

GALLEY

It seems to me, after prolonged thought, that a truly significant area of literature has been neglected at Bennington College. Now that it is the time to make suggestions for courses, I feel obliged to add my own contribution to the other unique and imaginative ones previously offered by my classmates.

Since the astonishing and unparalleled victory of Israel over the Arabs, interest in Yiddish should become more and more prevalent, not only in our community, but in the world at large. Many Jewesses on campus, of which I may or may not be one have begun to feel the need to revive a previously ignored heritage. The subject to which I address myself is that of Yiddish literature. I am not speaking of the popular, everyday fiction of Babel or Singer, but rather of the more cherished body of Jewish literature which could be so impressively elucidated with the aid of a Bennington literature professor. In a time when Beckett, Nabokov, Ginsberg, and Genet arrest our attention, we ought not to neglect a subject equally relevant and no less controversial. Yiddish, after all, is not quite yet a dead language.

Thus, I plead with the community at hand, if education is to be administered, if it is to thrive - in President Bloustein's full sense of the word - the Literature Faculty as well as those on E.P.C. must consider offering a course in Jewish Studies or Yiddish Literature.

December 5

A.R.

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