Academic Committee Considers Comp-Fail, American Civilization Studies

by Barbara Brinston

First order projects of this year's academic committee are the re-evaluation of an American Studies program, and a re-evaluation of comprehensive examinations, said Margie Singer, Academic Committee chairman.

A brief report on the American Studies program brought forth the question of a Comp-Fail system. The committee said that the question is being asked in the colleges already listed in the honor pledge. Mr. Lewis said that the committee hopes to discuss the problem with professors from other schools who have had an American Studies program, but, rather, for a re-evaluation of the system of comprehensive examinations. Academic Committee hopes to further investigate the question.

Academic Committee also addressed the need to make it a more usable guide. Dean of Student Activities Mrs. Sally C. Trippe said recently that the $5.00 yearly car registration fee was definitely not intended to encourage seniors from having cars on campus.

Mrs. Trippe discussed the matter with the Committee and interview prompted by indications of student surprise at the amount of the fee. The fee, Mrs. Trippe commented, was based on a "reasonable figure" which would meet the costs of added labor involved in keeping a campus on campus during the school year.

The fee was decided on as a "reasonable figure" which would meet the costs of added labor involved in keeping a campus on campus for one to three days, but the vehicle must be registered.

Mr. Lewis said also registration fees will go toward construction of a parking area included in the new student lounge and arts center. The proposed facilities will be constructed in two phases.

Fees are $25 for one semester, $50 for two semesters, or $150 for four semesters. The fee must be paid by September 22.

Junior Class Nets $150 From Used Book Sales

The class of 1965 netted $150 from their first book sale held Thursday, September 22, in the Student Lounge of Crozier Williams. Students who wished to sell their used books were allowed to bring their books to charge sixty percent of the original cost. Because it was a fund raising project, the class of '65 charged fifteen percent commission on each book. The $50.00 raised reached a maximum mark-up of seventy-five cents. The price the students paid for their books was returned to them and those books not sold were also sold at a reduced price over 500 books and sold 350 of them.

"Does the present comprehensive system actually accomplish its goal of integrating all the studies within a certain major field?" Margie said that "nothing can be done" about abolishing Saturday classes. She explained that the problems of lack of space and available faculty result in the necessity of Saturday classes. Margie elaborated that every classroom is occupied during all class hours on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings and that there is not a classroom available for those students who have a free instead of a six day schedule.

The student-faculty Academic Committee comprises 13 members. Student members include: (Continued on Page 3, Col 3)
**ConnCensus**

**Established 1916**

Published by the students of Connecticut College every Monday through the academic year, ConnCensus offers a look back at its history as well as current events and discussions.

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**A MAN'S OPINION**

**by michael**

**The Girls Are Back!**

For the typical male freshman and the lace-capped upperclassman, the above is both a statement of hope and a challenge. ConnCensus students begin speculating how they are going to take advantage of the natural occurrences of the several girl's colleges in the area. Connecticut College is a haven for a new column to be run once a month at no cost. Include the usual information you send to your home town paper.

**EDITORIAL... Double Take**

The Student-Faculty Academic Committee has listed among its plans for the present semester a revision of a petition calling for revocation of the comprehensive examination. Opinion regarding the exam's merit has been circulating on this campus as long as we have been here, and despite drawing up a revocation petition and a demonstration by a small group of academicians last year, no tangible improvements have been made in procedures governing the exam, success upon which is a prerequisite for graduation.

It is painfully obvious that the issue should be brought out and argued upon this year. It has been raging too long.

Rather than undertake a ponderous, detailed, examination of the comprehensive examination in this piece, we will state the case as it should be stated, in clear and simple terms. We are not against the practice of administering the test at the end of the senior year. They are, as the title indicates, comprehensive, and serve their purpose as a way of gauging the student's ability to assimilate her knowledge and achieve a long-range view of her major subject. We do not object to the comp as a prerequisite for graduation. No student lacking a firm grasp of her major subject should be granted the degree. We are against the refusal of the College to allow a student who fails the test to retake the comp before the following academic year.

The one try before graduation rule ignores the undeniable human factor in comprehensive tests. The mental frustration and physical exhaustion engendered by the rule prevent students from performing up to their best. Many of these students have filled out petitions to the college and members of the Class of 1966 after the comprehensive indicated that many thought nervousness had had a negative influence on their performance.

