

Editorial

We Did It!

It was a hard struggle. The weeks became months, the months, a semester and more, and still the struggle continued. But, finally, against overwhelming odds, the goal was reached, the target achieved. And now —

Stern College has a newspaper!

We of the Journalism Club are proud to present this "first step" towards a school newspaper. The news may not be as up-to-date as the *Tribune's*, not as literate as the *Times*, but the news is of, about, and for our school. And—it's printed!

Until now, the Journalism club has spent its time practicing newspaper writing of all kinds, from news coverage to interviews to features. And, to be perfectly frank, we learned at least one lesson from this activity — we definitely needed (and still do need) the practice. So we continued writing without thought of immediate printing, for when we eventually published, we wanted to publish a paper worth reading.

And, although students outside the club were beginning to despair of ever having a paper, we held out until we noticed a little improvement in our work, and until we, too, became impatient for a printed page. We then took the big step — we decided to go to press.

Of course, once our deadline was set, there were a few hundred minor details to be set straight — such as, reminding long absent members of the existence of the club, finding a printer, and the like, — but, to paraphrase an old saw, the paper had to "go on."

We hope the paper is one which you, the student body, will enjoy reading. We'll welcome any ideas or suggestions you may have.

And now — happy reading!

Policy Changed On Scholarships College Board Will Read Applications

A revision in the policy for awarding scholarships to students in all schools of Yeshiva University has been announced by the office of the Bursar.

The change was decided upon at a March 19 meeting of university officials with Dr. Samuel Belkin presiding. Yeshiva in the future will employ the College Scholarship Service, which was created by the College Entrance Examination Board, to recommend scholarships objectively on the basis of need, scholastic ability, and character.

To obtain this non-partisan appraisal of scholarship applications, current students will be required, as before, to file formal applications for scholarships each academic year. These forms will be submitted directly to the office of the Bursar, who will consult with the College Scholarship Service for their analysis and recommendation.

Appeals Can Be Made

The Bursar's office will then inform the student about his request. Appeals on decisions can be made in writing through the office of the Bursar.

According to the Bursar's bulletin, which announced this change, the determining considerations for the new procedure

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Sandra Drozen Had the Ticket, Now Has Free Trip

Sandra Drozen is the winner of an all expense paid trip to Israel with the ticket she reluctantly bought from Deanna Sines, a Stern freshman.

"No kidding! I don't believe you!" was Sandy's reaction when informed that she had won the Mizrahi Hatzair raffle drawn April 29 at the Israel Anniversary banquet in the Hotel Commodore.

Sandy will leave for Israel about July 7 with the Mizrahi Hatzair Summer Institute. She will return about August 27.

A native of Buffalo, New York, Sandy attended high school there. She is a freshman majoring in sociology.

Rating Group to Come

Delegates from the Middle States Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools will arrive at Stern College November 9 to conduct a three-day investigation of the college for purposes of accreditation.

No phase of college life will be omitted from this inspection. Criteria for accreditation include minimum requirements for buildings, equipment, educational practices, faculty, library facilities, and student government, among many others.

Dr. Dan Vogel, registrar, said,

First Commencement With University Set for June 19

Stern College women will be among Yeshiva University graduates for the first time in the history of the school.

Twenty-six seniors from Stern will receive degrees at the commencement exercises along with graduates of Y.U.'s Teachers Institutes, graduate schools, and college.

The ceremony is scheduled for 3:00 P.M. June 19, in the Lampport Auditorium of Yeshiva University.

The procession of Stern College and Teachers Institute Women will be led by Mrs. Elizabeth Isaacs, Associate Marshall.

For the first time, junior girls will serve as ushers at the exercises.

Each graduate is allotted four tickets of admission for her invited guests.

The dormitory will remain open to seniors and students participating in the ceremony.

All faculty members have been invited to march in the procession in their academic robes.

Seniors Will Receive Awards at Tea

The presentation of awards to deserving graduates will highlight the Senior Tea on June 18.

The event will also feature the choir in a cantata, "The Promised Land," directed by Professor Ruth Kisch-Arndt.

Barbara Gross, a senior, will offer several selections on the piano.

Included among the awards to be presented are University academic honors and Student Council service keys. Special keys will be awarded to the officers of Student Council, the editors of the yearbook and handbook, and the manager of the book store.

At the conclusion of the program refreshments will be served.

