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Ithaca College

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Five Girls Pledged At Oracle Services

The Oracle triumvirate will become an octet after formal initiation service on October 23. The pledges of the summer and fall semester will officially become members at that time of the upper-class honorary society of Ithaca College.

Beverly Miller was pledged as a second term junior in July of this year. Betty Mitchell, senior, was issued the silver star at a service in October along with three junior girls: Eleanor Segal, Barbara Rumsey, and Dorothy Schroeter.

Up to this time the Music department has had the largest representation. Though the musicians are still at the fore, the Drama division has gained an additional member, and the Physical Education department is now represented. The fact that all the members and pledges are girls is an evident sign of the times.

Alumni and faculty members are expected to attend the traditional initiation service at the home of President Job the afternoon of October 23.

Sophs Choose Reps

At Ithaca College there is no discrimination between the departments, nor between the different classes. And there's no discrimination between the sexes. Well, almost none; it was found in the election of class officers Tuesday night, October 5, that the girls in the Sophomore class prefer boys. Ken Nathanson, newly elected treasurer, owes his office to his own virtues, of course; but not a few votes were thrown his way on the ground that "there should be at least one masculine representative on the staff of officers." Quite a reversal from former years.

After a speech from Mr. Finch, the faculty advisor of the class, the election took place. Mary Alice Hilgenburg is now the president; Connie Conroe, vice-president; Nina Pendleton, secretary; and Ken Nathanson, treasurer.

First Term Extended

For those who plan to sail through their Christmas vacations partying and dancing without a thought in the world about school, the following news will be most unwelcome.

The first semester is being extended to include a week of instruction after the Christmas recess and will end Friday, January 7, 1944, at five o'clock. During that time examinations will be given.

The Seniors will be graduated before Christmas and will not be required to return, but think how much more the underclassmen will be getting for their money in an extra week of instruction.

Democracy At Ithaca College

For a long time there has been talk of the "Ithaca College spirit", but although people have sensed its presence, they have been unable to say what it is, or where it came from. It has always been that "intangible something" that makes this school so different from many another.

Can it be that the democratic attitude of College students is the foundation on which this spirit is built? We suggest that it is, for certainly such a spirit is manifested here in many ways.

For example, we know of few institutions where there is so little racial prejudice. There has never been a sign of racial discrimination among us. And this universal tolerance has broken down existing prejudices of newcomers to the school.

Some time ago a student entered Ithaca College after a brief sojourn at one of the country's large universities, where he had met a racial prejudice which he could not endure. He came to Ithaca with a belligerent attitude, ready to strike out at anyone who offended him even slightly. But he found no offense. Not that I.C. students were being consciously virtuous; they just gave no thought to such matters, and within a few months his bellicose attitude, his entire wall of self-defense, had been broken down and he was at ease with everyone.

No matter whether a person has exceptional talent or not, he is accepted as one of the group and given equal opportunity for achievement. Students are always ready to give criticism to one another, yet there is nothing malicious in this. They are just as ready to concede a top position to a person who actually deserves it. In many places this is not the case. The talented people are so very often spoiled for society because they come to look upon themselves as having reached perfection. When this happens they generally fall into a habit of criticizing everything, and doing so in terms of themselves.

But the cooperative spirit and good fellowship which result from the democratic point of view at the College we often enjoy and accept without realizing how significant they are. We are likely to pass over the vital implications. If democracy can work here, can it not work elsewhere?

An Ithaca College graduate, now in the Army, returned recently from the South where he had spent some time. In a conversation with one of his former professors, he discussed the Negro situation. He felt very strongly that people of the colored race should definitely be made inferior (as they are in the South) in all their connections with whites. Further discussion brought out the fact that this is not the way to achieve peace and happiness. The soldier then expressed his surprise over the fact that he had spent four years in an atmosphere of complete democracy, enjoyed all its benefits, but still did not realize it. Because he had taken this attitude so much for granted, he derived no benefit from it at all, carrying no trace of it into his later life.

How does it happen that there are race riots today in Detroit? Why did American boys of the Navy attack and abuse the Mexican-Americans in Los Angeles?

It would appear that their American ideals are hardly fully realized. Their tolerance lies only in a narrow, limited circle. For them, out of tolerance for a certain group, is bred intolerance for others. They have learned no vital lesson from practical democracy.

But we here at Ithaca College have been building up what is probably an antidote for these racial discriminations. If we can only realize the values that we enjoy here from this democracy, we shall have taken the first step. Then we can carry with us, after graduation, into whatever field we go, a true understanding of democracy and the democratic attitude. Then the "Ithaca College spirit" will no longer be a local thing, but a vital influence on the lives of everyone who comes in contact with it.

