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Connecticut College

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## Dance Critic To Lecture At Convocation

**Dr. Beiswanger to Speak On Impact of Other Arts On Legitimate Stage**

Not only will ardent Wig and Candles be overjoyed, but everyone with an ounce of drama in her soul will welcome the opportunity to hear George Beiswanger at convocation Tuesday afternoon, January fourteenth, at four o'clock in the Auditorium. Dr. Beiswanger will discuss the impact of film, radio, dance, music, painting and poetry upon the legitimate stage.

As assistant editor of *Theatre Arts Monthly*, a magazine to which he has contributed as dance critic since 1934, Dr. Beiswanger is admirably qualified to lecture on this subject. Earlier in his career, Dr. Beiswanger received his Ph.D. from the University of Iowa in 1928; until 1937 he was a professor of philosophy at Ohio Wesleyan University, and Dean of students at Monticello Academy until he accepted his present position on *Theatre Arts Monthly*.

From one of his articles in this magazine it would seem that Dr. Beiswanger is optimistic in his approach, for he says: "Broadway dance is a plateau, a level plain, out of which cultural peaks in today's dance arise. Here is one opportunity for dancers, especially, to integrate their interest with other things." Dr. Beiswanger is a teacher, a philosopher, and a dance critic. From him we may learn how philosophy and the dance are compatible, and we may also learn his own philosophy of the dance.

## Innovations For C.C. News Planned For Near Future

Forthcoming improvements in the editorial, feature, and typographical phases of the *C. C. News* have been announced by Thea Dutcher '41, editor-in-chief of the *C. C. News*. She and Patricia King '42, managing editor, attended a conference last month in Detroit of the Associated Collegiate Press, of which many college and university newspaper staffs are members. The editors hope that ideas gathered there may be utilized to make the *C. C. News* a better college newspaper.

A board composed of junior and senior editors has been formed for the purpose of discussing questions of interest to the students in order to reflect and arouse student opinion more fully and accurately through editorials. In November, Miss Oakes spoke to the staff on the topic of how to write better and more vital editorials. Earlier in the fall, Mrs. Katherine Floyd, of the publicity bureau, spoke on how to write news stories more effectively. Tuesday, December 17, Mrs. Floyd addressed the staff on interviewing, illustrating her talk by means of an interview with Thea. These news staff meetings are an innovation this year and are intended to assist the journalists in their writing.

(Continued to Page Six)



## Divers Solutions Offered For Holiday Packing Problems

By Marilyn Sworzen '43

One more packing day 'til Christmas! How are you doing, or aren't you? Are you one of those midnight packers or has your trunk already got that "come hither Expressman look"? In a canvass of campus, your reporter uncovered several theories on Christmas packing à la Connecticut. Here they are.

Trunks were already crowding the freshman rooms in Grace Smith and East houses last Thursday—this is called the early approach method. Expecting most freshmen to admit that they dreaded the packing ordeal, I was surprised that many of them looked forward to it. "It means we're really going home," they confessed. One worldly frosh boasted that she's been sending excess clothes home in her laundry box for weeks. The chief concern of several was how they were going to get it all in—Boyle's volume law might help. Walter, new college janitor at Grace Smith and East houses, said that he didn't mind the job of hauling trunks up and down—it improves the waistline, I imagine. Walter reported that about forty per cent of the girls there were taking their trunks home for the coming holiday.

A visit to the high and mighty senior dorm, Windham, produced some mature slants on packing—this is the blasé approach. Two ancient knitting Windhamites, who assured me that they were "typical seniors," disclosed the truth about senior packing. Minimize packing is their theory after four years of superfluity. "By senior year, one explained, "most of the room is taken up with books for studying for generals—and that isn't the bull," she insisted. Furthermore, she added, "we don't bother taking home evening clothes or fancy dresses as our "home talent" are all

either in the army or working in far off points." (I thought seniors weren't supposed to have any loving man.) "Some comfortable hiking clothes and a dress in which to pour tea for mother is all we need." Digressing from the subject (customary trait of the aged), another senior explained that, as underclassmen they hated crowded trains, but now that they're seniors they don't worry about them, knowing that all underclassmen will relinquish their seats to them—en garde, underclassmen! Moreover, riotous laughter and singing on trains bore and embarrass them. A good book or magazine is what they prefer. They invariably take a late train from college so that they can make perfect connections in New York (take that for what you will), and come back on an early train fully rested. When asked when they pack, all shouted, "at the last minute." Van Terzee, Windham janitor for seven years, who revealed that he was used to trunk trucking by now, verified this declaration. He reported only one trunk had been ordered by last Thursday by a senior who was leaving on the fourteenth.

A call to the Railway Express Agency and Union Station baggage room revealed that both companies put on from three to five extra men to handle Christmas trunks and packages. Mr. P. M. (afternoon) Murphy, eighteen years employee at the Railway Express Agency, insisted that the college girls aren't any trouble and never get mixed up. A live cat locked in a C.C. girl's trunk about ten years ago is about the only mishap he could recall. Mr. A. G. Roth at the baggage room also praised the college girls' composure. The only difficulty he encounters is when some of them take the train and leave their baggage unchecked at the station.

