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CONNECTICUT COLLEGE NEWS



Vol. I

New London, Connecticut, Thursday, August 10, 1944

No. 6

New Faculty Added To Summer Session

The faculty of Connecticut college summer school has three new members. In the white house known as Holmes hall just off of Mohegan Avenue, Mrs. Cranz teaches piano and the theory of music. She received her B.A. from Smith and her M.A. in 1941. In 1941-1942 she taught at the Dushkin school of music in Winnetka. Mrs. Cranz has been on the faculty of Connecticut college since 1942, but this is the first time she has taught in the summer session. She is offering to the students a new course which covers the history of American music. At Smith she studied under Mr. Ross Lee Finney, who has given two folk song concerts at Connecticut. Her husband, serving in the U. S. Army, is on leave of absence from the history department.

Miss Christine Williams of the mathematics department graduated from Bryn Mawr in 1942. Having received her M.A. at Radcliffe, she then taught mathematics at McGill university. She is replacing her father in the mathematics department here for the second semester this summer.

The English department has as its new member for the summer session, Miss Jane Worthington, who graduated from Wells college. She did graduate work at Yale, receiving her Masters degree in 1941. In June of 1944 she received her Doctors degree. She has been an instructor in English at Connecticut during the winter session.

New Students Here For 2nd Semester

With the opening of the second term of the summer session on August 2, a few changes took place on campus. About 25 students left college, including those in the United Aircraft group who are now working in Hartford. Mary Harkness house is closed for the rest of the summer and all the students who were living there have moved to Jane Adams house.

Ten new students arrived—four of whom are regular C.C. students from the class of '45, and six others, representing the University of Pennsylvania, Maryland college for women, Wheaton college, Illinois university, and Boston university. Among these are two graduates from the University of Pennsylvania, class of '44 who have come to join the Price Waterhouse group.

Five new courses were opened this term: Music in America, Geography of Latin America, Geography of France and the French Empire, Abnormal Psychology, and Comparative Vertebrate Anatomy. The students taking the intensive Russian training course given by Mrs. Wolkonski have just completed the work equivalent to one year in the language.

The Palmer Players, under the direction of Mr. Klein, have started rehearsals for the new play—Ferenc Molnar's *The Swan*—which is to be given on August 31 and September 1 at Palmer auditorium.

Dr. Klein Announces Next Production 'The Swan' Will Be Presented August 31

by Mildred Joseph, Russell Sage '44

As the final production of the season is about to start rehearsals, your reporter thought it might prove interesting to discover, straight from Mr. Klein, just why he chose the play he did.

The ordinary layman has been of the opinion that producers and directors either write their plays themselves, or have them made to order with so many male characters, so many female characters, so many sets, and so much box office appeal. Mr. Klein assures us that this is not the case—at any rate not at Connecticut college.

Franz Molnar, for several reasons. First of all this is a girls' college where girls come in order to learn how to act. Therefore I must find plays which provide adequate parts for women.

"The second problem involves the responsibility of any college or university theatre of producing plays with literary value. Dramas without any literary significance may have the right of existence on Broadway, where the acting can be so good and the production so extravagant that one forgets the substance; but surely here at Connecticut College one cannot and should not forget the substance. Dramatic

See "Klein"—Page 4

Richard Dyer-Bennet To Give Program Of American Folk Songs on Wednesday



RICHARD DYER-BENNET

Student of Scholander Has Brought New Fame To Traditional Music

by Barbara Orr, Connecticut '46

Minstrels, troubadours—ancient history? Not any more. August 16 Richard Dyer-Bennet, "a twentieth century Homer," as he has been called, is coming to give a program of old folk-ballads in the auditorium at 8:30. He has in his collection over 400 songs which include Caribbean sailor ditties, early 1775 ballads, Elizabethan tunes, and Irish airs, some 600 years old. Richard Dyer-Bennet started to revive the ancient art of minstrelsy eight years ago, and since then has won national interest in New York, on national radio programs, and in various parts of the United States. New York critics are quite enthusiastic about his collection of songs. His ballads are often referred to "as old as the hills and as fresh as tomorrow's headlines."

