Dean Brown Discusses the Vital in Religion.

Many Fundamentalist Questions Are Trivial.

Tuesday, December eightieth, at Convocation. Charles R. Shuck, the new Dean of the School of Religion of Yale University, spoke before the students of the College on the subject, "The Vital and the Religiously Unimportant." He began his address by likening religion to a library. In the majority of libraries, there are volumes which clutter our shelves, but which have no significance to us. Our minds are cluttered with religious facts and questions which are trivial in comparison with the vital issues. By carrying this excess spiritual baggage, we crowd the minds and paralyze ourselves with controversies over trivialities.

When Christ was on earth, He always rebuked people who questioned Him about unimportant things. When Peter, always impulsive, asked, "Lord, why must we fast?" Our Lord answered, "Who made me a law unto myself?" When the Bible story of the creation begins, "In the beginning — What difference does it make when that beginning rose? How the actual creation of the universe is explained is of no matter in the scheme of things." The scientific theory of creation through a long and patient process of creative evolution is more satisfying than the Biblical version.

Continued on page 2, column 2.

INDEPENDENT JOURNALISM ARISING IN COLLEGE.

A new journalism, critical, independent, is springing up in American colleges, and is expected to have a salutary effect upon the colleges in which it develops. The new staff of the Amherst Student believes that undergraduates are capable of journalistic work, and that the college is a proper place for the practice of journalism. This new journalism is more vital than the old, and its influence is more insidious. It is only by arousing intelligent discussion that improvement in student conditions can be made.

The new board aims to be intelligent and interesting, without swinging either to the extreme of becoming "a literary museum or a vaudeville performance." They aim to tell the truth, rather than dogmatically state opinions, and to remain independent of their curriculum. — Wellesley College News.
Connecticut College News

Established 1916
Issued by the students of Connecticut College every Friday throughout the college year from September to June, except during mid-yeas and vacations.

Entered as second class matter at the Post Office at New London, Connecticut.

CONNECTICUT COLLEGE NEWS

C. C. REPRESENTED AT AMHERST CONFERENCE

From page 1, column 3, topic, "What is shaping student opinion on various issues?"

On Sunday morning the principal address was made by Dr. Nichols Murray Butler. Dr. Murray stressed particularly the necessity for breaking down national barriers and discussed the importance of mutual understanding and cooperation among peoples.

The delegates attended the Amherst convocation service where an address was given by Dr. Alinast, of Baltimore, on "Christian World Order and the World's Problem of Peace.

At the final session of the conference on Sunday afternoon the summaries of the discussions were made by a student findings committee. Several suggestions were made for immediate steps that might be taken to develop more intelligent student thinking. If possible, a student association was formed, and students can do toward the establishment of world peace. It was made clear that Congress appropriate next year at least as much money as has been voted in the military training of students in the R.O.T.C. for the exchange of foreign and American students. Exchange of students seemed to be the most specific step that can be taken toward the establishment of better world relationships.

By Helena Lovens Williams.

The white-haired, ruddy-storied, portly old gentleman seated in the big armchair held a newspaper in his hand. "Four hundred million Christmas seals sold in the United States," he read. Deeply absorbed, he turned over the page, and then laid the paper on the table beside him, and looked out at the winter landscape. Once or twice he nodded thoughtfully and a gentle smile deepened the grooves in the corners of his mouth and spread over all his benign countenance.

The old gentleman’s thoughts sped back to December 21, years ago, when a lonely little batch of bright colored Christmas seals lay practically unnoticed on a postoffice counter in Denmark. He, Elmer Holboell, then an obscure clerk in the little postoffice, had conceived the idea of printing a "Christmas stamp" to be pasted on Christmas mail, as a means of raising a few thousand dollars for the construction of a hospital for tuberculous children. So perfectly did the little stickers fulfill their mission that the news spread over the country and, when Jacob Riis, one of the foremost of America’s social reformers, came for a short visit to his mother country, he heard of the good success of the new idea.

He wrote an enthusiastic story for the “Outlook” on the success of the new Christmas seals and Miss Emily Bissell of Wilmington, Delaware, read the article. She decided that seals could raise money for tuberculosis work in Denmark, they could perhaps do the same in America. So sure enough, she was able to sell 300,000 seals.

Continued on page 3, column 2.
TAKES POEM LITERALLY.

In a recent letter received by Robert Prost there was a plea that in the next issue of Mountain Interval there be added to the poem "Birches," a footnote warning possible converts of the form of amusement to "be sure the birch is gray." The poet inspired by this poem some girls undertook the sport, and after becoming accustomed to the idea she one day made the mistake of picking not a gray but a paper birch. The result was as might have been expected, for paper birch is far more likely to break than bend, and the misguided maiden had a nasty fall.

—Smith-College Weekly.

OPEN LETTERS.

Omitted from page 1, columns 4

ing? Would the students be asking too much to have this privilege given them?

If those professors who would be willing to grant us a little of their time and thought in such a manner, would designate certain times and places that we could come to them, they would, I think, be expressing one of the most keenly felt needs on the part of at least a certain portion of the students.

DEAN BROWN DISCUSSES THE VITAL IN RELIGION.

Omitted from page 1, columns 4.

Biblical theory of a swift succession of creational acts. Whether or not there were peculiar circumstances surrounding the birth of Jesus is of no importance in our present study of Jesus' teachings, and so Dean Brown said it what Paul said—nothing. But Christ was divine, whatever the manner of his birth, and if we study his life and his teachings, we shall know all it is necessary or vital for us to know about him.

No other force has exerted so much influence on man's character as has religion. It is distressing for people who have no intimate knowledge of the Bible to discuss religious problems. Before you utter your religious opinions you should look into the questions by reading the Bible and other religious books, and getting yourself in a position to put forth your views for the readers who inquire of you about the religious questions of the Bible. The question of how much or how little the Bible is inspired is trivial. A man who says that he believes in every word of the Bible is like an auctioneer who is printing up his stock. We know that the Bible is not all true, and we should pick out for ourselves what is universal, permanent, and vital.

NEW STUDENT CONDUCTS SMOKE SURVEY.

How extensive is the feminine smoking habit in women's colleges and educational institutions? No one knows definitely. Following the action of Bryn Mawr in abolishing smoking, because many deans and presidents have made statements. But these statements may not be always accurate, because of insufficient official information as to what goes on in dormitories and because of the usual desire to escape unfavorable publicity.

"Nothing has occurred in higher education that has so shocked our sense of social decency as the action at Bryn Mawr," exclaimed W. A. Brantingham, President of Kansas State Teachers College.

At Northwestern University there is no rule against smoking, but "nice girls" do not smoke.—Dean Winifred Richardson.

"Never" answers Dean E. E. Nicholsen to a query as to whether the University of Minnesota will ever follow Bryn Mawr's example.

At Ohio State University a poll of co-eds disclosed the fact that one-third have smoked—but "not many." All other mid-western co-educational schools declare that the smoking problem is non-existent. The same condition obtains in the far west.

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CHRISTMAS SEAL COMES OF AGE

This year the Christmas Seal comes of age. It is just 21 years since an organization conceived the idea of a decorative stamp to be placed on Christmas mail as a means of raising funds for a hospital.

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CONNECTICUT COLLEGE NEWS

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CALENDAR.
December 12th, Saturday—Glee Club Concert.
December 13th, Sunday—Yes- pers.
December 14th, Monday—History Film, "Wolfe and Mont-calm.
December 17th, Thursday—Christmas Program.
December 18th, Friday—Vacation.

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