

Connecticut College

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Connecticut College

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## Long-Awaited Sykes Memorial Dedicated by Class of 1919

In the vestibule of the Sykes Alumnae Center is an inscription which reads as follows: Alumnae Center, Dedicated to the Memory of Frederick H. Sykes, First President—Connecticut College, 1913-1917. This inscription and a realistic, inspiring, and friendly portrait of Dr. Sykes were displayed for the first time at dedication ceremonies held Tuesday afternoon, December 8.

This meeting for the purpose of dedicating this memorial center was opened by Mrs. Charles Becker, Jr., president of the Alumnae Association, who acknowledged our indebtedness to the Class of 1919 for their forty years of volunteer effort, the goal of which was finally realized in the present student-alumnae center. She then introduced Miss Winona Young '19, who related her impressions and those of her fellow students of Dr. Sykes. Miss Young was our

first president of Student Government, first president of the dramatic club, editor of the college newspaper, and first president of the Alumnae Association—a woman well qualified to speak of the late President Sykes. The many degrees and accomplishments of Dr. Sykes may be read in a *Who's Who*; hence, Miss Young preferred to relate the more personal memories of Dr. Sykes around campus. The Class of 1919 started the idea of a student-alumnae center to meet the needs of resident and non-resident students for organization meetings and recreation and of alumnae for a place to center their activities. Dr. Sykes supported and encouraged the students in these endeavors and in all other worthwhile groups and undertakings. Both he and his wife were loved and respected members of the Connecticut College faculty. Dr. Sykes was known for his prodigious interest in people, his capabilities as a teacher, scholar, and administrator; he knew and understood his student body and, in addition to holding a personal interest in them, had great confidence in their abilities. Two examples of these qualities may be cited. One was his sending a college music student a note of commendation and appreciation after her recital; another instance was the act of turning over to the students the reins of Student Government four months after the college had begun. All in all, the first president was largely responsible for establishing this college by selecting its first faculty and initiating many of the precedents which still have a great influence today.

Present at the dedication ceremony was Dr. F. H. Sykes' youngest son, Christopher Sykes, with his wife and their two daughters. The elder, Frederika, had the honor of drawing aside the curtains concealing the dedicatory plaque, while her younger sister, Christina, unveiled the portrait of her grandfather, Dr. Sykes. Those attending this occasion then adjourned to the newly decorated alumnae lounge for refreshments. Furnishings for this room are the gift of Mrs. Becker in memory of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur W. Pithouse. Thus through the tireless efforts and contributions of many, many people, including Dr. Sykes, the Class of 1919, and, of course, Mrs. Mary Williams Crozier, the student-alumnae center is now a reality for all present and former students and faculty to utilize and appreciate.

This dedication of the Sykes alumnae wing of Crozier-Williams was scheduled for December 8 in connection with the inauguration that evening of the annual Sykes Memorial Lectureship, a lasting gift of the Class of 1919.

Graduate Record Examinations will be given again on January 16. Applications to take this examination must be in the office at Princeton by January 1. These application forms can be picked up at my office, Room 212C, New London Hall.

Also, deadline for receipt of applications for National Science Foundation Fellowships is January 1.

Bernice Wheeler

## Poet Robert Frost Eagerly Received As Sykes Lecturer

by Ellen Forbes '62 and Susan Applin '62

A lecture course to be given annually in memory of the first President of this college, Dr. Frederick H. Sykes, was inaugurated last Tuesday night when the college was privileged to hear the poet Robert Frost speak and read some of his poems.

The Sykes Lecture, made possible by the Class of 1919, was started with the hope that the man who once said, "Remember that the good that counts is good in action, and whatever you do, do it beautifully," would be remembered.

Mrs. James W. Morrisson, secretary of the board of trustees, after an opening address explaining the lecture series, presented Dr. Richard Wilbur, poet and Professor of English at Wesleyan University, and friend, to introduce Mr. Frost.

