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# THE BEACON

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## A Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to All

### Faculty Winter Plans

The conclusions that can be drawn from a few of the professors' winter plans indicate either great interest in the progress of their work, or such fatigue from following it so intensely these past few months as to make them sit back and relax.

#### Political Economy

Among the members of the Political Economy faculty, Mr. Garceau will be in Washington investigating and writing up cases in public administration. In 1945 he helped organize courses on public administration in four universities and is gathering this information as extended material for them. Mr. Kampelman will do some independent writing on his labor book, and engage in more active consultant work with Mid-Western labor unions. On the other hand, Mr. Brockway is going to read, write, and sleep—starting from the end forward. Miss Marshall's plans are "indefinite." Mr. Anderson's forecast is: articles on money and "the myth of the quality of the employers in unions," while preparing for next semester's courses. He will also lead a vigorous indoor life playing chess.

#### Sociology

Mr. Hanks is supporting the Sociology department by remaining at college and finishing a project on the Blackfoot Indians. He will also attend several anthropology meetings in Toronto and spend an unfancied week in Florida. Mr. Hall, too, will migrate to Florida to write a book, 'Whither Mankind,' on what the future holds for us.

#### Science

Among the Science professors, Mr. Coburn will finish his house, do chemical research, complete the inside of his house—the same as last year! Mr. Wohnus is traveling on the West Coast during January, and then returning to Bennington to study and prepare his material for the spring term. Mr. Hoo-

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### Cooperative Store Reports Fall Term Activities

There has been some inquiry on campus as to the actual changes in the store system this year, and as a result Mrs. Longtin was interviewed the other day for first-hand information. Last year there were many ideas being considered for improvements in stock, in the charging system, and for the prevention of thefts which have occurred off and on during the past two years. Mrs. Longtin said that this year they have tried to carry out some suggestions for improvements: specialties which were suggested by the students in the answer to a questionnaire sent around toward the end of the year, have for the most part, been added to the stock, the food line being the most enlarged and varied. The charging system has been abolished, and has, as a result, saved much book-keeping time for the store. Also, as Mrs. Longtin pointed out, it is against the CO-OP principles of management to allow charging in any cooperative organization. The store has also this year joined the National Association of College Stores, which is apparently a union type of organization without its drawbacks, and can be very helpful for members. The three percent rebates have been re-established this year, and are expected to be continued unless there is a financial loss due to theft, as there was two years ago to the amount of \$1,000.

#### Losses by Theft

The theft question is a serious one, obviously, for the members of the community. The store does not feel that it can change the appearance of Commons as drastically as might be necessary, say, by putting wire meshing over all the shelves and counters; still, if losses continue something will have to be done. The wire meshing, moreover, would cost approximately \$5,000, and the question is whether it is worth it to install such a preventative or to go on having stock stolen. The meshing would be the least obtrusive measure as far as looks go; however, Petrie Manning is trying, as an architecture project, to find some means of protecting the merchandise while retaining the looks of Commons. The store may decide to leave it up to human nature, but that remains to be seen.

#### School for Store Managers

Mrs. Longtin said that among the interesting aspects of her job was a school she had gone to in Bridgeport, Conn., this summer, for store managers. It started this year, and is in session for a week every summer; it holds classes and seminars and eventually presents a degree for accomplished work. She found that it helped a great deal in the general understanding of technical problems and managing difficulties, and hopes to go back this coming summer. Mrs. Longtin also tries to go to New York once a term to keep up with what's new in various stock lines, and she will go down this year during winter term. Further questioning was made impossible at this point because the casket for Anunziata was just toted funereally through Commons, and we sidled out discreetly in the confusion, not wanting to be carried off by mistake, and realizing that the recent academic strain has made us rather drawn and corpse-like.

### Student Winter Plans

A majority of students do not seem to have definite plans for winter period as yet. The field of education seems to have been the most popular this year of the jobs arranged.

#### Jobs in Education

Sally Liberman is working in the Education Department of the New York Times. She got the job by writing several short articles for them about Bennington which they plan to print.

Laura Franklin is assisting at the Professional Children's School, doing everything but teaching. Wilhemina Eaton will teach art at the Wellesley Hills School and Catherine Edwards will assist in a science course in a Texan school.

#### Theatre Work

The theatre seems to be calling a great number of students. Mary Lou White, Elizabeth Greenman, Richard Deacon, and Coe Noron are spending the winter at the Barr Theatre in Porterville, Calif. The theatre is under the direction of Peter Tewksbury, Joan Tewksbury's brother. Ann Sharp is fortunate enough to be studying with the actress, Stell Adler. A number of students will be working at the American National Theatre Association and New Stages. Felicia Warburg will be working as stage manager at N. B. C. Television. Joanne McCallam will return to a little theatre in Tucson, Arizona. Carol Bressler will work with the radio program, "We the People."

#### Indian Reservation

Five students will live on Indian Reservations and work in a variety of capacities. They are Beatrice VanCleve, Barbara Godley, Joanne Evans, Barbara Connelly, and Helen Norcross. Ann Whittier is planning to help in a hospital mission school near the Indian Reservations.

