



THE CHERRY LAWN Newsletter



Vol. X, No. 2

APRIL, 1971

DARIEN, CONN.

HONOR ROLL

As of February 5, 1971

HONORS: It is always a source of satisfaction to be able to go over the list of students who have shown academic achievement. As of mid-year, twenty-three percent of the student body achieved the Honor Roll and ten percent the Dean's List.

The Honor Roll is a special source of pride at Cherry Lawn since for its attainment a student must have shown "Upper" or "Superior" in effort and at the same time qualified as a good citizen. Those who came up to that mark and deserve the accolade "Well done" are as follows:

Robert Abt, Norwalk, Conn.; Michael Angione, Norwalk, Conn.; Martin Baumgold, Stamford, Conn.; Marsha Bjork, Norwalk, Conn.; Maria Bollan, Bilbao, Spain; Jeremy Burwell, Norwalk, Conn.; Carol Chapman, Tenafly, N.J.; Merribelle Coles, Glen Cove, N.Y.; Craig Curtis, Norwalk, Conn.; Rita DiPastina, Middletown, Conn.; Ruth Dreessen, New York, N.Y.; David Engle, Miami Beach, Fla.; Barbara Fiore, New Canaan, Conn.; Richard Gaylord, Arlington, Va.; Michelle Gerhard, Norwalk, Conn.; Claudia Greene, Demarest, N.J.; Miriam Hasson, Guadalajara, Mexico; Luke Immes, Westhampton Beach, N.Y.; Jeff Jacobs, Arlington, Va.; Haila Kleinman, Silver Springs, Md.; Holly Komisar, Woodbridge, Conn.; Sharon Kramer, Woodmere, N.Y.; Marianne Launay, New York, N.Y.; Robert Leventhal, New York, N.Y.; Andrea Levin, Utica, N.Y.; Mee Ling Mah, Mozambique, E. Africa; Elizabeth Mahoney, The Gambia, Africa; Harris Mones, Miami, Fla.; Nancy Posner, Scarsdale, N.Y.; Geoffrey Rogers, Greenwich, Conn.; Suzanne Rogers, Norwalk, Conn.; Lynn Rosenthal, Bronx, N.Y.; Elise

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REORGANIZATION:

For more than three years we have given thought to the desirability of reshaping our school year so that it may better accommodate various modes of student learning, better cope with the problem of unequal readiness within any group of students, and better take advantage of the opportunities for off-campus experience.

During the present school year we have already taken a step in what appears to be our evolving direction by dividing the school year into three ten-week terms and also by inserting for the second time a project week between the end of the first ten-week period and the Christmas vacation.

As is currently customary in secondary education, each course basically begins in September and ends in June. A student taking five majors and one minor course, in a sense, juggles six balls at a time over the period of thirty weeks. It is now proposed that we move from this horizontal structure to one more vertical, offering the student two full courses in each ten-week term. At the end of nine months the students' total number of credits will be exactly the same. It is assumed that a ten-week concentration on two subjects (juggling two balls at a time) may result in better academic growth with less fumbling. There are doubtless pitfalls for some in this approach as there are in our present approach, but its validity appears greater for a larger number.

At the 1970 meetings of the New England Association of Colleges and

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CHERRY LAWN SCHOOL'S FIFTY-SIXTH
COMMENCEMENT WILL BE HELD ON THE
CAMPUS ON SUNDAY, JUNE 13, 1971
AT 3:00 P.M.

KING ARTHUR and CHERRY LAWN

The January issue of *Pendragon*, the magazine published in Bristol, England by the Pendragon Society, contains a mention of Cherry Lawn School. The Pendragon Society is an organization devoted to the history, myth and archaeology pertaining to Arthur of Britain. Recently, a chapter of the society was founded at Cherry Lawn in relation to Basil Burwell's Celtic Studies class.

The officers of the Pendragon Society learned that Cherry Lawners would be visiting some of the Arthurian sites next summer as part of the Summer Seminar in the British Isles, and they have extended an invitation to the students to submit photographs of these sites for inclusion in a guide to the Arthurian sites being prepared by the *Pendragons* under the editorship of their president, Geoffrey Ashe, who has produced such notable books on the subject as *From Caesar to Arthur*, *King Arthur's Avalon* and *The Quest for Arthur's Britain*. His other books are *Land to the West*, *The Land and the Book* and *Gandhi: a Study in Revolution*. He was educated at St. Paul's, the University of British Columbia and Trinity College, Cambridge. He is coming to Cherry Lawn in the late spring to lecture on King Arthur and meet his fellow *Pendragons*.