### Secrets of Poetry

Mr. Frost began by saying that his attitude toward writing most poems seems to be "How would it be to look at it this way?" It was, in fact, the secret of all his poems. He mentioned always having liked rhymes, especially the coupling of lines and ideas. He revealed that "the heart of my poems is the secret pleasure of the coupling of two thoughts" for as he quoted, "All there is to thought is feats of association." As he pointed out the coupling of lines is merely the outward symbol of "feats of association." Once asked by a newspaper journalist, "Why do you write poems when there is honest prose to write?" Mr. Frost replied, "I say there are so many ways of expressing in poems—for poetry is "bringing expression to a place you never had it before." He stressed the importance of meter and said, "A poem is expression on the meter."

### Poems Warmly Received

Mr. Frost generally delighted the audience with his informality, warm humor, and anecdotes. He read several of his poems, both old and new, including "Two Tramps in Mud-Time," "Birches," "A Tuft of Flowers," "What Luck I Have," and in response to a standing ovation recited an old favorite, "Restoring the Stone Walls at Spring Mending."

## English Department Places Additional Members on Staff

Miss Norma Phillips and Mr. Park Homan are two of the new members of the English Department. Both have studied in large universities and abroad. Both are stimulating and animated by their work. Both are interested in the attitudes and reactions of students to all manner of ideas, and both are impressed with the numbers of highly talented young women collected together here. It is perhaps their interest in what is thought that makes them exciting people.

Miss Phillips is from Amsterdam, New York. She earned her B.A. at the University of Rochester and her M.A. at Northwestern University. She received her Ph.D. from Yale and although she

## Christmas Pageant Features Theme of Sieneese Paintings



MARDIE ROTH

### Student Pianist, Hanukkah Program Featured on Radio

The Connecticut College Student hour on station WNLC, New London, presented the Senior recital of Janet Heims, pianist, Wednesday, December 9. The program consisted of a selection by the Italian composer, Scarlatti, and two selections from Ludes Tonidis by the contemporary German composer and violinist Paul Hindemith. Marilyn Skorupski was the announcer and the college choir closed the program.

Randie Whitman announces that the College Student Hour will feature a program about the Jewish Festival of Hanukkah, on Wednesday, December 16, at 9:15 p.m. The program has been made by Sue Bernstein and Joan Weisberg, with the advice of Ruth Yaffe. Hanukkah music will be played on the organ by Leonard Kaufman, the junior organist at Beth-El Synagogue.

The program of Christmas music Wednesday, December 23rd will begin at 9:10 p.m. instead of 9:15 p.m. in order to present the whole of the "Christmas Concerto" by Arcangelo Corelli, originally recorded in the Harkness Chapel, during the Christmas Vespers of 1958, under the direction of Mrs. Gordon Wiles of the Department of Music.

A Christmas celebration was held at Connecticut College the year the school opened. At that time Yuletide entertainment was provided by a one act play and a Dickens Christmas reading by Pres. Sykes. These events were ended with an informal party. Since then, a traditional Christmas Pageant has evolved out of a series of "firsts" over the years. The traditions of Christmas vespers and a robed choir were begun in 1918; 1925 marked the beginning of singing carols out-of-doors after the Christmas production; and the first tableau was presented in 1928.

Pageant motifs have been appropriated from such diverse sources as Mexican legends and Giotto's Madonnas. This year's theme is based on Sieneese Painting. "Nativity," "Adoration of the Magi," and "The Ruccelai Madonna on Her Throne," all by Duccio and "The Annunciation" by Simone Martini were the four 13th and 14th century Italian paintings chosen for the tableaux. The Reverend G. P. Wiles and Dr. Laubenstein have chosen readings which are in accordance with the medieval motif. Dr. Laubenstein selected readings from St. Luke and St. Matthew in the *Biblia Sacra* and Mr. Wiles chose passages from St. Luke in the *Tyndale Translation of the Bible*. Both bibles, from which the selections have been made, are 15th century translations. A further attempt to capture the spirit of the Middle Ages has resulted in the placing of striped columns in front of the tableaux. Such columns were commonly found in the interiors of the late 15th century Sieneese cathedrals.