### Mrs. Cooke on Lack of Housemaids

When asked how the lack of housemaids was affecting the appearance of the rooms around college, Mrs. Cooke said:

"Frankly, I think the students are doing an excellent job; far better than I expected. There are one or two bad spots, but on the whole the students are doing a very fine job.

"The living-rooms look worse, however, but students can help on this. A lot of the untidiness is due to student classes. There is a lack of interest in leaving the rooms as they were before the class started, which in the main, are clean and tidy.

"Specifically, people use floors for cigarettes which causes burns and they move the heavy furniture around, neglecting to put it back in place.

"The maids leave at 4:30 which means that late afternoon classes must tidy-up after themselves. Yet they do not do so. There seems to be no house pride and the rooms are left in a mess after late afternoon classes. 'What's the difference?' the students say. Obviously lack of spirit and not reduction in maids is causing the disorder.

"The entrance halls are also often very untidy. Girls pile stuff in them

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### Bennington Octet Sang at Candle-light Service

On December 12th at 7:30 P.M. the Congregational Church in Old Bennington held its annual Christmas Candle Light Service. The Candle Light Service has been a tradition for many years, and for many years the college has participated in the Service.

#### Four Octet Solos

The Octet sang four solos. They are: "Lo How A Rose E're Blooming," "Lullay, Thou Little Child," "The Wassail Song" and "I Wonder As I Wander."

#### Townpeople Sang Unfamiliar Carols

This year, the Bennington Male Chorus and some of the townpeople sang four old and beautiful carols that come from Bohemia, Poland, Russia and Czechoslovakia. They finished with the "Halleluia Chorus."

#### Narrative By Rev. Street

Rev. Thomas Street gave a narrative interspersed between the songs. This narrative, founded on the scriptures, dealt with the different songs.

#### Over 100 Candles

Fully 100 candles illuminated the church. There were holders on each pew which were lit after everyone had been seated and extinguished before the end of the service. The chorus wore robes: the men black ones and the women wore white ones with flowers in their hair.

### Heigh Ho, Heigh Ho!

by Bertha Funnell

First you start out by wanting a fascinating job in an exciting place with good hours and wonderful pay. It has to be in New York or Boston where you picture yourself keeping house in a darling apartment and concocting rich dishes for your special friends at night.

As you actually start looking for jobs you first hear that old shop-worn response. Shortly you know it so well you say it in your sleep. "Why my dear young lady, in ten weeks you are just beginning to be of some use to us, and then you go back to college. Sorry."

#### Apartment Troubles

About the same time all of those friends who had friends who were sure they could find you an apartment begin to fail you. One by one. The picture grows (daily) more dim. Or perhaps you are one of the exceptions. There always seem to be a few.

As the end of the term closes in, you wake up after that last paper is in, wondering about that dull sounding job you heard about early in the semester. Perhaps that is the spot you are in right now. Just in case you do not have your job all set, a few last minute remarks might be in order to help prepare you for the last lap.

#### What About Pay?

When your prospective employer asks you how much salary you expect, the logical answer is, whatever the usual wage is for the work. If that doesn't work, you might mention that last year our students averaged 30 dollars a week.

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## Impressions of an International Conference

I had just completed eight weeks of non resident term work in the Internship Program of the United Nations when I was offered an opportunity I felt I should not miss: a chance to work as a student trainee for the International Conference on "Freedom of Information and the Press." Over sixty-four nations were to meet for this in Europe in March of forty-eight, one month after the dramatic events in Czechoslovakia and shortly before the Italian elections. In less than a week's time I received my passport from Washington, the necessary visas, passage on the Elizabeth and was off to Europe with the United Nations secretariat from the section on "Freedom of Information and the Press."

The four weeks of working for the United Nations in Geneva were extremely stimulating but somewhat strange; looking back nine months later they now seem even more unreal. It was more than suddenly leaving the states and finding myself in Europe. There was a certain quality of isolation and provincialism about Geneva, (a supposedly cosmopolitan city) that always left me with a feeling of being in another world if I missed the paper for a day or two, even though I worked in the midst of newsmaking events. For Geneva, one of the leading intellectual centers of the continent, in the middle of Europe, the city of internationalism with the permanent headquarters of many international organizations and the League of Nations seemed surprisingly removed from world affairs. And even more strangely, this quality permeated the Palais des Nations, the old League of Nations building where we worked and where the meetings were held.