Studied in Sweden

The unique idea started when his voice teacher heard him sing an ancient folk song at a Christmas party. Dyer-Bennet was then a student at the University of California, but she persuaded him to go to Sweden and learn the art of folk-balladry from Sven Scholander, the great Swedish minstrel. With a bicycle, a lute, and a boat ticket Dyer-Bennet sailed for Sweden on a freighter.

"I have heard the great classics conducted by great conductors many times, but listening to Scholander was the greatest musical experience I ever had," Dyer-Bennet says.

Since then Dyer-Bennet has composed several new ballads in his own minstrel fashion which have won much acclaim. He is best known for his "Passive Resistance," a tribute to fighting Norway, "Who Enters Russia by the Sword," and "Rommel the Fox."

"Sadly," says Dyer-Bennet, "we are, to a great extent, still ignoring this rich folk music. In many instances, this music can shed more light on how people ate, loved, worked, and felt in a given period than a fat history book. But the schools and the colleges are ignoring it."

See "Dyer-Bennet"—Page 4

Scheduled Institute of Polyphony Is Cancelled

It was announced by the Director of the Summer Session that the Institute of Sixteenth Century Polyphony which was to be held here August 7-18 has been cancelled. This is due to the fact that there were not enough tenors among the many applicants to make up a balanced group.

The purpose of the institute was to have been an intensive study of sixteenth century a cappella music, under the direction of Dr. R. Mills Silby of New York City. We regret that this institute is not being held as it would have been beneficial to those participating as well as those listening.

Mary Robinson Added To College 'News' Staff

The Connecticut College News was at a loss for a news editor for a few days as Gertrude Berman, George Washington '45, who was the new news editor, left campus for the rest of the summer. However, we are glad to welcome Mary Robinson, Connecticut '46 accelerated, to the staff in Trudy's place. Mary is a member of the United States Student Assembly, and is the representative of the Press Board for The New London Day this summer. Her major field is history.

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A Fresh Start

Now that the new semester is started in full force, most of us have probably taken time out to look back over the past and forward to the future. With this attitude in mind it is with many thanks that we remember the News staff of last semester, and with hopes that we can do as well in the future.

As we consider the past six weeks, it is only natural for us to generally take stock of ourselves and think over what we have accomplished and where we have fallen short in doing what we set out to do—not only academically, but socially. Our hats are off to the faculty, for they are doing a grand job this summer. It is not easy to revise a full year's course and try to fit it into twelve weeks, and at the same time be sure to cover the material completely. Then too, a great many of them have given up their vacations to be here this summer. As a student body we represent many different colleges and different parts of the country, from New York to California and from Maine to Georgia. A great deal can be benefitted from the contacts we make here through interchange of ideas and viewpoints. However despite the widespread places we come from and the various colleges we represent, we are a com-

RADIO PROGRAM

8:15 p.m., at 1490 on your dial.

- Thursday, August 10**
 Short Story. Professors Oakes and Jensen.
- Friday, August 11**
 Mrs. Southworth-Cranz. American Music.
- Monday, August 14**
 Mrs. Woodhouse. Talk.
- Wednesday, August 16**
 Richard Dyer-Bennet. Concert of American Folk Music.
- Thursday, August 17**
 Short Story. Professors Oakes and Jensen.
- Friday, August 18**
 Mrs. Southworth-Cranz. American Music.

parative unity here this summer and have a common aim in view. As we look back over last semester, it seems a good idea to see if we really have benefited by our opportunities and advanced any closer toward our goal.

The past is behind us, and one can never make the most of the future with both eyes turned backward. With the turn of the semester we have time to catch our breath and make more or less of a fresh start. The future holds a great deal, and our goals are still in view.

