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CONNECTICUT COLLEGE NEWS



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New London, Connecticut, Wednesday, May 4, 1949
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Traditional Competitive Sing Wed.; Melodrama Follows

Recognition Is Given Composers Who Have Always Been Obscure

The traditional Competitive Sing will be held on the library steps on Wednesday, May 11, at 7 p.m. The Sing will be followed by Senior Melodrama, and finally by the wall-giving ceremony. Because so often no one but the song leaders is given credit for having written the Competitive Songs, it was decided this year those girls who worked hard with their song leaders should receive mention.

It was also decided that it would be a good idea to announce the names of the songs ahead of time. The songs are heard only once at the Sing, and if the names are known, the words may be better understood.

This year, the winning song will be presented as part of the Father's Day program. The songs are judged on four points: quality of the songs, especially the original ones; quality of the musical performance; general effect made by the class during its performance; and percentage of attendance.

Enterprising Songwriters

The music for the Freshman song, "In Which We Search," was written by Ann Busker, and the words by Bunny Bradshaw, Ann Busker, Marguerite Hoadley, and Kay Nelles. The '52 song leader is Bunny Bradshaw. Bev Tucker, song leader of the Sophomore class, wrote both words and music of Well, Can You?

Music for the Junior song, The Carnival, was written by Carole Axinn, Rachel Ober, and song leader Joey Cohan. Dossie Abrutyn, Carole Axinn, Lee Birdsall, Marlis Bluman, Edie Kolodny, Mary Jo Mason, Ann Mitchell, Gaby Nosworthy, Rachel Ober, Mary Lou Oellers, Julie Spencer, Jane Wheeler, Eleanor Wood, and Beth Youman cooperated on the words. The Senior song, Through the Crystal, has music written by song leader Mary Bil Brooks, and words by Lynn Boylan, Mary Brooks, Jan Crapo, Alice Fletcher, and Vicky Simes.

State Librarians Meet Here, May 7

The annual meeting of the Connecticut Library Association will be held at Connecticut College on May 7. This will be an all-day meeting of librarians from all over the state, featuring round-table discussions of public library problems and several key speakers. These discussion and speeches will be held in Bill Hall and Palmer Auditorium.

Featured speakers at the meeting will be Mr. John Bakeless, noted author and journalist and a member of the faculty of New York University; Mr. Richard Bennett, author and illustrator of children's books; and Dr. Donald Andrews, professor of chemistry at Johns Hopkins and a leading authority on atomic energy.

Luncheon will be served to the visiting librarians at 12:30 in Grace Smith-East dining room; dinner will be held at the Mohican Hotel.

IRC Panel To Hold Debate on Spain's Admittance to UN

The International Relations Club will hold a panel discussion in Windham living room, Tuesday, May 10, at 7:45 p.m. The issue to be discussed is Should Franco Spain be admitted to the UN? This topic was considered important as the matter is currently on the UN agenda.

To furnish an enlightening background for the evening's controversy Mimi Otto, Nancy Sherman, and Ann Sprayregan will present different phases of the problem. The reasons why many countries want Spain brought into the UN will be given by Mimi Otto. Nancy Sherman will present the arguments against Spain's inclusion. Developments in the UN on this question will be included in Ann Sprayregan's address.

After the opening reports, the question will be thrown open for discussion by all those attending the meeting. The faculty and students of the college are urged to attend and join in the panel. Naturally some are less prepared than others to talk on Franco Spain, but there is much to be learned from those who have studied the problem.

Register for Courses In Period May 16-20

May 16-20 is the period for the election of courses for 1949-50. All students who plan to return to college in September are expected to register during that time and before 4:00 p.m., Friday, May 20. Those who do not plan to return are asked to fill out withdrawal cards. Catalogues and class schedules may be obtained in the Registrar's Office.

Freedom and Security Topic Discussed at 6th Mlle Forum

by Mary Meagher

The sixth annual Mademoiselle College Board Forum was held April 30 in the Hotel Commodore from 9:00 a.m. through 6:00 p.m. Present were 54 student delegates from colleges all over the country. The topic for discussion at the session was Freedom and Security. Subdivided into relevant aspects, the topic was considered by panel groups made up of students, and well-known figures in the economic, social and political world.

Among the notables were Dr. Harold Taylor, President of Sarah Lawrence College, Professor Robert Cushman of the department of political science at Cornell, William L. Shirer, radio commentator and news correspondent, Joseph Barnes, ex-editor of the Star, James P. Warburg, banker-turned-economist, and Dexter Keezer, head of the economics department of the notorious McGraw-Hill publishing company.

Electric Atmosphere
In themselves, these personalities provided an interesting contrast in point of view. When their

Villains, Maidens Will "Emote" For Senior Melodrama

Twirling black mustachios, fair but fainting maidens, and handsome heroes of the virile variety—that's as close as anyone can come by guessing. The seniors are set and determined to keep their "deep, dark, secret" just exactly that. So Vicky Simes' masterpiece of meller-dramer will remain a veritable mystery until the evening of May 11, 1949. The Sykes Fund Benefit performance is scheduled to begin in Palmer as soon as the villain can don his upper-lip adornment.

