



—Font Staff Photo.

Riders for the Horse Show are, left to right: Jane Mitchelette, Nancie Brown, Lucy George, and Clare Burke. The pictures were taken at Missouri Stables where the show will be held April 17, 18, and 19.



Jean McCormack, Staff Photographer.

Jane Mitchelette and Clare Burke

Alumnae Honor Young Grads Ruth Raupp Presides At Banquet

The seniors will be guests of honor at the brunch following the annual Mass and Communion of the Fontbonne Alumnae Association in the Church of Our Lady of Lourdes, 7150 Forsyth Blvd., on Sunday, May 18. Mass will be at 10 o'clock. Brunch will be served in the dining room at Fontbonne at 11:30 a. m.

The Right Rev. Edward A. Rogers, pastor of the Church of Our Lady of Lourdes, is to be the speaker at the luncheon. A business meeting will follow the luncheon and will include the election of members of the board of directors to replace those whose terms expire this spring. Kathleen A. Burke, president, will appoint a nominating committee to present names of candidates for these vacancies.

Ruth Raupp, student government president, will be the mistress of ceremonies at the annual Father-Daughter Banquet. This year the students have chosen to have this gala affair at the Starlight Roof of the Chase Hotel on April 21.

The entertainment for the evening will consist of an after dinner speaker, Reverend Daniel Higgins, S.J. of St. Louis University High School and a display of local talent in skits, songs, dances, and piano numbers. Pat Gallagher will lead the fathers and daughters in community singing. After the formal part of the program is over, the guests will be privileged to dance to records.

The Font

FONTBONNE COLLEGE

VOLUME XXV

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NUMBER 7

Miss Troemel Plans Teachers Guild Meet For April 27

The Lay Teachers Guild of the archdiocese of St. Louis will hold an informal social meeting at Fontbonne on Sunday, April 27.

Mrs. James N. Welch (Virginia Cox, '50), who is president and originator of the guild, extends an invitation to seniors in the department of education who are interested in job opportunities in parochial schools to attend the meeting.

A square dance and barbecue will follow the meeting. Miss Frances Troemel, director of the department of art at Fontbonne, is in charge of arrangements.

Fontbonne Mothers' Annual Spring Card Party will be held Thursday afternoon, April 24, in Medaille ballroom. Prizes, which are numerous and valuable, include a hope chest complete with all linens and other items. Tickets at one dollar may be secured from any member of the club.

Footlights Club Gives \$75 Check

Mary Ann Kuhlman, president of the Footlights Club, has announced the purchase of the new light green strip of rubber tile which runs the length of the auditorium. The runner was bought with the \$75 which was donated by the club.

The other officers of the Footlights Club are Helen McShane, vice-president; Doris Lavin, secretary; and Margaret Burris, treasurer.

Ten Seniors Elected To Two Catholic Honor Societies

The following ten seniors recently received the honor of being elected by the faculty to the two National Catholic Honor Societies, with which Fontbonne is affiliated. There are sixty-five in the graduating class.

New members of *Kappa Gamma Pi* are: Carmelita Schmelig, Angeline Bolesina, Rose Marie Archangel, Elizabeth Pape, Mary Ann Russell.

New members of *Delta Epsilon Sigma* are: Jeanette Maschmann, Constance Fiedler, Therese Lyons, Mary Claire Nolan, Margaret Mary Nolan.

Delta Epsilon Sigma, which was established in 1943, has as the primary reason for its existence the recognition and encouragement of scholarship among the students and graduates of Catholic institutions of higher learning. It includes both men and women.

Kappa Gamma Pi is a national honor society for alumnae of Catholic women's colleges. Its purpose is to develop among its members a high standard of character, scholarship, and service. More specifically, it should stimulate Catholic alumnae leadership in worthy organizations. It was organized in 1927.

The basis for the selections by the faculty is scholarship, leadership, character, and service to the school. Members are required to have an average of 2.0, and to have attended Fontbonne for at least two consecutive years. Only ten percent of the lay members of the senior class may be chosen as members of the societies. As for Delta, a look at the roster gives the following names: Class of 1951 members are Patricia Ann Hayes, Nancy Lee Carter, Lily Vitt, and Joan Gloria Steffen. Representative members in the '50 class are Sue Ann De-

Lisle, Joan Dettewanger, Joan McCartney, Mrs. Charles F. Dugman, Teresa Reid, Mrs. Donald Gunn and Mrs. J. Vincent Kennedy. In the class of 1949 are Louise Benz, Mari Kingston, Rosemary Leahy, and Mrs. Jerry Holmes.

