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The Wellesley News (12-14-1904)

Wellesley College

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MADAME BRESHKOFSKAYA.

The following interesting facts about Madame Breshkofskaya, who is to lecture here in French, to-morrow afternoon at 3:30, in College Hall chapel, were taken from The Woman's Journal. She is a woman revolutionist of noble birth and spirit who has come to America after twenty-five years spent in exile in the mines of Kara and the wastes of Siberia, "for a brief period of complete liberty before returning to the perilous mission of her life in Russia."

Catherine Breshkofskaya, the daughter of a nobleman, lived on her father's estate in the province of Chernigoi. She, with many other young men and women of the early '70's, felt that emancipation had only made harder the lot of the serf or peasant class. These young people felt that education would teach them how to use their freedom. They circulated advanced literature which had so great an influence on the people that the government became alarmed and made in the year 1874 nearly two thousand arrests. Catherine Breshkofskaya, who was one of the leaders of the movement, spent nearly four years in prison before her trial, after which she was sent to the mines of Kara as a hard-labor convict, the first woman in Russian history to receive this sentence. After the expiration of her term, she had to remain only a few months in Catzoga, for her imprisonment before her trial was reckoned as part of her sentence, she was not free but was obliged to spend fourteen years in a little village near the Baikal Lake. After three years she with three other exiles, men, escaped, but they were overtaken after a month and brought back where they were tried and sentenced to four years in the Kara mines and fourteen years in exile. After serving the full four years in Kara, she spent eight years of prison life filled with terrible hardships in Selinghak, after which she travelled in Siberia, serving the remaining six years as a "free exile." In 1896, just twenty-five years after her first arrest, her term expiring, she returned home where she soon returned to her work. At fifty-three she began the most active part of her career. After scouring Russia for the remnants of the old guard they "went to the people." The ideas they advanced spread abroad more quickly than ever and so the present Socialist party was born. Even though Madame Breshkofskaya was warned that she was suspected of her work actively, adopting peasant's disguise. In 1903 she was issued an order for the arrest of the three leaders in the Socialist Revolutionary Party, she fled to Switzerland on a forged passport. In spite of the activity in the past the great work of the movement remains to be done, and as the founder of the movement in its present phase, Mme. Breshkofskaya feels it is her call to go back and do what she can even though she yet die in exile or lose her life. Her visit to America was planned by her friends to divert her, to keep her a little longer in safety and quiet. But this is not the way she looks upon it. To America she has turned for moral and material support. She wanted Americans to know that the fight in Russia for freedom is not a blind and ignorant uprising of murderers and criminals. It is an honest and consecrated protest of the common people, led by the intellectuals, against cruelty and wrong.

BARNSWALLS.

"An original Minstrel Show, composed exclusively for the well-known Wellesley College Minstrels," delighted the hearts of the Barnswallows, Saturday evening, December 10. The Barn was thrown open to the whole college and an unusually large number gathered for this last Barnslew entertainment before the Christmas recess. The program was as follows:

**Scene I.**
Opening Chorus, "Tears,
Monologue—C. Green
Selections by the Prickly Heat Quartette
Misses Honeymoon, Leonard, Jefries, Little Solo
"In Society," Theo, Scruggs, Jokes,
The Endman,
Solo and Chorus, "Make a Puss Over Me,"
Sue Barrow.
Solo and Chorus, "I Got Mine"
C. Green.

**Scene II.**
Solo and Chorus, "Chloe,"
Sue Barrow, Olive Nevin, Olive Chapman.
Negro Lullabies, Sue Barrow.
With guitar accompaniment.

**Scene III.**
Opening Chorus, "Way Down in My Heart."
Duet Dance, Misses Little and Hollick.
Solo and Chorus, "Honey-bun."
E. Goddard.
Duet and Stunt, Miss S. Reed and E. Danforth.
Jokes, G. Marvin.
Shuffle and Buck Dance, C. Green.
Clothing Chorus with Cake-Walk, "Goodbye, Eliza Jane."

