, "makes a copy of the Federal pattern" which authorizes the Board of Regents to create a list of "subversive organizations." Any person either on the faculty or the administrative staff of any institution under the aegis of the Board of Regents is liable to removal by the Board for association or sympathy with such groups.

Republican leaders in the State Legislature, according to the *New York Times* of March 11, have made it plain that the trial of the eleven Communist Party leaders

in Federal Court in Manhattan is what made it possible for such a bill to be brought forth. The effectiveness of the new bill as well as existing legislation depends in great measure upon the outcome of the trial.

The bill mentions the Communist Party by name, and demands the ouster of "subversive elements" from employment in public schools.

Teacher's Union Opposed

The Teacher's Union, Local 555, has voiced its unequivocal opposition to the bill, along with the National Lawyers Guild, the American Labor Party, the American Civil Liberties Union, and the United Public Workers of America (UPWA). The Teacher's Union urges that letters and telegrams condemning the bill be sent to Gov. Dewey and Senate Majority Leader Elmer F. Quinn, and is organizing delegations to go to Albany to demand the killing of what they call "unconstitutional and repressive legislation."

Correction

In our story last week on the Rooster Nation, we neglected to mention that the design for the pin was conceived and executed by Aristides Gaston. We commend him for his effort and apologize for overlooking him.

The Editor

OBSERVATION POST

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All opinions expressed in the editorial column of this newspaper are determined by a majority vote of the Board of Directors.

Student Council and the Garden

THE SPECTACLE OF last Friday night's Student Council meeting was one that could only evoke feelings of disgust and pity. Here was a body, dedicated to the service of the student, which saw fit to talk long and mightily in the best Southern tradition, to the detriment of decent student government.

If Council had nothing important to discuss, our attitude in the matter might conceivably be different. But, nine students happened to be involved in a situation that could—if decisions were against them—destroy or greatly harm their futures. These students had been accused of actions unbecoming students, during the NYU game in the Garden last week, and were the recipients of strong words of censure in leaflets distributed throughout the school at the end of the week.

Council disregarded all pleas that these cases be taken up immediately; instead, it argued for hours on the most insignificant and trivial points of procedure. A prompt consideration of the charges would have cleared up the question of SC's jurisdiction in an affair that took place out of school—a sphere in which Observation Post feels Student Council does not have a voice.

Censoring Leaflets

IN THE PAST the Department of Student Life and the Facilities Committee of Student Council justified their censorship of leaflets on the grounds that certain statements were libelous or incorrect.

Apparently the blue pencils ran out of lead last week because a leaflet published by the Young Democrats and the Young Liberals concerning "L'Affaire Nitwit," which, if not legally libelous, was as close to libel as one can get.

Basketball Farewell

WE THOUGHT WE would have to cry in our beer when writing our farewell editorial to the 1948-49 basketball team. The College five, chosen for the National Invitation Tourney, fell victim to a fifteen point trouncing at the hands of Loyola of Chicago. To say the least, we hadn't done well.

We have just learned, however, that Loyola has beaten Kentucky's Wildcats by eleven points. Considering that Kentucky is rated tops in the nation, we figure that maybe we did all right losing by a mere fifteen tallies.

Although the boys couldn't quite make the national championship grade this season, we'll string along with the old Brooklyn adage and "wait till next year."

OP Policy

OUR CHARTER WAS officially accepted last Wednesday by the Student Faculty Committee on Student Affairs.

We ask all student organizations having more than seventy-five members to apply for membership on the Board of Directors, the editorial-making body of OP. Applications should be signed by the president of the organization and should list: membership; specific activities during the past two semesters; the aims and purposes outlined in the group's charter. Mail correspondence to OP, Box-207.

T. W. Casting For Jonson's 'Epicene'

Theatre workshop has chosen Ben Jonson's hilarious comedy, "Epicene," or "The Silent Woman" to bring to a close its dramatic activities for this semester. Casting for "The Silent Woman" will be held in Townsend Harris Auditorium from 3 to 5 o'clock Monday, March 14 to Friday, March 18. The proposed cast of twenty-five insures a good proportion of juicy roles, both for males and females.

The production will be an elaborate one with colorful costume designed for the Theatre Workshop by the well-known Lamont Studio. The musical score will be composed by Jack Wasserman, a student of the College. The play, as usual, will be under the direction of Mr. Wilson Lehr of T.W.