(Continued on page 3, column 5)

C. Schmelig Awarded Hood

The Fontbonne College Alumnae Association will award the alumnae baccalaureate hood to Carmelita Schmelig at Baccalaureate Services on June 1, 1952. The alumnae hood, lined with Fontbonne colors, purple and gold, is a traditional award given to the graduate who is outstanding in scholarship, leadership, and loyalty to her college. More specifically, it is given to the senior who has contributed the most to the school in curricular and extracurricular activities.

Though all of the seniors wear a hood at graduation, the recipient of the alumnae hood receives a great honor, not only because the hood is given by the alumnae, but also because it signifies that the alumnae and the school judge the honoree and expect her to be an inspiring and hard-working member of the association.

Four recipients of the alumnae hood in the past have been: Arline Marklin, 1951; Mary Lou Lennemann, 1950; Harriet Koutsoumpas, 1949; Mary Ann Coghill, 1948.

Mary Louise Lennemann is now Mrs. Gerald P. Deppe, Tokyo, Japan; Harriet Koutsoumpas, Sister St. Joseph, C.S.J., a novice at St. Joseph's Motherhouse, Carondelet.

Today and Tomorrow Students Will Cast Votes for Student Association President

Sue Ryan, Eugenia Hettel, Eleanor Kaiser, Barbara Brinkoetter, Lois Knopp, Lorraine Hennen, and Mary Ann Kuhlman are the senior nominees for president of the Student Government Association, elections to be held April 17 and 18.

Seniors only are eligible for the offices of president, vice-president, and secretary of the SGA. Both juniors and seniors are eligible for the office of treasurer. Students must have at least the required college grade of C to be eligible for candidacy for office. For nomination a list of members eligible for office is posted on the bulletin board in Ryan Hall.

Graduate Recitals

During the first and second week of May, two seniors will give recitals. Lorraine Hoffelder will present a voice recital on Sunday evening, May 4, at 8:15 o'clock.

Carmelita Schmelig will read *St. Joan*, a play by George Bernard Shaw, on Friday evening, May 16, at 8 o'clock.

Students, alumnae, and friends will be welcome at these performances.

The two days of registration at which time nominations for SGA president were made were April 3 and 4. Nominations were made by secret ballot. Election will be by preferential ballot. A majority vote will elect.

The SGA has appointed the following days for the election of other officers:

April 22—Election of the Sodality Prefect.

April 23—Election of Resident Student President.

April 24—Assembly for the election of the SGA vice-president, secretary and treasurer. Nominations will be from the floor and election will be by preferential ballot. A majority vote will elect.

Delta Elects Four New Officers

New officers for the Fontbonne chapter of Delta Epsilon Sigma are Joan Steffen, '51, president; Nancy Carter, '51, vice-president; Rosemary Leahy, '49, secretary; Mrs. George L. Bill (Thelma Munkres, '48), treasurer.

Sister M. Berchmans, moderator, announced that the executive committee has made plans for the annual luncheon to be held April 26.

May 1—Election of the class representatives to SGA.

May 6—Assembly for the election of the NFCCS delegate, the NSA campus chairman, and the CSMS president.

May 8—Class meetings for the election of class officers.

May 14—SGA Call Assembly at noon for the election of NFCCS junior delegates.

The term of office in the SGA is for one year and no officer can hold the same office for consecutive terms.

Shirley Emge Gives 'Mr. Pim Passes By'

"Mr. Pim Passes By," a comedy of circumstance of mistaken identity by A. A. Milne, will be given in the Fontbonne auditorium on Sunday, April 20, by Shirley Emge, a senior in the speech department.

Shirley, an active member in the Footlights Club, will give the play in monologue form as her thesis production. In the performance, scheduled to begin at 8 p. m., she will take the parts of three men and four women characters: Mr. Pim, George Marden, Brian Strange, Olivia Marden, wife, Dinah Marden, niece; Lady Marden, aunt; and Ann, the maid.



Marion Stein Designs Cover For Summer Session Bulletin

Marion Stein, senior art major, has the honor of having her layout illustration used as a cover for the announcement of the 1952 Fontbonne Children's Theatre Summer Session. Marion is a member of Sister M. Ernestine's class in Advanced Design, each member of which submitted original layouts as a part of the project.