The music was decidedly bright and catchy and was sung with an enthusiastic vein that made the audience instinctively keep time. Particularly well done were the selections by the "Prickly Heat Quartette." The jokes were clever and original and fairly blended with local color, and the duet dancing of Miss Little and Miss Hollick and the "buck and shuffle" by Miss Green provoked round after round of applause. The minstrels were: Interlocutor—Mary Lee Goddew nee Mr. Jonson.
End-man—Clara Green née Teddy Combs.
Jokes, Theodore Scruggs nee Sambo Scruppleface.
Moses Mugu—Helen Robertson.
Laughing Louis—Elise Goddard.
Rastus Ratcatcher—Gertrude Marvin.
Miss Blanche Blossom—Rose Sooy.
Rambly Rastus—Eva Little.
Miss Sophie Snowdrop—Eleanor Hollick.
Bartholomew Montague—Elizabeth Leonard.
Bill Jones—Helen Jefries.
Miss Esba Gashorn—Sue Barrow.
Whistling Rufus—Sally Reed.
Miss Magnolia Snowball—Emma Danforth.
Miss Pearl Carter—Julia Long.
Miss Rosetta Oggle—Florence Walworth.
Henry Picface—Grace Kimball.
Lambago Smith—Dorothy Tryon.
Pickaninnies—Grace Herrick, Olive Nevin.
Theresa Allen, Olive Chapman.

Official Directory on Sale.

The Official Directory is to be on sale at the elevator table all of this week. We urge every one in college from Freshmen inclusive to buy a copy before the holidays. The directory is absolutely indispensable to every one, especially during the vacation: price $1.

Published weekly. Subscription price $1.00 per year to non-subscribers, $0.50 per year to non-subscribers.

All advertising communications should be sent to Miss C. W. Riggs, Wellesley Inn, Wellesley.

All business correspondence should be addressed to HELEN C. NORTON, Business Manager, College News.

All subscriptions should be sent to Elizabeth Camp.

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF, Mary Jessie Gilkey, 1906
ASSOCIATE EDITOR, Susan M. Samuels, 1906
W infred Hawkrige, 1906
MARY Lee Cutwell, 1906
ANNIE WARREN, 1907
MANAGING EDITORS, Helen R. Norton, 1905, Elizabeth Camp, 1906

A great deal has been written lately and for that matter as far back as we can remember concerning the deference due an upper-class girl. A word now and then to remind the little courtesies of life, which we are so apt to forget in this mad-dashing rush of college days, does not come amiss. It is well that the Freshmen should be reminded not to crowd all others off the walks; we are all grateful, upper and lower class girls alike, for these little jogs on our consciousness. But has not the subject been overdone and interpreted too mean that for which it was never intended? Have not the differences between upper and lower classes been over emphasized so as to create false barriers? It would seem to judging from the lack of proper sympathy between the two. The lines have been drawn a little too sharply. The upper classes themselves have felt this barrier and have deplored the arising spirit of Freshmen and Sophomores. If these would only drop that fearful "hero-worship" attitude toward their Junior and Senior friends the relation would become much more natural and satisfactory to both. However the fault seems to lie even more with the more-advanced girls who in reality perhaps unintentionally, have fostered that feeling. Many times the two, let us say, Freshman and Junior, have played and danced together. The Junior has treated the new girl as she would one of her own class and chatted informally and familiarly. Naturally enough the Freshman has responded.

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SOME CHRISTMAS SUGGESTIONS.

"I think the way work is piled up for us just before Christmas here at college is positively inhuman." These are indeed weeks of railing and wailing, but a quiet answer to some such indignant protest, brought the writer even in these busy times, to a good hour's searching and reflection. The reply was as follows: "I wish we could stop groaning about our own infinitesimal cares which half the time we bring on ourselves anyway, and pay more attention to what we are doing to make tight just before Christmas" season easier for others, who really do suffer. Both the world and we would be better for such a change.

Now isn't this true? Suppose every time you are tempted to make a more or less heated remark concerning papers and quizzes, you say instead, "I think the way we thoughtless, heedless, harum-scarum girls put off our Christmas shopping until the very last minute and then go buttoning into the stores at the very busiest hours, is positively inhuman!" It's too late this year for early shopping. November is the time to be truly helpful, but we can shop early in the day and we can shop early for the next year.

In the November number of the "Club Worker," Mrs. Florence Kelley tells of a woman who, while shopping one July day in a crowded street in Boston, heard a tired clerk say, "This is almost as bad as Christmas." "Almost as bad as Christmas!" Just think of it a minute.