## Boston Symphony To Be Highlight Of Concert Series

January 8, 1941, will be one of the most important nights at Connecticut College this coming year, for it marks the appearance of the Boston Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Dr. Serge Koussevitsky, at the Palmer Auditorium. The program will consist of two symphonies, *The London Symphony*, by Vaughn Williams, and Brahms *Second Symphony*.

The Boston Symphony Orchestra is celebrating its sixtieth anniversary this year. During this time this great orchestra has fostered and encouraged the growth of music in America, and has given this country a firmly rooted, precious musical heritage. It all started when a Harvard student developed eye trouble during his freshman year. Young Henry Lee Higginson went to Europe for a rest for several months, and ended up by studying intensively in Vienna for four years, until he injured his arm so that he would never be able to play the piano again. Returning to America, he joined the First Massachusetts Cavalry and served for a short time in the Civil War. Then he entered a Boston banking firm until he was able to make "the dream of my life," a communal symphony orchestra, come true. In 1880 Bostonian culture was at a standstill, and its only center was the old Music Hall, which was used for prize fights and dances as well as concerts. Henry Higginson was determined that something was to be done, and when he met Georg Henschel, he outlined his plans for an orchestra of sixty pieces and offered the singer and composer the chance of becoming its first conductor. Henschel agreed, and the nucleus of the great Boston Symphony Orchestra was formed. For thirty six years Major Higginson kept the orchestra going, and paid the deficits, which totaled \$1,000,000, out of his own purse.

After sixty years this orchestra, an organization which has given a priceless cultural heritage to America, is coming to Connecticut College.

## Holmes Hall Scene Of Xmas Services

Around a cheerful fire in the recital room of Holmes Hall, the annual Christmas Vespers service was held Sunday night, December 15, at 7:00 p. m. As the service was centered around international Christian brotherhood, Christmas songs in six different languages formed the main part of the service. The Christmas story read by Dean Burdick, *Saint Nicholas in Distress*, by Felix Timmermanns, was a highlight of the evening.

After the opening prayer and hymns by the congregation and the choir, Dr. Laubenstein introduced each group as it sang a foreign Christmas carol. Between the group songs, the congregation joined in a responsive reading and the choir sang several hymns.

## Xmas Pageant Incorporates Many Groups

**Mystery of the Madonna Slated To Be Disclosed At Annual C. C. Pageant**

The traditional Christmas Pageant will be given this Thursday evening, December 19, at 8:00 p. m. in Palmer Auditorium. Since 1928, when the first Christmas tableau was given under the direction of Henry Bill Selden, former head of the fine arts department, the annual pageant has grown in magnitude so that it now includes the music, speech, religious, and art departments.

The first pageant was a living picture of a Gothic madonna. Most of the masterpieces of art portrayed since then have been Italian paintings of the medieval and renaissance periods although a sculpture, a stained glass window, and a Russian ikon have been used.

The madonna for these tableaux is traditionally chosen from among the members of the senior class for her classic beauty. Selected by the pageant committee, her identity is never revealed until the night of the pageant.

The program for this year will open with responsive readings by Dr. Laubenstein and Dr. Jensen, and by the choral speaking group which will be located in the balcony. The Procession that follows consists of approximately sixty members of the faculty, the choir and the students. Among the faculty will be: Mr. Carter, Dr. Cochran, Mr. Seward, Mr. Sanchez, Mr. Harrison, Mr. Ames, Dr. Moore, and Dr. Cobble-dick. The climax of the pageant is the unveiling of the tableau.

Betty Burford '41 is the student chairman of the pageant. Other student heads include:

- Lee Barry '41—Lights
- Jane Whipple '41—Properties
- Mary Jane Tracey '41—Sculpture
- Jessie Ashley '41—Scenery
- Marcia Wiley '41—Make-up
- Anne Peabody '41—Costumes
- Ann Breyer '41 is writing the story of the chosen tableau for the program.

The faculty pageant committee is headed by Dr. Laubenstein. The art committee consists of Dr. Logan, chairman; Miss Hanson, Miss Ebert, and Mr. Ames. Mrs. Ray is directing the choral speaking group and Miss Porter the music.

## Student Interest Wanes

According to an analysis made by the office of the Business Manager of students who have Concert Series tickets, the number of subscribers has dropped considerably. The figures are as follows:

	Season 1939-40	Season 1940-41
Freshmen	87	90
Sophomores	131	58
Juniors	122	91
Seniors	89	100
<b>Total</b>	<b>429</b>	<b>339</b>

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**The Christmas Spirit**

Silver tinsel, frosty cotton snow, gay wrappings, intriguing store windows, green holly and red berries, mistletoe, and Christmas trees laden with sparkling ornaments and dancing, multi-colored lights. Yes, Christmas is nearly here, and through our minds spin thoughts of Christmas cards, gift lists, train tickets, and gay holiday parties, all in the same traditional manner we have always known. Americans are absorbed in making this the best holiday season, for themselves and their families, that they have ever known.

As the season draws closer, we become more and more absorbed in thoughts of the joys that await us in a few short days. We tend to push thoughts of war, and the suffering abroad, into the background. Too often, we give to a worthy charity, not because we are moved by the urgent need, but because giving is a part of the Christmas tradition.