The *Pendragon* Magazine mentions that Cherry Lawn students will be coming to Britain in the summer and says, "They have kindly offered to help by taking photographs and collecting information for us in the course of their tour of this country. As they will be pursuing their own studies of Celtic and Arthurian Britain they will obviously be the most admirable people to outline what is wanted, and to help us with its production." *

FROM THE DESK OF THE DIRECTOR —

School Plight of the Independent School

It is ironic that in the midst of these days of extensive planning and preparation for the celebration of the 200th anniversary of our democracy's Declaration of Independence we find American education in such a frightful state of convulsion that, as a result of the losses that will be suffered through the demise of many institutions, it will never again be the same.

There is no need to make a case for public education in our country. It has proven to be the bulwark of our democratic institutions to such an extent that the nation's health can be measured by its health.

Public supported institutions of learning, however, whatever the degree of economic agony they may have to endure, will sooner or later be bailed out from the public till. Not so the private institutions.

Independent colleges, historically supported by private philan-

thropy, its friends and alumni, today find themselves in a different quandary. The national economic situation, and perhaps even more, a national apathy in regard to responsibility, leaves these institutions in a desperate plight.

It is among Independent secondary schools, however, that lack of financial support is having its most detrimental effect, and the demise of such schools is of frequent notice. The extent of the loss to our country can best be measured by considering the fact that whereas private secondary school students make up only 4% of the total number graduated, they make up 22% of those listed in Who's Who. Accidental? No. A large percentage of these alumni attribute much of their success to the influence of their Independent secondary school. Yet, after going on to institutions of higher learning, the majority allow those formative years to slip forgotten into the background so that when they finally are in a position to offer financial support to education their contributions are largely

made to their colleges instead of to their secondary schools which, by virtue of the independent status, which is their strength, are shut off from public support.

I know of no Independent School that can survive on its tuition revenues alone. Tuition alone pays for but a part of the total cost of the education of any student. The rest must come from alumni, parents, and friends of the school.

The real tragedy however, lies in the potential loss of the vital role which the Independent Schools play in the total national educational scene. The innovations, the academic excellence, the development of leadership, the sense of independence, have stemmed to a very large extent from their example. Without healthy and surviving Independent Schools public education may well slip into a morass of mediocrity.

What is happening nationally is being felt here on the Cherry Lawn campus in crucial ways. We are no exception. We need your help.

A. A. Medved

Lab Building Fire!

In the early morning of February 19th a fire of unknown origin occurred in the southern end of the Lab Building in the quarters of Mr. Neill Church, of our operations staff. Mr. Church lost his life in the blaze and the school lost one for whom there remain only kindly memories.

Due to the impressive response of the Darien Fire Department and Police Department support, the fire was confined largely to the north end representing the loss of an apartment, French Classroom and the Infirmary above.

Within two days six of the classrooms were reoccupied and the Physics-Chemistry Lab went back into service a day later.

Temporary quarters have been found for the French classes and the Infirmary has been set up in the downstairs apartment in Edna Strasser Hall.

Educational Register

Mr. A. A. Medved has been invited to submit an article on "The Under-Achiever" for the 1971-72 edition of *The Educational Register*, published annually by Vincent-Curtis of Boston.

This is essentially a tribute to Cherry Lawn School for its outstanding contribution over a great many years in this vital area of education.

The burden of the article is to identify the gifted under-achiever, to bring to him the understanding and help that is necessary for him to fulfill his potential.

Few educational undertakings can be more challenging or rewarding.

HELP! The Cherry Pit staff has labored long, hard and creatively and promises to come up with the best year book edition in a long time. Problem? They are still short \$200 in their budget and earnestly solicit additional ads and patron contributions. They need and deserve your support.

Fifth Year of Summer Seminars Abroad

The Summer Seminars Abroad program, enriched by each succeeding year of experience, looks forward to its best year yet—under the unique direction and leadership of Basil Burwell, supported by Nancy (Mrs.) Burwell, Mrs. Katherine Okrent and Dale Dreyfuss.

