

THE SIREN

Vol. IV

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No. 9

ANNUAL PRIZE SPEAKING CONTESTS HIT NEW HIGH

On April 6, the Stamford High School annual prize speaking finals got underway, in the large auditorium. The first group of speakers were the seniors, who performed before their classmates on Tuesday, April 6. The winner of this division was Miss Leona London, with Martin Wittlin winning honorable mention. On Wednesday, April 7 the juniors put forth their talent, the final result being: Miss Christine Pagliaro winner; and Earl Smith receiving honorable mention. Came Thursday, April 8, and the youngsters of the school, in the form of sophomores, gave their selections before their fellow classmates, with the winner being Miss Dorothy Malkin, with Thomas Nealy and James Downey runners up.

In an interview granted by Mr. Hughes, (one of the judges), he stated that in his opinion this contest was above ordinary standards, with the Sophomores on the whole the best of the three classes. According to Mr. Hughes, the five Sophomores were very

(Continued on Page Two)

MISS HIGGINS ANNOUNCES NEW ASSEMBLY PROGRAMS

The assembly programs for the next few weeks, as outlined by Miss Higgins, seem varied and will undoubtedly prove enjoyable to the student body. For the week of May 12, 13, and 14 the program is divided into two parts: a play presented by the Spanish Club under the direction of Mrs. Manuel; and an electrical section enacted by Mr. Rhoad's classes.

The following week Mr. Mack and his puppeteers will stage another of their entertaining marionette shows.

FINANCIAL COMMITTEE OF G. O. HOLDS MEETING TO DISCUSS SCHOOL DEBT

Recently there has been a great deal of discussion concerning the General Organization, the nucleus of which is made up of the several class officers. The aim of the G. O., as was formerly announced, is to arouse and further interest in the high school and its activities—to make the present day classes of S.H.S. something more than mere numerals.

On Thursday, April 23, the first official meeting of the financial committee was called. The finance committee, made up of seniors and juniors, is one of the most vital organs of the General Organization. The purpose of this group is to attempt to lower the school debt. The committee has brought forth many ideas in

regard to ways and means of raising money, but as yet nothing has definitely been decided upon. Among the vast number of suggestions for carrying out the committee's purpose are plans to have school and class pennants or blotters, or to conduct rummage sales and paper drives. There are also several other ideas which they think will aid the school not only financially, but will also increase a display of school spirit.

On the financial committee are: Ezra Schacht, Chairman, Marie Pearson, Marion Adler, Fred Lang, Leona London, Frances Miller, Arthur Lang, Christine Pagliaro, Bernard Udell, Irene Urbanowicz.

J. NILAN WINS STATE DICTATING MACHINE CONTEST

Again a Short's Secretarial School student, Josephine Nilan, won the State Championship in dictating machine contest, high school and private, in the thirty-fourth annual convention of the Connecticut Business Educators' Association held at Commercial High School, New Haven on Saturday, April 4, 1936.

Miss Nilan is a member of the Short's Secretarial graduating class of June 1935; Secretarial Department. Her official record in the contest was 39.9 words per minute. Miss Nilan is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. M. J. Nilan of West Avenue, Darien. She was graduated from Darien High School last June.

SCHOOL CLUB GUEST OF STAMFORD CAMERA CLUB

Recently the members of the S.H.S. Camera Club attended by special invitation two meetings of the Stamford Camera Club, an adult organization of those interested in improving amateur photography.

At the first meeting Mr. D. Emery, a professional photographer, who is very highly rated among his colleagues, gave a lecture on some of his most exciting experiences as a photographer.

At the second meeting held April 21, a lecture was given by Mr. Frank Esposito of Derby, Connecticut. Mr. Esposito, who is noted for his bromoil prints, gave a talk and demonstration of this process.