We have been bred on the misquoted verse, "Peace on Earth, Good Will toward Men," so that it is hard for us to conceive of bombs and air raids, instead of Christmas trees and gifts, on Christmas day. We hear Christmas bells, and not air raid sirens, as we gather with our families and friends. Actually, that verse of the Bible, which has been twisted in the King James translation, in the original means, "Peace on Earth to Men of Good Will."

Are we men of good will? Certainly, we must do a great deal more than we have, if we are to prove it. The Christmas season should bring an increase, not a decrease, in our activities for helping bring peace and justice to the world. What, we ask, can we do individually to show that we do care about the future of the whole world, as well as the happiness of the moment? We can be aware that ours is one

(Continued to Page Six)

**CAMPUS CAMERA**



**Norway Is Setting Of Newest Novel**

By Lee Eitington '42

The author of "Kristin Lavransdatter" turns to 18th century Norway for the background of her latest novel. In "Madame Dorthea" Mrs. Undset recreates the life and spirit of the times.

The vivid description and the language with its slightly foreign tone transplant us into the colorful atmosphere of the countryside near the Norwegian city of Christiania. The book describes the gay festivities of a wedding where the guests eat and drink, dance and carouse for six days, and where the strict proprieties and conventions of the times are relaxed considerably. It tells of love and sorrow, birth, sickness, and death, and deals with a variegated group of characters. We meet the mature, understanding Madame Dorthea, and fiery, obstinate, kind-hearted Thestrup, her husband. We meet Sibilla, the sinister, vindictive old gypsy woman who was known for her proficiency in soothsaying, healing, and other less savoury arts—and Captain Cold, the bastard son of a Danish nobleman, who was thrown out of the army and lived in an old manor house with his housekeeper-mistress—and wise, pious Sharlach, the German foreman of the glass works of which Thestrup was manager—and Elizabeth, mother of Dorthea, who had married four times, and who did not care what people said of her, although they whispered that in her far-away past she had committed adultery and murder.

The plot hinges around the strange and unexplained disappearance of Thestrup, and Dorthea's attempts to adjust herself to the loss of her beloved husband, and to keep her family of seven children together. The weakness of this novel seems to me to lie in the fact that the plot is not meaty enough. The characters are life-like and the life of the time is well represented, but the book lacks real interest and vigor because there is no true conflict, either psychological or otherwise. In relation to the thinness of the plot the book is perhaps longer

**Things and Stuff**

Newman White, longtime a student of Percy Bysshe Shelley, has written a biography of the 19th century poet. Prof. White disagrees with those who held Shelley had no real interest in social revolution. His book is a scholarly answer to the critics of Shelley. Improving his point, Prof. White has made the biography "lively, fluent, and exciting." It is one of the most authoritative studies yet made of Shelley, his life and beliefs.

"The Ice Follies of 1941" will shortly begin its annual tour of the country. Evelyn Chandler, one of the greatest of the acrobatic skaters, and Roy Shipstad, star, perform impossible feats on ice. The Swiss team of Frick and Frack provide the comedy.

The Metropolitan Opera entered its 58th season last week, bringing a thoroughly reorganized and revitalized association. With modern production techniques and reduced prices, the Metropolitan hopes to conduct its most successful year and to make the Opera of more significance and greater popularity in the world of music and entertainment.

At the Museum of Modern Art, Therese Bonney is exhibiting war photographs in a sequence called "War comes to People." The pictures are a moving and eloquent account of what happens to "the little people" during a modern war... to the women and children, to the aged. Starting in Finland, she follows the war through Belgium to the fall of France.

than necessary and rather slow-moving.

Although "Madame Dorthea" is not as vital, powerful, or thought-provoking as that full-blooded saga of medieval life, "Kristin Lavransdatter," and although it could never be called a great book, it remains pleasant reading because of the verisimilitude of its characters and the vividness of its descriptions.

**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 opinion, the editor must know the names of contributors.)

Dear Editor:

It is my purpose to set a few questions before the pacifists on our campus in an attempt to gain a more complete understanding of their beliefs.

First, let us turn to an argument which is profusely used by these pacifists: "This war against Hitler will avail us nothing—it is a mere repetition of the horrors and uselessness of the last World War. His defeat cannot mean ultimate peace (this method has been tried for centuries, in vain). The problem is greater than just this!" Of course, it is! We must begin to realize just how much greater. But that fact in itself hardly justifies "appeasement" or "non-violence." (I do not confuse the two.) We are facing a tremendous undertaking—truly not just another war of self-preservation or protection of an unjust capitalistic system. We are living in a decadent era. This war represents one of the steepest, most fearful drops. Shall we allow ourselves to be plunged into the depths, or shall we make an effort, however small, to save mankind and civilization from another "Dark Age"? Our culture, civilization, democracy is threatened—threatened by more than Hitler, YES. But Hitler is our immediate problem. He is the first that we must face if we would rebuild our world.