'49's melodrama may yet remain a mystery, but there's no reason why the origins of this well-loved CC tradition should be kept a secret. According to an ancient edition of the News, the first senior melodrama was presented by the Class of '39 in its Junior (!) year. Written by the brother of one Niki Hart, the play was such a success, that the girls presented it again the next year as seniors, and what ho! a tradition was born!

And beloved Iphigenia—such inauspicious beginnings had she! She came close to a fiery death via the furnace when one '39er decided her post-college career had no place for the maiden. But rather than sacrifice her wooden Indian, she concocted a clever scheme whereby she would live eternally in the hearts of all CC. Thusly, Iphy began her famous career as an end-of-the-hisses presentation to the junior who will direct melodrama the following year.

After the senior theatrics, the last moonlight sing of the year will be held at the wall. At this candlelight ceremony, the candles and wall will be officially handed over to the Junior class. Rather a dignified change from the evening's earlier events, class songs to the Seniors and a farewell from them will mark the occasion.

Chester Bowles Will Discuss Future of Progressive State



GOVERNOR BOWLES

New Governor, Former OPA Chief, To Speak For Political Forum

Mr. Chester Bowles, Governor of Connecticut, will speak on Thursday, May 5th at 8 p.m. in Palmer Auditorium under the auspices of the Political Forum. The Governor will speak on The Future of the Progressive State.

Mr. Bowles is a native of Essex, Connecticut, and a former head of the Office of Price Administration. Last November, he was elected Governor of Connecticut much to the amazement of the Republicans who were confident of capturing this important post. Since he took office in January he has been constantly bombarding the State Legislature with special messages demanding New Deal reforms to carry out his campaign pledge of "competent liberalism."

Phi Betes Honored At Dinner After Formal Invitation

Connecticut College students elected this year to Phi Beta Kappa were honored by Delta chapter of Connecticut and the New London association of Phi Beta Kappa at a dinner in Katharine Blunt house at the college last Tuesday night following the students' formal initiation last Monday afternoon.

Speaker of the evening was Dr. Katharine Blunt, president emerita of the college, who told those assembled about the establishment of the Connecticut College chapter of Phi Beta Kappa in 1935. Until that time Connecticut College had had its own honor society, the Winthrop Scholars, and subsequently membership in this group became a distinction reserved for students elected to Phi Beta Kappa on the basis of their first three years' work.

College Examined

Dr. Blunt described vividly the rigorous examination of the college facilities, the thorough study of its curriculum, faculty, student body, scholastic standards and other phases of its conduct made by representatives of the United Chapters of Phi Beta Kappa to determine whether the college met the standard of general excellence required for the granting of a Phi Beta Kappa charter.

Other speakers at the dinner were Dr. Dorothy Bethurum, president of the college chapter, and Edwin Dimock, retiring president of the New London association.

New president of the New London association is Mrs. Chester Destler. The association voted to continue its joint sponsorship with the college chapter of a Connecticut College scholarship.

Connecticut College students, who were initiated at yesterday's ceremony are Elizabeth L. Anderson, Alice K. Fletcher, Naomi Gaberman, M. Ruth Hauser, Barbara F. Jones, Rhoda J. Meltzer, Marion Y. Mershon, Constance E. Raymond and Susan Starr, Mrs. Elizabeth Leslie Hahn and Mrs. Ruth Resnick Snow. Mrs. Hahn and Mrs. Snow, elected following their junior year, were awarded the Winthrop Scholar emblem by Mrs. Ralph Knup of Norwichtown, president of the Winthrop Scholars.

Republicans Prove Obstacle

Governor Bowles is having a difficult time getting his legislative program through an overwhelmingly Republican House, but he is not in the least discouraged. He is now fighting even harder to get his program approved. Thus far, three of his demands have been enacted into legislation: a law strengthening the protection of tenants from eviction, a commission to reorganize the state department, and a law permitting Negroes to join the National Guard.

Bowles, a former advertising man, who at the bottom of the depression displayed amazing ability to sell soap, toothpaste, and coffee, is certain that he will be equally successful in selling his New Deal ideas in the state of Connecticut.

There are many Democratic leaders who are very enthusiastic about Bowles and who make no secret of the fact that they think that he is a major contender for the 1952 Presidential nomination.
See "Bowles"—Page 5

Organists To Give Recital in Chapel

The New London county chapter of the American Guild of Organists is giving an organ recital Sunday, May 8, at 7:30 p.m. in Harkness Chapel. Mrs. Beatrice Hatton Fiske of the First Congregational church and Mr. Roger Daboll, organist of the Second Congregational church, will play a group of organ pieces. The Stella Maris singers of St. Mary's church will present a group of choral numbers. Mr. John McCarthy is the director.

The New London chapter of the American Guild of Organists is a new organization and this will be its first program. Mr. Quimby is on the program committee.

