

THE SIREN

Vol. IV

February 27, 1936

No. 6

"KIMONO" STOPS SPELLER IN HOME-ROOM CONTEST

All home rooms are at work on some project or other in their activity period. Some have handed in programs to the Siren.

A spelling match between 143 and 121 was staged in Room 128. Miss Kohn acted as moderator. At the close of the period only three girls, Yvette Archambeau, Ira Dafundi, and Irene Brocchi, were still standing to uphold the honor of 143. Sylvia Silverman, who represented 121, put up a gallant fight for her class, but was finally spelled down, to the joy of 143, and the sorrow of 121 and Mr. Harriott. Ida Dafundi survived the longest. The word that determined the match was "kimono".

Attention! Home room 122 has several good programs which they are graciously offering to ex-

(Continued on page three)

PHI BETA FRATERNITY OFFERS TO CLEAN TROPHIES

The offer of the "Chi" Chapter of the Phi Beta Fraternity to clean and polish the High School trophies, has been gladly accepted by Mr. Smith. The members of this fraternity feel that they can help the school in a small way, by making these trophies look as they did when they were first received.

The Stamford Chapter of Phi Beta, a national high school fraternity for Jewish pupils, was first organized in 1925. The founders are all alumni of Stamford High School.

The present officers of the local chapter are:

Superior—Sidney Menger
First Elder—Ira Lang
Second Elder—Irving Leffermen
Burser—Oscar Gelb
Scribe—Fred Lang

SPECIAL SENIOR ASSEMBLY SHOWS THE NECESSITY FOR STUDENT GOVERNMENT

On February 20th, an open forum was ordered by Mr. Humphries for the boys of the Senior class. The meeting was in charge of Andrew Littlejohn 3rd., president of the Senior class. The outstanding topic under discussion was the method in which student government might be introduced into S.H.S. by the Senior class.

The students decided that they would be personally responsible for the conduct of the younger pupils in the building and on the grounds, on the understanding, of course, that physical violence to malefactors is barred.

The moral force of student government would here be brought to bear for the first time in the history of S.H.S. Using this for a base upon which to build, the students could form

a court with pupil judges and other officials. The court as it would be called would then draw up a code of ethics for school conduct, and, if run correctly, would take much of the present burden from the shoulders of the faculty.

This system was given much prominence by the SIREN, in its assembly Radio Program. The pupils, at that time, looked upon student government as impossible, except in theory, but here we would see student government in practice. It would not take much effort or concentration to institute a code which would be obeyed voluntarily by the majority of pupils; the remainder would conform because they had to.

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SIREN ENTERING COLUMBIA SCHOLASTIC PRESS ASSOCIATION CONTEST

TEACHERS' PARTY RAISES \$175 FOR GENERAL FUND

On Wednesday, February 19, 1936, the faculty of S.H.S. held a card party for the benefit of the school's general fund. This party was held in the gymnasium, and started at 8:00 P.M. with about 400 parents, alumni, friends, and teachers attending. The games played were: bridge, progressive-pinochle, progressive euchre, and bingo. Many prizes, both useful and amusing, were given out. Chief among these were 200 gallons of fuel oil, won by Miss Almy; \$5 worth of bowling, won by Mr. Moon; one fourth ton of coal, a salad set, carton of ginger ale, \$5 worth of gasoline, and many others.

According to Mr. Olson, chairman of the committee, the party was a huge success.

RIDING CLUB CONSTITUTION ADOPTED AT LAST MEETING

Presided over by President James Marsh, the Riding Club met in Room 216 on Thursday, February 13, to discuss and vote upon the articles of a tentative, working constitution. The members, after much debate, finally adopted section by section a document which is now posted on the bulletin board in Room 216. Any one interested in riding or in The Riding Club is invited to read the constitution and other explanatory matter posted with it.

The next regular meeting of the club will be held on Tuesday, March 3. At that time final plans will be made in preparation for

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Expect to Send Delegates to Convention During Week of March 8

The outstanding event of the year in the "world of school publications" is the annual convention of the Columbia Scholastic Press Association, held this year on March 12, 13 and 14, at Columbia University, New York City.