Second, I wonder why the pacifist is so eager to throw down what little we have left of civilization. Certainly, not for its ultimate preservation or betterment. I wonder what he feels he may accomplish in his "peace." Is it a complete dissatisfaction with life in general, a pessimistic view of democracy and its possibilities ("democracy is not worth killing someone else for"), or a true belief that ultimate peace may be attained through the complete distribution of our culture as a result of a totalitarian world? I cannot justify war. But we have no alternative now—we are in war. It is our responsibility to see that: (1) Britain does not fall; (2) if victory comes, we use it correctly—to the advantage of the whole world. Here the pacifist asks, "What assurance have we that victory will be used to the world's advantage?" Let me say that although we have failed terribly, especially of late, a certain faith is needed—faith that the will to true peace may come about without a totalitarian peace first. We must start upon a constructive basis. The victory of Hitler will not provide such a basis. Hitler's defeat must not be the aim, but it must be part of the means. We cannot honestly believe that passive love will conquer Hitler, or that true peace can ever evolve from Hitler's world. And what assurance have we, who oppose pacifism, that Hitler will defeat himself?

1942.

**Calendar . . .**

**Wednesday, December 18**

Miss Hartshorn's Dance Class . . . . . Auditorium 202 4:00  
Mission House Party . . Knowlton 4:00-6:00  
Dress Rehearsal of Christmas Pageant . . . . . Auditorium evening

**Thursday, December 19**

Christmas Pageant . . . . . Auditorium 8:00

**Friday, December 20**

Vacation at 11:00 A.M.

**Tuesday, January 7**

Vacation ends 10:00 P.M.

**Wednesday, January 8**

Concert: Boston Symphony with Serge Koussevitsky conducting . . . Auditorium 8:30

**Thursday, January 9**

Arthur Murray, Dance Class . . . . . Knowlton 4:00  
Wig and Candle Try-outs . . . . . Auditorium 7:30

**Sunday, January 12**

Vespers: G. Ashton Oldham, Bishop of Albany, N. Y. . . . . Harkness Chapel 7:00

**Monday, January 13**

Arthur Murray, Dance Class . . . . . Knowlton 4:00-6:00  
Modern Dance Group . Knowlton 7:00-8:30  
Oratorio Rehearsal . . . . . Auditorium 7:30

**Tuesday, January 14**

Convocation: George Beiswanger, Assistant Manager of Theatre Arts. Subject, "From Drama to Theatre" . . Auditorium 4:00  
Quarterly Staff . . Bradford No. 7 7:00-10:00

## Performance Of Beethoven's Work Given

By Dr. J. Lawrence Erb

The New London Oratorio Society opened its ninth season Thursday, December 12, in the Palmer Auditorium with a presentation of Beethoven's *Missa Solemnis*. This work was performed by the Society several years ago with success, but this presentation was on an even higher plane than the previous one. In fact, it was, all in all, the best concert that this excellent organization has yet given.

The work bristles with difficulties to such an extent that most choral organizations hesitate to attempt it. In Thursday evening's presentation, there was no slightest evidence of strain or uneasiness. Chorus and orchestra were on their mettle. The result was often thrilling and throughout deeply moving. To begin with, the chorus was larger and better balanced than ever before. The writing is not grateful to the singer; Beethoven treated the voices like instruments and exacted all that they could deliver. It is the highest tribute to the capability of the organization and its excellent leadership that at no time did they fail to do justice to the composer's intentions. In shading and flexibility, in intonation and rhythm, the music sounded as the composer intended that it should sound. The orchestra, too, supported without overshadowing both soloists and chorus. It was better co-ordinated than at any previous performance. The Society has consistently held to the highest ideals in its selection of works for performance and in the manner of presentation. It has long since justified itself as a cultural asset of which the community may well be proud.

The soloists, Gertrude Gibson, soprano; Edwina Eustis, contralto; John Jamieson, tenor, and Dudley Marwick, bass, were admirably adapted to the type of music which they had to present, and they did a fine job. As usual, Roger Daboll at the piano was the "power behind the throne" supporting without obstruction. Mrs. Beatrice Hatton Fisk gave fine assistance at the Hammond organ. Henry Brynan deserves much credit for his work in drilling the orchestra and for a finished bit of solo playing.

When all is said and done, the honors of the evening fell to the conductor, Allen B. Lambdin, who interpreted the intricate and exacting score in masterly fashion. This was Mr. Lambdin's last performance before leaving for military duty. It was an occasion to be proud of. In his nine years of leadership he has built up an ensemble that would grace a city many times the size of New London.

The devotional exercises were conducted by the Rev. Father William F. Odell.

After the performance a reception was tendered to Mr. Lambdin in the Faculty Room in Fanning Hall by the members of the Society. A poem, inscribed to him, was read by Gertrude Noyes, and, on behalf of the Society, a score of Berlioz' *Requiem* was presented to him by Prof. Paul F. Laubenstein.

Olivet college inadvertently may have found a means to attract male students—by dropping football.

College officials announced that with the elimination of football as an intercollegiate sport enrollment has increased from 269 to 271 and the percentage of male students has increased noticeably.

## Members Of Connecticut Chapter Of William Allen White Committee Attend Mass Meeting At Yale

### Distinguished Speakers Stress Need For Increase In Aid To Britain

Dr. Marjorie Dilley, Dr. John Cochran, and eleven Connecticut College students attended a mass meeting of the Committee to Defend America by Aiding the Allies, at Yale University, on Tuesday, December 10. The meeting, a dinner, was held in Woolsey Hall, and was attended by members of ten chapters of the Committee from the state of Connecticut. Three distinguished speakers, Robert Sherwood, author of *Abe Lincoln in Illinois*, Erika Mann, and Edgar Mowrar, foreign correspondent of the *Chicago Daily Press*, addressed the group.