Well named "the palace of nations," this long white renaissance-modern building was built on levels and modeled after the Palace of Versailles. It faced the Lake of Geneva and Mont Blanc on one side, and on the other, a small pond and a big gold globe which was standing at one end, and was to me symbolic of the lavishness that adorned the Palais. I was very impressed by the expansiveness of the place, the big, beautifully furnished offices, lounges and council rooms with large windows. They formed a sharp contrast to the basement cubbyhole-like offices of the converted factory at Lake Success, where, as one member so aptly put it: "I have to call up my wife to find out what the weather is like outside." Yet I was amazed to discover that many of the rooms were kept under lock and key. A library collection of old international peace documents was to be opened for the conferences only under pressure, and the other rooms, mostly lounges and council chambers, could only be seen on a guided tour. There appeared to be a general feeling among some of the permanent staff (many of them having been with the League of Nations) that all this must be preserved for posterity. They seemed to fear that some unthinkable soul might drop ashes on the rug or scratch the glass-topped tables.

The work I did at the Conference ranged from being a general errand girl to sitting in for one of the Committee Secretaries who were representing the Assistant Secretary General. Fortunately, there was one official secretary on the other side of me so I had little to worry about except recording the voting

every donor of a joint gift; one simply thanks the first person whose eye one happens to catch. Sometimes William's eye was caught, sometimes not. But he was spared all embarrassment; and I can recommend his solution of the problem with perfect confidence to those who may be in a similar predicament next Christmas.

A. A. Milne

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Hartford Courant)

## Memoirs of a Sandwich Girl

Have you noticed recently some anonymous creature, slinking around the halls, peering through keyholes and timidly knocking at doors? You may have also heard her plaintive cry, "Would you like a sandwich tonight?" She is a new species that has developed on campus—far more enterprising than the girl who chooses to earn her pittance by waiting on or working in the store. For each night she comes to you she must brave all obstacles, trudge through the night, whether it be fair or foul, and use all the art of personality and persuasion to lure away your filthy lucre.

But now has come the revolution and with the hope that you will have forgotten this by next March, I, as one of this stalwart clan, would like to take the opportunity to record some of the impressions seen by a Sandwich Girl.

Some people on campus go to bed early. Yet when the Sandwich Girl comes around they begin to feel sort of hungry. Madame, reclining in bed, is too warm to get out and look for the stray quarter. "Would you look in the back corner of my closet?" she coos. So for the sake of good will, you struggle through piles of dirty clothes and old letters to the back of this purgatory where hidden in the heel of a torn loafer resides one lone quarter. Triumphant and martyred, you drag out the booty. "What kind have you got?" she croons. "Tuna, lettuce and tomato, and liver-wurst," I reply. "Oh, no ham and cheese? I'm sorry but some other night then. And would you mind shutting the window before you go out?" . . . .

Or there is the Penny-collector, the modern version of the Piggy-bank Breaker. She scurries around the house trying to hunt up a forgotten friend to loan her the necessary capital. One waits while she shouts through the house for help to pay for her sandwich. Finally she finds it and successfully hands you a clammy fistful of assorted coins. Yes, she got the penny—but too bad it was made in Canada. . . .

. . . . And then there is the Stocker-upper. . . the kiddie who is doing a paper and planning to stay up all night. Nothing less than five sandwiches for her. And when you are halfway across campus the wail—"I really think I'll need just one more!"

We will leave the next house unmentionable. One enters into a den of iniquity, with ribbon streamers blowing in the breeze—and in your eye. The Parisian touch, one supposes. The house is full of what is known in the trade as the C. D. F. H. A. H. type—Can't Decide For Half An Hour! They will flit around with you to each room to see if little buddy in room 20 will buy one so that they can munch in comradeship. It is sooo pedestrian to eat alone. Since the

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## Student Exhibition in Dining Room

The art exhibition in the dining room is especially interesting because it is representative of what the students are accomplishing in the varied art studios. The exhibition is also laudable because it was well chosen and the quality of the work is very high.

### Paintings

The paintings largely represent still lifes, though there were two or three figure studies as well. From a purely personal standpoint, I enjoyed the still life more than the figures, for these paintings seem to have greater unity of composition and seemed to be clearer in their concepts. The colors in Ruth Lyford's paintings, which represent a squat bowl filled with leaves, were not only original but the play of the varied violet intensities against the green blues of the leaves, gave a truly stirring reaction. She also achieved a dynamic effect in her feeling for space and in the movement of her lines. Another painting, whose creator is unknown, made me think, Ah—Matisse. It has the same clear, color-areas, the subject matter, the study of a room was one of his favorite themes, and it has the same simple concept of line drawing. It made the viewers heart beat a little faster.

Helen Frankenthaler's non realistic still life, is a picture that draws your attention immediately though not for a spectacular quality; but because her colors, lines and space planes really, "Work together." The colors are straight forward and clear and yet the play between the warm and cool tones, the infinite variations, which take off from the main circular movement, keeps one looking at and discovering more and more subtleties.

Liz Cresswell's Rooster is a very powerful, basically strong painting. The large areas of black, the thickness of the paints, the contrast between the red and the blues, the active, definite strokes and lines all account for its strength.

Liz Black's works donated an extraordinary sensitivity in understanding the basic rhythm and movement of the human figure; her color lithograph was also notable for its textural success and for her use of color.