In another article she tells a carefully verified story of a lad who died on New Year's morning three years ago (from cold and exposure) in the wagon in which he had been working from 7 o'clock one morning until 2 o'clock the next morning delivering bolated gifts.

Another way in which we can help: We are going home next week—most of us. What conditions prevail in our home cities? Those of us who live in Massachusetts, in Illinois, in New York, do we know our recent laws on this subject, and are we helping to enforce them? In Illinois, no child under sixteen years of age may be employed longer than eight hours in one day, and not after seven in the evening. In Massachusetts there is a fifty-eight hour week for women and for those under eighteen. Until very recently this law was not in force during the month of December, but the efforts of the Consumers' League have now brought about its enforcement the year round. In New York no child under sixteen shall work more than ten hours a day or sixty hours in the week, except from December 15 to December 31. This law also includes women under twenty-one.

We who are girls ourselves, who know what rush and worry and crowing and fret can mean to each one of us, who are spending four good years here in the college world, just so that we can know and remember and understand, let's remember now and do each one of us her part for "peace on earth, goodwill toward men."

The other day (that is the proper way for a Free Press to begin, is it not, reader?) I saw a carriage supposed to contain six people, at the most, start from College Hall door, at 1 o'clock, with thirteen girls and uncountable suit cases—and a driver. There was but one horse.

What is the matter? Under what considerations, at home, would we have been one of those fourteen people, to be dragged to the station by a lean, raw-boned, punting horse? Has our boasted "higher education" so deadened our ordinary natural, common sense sympathies that we have lost a sensitive touch for the pitiful in our own mad, selfish scramble? It seems funny—sometimes. But when you stop to think where is the fun after all?

Is it just the matter of a drive, and the one-seven train? Or are there a couple of other factors that we have somehow forgotten? It's worth while thinking about. And may some of us will find it worth while talking about. And, at all events, it will not do any harm to remember that "more things are wrought" by public sentiment, and especially, college sentiment, than we may "dream of."

M. L.
FREE PRESS—Continued.

A spectator who understands that the account of the Junior play given last week by the College News was necessarily condensed, because the play occurred after the News had gone to press, begs leave to add a word more of appreciation. The play was in one sense difficult to present, since its humor was quiet, and its effectiveness depended upon its appeal to the sympathies of the audience. To secure them was necessary early in the first act, and Miss Calloway accomplished this with apparent ease, in spite of having to take the unusual role of a middle-aged hero. There were no noticeably weak spots in the acting of any in the cast, and a convincing proof of thoroughly good individual work, was that on all sides was heard the comment: "Everybody seems exactly fitted to her part." Miss Edwards' interpretation was extremely delicate; her audience liked and detested Gerald Holmes at her will. One of the most pathetic bits of acting was done by Miss Samuel when Martin learned of the failure of his story. The women in the play—and women in a play have a hard time, because as a rule they are given little to do except to be made love to gracefully—individualized their parts, looked very pretty, and acted with grace. For fear of appearing fulsome, the spectator will now close—after mentioning the debt which the play and 1926 owe to Miss Baird, chairman of the committee, and to Miss Daniels, 1905, who coached the actors.

FRENCH LECTURE.

Monsieur Funck-Brentano, who is in the United States under the auspices of L'Alliance Francaise, delivered a lecture in College Hall chapel, Wednesday afternoon, December seventh. The subject was "Paris Through the Ages, its History and its Monuments." Monsieur Funck-Brentano traced the history of Paris, beginning with the times when it was a walled city, garrisons and castles, and showing by excellent stereopticon maps and views the growth of the city in civilization, the abandonment of garrisons for undefended houses, the springing up of beautiful buildings like the Palace of Justice and Notre Dame. He illustrated the customs of the times, partly by contemporary drawings: the brutal torture chamber, the picturesque crime, who, in cloak embroidered with skull and cross-bones, went through the streets ringing his bell to awaken the sleeping people. The last scene was like the first, the city garrisoned and fighting, but in a later age, at the great siege of 1870 when all the priceless treasures of modern Paris were to be defended.