The group of twenty-one students will meet on campus for a short period of orientation and then depart by scheduled Aer Lingus jet for London. We will have our own comfortable bus and driver in both the British Isles and Ireland and so have maximum flexibility.

Students will have the opportunity of studying literature and history on location in the British Isles, but this year we plan to range farther than we have in previous years—from Lands End to Inverness, from King Arthur's traditional birthplace, the castle of Tintagel in Cornwall to Macbeth's castle at Cawdor in the Scottish Highlands—with visits to such places as Stonehenge, the Roman Amphitheater at Caerleon, the birthplace of the poet Dylan Thomas in Wales, the ruined

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COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER

Word has just been received from Mr. Arthur A. Cohen confirming his acceptance of our invitation to be our Commencement Speaker.

Arthur Cohen was a student at Cherry Lawn in the 1939-40 period, during which time he showed outstanding potentialities for the kind of things which he is doing so successfully today. He has other connections with us. He is the brother of Doris Cohen, '40 (deceased) and uncle of her daughters, Ellen Schaper, '69 and Wendy Schaper, '71.

A graduate of the University of Chicago, he went on to become a Fellow in Medieval Philosophy at the Jewish Theological Seminary of America from 1951-53.

Beginning in 1957 he continued on to many points of honor and responsibility as well as writing numerous articles and books. The fol-

lowing are only a portion of his achievements:

Consultant to project "Religion and the Free Society" of the Fund for the Republic;

Member of Standing Committee on Church and State of the New York office of the American Civil Liberties Union;

Member of the editorial advisory board of the Jewish Publications Society of America;

Member of the editorial board of the Theological quarterly *Judaism*;

Member of the Advisory Council of the Institute for Advanced Judaic Studies of Brandeis University;

Director of Religious publishing for Holt Rhinehart and Winston;

Numerous articles in Harper's, Christian Century, Commonweal, Commentary, Partisan Review, Cross Currents, Ramparts, Christianity and Crisis.

Author of the following books:

1957 *The Myth of the Judeo-Christian Tradition*, Harper and Row

1962 *The Natural and the Supernatural Jew*, Pantheon

1970 *Arguments and Doctrines*, Harper and Row

Scholar, philosopher, an activist in important areas of current American and international intellectual and social problems; whatever Arthur Cohen has it in his heart to share with us will be something worth looking forward to and appropriate to our fifty-sixth Commencement.

TRUSTEES AWARD MEDAL

In 1965 a small endowment enabled the Board of Trustees to institute the Trustees' Award Medal as a way of annually honoring Cherry Lawners who in subsequent years went on to achieve outstanding honors in their chosen callings. Those so chosen to date are an illustrious group bringing honor to the school and giving testimony through their lives and work to its philosophy and conduct:

- 1965 Dr. Peter Franken '44, Scientist
- 1966 Dr. David Van Tassel '45, Historian
- 1967 Theodore Strongin '36, Music Critic
- 1968 Sandra Hochman '53, Poet
- 1969 Dr. Henry Rosovsky '44, Economist
- 1970 Rolf Ohlhausen, Architect

The selection this year of Dr. Frances Degen Horowitz, Educational Psychologist, is a notable addition to the above roster and the school points to her with pride. Dr. Horowitz (Frances Degen) plans not only to attend the Commencement exercises to receive her honor in person, but hopes to be on hand a day or two early to get acquainted with the students and renew her friendship with members of the staff.

To list the achievements and honors accrued by Dr. Horowitz since her own graduation would fill a large part of this edition. Space limitations compel us to be shamefully brief:

After graduation from Cherry Lawn in the memorable class of 1949, Dr. Horowitz received her BA from Antioch College in 1954 and in the same year her M.Ed. from Goucher College. In 1959, she was granted her Ph.D. in Developmental Psychology by the State University of Iowa.

Her professional experience includes: 1953-54, Ford Foundation Fellow at Goucher College; 1959-61, Assistant Professor of Psychology, Southern Oregon College, Ashland, Oregon; 1961-62, Research Associate, Bureau of Child Research; University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas; 1962-63, USPHS Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Bureau of Child Research, University of Kansas; 1969, Professor in Department of Human Development and Family Life and in Department of Psychology, Research Associate, Bureau of Child Research, Chairman, Department of Human Development and Family Life, University of Kansas.