### Architecture

In the Architectural department, I looked wistfully at the blue print for a "Women's Wear shop." It looked so comfortable and the atmosphere so homelike that it made the thought of shopping a very pleasant outlook instead of a "lets go to war" attitude inspired by most of our existing stores.

### Other Media

The Methods and Materials of Painting class was represented by three mosaics and one Fresco. The textural success of the Fresco shows how valuable that medium can be. The mosaics

## Patterns of Culture Required Reading at Rutgers

Patterns of Culture by the late Dr. Ruth Benedict, used in Mr. Hanks' Personality and the Social Order, will be studied next year by deans, faculty and undergraduates at Rutgers. A new plan called "The-Book-of-the-Year" plan has been started because of concern with the way the campus society is over-specialized.

Seymour Katz, President of the Philosophic Society, which has backed the idea, said this would help counteract academic over-specialization and provide "a common intellectual experience for the entire university family. PATTERNS OF CULTURE was chosen because while basically a layman's introduction to cultural anthropology, it has implications which extend to all the social sciences and humanities. The essence of the book is its presentation of the new attitude toward, and the new method for, studying society and the individual."

## The Beast in Me and Other Animals

by James Thurber

### Cause for Rejoicing

A new Thurber book is so great a cause for rejoicing that one feels almost blasphemous in trying to criticize it. Not that there is much to criticize in **The Beast in Me and Other Animals**. What could there be to criticize in any book containing Mr. Thurber's sensitive short stories, delightful reminiscences, and inspired drawings? **The Beast in Me** has all these, plus a long and fascinating study of the soap opera and several of Mr. Thurber's pieces from the *New Yorker's* "Talk of the Town", 1928-1935.

### Animals and Others

There are plenty of human beings in Mr. Thurber's book, and he does them full justice, especially in the short story "Am Not I Your Rosalind?" But it is when he comes to the animal world that he really hits his stride. The famous Thurber dogs have their day in "How to Name a Dog" and "Look Homeward, Jennie". More peculiar creatures can be found in "Prehistoric Animals of the Middle West", "Extinct Animals of Bermuda", and "A New Natural History". There are also two magnificent parodies: "A Call on Mrs. Forrester", after Willa Cather, and "The Beast in the Dingle", with a bow to Henry James.

### No Urging Necessary

Talking about Thurber, however, can never be a substitute for reading Thurber. Thurber fans will need no urging to read **The Beast in Me and Other Animals**; those unfamiliar with Thurber will find this book a more than satisfactory introduction.

R. Brown

has also of special interest, for this ancient art has been as much neglected one in our time. Our lack of acquaintance with this medium probably explains one outstanding success of these pieces which are exhibited in the dining room. However the completely different qualities which the mosaics portray, in respect to other art forms fortell remarkable possibilities.

This exhibition ought to inspire the habits of a single dining room to desert their home base, if only for a day, in order that they might see the rest of the exhibition. However, if this is unsuccessful (which it is in my case), after dinner exercise is supposed to be a very thinning pastime.

M. Byk

## The Life and Times of The Shmoo

By Al Capp

Into Dogpatch, Al Capp's wonderful comic-strip community and the home of Li'l Abner, Daisy Mae, and Mammy Yokum, among others, come the Shmoos. The Shmoos are Utopia incarnate, miraculous ham-shaped creatures who lay eggs, butter, and bottled milk; who taste like chicken (all white meat, too) when fried and like steak when broiled; whose skin can be used for either cloth or leather (depending on how thick you slice it); who need no feeding; who multiply astronomically; and who drop dead of sheer joy if you look at them hungrily.

### The Shmoo of Plenty

The Shmoos bring peace and plenty to Dogpatch—much to the grave discomfiture of many vested interests. It is the vested interests (represented by one J. Roaringham Fatback) who finally destroy the Shmoos and bring back to Dogpatch nice, normal poverty and despair.

There has never been any doubt that Al Capp is one of the most vigorous and original artists of our time. **The Life and Times of the Shmoo** is a work of art and a genuine contribution to American culture. It is also magnificently funny.

### The Message of the Shmoo

There is even a moral to the story of the Shmoo, voiced by Li'l Abner at the end of the book: "Folks don't need Shmoos. They already got one—the biggest Shmoo of all—the earth itself. Jest like these li'l Shmoos, it's ready to give everybody everythin' they need. Ef only people stopped a-fightin' and a-grabbin', the earth's got plenty o' everythin' for everybody." There's not much to quarrel with in Mr. Capp's message—or, for the matter, in Mr. Capp's book.

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# RALEIGH

## Books for Christmas

If you are still wondering and worrying about Christmas gifts, you can probably find relief in the nearest bookstore. As Christmas gifts, books have many advantages. They are lasting, attractive, and moderately priced. Books can be found to suit all tastes; the ones mentioned here are merely a sample of what you can find in almost all bookstores, even at this late date.

### Books for Everyone

For people who like to laugh, no better buy can be found than Al Capp's **The Life and Times of the Shmoo** (\$1). Any Thurber fan will bless you forever if you give him **The Beast in Me and Other Animals** (\$3). The jaded sophisticate who frowns at modern civilization will find his ideas skillfully expressed in Evelyn Waugh's **The Loved One** (\$3).