The speech department sponsoring this Children's School of the Theatre announces the dates are from June 17-July 25 for children of the fourth, fifth, and sixth grades. The program includes two courses: "Creative Dramatics for Children," given by Sister Rose Edward, C.S.J., which aims to develop the child in creative dramatic art through experiences in rhythm as found in dance, song, pantomime, and choral poetry. The class will observe and direct the children in creative planning of informal drama and puppet shows.



Alta Quast Photos.
Shirley Emge
Angeline Bolesina

Making headlines this issue are Shirley Emge and Angeline Bolesina. Shirley will present a dramatic recital, A. A. Milne's *Mr. Pim Passes By*, Sunday evening in the Fontbonne auditorium.

Angeline Bolesina is president of the college section of the Missouri Academy of Science, which will hold its annual all-day session Saturday at Fontbonne.

Alumna Writes For Dietetics Journal

The name of Mary Schumacher, '49, dietitian at St. Louis Jewish Hospital, has appeared three times recently in *The Journal of the American Dietetic Association* as contributor. Her most recent article, published in the April issue, was her thesis for a master's degree in hospital dietetics: "Nitrogen Utilization in Older Men."

Other articles written in collaboration with associates of the department of nutrition and physiology, College of Medicine, State University of Iowa at Iowa City, were "Effect of Aging and Various Types of Breakfasts on the Blood Sugar Level" and "Effect of Omitting Breakfast on the Physiologic Response of the Aged."

Met Opera Coming To St. Louis in May

Fontbonne music lovers will be glad to know the Metropolitan Opera Company of New York will present four major operas in St. Louis, May 22, 23, and 24. These include: *Aida*, *Carmen*, *La Traviata*, and *La Boheme*. Ninety are in the chorus; forty in the ballet.

Aida will be the first opera presented on May 22 at 8 p. m. and will star Robert Merrill and Blanche Thebom. *Carmen*, to be staged May 23, features notables Rise Stevens and Nadine Conner. The conductor will be Fritz Reiner.

On May 24, both *La Traviata* and *La Boheme* will be presented. *La Traviata* at 8 p. m. and *La Boheme* at 2 p. m. *La Traviata* will be conducted by Fausto Clevo and stars the famous Dorothy Kirsten, Paula Lechner, and Jan Peerce. *La Boheme*, conducted by Alberto Erede, casts Licia Albanese and Anne Bollinger.

The other course is "Theatre for Children," given by Miss Belle Marie Mullins. This course is designed to supply both methods and materials in the presentation of children's plays, selection, casting, acting, production, and performance. The class will observe and assist in the demonstration activities.

Registration day will be Thursday, May 22, from 1:00 to 2:00 p. m. The number in the class is limited to 25 children from the specified grades. The fee for the two courses including materials and luncheon is \$25.

Clare Burke, Nancie Brown Are Top Riders

Competition in the championship class of the Fontbonne Horse Show, April 17, 18, and 19, will be heightened by the entrance of two past top honor winners.

These two high-ranking equestriennes are Clare Burke, winner of the trophy in 1948, '49, and '50, and Nancie Brown, the winner in 1951. The championship class, which is generally the last event of the horse show, scheduled for Saturday night, is the outstanding event of the show. It is open to winners of first and second places in the college and academy singles events.



Jean McCormack, Staff Photographer.

Leaving assembly are officers of the senior class: Catherine Young, treasurer; Catherine Miceli, president; Elizabeth Pape, vice-president; Arlene Eveld, secretary.

Clare Burke, who retired the Kerckhoff trophy in 1950, is a member of the senior class. She belongs to the Sodality and the F.A.A. Her parents are Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Burke of 4646 Bessie avenue in St. Louis.

Nancie Brown, also a member of the Sodality and Athletic Association, is a freshman in the college this year. She won the award as a senior at St. Joseph's Academy last year. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. P. Brown, 5950 McPherson avenue.

The Roving Reporter

(ACP Reviews College Editorials)

Class of Potted Plants?

(From the Cincinnati News Record, University of Cincinnati.)

Many a student gets through college only to realize too late that he has been the potted plant. Through the efforts of someone else he found himself here four years ago with certain skilled professors and instructors nearby to pour in the academic lore.

All kinds of advantages are here, but he has not reached out to use them.

... To everything about him he is apathetic. Student government is controlled by cliques anyway, campus publications aren't as interesting as others, and who wants to listen to a free lecture? He probably has joined at least one organization, maybe a departmental club, but he never attends the meetings.