National recognition was not slow in coming her way. She has been cited in *American Women in Science*, *Who's Who of American Women* and *Who's Who in the Mid-*

west. She was selected to appear in the first edition of *Outstanding Young Women in America*, 1965.

Since 1953-54, when she received a Ford Foundation Fellowship, Dr. Horowitz has received an unusual number of fellowships and grants to aid her in her study of children and their learning problems.

Currently she is Director of Kansas infant research laboratory which is devoted to studying individual differences in response to auditory and visual stimulation in human infants from the ages of three weeks on. Studies recently completed involve development of a new technique for studying infant visual behavior.

Calling Classes — '22, '32, '42, '52, '62

A reunion of the above classes will be held on campus shortly after the close of the Commencement Exercises on Sunday afternoon, June 13th.

Volunteers from each class are sought to assist the school in reaching fellow classmates.

If you plan to come, individually or in groups, please notify the office so that adequate preparations can be made.

A picnic supper will be served at 6:00 P.M. We look forward to having you. Bring the family!

Padraic Colum

A few years ago Cherry Lawn gave the world premiere of a play by one of the founders of Dublin's Abbey Theatre. The play was *Moytura* by Padraic Colum. Later on the play was performed at Syracuse University and at the Dublin Theatre Festival and published in Dublin by the Dolmen Press. Mr. Colum has always insisted that Cherry Lawn caught the true spirit of his play more than any of the other productions.

Last summer Mr. Colum suffered a stroke while at a writers conference in Northern Connecticut. Now in his ninetieth year, he is making a slow recovery from paralysis of the right side. His mind is as active as ever and he would enjoy hearing from his many friends from Cherry Lawn. His address is:

Padraic Colum
Parkway Pavilion
Enfield, Connecticut

SCHOOL FAIR!

The annual School Fair will be held on Sunday, May 16th, on campus. Over recent years the sole purpose of the Fair has been to dedicate all of its proceeds to the scholarship fund. Never before have such funds played as vital a role in the life of an Independent school.

The success of the Fair depends upon three areas of support:

1. The contributions of saleable wares from parents and friends. The inventory of such contributions covers a very wide spectrum: new items from those who are in manufacturing or marketing, surplus items from these same sources, new and used items from attics and closets . . . things that are saleable but not used and can be parted with, such as unused gifts, white elephant items, books, etc. Use your imagination, bring it to the school, let us decide.
2. Participation by parents and teachers in the hard task of sorting, marking, setting up and selling. The contribution made by this kind of involvement cannot be underestimated.
3. Attendance. Plan to come. Put it on your calendar now! And bring your relatives and friends. The greater the attendance, the greater the sales and the more available for the scholarship fund.

All contributions are income tax deductible.

5th Summer Abroad (con't)

farmhouse on the Yorkshire moors that inspired Wuthering Heights, the house of Robert Burns, Holyrood Castle of Mary Queen of Scots, the Pitlochry Drama Festival, the sacred Island of Iona and a hundred other things between — people, mountains, great museums, people, famous cathedrals, sandy beaches, people.

And then Ireland!

Where we'll visit such places as the hills and fishing villages of Donegal, the "lake isle of Innisfree" and the Yeats country at Sligo, including attendance at the Yeats Summer School devoted to the poet's life and works, the Caves of Cong, the prehistoric battlefield of Moytura, the ancient Celtic Tombs along the River Boyne, Dublin and the Abbey Theatre, the James Joyce Tower, and the folksong concerts and so much more.

Students may obtain a full credit in one of the following: British Literature, History of the British Isles, or Humanities. In this last area of studies students may emphasize a variety of interests — architecture and art, government and legal procedures, sociology of the British Isles, the collection of folklore and folk songs, the comparative study of the Welsh and Gaelic languages on a preliminary basis.

Special Courses: Arrangements can be made for students needing certain other types of summer courses.

To obtain a credit the student must keep a journal of daily activities, impressions, free creative-writing, sketches, photographs, lecture notes, individual research, read and discuss a few carefully chosen works by such authors as Dylan Thomas, Emily Bronte, Brendan Behan and William Butler Yeats, and write a term paper in the area of his chosen study, or complete a motion picture documentary on the trip.