Dr. Charles Seymour, President of Yale University, presided over the meeting. Robert Sherwood, the first speaker, emphasized that the United States must take the lead in bringing about a living peace. There is no use, he said, in raising a huge army and navy unless there is an historic opportunity for progress of the human race in the given emergency. In 1919, we failed to take the opportunity to extend democracy; can we take the opportunity from this crisis? The progress of democracy is found in the actuality of the "right to work," besides the continuance of such rights as those of free speech, free press, and free assembly. Hitler, Mr. Sherwood explained in conclusion, will not be content with the capitulation of Europe, as evidenced by his speech of December 9. America's fate, as well as that of Great Britain, lies in quick resistance to Hitler's force. We must help England to avoid capitulation.

Erika Mann related her experiences in England in August and September of this year. She found that there is still democracy in Britain, however imperfect, and there is more freedom of speech and press, and frankness in express-

ing views on controversial issues than we imagine. The British realize that this is not a war for class interests, or British interests alone, but for a new world. Miss Mann believes, with Mr. Sherwood, that the United States must lead in a peace of honor, and England must be an unselfish liberator, if democracy is to be proved as the best way of life.

Edgar Mowrar, who has talked with the protagonists of this war, Hitler, Mussolini, Deladier, Chamberlain, and Churchill, said that the German ambition is no less than world domination, which is based on Hegelian philosophy and racial superiority. Mr. Mowrar believes that America is an obstacle to Hitler because of her democratic principles, and her liberalism. The Nazis are trying to break these down, and are counting on "palpitations of the pocketbook" to aid them.

Britain definitely needs America's aid; her fleet and air force are not large enough, and she needs money and supplies. Any premature peace or compromise will be at America's expense. We are fighting now against ourselves, because we have twenty million people who have "palpitations of the pocketbook," and who fear social change. We do not realize fully that with appeasement, democracy would go, along with liberties and voluntary co-operation. The only other alternative to losing these things we value so highly is to fight with England. This will be expensive, of course, but not half so costly as fighting alone.

Mr. Mowrar believes that we must increase our production one hundred per cent, with priority to war materials, and that we must give Britain supplies. This can be done by twenty four hour production. America will not have to enter the war actively if she is willing to give rather than to sell, and thus give England maximum help immediately.

## Air Raids Are No Novelty To Eva Gottschalk, German Student; She Experienced the First Year Of War In a British Refugee Camp

By Constance W. Bragaw '41

"It seems ridiculous that I should be here when all my friends are in air raid shelters."

As Eva Gottschalk spoke these words, she glanced about the Commuters' room. All was quiet. With a faint smile of irony she took a slow drag on her cigarette.

In Germany, all was not quiet, nor in England. Both countries, to Eva, have a meaning. She has lived in a Germany that is individualistic and cultural beneath its mechanized exterior; in an England of courage and strength. She has felt the terror of both countries.

Eva, who comes from Hamburg, Germany, makes her home with Professor Wessel. Being with a sociologist is quite pleasant for Eva as she, too, has done social work. She was doing social work in a Children's Convalescent Home near the North Sea when the war began. Plans to go to America were stopped by passport difficulties. Instead, she was sent to England. In

England she became part of a large refugee camp. Here were men of all professions from Germany. "It was like a community," explained Eva. "Everyone had a chance to do his own work. The carpenters built houses, the plumbers put in the heating systems. Everyone worked together." Professors who were there organized a camp university. Eva took care of the Camp director's children. "The camp director's wife and I were the only women among 3,600 men," she said.

Eva crushed her cigarette in the ashtray and leaned back against the lockers.

"I remember the first air raid warning, she said. It came at fifteen minutes past eleven; war had been declared at eleven. When asked how the men in the camp reacted to this, she replied, "Only the older men were terrified. The younger men seemed to be excited by it. Some of the men crawled under their beds and stayed there for hours."

"We had lecture courses on air raid conduct," she continued. "We were told about the different kinds of bombs." Some, she explained,

"affect the eyes, others cause fires. When an incendiary bomb is dropped, you are instructed to throw sand or blankets on it."

When asked how she could distinguish between the different types of bombs, she explained, "Oh, there is a warden who knows the different kinds. When the air raid signal is given, everyone goes into the shelter. The warden stands watch, determines the kind of bomb, and notifies the people. Everybody has gas masks to put on when gas bombs are dropped." With a quick realization, she remarked, "I remember, now, that we were taught to use gas masks in Germany four years before the war started. There we had to pay for them. In England, they were given to us."

Eva spent one year in England before coming to the United States. In that one year she had the chance to study English character under the most trying of conditions. "Their optimism and courage is outstanding," she remarked. "They are confident of success."

She rose, and gathering her books together, said, "You know, it's wonderful being here at Connecticut College. I'm very lucky."

## Students

During Christmas vacation, all first class mail will be forwarded to your homes. If you do not plan to be at home, will you please leave your forwarding address at the Post Office.

Also, if you wish your newspapers saved, will you please notify the Post Office.

All faculty mail will be left in Fanning Hall.