... But the potted plant gets enthusiastic occasionally. He pledged to give a pint of blood the last time the bloodmobile was here. There is a noble cause worth his effort he said. He forgot to keep the appointment.

The saddest part of the story comes after graduation. Failing in the bigger trials of life, the potted plant sees only that his leaves are wilting, and he tirades against the shortcomings of his alma mater.



Jean McCormack, Staff Photographer.

Mr. Harry Riehl, president of the St. Louis Better Business Bureau, was guest speaker in Dr. Van Taay's Social Problems Class, Tuesday, March 25. Mr. Riehl presented most graphically practical better business aids and suggestions. He emphasized the woman's position in business, consumer demands, advertising as a selling and motivating medium, and honesty and fairness as a necessary standard of practice.

The Better Business Bureau is composed of 2300 business men and is consistently influential in promoting higher business standards in the St. Louis area.

In the picture with Mr. Riehl are: Mary Ann Engler, freshman; Jean Anderson, senior; and Janet Prevaillet, junior.

ALTA QUAST PORTRAITS

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Riders Sign Up for Nineteenth Annual Spring Horse Show

Five students from Fontbonne will be entered in the Nineteenth Annual Horse Show to be held at 8 p. m., April 17, 18, 19, at the Missouri Stable's Arena. Nancie Brown, Jane Michelette, Lucy George, Clare Burke, and Eleanor Kaiser have all entered in the advanced class.

The riders may enter in one of three classes: advanced, which is comprised of those who have previously ridden in a horse show and have won a first place; novice, those who have ridden in a show before; and beginner, those who have never ridden in a show.

The first place winner of each class will receive a trophy, and the next four place winners will be awarded ribbons. However, the entrants from Fontbonne will also compete in a closed contest and thereby become eligible to win first and second place trophies.

Judging is based only on the horsemanship of the rider as shown in a walk, trot, and canter. Besides the Fontbonne entrants will be college riders from Washington University, Maryville College, and Lindenwood College.

Alumnae riders listed include Mary Jim Gratias, Jeanne Leritz, Marilyn Miller, and Jacqueline Wilkerson.

NSA Requests Books For Berlin School

The NSA, working through its own IRC unit and those of Maryville and Webster, is conducting a drive for books to be sent to the Free University in Berlin, Germany, where they are badly needed. The drive closes on May 17.

Any type book may be donated on grade school, high school, or college level. Scientific magazines (such as *Popular Mechanics* or *National Geographic*) not more than two years old are also solicited. A booth will be set up in Ryan Hall den where the books may be deposited.

Margaret Nebel, freshman, is in charge of the campaign. Joan Almon and Jill McKearin will be in the booth in the den.

The idea for such a drive was brought by Eleanor Kaiser from the regional meeting of the NSA last semester in Pittsburg, Kansas.

Up to date, the Fontbonne library has donated over sixty books to the drive.

Interracial Unit to Meet at Webster

According to Margaret Maguire, Fontbonne's chairman of the Interracial Justice Commission, the St. Louis conference will be held at Webster College, 467 E. Lockwood, April 20, 1-5 p. m.

Plans include several eminent lecturers plus assemblies and discussion groups. The afternoon will commence with a general assembly followed by small discussion groups on Education, Society, Economics, and Religion.

Leaders of the various discussion groups will be the chairmen of the various commissions of the four colleges represented: Fontbonne, Webster, Maryville, and St. Louis University. The general assembly will then reconvene and the conclusions and solutions of the various discussion groups will be presented plus formulated procedures for action.

Willis Saulmer, an executive member of the Interracial Council, will show three short movies. Benediction will then be held in the Chapel at 5 p. m.

'Why Required Subjects' Forum

"Why Required Subjects?" is the topic for the forum sponsored by the Young Christian Students. This forum is to be held April 22 at 2:30 in the Ryan Den.

The chairman of the panel will be Sister Ann Virginia. Other panel members are Miss Belle Marie Mullins and Sister Margaret John. They will represent the faculty. Mary Ellen Reagan is the only one chosen as yet to represent the students. There will be additional faculty and student representatives, who will be chosen at a later date.

The faculty members will give the values of the required subjects: Freshman English, philosophy, speech, and humanities. The students in return will give their views on the value of these subjects.

There will be further information on this later. At present the plans are incomplete.