The SIREN has been entered in the contest sponsored by this Association. The contest is open to all magazines, newspapers, and annuals published by any schools

(Continued on page three)

CALENDAR

Thurs., Feb. 27
Debating Club, Rm. 121
Basketball
S.H.S. vs. Glenbrook
Fri., Feb. 28
Tennis Practice
Mon., March 2
Peace Club, Rm. 124
Tues., March 3
Riding Club, Rm. 216
Wed., March 4
Journalism Club, Rm. 258
Classical Seminar, Rm. 232
Thurs., March 5
Political Science Club,
Rm. 122
Fri., March 6
Basketball
S.H.S. vs. La Salle Military A.
Mon., March 9
Volley-ball
Westchester County
Tournament at White Plains
Tues., March 10
French Club, Rm. 101

THE SIREN

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CONSTRUCTIVE CRITICISM

We wonder just when our school is to be restored to its original condition. By this we mean when will all the cracks in the rooms and corridors be filled. These cracks are so unsightly that they make one ashamed to conduct visitors through the school.

Many of the rooms need repainting and varnishing, and while on the subject, we suggest that the paint be applied by painters. One look at the newly painted walls in Mr. Moon's room reminds one of a whitewashed dairy wall, with all its curves and curls, or perhaps the painters were having a little fun painting designs and portraits on the walls when the foreman arrived, and they slapped on a brushful of paint to hide their artistry. Maybe these men just never heard of hair strokes.

A new bicycle stand in the rear of the building would be a great help. It seems that the old one just couldn't take it, and laid down and died.

Maybe some day the bent and broken locker doors in the boys' gym will be repaired, or are we just optimistic?

It is possible that in the year 1946 the seats in the cafeteria will be repaired. After all, there are still some ladies and gentlemen in school who want to eat in comfort.

In room 206, new triangles and architects' scales would make a great improvement in the work of the Drafting classes.

The modern trend tends toward almost unstinting appropriations for the financing of education, so it would appear that something is lacking in this respect here in Stamford. If lack of funds is really the cause of these deficiencies, why not side-track the proposed erection of a new City Hall, and apply some of the cash which will thus be saved the taxpayers, to the more worthy and pressing cause of education?

THE CLASSICAL SEMINAR

Since the middle of October, the Classical Seminar has been meeting every school Monday afternoon. The general topic of study is Classic Civilization, beginning with that of Crete, in the Aegean Sea. In turn, each member presents the result of his reading on an assigned topic. To date, we have studied the Cretan, the Mycenaean, and the Trojan civilizations; to the archaeological aspect we have added the literary, for we have made a study of the great masterpieces of Greek Literature, the Iliad and Odyssey, which concern themselves with life of this period. The next step will be a more extensive study of Troy, and then, the Roman Epic, the Aeneid.

DANCE RECEIPTS SPENT FOR
PHYSICAL EDUCATION
EQUIPMENT FUND

Four afternoon dances have been held in the gym this year, with approximately eighty students attending each dance. The orchestra of six pieces has been paid from the small admission fee, and any profits have been put into a Physical Education Equipment Fund.

With money from this fund, Mr. Booker has made since last June three ping pong tables and nearly a dozen shuffleboard sticks, the lumber for which cost twenty dollars. So far this year we have bought five dozen ping pong balls for the boys' and girls' gyms, and three dollars and a half has been spent for nails, bolts, paints, turpentine, and sandpaper.

These dances are not held solely as a money making proposition, however, for it is felt that there is interest among the students for a chance to dance informally every two weeks.

The proceeds of the dance held last Tuesday went toward the SIREN fund being collected to send delegates to the Columbia Scholastic Press Association Convention.

WITH OUR GRADUATES

Robert D. Towne, son of Mr. and Mrs. Willis L. Towne of 25 Second Street, Stamford, is a member of the 1936 Varsity Swimming Team at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. Towne's specialty is the 220 yard event. He is a sophomore in the course in industrial engineering and is a member of the Rifle Club, the Economics Club, and of the Rensselaer Society of Engineers.