The Post Office

## College To Sponsor An International Weekend In Jan.

On the weekend of January 18th, Connecticut College will sponsor an International weekend. This plan was conceived by the Religious council, and is headed by the International Conference committee: Emily Parks, chairman, Peggy Keagy and Charlotte Craney. A group of foreign exchange students from different colleges will come to the college at that time to exchange ideas and thus to stimulate a better understanding between races and nationalities. Friday evening, December 13th, a group of Connecticut College students met to discuss tentative plans for the weekend. The college is hoping that Mr. Ralph Scott, secretary of the Committee for Friendly Relations among Foreign Students, will come here to lead the conference. The tentative program is as follows:

Saturday afternoon: A tea and registration for the guests.

Saturday night: A dinner for the religious council and exchange students, followed by a formal discussion and later, student participation in folk dances and games.

Sunday morning: A picnic in Buck Lodge.

Sunday afternoon: A continuance of the formal discussion.

It is thought that the different clubs on campus will be able to organize and help carry out plans for the weekend. For example: the home economics club may sponsor the tea; the outing club, the picnic; the music club, the folk dancing.

## Forum Meets For Discussion Of Standards

### Students And Faculty Suggest Three-Fold Plan Of Improvement

*Standards: their purpose, effectiveness, and source* was the subject for discussion at the Student-Faculty Forum meeting, held on Friday, December 13, in Emily Abbey House. The twelve students and seven faculty members drew up their chairs before a crackling blaze in the fireplace and participated in an informal discussion.

Agreeing almost unanimously that standards were often forgotten or ignored, the group set out to discover reasons and possible measures to be taken for improvement. They felt that it was probably a lack of individual responsibility which had brought about the attitude of carelessness and, if any improvement were to be accomplished, it would seem expedient that the root of the trouble be discovered. The rather abstract and intangible spirit which must replace the all too prevalent attitude of forgetfulness would not be something that could be accomplished overnight. And it seemed logical to expect that the juniors and seniors would be the ones whose duty it would be to set up the measuring stick for standards.

The Forum became involved in a slight dead-lock on the question of to whom belongs the responsibility of setting up the standards. Several of the members objected to recent rules made by the board of house-fellows; others admitted their necessity on the grounds that the faculty, as members of the college community, should certainly have a voice in the government of that community. The objectors agreed that the rules were doubtless quite justified, but maintained that, coming from the student body, they would prove far more effective.

The suggestions which the Forum finally decided upon were three-fold. First of all, an effort should be made through the House of Representatives and the House meetings to awaken interest in the support of standards; secondly, the juniors and seniors must be willing to take the initial responsibility; and thirdly, the housefellows might better present prospective rules through suggestion and house discussion.

## S. Simkin Attends News Conference

The New England Intercollegiate Newspaper Conference sponsored by *The New Hampshire*, official undergraduate newspaper of the University of New Hampshire in Durham, on December 13-14, was attended by Shirley Simkin '42, News Editor of the *Connecticut College News*. Representatives gathered to hear several well-known newspapermen talk on the problems of running a college newspaper. The conference also formulated plans for a New England Intercollegiate Newspaper Association which would set up standards for judging papers, and hold conventions where student editors could get constructive criticism. The sessions held last weekend included speeches on careers in editorial writing, and advertising opportunities.

Professor Max Grossman, Head of the Department of Journalism at Boston University, was the chief speaker at the conference banquet.

# ❖ TO DATE ❖

By Mary Farrell '41

All eyes are on Italy. No doubt about it, Mussolini and his men are up against problems of major importance. The success of the British blockade is forcing Italy to seek economic relief from Germany, which entails an exchange of Italian agricultural products for German coal, lumber, petroleum, metals and machine tools. With more than a quarter of Albania under Greek control and the expulsion of Italian forces from Egypt, Italy is facing heavy military setbacks. In addition, dissension at home is a prime factor. A general wave of defeatism followed the resignation of three high ranking army and naval officers as the Italian people recognize the purge, the severity of the war in its long duration, and their coming dependence on the Germans whom they traditionally dislike.

Relations in Vichy are at the straining point. Chief of State,

Marshal Petain, announced that Vice Premier Laval was no longer a member of the cabinet "for high reasons of interior policy in no way connected with our relations with Germany." Reliable sources, however, report that Laval's pro-Hitler proclivities have always been too sharp and that the action of Petain just prevented a *coup d'etat* by Laval to set up a separate government with himself as head which would enter the war against Great Britain.

### Germany And Japan

An interesting comparison lies in the attitudes of Germany and Japan with regard to conditions at home. Richard Darré, German Agriculture Minister, reports in haughty bravado that the English refusal to allow food to go through its blockade is cruel and inhuman to the people of the occupied areas. He suggests that Germany would not prevent its reception and distribution because their supplies are abundant, with the highest food standard in all Europe.

On the other hand, by imperial ordinance, Japan has issued stringent mobilization laws controlling food, medicine, and the publication of news. These new restrictions are in line with the agreements of the Axis alliance and seem to show that Japan is following in German footsteps. Perhaps when Japan herself is well regimented she, too, will be able to boast of Utopian conditions.

### Pact Between China And Russia

Russia has been keeping ominously silent of late, but the British radio reports that China and the Soviet Union have signed a pact whereby China will sell \$100,000,000 worth of tea to Russia to buy war materials needed for the war against Japan.