MISS KRAUSE DIRECTING A NEW ASSEMBLY PLAY

When Spring rolls around, the most often quoted expression is "Spring is in the air"; but now "Moonshine and Honeysuckle" is in the air. This rather absurd statement is but an introduction to the play now in production in room 252 under the direction of Miss Krause. "Moonshine and Honeysuckle" is the name of said play, and it is a hill-billy comedy by Lula Vollmer, with excitement and romance enough to delight the heart of any audience. Those to be seen on the stage in this farce are: Walter Johnson, Dorothy McHugh, John van de Velde, Mary Cavanaugh, Jean Seale, Jack Downey, Carlton Pillsbury, Marian Adler, Richard Brinckerhoff, Doris Stanton, Eugene Link, Frances Cummings, and John Tucker.

JUNIOR PROM. SCHEDULED FOR FRIDAY MAY 22ND

The big event of the year for Juniors, the Junior Prom, will be held on Friday evening, May 22nd. It is the first formal affair of the school this spring, and admission will be only by invitation.

The class advisers, Mrs. Bohn and Mr. Farrell, have met with the class officers and representatives; the various committees have been appointed and plans are well under way.

MR. TRACY LEAVES S. H. S. TO TEACH IN EAST ORANGE

Last week just before leaving to teach in East Orange, N. J., Mr. Tracy issued the following statement:

"It is with a sense of deep regret that I terminate my work in S. H. S. Working with the successive classes for the past five years has been a very enjoyable experience. To both the faculty and the student body go my sincere well wishes."

FOR SCHOOL NEWS . . . READ THE SIREN

THE SIREN

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YOU CAN HELP THE SIREN

Whatever material has appeared in the columns of the SIREN this past year has been printed for the sole purpose of making the school paper one of interest and importance to members of S. H. S.

Mistakes have been made, of course. The editors and adviser realize the SIREN is far from perfect. The judges at the Columbia Convention pointed out our errors, and we hope to improve thereby. We solicit the aid of every interested person.

One of our chief needs at present is more school news. We ask all pupils and teachers to give us tips on all newsworthy events. Send the facts to Room 201 or send for a reporter. Of course, the staff has to maintain the right to select and reject material, but we plead for an opportunity to have as much as possible at our disposal.

We also welcome criticism. We ask, however, that it be made directly to the staff, and not indirectly as gossip or grumbling to unconcerned persons. The SIREN is the school paper, and in the last analysis its policy, value, influence, and life depends upon the whole school.

ATTENTION, STUDENTS!

To Editor-in-Chief of the Siren:

For his devoted service to the school and to the athletic teams for 30 years, I would like to suggest that the new field when finished, be dedicated to Mr. M. A. Boyle. It would be a just and fitting reward for his untiring efforts through the past years as well as at the present time. He has been largely responsible for our great progress in athletics. His spotless record can certainly vouch for him.

I suggest a petition be drawn up immediately, supported by the entire school, both the student body and faculty, respectfully petitioning the appropriate city officials to dedicate the field to Mr. Boyle.

Sincerely,
George Rassas—'37

Editor's Note:

The SIREN board suggests that the several class organizations give the matter suggested in the above letter serious consideration.

ANNUAL PRIZE SPEAKING

(Continued from page 1)

difficult to judge. In the case of the Juniors and Seniors the winners did remarkably well, but the other Junior and Senior con-

THE INQUISITIVE REPORTERS

by G. Bulter
and N. Wolff

One of the most widely discussed questions of the day has been that of mercy killings. Shall a person suffering from an incurable disease be allowed to suffer, or should he be humanely put out of his misery? This has been the topic of discussion everywhere, and opinion seems to be quite evenly divided. Your columnists, ever seeking to afford their readers the benefit of outside opinion, present the results of several short interviews.

The question—Do you think mercy killings should be legalized?

The answers—

Mr. Anthony DeBarry, barber, of Rockland Street.

"I would favor it, providing the person suffering desired it, instead of leaving it to the discretion of his doctors or relatives, as is the usual case."

