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OBSERVATIONS ON SILENT SPRING AND THE READING PROGRAM

The Reading Program test for the Winter Quarter is part of the unmourned past, and we've finally heard some discussion of the book selection, Silent Spring (the consensus was "obvious propaganda"), and of the Program itself.

Most of the discussions were either with older students or in groups where these were distinctly in the majority. This wasn't planned -- it just happened. It helps to make a representative sample of the student body, though, because it appears the average CSCBS student has been eligible to vote for quite some time.

One point on which there was at least tacit agreement (someone in a fairly large group said it and no one argued) is that the Reading Program was apparently conceived for the younger students, especially those who may never have read a book that wasn't required for some course. The Program may broaden such a person's horizons, but it won't change his voluntary reading status.

There was widespread agreement that discussion of the selection should not be of the panel type with the general student body as a passive audience. It should rather consist of small groups with a faculty or guest moderator who is an authority on the subject the book treats, with active participation by each student.

Our suggestion of last week received gratifying support, most people urging a choice of three titles in widely-varying fields. Tests would be keyed to the selections, of course. A further suggestion of reading more than one book for extra test credit was received less enthusiastically, though, since there's more than enough required reading already in the college's accelerated pace.

We're disturbed over the timing of the tests. Whoever scheduled them seems to have forgotten that many or most of us have responsibilities elsewhere in the afternoon and on Saturday morning. This is prime time for off-campus employment and for family responsibilities. There are a lot of housewives here, remember? If testing were really necessary, it should have been spread through Friday, with make-up testing on Monday or Tuesday, for students' convenience. It may make more work for the proctors, but we feel that these tests are an ideal application of the honor system anyway. Their only value is to see that the selection is read, not necessarily comprehended.

B.R.

MORE OBSERVATIONS

The College Wide Reading Program is an out-and-out failure. A letter by Carmen Molina and a editorial by Editor Bill Runyan in consecutive issues of this paper diagnose the ills of the "Widespread Reading Farce" with amazing insight.

However, I wish to clarify Mr. Runyan's statement that one of the program's goals is to stimulate discussion and interest on campus. As the administration implied earlier this year, the only goal is to promote this intellectual exchange of ideas on the given book. Short of ordering students to feverishly carry on these discussions, the college fathers will never see us complying on a large scale. With three murderous courses, jobs, and committee work, there is simply no time!

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The administration has made no significant move to make the needed changes or eliminate the ill-starred reading venture. Several teachers have voiced their misgivings before both students and closed-door faculty meetings.

Despite the chronic disinterest of many, the administration has refused to admit the program is on the rocks. How long this mockery of a "College Wide Reading Program" is to continue is a question only the administration can answer. Let us hope we get that answer ---and soon!
R.C.

ANOTHER QUARTER HEARD FROM

Editor of the COMMUNIQUE:

I highly condone the movement to obtain a choice of what book to read, in connection with the student reading program. I would think that if a student could select a book suited to his major, if he so desires, that the program would be contributing more on the intellectual side than is being accomplished now.

James V. Mulloy

Editor's note: Response to our invitation last week for student opinion on the Reading Program was disappointing, since this letter was the only acceptance. But it is an indication that we were on the right track.

EUROPE ANYONE???

Have you ever wanted to hike in the Swiss Alps, have an audience with the Pope, ride in a gondola on the streets of Venice, or see an authentic Spanish bull fight.

These are just a few of the features of a student tour of Europe. Beginning July 1, Mr. and Mrs. Bryan Burke will accompany a group of San Bernardino, Highland, Rialto, and Fontana students to Europe. Mr. Burke is a teacher and Director of Student Activities at San Bernardino High School.

The tour features such places as Copenhagen, London, Paris, Amsterdam, Lucerne, Vienna, Florence, Venice, Rome, Capri, Barcelona, Madrid, and Lisbon. In all about 20,000 miles will be covered in visiting 12 countries. You have read about the exciting places of Europe. Now you can see them, touch them, hear them and smell them.

(continued)

The total cost for this tour is low because it can qualify for the student rates offered in Europe. It includes transportation, hotels, 3 meals a day, sightseeing, transfers, tips and taxes. The tour is open to any student 15 years of age and may be financed through SAS Airlines with very low rates of interest.

For further information and a free brochure, call TU 33133 or write Mr. Burke at 2364 North G St. San Bernardino.

Sandie Bergstrand

FOR SPORTS FUN

New athletic equipment was purchased this week for the Physical Education Department. These supplies (baseballs, bats, volleyballs) will be used by participants in the spring P.E. program.

Courts near the parking area are now being cleared for the volleyball and softball that will be offered to students during the spring quarter. The courts are situated in a convenient place on campus and will be available to anyone.

R.C.