"We have done a superb job for the first four years. As we grow older, acquire more materials, and become practiced in dual curriculum, our job, which is now a good one, will become even better."

Sets Standards

Middle States, the regional association for this area, functions to create minimal standards of education. It inspects a college with the view to accredit it.

When weaknesses need to be pointed out, suggestions are made.

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Effie Fink is Elected Council President

3 Other Officers Are Selected In April Voting

Effie Fink, '59, will head the student government for the 1958-'59 school year.

Also chosen at the April 30 Student Council election were Shirli Pasternak, vice-president; Bobbie Rosen, '60, secretary; and Judy Cohen, '61, treasurer.

Effie has served in various activities since she was president of her freshman class. She was news editor of the freshman magazine, *In Retrospect*, secretary of Student Council in 1957-'58, chairman of this year's Chanukah Chagiga, invitations chairman of the Purim Chagiga, and Junior chairman of the class ring committee.

The 19-year-old president is an elementary education major and plans to teach kindergarten upon graduation.

States Aims

Briefly stating her aims for the next year, Effie said, "I hope to make people more aware of the importance and workings of Student Council."

The new Council officers hail from scattered parts of the continent. The president is a graduate of Central High School in Scranton, Pennsylvania. Shirli Pasternak comes from Toronto, Canada; Bobbie Rosen, from Utica, New York; and Judy Cohen, from New York City.

Mrs. Roosevelt Will Highlight College Month

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt will highlight activities of Stern College month in an informal discussion on the future role of women in society.

The month-long activities, beginning May 19, will culminate in the college's first commencement exercises, June 19.

The Women's Organization of Yeshiva University will sponsor a forum June 4, at which prominent women leaders from various fields will discuss "New Vistas for American Women."

Ruth Kisch-Arndt, professor of music at Stern College is scheduled to arrange a special public exhibit, "Highlights of Jewish Contributions to the World's Music."

Dinner Scheduled

A Stern College dinner will be held in honor of the senior class and Max Stern, whose gift of \$500,000 established the college, at the Hotel Plaza June 18.

There are 26 girls in the graduating class here in the country's liberal arts college under Jewish auspices for women.

College Will Publish First Yearbook For First Seniors

Stern College will publish its first yearbook in 1958. The book will trace the growth of the college through its first four years.

According to Audrey Katz, the editor, it will describe the unique nature of the school including its nature and purpose.

Besides being a typical college yearbook with pictures and anecdotes, it will attempt to present the goals of graduates having an education in both liberal arts and sciences and a rich foundation in Jewish learning and traditions.

The editor stressed that English and Hebrew articles by both the graduating seniors and other classes will be included.

Staff Members

In addition to the editor, the staff includes Judy Oels, co-editor; Ruth Solomon, Hebrew editor; Dvora Abramson, literary editor; Rachel Rosenberg, news editor; Renah Mescheloff Bell, Photography and art editor; Joan Phillips, assistant photography and art editor; Beatrice Cyprestein, copy editor; and Joanne Klein, business manager.

L'ag B'omer Observed

Newly elected Student Council officers were installed at the L'ag B'omer Social May 7, the final social of the year.

Rabbi Howard Levine was presented the first Daniel Block Memorial Award.

Student Council established this award in memory of Daniel Block, professor of Mathematics at Stern College until his recent death.

The award was set up to honor the faculty member who has done outstanding service for Student Council, and will be made upon recommendation of a Council committee.

Rabbi Joseph H. Lookstein of the Kehllath Jeshurun Synagogue delivered a speech combining Yom Ha'atzmaot, L'ag B'omer, and the installation. Rabbi Lookstein teaches Sociology of the Jews at Stern College and Yeshiva University.

Hannah Katter, '59, and Judy Lindner, '60, were co-chairmen for this social. Heading committees were Rosalbe Jacobson, '59, Invitations; Sue Bogner '59, Doors; Shirli Pasternak, '60, Refreshments and Clean-up; Ethel Kagan, '59, Checkroom; and Roberta Reiss '60, and Shirley Wertbeimer, '61, Decorations.

THE FIRST STEP

Published by Stern College for Women and distributed free of charge to all subscribers of student activities.

Editors:
Evelyn Weiss, '58, Vera Feld, '60, Sheila Siegel, '61

Contributors:
Rosalind Brodsky, '61, Sandra Gail Jacobs, '61, Rita Markovitz, '61, Bobbie Rosen, '60, Naomi Witomowsky, '61, Esther Rivkin, '61.

