DAVID B. COURSIN

Robbins

To Continue

Africa Study

C E

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### Religious Literature in High Schools

# Pioneer Program Opens

Pennsylvania school officials have begun field testing an experimental new course in religious literature, designed to provide an "adventure in learning"—NOT to put

worship back into the classroom.

"Our intent is to present the classical writings of Judaism, Christianity and Islam as a rich experience in reading and literature," says John R. Whitney, instructor in religious studies at the University.

Acting in conjunction with the Pennsylvania Department of Public Instruction, Whitney and his department directed a team of experts in developing and organizing the experimental program and training the teachers to

Currently the experimental curriculum involves the literature of Western religions.

literature of Western religions.

The program was inaugurated this month in 31 Pennsylvania school districts as an aftermath of a mandate by the Pennsylvania Legislature in 1965 following a U.S. Supreme Court ruling outlawing mandatory religious worship or exercises in public schools.

No Legal Conflict

"I can see no legal possibility of conflict between the presentation of this course and the ruling of the Supreme Court," Whitney states. "The law prohibits the presentation of God concepts as a liturgical or devotional requirement in the schools. But this does not mean students should not be able to learn a great deal about religion or the literature of religion within the curriculum of a school."

Whitney, who is overall director of the project, also emphasizes that the course will always be "elective all the way down the line."

"The course, once offered to the school districts, may or may not, according to their own election, be included in their curriculum," he explains, "And if a local school district does elect to offer the course to its students, the students still have the final choice." Not Indoctrination

Meanwhile, Whitney, an ordained minister himself, is the first to point out that the experimental course, tested initially last year in the State College school system, is NOT designed to indoctrinate or to evaluate re-

"The total emphasis is on the writings as literature of religion, and our hope is that it will be an experience

for students in reading, as it were, the life, the thoughts, the convictions, the human experience of the people who produced the literature. The whole process of the course

is to present the material and allow the individual to take whatever personal inferences he may take."

As for the possibility of teacher bias affecting the presentation of the course, Whitney admits teachers can inference the course of the from time to time betray their own particular point of

"But," he adds quickly, citing a recent four-week institute conducted this summer for 31 secondary school English teachers from the districts involved in the experiment, "our experience demonstrates very conclusively to us that in the long run they can and do present the ma-terial as a study in literature rather than one in formal

Parents Pleased

Response from the State College experiment backs him up. It was free from opposition or antagonism, and parents on the whole seemed pleased that their children were receiving the opportunity to study the literature of

"Certainly," Wihtney says, "as you present a course of this type, you're going to be dealing with some sort of conflict. We have to assume many students will take back reports to their families about the makeup of the course and what they are learning."

"We're quite sure many families will have either a favorable or unfavorable reaction based on what their children tell them. But we must remember at all times, the course is elective. If a student finds the content of the course intolerable, he can drop it. If he finds it enjoyable and interacting he can extinue?"

joyable and interesting, he can continue."

Appraisal Next

The content of the student manual and teachers' guide for the new course has been drafted. The experiment is underway. The job now for Whitney and his team of researchers is to carefully and systematically observe and ather data on how the teachers handle the material, and

how successful the course is.
"We will look at what seems to appeal to the students and at what doesn't seem to appeal to the Stu-ney reports. "We will determine what parts of the course are more meaningful; and as a result of our study, we will put together a revised program to offer to schools throughout Pennsylvania for the 1968-69 school year."

# College Adds Pediatrician Dr. David Baird Coursin, director of Children's Hospital. He also served with research at the Research Institute, St. Joseph the U.S. Army for six years, leaving the Hospital, Lancaster, nationally-known pediaservice in 1948 as captain in the Medical

trician and nutritionist, has been appointed adjunct professor of pediatrics and nutrition in the College of Human Development at the University. His many professional activities include research related to the effects of nutrition on mental development and behavior, a subject of particular interest to the College

Dr. Coursin also is presently serving as consultant for several international studies in this area. His current research concerns vitamin B6 metabolism; disorders of the central nervous system and communication, and congenital anomalies. He also is director of research for the Lancaster Cleft Palate Clinic, a pioneering interdisciplinary venture in treating the speech defects and adjustment problems as well as the physical disability of children with this handicap.

Dr. Coursin has authored or co-authored many articles which describe results of his research. He is a member of the Editorial Board of Clinical Pediatrics and since 1963 has been co-editor of The Pediatric Patient, published annually by J. B. Lippincott Company, Philadelphia.

Michael C. Robbins, assistant professor of anthropology, will continue a cultural ecology survey of the Dorobo of central Coursin received the doctor of medicine de-Kenya, Africa, during his leave of absence from the University. which has been extended to Research Foundation, and the Philadelphia his research activities.'

Dr. Coursin is consultant for several national and international agencies including the Office of International Research of the National Institutes of Health. He is lecturer for the Graduate School of the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine and for the Massachusetts Institute of of Human Development, said Donald H. Technology, Department of Nutrition.
Ford, dean of the College.