Look to Latin America and see that attempts at inter-republic cooperation have culminated in plans for a defense agreement between Argentina and Uruguay regarding the strategic River Plate zone. Indirectly this conference was the result of efforts of the United States to get naval and air bases in that region. In further discussion a more equitable trade balance be-

tween the two countries will be studied.

### Conference On Labor's Rights

A conference in New York City on Labor's Rights and the Defense Program, show labor leaders upholding the right to strike on defense jobs but suggesting the best safeguard against strikes to be the complete organization of all the workers and collective bargaining agencies in the country. A supplementary opinion was a resolution by the Lawyers' Guild which promoted the conference, urging the President to require adherence to the Wagner Labor Law of all companies receiving defense contracts.

### Defense At Home, Aid To Allies

Aid to the Allies is of dominant concern at home. Besides the question of how to render the best possible aid to Britain, Greece, and China there is the consideration of the Hoover plan for sending food to five conquered democracies of Europe. The government has taken active steps to help the Allies and the most recent negotiations are in progress to extend credit and shipping to Great Britain. Private agencies are in action, unceasingly supported by an American public which will do all it can to defeat totalitarianism. The controversy about feeding Europe revolves around the point of what is best for England versus the humanitarian appeal of destitute Europe.

Defense at home indicates a speed-up program. National energies are bent in that direction. President Roosevelt has just returned from a Caribbean cruise inspecting military and naval bases which will be vital in the line of hemisphere defense. Talking to the press, the President indicated that the post-election slump is over and specific action toward strengthening domestic forces will ensue.

The American public is becoming more aware of the import of the defense problem. They desire to know the truth about it, to be informed of existing conditions and of the work of the Defense Committee in such a way as to prevent dangerous complacency or, possibly, undue hysteria.

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Another viewpoint, expressed by a group of educators and prominent citizens, is the advisability of the President's declaring a state of emergency to enable him to put into effect immediate legislation for full industrial, naval, and military mobilization.

A thought for all Americans—Sunday, December 15, was the one hundred and forty-ninth birthday of the Bill of Rights, the first ten amendments to the Constitution. An enlightening editorial in Sunday's *New York Times*, on the vitality of these guarantees says, "It is these rights of the individual that are now, as then, the supreme test of democracy."

Doesn't it renew your faith in serenity to see an article like this? "Britain's Who's Who, 1941, was out last week. It listed, with biographical sketches, 40,000 names from the four corners of the earth. Included was "Hitler, Adolph." Outlined was his career, his address and his telephone number."

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Barbara Brengle '42

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And politely asks Santa  
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### Gay Decorations And Festival Spirit Marked Soph Hop As Great Success

By Lorraine Lewis '41  
Gay Frocks Brighten Tea Dance 1940—and the Conga, and Julia Rich had a birthday, and the dresses were gay red, smart black, deep blue, and even snow white. There were waltzes and the atmosphere of old Vienna, rhumbas and the mystery of Spain, fox trots and the excitement of our own America. There were perfumes from Arabia, tea from England, decorations fit for a Saks Fifth Avenue window, and fresh, sparkling faces from New York to Los Angeles, from Bangor to New Orleans. It was a perfect day of zip and tang, crimson and grey clouds, fun and laughter.

When the orchestra played "Happy Birthday," Julia Rich looked disconcerted—that is, as much so as anyone in smart black with a lovely turquoise clip can look. Mary Walsh conga-d in a black dress with a collar and band at the hem of soft red, and Polly Smith was seen behind a tea cup in a naive white blouse, open at the throat, and a sophisticated black velvet skirt—a charming paradox. Tedi Pierce wore an unusual white woolen jumper with wide straps covering the shoulders of her Yale blue blouse. That bright spot of red was Mary Wheelock in an oompf dress with a v-neck and loads of that indefinable dash.

During a waltz, Jean Wallace's dress of black crepe, relieved only

music and what do you have?—Why, a very successful tea dance.

#### Melody Of Soph Hop Lingers On

Full moon, Buicks chasing Fords, congestion on the steps of Knowlton, music—faint and provocative, glossy hair, exotic orchids, fragrant Chanel No. 5, net, chiffon, red, blue, black, glittering jewels, tails, laughter. A waltz, and dreamy expressions, a rhumba and quick movements, music—bright as copper in the candlelight—tiem fading into nothingness, punch that tingles, a Senior dance, a gracious receiving line, soft lights and gay decorations.

Far back in the corner, like the promise of Christmas itself, two chubby Christmas trees, gala in spun glass and blue. On the piano, two bland Christmas angels singing Noël. Above the lights were transparent tunnels of celophane—fragile and most unusual—which were brightened by occasional blue ones. Silver pine and tall blue candles graced the mantle of the fireplace.

On the wide stairs in the reception hall were the fair maidens, their skirts spread about them like clouds of aquamarine, their bodices sparkled in the lights, their shoulders were bare, but puffed sleeves added a touch of provocation. They seemed to be of another world, but really, they were the Freshman waitresses. In the receiving line were Pres. Blunt, who wore turquoise with inserts of lace, Miss Burdick for all the world like a female "gay cabellero" in her white blouse, long black skirt and dashing red sash, Miss Noyes fragile in pale, pale lavender, Mrs. Harrison looking delightful in red and black. Dr. Leib, Mr. Harrison, and Dr. Erb were resplendent in black and white! (So were all the other gentlemen!)