Faculty Adviser:
Rabbi Howard Levine

Staff Adviser:
Nancy Quirk

May, 1958

Impressionisms

Like the man who was unable to "see the forest for the trees," we should step back, and with this added perspective take another look at our school.

Four years ago there was no fight at Stern College over the honor system, no griping about the cafeteria line, no \$15 fee for scholarship application.

Four years ago there was no Stern College.

Our present seniors, who make up the first graduating class, were pioneers in the truest sense of the word. They enrolled in an "unaccredited" ideal.

Perhaps our dice were loaded. We had capable leaders: Mr. Max Stern, Dr. Samuel Belkin, not to mention our own Dr. Dan Vogel and Mrs. Elizabeth Isaacs, and ONE above.

To the graduating girls we wish to say that, though the first step is the hardest, it is the most thrilling. Stamped "first issue", they will always feel the added value of Stern College because of their service.

The rest of us have a different, perhaps a more difficult, job. Like molders with partly dry clay, we must maintain and continue forming this young, unprecedented institution. Gently, but firmly, the ideals we believe in will become Stern College. With a dot of this culture and a spot of that custom, the final painting will be made.

Four years ago there was no Stern College. Today we have a school we can be proud of.

May the next four years bring as great an advancement.

Peripatetics

By ROSALIND BRODSKY

Walking to school in New York is revealing. Whether it is sunny, windy, or wet, mid-town Manhattan buildings with their inscrutable facades remain: their doorways — empty of playing children and gambling dogs, or any living sign, except open, empty garbage cans, revealing the presence of man, although unseen.

Building placement on each block is similar. There are apartment houses on the corners, and private homes along the length of the block, being, in some cases, gradually replaced by modern apartment buildings, which are wholly rented out even before completion.

Doormen Predominate
Along the avenues large apartment houses served by doormen predominate. Out of these buildings walk expensively dressed people — men carrying brief-cases, women walking dogs, usually poodles.

After dark, night people dressed in evening clothes brush regally out of these apartment houses to take possession of taxis commandeered by the doormen.

The dogs apparently take the place of children, who are rarely seen. Poodles, popular for some reason, appear in all shapes, sizes

and colors. Some are shorn in the accepted poodle-dog cut, others seem to be lambs unshorn. Many are attired, some in collars, and others according to the weather, with raincoats and jackets.

Poodles the size of toy dogs are jealously guarded, while others, the size of overly wooly mountain goats strain on leashes. The dogs are black, or gray, or white, or cream colored. There is no distinction as to who walks the dogs — the doormen and those who appear to be nursemaids and others who are regular maids walk the dogs.

You always have an urge to hear a poodle dog make a sound, for surprisingly enough, they are either extremely laconic or very well trained. One day one squeaked.

Taxis Race

The student nevertheless must proceed, and continues on through the traffic. Perhaps no place else on earth are there battalions of taxicabs racing to make lights, turning the corner and frightening pedestrians. It seems that private drivers emulate the cab drivers — and do so quite expertly, even making U-turns on busy street-corners in the face of oncoming traffic.

Suspense Reigns On Monday Night Until Telephone Rings

"I go: the Monday night blues
(Since the phone's number line,
I get the Monday night blues,
I'm unhappy as can be."

They don't exactly sing this diege out loud in the dormitory, but its sentiment can be felt from the third to the seventh floors of the Hotel Duane every Monday night.

Monday night is a tense, frustrating night—phones keep ringing, heads keep popping out of bedroom doors, expectations keep rising, and expressions keep falling.

No Homework Done

The suspense is killing. Homework can't be done. Girls with tense faces roam the halls, snap at those fortunate enough to get phone calls and hurry them off the phone before their allotted ten minutes are up.

The phone rings—a mad dash for it—a breathlessly whispered "Hello," and then, glumly, "Just a minute, I'll get her." The disappointed slouch back to their rooms to wait for the next ring and the next mad dash.

It's even worse when the phone does not ring on Monday night. After ten minutes of utter silence, girls gather around the mute instrument. Nervous whispers grow desperate. Then, the phone responds. It is snatched from its cradle at the first faint peal, and the whole maddening cycle starts again.

Produces Dates

Monday night in the dorm is a vexing and irritating night. But by the time it is over, it has produced dates for most of the girls. And if not there's always Tuesday night, but that's another story.