Twists in Plot

The play concerns a legacy, a plot to insure the obtaining of the legacy, and a marriage, which, to say the least, is highly irregular. A scheme is devised to marry off an uncle who hates prattling women. In order to circumvent this dilemma, a young man is persuaded to dress and act the part of a blushing young bride. From then on, the fun really starts. It seems three very friendly and worldly wise women indoctrinate this innocent young "woman" into the secrets of men and life in general.

The production will be held May 11, 14, and 15, at the Pauline Edwards Theatre. Tickets will sell for fifty cents and may be purchased at the Beaver Student Shop, Concert Bureau, or Room 220A.

S. W.

Plant's 'Dragon in the Forest' Is Novel of Interwar Germany

By Fred Streit

It is difficult to word a fitting description of "Dragon in the Forest," a semi-autobiographical novel by Dr. Richard E. Plant of the German Department. Upon reading this novel and then informally interviewing its author, we can better appreciate the story of the "growing up" of Willy

to follow a leader such as Hitler." In the Wandervogel, which was similar to and yet fundamentally different from our Boy Scouts, Willy seeks an outlet to nature, away from the realism of daily life. The author tells of the unknown side of the life of German youth and contradicts the widely accepted theory that all German youth movements in themselves were completely militaristic.

Analyzing his own experience, Dr. Plant feels that the life of a typical Willy Halder today would be more hectic, more uncertain, than that of the period of which he writes. The Willy of today lives among rubble and ruin since, he says, the world has no desire to see Germany rebuilt into the great industrial nation she once was.

The author was born in Frankfurt-am-Main, Germany, shortly before World War I. His education was furthered at the Universities of Berlin, Basel and Frankfurt.

An ambition of Dr. Plant is to teach creative writing, having been spurred on by the many inquiries on "how to write a book." When this reporter phrased the same question, the author replied, "There are two types of authors; the instinctive type who do not use any prepared outline, and the planners, like myself, who build their books around a desired skeleton."

Regardless of what method he uses, most of America's leading critics have called Dr. Plant a fine creative artist.



DR. RICHARD E. PLANT

Halder in Germany during the period between the two world wars. The book presents to the reader the life of a young German idealist, and is written almost directly from the experiences of Dr. Plant. In his words:

German youth is idealistic and easy prey to a domineering leader. American youth is further oriented in the ways of life and is less apt

Hillel Reviews 25 Years Of Work; To Hold Pageant

By Perry Russell

Twenty-five years ago, Rabbi Benjamin Frankel and Dr. Edward C. Baldwin, professor at the University of Illinois, conceived a plan to acquaint young Jewish people with their heritage. This plan has grown into the 191 B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundations in colleges and universities throughout the United States, Canada, and

Cuba. A pageant celebrating this Silver Jubilee will be presented at Hunter College on March 17th, where the principal speaker will be Rabbi A. J. Lelyveld, National Director.

600 Members at City

The Hillel Foundation at the College was started about five years ago and comprises almost 600 students. Each Foundation is autonomous, establishing its own policies and providing its own program. The Metropolitan Student Council of the B'nai B'rith Foundations advocates a greater unity among the Foundations in matters that affect them all, but such unity is at all times voluntary.

Hillel here at the College emphasizes educational and creative

works. There is a choir, the IZ-FA, dance groups, classes in Hebrew history and language, and a discussion group. A library of Jewish literature and general publications is available for the members' use. Each Friday there is Oneg Shabbat with free wine and cake served. Hillel has an active basketball team and is in the process of forming a softball group. There is something happening at Hillel to suit every taste and enough activity to accommodate almost every whim.

Welfare Fund

More serious work is being planned for this Spring. In the past, the Foundation had 81 foreign students brought to this country, but because of new laws concerning "displaced persons," this work has been suspended. This Spring a Welfare Fund campaign will begin with the monies going primarily to the United Jewish Association.

Letters

Dear Editor:

In the brief period of four weeks which I have spent at City College, I have been impressed by the extreme resentment against two members of the faculty who acted in a manner not worthy of their positions as American citizens.

Racial or religious segregation or prejudice against any minority is really an insult to our free public institutions. We must take action against those who preach hate.

On various occasions acts of racial discrimination have been cited against the Hotel St. George. Yet, in the last issue of *Compass* (Mar. 4, 1949), I found an advertisement for this hotel's swimming pool.