The social-minded persons of your acquaintances will welcome David Bradley's **No Place to Hide** (\$2), a diary of the Bikini atom-bomb experiments. Walter White's autobiography, **A Man Called White** (\$3.75), presents a forceful picture of race-prejudice in America.

### The Light Touch

In a lighter vein is Elliot Merrick's **Green Mountain Farm** (\$3.50), a back-to-the-land story that is original and engaging. Carl Sandburg's **Remembrance Rock** (\$5) is a stirring historical novel of the growth of the United States. Mystery fans who are looking for something unusual will appreciate Robert Coate's **Wisteria Cottage**, a terrifying study of insanity.

### Of Lasting Value

If you want to give a book that is useful as well as interesting, present someone with William Rose Benet's **The Readers' Encyclopedia** (\$6), a mine of information on all subjects. **The American College Dictionary** (\$5) is one of the newest and one of the best collegiate dictionaries. Any lover of art would welcome **A Treasury of Art Masterpieces** (\$10), which contains glowing reproductions of the world's greatest paintings. **The American Past** (\$10) has a new and fascinating approach to American history that makes the past really live.

Books given as Christmas gifts will bring lasting pleasure to all who receive them.

Spend those cold winter evenings around the fireplace, the piano or the bar in  
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## Maids Comment on College

To interview the maids on the Bennington campus proved to be an elusive task. We only managed to see four out of six maids. We spotted Mrs. Ruby Gates, long a favorite with the girls of Dewey House, who showed us her young granddaughter, Candace, who was reclining comfortably underneath a record and a pile of blankets on the sofa in the Student Lounge. While engaged in the process of "rummaging," we managed to find out that Mrs. Gates thought the Bennington girls were very thoughtful and enjoyed working here.

### Mrs. Allen Discusses Changes

Mrs. Lois Allen told us she has worked here nine years. She remarked that the campus has changed a great deal during that time. When she first began to work here, for instance, there were no classes in the living room. Mrs. Allen thinks the girls are very "friendly" and told us that of all the houses, Swan is her favorite.

### Mrs. Seers and the Dancers

We found Mrs. Nellie Seers bustling around in Franklin House. Mrs. Seers had been here as long as the college has been in existence. She has also worked here during the summer session of the Bennington School of the Dance. It seems that the girls in Martha Graham's troupe were quartered in Franklin House at that time. (Now we know why all the dance majors live in Franklin!) "I could certainly tell you some funny things," said Mrs. Seers, "but I don't know as I'd want them to be in the paper, you know." When pressed for details, Mrs. Seers would only mumble something about those "mischievous dancers and Mr. Franklin's picture." Mrs. Seers also told us that the girls kept live animals when the college first opened. "You should have seen them; lambs and rabbits—but that didn't last long." We left Franklin, promising to come back again and hear more of Mrs. Seers' stories.

### Miss Burns Comments on Living Rooms

Miss Bessie Burns has worked here three years and offered a bit of constructive criticism. She thinks that the living rooms "could do with a bit of re-furnishing—especially Canfield House!" We wonder how the residents of Canfield House feel about that! Miss Burns thought the campus was quite pretty and that the girls were all very nice indeed.

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and a Happy New Year  
wish for 1949*

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## Mrs. Cooke on Lack of Housemaids

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until it is sometimes difficult to walk down them. Also, when they shake their rugs in the halls, they track the dirt from them through the rest of the house, making more work for the maids.

"The procedure for warning a student about a messy room is this: Winnie speaks to her. If she wishes Winnie to come back later on Wednesday afternoon when her room is clean, Winnie will gladly do so and make no mention of the way the student's room was formerly. If the room is still in a mess when Winnie returns in the afternoon, she speaks to the House Chairman who in turn speaks to the culprit. Then if the girl still persists in being disorderly, she is reported to Central Committee. No one has gone up before Central Committee yet on the charge of having a dirty room, which to me proves that the new cleaning system is working.

"If students have any suggestions to make for improving the cleaning system, I'm very open-minded.

"We are now compiling a list of rooms not clean. We are going to see which is the best house and publish a list of the best houses so that they can receive credit for their good work."

At this point in her discussion, Winnie Knapp appeared on the scene and after Mrs. Cooke had reiterated her discussion, she said:

"What you have down there in the main is right. One thing I would like to add: if a student isn't there and I find her room messy, I leave a notice with the House Chairman. I think a lot of credit should go to the House Chairmen. Without their help, this new cleaning system couldn't work."

Joyce Perry

## Summer Classes at University of Oslo

The University of Oslo has announced that it will again hold special summer classes for American students from June 27 to August 6.

Official headquarters in America for the summer session has been established at St. Olaf College, Northfield, Minnesota, where catalogs and applications may be secured.