Dr. H. C. Willmar, M. D., of Detroit, Michigan.

"I strongly oppose this, as only our Creator has the right to take a human life. Those who have participated in these so-called 'mercy killings' are nothing more or less than plain murderers, and should be treated as such."

Mr. Samuel Telep, grocery proprietor of Atlantic Street.

"From the humanitarian viewpoint, those unfortunate enough to be suffering greatly from an incurable disease, should be humanely relieved from their suffering."

Mr. James Paterson, bank-teller of Newark, New Jersey.

"In my opinion, mercy killing would be justified if it relieved an incurable patient suffering extreme agony, with no relief except that of death."

testants did not seem to meet the standards set by the non-winners of the Sophomore class. Mr. Hughes stated that the Sophomores showed feeling and interest, and what was one of the reasons why he like them so much. On the whole he was very much pleased with this year's results. "The coaching this year was excellent," stated Mr. Hughes.

TEACHERS IN GENERAL

By Ossie Sweet

For some reason teachers are in a class by themselves. At least, that is what most students think. They say that a teacher doesn't seem human. This is true to a certain extent in the class room, but in most cases the pupil is at fault. Leave it to the members of a class to bring out the be(a)st in a teacher. But these same teachers, outside of school are *different persons*.

Teachers can not be classed as types, because when one speaks of a teacher he may mean male or female, old, young, easy, hard, pleasant, crabby, and a hundred and one things more. Older teachers, for the simple reason that they are much older than their pupils, have better discipline. A young teacher being nearer the age of the class members usually has some trouble.

Many students come home and say, "My teacher is this or my teacher is that. It's the teacher's fault for everything." Perhaps you teachers don't know it, but you get plenty of tongue slamming. But look at all the personalities you come in contact with—that can slam in a different way. Yes, I know—it's a tough job sometimes.

Teachers want to get along with their classes and if there is trouble nine cases out of ten it is the pupils' fault. That tenth case being because, perhaps, the teacher is not well. If this is the case, he should not be teaching.

I will say—and not for protection but because I really mean it—that if you hand a teacher a square deal, he will hand you the same. Some teachers and their pupils have much in common and become real pals.

TIMES REPRESENTATIVE TALKS TO ENGLISH CLASSES

Miss Schwab, representative of the New York Times, gave interesting talks to Miss Almy's Junior English classes on Tuesday, April 21. The subject was the make-up of the Times. Miss Schwab, graduate of Bryn Mawr, illustrated her talk with pictures of the various happenings during the set up of the paper. Amusing stories helped make Miss Schwab's talk enjoyable.

CHATTER

Chatter, chatter everywhere
You'll find it here, you'll find it
there
And full of all the springtime
zest,
We're glad to get it off our chest.

O. K., we'll admit we're no Tennyson, but at least we can try—or can we? Maybe it's the influence of spring, but my goodness, we never did see so-o-o-o many people goin' around gaga about one another. Fr instance, Jimmy Scollard and his sophomore; Josephine Caruso and John Cavaliero; the Harry Alter-Virginia Borneman affair; Lou's M. and Harold L. moonin' about; and ooh so many others . . . And don't look now, but we really think we found a piece of lettuce on a ham sandwich down in cafe the other day.—Oh well, even the cafeteria makes mistakes sometimes, or maybe the health board finally got after them . . . Say, Mr. Skiegen, we'd advise you not to walk backwards any more—I guess you don't need our advice, though, do you, Georgie, after your embarrassing experience recently . . . But enough of this preaching, and as the pencil sharpener says, let's get down to the point . . . Things have come to a pretty pass, when our American history classes

