A Dilemma—New Books or Used?

The student's single greatest expense throughout his four years at the College will probably be registration itself. Even the recently-appreciated cost of subway commutation is therefore a good time to plan for the inevitable and learn how best to deal with the problem of buying textbooks.

Most courses require one or more books. Professors generally remember to tell the class what they are at the first meeting, but this is very hard to do. Textbooks may be out of print or scarce. The student may want to worry about the cost, not about reading down books—he may even want to look into his books before classes begin. In any event, a complete list of required and recommended books is available in the College Bookstore, in the basement of Finley Student Center. A less complete list may be available outside the Used Book Exchange, third floor of Finley.

Having decided that he wants or needs books, the student must make the basic decision whether he wants new or used. New books for this course will probably cost $25-$40 and perhaps as much as $80. To cut expenses, and find sometimes-interesting, sometimes-disturbing marginal notes, he must be careful when buying used books at 25%-50% off list price, unless he has friends who happen to have all the right books for the taking.

Registration is the most important day of the semester. In the space of two or three hours, you'll be determining what you'll follow for the next 17 weeks. Unless you handle registration sensibly, you'll regret it for a long time.

Freshmen are faced with several obstacles even before they enter the Great Hall. You're not familiar with teachers, you get only those courses left open by all those registering ahead of you, and you are registering with other freshmen for seats in classes that can't accommodate the number of students who want them.

Only by keeping a clear head and following a careful plan of action can you hope to get a reasonably good program. The first and most important step is to familiarize yourself with the available classes, which you receive when you pay the $75 fee. Know the pamphlet; be able to find courses rapidly once you have begun to register.

After you've looked over the schedule, take some index cards and make up a half dozen alternative programs. Try to set them up so that some courses are interchangeable—if your first choice is closed, a second course can be fitted in without changing the program you already have. Bring these cards with you to registration.

Make a list of the buildings on North Campus and those on South Campus (they are found in front of the schedule of classes). Try not to schedule consecutive courses on different campuses; there is not enough time to get to class promptly. It's better to have an hour off between classes than to run from Matt Hall (at 311 W. 121st) to Shepard Hall (at 139 St.). It usually takes five minutes just to get out of the building you're in. Try to group your courses so that you have several on one campus, an hour or two off, and then several more on the other campus. Don't take more than three consecutive hours of classes.

If possible, don't schedule another class for the hour after gym. You'll find that you'll arrive in class late, out of breath and perspiring—and unable to concentrate on the lesson.

Speak to any friends you have at the College, find out which teachers are considered good. Differentiate between "easy markers" and good instructors. Don't hesitate to stop any student and ask him to recommend certain teachers. Inconvenience yourself to get a good teacher or a course you want...take late afternoon classes if you have to; you can study classes at the library as much as you will; the weather is probably more. Don't worry about going home at 6 P.M. in the dark; you can always find someone going your way.

In planning your program, remember that you have a wide range of required courses—don't limit yourself to a handful of them. Plan to take between 15-16 credits, but don't worry if you can't enroll for more than 13.

Approach registration with an open mind—be prepared to adapt your program to whatever situation you find in Great Hall, instead of entertaining any fixed ideas about what courses you "must have."

On registration day, get to your designated

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**Registration Requires Planning**

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room early; the students working there sometimes give out the cards ahead of time. Remember to bring your sample programs, the schedule of classes, and several pens and pencils.

Register first for the course with the highest credits, if you can. It's less flexible and will give you a solid base around which to build a program. As soon as possible get a correct check for your program. Make sure you've got the correct card for each course. Write out your program again, checking the hours in the schedule to avoid errors.

If you have any problems or questions, don't hesitate to ask a teacher; he'll be glad to help. Remember that teachers are human, and they don't like the hectic atmosphere any more than you do. Be polite, impress them with your problem, and they'll do what they can to rescue you.

After you've registered for a full program, stick around for another half hour. Wander around and see if a particular course you wanted has opened up again. Then fill out a correct check for the new course.

When you've finished this check, rest for a minute or two, and then find the last first time... it's worth it. To change your program costs five dollars and far more patience than anyone can spare.

After you leave Great Hall, stop, pat yourself on the back, and relax. You can spare at least five minutes before heading for the bookstore.

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Hay. It's easy to make mistakes on your program, so you may have to change it. This is not the time to be nervous. You should be able to change your program to the extent that you can have them, when you hit the books, you won't want to be in good shape.

How To Buy Your Books

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OP is Waiting For You To Join

**OP NEEDS YOU...**

**WE DON'T CARE!**

**WHO**

**WHAT**

**ARE YOU?**

(Continued from Page 3)


to both cover and book.

Paperback books can have their life extended (and beautified) considerably, with the application of a little effort. Covers and backs may be strengthened and protected with transparenc t tape. More valuable paperbacks may be protected with this cardboard. Cut out to the shape of the book's cover, they may be pasted or taped inside the paper cover, to provide long lasting support and protection to both cover and book. Buying books need not be too difficult. Intelligent done, the task can become merely painful, or even a very sharp number students, a satisfying delight. Which ever it is, a lot of time and money will be spent, so spend it wisely. And remember, especially once you have them, when you hit the books, you'll want to be in good shape.

**Library.**

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the third floor of Cohen Library, he would find himself in either of two Special rooms, the Audio Visual Auditorsium. The Special Collections Room houses the archives of the Free Academy and the College, and the Special Forms Room contains books and magazines on the arts plus the New York Times on microfilm since 1851, the London Times since 1790 and the New York Tribune.

Graduate fellowship and scholarship information is available in the Vocational Guidance Library, in the gift book section of the Educational Purchasing Department on the first floor of Cohen Library (one flight up). This division also contains complete book shelves of books and magazines, bibliographies, and reference works on education, and psychological, and the most comfortable chairs in the building.

Flims on reserve over books are 25c for the first hour and 5c thereafter, but 10 cents after the 25th minute of fractional time. There is a charge of $5 for books taken out overnight without permission. The circulation division charges 10c per day for each overdue book. Both divisions must have students from registration for not returning overdue books.

Students gathered on the steps of the State Legislature in Albany on March 22 to hear several politicians speak about the fight for increased state aid to the City University.

were a three-day fast for priests in Vietnam, held in the Guinness Ballroom, and a rally to support administration policy in Vietnam. The rally in Great Hall was addressed by James N. Deputy Ambassador to the United Nations.

Many opponents of the war in Vietnam attended the rally and then walked out after it had begun, leading to several fights. This session promises a continuation of last term's disturbances. Students who sat in outside Gallagher's office last May to protest the draft have promised more sit-ins if the faculty override does not lead to concrete results.

All in all, it looks as though a few sparks of awareness began to fall on the campus, as the small groups of protesters are being joined by ever-increasing numbers of students and faculty. Last term seems to prove that these protests can bring some results.

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