The return date is August 19th. We know of no other summer experience that can have the kind of positive educational impact mixed with fun that is possible by participation in the Summer Seminars.

More detailed information may be obtained by writing the school office.

COLLEGE PLACEMENT

At this time most of the senior class is expectantly awaiting college acceptance. The seniors and the college placement committee have spent a very busy fall and winter. It began by students being individually interviewed and having their past performance and future goals evaluated. Afterward each student was helped to pick a group of colleges best suited to his needs. Students read materials provided by the Guidance Office, sent away for their own individual catalogs and were encouraged to visit schools of their choices.

Forty-seven college representatives came to Cherry Lawn and met with interested students. Students applied to a total of 94 four-year schools, 5 two-year colleges, 1 Foreign University and 2 Technical schools. Students filled out applications and brought them into the Guidance Office — transcripts and letters of recommendation were added to their applications and all were mailed in a packet to each college. At the present time, further information is being exchanged by telephone between the Guidance Office and the various colleges.

To date, students have been accepted at:

Adams State (Colo.), Adelphi, American International, Babson, Bard, Beloit, C. W. Post, Coe, Bradley U., Denver U., Elmira College, Endicott Jr., Goddard College, Green Mountain, Grinnell, Hofstra University, Iona, Ithaca, Leicester, Marlboro, Nathaniel Hawthorne College, New England College, Nichols College, Oakland, Ohio Univ., Quinnipiac, Ricker College, Stephens (Mo.), Syracuse Univ., University of Cincinnati, University of Miami, University of Montana, Webster College, Princeton, Reed, Antioch and Tufts.

Juniors took their SAT's on March 7th. As soon as scores are returned this spring, the cycle will start again.

SOUR MASH

Sounds like a rather potent libation. It isn't. It is a heady new sound, born on our campus under the leadership of Mr. Mark Kennedy, instructor in music. The group does only its own material.

There is no name for it, thrilling as it is. It is not electrical, but rather acoustical; not rock and roll, not ballad, not gospel. . . . just new. The best that we can come up with is that it is iconoclastically religious.

In addition to performing for the school, the group was given a standing ovation in January at the regional conference of Liberal Religious Youth held at the Unitarian Church in Stamford, Connecticut.

They will perform for the Kiwanis Club of Darien at their Luncheon Meeting on April 26th.

St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Noroton, Conn., is contemplating having the group take part in one of its regular Sunday morning services.

The members of the group are: Martin Baumgold '71, Stamford; Debbie Dube '71, Brooklyn; Mary Ellis '72, Armonk, N.Y.; Denise O'Brien '71, Stamford; George Rothman '72, East Quogue, N.Y.; Robert Stokes '72, Louisville, Ky.; and Mark Kennedy.

Honor Roll (con't)

Samelson, Flushing, N.Y.; Melanie Smith, Rochester, N.Y.; Daniel Schupack, Norwalk, Conn.; Marcy Weiner, Jenkintown, Pa.; Cyrus Weiss, Glen Ridge, N.J.

DEAN'S LIST: In order to reach the Dean's list a student must have all grades above eighty-five, or the equivalent in our marking system, and those who have so qualified set the academic pace of the school:

Jeremy Burwell, Norwalk, Conn.; Merribelle Coles, Glen Cove, N.Y.; David Engle, Miami Beach, Fla.; Sarah Falion, Wilton, Conn.; Paul Gartenberg, Albany, N.Y.; Richard Gaylord, Arlington, Va.; David Geary, Winchester, Mass.; Michelle Gerhard, Norwalk, Conn.; Luke Immes, Westhampton Beach, N.Y.; Haila Kleinman, Silver Springs, Md.; Robert Leventhal, New York, N.Y.; Mee Ling Mah, Mozambique, E. Africa; Harris Mones, Miami, Fla.; Amy Reichman, Englewood, N.J.; Elise Samelson, Flushing, N.Y.; Michael Tallan, Westfield, N.J.; Cathy Weiss, Santurce, P.R.

Summer Session

June 28 - August 14

Mr. Ludwig Zuber, Director of the 10th Summer Session on campus looks forward to another successful year.