The courses, which will be conducted in English, cover the sciences, the humanities, and a general survey of Norwegian culture. A maximum of six credit hours may be taken in the six weeks' course and in most cases the credits are transferable.

Approximate expense for the six weeks at the University is estimated to be about \$300 and transportation last year on the "S.S. Marine Jumper" came to \$320 to \$400 for the round trip.

This is the third year that such a course for Americans has been offered. An American Dean of Students, Norman Norstrand of St. Olaf College, Northfield, Minn., has accompanied the students each year. The rest of the administration is Norwegian. President of the Summer School is Dr. Otto L. Mohr, Rector of the University of Oslo. The directors are Dr. Harald U. Sverdrup, Director of the Polar Institute in Oslo; and Dr. Philip Boardman, Consultant, Norway-American Association, Oslo.

Requirements for admission are dependent on a good academic record, seriousness of applicant's purpose, qualities likely to make the student a good representative of the United States abroad, good health, and geographical distribution of applicants. An applicant must have completed his sophomore year, by the summer of 1949.

The University of Oslo guarantees the educational standards of its courses and it is one of the European schools which has been approved by the Veterans' Administration.

## Heigh Ho, Heigh Ho!

(Continued from page 1)

You may be required to produce a social security number unless you work for a school or an eleemosynary institution. This came about as a result of the Social Security Act of 1935 which created old age insurance benefits and unemployment insurance for those who need it. Your employer deducts a piece of each pay check for the federal government which banks it under your number, just in case.

### Withholding Tax

Your earnings will be further pared down due to the withholding tax. Your employer also deducts a small percentage each week for that purpose. This isn't too bad because you can apply for a refund at the end of the year, if you are interested enough to keep a record of the amounts deducted each week.

### Age Requirements

If you have not yet become eighteen, the states of New Jersey, Pennsylvania and New York will require you to get a work permit from some agency designated for that purpose. This is a hang-over from the 1920's when unscrupulous employers were bribing students to leave school and then putting them to work in sweat shops. By demanding work permits the state had a good means of checking on bad working conditions. The point of all this is that you should bring along a birth certificate or other proof of age if you are under 18.

### Think It Over

You may suddenly find yourself offered a job you are not quite sure you want. If this is the case, it is usually in order to ask for time to think it over and to call them later giving your decision. Then don't forget to do it. All business appointments should be kept or properly cancelled. Remember public relations.

### Think Before Signing

Occasionally students get tangled up in leases, contracts with model agencies, or other employment agreements. Such documents are apparently designed to be dull reading, but it is a good idea to read them through carefully, especially the part in the smallest print. If you can't be bothered, consult the family lawyer.

Hunting rooms and apartments in a city can be fun. It's more fun and smarter to take a friend or two along. While one of you is talking, the others can be taking a good look around at the corners and think up other good questions to ask. On the other hand, job hunting is definitely better done alone. Suppose there is only one job.

### First Week Worst

If this happens to be your first job, remember that the first few days are the hardest and often the least interesting. Only after you know the people and something about the work could you be given more interesting or more responsible tasks to do. Sometimes it isn't possible even then. But sometimes people get promoted and even get raises in pay.

One year an employer was so impressed by a suggestion made by a B.C. student for improving a particular system that he later put it into effect in his office. The student told me afterward that her job was so easy that she set out to learn about the work of the whole organization and just naturally couldn't help getting ideas.

### Forget Bennington

In parting, try to forget for ten weeks if you can, that you are a Bennington student. If you find you can't forget the process of evaluating what you are getting from the job experience, at least don't spend too much time thinking about it. Your employer may begin to wonder what he is getting out of the bargain. Also you probably won't quite know what you learned from a given experience for several years. But you will be given an opportunity to write a paper about it the week after you get back.

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Memoirs of a Sandwich Girl

(Continued from page 2)

house is rarely dressed at eleven o'clock at night, the hall is filled with flitting maidens, daintily clad or more commonly unclad. She usually ends up with an imperious order to "Tell Suzabelle to buy me a tuna."

... "Wouldn't you make parsley and onion on date and nut bread sometime?" says one. This exotic type finds tuna too mundane for her intellectual taste. Bennington has brought out her individualism! ... Or the girl who is simply starving and couldn't she please give you a check for 25 cents 'cause she simply hasn't got a cent! ... Then there are the girls who decide to play games with you. Seizing your basket playfully they skip through the house, strewing sandwiches gaily as flowers in May. And you know who I mean, Frankenthaler! ... There is one girl who has been sitting at her desk typing steadily for three months. I am often tempted to donate a sandwich to her out of the goodness of my heart. I am sure she hasn't eaten since last August!

Then there are the careless, light-hearted ones, who have casually left a dainty slipper on the stairway causing the poor unionized S. G. to trip on the stairs and spill the sandwiches—and that was the night the Tuna looked so much like Egg Salad. (It was Egg salad.) ... "Which is less fattening," they will inquire eagerly, and then slip out into the hall so that their friends will not see them break the diet which was begun after last night's sandwich!