Know Your Faculty

A great many of the students here this summer are not as well acquainted with the faculty as they would like to be. Due to the large number of students from other colleges besides Connecticut on campus for the summer session, this is only natural. To help the girls who don't know all they would like to about various members of the faculty, News has decided to run a feature on one faculty member each week. This week's feature is about Dr. Robert Klein, who is teaching drama and stage production here this summer. Unfortunately we will not be able to canvass all the departments during the remainder of the summer session. The faculty have always been very kind about granting interviews to News reporters and we appreciate the time they grant us for this purpose. Their spirit of cooperation and interest are most encouraging. News would appreciate any suggestions the students may have to make in line with this feature, and hope you will not hesitate to tell us about them. A great deal is to be gained from contact with well-versed people in any field. The opportunity is ours while we are at college; so let's make the most of it.



Connie's long face in the cartoon shows pretty well how we all felt when we heard that the snack bar was going to be closed for the rest of the summer. No more peanut butter-jelly sandwiches and cokes in place of lunch in the dining room! And no more long sessions over an ice cream soda after getting the afternoon mail! We all miss the good old jukebox. The effects on the student body (or the students' bodies) remain to be seen. All that your reporter has been able to observe is that the crackers and candy shelf in the bookstore has been looking rather depleted lately. Demands that the bookstore now carry cokes too have found no favorable response. We sincerely hope that the authorities in control realize that the closing of the sandwich shop only means that we now have to go downtown for some of our most essential supplies, which time of course has to be taken out of study time. We look forward to a reopening in September.

MOVIE MINUTES

by Marjory Bachman '46

- **** Excellent ** Fair
 *** Good * Poor

The Adventures of Mark Twain****

The Adventures of Mark Twain will be shown at the Garde theatre from August 9 through August 15. Mark Twain, born Samuel A. Clemens, lived a life every bit as intriguing as those he portrayed in his popular Tom Sawyer and Huck Finn. Clemens (Frederic March), raised on the banks of the Mississippi, was a pilot, a prospector, a suitor for the hand of "Livvy" Langdon (Alexis Smith) and a newspaperman. The supporting cast of John Carradine, Alan Hale, and Donald Crisp help to make this romance effective to the audience.

Bathing Beauty***

The Capitol theatre will feature

FREE SPEECH

The Editors of the "News" do not hold themselves responsible for the opinions expressed in this column. In order to insure the validity of this column as an organ for the expression of honest opinions, the editor must know the names of contributors.

Dear Editor,

Many of the students have said that they know so little about the faculty, and would like to really learn more about them. It seems to me that News is the best place to do this. Why don't you run some stories about them in future issues?

Sincerely,
 '45

P.S.

Thanks much, '45. That's a good suggestion, so we're not waiting for "future issues." For example, find out about Mr. Klein in this one. Editor

this week end the musical comedy *Bathing Beauty*, co-starring Red Skelton and Esther Williams. Red Skelton is his usual amusing self in this picture. Esther Williams displays her ability to be a champion actress as well as a champion swimmer. She participates in several spectacular aquacade numbers which are made even more spectacular by a group of nationally known swimmers. Technicolor serves to make *Bathing Beauty* one of the more enjoyable pictures. Co-featured will be *Attack*, an actual account produced by the Army Signal Corps of the battle for New Britain. There are no Hollywood stars in this picture, but the heroes are our own American soldiers. Everyone should see this picture in order to realize more clearly what our boys are having to endure.

Secret Command***

For two days, August 11-12, at the Victory theatre, *Secret Command* will be shown. The plot is taken from a story, *Sabotage*, which was featured in the Saturday Evening Post. The building of an aircraft carrier and the protection of the shipyards are the main trends of the plot. With Pat O'Brien, under secret command, and Carole Landis the co-stars, the picture unravels an interesting tale. Both stars put in superb performances. On the same bill will be *Jam Session*, which presents the main bands of the year.

College Radio Station Will Need Announcers

Mrs. Ray will hold try-outs for radio announcers on Monday evening, August 14, from 8:15 to 9:00, in the Palmer radio room, 203 Palmer auditorium. Students enrolled in the summer session and in the regular session for 1944-45 are eligible.

Know the Colleges

Barbara Warner, Holyoke '46
Patricia Shanahan, Holyoke '45

We would like to submit the following to the Connecticut College News as a telescopic view of four long years of life in South Hadley as an M.H.T. (Mount Holyoke Type). This Ivy Oration, written by Rosalind Graves and Judy Pellet, Holyoke '44, was delivered at graduation, May '44.