Senior Pictures: An Inalienable Right

The *Real Purple* yearbook at Kansas State College is likely to be royally sued by a highly dissatisfied customer.

He's a senior who posed for yearbook picture in a wig, a high stiff collar and pince-nez, and who has hinted he'll sue the yearbook if it doesn't use the photograph.

"I don't need to give them any explanation," he said. "I gave them my dollar and a quarter. That's enough."

The *Real Purple* has refused to print on the grounds that students must pose in their normal wearing apparel. The senior calls this policy "discriminatory" and "characteristic of undemocratic institutions."



Junior Class officers on their way to a meeting in preparation for the Annual Junior Prom. Standing: Rosemary Sheern, vice-president; Lois Knopp, president; Lorraine Schmalz, treasurer. Seated, Norma Becker, secretary.

Let's Dance At Junior Promenade Friday, May 9

Memories of happiness in college will often be highlighted by one big night—the night which took scarcely less than a month's preparation, the night you danced every dance and never felt tired for an instant, the night your blind date turned out to be the height of idealism; the night that you combed and brushed your locks until your arm felt limp, the night that your heart beat faster every time the phone rang, the night that the stars shone brighter than ever before, the night of the Junior Promenade.

"The night" will be held in the spring—specifically May 9. This year for the first time in several years, and if the weather permits, the doors of the Medaille ballroom will be opened, and there will be dancing and refreshments on the patio.

Class president, Lois Knopp, has set up eight committees which are functioning to complete plans for the prom. The prom will be formal; music will be provided by Herman Drake's orchestra. A date bureau will be set up under the direction of Lorraine Hempen and Dr. William Van Taay. The slogan will be "Wanta Date?" Members of the Mothers' Club have consented to assist with refreshments.

Committee chairmen are: Lorraine Schmalz, financial; Rosemary Cosgriff, decoration; Eleanor Kaiser, orchestra; Barbara Brinkoetter, refreshments; Janet Prevaillet, bids and programs; Jean McCormack, photography; Louan Marneau, souvenirs; Mary Ann Breher, advertising.

Theatre Group Presents Check

Through the diligent efforts of the Cardinal Glennon Community Theatre Group, a check for four hundred and fifty-five dollars has been presented to Fontbonne for repair of the auditorium. The Theatre Group held a comedy entitled "The Show-Off" by George Kelly for two nights at Fontbonne in February. Miss Belle Marie Mullins, director of the Dramatics Department at Fontbonne, is director of the group.

TEN SENIORS ELECTED

(Continued from page 1, column 5)

Mrs. Robert Gragues, Mary Margaret McCalpin, Doris McWilliams, Mrs. George Bill, Elaine Vande Wall, Corinne Dewes, and Louise Munsch are '48 class members. Three members are listed for the class of 1947: Mary Virginia Burns, Mrs. Gilbert Naert, and Margaret Shelton. From the class of '46 are Sister Marie Charles, C.S.J., Sister Mary of Our Lady of Fatima, Mrs. John Russell Harmon, and Catherine Weidle.

Mrs. William Edward Disner, Ruth Fisher, Jean Houlehin and Mrs. John J. Eustermann are from '45; and Mary McCage, Jaclyn Meyer, and Eleanor Schmitt from '44. The class of 1943 members are Sister Agnes Marie, C.S.J., Rainald Igoe, Mary Virginia Richard, and Mrs. Lawrence Santen.

The program of events follows:

- Thursday, April 17**
 Class No. Class
 23 Open Jumper
 27-a Academy Novice Singles
 5 Five-gaited Mares
 9-11 Pleasure Horses
 29-a Academy Beginner and Novice Pairs
 3 Three-gaited Horsemanship
 27-b Academy Novice Singles
 17-a Open High School Equitation
 13 Palomino Parade
 35 College Advanced Pairs
 21 Hunter Seat Equitation
 6 Five-gaited Geldings
 19 Working Hunter

- Friday, April 18**
 20 Open Hunter
 33 College Advanced Singles
 1 Three-gaited Over 14.2 and under 15.2
 16-a Open Grade School Equitation
 12 Hunter Hack
 37 Ladies and Gentlemen Pairs
 18 Open College Equitation
 7 Five-gaited Horsemanship
 26 Academy Beginner Singles
 14 Other than Palomino Parade
 28 Academy Advanced Singles
 2 Three-gaited Over 15.2
 24 Knock Down and Out