It is undeniable also that the suffering endured by the few who fail the test could be eliminated in some cases by a change in the retake rule. If a student is allowed a retake, why could the date not be moved up in order to allow her to graduate with her class?

It has been argued that the student who fails due to lack of knowledge of her subject matter would not be helped by such a change, as it would be impossible to learn enough to pass the test within, say, a four-day period. With this argument in mind, it would seem to give the student a choice of retaking her comp either one week after the first try or during the following year.

Allowing students who fail to retake the test within a week of the first try turns out to be a real bad advice, like, "Take her to a movie. That way you don't have to look at her or talk to her." Or more basic (and improbable), "If she happens to be good looking make sure your friends see her but don't meet her. If you are polite it will be the last of the girl AND your friend!" At 10, he starts out in the basement food floor with all the money he could borrow and a Favoro bottle filled with scotch, desperately attempting to admit that HIS is a blind date.

When he arrives (or, in other words, makes up the "Pinkie") his first encounter is with a typical bell lady who insists that he is in the wrong door. Once it is established that it is the right door there is a flurry of buzzers, bells, and a girl replies that she will be down soon.

He wanders around the lights and a cigarette (Imprinted with a gold tie), combines his last one and feel like a complete food. A steady stream of girls wander through and each time he feels his stomach turn over as he wonders if THAT is the girl.

After what seems like a good half hour (and probably was), he is about to give up when he asks, "Are you Fred?" "No, I mean," he says, as he collects his thoughts and tries to remember What to do next. As they get better, the student begins to wonder the name he knows that他 really made it.

But... How to tell her that her name really ISN'T Fred.

---

**ConnCensus**

**November 10, 1966**

**NEWS NOTES**

The placement of the traffic light at the entrance to the college and in the center of the campus, planned for last spring, has been delayed because theраппгне electrical work to support the equipment has not yet arrived.

**Miss Irene Nye, 91, dean of the faculty and professor of Greek and Latin at Connecticut College, died on May 18, 1945, after a few weeks' illness Saturday, July 17, at Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

**Daniella U. Vogt '66 of New London has been named a Peace Corps Volunteer after completing 12 weeks of Administration and Language training at the University of Chicago.

**President Charles E. Chalmers spoke at Hubbard Sept. 21 Conn Census staff meeting. The meeting was held specifically to introduce new and staff members to student journalists.

An article by William Meredith, professor of English, entitled "The Poet and the Community," will appear in the September 21 issue of the American Student. The poem is based on the theme of the series "The Poet on his Work."

A subtype machine was installed this summer in the Palmer Library making it possible for college and university libraries with the state library in Hartford.

By funds from the Federal Library Services Act, the network is expected to reach the full two-year period of six months to establish ways and means of speedier service and better communications.

The Criter-Williams snack shop has now a schedule of evening hours, coming up to Tuesday, 5-11:30 p.m.; Friday and Saturday 5-11:30 p.m., and Sunday 5-8 p.m.

Mrs. Amy L. Conklin Gordon '83 has been awarded a Woodrow Wil- lard Dissertation Fellowship to support her research on the history of the Luso-American Societies in the Ph.D. degree. She is studying the development of the Luso-American Societies from the beginning of the 16th century upon French historians and connoisseurs at the Université de l'Université de Chicago.

"Construction visible on the Connecticut Hall to Conn Cen- nis at the new site on Mopean Avenue, across the street from Chairman At the North end of the campus, experimental work is being done by Class 2 Paul Gorman, Junior Officer of the day, when asked about the recent changes.

Caldas Gorman added, "There are several theories for the etymology of the new field house also under way on campus, but it should be comple-

The College Personnel Office has moved permanently to new offices in Criter-Williams, Room 211.

ConnCensus now includes a classified ad section for those students who are looking to rent or trade or lost and found. Write your advertisement to the ConnCensus, or bring it to the office by Tuesday for the next week's issue. Cost is fifty cents for the first line and twenty-five cents for each additional line.