We represent the height and depth of it, the insides and all sides. Or—the pertinent data pertaining to admission, ambition, fruition, perdition, and tuition, commonly known as "Eight Semesters at a Seminary for Young Ladies."

We swept in! Resplendent in our 100% wool suits, our nylon stockings (the year was 1940), our matching luggage, with our all-purpose sport coat (suggested in the catalogue) slung casually over our shoulder. We cast a disdainful eye over the blue-jeaned hoi poloi—the upperclassmen.

How brief is glory! Within the week, before we had a chance to impress the campus with our basic wool dress (also suggested in the catalogue), we were stripped of our finery by the gym department, whose ideas of the height of fashion was the Angel Robe—revealing a far from celestial body.

We protruded, we slumped, we bulged, and we sagged. We got D minus.

Freshman Year

Utterly crushed, we slunk from the gymnasium fiasco to that Haven of the Hopeless—the freshman dorm, said haven consisting of one 6x6 room for two with closet for one and—

Unfortunately our leisure was taken care of by a series of organized orgies known as freshmen clinics. Speech—"The spoken word is a thing of beauty. Your

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trouble, my dear, is fundamentally a constriction of the oesophagus, seldom fatal. Say 'ah.' Just as I thought. The roof of your mouth is too high."

We thought we'd seen everything, but when we were asked to arise at six to eat ice cream on a tombstone we were fools enough to do it.

We may have mentally looked down upon the seniors at first, but we paid verbal lip service to that esteemed body on razing day when, enhanced with white face powder, bathing caps, and sheets (one degree worse than the angel robes and not suggested in the catalogue), we chanted: "I am a Zombie out of the grave. Oh reverend senior, I am your slave!"

We weren't brought up to eat peas with a knife, and we haven't scrubbed floors with a toothbrush since.

"Do-nothing" Sophomores

It became quickly apparent that the "do nothing" classification of the sophomores was a farce. We did everything! Since we were only 20 rooms from the telephone, it was easy to dash out and answer it on the 17th ring. And we never minded sitting on bells while the upperclassmen went out on dates.

But everything faded into insignificance. In December war was declared. Everyone was directly or indirectly affected. War service committees were quickly formed and the administration gave us the privilege of accelerating our college course, although the far-reaching influences were not immediately felt.

Beating the draft to the draw we managed a Soph Hop.

Jolly Juniors

We couldn't wait to get back junior year! We knew we could count on the freshmen to appreciate our talents—for a couple of weeks anyway. The first day we hovered benignly, cheerfully seizing fortnight bags (undoubtedly lined with bricks) from the trembling hands of the new arrivals. We cooed sympathetically: "I know what a ghastly trip you

must have had. The connections to Holyoke are so confusing."

"Oh, I really didn't mind too much. I've been on this line several times going through to Dartmouth!"

Not that we lacked for things to do. Junior Show was our major claim to fame. Only a literary monstrosity could possibly have achieved "Professor Please."

We're forced to admit that there has been a sizeable gap in our college career, through circumstances entirely beyond our control. The Selective Service Act, the ODT, the OPM, the cost of living index and several local pressure groups presented a solid front of opposition to Junior Prom. Now that we think of it we never did get that ersatz loving cup for extreme patriotism on the home front.

The End in View

Finally we were seniors!

It was very impressive—well, anyway we were impressed. Of course we'd forgotten to shorten our gown. Lifting it daintily from the ground we reverently placed our caps on what would have been our curls if we'd done up our hair.

All we needed to make life complete was a lady's maid—and on hazing day we even achieved this. Ah—but the futility of fame! The freshmen were meek, the freshmen were docile, but we, the almighty, just couldn't think of a darned thing to do with them!

Nevertheless, we had to remember that we were seniors. At 5 a.m. on Founder's day it was a little difficult.

And talk about dignity! How the mighty fell when the gym department decided to make another check up! The angel robes we draped about us with great nonchalance, but—

We still protruded, we still slumped, we still bulged, we still sagged—only worse! We got D minus again!