One wanders through a maze of unmade beds and last week's underwear. It is dangerous to come into one of these houses fresh and rosy cheeked from the cold air. Especially when one is wearing glasses. I have been temporarily blinded when my glasses have clouded up as a result of the room temperatures at boiling point. This is apparently a college of exotic hot-house plants, since they must keep the radiators belching forth enough steam for a Turkish bath.

But at last, home and bed, for a peaceful night's sleep until the phone rings at one-thirty with a pleading "Haven't you been to Franklin yet?"

Aw, Baloney.

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Faculty Winter Plans

(Continued from page 1)

per, on his doctor's advice, will simplify rest at home.

Music

A great deal of work and traveling is going to be done in the Music department. As always, Mr. Beopple shall spend a great deal of effort on shaping two concerts for his Dessoff Choir, publishing choral music, and writing articles. As a member of the American Association of Colleges, Mr. Matthen will tour the South and Mid-West with a program of lectures and vocal concerts. At the end of February and the beginning of March Mr. Nowak, too, will go on an educational tour sponsored by the same organization, for which he shall play as well as lecture. The rest of the time he will stay on campus and compose. In New York City Mr. Frank plans to study and teach privately, play at several concerts, and continue his activities as assistant conductor of the Dessoff Choir. Mr. DeGray's sabbatical begins then and will continue for a year.

Other Arts

In the other arts, Mr. Alvin has formed no plans, except that he will be in New York. Mr. Kessled, undecided also, will stay at Bennington and rest. Miss Hill and Mr. Bales will both be in New York; Miss Hill on her sabbatical teaching at New York University and doing extra dance work on the side, Mr. Bales teaching and working with his company. In partnership with Maslow and Dudley Mr. Bales will also go on tour.

Literature

Of Literature, Mr. Nemerov has the ideal program: sitting, looking at the snow, and maybe playing pool! Mrs. Foster intends to do some studying. Mr. Jackson shall seclude himself in the Smokies in North Carolina and write. The prospect of Mr. Lewis is the most far-reaching. He embarks with his wife for Lake Como, Italy, where he can also develop his book on Herman Melville.

Language

The Language faculty is sticking closely to their fields. Mr. Golfing will translate a German philosophical work (no name) here at college, and also (the first one to do so) realize the Vermont potentialities and go skiing. Both Irene and Nora Hasenclever are torn between actively participating in the American Association of Teachers in Slavonic and East European Languages and the P. M. L. A., or sleeping through the winter.

Best Wishes for the Holidays

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Want to Go Skiing?

In last week's "Beacon" all you skiers got the expert's advice on ski equipment. The next thing to think about is where you are going to use that shined-up equipment. Well, here's a tip to all interested in having a good time both on the slopes and around the fires after the day is over.

Mad River Glen is the name of the place. This new ski area was officially opened last week end with the Governor of Vermont taking the first official ride up the chair lift and Lowell Thomas giving the opening speech. Snow gleamed on the hills giving the 900 people present a good prevue of what's in line for the winter.

Stowe Developers

Have you ever been to Stowe? You all know what perfect conditions usually prevail there. Well, the two men that started that development are now responsible for Mad River Glen.

The Glen is just 116 miles from college, way up where the snow really falls. It is situated near Waitsfield, Vermont, 28 miles below Stowe, on the northern slope of General Stark Mountain. During non-resident term you can always catch one of the special ski trains which leave New York or Boston Friday evenings, and stop at Moretown, just a stone's throw away from Waitsfield.

Trails Steep and Wide

Up north people call this part of Vermont the "snow corner of New England". How about the trails—well, they are terrifically steep but plenty wide enough to swing back and forth. Of course there are some easier ones along with a rope tow for beginners. All slopes are as smooth as possible so there are none of those awful bunkers and holes.

Chair Lift

Don't worry about getting up the mountain either. The new styled chair lift, over a mile in length, rises some 600 feet to the very top of Stark Mountain (3585 feet). If you don't feel like going all the way up you can get off at the half-way station designed especially for the less-advanced skiers. This station has both loading and unloading facilities so that a quicker, more complete turnover is possible and that long cold waiting line is done away with.

As for a place to stay. All the new lodges and inns surrounding the ski area were built especially for the skiing trade. "The Mad River Barn" and "The Ulla Lodge" are going to be the headquarters for young people and promise to give a good time to all.

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**Sean O'Casey Writes**

(This letter is the second one which Joyce Perry has received in her correspondence with Sean O'Casey.)

22 November 1948

Dear Joyce,

Yes, I'd like to read what you think, and what you say, of me. Ay, I had a lively time making with the comic critics, who know a good deal about most things, except criticisms. Ireland's drama critics are very poor, bossed by clerical censorship, and afraid to look close at anything they think will offend Ireland's Primati, or the Primati of all Ireland—Archbishops of Dublin and Armagh. The English critics are afraid even of each other. Why do you regard Nathan as a reactionary? He isn't, you know. He is a Drama Critic, and serves the Art of the Drama well. Indeed, his integrity is amazing. And his knowledge of the Drama, past and present, is profound and, indeed, wonderful. His books on the Theatre are delightful, real, deep, and to me infallible. I've never known Nathan yet to be wrong in a judgment, and I've known his writings now for thirty years. Is it because he didn't like the Soviet plays? But, you know, in their English translations, at any rate, they are poor. I do heartily wish they had been better; and so does he. That's all that concerns Nathan—that a play should be good; and that's all that should concern him as a Drama critic.