Submit your engagement announcement or wedding announcement to a new column to be run once a month at no cost. Include the usual information you send to your home town paper.
Life of Mexican "Folk Saint"

Researched by Miss Macklin

By Gail Goldstein

Miss June B. Macklin

Professor of sociology, explored during her leave of absence from Con-}

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If a Connecticut College girl

If a Connecticut College girl

If a Connecticut College girl

The only Conn College

by Jacqueline Earle

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New Theology Misunderstood, Says New College Chaplain

by Dan M. Bosch

"God is not obsolete in today's world, although the traditional faith of the past had little to offer those who are serving God are obsolete and must be revised," Mr. Ackerman, a new college chaplain for Connecticut College.

As a chaplain, ordained minister and instructor of religion, Mr. Ackerman encounters the inquiries, criticisms, and theories of his students and their families.

As college chaplain, Mr. Ackerman said his duties will include conducting chapel, worship, and Vesper services. He is also advisor to religious groups on campus.

Mr. Ackerman said his goal for the chapel program is to encourage all faiths to attend services and to sponsor inter-denominational services. He explained how he hopes to stimulate communication among campus religious groups and further the understanding of "new" concepts of God.

Mr. Ackerman maintained that one of the most misunderstood of the "new" theologies is the so-called radical, or "Death of God" theology. Believing that "the Church should be open to creative thought," Mr. Ackerman said the radical theologians' serious approach of what is happening in American religious life is extremely important.

He thinks most Americans have lost the sense of an omnipotent God, who is present in the atmosphere today. Consequently, they question His existence.

"Source of Comfort"

Radical theology places great emphasis on the fact that the idea of God has been and is thought of as something that serves human needs and is a source of comfort. Mr. Ackerman said.

The departure from the historic Biblical approach to God and man's relation to Him has changed the idea of God into a "crutch" for the masses and an answer to their needs, he continued.

Mr. Ackerman said, "Man try to make God the way we want Him to be, but God should not be forced into filling people's needs."

In the absence of a transcendent God, radical theologians believe that man can only turn to his fellow men for the help which man formerly sought in God. Instead, people have worked to help man's kind, friend, and neighbor in the secular world and in man.

Rather than wishing that God be present, he added, radical theologians see the absence of a transcendent power as a new act of God.

Mr. Ackerman disagrees with Death of God theologians on the point of transcendence. He contends that there is still something transcendent about God. God has not collapsed temporally and spatially but as in "many past cases," God has withdrawn temporarily from the world to make way toward our fellow man.

Biblical Idea of God

Mr. Ackerman emphasized that the Biblical idea of God's holiness is not his hiddenness and His incomprehensibility to man. The Bible keeps God's transcendence and "one can't say that His withdrawal from the world is permanent."

"Death of God" theologians, unlike Mr. Ackerman, have left the God of the Christian tradition. They maintained, he explained, that since God is no longer experienced as a transcendent power He is not there. Furthermore they do not anticipate His return.

Mr. Ackerman believes that all changes in the American social structure contribute to this condition.

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At Learnved, a home for underprivileged children, and the Seaside Regional Center, school and home for the mentally retarded, volunteers help organize games and activities such as arts and crafts or music.

Volunteers in the Tutorial Program aid the students of local schools in a variety of subjects.

At Lawrence Memorial Hospital girls work as candy strippers.

On campus the Service League sponsors a Blood Mobile, Ring Ding, and the Community Fund. This year Diane Cole, chairman of the Campus Community Service careers, illustrates that students are interested in the world outside their campus and hopes the school will give its support for the League's activities this year. She cautioned that girls are welcome anytime during the year; there is always room for more help.

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The annual Boutique will be held this year under the direction of two seniors, co-chairmen Martha Birkett of Wellesley, Mass., and Anne Foss of Chappaqua, N.Y. Participating stores include Ann Taylor, Cerra's, Hickey and Tweed, Outdoor Trader, Bag Doll, Taj and Odyssey. A variety of clothes and accessories will be offered for sale.

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REV. COFFIN CALLS FOR GREATER HUMAN UNITY

By Carolyn Johnson

The Reverend William Sloane Coffin, Yale Chaplain, discussed the often publicized Death of God theology and emphasized the need for a dynamic church to stimulate the Christian world when he spoke at the opening Vesper service Sept. 25.