Mardie Roth, Chairman of the pageant, has stated that she "... was attracted to the Sieneese paintings because of their qualities of simplicity and directness. Their gold background and red colors gave evidence of a splendor which should be associated with the birth of Christ." An Art major from Washington, D. C., and an alumna of the Abbot Academy in Andover, Mass., Mardie is well qualified for her chairmanship. She was a member of the Insight Board and also on the Religious Fellowship Cabinet and this year Mardie has been acting as Senior Class Marshal and as Chairman of the decorating committee for Senior Prom.

This year's Pageant has been made possible through the joint efforts of: Stage Manager, Sue Oliver; Lighting, Pam Van Nostrand; Costumes, Betsy Froment; Sets, Sue Scheller; Props, Marge Inkster; Publicity, Frankie Gillmore, and Program designing and printing, Toodie Green, as well as the Faculty Committee with Mr. McCloy, Mr. Quimby, Mrs. Jarrell, Mr. Wiles and Miss Hazelwood as its members. With their able assistance another Pageant has been produced to carry on the traditions of Connecticut College.

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 16

7:00 AND 8:00

## Haverford College Orchestra, Choir In Vesper Program

Sunday, December 13, Connecticut College will again present the Annual Christmas Vesper program. The Reverend Gordon P. Wiles will conduct the two services at 4:30 and 7:30.

The Haverford College Glee Club, the Connecticut College Orchestra and the Connecticut College Choir will perform in the program which is to be mainly musical. The orchestra, with Margaret Wiles conducting, will play a prelude to be composed of "Air and Bourne" by Handel and Schiassi's "Christmas Symphony." The Haverford men, under the direction of William Reese, will sing three numbers. They will sing "Salvation Is Created" by Tschnekoff, "Brightest Morning" by Alfred Swan and finally, "Two Kings"—a piece for male chorus, two trumpets and two trombones—composed by Joseph W. Clokey. The closing piece will be "Magnificat" the great work by Monteverdi, and will be sung jointly by the Haverford Glee Club. Mr. Arthur Quimby will conduct this and Mr. James Dendy will accompany on the organ.

## Publication Names Dr. Jane W. Torrey As State's Editor

Dr. Jane W. Torrey, assistant professor of psychology here at Connecticut, has recently been named chairman of publications and publicity and editor of the quarterly newsletter, "Connecticut Psychologist," by the Connecticut State Psychological Society.

Dr. Torrey has been associate editor of the quarterly for the past year. She is also secretary-treasurer of the Connecticut Valley Association of Psychologists.

Present associate editors are Dr. Dee G. Applezweig, assistant professor of psychology at Connecticut College, and Dr. Benjamin Weybrow of the Medical Research Laboratory, United States Submarine Base, Groton.

Other members of the publicity committee are Dr. Stanley Rosner of Bridgeport, Dr. Harold E. Payne of Westport, Dr. Harvey L. Glass of Hartford and Dr. John R. Lester of Norwich.

## Committee Urges Foresight For Student Library Contest

Each year the Student Library Committee sponsors a book contest for the students at Connecticut College. In order for you to be ready when the date is announced, the committee suggests that you organize your collection during vacation. This does not mean that you should gather all the volumes in your bookcase and arrange to have them sent to the college. On the contrary, the books in any entry should be related to one particular field of interest even if the field is as broad as Natural Science, the Theater, or French poetry. The number must not exceed forty. The ten most interesting volumes in the collection, according to the student, are to be delivered to the judges for display in the library. It is permissible to enter paper-bound copies. Entries will be judged on coherence and selection, rather than cost or the attractiveness of the books themselves.

In short, students wishing to enter the contest shall submit to the judges; 1) A list of the collection compiled in an appropriate and logical order, giving complete titles, names of authors and editors, and place and date of publication. 2) A short description of the collection, setting forth the primary interest or interests that

lie behind it, together with any interesting facts related to certain volumes or to the entire collection.

Judges will weigh, among other factors, the following: To what extent do the books submitted represent an intelligent approach to the interest described? Are there conspicuous omissions not accounted for by rarity or cost? Do the books suggest that the collector has been led off the beaten track of book-buying? Does the bibliography show a purposeful and functional arrangement? Does the description make a good case for the entry as a satisfying enterprise?