Polly Smith, dance chairman, looked composed and gracious in white net. The bodice was tucked, the skirt was very full. Study in black and white—Jean Gebhard

wore a stunning white dress hemmed deeply in black. On the back were pert black bows. Like a Christmas package—and a very delightful one at that, Betty Gossweiler sparkled in the soft lights in her red dress with stars twinkling here and there in the material.

In white silk jersey, sculptured and sooooo sophisticated, Barbara Berman made an exotic figure as she conga-d competently across the floor. Her gold jewelry made a stunning finishing touch. Several busy little beavers got together to make a band for the top of Betty Crouch's turquoise satin gown. For portrait prettiness, no one looked more lovely than Alicia Henderson. Her dress, of champagne net, had a design of ripe wheat with sparkling dewdrops lingering on the stalk. Fitted at the waist, Lee's skirt cascaded gracefully to the floor.

The orchestra is still now. Ev-

everyone has gone home, but the melody of a spectacular dance lingers on!

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### Defense Committee Work Praised By President Blunt

Reminds Students That Annual Report Will Be Circulated Presently

President Katharine Blunt opened Chapel period on Tuesday, December 17, by extending her congratulations to the Defense committee, under the able chairmanship of Dr. Marjorie Ruth Dilley, upon the fine work that is being done by both students and faculty in the war relief workroom, the William Allen White committee, and the "adoption" of children in war-ridden areas.

The President then reminded the students that her annual report

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### Fall Sports Teams Announced At The A. A. Coffee Meet

Almeda Fager, a freshman who has been winning tennis competitions in the vicinity of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, for the last three years, continued her success by defeating all her opponents in the Fall Tennis Tournament concluded November 26. Freddie Giles, the opposing finalist, was defeated 6-4, 6-3. Extremely modest through all her achievements, "Al" was seeded fourth among the women tennis players of Harrisburg this year. Her most valuable achievement was the winning of the Susquehanna Valley Tournament for junior girls last summer. Her opponents find themselves baffled by her unique serve, and her powerful and accurate forehand accumulates many points.

The Juniors once again retained their superiority in hockey by emerging victorious from every competition this Fall. Jane Merritt, hockey leader, announced at the Athletic Association coffee Monday, November 25, that they have been undefeated in this sport since their Freshman year. The

will be received by their parents some time during Christmas vacation. "I hope you will all read the report, and discuss it with your parents," she urged. "I hope you will particularly talk over the new library development, and that you will call attention to all the activities of our faculty, to the scholarship figures, which have doubled in the last few years, and to the great list of all kinds of gifts which we have received."

She also urged that the students and parents notice that every year the college budget is balanced, and that some capital expenditure is made annually from the college income.

"Then, further," the President said, "and this applies especially to freshmen, I hope you will visit your high schools and preparatory schools. Your principles, teachers, and the girls who are still there are very interested in your experiences, and particularly so when you are first in college."

President Blunt concluded by saying, "I wish you all possible happiness with your families, and a vacation full of fun, and lots of real thinking."

sophomore class finished second, followed by the seniors and freshmen in that order. Coffee and peppermints were served during the awarding of the team ratings. Helen Jones, senior song leader, then conducted a sing which included Yale and Dartmouth songs as well as C.C. numbers.

### News Plans Innovations In Forthcoming Issues

(Continued from Page One)

Several new columns will appear. At the Associated Collegiate Press conference on November 17, one of the chief criticisms made of the college newspaper was that it did not include an adequate discussion of current events. Mary Farrell '41, a history major, will interpret the week's news in a column entitled *To Date*. Another column which has already appeared, *Around Connecticut*, will continue to inform the student body of the best places to go for refreshment and entertainment in this vicinity. Beginning next month an *Alumna of the Month* column will be inaugurated. Alumnae from New York, Rhode Island, Connecticut, and other accessible regions will be personally interviewed. Due to the Associated Collegiate Press conference, the exchange list has been increased. Sally Kiskadden '41, has recently been appointed Music Editor. She reports concerts, student and faculty recitals, and other news of musical interest. There will also be personal interviews of concert series performers. Cartoons depicting the comical in campus life will also be included in future issues. A feature committee composed of students of all classes has been formed to discuss ideas for feature articles.

The typography or lay-out of the paper will also be improved. One aim is to make the front page articles complete on page one. Also certain columns will be assigned definite positions in the paper.

The C.C. News aims for a higher rating in the national contest conducted by the Associated Collegiate Press. Copies of the papers of all member colleges are sent to the Press to be judged and graded

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by journalistic authorities. The C.C. News has now a rating of second class which is "good" and is striving harder than ever this year for a first class rating.

### Editorial . . .

(Continued from Page Two)

of the few nations of the world which will be celebrating Christmas in the traditional, carefree spirit this year. We can realize that we are almost alone in being able to join our friends and loved ones for a truly joyous Christmas, and we can be thankful that old Santa Claus can find, in this country, a safe, whole roof on which to alight, and a chimney to descend. Certainly, we can resolve to do our utmost to keep the light of Good Will burning within us, and to let every bit of holly, every flickering candle, and every Christmas tree send that light even farther. Then perhaps we can help relight the Christmas tree the world over, and bring "Peace on Earth," and Good Will to men.

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Newark	2.00	3.60
Wilmington	3.50	6.30
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