Chaplain To Speak at Joint CC-CG Services

The fifth in the series of joint CG-CC Sunday morning religious services will be held at 10 a.m. Sunday in Harkness Chapel. The speaker will be Chaplain E. B. Harp of the US Coast Guard Academy. A joint Coast Guard-Connecticut choir will sing.

CONNECTICUT COLLEGE NEWS

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May the Best Man Win —

Competitive Sing is almost upon us, and, quite naturally, we have all been thinking a great deal about it. Every class wants to win; the very name given to this annual event couldn't leave much doubt as to its competitive nature. We all feel, however, that there is more to the Sing than the winning of the cup by the class who gives the best performance. When we saw these words written by the late Henry Van Dyke we couldn't resist passing on his thoughts to you:

"The practice of music, especially, it seems to me, in choral singing, is of the greatest physical and moral benefit. It gives a sense of order and self restraint . . . It is a stimulant and a tonic. It confers that pleasure which comes from the production of beauty through cooperation. Good music set to good words, and sung under good direction by a company of people who put their heart as well as their voices in it, is much more than an amusement; it is a recreation in the highest sense of the word, for it develops and builds them through the power and joy of harmony. Upon the existence of such harmony and unity the happiness and welfare of our great democracy depends."

We certainly can add nothing to Van Dyke's message. Only that we might be surprised to find the memory of an "esprit de corps" between all the classes and the memory of "that pleasure which comes from the production of beauty through cooperation" more thrilling and enduring than the remembrance of who won the cup.

So . . . the very best of luck to you all. As always, of course, "may the best man win," but in addition to that, and perhaps more important, we hope that we may all share in the fun and value to be derived from group singing.—Mary Bill Brooks '49

CALENDAR

Thursday, May 5
 Governor Bowles Auditorium, 8:00 p.m.

Saturday, May 7
 Russian Movie Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.
 Connecticut College Library
 Ass'n Annual Meeting Bill Hall and Auditorium

Sunday, May 8
 Chapel Service Chapel, 10:00 a.m.
 Organ Recital, New London County Chapter of the American Guild of Organists Chapel, 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, May 10
 IRC Panel Discussion Windham Living Room, 7:45 p.m.

Wednesday, May 11
 Competitive Sing Library Steps or Auditorium
 Senior Melodrama Auditorium
 Moonlight Sing The Wall

Connecticut ON THE AIR

WNLC 1490 kc
 WDRC 1360 kc

Sunday, May 8, 1:00 p.m.,
 WDRC, Hartford.
 Guest: Mrs. H. M. Smyser, Department of English, Connecticut College.
 Host: Robert Strider.

Subject: Modern Poetry.
 Monday, May 9, 4:45 p.m.,
 WDRC, Hartford.
 Students will present a program of music for the piano. Emily Birdsall '50 will play the Impromptu by Franz Schubert and Carole Axinn '50 will play two Sonatas by Guisepppe Scarlatti.
 Wednesday, May 11, 8:45 p.m.,
 WNLC, New London.
 Guest: Dr. Franklin Hall, Department of Economics, Connecticut College.

Free Speech

A Forum of Opinion from On and Off the Campus

Abbreviations and Apellations

Dear Editor:

Three niggling points about how the News can help in fostering school spirit, cordial relations between faculty and students, and general homonoea:

1. One deprecates certain schoolgirlish tricks of editing, such as referring to members of the faculty simply by their surnames plus a more or less honorific title — "Miss Bramminch", "Mr. Dorfsk," etc. When Ezekiel Q. Gloob, Assistant Professor of Interplanetary Parasitology, finds himself referred to as "our own Mr. Gloob," he knows darn well that half the students who read it are busy making apotropaic signs and the rest are saying, "Who is this Gloob character, anyway?"

2. While student nicknames of the type of "Doody" and "Pokey" (with apologies to the spaniel of Robert E. L. Strider II, Instructor in English) are cute and cozy, why not confine them to the gossip column (with their fiances "Stevie" and "Doug") and in news and editorial matter stick to the euphonious "Carolyn's" and "Joan's" with which the parents of the present generation have in their wisdom endowed it?

3. In the current issue I find the following: "It is hoped . . . more interest in Joyce and his writing will be aroused on the campus." Should not the person responsible for this hope be named? Many right-thinking persons would shudder to think of themselves as members of a group in which such morbid expectations were very general.

Sincerely,

Edwin L. Anonymous, Jr.

Tag Days Praised

We would like to take this opportunity to thank sincerely all those girls who took part in the college's efforts to further New London's Cancer Drive. It is very gratifying to us, and I know it must be to you who participated, to learn that about \$800 was collected by the college group on the Tag Day this weekend. The enthusiasm and spirit which you showed, and which the Shwiffs demonstrated by their informal singing on Saturday, was beyond comparison. I feel sure that the New London Cancer Drive Committee joins us in saying many thanks again.

Ginny and Janet Callaghan

Host: Robert Strider.
 Subject: What Form of Federal Labor Legislation Do We Want?
 Rebroadcast: Sunday, May 15, 1:00 p.m., WDRC, Hartford.