The Summer Session represents one of the most productive ways to spend a portion of the summer. For Cherry Lawn students there remains yet another month of vacation before school reopens.

The session is designed to help students make up lost credits, to provide strengthening in weak academic areas, and to acquire credits for acceleration.

Only major courses and Physical Education will be offered. Ample recreational opportunities will be provided. Please write or call the office for further information.

Judicial Team Work

Every Thursday at four P.M. a group of students in academic or social difficulty gather outside room nineteen in Manor House and wait patiently for a unique educational experience. They are about to be counseled by representatives from their own campus community. This counseling group, called the Academic and Social Committee, is composed of three student members elected by the student body — Harris Mones, David Geary and Sarah Falion — and three staff members: one teacher, Mark Kennedy; one house parent, Ruth Siswick; and one administrator, L. Nichols Grimes, Jr., the Dean of Students. The committee may hear any social or academic case. Except for dismissal, which it may recommend, the committee has recourse to any means of discipline it considers appropriate.

Drawing from their various backgrounds and positions, the committee members and the student strive to determine the problem and its solution. The times that a student has been successfully motivated to effect a solution have been the times that, through its interest in constructive action and the limiting of destructive action, the committee has successfully communicated its concern for the student's well-being.

In a time when students and teachers have been striving to contribute to school governance, this particular experiment has proved to be effective.

Strike Three

That is the call we expect to hear even more often this year than in the past two years when Cherry Lawn ended as runner-up. With Mike Angione back on the slab, stronger and more mature, and backed by a good squad, coach Hud Edwards is already pointing to the play-off.

The team is counting on strong performances from returning lettermen and league all-stars: Mike Angione — pitcher; Fred Dean — catcher; Jim Lembeck — outfield and Larry Carlton — shortstop. A young freshman, Gary Grow, has been outstanding in early practices and should be a big help to the team.

The team roster is as follows: David Adams, Greenwich, Conn. — outfield; Mike Angione, Norwalk, Conn. — pitcher; Larry Carlton, Stamford, Conn. — infield; Fred Dean, Norwalk, Conn. — catcher; Phil Elena, New York, N.Y. — infield/pitcher; Mike Ferraro, New Rochelle, N.Y. — infield; Bob Freeman, Flint, Mich. — outfield; Paul Gartenberg, Albany, N.Y. — outfield/pitcher; Gary Grow, Princeton, N.J. — pitcher/catcher; Russ Handleman, Eastchester, N.Y. — pitcher/outfield; Jim Lembeck, Mt. Vernon, N.Y. — outfield; Phil Rostoker, Baltimore, Md. — infielder; Dan Schupack, Norwalk, Conn. — 1st base/outfielder; Arky Shor, New York, N.Y. — pitcher/1st base; Jim Speiser, Stamford, Conn. — infield; Jeff Sumner, Canoga Park, Cal. — 2nd base.

Official practice began on March 30th. The season opens against New Rochelle Academy in a home game on April 22nd.

A Festival of Arts

An exhibit of art by students and teachers will be held at Greenwich Academy.

Mrs. Banghard, chairwoman, said that Cherry Lawn students surpassed not only local high schools but even top colleges such as Columbia, Amherst, Hampshire, Yale, Williams and Marymount.

Mrs. Banghard called our Art teacher, Mr. Victor Robinson, to congratulate the school on the high quality of its photographic entries.

Cherry Lawn entered some 30 pieces of photography, 5 pieces of

sculpture and 9 pieces of painting and mixed media.

The following Cherry Lawners are participating:

Photography: William Adler, Paramus, N.J.; Sarah Falion, Wilton, Conn.; Jonathan Gilbert, Columbus, Ohio.

Painting: Sharone Einhorn, New York, N.Y.

Sculpture: Claudia Greene, Demarest, N.J.; Ruth Dreessen, New York, N.Y.; Eric Thomson, Seatauket, N.Y.; Victor Robinson, Wilton, Conn.

Mixed Media: Elise Samelson, Flushing, N.Y.; Ruth Dreessen, New York, N.Y.

Reorganization (con't)

Secondary Schools repeated pleas were made to "innovate," to be daring in the rethinking of curricular approach and content to the end of more effective education, and frequent emphasis was made on the need to increasingly incorporate off-campus experiences in the program.