- Saturday, April 19**
 25 Jumper Stake
 30 Academy Advanced Pairs
 4 Three-gaited Stake
 16-b Open Grade School Equitation
 38 Alumnae Class
 36 Sister-Sister Pairs
 17-b Open High School Equitation
 29-b Academy Beginner and Novice Pairs
 8 Five-gaited Stake
 15 Parade Stake
 39 Championship
 22 Hunter Stake

New Members of Kappa Gamma Pi and Delta Sigma Epsilon



From left to right: First row—Elizabeth Pape, 804 Ridge Rd., Wilmette, Ill.; Angeline Bolesina, 5828 Marquette Ave.; Constance Fiedler, 286 Parkland Place; Therese Lyons, 7199 Forsyth Blvd. Second row—Margaret Nolan, 1404 Ferry Ave.; Mary Claire Nolan, 1228 Sunset Blvd.; Rose Marie Archangel, 3650 Edmundson Rd. Third row—Carmelita Schmellig, 3873 Federer Ave.; Mary Ann Russell, 5752 Astra Ave.; Jeanette Maschmann, 9216 Litzinger Rd.

CAST YOUR VOTE TODAY OR TOMORROW FOR STUDENT GOVERNMENT PRESIDENT

SUE RYAN, EUGENIA HETTEL, ELEANOR KAISER, BARBARA BRINKOETTER, LOIS KNOPP, LORRAINE HEMPEN, MARY ANN KUHLMAN

about communism

Are you aware that you are surrounded by Communist influences? Perhaps you have even absorbed some of the Communist's thinking. If you are not aware of this, why not? If you are aware of it, what are you doing about it?

Most of us are doing absolutely nothing. The average student has a knowledge of the evils of Communism. However, he fails to see its immediate connection with his life and to realize the danger that is imminent in its vicious popularity. His attitude in everyday thinking and living is one of apathy and tolerance.

This whole attitude hangs over the Fontbonne campus. The typical reaction is: "I know that Communism is evil and dangerous. I hate it. So what?" Maybe the student is afraid of being accused of McCarthyism should she take an active stand.

INFORMER

An example may illustrate what we mean. Mr. Thomas Younglove, former Communist informer, spoke on "Communism and Its Evils" on March 25 at a St. Joseph Academy assembly. An invitation was extended to the college students. Few attended.

If we don't awaken to the dangers of Communism soon, disaster will certainly follow. There is a battle being waged right now between two forces, one under the standard of Christ, the other, under the hammer and sickle. This battle for the souls of men is being won at this time by the Communists. Over half the world is now under their iron curtain. Right now they are penetrating the fields which have the greatest influence on the majority of the people in our country: government, education, labor, entertainment, and youth groups. We must bring their progressive march to a halt before it is too late.

VOTE

How can we do this? Those of voting age are responsible for electing government officials who are without a doubt competent leaders and loyal citizens and who can see the long and short range effect of their actions. Those who are not yet old enough to vote can influence parents, relatives, and friends to vote intelligently. To know who will make the best leaders we must be well-informed on all current issues. We must read and study about Communism and the inroads it is making in our country.

We can learn to detect the Communist propaganda that is likely to crop up in our daily lives. In our own classrooms we can write term papers and give speeches on Communism. We should aid and encourage all anti-Communist groups and write letters to publishers and sponsors of radio and television programs who are making an effort to throw light on the evils of Communism. As Father Keller, founder of the Christopher Movement, has pointed out, we should prepare ourselves to carry Christ into the fields where the Communists are now most active: education, government, labor, management, writing, social service work, and library work.

The issue is Christianity or Communism. We must begin now to wage individually and collectively a defensive and offensive battle against Communism. If we do not realize the peril now, it will be too late when we awaken from our lethargy.

THE FONT

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civil defense

A clash of ideas is not new, nor necessarily disturbing; for from this conflict, truth has not infrequently emerged, more evident and sure. But the ideological war between the Communist proposition of state absolutism and the Christian concept of personal integrity is associated with new and terrifying possibilities—inasmuch as an aggressive and amoral despotism builds and controls a military might that would shake thought and enslave the world. To remain muddled and indecisive about fundamental issues at this point in history is very probably to forfeit the right to think and to speak effectively about anything at all.