Auditions will be held for students who wish to enroll for the acting class, Speech 215-216, during the year 1949-50, on Thursday evening, May 12, at 7:00, in Room 202, Palmer Auditorium.

The list of scenes to be used will be posted on the Radio Bulletin Board in Fanning.

Students interested in watching the preparation and broadcasting of a network program have been invited by Mr. Leslie Morson of Station WNLC to see the process at the Coast Guard Academy on any Saturday morning in May. The rehearsal takes place in the Coast Guard Theater at 10:00. The broadcast goes on at 11:00. Visitors must be in the room by 10:30. Visitors are requested to enter by the main gate. The purpose of the visit must be explained to the guard.



It looks like sunburn but it itches !!

UNESCO Stimulates Activity In Field of Communications

What UNESCO is and why it exists has already been described to you. In an attempt to get away from the theory and to substitute the practical in its place, we have also told you what is actually being done in UNESCO's Educational Reconstruction Program and in the Natural Sciences. This article will tell you about what UNESCO is doing in the field of Communications—the third of the six main fields under UNESCO's program.

A great deal has already been established in this field, which includes exchange of persons, mass communication, library and book projects, and copyright. Its aims are to obtain a free flow of information and free travel; to produce and distribute films, publications and radio broadcasts in the interest of better international understanding; and to stimulate

and expand the program for interchange of scientists, educators, and students, as well as farmers, technicians and other qualified groups.

UNESCO has already taken a leading part in the Freedom of Information Conference called by the United Nations in Geneva in 1948. This Conference succeeded in establishing more enlightened international standards in this field.

100 Fellowships

UNESCO is promoting the exchange of persons by administering over 100 fellowships and study grants. UNESCO itself awards 52 fellowships to students and research workers in nine war devastated countries. The rest are donated by member states and international organizations. In addition, groups and organizations of many types offer scholarships and study grants for the two-way interchange of students, teachers, and specialists in many fields.

The Federal Government has also undertaken two new exchange programs: one is the Fulbright Act, which will make for foreign currencies and credits obtained from the sale of war surplus goods—the equivalent of about \$8,000,000 annually—available for educational exchange between the United States and foreign countries. The other is the Smith-Mundt Act, which is still broader and will open new opportunities for both United States and foreign citizens.

By corresponding with people in other lands, thousands of United States students and adults, through organizations of all types, are in touch with groups of similar interests abroad. Moreover, an earnest effort is being made to see "UNESCA"—Page 5

Corner Cabinet

This column has been instituted to give students information as to what goes on in the Student Government room in Branford. It is also intended to dispel the idea that Cabinet and House of Representatives are closed corporations. The meetings of both are open to anyone who wishes to attend.

Each week, News will print excerpts from the agenda of the Cabinet, House of Representatives, and, occasionally, Honor Court. This will not be the full proceedings at each meeting, but matters which Student Government feels to be of general interest to the students.

CABINET. At the first meeting of the new Cabinet Mary Clark was appointed secretary of Student Government for 1949-1950.

The subject of replacing the tradition of Competitive Sing with inter-dormitory sings was discussed. The suggestion was not approved. The general feeling was that such an innovation would produce inter-dormitory conflicts and defeat the traditional spirit inherent in Competitive Sing.

At the time that two o'clock permission was granted to those attending the Junior Prom, a motion to extend the privilege to juniors not going to the Prom was defeated. It was felt that, since the weekend grew out of the dance, there was no reason

for non-dancers to receive late permission.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. This year, as in the past, Student Government will pay for commuters' dinners on campus any night there are Competitive Sing rehearsals. Any commuter can eat in the dining room of her choice during this period.

A campaign to keep house bulletin boards tidy was also begun last week. House presidents will be responsible for cleaning off old material, and arranging notices so that related items will be close together.

Profiles

MR. LAX

by Joan Pine

What kind of life does one lead if he wants to write, above all else? What experiences does he find behind him after he has been termed an author for a number of years? Although answers to those questions cannot be found in the general sense, they can be satisfied in part by looking into the varied and interesting activities of Mr. Lax, our new English teacher.

The first section of experiences is found within the realm of New York State; born in Oleans, Mr. Lax went on from high school to Columbia University for undergraduate work.

The Columbia diploma in his hand, he returned to Oleans where he did "staff business" on a radio station (translation for laymen: writing and announcing).

Down South

He then went with Mr. Mack (our Mr. M.) to North Carolina (ostensibly for the ride) and stayed for two years at the University of North Carolina for graduate work—where he delved



ROBERT LAX

into the philosophy of St. Thomas Aquinas, and came out triumphant!

Back to New York, where he was selected for a job on the editorial staff of the New Yorker. Note the word "selbcted" and take its meaning literally. Mr. Lax claims that "one does not go to the New Yorker—it comes to you." His year on the staff was spent writing for Talk of the Town and editing poetry (also writing poems and fables himself.)