In essence, the chief purpose of this contest is for the student to select books which, for some reason, mean a great deal to her. Her essay will then show to the judges what her particular selection of books means to her and why. We hope that each and every student at Connecticut will submit an entry; we must each have a collection of books which we consider very valuable for the information which they contain.

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## Sideline Sneakers



Since Christmas is approaching with incredible speed, most AA activities have been curtailed until after the Great Vacation. Outing Club, however, ignoring the recent spring-like weather with customary optimism, has planned a ski trip during the holiday. It seems that the congenial president of the University of Connecticut Ski Club has offered to let us in on a trip that UConn is sponsoring. If you can get yourself to almost any point in Connecticut on December 26, a ride to North Conway, N. H., will be available. A ride back is planned for December 31; the cost of the whole affair is expected to be about \$55. Questions about details should be referred to Ann Connor '60.

For those of you who enjoy a game of badminton every once in a while and who find either a locked gym or a gym full of faculty every time you want to play, the hours that the gym is free and set up for badminton have been announced. On Tuesday and Thursday evenings, after dinner, the gym is available as well as the slightly horrifying hours of Wednesday and Friday mornings, until 11:30.

For those unfortunate students who will not be able to go on the ski trip to North Conway or otherwise exercise regularly as you are accustomed to doing on campus, a few suggestions from AA on how to keep fit (pardon the expression) during vacation might be appreciated. AA suggests a brisk walk around the block, not before, not after, but during meals. This will eliminate all usual problems incurred by dieters, and insure proper exercise. Exercise is, of course, necessary for the mind which might otherwise go stale over the long vacation. There are many games which will keep your mind in shape over vacation, chess, for instance. Of course if your mind is in the shape mine is in right now, go-fish or mumblety peg might be sufficient to keep it in shape. Last, we can suggest several forms of solitaire designed to keep your nerves in the same state over vacation that they are in right now. These games are, of course, the ones set up so that you can't possibly win.

Believe it or not, after all this nonsense, AA does hope you have a good vacation. See you in January, s.s.

## FREE SPEECH

A Forum of Opinion from On and Off the Campus  
The opinions expressed in this column do not necessarily reflect those of the editors.

### Open Letter to All Students:

With the increase in cost of textbooks year by year, it becomes more apparent that there is a crying need for some type of second-hand book exchange on this campus. In an attempt to find a solution to the problem and to save the students some money The Student Book Exchange Committee has been organized and approved by the administration. We are now presenting this new institution to you, the student body.

The direct objectives of this Committee are essentially to provide some means whereby the buying and selling of second-hand books can be centralized so that students wishing to cut down on the cost of textbooks can purchase them at a specific time and place. The major concern of the Committee is to save the students money and for that reason the concept of an "exchange" rather than a store has been adopted. At such an establishment books are taken from their owners, who are given a receipt for the book with an established price listed on it. If the Exchange is able to sell the book, the student is paid the entire price quoted for the book. A slight commission of 10 per cent is added to the selling price of the book and is kept by the Exchange to help defray the costs of operation. The buying price, or price given to the original owner of the book, is determined by 2/3 of the publisher's listed price for the book when new.

It is the long-range aim of the committee that a permanent second-hand exchange and/or store be established on campus to provide for the student body a much needed browsing corner for second-hand fiction, poetry, etc., as well as textbooks. There is not, at the moment, any such establishment in the near vicinity and anyone who has spent delightful hours browsing through the shelves of such a shop will realize the advantages and spur to the owning and reading of books which it provides. At the present time the Exchange will be limited to textbooks which are used for college courses, since the plan is still in the experimental stage.

The Exchange will be operated for two days, four hours a day in January, and again in February at the beginning of the semester. The location will be the student lounge, room 115, in Crozier-Williams. On January 14, Thursday, and January 15, Friday, the Exchange will be open from 10 a.m. to noon and from 2 p.m. On these two days books will be taken from the students who wish to sell them, but there will be no buying of books at this time in order to allow the necessary stock of books to be accumulated before selling begins. On Monday, February 8 and Tuesday, February 9, at the same hours and location, the Exchange will both buy and sell books to interested students. When the doors are closed on Tuesday, the original owners will be notified about their books and will be told where to collect either money or unsold book.