Came spring—the buds sprouted, the grass grew, and the college held elections. Elections! The cherished officers which, by dint of our laborious labor and super-efficient management, had kept the college going had to be relinquished! We sat back smugly and waited for things to collapse without the benefit of our master minds.

But nothing did! The News

came out. J.B. and Community progressed without a hitch. Four years of our life, blood, sweat and tears, we'd given to this campus—and life had the audacity to go on without us!

Not that we had much time to think about it! Majors loomed before us. Majors is a great process. You sit all morning and study, you sit all afternoon and study, you sit all night and study, until your—eyes are tired.

Finally you stagger in on the fatal day. The head of the department spends 25 minutes explaining it all to you. She departs. You pick up your pen and prepare to chew it. She pops back in to explain something else. You smile—weakly. You manage to scrawl a few lines. You then start. Someone else dashes in and explains about sandwiches and coffee. You scrawl a few more lines. You then decide it's a good time to partake of said coffee. Out you go. You can't win anyway. Finally the faculty gets tired correcting them and passes you.

Consequently, we are now departing! And we are worried about immortality. Our ivy will grow, but what other visible evidence have we left, except butter spots on the ceiling and thumb tack holes in the furniture?

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Caught on Campus

The games of bridge once so numerous on campus seem to be rationed. Cards have been put back in their boxes and score pads put away. The old stand-by has suddenly been replaced by oujia boards. The amazing little board has given us remarkable answers to major questions in our lives, but, as yet, has failed completely to give us any clues to the forthcoming examinations.

* * *

Marge Bachman, Connecticut '46, suddenly became any professor's dream last week. She was planning a week end of hard concentrated study last Saturday as she left the library with stacks of books almost her own size. She obviously fulfilled her intention as the report on the books was dutifully laid on the professor's desk Monday afternoon.

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Klein

(Continued from Page One)

literature written about twenty-five years ago and worthy of translation from one language to another, that has lived to the present day and that has proved itself universal enough to have been successfully produced in various countries—that literature is a safe choice for production.

"The third point which has to be considered is the fact that these plays are rehearsed to be given publicly, and it surely should be the purpose of any college production to prove to the community as a whole that literary value need not be boring.

"As Molnar, next to Bernard Shaw, is considered to be the most representative European playwright, and as I wanted the second production of the summer series to give the girls an opportunity to try themselves in a costume play, I have chosen *The Swan*. The setting of the play is Europe about 1900—a time when there were still hundreds of kings and pretenders to thrones knocking about. It will be quite an experience for the actors to try and grasp that bygone period, and to find out whether they can recreate an age which no longer exists."

Molnar

Mr. Klein has successfully produced such Molnar plays as *Olympia*, *The Glass Slipper*, *One, Two, Three*, and *The Play's the Thing*. As murder will out, Mr. Klein finally admitted that he was a very old friend of Molnar. He told your reporter several interesting anecdotes about the author of *Lilium* and *The Guardsman* (which the Lunts will revive next season on Broadway). Molnar resides at present in New York City at the Savoy-Plaza. His avoirdupois ranks him with the unforgettable Falstaff. Molnar is fond of roaming about in the American pubs where chauffeurs are prone to eat, listening to dialogue, watching reactions, and

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CONNECTICUT-UPS

by Peggy Piper '45



"Hungry, Maud?"

copying them into one of the innumerable little notebooks he carries.

Mr. Klein especially stressed Molnar's wit. When the author visited Mr. Klein who was in bed with the flu, he sent a letter by return mail in German comparable to our business English which read: "My dear Mr. Klein, In possession of your esteemed flu of the twenty-third. . ."

All in all your reporter learned something new about a remarkable author—one Mr. Molnar; and a remarkable man—one Mr. Klein.

Dyer-Bennet

(Continued from Page One)

On Wednesday night Richard Dyer-Bennet will sing various songs from his collection. Students may get their free tickets in the summer session office in Fanning. It should prove to be a new and interesting form of musical entertainment so lets take advantage of this opportunity.

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