January of '41 found Mr. Lax in a job which presented a sharp contrast to the preceding year. He worked for a year at Friendship House in Harlem, where he did volunteer work as a full time employee. In describing his status there, Mr. Lax said that he was "handyman" (much as his friends might object to the word "handy"). The aim of this institution is to improve inter-racial relations, besides aiding the needy Negro.

Daily Journal

Back in Oleans again, Mr. Lax did free lance writing and also added to a daily journal that he had started—with a quota of 30 pages a day (a quota unheard of now!).

Time has now approached the year 1944 and Time magazine claims Mr. Lax as its movie critic. This position meant attending, on the average, 4 movies a day and hurting the feelings of many. After sending in a review of Leave Her to Heaven in which he thought Tierney fell short, Mr. Lax received a note saying "at least—bury her."

Since he was spending so many

Stuart's Band and Yale Singers Add To Prom Success

by Barbara Geyman

Bulletin boards are overflowing with gaiety after this weekend of all weekends! Among the new additions to Juniors' rooms are bright red and white balloons, black match covers inscribed with the words: "Life" comes to CC Junior Prom—not to mention a few artistically draped red streamers. Somehow it seems that these are not mere souvenirs. They symbolize something very special.

This year's Junior Prom was a masterpiece of ingenuity. The dancers found themselves waltzing through the pages of Life Magazine, conceived in the fertile brains of Beth Youman, chairman of the prom, and Alison Porritt, in charge of decorations. As they first walked into the ballroom of Knowlton they were confronted with the disputing of tastes. They wracked their brains to decide whether they were low-brow or high-brow citizens.

When they had recovered from the shock of the sight of a tight-rope walking photographer balancing himself over their heads, they became absorbed in the Life-like atmosphere and danced to the vibrant music of Ralph Stuart until the Shwiffs arrived.

The Shwiffs assembled, in their reporters' outfits and Life-labelled hats, in front of the band-stand to sing the good old Connecticut College favorites with their usual zip and zest. Their delightful entertainment was followed by a mellow blend of harmony and rhythm created by Yale's Orpheus and Bacchus songsters. The exuberance of their expression, all the way from Flamin' Mamie to Frankie and Johnnie captivated the audience.

The entertainment ended, the dancers enjoyed their cool sherry-bet-crowned ginger ale before the return of the band. The new orchestra must have been a great success, judging from the appreciative response it received. To the melodious strains of Good-night, Sweetheart, Life left CC—What a spectacular issue this month!

hours on the products of filmdom anyway, Mr. Lax decided to go to Hollywood where he worked on the script of Thomas Wolfe's Look Homeward Angel (not yet released.)

As far as pleasures outside the literary field run, Mr. Lax admits that he is in a state of transition; he used to enjoy jazz but now it's anything Before Bach. With that rather sharp swing of the pendulum, Mr. Lax modified his statement to the effect that his interest in jazz is subdued.

Another interest is in the life of circus people, on which Mr. Lax will start a book this summer. He spent last Christmas with the Christiano family (formerly of Ringling Bros.) who are, in the main, bare-back riders. He will travel with them on their circuit this summer to enlarge his material and will also do some photography, another side-line.

Much as he enjoys writing of any type, Mr. Lax feels that

See "Lax"—Page 5

Dramatic Momentum Achieved In Expressionist Drama Gas

by Eugene Guerster

During the performance of Kaiser's Gas last Friday, I couldn't help letting my thoughts wander back to the first performance of that play in Munich which appealed to us, the youth of the first post-war period was something unique and unheard-of. New was the compressed, impersonal and telegram-like dialogue, the all-pervading humanitarian attitude, the ever-recurring allusions to a New Man and to the inevitably impending Dawn of a new Mankind. Nothing can be more exciting than to test how a play, once considered "revolutionary," has withstood the onslaught of time.

To be frank, time has not been too kind to this play not to the drama of Expressionism in general. Scanning German papers of today, I could not discover any evidence of the Expressionist dramas of yore being revived in a German theater in 1949. Today we recognize more distinctly the main deficiency of the drama of the Expressionists of the twenties: the lack of poetical and dramatic substance and of the humanly convincing characters, of human beings to be remembered afterwards. In these plays the dramatic characters are too often used as vehicles to carry what the author regards as his indispensable message.

Denkspieler

A Swiss critic once appropriately called George Kaiser a "Denkspieler," i.e., a writer who plays with ideas, and bits of ideas, rather than with figures and situations. George Kaiser more and more reminds us of a bold chess-player whose real interest awakens to the prospect of unusual and almost impossible dramatic configurations; bent on proving that he can, by unexpectedly shifting his figures, solve the most hopeless dramatic cases and themes.

The theme of Gas is the case of a Millionaire's son who wants to force his workers to forsake their risky jobs in his former Gas-factory and to settle comfortably in a new agrarian colony. His project flounders abysmally, as was

to be expected. However, as a genuine character out of Kaiser's laboratory, the Millionaire's son consoles himself rather quickly by hoping for and planning for the new Man of Tomorrow who he optimistically believes to be noticeably different from the old one of Today.