Among his other assignments, he is a member of the Committee on Nutrition of the American Academy of Pediatrics and the Subcommittee on Maternal Nutrition of the National Research Council, Food and Nutrition Board. His many professional affiliations include the American Board of Pediatrics, American Academy of Pediatrics, American Society for Clinical Nutrition, Association for Research in Nervous and Mental Disease and Society for Research in Child Development.

In announcing the appointment, Dean Ford expressed his satisfaction in obtaining for the new college the contributions of a man "with such rich and varied experience in health and human development areas."

Said Ford: "We expect that Dr. Coursin, as adjunct professor, will participate in pro-A graduate of Haverford College, Dr. gram planning for the new college during the coming year, conduct occasional semigree from the University of Pennsylvania nars for graduate students, serve on grad-School of Medicine. He has held residencies uate committees, and when his busy schedat the Cincinnati Children's Hospital and ule permits, involve graduate students in

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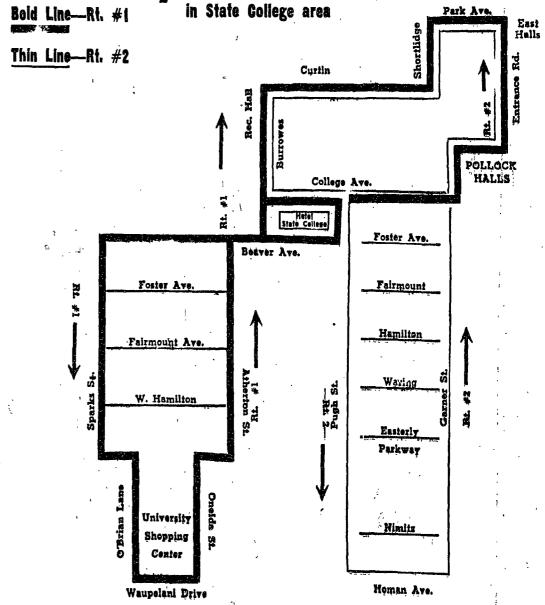
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## Senate Acts Against Air Pollution

By CARL P. LEUBSDORF

Associated Press Writer
WASHINGTIN (AP) — Senate-passed
legislation to expand the federal government's authority to act against air pol-lution, especially in emergency situa-tions, won bipartisan approval yesterday from the House Commerce Committee.

With only one dissent—and that re-portedly on procedural rather than substantive grounds—the committee sent on for action by the House, expected in about two weeks, the three-year, \$428.3-million

Most of the provisions are similar to the Senate measure, but the House group cut out additional research funds added by the Senate Public Works Committee which would have swelled the three-year cost of the measure to \$700 million.

Extra Funds

The authorizations in the House bill, which follow administration recommendations, include an extra \$33 million on

top of \$66 million already authorized for this year, \$145 million for fiscal 1969 and \$184.3 million for fiscal 1970.

Like the Senate measure, the bill rejects President Johnson's proposal for national emission standards of pollutants but authorizes a two-day study of the health benefits, econom impact and costs of such regulations.

Both bills would authorize the secretary of welfare to go to court immediately if he finds that a particular source of pollution presents an "imminent and substantial endangerment to the health of persons." Federal courts would be empowered to enjoin the alleged pollution by stopping emission of contaminants or by whatever other action is necessary. Quality Regions

The bill adopts Senate provisions to authorize setting up of air quality regions to control pollution but requires this to be done within 18 months of enactment of the legislation.

If states fail within an additional 15month period to set air quality standards, the secretary would be authorized to set them. The measure also would authorize the secretary to go to court after 180 days notice to enforce restrictions in the event of any violation of standards in any designated air control region.

Pollution From Jets

The committee voted to authorize a study of pollution from jet emissions, along with earlier provisions to study the effects of various kinds of fuel addi-

It also adopted an amendment by Rep. John D. Dingell, (D-Mich.), sought by the automobile industry, which would require all states to conform to federal motor vehicle emission standards unless the secretary permits them to establish higher standards.

The Senate measure would exempt California from the federal standards, provided it maintain stricter standards.

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### Attention! **Daily Collegian Credit Staff**

There will be an organizational meeting Thursday evening

September 28

7:00 p.m.

Collegian Office

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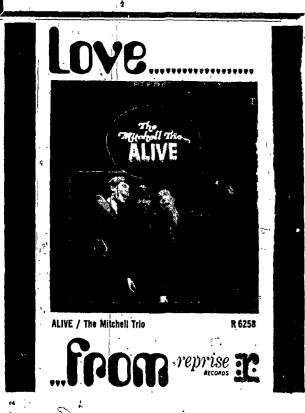
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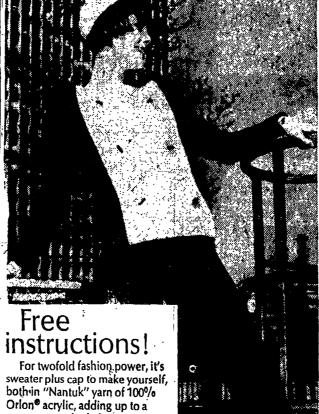
Effective Friday, September 29th

Greyhound is scheduling a special thru bus to Harrisburg, Philadelphia and New York leaving State College at 3:00 p.m. and returning from Philadelphia Sunday only at 6:15 p.m.

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