"The Cradle Song" Slated For December Production

December playbills for the Ithaca College theatre will carry the name, "The Cradle Song", the title of the second play of the semester. This production will go into rehearsal immediately following the final performances of "Love From A Stranger".

Co-authors of "The Cradle Song" are Gregorio and Maria Martinez Sierra. Gregorio alone wrote "The Kingdom of God", which was presented here in the spring of '42.

Mr. Reich, the director, and Mr. Finch, department head, have selected this play as a result of several considerations. The one which concerns the most of the departmental students is the variety of character-types. Predominant are the women's parts, for the action takes place in a convent. There are nine main roles, all sisters in the convent with the exception of the child who grows up there. Four good parts are open to the actors in the school.

The appeal that a play of this type has for an audience is another decisive factor. It is a noteworthy item that the best selling novels for the past three years have been centered around a religious theme and the element of faith. "Keys of the Kingdom", "The Robe", and "The Song of Bernadette" all have atmosphere similar to that of "The Cradle Song".

Though new to the students of the college, this play will be recalled by some faculty and town folk who witnessed its presentation ten years ago on the college stage. Mrs. Virginia Beeler played the leading role, but then as now one of the feature attractions was the baby on stage in the first act.

Tryouts are scheduled for Monday and Tuesday, October 25, 26, during the hours 3-6. Rehearsals will get under way on Thursday, October 28. Performances will be presented December 3, 4 and 10, 11.

Phy. Eds. Plan Program

The Phy. Ed. department has planned a full program of activity this year despite the shortage of men and the decreased number of students.

Although there is no organized football team, men students are learning football techniques and fundamentals from Mr. Freeman.

The girls have organized a soccer team under the direction of Mr. Yavits. Plans are being laid for games with Cornell teams in the very near future.

Good news for all basketball fans is the fact that a basketball schedule has been arranged. It will be somewhat curtailed because of transportation problems, but a nucleus team will be ready to play. Games are being planned with representative teams from Cornell University and nearby colleges.

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Spatz Makes Zeller First Lieutenant

Doctor Winn F. Zeller, former director of the Drama Dept. of Ithaca College, has really made his mark in the Army Air Corp.

Doctor Zeller has become 1st Lt. Zeller. The promotion took place on Sept. 8th., the same day that Italy surrendered. It came as a direct promotion from Lt. General Carl Spaatz, Commander of the Air Forces in the area.

Among the advantages of his new job, says Lt. Zeller, are his living quarters. He is living in a French Villa with a French family. The place, from the description given, sounds out of this world.

"There's a huge patio and a garden. I have an apartment which has walls covered with Japanese prints, a Russian Ikon, statuary in niches . . . This part of Africa is most enjoyable, and on the whole I prefer it to most parts I've seen previously."

Lt. Zeller expects his next assignment to take him to Sicily, and it will be with understandable regret that he will leave the lovely French "Billet".

Frosh Elections

Tues. Oct. 19
 11-2

Dr. Landon's Office

"Swing Club" Starts As Phy. Ed. Activity

Organization of a "Swing Club" by the Physical Education Department is bringing about a revival of Early American social dancing at Ithaca College.

In the last century ball room dancing consisted of round and square dances calculated to develop grace and nimbleness. Such dancing has been revived recently in Colorado, where 800 people meet in traditional costume for an evening of fun and activity.

Miss Hugger, sponsor of the new "Swing Club", says, "We want to do the typical American dances in their proper form and spirit—eliminating the rowdiness that has somehow become connected with folk-dancing. The club will be mainly to provide a good evening's entertainment. However, we would like to perfect our dancing to a point where it can be used for demonstration purposes."

All the dances will be of the old-fashioned type—square and round—like the polka and the schottische.

Men of all departments are invited to become members, but, for the present, only girls of the Physical Education department are eligible for membership.

Meetings will be held every Thursday night from 7:30 to 9:00 in the gym and dancing will be under the direction of Miss Hugger.

Campus Calendar

- Oct. 15, Friday
 Little Theatre 8:15
 "Love from a Stranger"
- Oct. 16, Saturday
 "Love from a Stranger"
 Phi Delta Pi House Dance
 8:30-12
- Oct. 22, Friday
 Little Theatre 8:15
 "Love from a Stranger"
- Oct. 23, Saturday
 "Love from a Stranger"
- Oct. 27, Wednesday
 Student recital

McGaw Leaves College For Navy Commission

For the second time in eleven months Dr. McGaw has bidden farewell to Ithaca College.

Last November he made a very sedate departure and was given a party and gift by the Drama Department. This time, however, he left in a flurry of excitement, and so quickly that some people scarcely realized he was gone.