I feel that that advertisement is inconsistent with the general feeling and policies of the student body in regard to bigotry. I hope that, in the future, action will be taken to boycott the Hotel St. George and not to publicize its dubious advantages.

Morris Rubin '51

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City in review

SPORTS JAMBOREE . . . Here are the promised details on the House Plan Sports Jamboree slated for March 26, at 8 P.M. in the Hygiene Building. Exhibitions of posing, fencing, gymnastics, hand balancing, boxing, wrestling, and weight lifting are promised for the occasion. Mr. New York State, Kipon Voyages, and Mr. New York City, Val Pasqua, have promised to pose at the affair. Bill Cedas and his four year old daughter, Linda, will do a hand balancing act. A dance will follow with music provided by Buddy Vardi and his orchestra. Tickets, at 50c each, are on sale at HP and the proceeds will be turned over to the Centennial Fund.

THAT'S A JOKE, SON . . . The editors of Mercury, the College's Humor Magazine, Perry Antoshak and Shelly Weiss, have informed us that the magazine will be on the stands on or about April 7.

1952 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION . . . The Statistical Society will present Solomon Dutka, a City graduate, at present a statistician for the Elmo Koper Organization, speaking on what happened in the last election and what he feels should be done in the future. The talk will take place on March 17 in room 202 at 12:30.

PLAN HONOR FRAT . . . A group of Civil Engineering students are petitioning Chi Epsilon, the National Honorary CE Fraternity, for permission to set up a chapter here. Their prospective faculty advisor is Prof. Leslie W. Engler.

G MAN . . . Special Agent R. M. Whalen, will speak on "The Work of the FBI," under the sponsorship of the Government-Law Society, on March 17 at 12:30 in room 224.

SEE HERE, PARDNER . . . If you can walk, you can ride a horse. The Saddle Club will present sound films on the "Fundamentals of Riding," on March 17 in the Drill Hall at 12:30. Riding at reduced rates and under professional instruction, the club rendezvous at the Chateau Riding Academy, 31 West 98 Street, each Saturday at 8 and 10 a.m.

FROM A MAN WHO KNOWS . . . President Harry N. Wright will speak before the History Society on the "Meaning of Academic Freedom," on Thursday, March 17 in room 105 at 12:45.

A STRAUSS WALTZ . . . Deutsches Verein is planning a session for lovers of German music to be held on March 17 at 12:15 in room 304. The music of Johann Strauss will be featured.

DEVELOPING IN THE DARK . . . The House Plan darkroom is now available for the use of all HP members. Free instruction will be provided for the use of all equipment. Further info available in the back office at 292 Convent Avenue.

WATER TREATMENT . . . Mr. R. C. Thiede of the General Aniline and Film Corp. will address the Baskerville Chem Society on March 17 at 12:30 in Doremus Hall on the subject of "Water treatment."

PSYCH CASES . . . Dr. J. McHunt will elaborate on "Measurement and Social Case Work" before the next assemblage of the Psych Society on March 17 at 12:30 in Webster Hall.

Fred Streit

It is requested that all CITY IN REVIEW notices be submitted to the OP office (16A Main) by 4 P.M. each Thursday for publication in the following issue if space will permit. To facilitate the preparation of this column, please give the exact information needed and spell out complete names and titles.

Bio Review on Sale

The Biological Review, now in its eleventh year of publication, will be on sale throughout the College this week.

The Review, sponsored by the Department of Biology, the Biological Caduceus, and Bacterio-

logical Societies, and the Naturalists' Seminar, features an article on the "Social Organization of the Beaver" and papers by Professor Chaikelis and Mr. Seligson of the Biology Department.

Business Review

The City College Business Review is accepting manuscripts for its Spring edition.

All articles should be about 2500 words long and be submitted by April 11.

Submit all material through Box No. 245, City College Uptown.

College Calendar

The publicity committee of Student Council is planning to enlarge the "Collage Calendar" into a comprehensive brochure to be distributed every week. Organizations interested in this convenient publicity outlet should submit announcements through the SC mail box, in room 20 Main, or mail to Phil Letter, 39 E. 208 St., Bronx 67, N.Y.

Deadline is Friday night for publication on the following Tuesday.

AVC: Extend 52-20

Realizing that the great majority of veterans graduating this semester will enter the increasing ranks of the unemployed, the American Veteran's Committee decided, at its last membership meeting, to initiate a campaign to extend the time limits of the Serviceman's Readjustment Allowance Law (52-20).