Students are strongly urged to participate in this attempt to establish the Exchange as a permanent institution. They will be the only ones to benefit from it. The Exchange is completely student run and strictly non-profit. The administration and Business Office have cooperated whole-heartedly with this attempt and it is now up to the students to make it a success. It will be found that this Exchange will eliminate the necessity for chasing upper classmen to find a needed book and will eventually, it is hoped, provide a market for the textbooks and novels which are no longer used in classes and which can

now only be sold to a private concern for a very small part of the original cost of the book.

Christmas vacation will be an excellent time to collect all the books which you may want to sell and bring them back. Any book which is currently being used in a course will be accepted. The primary focus is on books for the spring semester, but books for next fall will be accepted and sold now, if there is a demand for them. The Exchange will be run again in June and September of 1960 to provide more completely for the next fall semester, if the present experiment is successful. It is up to you to back up the enthusiasm of the originators of this idea and make the plan succeed. Your support is essential.

Betty Joan Moss '60

### Dear Editor,

Several of the students on campus have recently learned of the use of readers in the correction of long papers for various courses. Since the students enrolled in these courses are so vitally affected by this practice, it would seem only fair that their opinion at least be voiced.

There is, of course, more than one objection to this procedure. One of the most obvious is the inevitable comment that, if students can be expected to spend hours, even days or weeks, in the preparation of a paper, the least the professor who assigned it can do is to read the work.

In addition, consider the fact that the majority of courses of instruction at Connecticut College leave the direction of a given class of students to the instruction of a specific professor. According to the method of teaching employed by an individual professor, a rather well-defined standard of writing for papers assigned by this person is adopted by the students involved. It is common knowledge, on this campus as on any other, that one teacher "expects" one thing on a paper or in a manner of writing, and another "wants" something completely different. How, then, can a student be marked on a paper which has been read by someone other than the professor whose standards she has very naturally striven to emulate? Perhaps this is needless emphasis on the question of grading, as such, for it has often been pointed out that we are here not to earn grades but to learn. The importance of good grades to an individual is, however, not to be overlooked. It would be unrealistic in-

deed to pretend that the matter of grades does not influence the student's attitude toward the use of outside readers.

Is there not some other way to meet the problem of the professor's work load? Many students share in the opinion that it would be better to wait for a longer period of time to have papers corrected and returned by the professor in order to avoid the use of readers.

Or, in extremities, could not the use of student readers be invoked? Should it be considered unwise for students to read papers, where "a matter of opinion" enters the picture, they could certainly correct quizzes or tests with a set list of requirements to follow, thereby relieving the professor and enabling him to concentrate on papers. And surely a student within the course would have a better idea of what the professor expects from a paper than would an outside reader who never studied under said professor!

These are only suggestions, and there is much to be said on both sides of the argument, of course. If there is opposition to the view stated above, it, too, should be voiced. But, since the procedure of using outside readers is already in practice, it seemed most urgent to express the opinion of those who strenuously object to having their papers graded by anyone other than their professor.

Anonymous

### Dear Editor:

Granted sometimes the student body is required to attend meetings and lectures in which there is not enthusiastic interest. We tend to regard these compulsory functions as nothing more than an inconvenience. We are referring in particular to Miss Bethany's lecture of November 19.

Liz Hood pointed out at the opening Amalگو that knitting during a lecture shows discourtesy to the speaker. Combine knitting and whispering, talking, giggling, reading of newspapers, legs over balcony and early exit: It amounts to gross, shocking rudeness!

It should hardly need to be pointed out that common courtesy expected of everyone over the age of five. Deviation from this ideal can be overlooked in a five, ten, or even fifteen-year-old, but in a college freshman to say nothing of an upperclassman, it is incomprehensible.

Susan Biddle '60  
Jane Harris '60

## ConnCensus

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"Most Relaxed" Couple, winner of K. B. Photo Contest. Submitted by Kathy Allen.