Skillful Acting

Margaret Hazelwood and her dramatic class were confronted with the extremely trying task of presenting a preponderantly masculine play with a cast of young women. Fortunately, Muriel Higgins as the Millionaire's son delivered Kaiser's brittle lines with the necessary precision. Her acting was skillfully adjusted to Kaiser's pronounced abstractionism.

Arlene Hochman as the Engineer was too little set off from the mass of the other speakers. The figure of the Engineer could have stood a more pronounced individuality in speech, gesture and costume.

See "Gas"—Page 5

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American in Italy Is Theme Of Recent Letter From Title

by Elaine Title

Ed. Note: Studying in Zurich, Switzerland for her junior year, Elaine sent the following story as a special report to News.

April 3, 1949.

Right at the moment "Junior year in Switzerland" is overshadowed by a spring vacation in Italy. We (two other American girls, and I) left Zurich a week ago Friday and, after a two hour stop and run to view the Cathedral of 1000 spires and La Scala Opera House in Milan, arrived in Venice on a wonderfully clear night.

Despite contrary advice we rode third class on the Italian trains; they were extremely crowded but we all found places several hours

before we reached Venice. I was situated with seven Italians in a compartment. We commenced a great conversation in French, German and sign language—mostly the last. They were surprised to learn that I was American: first because I didn't smoke, second because I didn't chew gum and third because I didn't put my feet up on the upholstery.

Bombed Stations

We passed through Verona and Padua—both of which towns had new railway stations; then began a discussion of the war. American planes had bombed both former stations. There seemed to be a good deal of bitterness on that account, but perhaps even more toward the Germans, who destroyed much of the terrain as they retreated. Everywhere in Italy building and reconstruction appear more advanced than in France or Germany.

The people fear war. On many walls you see "Peace" scrawled in paint. In both Venice and Florence we saw Communist party posters which played up the rearmament of the US and the disarmament of Russia and which advised "The Atlantic Pact equals War." On the other hand, billboards admonished that Chamberlain's umbrella didn't stop Hitler and that face must be maintained to prevent war. As we fed the pigeons at St. Mark's Square in Venice one sunny Saturday afternoon, we met a group of students. They were not communist, but did not want Italy to agree to the pact—and believed that if the question were put to a referendum the majority of individuals would not favor the decision of the parliament.

Tourist Season in May

There were few Americans in Venice. The tourist season there begins in May and I do not know if the city would seem so charming then. We were enchanted by the quaint old streets, slightly decaying palaces, little old courtyards and back canals. Any travel folder will rave about the Grand Canal, the view of the Adriatic from the Lido, the fine works of art; we'll be the first to second any claims. Two Venetian students who became our constant companions for four days said that rainy weather makes life unbearable, that the canals smell in the summer, that the city becomes dull after a week, but we

found their accusations hard to imagine. Fortunately, we had reservations in Florence for Monday night or we might have remained in Venice for our entire vacation.

Trip to Florence

The train ride to Florence was a trip into spring. The peach and almond trees had just started to blossom and, despite the dry weather, the fields were quite green. Florence itself was bedecked with flowers. Indeed the city was more colorful, beautiful and clean than we'd expected. At every turn there was a building, a lantern, a bit of painting, or a shrine that was a work of art. Armed with Robb and Garrison, we visited palaces, cloisters, churches, and galleries. Again the weather was ideal. One morning we spent outdoors in the cloister of St. Marie Novella talking to a strange caretaker! Another afternoon we watched children playing in the gardens behind the Pitti Palace.

The day begins and ends late in Florence. Stores remain open until seven or eight at night. The people love to stroll along the streets—there's none of the swift and efficient walking of the German Swiss in Zurich. The shop proprietors are sincerely friendly and polite—a pleasant surprise to us all. Tiny shops displaying fine hand embroidery, linens, lace, tooled leather, and silver goods line the Ponte Vecchio. Prices are not high when one exchanges dollars for lira.

Delightful Scenery

The scenery in and about Florence is exquisite. From the Pizze Michelangelo one gets a panorama of the whole city; the red roofs, the rolling hills beyond, Giotto's bell tower protruding into the air. Again we wanted to remain, but Rome came next. Saturday, we took a large, clean, comfortable motorbus to Siena and Rome. The olive trees in the Tuscan valley lined the roadside and their silver-green blended with the truer green of the hillsides. We stopped a few hours in Sienna, and later had an orange juice in an inn at Aquapendente. The innkeeper told us proudly that Tyrone Power and Linda Christian came there all the time; the waiter there gave me my first piece of counterfeit money.

We arrived in Rome last night. Still good weather, and as I look outside my window, men are carrying their topcoats over their arms and fashionable women are promenading in straw hats. It looks like Fifth Avenue from here.

\$788 Raised by CC Girls for Cancer

Tag days for the cancer fund drive, conducted Friday and Saturday by Connecticut College students at the request of Mrs. Abraham Lubchansky, local chairman for the Connecticut cancer fund campaign, raised \$788, bringing the total to date in New London to \$4,200, Mrs. Lubchansky reported Monday.