We who know so little of the tremendous job which is ours are fortunate in the opportunity today to learn something of what we can do to meet our own and our country's needs. As she always has, the Red Cross will take a major role in preparing us for the tragic days which may come to pass in teaching all of us how best to preserve life and limb, in making blood plasma available to the stricken, and in meeting the problems and mitigating the bereavement and suffering of the aftermath of attack. There is today no more apt avenue for channeling the intelligence and determination of young and old than through participation in the activities of the Red Cross, particularly as these have relation to civil defense preparations—for what activity or what membership is concerned with a more vital task? It is a question of survival—how to save your life and the lives of others. The question is mine; the answer is yours to give in prudence and generosity.

Lingo, Is It Language? How About Slangage? What Do You Say?

Each section of our country has its own language. An outsider would sometimes find it hard to understand it. Whether or not these words, "lingo," could be classified as slang is questionable. In some instances they are as much a part of the people as their verbs and pronouns.

For instance, the girls from Chicago think everything is "George". To "peel" is to quickly shift into second gear and take off. "Open the no draft" means open the ventilator window and "Don't talk like a sausage" refers to someone just a little on the silly side.

"Let's buzz the place" would be recognized any place in the Midwest. "To buzz" means to circle a place and give it the once over. The word "terrific" is very versatile, as it is used today. Whenever anyone is at a loss for words, she always reverts to "terrific". It is the universal solution to all vocabulary problems.

"Stetson", "chaps", and "lariats" are originally Texan words and form the major part of junior's wardrobe. The affirmative answer for things is "Yeeecess" long and drawn out. But you really have to have the drawl to produce the right effect.

Anyway, we won't come to any definite conclusion. "Lingo" may be language, or it may be "slangage." What do you think?

VOX POP

Dear Editor:

In answer to the letter in a previous issue regarding the "latest bit of propaganda from the Student Council" we would like to say that, in our opinion, it is not the size of a club which determines its right to existence, but rather the value of its contributions to its members and to the campus.

A departmental club is not necessary, but may be of interest only to the majors in that department. Yet this club can quite conceivably give the necessary interaction to those majors and, hence, better the department and the college.

Therefore, we believe that a club making a valid contribution to "four members" does have a real right to recognition.

STUDENT COUNCIL
• • •

Dear Editor:

Many of us feel that because of the great expense of the Father-Daughter Banquet, finances on the Dads would be lessened if corsages were not expected. We know it isn't possible to ban them, but let's get together and do our part by not wearing them ourselves.

JEANNE, NANCY, and ROSEMARY.
• • •

Dear Editor:

In reading over the last issue of the Font I noticed a letter in the Vox Pop asking "Why can't Fontbonne have a Mother-Daughter Breakfast?" This question has often occurred to me also.

In my opinion we should have something during the year for our mothers. It is only at functions such as these that many of our mothers get to meet our friends and their mothers.

IMPATIENT.

This Is A Story About Damon Runyon, Known As the Bard Of Mindy's Restaurant

(Editor's Note: The guest writer for this issue is Eugenia Hettel, junior, English major, and associate editor of YOUTAIN.)

"It is really surprising how many wicked people there are in this world, and especially along East 114th Street up in Harlem. Of course, I do not say that all the wicked people in the world are along East 114th Street, because some of them are on East 115th Street, and maybe on East 116th Street, too, but the wicked people on East 114th Street are wicked than somewhat, especially Ignazio Varadelli and his mob..."

Yes, you can be certain you are reading a Runyon story when there is an opening like that one. Damon Runyon was the virtuoso of the Broadway strip known as Jacob's Beach where, over countless cups of coffee in Mindy's Restaurant, he caught the lingo of Harry the Horse, Regret the Horse Player, Madame La Gimp, Light-Fingered Moe, and the others with which he peopled his stories. Some have said that in order to understand Runyonesque, a word coined especially to mean his own particular Broadway gibberish, you needed a glossary of some sort, but many of his enthusiastic readers said that the inclusion of a glossary would merely be an insult to the reader's intelligence and to the Runyon gift of making even the most hard-bitten slang seem perfectly clear in its implication.

Mark Twain

Like Mark Twain, Runyon stopped his formal education at the age of twelve, and also like the author of *Huck Finn*, Runyon immediately went into newspaper work. Till the end of his days he considered himself first and foremost a newspaper man, a short story writer on the side, a movie producer on the side, a playwright also on the side, but mainly, a newspaperman. Many a veteran crime reporter wished he could have wrapped up the import of Judd Gray's testimony in the Snyder-Gray murder case as neatly as Runyon had: "A drab little man in a gray suit sat in the witness chair this afternoon and talked his life away."