Mel Witkin, Acting Chairman of the College's A.V.C. chapter, told the members that if the Law is terminated on July 25, according to the measure passed by the 80th Congress, it will be a "severe blow to the job-seeking graduating veteran who, now more than ever, needs financial aid."

Mr. Witkin emphasized the importance of activating the on-campus veterans in the proposed campaign.

Sommers Sighs, Sings for Dramsoc

By Ted Fettman

"Danny Churchill had to be played by someone able to sing, act, and dance. When casting was over it narrowed down to my getting the part." This was the way in which Bill Sommers explained how he earned the lead role in Dramsoc's forthcoming production, "Girl Crazy."

Bill, who has already appeared on television as both singer and dramatist, remarked that he felt it "a terrific opportunity to work with this type of show" and gratefully acknowledged the "good experience" he would get from it.

But the young tenor's job doesn't stop at playing the lead role. As Technical Director of the Society

The Dramatic Society presents George Gershwin's "GIRL CRAZY" March 25, 26, 27 at the Pauline Edwards Theatre. Tickets on sale at the Convent Bureau at 85c.

he handles the sets. "The building of sets means a lot of hard work. We have to construct new flats and even runnige among dusty old ones."

He smilingly remarked that "the stage of the Pauline Edwards Theatre presented some particularly difficult problems."

"There's a lot of physical strain in producing a show. The same lines have to be constantly repeated. Proper stage poise has to be perfected. And you're always on your feet. It's definitely not all play and no work. But it's the kind of work we enjoy."

'Observation Post' Invites IUS Officers' Visit Here

Three top officers of the International Union of Students, scheduled to visit the United States next month, have been invited to speak to College students by the Managing Board of *Observation Post*, it was announced Friday.

The OP invitation, according to a Managing Board statement, does not imply approval of, or agreement with, the IUS principles or program, but is being extended for the purpose of giving College students an opportunity to hear and judge views with which they might not otherwise come into contact. The newspaper has stipulated that full discussion must be allowed at any meeting at which the IUS officers appear.

The three, President Josef Grohman, a Czechoslovak engineering student, Secretary Thomas Madden, a British medical student, and a third un-named officer, probably from India, have already been asked to appear here by the Evening Session Student Council.

NSA Handles Tour

The tour is being sponsored by the Association of Internes and Medical Students (a member of the IUS) and the Committee for International Student Cooperation. The National Student Association has agreed to take responsibility for the visitors, and has consented to handle scheduling arrangements throughout the nation.

According to Columbia graduate student Russell Austin, temporary chairman of the newly-formed Welcoming Committee, the tour is "expected to give first-hand information on the IUS' program and activities to a large number

Call For Golfers

A call for golfers has been issued by the Athletic Association. Students interested should contact Mr. Reilly in the A. A. office.

The one requirement is that the applicant must shoot under 90.

Join the BASKERVILLE Chemical SOCIETY

of American students, and it is hoped that the tour will have a constructive effect in building the understanding and friendship which will lead to enduring peace."

Swap Column

Non-commercial swap ads will be accepted until 4 p.m. Wednesday in the OP office (16A Main). There will be NO CHARGE for the first insertion (four line maximum). Any later insertions or insertions of more than four lines will be taken at the classified ad rate which is 20c per line (about four words).

To answer the ads below write to: THE SWAP COLUMN, OBSERVATION POST, BOX 207, THE MAIN BUILDING Mail Room at the rear of Lincoln Corridor or mailed to: OBSERVATION POST, BOX 207, THE CITY COLLEGE, 138th ST. & CONVENT AVE., NEW YORK 31, N.Y.

Be sure to include in the address and be letter, the OP code number corresponding to the advt.

SWAP OR SELL

CLASSICAL RECORD COLLECTION: Singles and automatic sequence albums; pre-war and collector's items. Whole or part sold. Available disc.—30% off. —YA

MIMOGRAPH MACHINE, automatic feed; slightly used, but perfect condition. Quick sale \$80 or equivalent value. —YB

TWO CHARMING LADIES will swap their company for transportation to Washington, D. C. by car during the Easter Vacation. —YC

STAMPS: Israeli commemoratives; "Cyprus" postmark; European; American; for Israeli above 50 mils. —YD

HAM STATION: transmitter-neck T-60, 60 Watt AM, with 10 & 20 coils, receiver N.C. 100 ASD. Perfect. —YE

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