spend half a period discussing mi lady's fashions—"Vogue's", we'll have you know . . . And now that they know what the petit moderne will be wearing this season, maybe some helpful history hints have been gained . . . And Helen Wilson and Doris Walters were having more fun playing with tacks down in cafe the other day . . . And speaking of recreation, the sophomores take the cake when we see them around the school grounds bouncing those little round balls on elastic strings . . . And this is high school! . . . We won't even need a baby day this year—we've been having one all year round with those cute little sophs . . . And for why did Doris slap Wolfe's face the other day???? And Hazel and Hayes ought to be ashamed of themselves for playing such a trick on their best pal—talk about embarrassing moments, eh, Tuck? And now it's time to take our pen in hand—ooh, oh, we can't do that on account of because our pen is broken—we feel terrible about it, 'cause we've had it ever since it was a little Schaffer . . . (not an advertisement). Anyway, we're signing off, pen or no pen . . . Cheerio!

LAURELS AND WORDS OF URGING

by Ruth Lucas

This column was begun to give praise to those students who have achieved success and popularity in their particular fields, and to urge to farther effort those who were popular in the Junior High Schools and who we all know have the ability to attain as much success in High School.

Laurels to John Steele for his skill at dancing and especially for his good work in helping the successful Stage Benefit Show. The proceeds of this show were \$41.75, part of which was added to the Dramatic Club Fund and a part used to pay several small bills throughout the school.

Words of urging to Bette Kozma, warbler, formerly of Cloonan and popular member thereof. She has promising dramatic skill also.

Laurels to Marjorie Johnson, S. H. S. Ambassador of popular song. Margie's alma mater is St. John's School. She is the winner of several amateur hours and is gradually rising to fame.

Words of urging to Woodrow Glover, former member of Burdick Jr. High, who was a member of the executives, captain of the baseball team, player on the basketball team, sports editor of the "Burdick Times," and president of the student council. His entrance into the limelight of hindered by unnecessary bashfulness. We know that his advancements are slow but sure.

CLASS OF '35 PLANS FIRST ALUMNI REUNION IN JUNE

The Senior class of '35 plans to hold an alumni reunion in the latter part of June at Rich's. The exact date is undecided as yet. However, it will probably be on a Monday night, and tickets will be approximately \$3.00 per couple for full course dinner and dancing.

Any member of the class of '35 who is interested is asked to communicate with Edith Genovese or Thomas Hogan, committee chairmen.

EXCHANGE NAMES

- Knapp—Short sleep.
- Mayer—Female horse.
- Pearsall—Thing to keep rain off when it's raining.
- Shaw—Expression of disgust.
- Hickok—Miniature burp.

FOR MODERN GREEK PUNSTERS

- Alpha*—used to mean half of. Ex. Alpha pint.
- Beta*—synonym for ought to. Ex. You beta beat it before the cops arrive.
- Gamma*—baby talk for grand-ma. Ex. What big dogs you have, Gamma.
- Delta*—used in cards. Ex. He delta hand of pinochle.
- Zeta*—to repeat a phrase. Ex. Zeta again.
- Eta*—to devour. Ex. Eta slab of horse meat.
- Iota*—a duty. Ex. Iota slap your face.
- Kappa*—brewing process. Ex. Kappa bottle of beer.
- Lambda*—pugilistic phrase. Ex. So I lambda guy on da snoot.
- Mu*—love song of the cow. Ex. Mu, mu.
- Pi*—great American desert. Ex. I'll have a piece of pie.
- Omega*—part of a prayer. Ex. Omega good girl out of me.

S. H. S. Tennis Team

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TENNIS SCHEDULE OF S. H. S. 1936



- April 28—Greenwich—Away
- May 1—Greenwich—Here
- May 4—Fordham Prep—Away
- May 7—Bassick—Away
- May 9—Army Plebes—Away
- May 11—Gorton—Away
- May 12—Darien—Here
- May 13—Harding—Here
- May 14—Mamaroneck—Here
- May 15—Danbury—Away
- May 18—Rye—Here
- May 21—Mamaroneck—Away
- May 22—La Salle M. A.—Away
- May 23—Stony Brook Prep—Away
- May 25—Bassick—Here
- May 27—Darien—Here
- June 2—Danbury—Here
- June 5—Rye—Away
- June 9—Roosevelt of Yonkers—
Away

New Rochelle—(date pending)

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S. H. S. STUDENTS JOIN IN OBSERVANCE OF PEACE DAY

Over 750,000 high school and college students in the United States participated in Student Peace meetings and strikes Wednesday, April 22 at 11:00 A. M.