For all its tension-producing, soul-searing effects, for all its annoying and aggravating anxieties, vive Monday night!

—E. W.

Library Sets Goal At 10,000 Volumes

10,000 volumes is the June goal set for the library.

According to Max Celnick, school librarian, the library has bought more books during this year than in the previous three years of the school's existence. About 2500 new volumes have already been catalogued.

In addition to new books, the library has also purchased a new card catalogue and a microfilm machine this year.

Available in the library for student perusal are 69 periodicals, ranging from the scientific scene to the fashion world. Bulletin boards announcing current plays and news of career opportunities are other new innovations.

On display in the library are "Highlights of Jewish Contributions to World Music," from the collection of Professor Ruth Kisch-Arudi, and Student Zionist Organization pamphlets commemorating the Tenth Anniversary of Israel.

Lyricists Found A Happy Medium

By NANCY WEISS

What happens when two personalities "hit it off?"

If the personalities belong to two Stern College girls, if they both happen to share a love for English and the knack for writing original lyrics — then they might team up, as Selma Stillman, '58, and Rachel Rosenberg, '58, did, and give the school original plays for the Purim Chagigas.

This "hitting-off" of personalities occurred in December, 1956, when Rachel and Selma were walking down the stairs and discussing the dramatic attempts of the Yeshiva University boys. Both Southerners anxious to put their own ideas to work, the girls decided that, as Rachel put it, "If the boys uptown can write satires on school life, why, so could we."

Hours To Kill

"And what better opportunity to let go at the school than Purim? We had two free hours to kill, so we sat in the Student Council office, and thought up the complete plot of a play in our enthusiasm."

That play was the then epoch-making and school-shaking satire entitled, "The Queen and Us." And thus was born the now school-renowned team of Stillman and Rosenberg, a team that this year produced the equally successful original play, "Fit for a King."

Close Eyes and Write

Not just how do Rachel and Selma go about writing their satires? Look no further than a laughing Virginia drawl that "it's a matter of closing our eyes, writing, and hoping it comes out all right." Selma, originally from Georgia, said, "It's a fifty-fifty proposition. We outline the plot together, while the dialogue together, and the songs separately."

Rating

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so that the school may improve itself.

Each state in the United States has its own qualifications for a group to be chartered to operate a college or university. Frequently these requirements were inadequate because few states supervised nonpublicly controlled institutions once they had been established.

This kind of anarchy resulted in the inability of graduate schools to ascertain the quality of their applicants' educations. Colleges then grouped in six regional associations to establish standards of education. The six are united in a national federation, which issues a consolidated listing of all accredited colleges.

The girls, both of the Honor List, try to make their plays serve a purpose.

"They're not just satires on individuals, but on a system," Rachel thoughtfully explained. "The University's expansionist tendency was the theme of this year's play, just as the desire for independence was the theme of last year's."

Rachel and Selma also try to choose a proper plot. "The play must 'smack' of Purim," according to Rachel, "and enable us to bring in characters to satirize — namely faculty and administration — without going outside the bounds of propriety."

Words Come First

Once a plot is chosen and dialogue written, the authors concentrate on putting their original words to popular or musical comedy music. If, as happened this year, some of the songs are not written until two weeks before show time, nerves are apt to become a bit frazzled, but Selma and Rachel both agree that writing lyrics was the most fun of all.

"I can write anywhere, and time," Selma said in an authoritative drawl. "I wrote 'I Gotta Have Faith' for instance, on a piece of paper plastered on my bathroom wall, through the sides of my bathtub. And the inspiration for the finale number, 'Shushan', came while I was lying on my tummy on a cot on the third floor."

Fit Words To Music

Both Selma and Rachel write words for music in a similar way. They try to fit their narrative to the music to obtain a satisfying song. Once a line satisfies them, they each start down the alphabet, searching for words that have "rhyme, punch, and implication," as Rachel says, while Selma tries to "pack in as much as possible into one line" and looks for a "different" flavor to a song.

The responsibility of authoring an original and often controversial song does not stop with writing the play; as Selma and Rachel have found out last year and this, they both took on the added duties of directing their own play. "But," both agree, "it's worth it."

Scholarships

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are "to remove the onerous responsibilities from the Registrars, to get a more objective appraisal of scholarship decisions, and to attempt to make certain that those individuals who are in a position to pay, do so, and in the long run to transmit to students and their parents, that where financially possible, they must assume a major role in paying for their child's education."