Monsieur Funck-Brentano is custodian of the records of the Bastile. It was here who discovered the identity of the mysterious "Man with the Iron Mask." From the records, after a long search, M. Funck-Brentano formed complete evidence that the prisoner was one Mathilb, an Italian minister to Louis XIV, who in arranging the escape of Costol from Milor's rule, to the king of France, demanded so exorbitant a price for his services that he enraged both the duke and the king. He was cast into prison and forced to wear a mask to conceal his identity. Mathilb died at the Bastile, his name and position completely a mystery until Monsieur Funck-Brentano's diligent search brought the true story to light.

MRS. BLACK'S READING.

On Monday evening, December 12, Mrs. E. Charlton Black gave a reading from classic authors in College Hall chapel. Her interpretations of Stevenson, Wordsworth, Tennyson, Keats, and Kipling were full of force and moral earnestness which compelled the interest of everyone who heard her. There was a decided inspiration in hearing the thoughts of these splendid minds so thoughtfully presented, and we are much indebted to the Education Department under whose auspices Mrs. Black came to Wellesley.

For Christmas—What?

Cut Glass—
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Suggest—Brazones—
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Girls in Foreign Colleges.

At a reception given by Miss Kendrick and Miss Tufts last Saturday afternoon in the Shakespeare House to meet Miss Rouse of the World's Student Christian Federation, the latter spoke in a most interesting way of student life among girls and women in foreign colleges and universities.

In Great Britain, resident college life is almost unknown, and social conditions are therefore quite unlike ours. The students are hard workers, although they study fewer hours than we. Physical training is not compulsory in English colleges, because girls are very enthusiastic in their out-door sports. At Oxford and Cambridge, while women work side by side with men, they never receive degrees. Miss Rouse thinks this is because the master's degree in these universities confers the right to vote on matters affecting their policy and direction—a right which Oxford and Cambridge hesitate to entrust to women.

It is a very serious matter to be a woman student in Germany, for this means long, thorough training, and much hard work. Six years are requisite for obtaining the master's and ten years for the doctor's degree. Yet the German girls have some time for social diversions, and often drink beer and smoke.

In France and Italy, higher education for women is still so new a thing as to make courage an important factor in the mental requisites of girl students, who must abandon many established ideas in regard to the necessary seclusion of young unwedded women. In Italy, the girls file into the back part of the classroom, with a duenna, after the young men are seated, and when the lecture is over they pass out before the men are ready. In the medical schools, however, they are practically unprotected and meet many dangers and difficulties. America is the only country except Russia, where secret societies are known, and in Russia such societies are revolutionary and nihilistic. Many Russian girls-students belong to these dangerous societies, and some of them have become very influential. The largest two universities for women in Russia have 1,000 students each, and another has 600. The entrance requirements are severe, and many Russian girls who fail to meet them go to Swiss or French Colleges instead.

Foreign colleges have been, until lately, decidedly atheistic in tendency, even in England, but Miss Rouse gives the encouragement that girl students everywhere are slowly coming to realize the help that Christianity can give them in their work for the world.

Resolutions.

At a recent meeting of the Faculty the following resolutions upon the death of Mrs. Mary S. Bacon, late head of Simpson Cottage, were presented by the committee of the Heads of Houses, and adopted by the Faculty: "Inasmuch as the opening of the college year brings a sense of loss to those of us at Wellesley who for four years have been the associates of Mrs. Mary S. Bacon, late head of Simpson Cottage, therefore it is resolved that sharing the grief caused by her sudden death, we express our appreciation of her noble character, her generous services and her never-failing courtesy and extend to her family who have been bereft of her companionship and affection our heartfelt sympathy."

Signed,
Louise A. Dennis,
Mary E. Cook,
Edith S. Tufts.

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ALUMNAE NOTES.

Notice has been received of the following appointments to teach:
Miss Julia M. Ham, 1903, in the High School at Dover, New Hampshire.
Miss Betsy Todd, 1903, in Westbrook Seminary, Dering, Maine.
Miss Clara S. Richards, 1903, French in the High School at Augusta, Maine.
Miss Martha V. Poor, 1903, in the High School at Portage, Wisconsin.
Miss Alice Bessee Eastman, 1904, Latin, Mathematics and History in the High School, Sutton, Massachusetts.
Miss Margaret Welber, 1904, at York Corner, Maine, in the Scituate School.
Miss Alice Watson, 1904, in the Agreements School, and Miss Leah B. Friend, 1904, in the High School at York, Maine.
Miss Grace Dean, 1904, in Atchison, Kansas.