Besides crime reporting Runyon took his turn at sports writing, believing as Publisher Hearst, that a man who could write about sports could write about almost anything. (Ring Lardner, Heywood Brown, Westbrook Pegler, and John Kieran can verify that fact, being former sports writers themselves.) For twelve years Damon Runyon traveled with the New York Giants and Yankees, ignoring in his write-ups the technical side of the game and concentrating on the color.

One of his earliest stories is a hobo tale, "The Informal Execution of Soup-Bone Pew"—a report of a murder told in a bantering tone reminiscent of Ring Lardner. In 1932 he penned a sardonic, sentimental tale, "Three Wise Guys," the story of the Nativity retold in the historical present. In all of Runyon's stories, there was only one tense, the universal present, for the characters who used it were usually too engrossed in the immediate moment to look either backward or forward.

Local Color School

He had an almost intangible quality of getting at the heart of things and people as well as of presenting the very essence of the Big Street which was his beat. One of the latest in the "Local Color School of Writers," he was concerned with gamblers, fight managers, bookies, theatrical agents, and "synthetic big shots."

In the 30's, a British critic wrote of him: "Seriously, though in a minor sphere, Runyon is comparable to Shakespeare and Milton as an improvisator of language. Runyon should be rated a genius for breaking so much new ground." Red Smith of the New York Herald Tribune had this to say: "Runyon could do things... that made a fellow want to throw away his typewriter." Concerning his feats as a Hearst columnist: "He could make a silk purse out of a cauliflower ear."

Some of his collections of stories are: *In Our Town*, sketches containing twenty-seven slices of life ranging from Pueblo, Colorado to New York. They are laconic and graphic portrayals of small-town pettiness, greed, eccentricities, and morals, but point no moral themselves. *Short Takes* is a volume of the readers' choice of his reminiscent columns about his father, John J. McGraw, John L. Sullivan, Jack Dempsey, and other sports figures; Al Jolson, Billy Rose, and Jimmy Durante of the theatre; and an assortment of various Runyonesque characters he is famous for.

First and Last

Runyon First and Last, besides containing the aforementioned "Informal Execution of Soup-Bone Pew" also included gentle spoofs on his old home town in the West, sketches of Army life in the Spanish-American War, and idyllic reminiscences of childhood. Two other books of his have become famous, *Blue Plate Special* and *Money from Home*, also collections of his famous short stories. Runyon himself wrote reviews of several of his own books in his famous column "The Brighter Side" which was syndicated and

appeared for years in thousands of newspapers throughout the country.

Of *Short Takes* he wrote: "I do not commend the book for its literary qualities. But as a study in the art of carrying water on both shoulders, of sophistry, of writing with tongue-in-cheek, and of intellectual dishonesty, I think it has no superior since the beginning of time..." For *Runyon A La Carte*, he commented: "By saying something with a half-boob air... he gets ideas out of his system on the wrongs of this world which indicate that he must have been a great rebel at heart but lacking moral courage... He is a hired Hessian of the typewriter... I tell you Runyon has subtlety but it is the considered opinion of his reviewer that it is a great pity the guy did not remain a rebel out and out. He took one block on Broadway (between 49th and 50th Streets) as his territory, and made half a million dollars writing about it."

Runyon Style

Concerning his style Robert van Gelder, in an introduction to a collection of Runyon's short stories, *Take It Easy*, recalls:

One day recently I asked Runyon if there was any real similarity between his plots and the plot of "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs." I have been reading the stories for a dozen years and it has seemed to me that although sometimes the main character is a gangster who has been shot and is looking for a quiet place to die, or a chorus girl whose back has been broken, this main character always is Snow White. And though this main character may be helped out of his or her horrible predicament by a thief or a murderer-for-hire or an old lush of an apple woman, the helper has a lot in common with the dwarfs. I asked Mr. Runyon about this and he nodded, but added the correction: "Sometimes the main character is Cinderella."

In 1946 Damon Runyon underwent a laryngectomy at Memorial Hospital in New York. "They were betting 9-5 against me," he said. It seemed that the occupant of table 50 at Mindy's had cancer of the throat. For a short time afterwards he continued just as he had before, sitting up all night over his endless cups of coffee, conversing with Broadway by means of memo pads. Still keeping that tremendous sense of humor he remarked, "Eddie Walker (the wealthiest fight manager on Jacob's Beach) says when I am mad, I write very heavy." This was a rare occasion.