Concerned with the prevalent attitude that it is possible to live a good life without believing in God, the Rev. Coffin said it is time for the world to arise from the "heroic atheism" of today and to begin a "religious renaissance." In this area, he said a moving God, trying to achieve greater human unity, is dealing with an immovable mankind and a static church.

The Rev. Coffin stated, "Although man needs God, God has a greater need for man. Only through the suffering of mankind is God able to suffer."

Mr. Coffin said that the irrationalism in the church concerning such topics as prejudices and nationalism is to be criticized because Christianity gives mankind the power to be rational. Therefore man needs to apprehend more than to comprehend both God and himself.

In the discussion period following vespers Mr. Coffin stated that the two basic problems confronting the church are war and peace, and poverty. He stressed the need for "human work," stating that disorder resulting from this "work" leads to progress and that results can often be accomplished through political action.

Mr. William Dole, Associate Professor of Music, will present a piano recital Wednesday, October 5, 1966 at 8:30 p.m. in Palmer Auditorium.

The program will include selections by Schubert, Brahms, Delius, Tchaikovsky, and Buschmanni. There will be no admission charge.

Mr. William Dale, Associate Professor of Music, will present a piano recital Wednesday, October 5, 1966 at 8:30 p.m. in Palmer Auditorium.

The program will include selections by Schubert, Brahms, Delius, Tchaikovsky, and Buschmanni. There will be no admission charge.

CIRCLE IN THE SQUARE STAGES “WHITE DEVIL”

The possibility of eliminating Saturday classes and Calendar Days, the choice of members for the Traffic committee, and the consideration of a uniform voting procedure for all class elections were among the important issues discussed by members of Cabinet at their first meeting of this academic year.

Maryline Singer, chairman of the student-faculty academic committee, said that the elimination of Saturday classes is a “closed issue.” The reason for this is that there is not enough classroom space available to function on a five-day-week basis, though the teaching staff is too small to fill in the extra hours that would be involved during the week, and there is no record of chronic absenteeism which would prove Saturday classes unfeasible.

Another petition for the elimination of Calendar days is in the offing for next year. Last year’s petition was narrowly voted down at a faculty meeting. The idea is that “the vote was so close, there is a chance that it might pass this year.” A committee is being formed by Cabinet to investigate this possibility.

This is the appointment of a Publicity Chairman for the school. This person would send out and receive letters concerning social events at Connecticut and other nearby schools. Members of the Traffic Committee, will also be chosen by Cabinet this week. Since the committee was mainly formed to see that the rules made by the Administration are upheld, qualifications for the job are the desire to see the car privileges succeed even if it means turning in a friend for an offense.

Anyone interested should contact Wendy Wilson, Box 1252 by 7 p.m.

Consideration of a uniform voting procedure for all class elections was also discussed by Cabinet. It was felt that all classes including the freshmen should have elections at the same time. A committee is being formed to look into this and candidates from past elections will be consulted. Also, Carole Friedmann, Heather Woods and Cia McKendrie, top leaders of Student Government are planning to review the present Constitution which is somewhat outdated in many respects. Benefits of their work will be heard at a future Amalgam. They also intend to review the composition of Cabinet.

Other things taken up at the Wednesday meeting were: To make Career officers available to Alumna representatives so they can keep in touch with the College as it is run today.

KEY ISSUES CITED AS CABINET PLOYS ACTION

By Phyllis Benson

For liberal arts majors

Joseph L. Quinn, CSP, director of the Newman Apostolate for the Diocese of Norwich, Connecticut, and Catholic chaplain at the University of Connecticut, will speak at Vespers Sunday, October 9 at 7 p.m.

Father Quinn received his A.B. degree from Boston College and M.A. from Boston University. He attended the Paulist Fathers seminary, St. Paul’s college in Washington, D.C., and was ordained a Paulist priest by Archbishop Richard Cardinal Cordling, of Boston, in 1943. He has served as assistant chaplain to the Newman center at U.C.L.A. and Catholic chaplain at Boston University. Father Quinn is pastor of St. Philip Neri parish in Portland, Oregon, and director of the Catholic student center at the Univ. of California at Berkeley.

Vespers

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