Book-Of-The-Semester Changes Emphasis: Fewer Formal Lectures, More Discussions

By TOM SCHUNIOR

Now is the time to stop by the book store for "The Lonely Crowd" and "Generation of Vipers" in preparation for the first Book-of-the-Semester discussion to be held on October 5.

David Riesman’s penetrating analysis of the changing American character will be the main topic of discussion this semester, supplemented, for those with ambition, by Phillip Wylie’s explosive criticism of modern American life.

"THE MAIN PURPOSE of the Book-of-the-Semester program," said Dr. Konstantin Kolenda, originator of the program, "is to focus the attention of the students and faculty members on one common topic of intellectual interest. Our weekly discussions of successive sections of the book allow us to tackle the material in some depth—and also makes it easier to fit the book into one’s crowded schedule."

The format of the discussions will be somewhat different from those of last year. "We will place more emphasis on round table, bull-session discussion than on the formal lectures we had last year," said Don Victery, chairman of the program.

"WE WANT to remind everyone that it isn’t necessary to attend the group discussions to benefit from the program. Stimulating discussion—anywhere—is our goal. In Riesman’s "Lonely Crowd" I think we have an extremely worthwhile book which should afford us some very productive discussions."

"Details will be announced next week concerning the first discussion, which will cover one chapter of "The Lonely Crowd."