Numerous schools have moved in that direction but the main tyranny is that of the nine-month spread of courses. This seems to relegate virtually every off-campus experience to the summer months.

There is a consensus now that we were on the right track in considering the *two course per each ten-week term*. Five to ten week blocks could be freed at various times of the year for purposes of off-campus experiences, under our own auspices or that of other schools.

Once we have scheduled the launching of the two-course per 10 week semester then the next steps may be possible:

1. The establishment of off-campus programs of various types:
 - a. In the British Isles on the basis of our experience with our Summer Seminars Abroad;
 - b. France and Spain in relation to 3rd and 4th year in the languages of those countries;
 - c. Washington, D.C. in connection with Sociology, Psychology, Political Science and U.S. Government;
 - d. At one of the oceanographic centers in connection with oceanography, marine biology and ecology;

e. Supervised 10-week off-campus work experience.

2. Addition of a full 10-week, two course, summer term which would become the fourth quarter in a four-term full year enabling us to move to a full utilization of school plant.
3. If and when the new building is completed, these arrangements would quite naturally allow for a two-credit (full semester) program in the performing arts, hopefully enabling us to draw secondary school talent from across the country.

It is contemplated that we set up basic achievement requirements in math and language skills for 1st year Math and English.

Students enrolling with less than the basic skills would be assigned to the Learning Laboratory for the acquisition of those skills. This would call for some reorganization of the Learning Laboratory.

Each full-credit course would call for two hours per day, six days per week for 10 weeks for a total of 120 class hours.

Each of the first two-years of a foreign language would be covered in 1½ terms. The two hours per day would not be given consecutively but rather with an interval of at least one hour.

Laboratory sciences would call for 3 hours per day, six days per week for 10 weeks.

In order to take up slack of the laboratory science and language courses, mini-courses would be inaugurated and carry one-half credit each: African History, Asian History, etc.

It has been suggested that a total of 18 college preparatory credits, plus 4 credits in the Arts (a total of 22) be required for graduation.

A great deal of thought has been given to the nature and possibilities of this approach as well as to its possible shortcomings. We have gone through periodic full-faculty discussions over the past few years, special scrutiny by the various departments, detailed exploration and examination by the executive committee, then again this year, open faculty discussion followed by departmental deliberation, review of the skeletal outlines with a committee of the Board of Trustees, and, most recently, presentation to the student body both in general assembly and, for those most interested,

in small student-staff discussion groups.

Agreement on the desirability of undertaking this approach for the next year is virtually unanimous with considerable enthusiasm expressed at all levels of the school's life.

What remains now, before a final announcement can be made, is a check to make sure that the scheduling can be accomplished without significant sacrifices, and that it will be economically feasible, and the Board of Trustees approval.

The Poor Players

We still have no stage for our still very active drama program. A number of alumni responded to a plea from Basil Burwell for contributions to the stage-fund with bequests ranging from \$5.00 to \$100.00. The total amount so raised was less than \$500. Thanks were due the givers and Bazz managed to write thank-you notes to all but a few to whom he wishes to apologize. His many time-consuming obligations are at least in part to blame. He says he is trying to catch up.

Meanwhile, the new theatre, two-thirds completed, awaits more funds, and the dramatic performances are being given in the old costable, later the school shop. With the audience seated on raised platforms in a room that accommodates about forty persons, the plays are performed on the concrete floor using the two entrance doors of the room as stage-entrances and dodging around posts that support what was once the barn loft and is now an apartment overhead.

Two one-act plays — Ionesco's *The Lesson* with Betsy Kates, Jeremy Burwell and Ruth Dreessen, and Pinter's *The Room* with Sandy Rosenthal, James Lembeck, Deni O'Brien, Eric Rosen and Danny Gladstone — were recently performed. In rehearsal are five short one-act plays written by members of Basil Burwell's creative-writing class; and a long play by the North of Ireland poet, Louis MacNeice, based on an old Norse fairy tale called *East of the Sun and West of the Moon*. It is hoped to perform this last at other schools, particularly primary schools. Later on an anthology of scenes from Shakespeare will be given very much like the one given at school some years ago and trouped into New York and performed in a studio in the Steinway building.