Magazine stories and poems by alumnae are to be found in summer and fall numbers.

In the September number a poem, "Cape of Good Hope," by Prof. Katherine Lee Bates, 1886.

In the Christian Endeavor World for August 18, 1904, "Thy Thoughts, A Song of Discipleship," by Mrs. Marion Pelton Guild, 1886. These are a few lines from the poem:

They dawn upon me with the dawning sun,  
And robe me for the day;  
Wherever my illumined path may run,  
Thy thoughts make glad the way.

They company my loneliness.

With serried wings impregnable they wall  
My soul in danger's hour.

In the September Atlantic, a poem by Miss Florence Wilkinson, 1892, "The Curse on Dunoon." Miss Wilkinson has also poems in McClure's Magazine, "Pilgrim Bell" in the August, and "To a Wood Path," in the September number.

In the Congregationalist, August 27, 1904, a children's story by Miss Mary Freeman Duren, 1892-1903.

In the October Harper's, a story, "One of Life's Paradoxes," by Mrs. Abby Meguire Reach, 1893-1894.

The summer number of Poet Lore contains a lyrical drama in three movements by Miss Isabella Howe Fiske, 1896, now working for the Master's degree in English Literature. The magazine has done special honor to "Clouds of the Sun" by a frontispiece illustration.


Miss Jessie Graham Hall, 1898, for four years has been analytical chemist from the firm of Frederick Searle and Company, Detroit, Michigan. Besides testing the purity of drugs to see if they meet the United States Pharmacopoeial requirements, Miss Hall makes assays on crude drugs and all preparations made from them to see if they meet the required standard. After leaving Wellesley, Miss Hall took the course in Pharmaceutical Chemistry at Ann Arbor.

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CURRENT ART NOTES.

An event of interest to us, in the art world, is the recent placing of the great bronze doors of the Boston Public Library. These doors are the work of Daniel Chester French. They were cast in the John Williams Foundry and are really marvellous examples of the modern skill in casting. Each of the three doors consists of two panels, each filled by an allegorical figure, with classic drapery, the upraised hands holding symbols which display the attributes of the subject represented. On the background above each figure is the name of the subject represented, inscribed on a plain band, hung with wreaths; below, is an inscription in plain, firm lettering. Except for these, the background is practically plain, so that the decorative element is largely eliminated, and the effect is more that of pure sculpture. These doors are important also, as being one of the most remarkable instances of very low relief, the highest points being raised only one and three-eighths inches. At present, the doors are a bright yellowish-brown copper color, but in the course of years, they will, of course, change to the green tone of the patina.

The Boston Museum of Fine Arts has just acquired a full length and life-size portrait of King Philip IV of Spain, by Velasquez. This painting is now on exhibition in the northeast corner of the first picture gallery. It is undoubtedly authentic and is a fine example of Velasquez's work. The Museum possesses one other Velasquez, a beautiful portrait of Don Baltazar Carlos and his Dwarf.

R. de R.

NOTICE.

The copyright and remaining stock of two most distinctively Wellesley productions, "The Wellesley Song Book" and "Wellesley Lyrics," were presented to Mrs. Durant for the Student Aid Society Fund by their editors, Condele Nevers Marriott, '06, now of Colchester, England, and Roberta Montgomery McKinney, '07, now of Kiating, China. It is desired to turn the stock into money as soon as possible, so that the books are offered at half price. There is no other collection of both the words and music of the Wellesley songs; and the photogravure and the introduction by Mrs. Alice Freeman Palmer, in the "Lyrics," as well as the appearance of the names of well-known alumnae, make it a charming keepsake. The books can be obtained at Mrs. Currier's store in the Village, and at 125 College Hall.

THEATER NOTES.


Park Theatre—Amelia Bingham in "The Frisky Mrs. Johnson."

Maynster—Miss Wycherly in "The Countess Kathleen," special matinees Thursday, Friday and Sunday.

Tremont Theatre—"The County Chairman."

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