Fifty-nine students under the auspices of Service League spelled each other on State street during the two days, inviting shoppers, business men and women and others to contribute to the fund. Janet Callaghan '49, president of the Service League, and her sister, Virginia, a sophomore, chairman of the league's charity drives committee, organized and supervised the scheduling and stationing of the student volunteers.

The Connecticut College Shiffs did their bit by harmonizing on the steps of the city hall to promote the drive.

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Around the Town

by Marcia Dorfman

Love Life has everything in its favor. The famous Cheryl Crawford produced it; the book and lyrics were written by Alan Jay Lerner, and Kurt Weill did the music. Elia Kazan, who certainly needs no recommendation, directed the musical. It is therefore surprising that so mediocre a show has been the result.

Love Life is the story of the American family from colonial days up to the present day. The slow disintegration of camaraderie into total independence and emphasis on material satisfaction rather than companionship seems to be the theme; yet this so-called symbolism is obscure. The vaudeville acts which come between each sketch of the family life serve only to confuse the audience and deter from the main theme; most of the time the acts are not even particularly entertaining.

Songs by Mr. Middleton

Ray Middleton, the male lead, who has at times demonstrated his fine, if nasal, baritone has about as much personality as a doused cigarette, and worse, he actually seems bored by the whole thing. Nanette Fabray plays the female lead. She is as pert and lovely as always, and her charming voice is one redeeming feature in Love Life. Even Miss Fabray, however, seems to have become bogged down by the slow tempo of the show; for she sings without her usual gusto. In only one number, Mr. Right, in which she delineates her ideal man, does the old Fabray personality and verve show through.

There are two delightful songs in the show. Here I'll Stay and Green-up Time. It is a pity that such lilting melodies must go to waste on the disinterested mien of the cast. Economics, a fine novelty show-number, is sung by four wonderful Negro voices, and is the only half-way humorous note in the entire production. Maybe this lack of humor is what deadens the show.

It would be unfair, however, if no mention were made of the excellent Michael Kidd choreography, in particular the Punch and Judy Get a Divorce number. It is a fine satire on the present-day, lax divorce process, and the dancing couldn't be better. Easily, this is by far the best number in the show—and well worth seeing.

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GYMANGLES

by Jan Schaumann and Jus Shepherd

The all-college tennis tournament is off with a bang under the leadership of Lois Papa. The first round was to have been played off by Friday, April 29. Lois stresses the importance of playing your matches on time in order that the tournament will not be delayed. Ann Wiebenson is making plans now for the inter-class tennis competition. There will be two girls chosen to represent each class in the singles and two in the doubles. We hope that if you are not among those representing your class in the tournament, you will not be discouraged. If time and weather permit there will be a chance for all the girls who

have signed up to play in individual class matches.

In addition to the student matches, AA has initiated a Student-Faculty tennis tournament this year, which will start next Saturday.

Jo Appleyard has planned the spring golf competition, which will include a tournament at Norwich Country Club for the more advanced players and a novelty tournament on campus for the beginners and intermediates. Those who remember seeing the red balloons floating from the 19th hole of the campus course last year will vouch that it was lots of fun. Also we might add that gifts were awarded to the champion. So all interested golfers be sure to come out for it.

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Meagher

(Continued from Page One)

ton Committee on Tenure declined to recommend dismissal on the basis of party membership. Dr. Allen, president of the university, ignored the committee decision and recommended discharge to the Board of Regents.

Surprising Results

After the Board of Regents had ordered the professors ousted, a group of students on the university campus conducted a scientific poll to test the popular reaction. The results were shocking. Out of every ten students questioned, seven had never heard of the professors involved and did not know why they had been dismissed. Nevertheless, a small but distinct majority of these same students supported the administration's position.

That the picture on academic freedom is not one of complete gloom and despair can be gathered from reports by other campuses. Of particular interest were indications from Southern colleges of a decline in discriminatory practices. In the University of Oklahoma, for example, the state had recently to establish a new law school for one Negro student. Finding this too expensive, the

state decided to permit the student to matriculate at the regular university.

Though permitted to attend regular classes, the student was given a special seat around a corner in the front of the room where he could see the teacher, but could not be seen by the rest of the students. After several weeks of classes, however, the students voted to go against the administration's ruling and invite the Negro to join the class.

No specific conclusions were drawn as a result of this conference. Each of us went away with new ideas, new hope, new inspiration, impressed more thoroughly by the dangers threatening civil rights today, yet we were more sure in our own minds of how to combat such a threat.

At this juncture I cannot resist passing on some surface impressions gathered at this conference. I was much impressed by the calibre of students represented. I was even more impressed by the sense of life and vitality which, judging by their descriptions, seemed to exist on their campuses.

The same sense of community spirit does not exist here on our campus. I do not refer to that sense of collegiate class spirit

which, to a greater or lesser extent, exists on every college campus. I mean rather a sense of making this four year ivory tower See "Meagher"—Page 6

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UNESCO

(Continued from Page Two)

fort is being made to have United States citizens returning from abroad tell their story to their communities and other towns in this country, and to have United States visitors explain American ways when they go back to their own lands.