# TRAVELING LINES ON IVY VINES

In a surprising move, the Wellesley Student Senate has voted overwhelmingly to extend Senior Saturday night permission to two o'clock. This was a revision of the original student petition which had proposed a two-o'clock permission for Friday nights also. Tossing aside the administration's argument that the intellectual benefits from social restrictions are valuable and based on common-sense, the student majority argued instead that the 'happiness' of seniors could only be increased by the degree to which the intellectual atmosphere of the college was free from social restrictions. One senior reasoned in favor of the motion purely "for the increased enjoyment of an evening."

One wonders what kind of hocus-pocus Wellesley students have been employing in order to pull such a smart trick as this out of the bag. It seems evident that feminine reasoning has reached an all time low when it resorts to using such a vague phrase as 'intellectual atmosphere' as an excuse for staying out an hour later on Saturday nights. If two o'clock why not two-thirty, or three o'clock or four A.M. permissions? What so-called intellectual events last until two A.M. Sunday mornings? And is Wellesley geographically situated at such a distance from Boston that only seniors are unable to return to their dorms by one A.M. Conn students, on the other hand, might have a completely legitimate plea for such a late extension, particularly when it involves returning from New York City on Saturday night—in lieu of

spending extra money for staying over night.

It seems totally unrealistic that Wellesley seniors could straight-faced, equate their 'happiness' with the lessening of social restrictions; their argument over their unrecognized maturity is a strong indication that intellectual interests have little to do with the desire for two A.M. permissions. Concurrently, the Wellesley Library has announced that students may remain in the Library until eleven P.M. on three late closing nights during the week.

On the lighter side, one Pembroke student has come up with a few suggestions for unusual party themes. One is the Suppressed Desire Party which has been a successful conversation starter-and-stopper. Another possibility is the What's Your Major? Party—undoubtedly too academic a theme to win great popularity. Her last suggestion for a party theme, however, ought to put an end to the irksome conversation propagated at college mixers and on blind dates: this is the See "Exchange"—Page 4

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## Staff of German Department Complemented by Miss Stohr

by Jo Ann Patnode '63

If you are suffering from over-inhalation of the fumes of midnight oil, the brisk step and beaming Guten Morgen! (Good Morning) of Miss Margot Stohr should go far towards reviving you. The informal manner of this Kiel, Germany, native has made her a bright addition to our German Department.

Her spirits not dampened a bit by our New London weather. Miss Stohr, who taught previously in a girls' school near London, England, finds life at CC very interesting. From her observations, Miss Stohr has concluded that "they make you work pretty hard here." (Needless to say, we agree with her!) An incurable world traveler, she has met many Americans abroad and finds this opportunity of getting to know us better very enlightening.

Miss Stohr feels that English as Americans speak it and English as the English speak it are two entirely different languages.

Her precise English is quite a contrast to the broad-accented, more mumbling English of her American students.

Miss Stohr is a good advertisement for her country. A bright light comes into her eyes as she describes a German cafe or university and her eyes sparkle with merriment as she laughs at an American interpretation of German social customs.