COMMUNIQUE

Published by the students of California State College at San Bernardino.

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NEED HELP ?

The Financial Aids Office, A-112, now is accepting applications for the Spring Term and for the 1966-67 academic year. Applications for the Spring Term should be completed by March 15. The necessary forms may be obtained at the Financial Aids Office.

For the 1966-67 academic year an expanded Financial Aids Program will be available to students at CSCSB. Emergency loans, repayable within 60 days, will be available to help students cope with unexpected, short-term needs. Assistance for substantial needs again will be offered through long-term loans under the National Defense Student Loan Program. Alternatively, a student may meet all or part of his expenses through employment under the College Work-Study Program. In addition, a limited number of scholarships will be available.

Two new programs were authorized under the Higher Education Act of 1965. The Educational Opportunity Grant Program will provide a student demonstrating exceptional financial need up to \$800 in gift assistance. The Guaranteed Loan Program will enable students to obtain low interest loans from their home-town bank or other lending agency.

For the coming year the Financial Aids Office will employ a unified application form. Students submitting this application will be considered for all available sources of assistance, singly or in combination. However, in order to be considered for an Educational Opportunity Grant or for a scholarship, application should be completed by April 1.

Applicants for the 1966-67 school year are required to file the College Scholarship Service Confidential Statement. So that the College Scholarship Service can provide CSCSB with the results in advance of the deadline for application, interested students should obtain and complete the necessary forms at their earliest convenience.

Students presently receiving assistance under the College Work-Study Program, a National Defense Student Loan, or a scholarship must submit a new application for the coming year.

RR

COLORS and MASCOT ELECTION SET

There will be an election Tuesday, **April 5** for the student body to choose college colors and mascot. The selections will definitely be independent of each other.

The ASB Executive Cabinet has asked that the Election Committee post the election results as a vote tally. The Cabinet ruled that the definition of results merely implies a tally and that the original ASB election involved a misinterpretation of that implication on the Election Committee's part.

Cabinet activity at its meeting last Thursday included the appointment of

Konnie Zaharopoulos as Executive Cabinet Publicity Agent.

The State College Chancellor's office has finished consideration of the CSCSB Student Body fee. Its approval was necessary before the fee became official.

Names of student are now being submitted for the consideration of the Cabinet in appointments to committees.

GOT A CLUB ANNOUNCEMENT? Tell people what your club has done or has planned. Give us the information by Monday morning of any week, signed and preferably typed, on the desk of the Dean of Students' secretary.

THE EXCITEMENT STARTS NOW FOR THE SUMMER

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CALENDAR

College Chorus meets Thursdays, 1:30 pm,
room C-116.

Young Republicans meet Thursdays, 1:30 pm,
Room L-115.

Student Affairs Committee meets Thurs.,
2:30pm.

Theta Mu Omega meets Thurs., 4:00pm,
Room C-116.

ASE Cabinet meets Thursdays, 1:30, Room
A-119.

Protestant Society meets Fridays, 2:30pm
Room C-108.

"Players" meet Mondays, 7pm, Room C-116

College Chorus meets Tuesdays, 4pm,
Room C-116.

Election Committee Meeting, Tues., 10:30
Room L-113.

Young Democrats meet Tues., 10:30 am,
Room C-108.

COMMUNIQUE staff meets Tues., 10:30 am
Room L-117.

Newman Club meets Wed., 7pm Room C-110

Theta Psi Omega meets Wed., 12:30 pm
Room L-119.

Club Cultural Hispano meets Wed.,
11:30 am, Room C-108

FOREIGN FILM SERIES BEGINS

The first film to be shown in the Foreign
Film Series will be "Tkiru", a current
Japanese production, tomorrow in Room C-116.
at 8:00 pm. Admission is free and students,
faculty, staff and their guests are welcome.
Coming soon in the series are the Italian
classic, "The Bicycle Thief" and a Swedish
film, "Sawdust and Tinsel."

STUDENTS TO EXHIBIT AT ORANGE SHOW

Two students at CSCSB have had art
work accepted for showing at the All-
California Juried Art Exhibition at the
National Orange Show.

Letha Heneter has submitted a tradi-
tional water color and Gloria De Ment a
traditional oil painting.

The National Orange Show runs from
March 10-20, and tickets are available on
campus from students.

REMEMBER: COLORS AND MASCOT ELECTION
TUESDAY IN THE LIBRARY LOBBY

C.G.'s MEN'S SHOP

Featuring Catalina and McCreary Sportswear
Arrow Shirts, Swank Jewelry & Gift Items
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TU 36535

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CAMPUS PLANTING UNDER WAY

In a matter of days the campus has undergone
a radical change of appearance due to extensive
planting of trees. Over 700 trees will be in
the first planting. After the trees are in,
shrubbery and ground cover will be planted.