A film production unit, a radio program committee, a council for educational broadcasting, an international press institute, and a library and book exchange program are also being established to carry out the aims of UNESCO in the field of communications. The parts of UNESCO's program described in the last two paragraphs suggest definite ways in which we at Connecticut College can help in carrying out UNESCO's program.

Lax

(Continued from Page Three)

"something has happened" when you write poetry. As a matter of fact a few poems were inspired a couple of days ago—the reason: "It got pretty out."

Naturally such opportunities as have been enumerated do not come to all aspirant writers, as Mr. Lax's modest way of insinuating that "these things just happened" would have you believe. The ability and sincerity to carry on such work are two requisites that have made such experience possible.

Gas

(Continued from Page Three)

turne. In their endeavor to do justice to the "abstract" style of Kaiser's drama, many players even outdid the author's impersonal and over-rigid formalism.

The Gentleman in White appeared too much of an oratorical allegory and not as the uncanny Spirit of Destruction. The entrance of the Gentlemen in Black was well staged and the great scene among the workmen came off excellently.

Elizabeth Smith, Jane Muir and Theodora Flynn deserve extra praise for their convincing and touching presentation of the Girl, the Woman and the Mother. (But I never found out why they came in evening-gowns to a worker's meeting!)

The play was performed in a streamlined version, a procedure precarious with an author who in general does not offer too much dramatic "meat" to his actors. It cannot be denied, however, that the whole performance had the necessary dramatic momentum. As a whole, this venture into the drama of the German Expressionists of the twenties was especially rewarding.

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Caught on Campus

by Joan Pine

Zeus in his heavens, considering that it was the Junior Prom at CC, apparently decided to toss his promised rain drops in another direction, much to the bewilderment of weather forecasters and cynical weekend theorists. So picnickers were left in their peace, and flounces and frills were allowed to be.

Amidst all the excitement of the weekend Ann Woodard (Woodie) announced her engagement to Boardman Thompson, a junior at Bowdoin. In spite of their both being Hartfordites, Woodie and Boardie have to pound down the route from New London to Brunswick to be together. Since we think it's rather imperative for Woodie to be here next year, and they both have a year to go, plans point to "after graduation."

But to really appreciate the final products of one of these weekends some of the preliminary episodes must be looked into for added flavor. The story of Tiny Porritt and the Fire Chief is fast becoming legendary.

Seems that the fire chief was called in for consultation on fire proofing the paper for decorations. Expressing a desire to see Knowlton, the fire chief persuaded dungaree clad Tiny to show him the layout. Strangely enough a multitude of cars were assembled around Knowlton, but suspecting little as yet, Tiny and the chief peered into the salon. Much to their horror who should they burst in upon but Miss Blunt addressing the League of Women Voters.

Their cause important, the undaunted chief continued to make calculations from his vantage point.

Everything finally straightened out, the two returned to K.B., still discussing further inflammatory gossip, when Tiny was greeted with the arrival of the ordered paper. There had been a slight misunderstanding. Instead of the expected amount, 7200 feet, two rolls had been delivered totaling 14,400 feet of paper—and they

needed only 300 feet for the project; It was suggested that the extra paper could be used for wrapping little parcels.

Marine Commission Offered to Women Of College Level

New vocational possibilities for women have been opened up by the integration of women into regular military establishments. A summer training program, the Women Officers Training Class, which will be the sole source of women officers for the regular Marine Corps and the Marine Corps Reserve, will be established in June, 1949, at the Marine Corps in Quantico, Va.

This program has been designed for qualified undergraduate women students pursuing a course leading to a bachelor's degree, and for college graduates. No specific academic courses are required as a background, and no military training is required during the scholastic year. In order to earn a commission, candidates must attend two training periods of six weeks each in successive summers.

The first director of Women Marines, Colonel Katherine A. Towle, is planning visits to college campuses to speak to interested students and faculty members. Colonel Towle served in the Marine Corps during World War II and has been active in women's affairs as Assistant Dean of Women at the University of California.

Miss Ramsey would like to have any student who would be interested in further information on the training program to come to the personnel office before the end of the week. If enough students are interested, she will arrange for Colonel Towle's visit to Connecticut.

Meagher

(Continued from Page Five)

er existence into a real world which has positive connections with the world outside.

As I tried to analyze what differentiated the Connecticut college student from many others, I came to this conclusion: Collectively, we are as bright, talented, and interested as the students in any other college. Yet, the Connecticut college atmosphere seems to breed a ladylike sophistication which makes it unequalled for to become visibly concerned about any issues, be they political, social, artistic, or domestic.

In the quiet of our own rooms, we think about such things. But we do not feel the compulsion to act upon our conclusions. The biggest question in my mind at the conclusion of the conference was, can we here at Connecticut college revitalize our campus life to provide those aspects of dynamic participation which are es-

sential to the preservation of democracy and civil liberties not only in college, but in the world outside?

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