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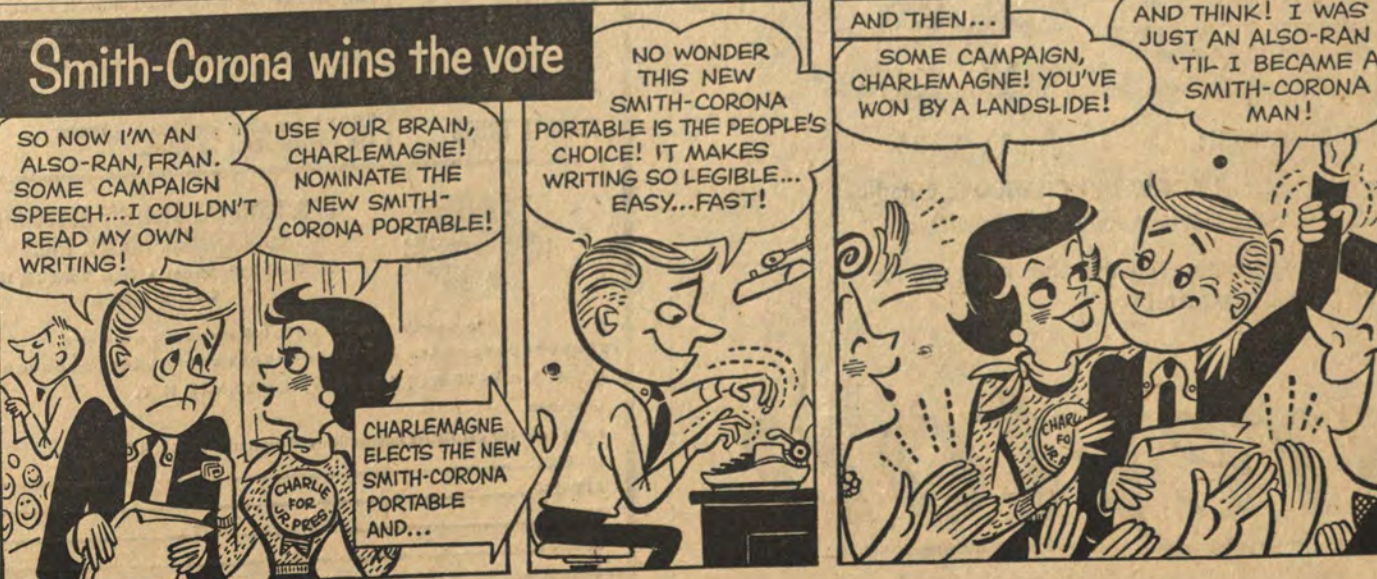
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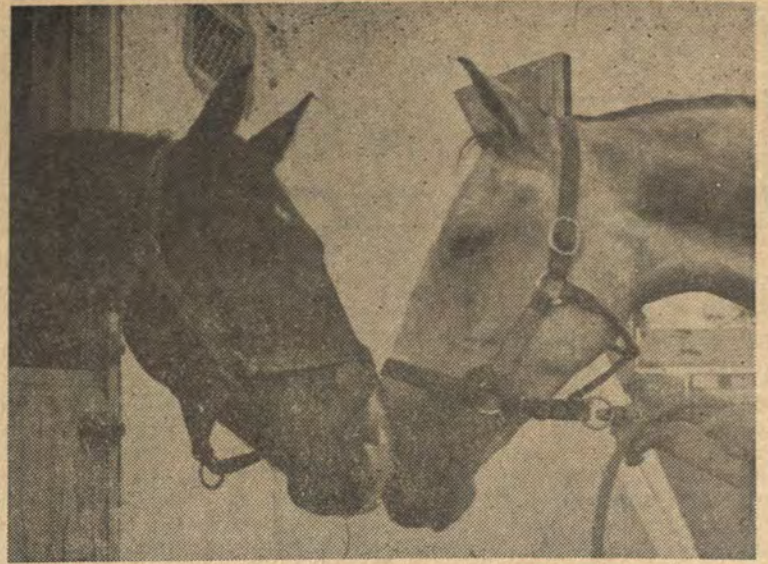
(Continued from Page 3)

Whom do you know? Where are you from? Party. The Pembroke suggests that an appropriate costume "would include your camp tee shirt, a high school pennant in one hand, and your address book sneakily tucked in your pocket."

The combined circulation of the Conn Censu and McCall's Magazine is 6,501,200.

**K. B. Contest**

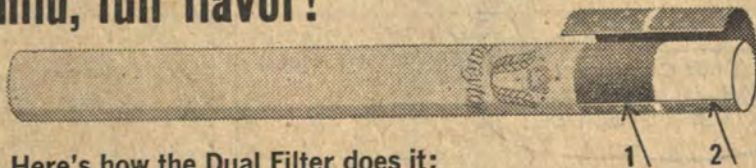
Winners and runners-up of the Couples Photo Contest sponsored by Katherine Blunt House during Community Fund have been announced. The two winners were Kathy Allen, with the "most relaxed," pictured on page two, and Ann Rubenstein, with the "best tadpoles," pictured at right. Runners-up were Linda Liebman, with "most devoted"; Nancy Donohue, with "most professional," and Helen Tsandoulas, with "cleverest." Judges for the contest were: Miss Schlottmann, Miss Taylor, and Mr. Fasanelli.



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