peculiar Habits Of College Drinkers Studied By Yale

A group of Yale's physical and social scientists, working in a recon-
verted mansion at the edge of the University's campus is making a
pioneer study of delinquent in the
United States.

The findings of the research pro-
gram so far have challenged many
of the pet theories of educators and
have thrown new light on Ameri-
can drinking habits.

The first of a series of reports from
the Center of Alcohol Studies is the
widely discussed "Drinking In Col-
lege," recently published by the Yale
University Press. This report is based
on a study of 14,000 men and women
students throughout the United States
in the first study ever made of the
drinking habits of college students.

Among the conclusions reached in
the book is the fact that the drinking
patterns of most students are formed
before they enter college.

The survey of college drinking is
one of many being made at the Yale
Alcohol Center.

Perhaps the most important of
these projects is a study of the bodily
changes induced by small amounts of
alcohol consumed by normal people.

The purpose of this study is, now being
organized, is to find an explanation
of why people drink.

"We're trying to learn the basic
facts about the ordinary drinker, and
for the first time we're interested in
the extremes," said Sid-
don F. Bacon, Director of the project.
"We want to learn the effects on the
body of small doses of alcohol, in the
hope that this knowledge
may explain why people drink.

"Drinking In College," based on an
six-year study, is the first major re-
port of the pet theories about alcoholism
of fishy people drink. The innovation
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"We studied the drinking habits of
American people. We also wanted to
study a particular age group which
we'll be able to follow for at least 30
years. As a result, we'll be able to
trace the influences of various factors
of change in economic status, of
having children, and of changing atti-
tudes on the drinking habits of those
college students.

Mr. Bacon said that it will be
possible to conduct follow-up studies
of students interviewed in his col-
lege-age group because 71 per cent of
them voluntarily gave their names for
future reference.

"Each questionnaire filled out by
the student," he explained, had a
number on it, although there was no
place on it for the respondent's name.

We inserted a slip into each question-
naire with the number on it, asking
the student if he would sign his name
to the code number so we could go
back in later years to check.

Over 10,000 of the students — 71 per
cent of the men and 81 per cent of the
women — signed their code number
slip."