Stamford High School was one of the many schools which took part in these Peace meetings. The local meeting was sponsored by the high school Peace Club and endorsed by Principal Smith.

Dr. George Stewart was the main speaker at the Junior-Senior assembly. He gave a picture of the horrors of war, as only one who has been through it, can give. Dr. Stewart, calling his generation the lost generation, warned the students against the jingoists who under the guise of patriotism tell them to go to war. He also told them that war never settled disputes. Dr. Stewart was one of the endorsers of the national Student Peace Strike.

Mr. David Hedley, an exchange student at Yale who comes from Cambridge University in England, was the main speaker at the Sophomore assembly. Mr. Hedley in his address showed clearly that the majority of the people have little if anything to gain from war.

SEEN'S BELIEVIN'

The Wandering Book . . . A student approached Donald Heisinger the other day and handed him an algebra book, saying it was his. Don, not taking algebra, claimed it wasn't. Upon closer inspection it turned out to be last year's book, and his name was still in it. He deposited the book somewhere and proceeded on. The next period, upon entering History class, Don was handed the same book by Mr. Nutter. What could he do but get rid of it again after class? He then went merrily on his way to home-room. Lo and behold, when he arrived, the book had beat him to it and was waiting there. The moral of this tale is: Return lost articles to the office.

ALUMNI NOTES

The following Stamford High School graduates have selected Merrill School courses this term:

From the class of 1935: William McKenna, Theodore Guider, Martha Kulak, Jean Nichols, Hildean Spellman, Ruth Adams, Mary Gubick, Gertrude Cotter, Dorothy Miller, Jack Bacon, Geraldine Morgan and Wanda Miller.

TICKLES THAT TICKLE OUR FUNNY BONE

Bing Crosby singing (crooning) "Silent Night."

The bartender in favor of prohibition.

EXCHANGE TIDBITS

Just received a paper from the Greenwich High, the "G. H. S. News". It is a very fine paper in both set-up and material. On a forthcoming event between the policemen and faculty in donkey basket ball the following headline was featured: "Cop Calls Teachers 'Sissies'". The Greenwich High deserves congrats for its fine publication.

Nit: When you sleep your noble brow reminds me of a story.

Wit: What? Sleeping Beauty?

Nit: No, Sleepy Hollow!

—"Exponent" Greenfield High Greenfield, Mass.

Scene: A Bee Hive
Character: The Professor
Scram

Bee: Prof!

Prof! Ouch!

2nd Bee: Did we say get away?

Prof: Ouch!

3rd Bee: Why haven't you gone yet?

Prof: What BEEsiness is it of yours—Ouch!

Queen Bee: Say "Ouch"

Prof: (Censored)

Student watching the scene: What a BEEtiful day!

Curtain

—Boston University

DONALD CRAM COACHES

S. H. S. TENNIS TEAM

TENNIS—If the success of the tennis team can be judged by the standard of the coaching staff, the outlook for the present season is very good. The team is coached by our own Mr. Boyle and Donald H. Cram. We all know who Mr. Boyle is and so I am passing on some information about Mr. Cram. Mr. Cram has graciously consented to help our squad along. While at Vanderbilt Mr. Cram was captain and number one player on the tennis team. He also played basketball. He was Tennessee state champion from 1924 to 1927 inclusive. In 1930 he earned the national inter-collegiate ranking of number four. Also in 1930 he was ranked nationally as number twenty. Don Cram held many other titles including the local city singles and doubles titles in 1934.

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