Yes, English manners are still largely interested in "Keeping up with the Joneses", even in the Labor Movements. The middle class, lower and middle, are always eager to have as much as their neighbor—not for comfort, security, or fuller personal development, which are godly things, but simply for display; to appear better, which is vanity and vexation of spirit. This type of mind inevitably brings about its own punishment.

The system under which we are said to live—it is not living, of course, but an education of decay effects a lot of youth into the desire of believing that money is power. It is power, of course; but it is not all-powerful. Its power is great; but it is a mean power, creative only of adulation, flattery and pretence—things that wither and die when they meet a greater power than themselves—as they are withering in China, now. And the young, everywhere, are beginning to question the older materialistic philosophy that wealth in goods—that is personal accumulations—is the Kingdom of Heaven on earth. But the lilies of the field still grow, still bloom, and are lovelier than Solomon in all his glory. I am not eager to plunge into opinions about American politics: that is a question for the American People, especially for the younger Americans. They and they alone can solve America's problems. Henry Wallace is, at least, a brave and honest man—and that's a lot these days; but the Labor Unions, the Labor movement, is far more important and powerful than a thousand Henry Wallaces. And so are the young students in all the American Colleges. What will these and those do now, and in the future? Here is the potential answer to what America will do, and what America will become. Now, of course, you know that Dewey didn't get in, after all. We are often wrong in our thoughts that see things to happen in a broad sweep of assurance. Kiang Sdek and his in England and America, when they saw their fresh-trained, grandly- equip-

**Alumnae Album**

Mrs. Alvah W. Sulloway (Allison Green) wrote the music for "Winner Take All", a musical play written by her husband and presented by the Community Players at Concord, New Hampshire.

Edith May Dinlocker is engaged to Richard Ervin Kuhn.

Mr. and Mrs. Herbert G. Nolan (Diane Katherine Kremm) now have twins, a boy and a girl.

Miss Boynton met in Cincinnati with Jeanne Johnson ('48), Allyn Johnson Shepherd ('43) and Louise Wachman Speigle ('46); in Cleveland with Nancy Kluge Hall ('46), Shirley Cohen ('46), Barbara Haas Rawson ('46), Connie Mather Price ('40) and Betsy Bope de Windt ('43); in Chicago with Joan Hyatt ('43), Jeanne Gaudy ('42), and Franny Berna Knight ('43); and in Detroit with Carola Manning McEachren ('40) and Katherine Kidner ('41).

ped armies sweeping the Chinese People's forces before them in 1946, thought they were OK; thought they had no more reason for an anxious thought about the Red Star over China; but what do they think now? So Hitler thought when he saw the Red army of the USSR being rolled back two thousand miles by the mighty for one of his Fascists; but where is Hitler now, and where is his Grande Armee? The people must win in the long run; for then battles, agitations, strikes, are not war, but a growth; the peoples becoming aware of themselves, and demanding the full fruit—not the skin or shell—but the full fruit of their labor, their imagination, their own creations. As for your general political outlook in the U.S.A. I can't do better than say that within my knowledge and, of course, naturally, limited understanding and acquaintances with American lips, I agree with the viewpoint displayed in the article called "Who is Loyal to America?" written by H. Slater Crimmager, Professor of History in Columbia University; and published in Harper's Magazine, September 1947. Copies, the magazine says, can be obtained for 15c at Harper's Magazine, Dept. G., East 33rd St., New York 16. I hope you are working at your thesis; and forgetting politics for the present. Upon the knowledge youth accumulates, and upon the way that knowledge is used, the world depends. The world of the future; which, in rebellion against Huxley's idea of it, will be, in my opinion, a brave, new world; a world worthy of habitation and a name.

So you are a girl. Well, I'm damned fond of girls. I couldn't guess from your writing that you were one. But the young in mind will always be loved by me—a girl today; a boy tomorrow.

Yours affectionately,

Sean O'Casey

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**MIRACLE OF 34th STREET** Maureen O'Hara, John Payne

Sunday and Monday, December 19, 20

**ONE TOUCH OF VENUS**  
Ava Gardner, Dick Haymes

Tuesday and Wednesday, December 21, 22

**RAW DEAL**  
**THE ADVENTURES OF GALLANT BESS**  
Dennis O'Keefe, Claire Trevor  
Cameron Mitchell, Audrey Long

Thursday and Friday, December 23, 24

**THE VIRGINIAN**  
**JUNGLE FLIGHT**  
Barbara Britton, Joel McCrea  
Robert Lowery, Ann Savage