Having received a Lieutenant's (j. g.) commission in the U.S.N.R. in early September, Dr. McGaw was awaiting definite assignment to duty. On Tuesday, October 5, just as he was leaving his office to purchase Navy uniforms, the telephone rang, and he received his orders to report at once.

He immediately gathered together all his things and made ready to go. Getting on the train with a huge folding bag presented something of a problem, but Dr. McGaw rose to the occasion and got aboard with no serious mishaps, thanks to his previous experience in the taxi service.

He is now in Detroit for his final physical examination and for final instructions, and will report to Princeton on October 15.

Student Tickets

For Play
 Available at
 Business Office

At Your Service

"The train is leaving in five minutes!" "A taxi is supposed to be here but it didn't come!" "We have to get home!" "This is the only possible train!" "What shall we do?!"

Two Frosh went bursting into Mr. Finch's office with those plaintive cries on their lips and from there on the action began. Mr. Finch leapt to his feet, called Dr. McGaw from the lobby, gave him the keys to his car, and in an instant Dr. McGaw was dashing down the street with two traveling bags in his hands and the two Frosh tagging along at his heels.

MAIL CALL

Dear Johnnie:

Here we are again after a brief lull due to such little things as assignments, rehearsals, week-ends 'n such. We've had a few late hours the last few weeks because the dorms and sororities have been having house openings.

The rounds were completed last week, and we had a gay old time climbing the three flights to the top of Newman Hall and trying out the ping-pong paddles at Hilliard. Your picture certainly looked spiffy in its place of honor on the dresser. On you a uniform looks good.

Speaking of uniforms—a few of them have appeared on the old campus recently. The Phi Mu boys—with a rare exception—seem to pop up quite frequently. Joe Cilacek spent one night at the House on the Hill, and Bob Messinger was around last week-end.

Remember reading about the big explosion down Norfolk way? Bruce Flaherty, now roaming around in his bell-bottom trousers, tells an amazing tale of escape from that den of ? . Seems as how the lad, a radio man on a Navy plane, had taken a jaunt up to Lakehurst, and just missed being at the spot marked "x" on the photographs. Bruce traded his navy togs in the early part of the week and donned paint-spattered overalls to help George and the stage crew on the set of "Love From A Stranger".

Their other assistant was also an ex-grip, none other than Vinnie Setticase. He's been loaned by the Army to his family's farm to insure against crop shortage this winter. While in the service Vinnie had the unusual task of taking trainloads of Italian prisoners across the prairies, from St. Louis to the Dakotas, Montana and Colorado. In conversation with some of them he found that they were amazed to find New York unharmed from German bombs. The expansiveness of the farms also proved surprising to them. They expressed confidence in an Allied victory, and some said that they hoped to be able to remain in this country after the war.

One of Mother Steve's pride and joys has done it again. This time it's Al Formichella. This Phi E. K. man was graduated from the Army school as the third best bombardier in the whole U. S.! He's been labeled valuable material, and has been sent to Deming, New Mexico, where he'll be permanently stationed as an instructor. Well—as permanently as anything the Army says can be. Guess you know how that is.

Well, Johnnie—boy, it's almost time for dining-hall, and unless I dash I'll have to go back on a liquid diet. Do write when you have a second. We'll try to keep you posted on events here at school. 'Bye now.

Yours for the Duration

P. S. We've "damned the torpedoes" and are going "full speed ahead"; SCAMPERS goes on in November.

BADMINTON BEGINS

In an effort to establish extra-curricular activities for everyone, members of the Physical Education Department have formed a badminton group.

The "Birdie Club", as it will be called from now on, wants members—both boys and girls from all departments. The only requirement is that members provide their own racquets. The club intends to supply birds by means of club dues.

Officers recently chosen are chairman, Violet Schallenberg; secretary-treasurer, Dorothy Schroeter; publicity chairman, Angie Fischette. Dr. Grimshaw is the sponsor.

Meetings will take place every Wednesday from 7:00 to 9:00 in the gym.

Dr. Grimshaw expressed the hope that this group will be the first of many that will make for greater cooperation among Ithaca College students and also provide entertaining and beneficial outside activities.

SCAMPERS STARTED

Daredevils of the female species are in the spotlight on the campus these days. A trio of ingenues, Day, Hull and Young, steeped in tradition and saturated with determination are charting the course which will lead to the 1943 production of SCAMPERS.

Complications are slightly more pronounced than before. Of necessity the responsibilities are to be assumed by a smaller group. The predominance of feminine contributions only follows the ratio established by the enrollment. However, SCAMPERS has always been one of the feature events of the year; so Oracle plans to produce the traditional offering.

With production scheduled for November 18, 19, 20, the committees are working diligently to complete script and music. Try-outs will be held the last part of October. Vital, explanatory information will be posted on the bulletin boards in the lobby of the administration building.