THANKS

The amplifying system used in the recent SIREN assembly program was loaned to the staff through the courtesy of the Stamford Communist Party. We, the staff, wish to extend our thanks to them for their generosity and interest in our school affairs.

THE SPORT WHIRL

By Norman Wolf

With the basketball season still in swing, plans are being made for spring football training. Judging by the records, spring training for basketball would not be out of order. . . First call for volleyball practice. Two teams will be entered in both the Y. M. C. A. and Westchester tournaments. . . With intra-mural basketball drawing to a close, room 267 appears to be the ultimate winner. . . The tennis team is getting in shape. With a squad of many veterans the team should be a bright spot in S. H. S. athletic history. A few indoor matches are being planned before the regular season starts. . . The rifle team is coming in for some favorable comment. They've won their last three matches quite handily. . . Wrestling appears to be a forgotten sport. Last year we had a good team, but now interest in the sport is low. . . How about a few exhibitions from the boxing club? I wonder if they've come across 150 pounders they are looking for. How many students know the difference between a left jab and a right cross? Not many, I'll venture. . . Quite a few students were on hand to see the Manhattan College - University Club game last night. The school coffers could well use a few of those pennies. . . Since local fans can't very well sneak into the basketball games, as they do in football, the attendance this season has been very poor. We should take advantage of this habit and charge a special price for sneaker-inners. . . Sorry I haven't the inside dope yet on intra-mural bowling. Some of the boys are said to be rolling high scores. The girls are even more active than the boys in this line of sport. Those bird cagers had better watch out. . . Our mermen are forming a swimming team sponsored by Mr. Clear. Those interested are invited to join at the next meeting, which will be announced. . .

Mortimer L. Karp of 69 Urban Street, Stamford, Conn., is now an honor student in Economics at Dartmouth. Before going to Dartmouth he attended S.H.S. where he was prominent in the dramatic club for three years.

CHATTER

CHATTER

Ah, well, here we are again ready to be sued by some people for the damage we did in our venture on the air. It ought to be a cinch for you to collect damages, only we guess you haven't seen us since to be able to collect. . . . Enough of this idle talk, let's get down to business right now. We hear that Mr. Hecht borrowed Mr. Clear's shirt for the card party. . . . Takin' the shirt right off his back as it were. Anyway how was the fit???? And Julie Link was heard to make the following remark when she saw the Lang twins, "Oh, aren't they darling?" Boys, not that, puleeze! . . . And who picked Margerite Knapp up from her fall in the corridor the other day??? And since when has Olive Daly been giving Eddie Dyer those affectionate little touches? We hear she even fixes his ties for him. . . . Can you tie that! . . . And in biology they're still making those brilliant remarks. This is the latest: Teacher: "Where are the best sponges found?" Baldwin: "In Liggett's". . . . Ah, well, even the sophomores must have their fun. . . . It seems that Betty Nosenzo of 118 is still hoping her big moment, Ray Taranto, will give her a break. Poor child, she

doesn't mean in the neck, either. . . . It seems as though Joe Coppola has some very staunch friends 'cause an indignant message came in from a species of the female gender, specifying that Mr. Coppola is a perfect gentleman, and that his girl friend, (the blonde, remember?) Anne J. is a lady. I guess they told us a thing or five. . . . And it seems as though a certain cashier is simply that way about "Boots" Nanos. We've been tipped off to the fact that she's a brunette and wears a brown and white tweed sport coat. Three guesses, folks—or do you give up? . . . And we notice that Arthur Harris of the third cafeteria period is terrifically fond of cheese sandwiches—he hasn't missed one day. It seems to us that in our study of the rodents we kinda learned that rats liked cheese. . . . Does that solve the problem???? And seen together lately have been John Lowell and Marjorie Cook, and Bob Wilinon and Lois Hughes. . . . And as for the explosion in the boy's room recently, it seems as though it was only a firecracker. These boys must have their little joke now and then. . . . Anyway, Mr. Morris claims that if he can't find the guilty party he won't give any homework. So-o-o, the kids are praying Mr. Morris is

no Sherlock Holmes. . . . Wack Davis still can't understand how he didn't happen to be mixed up in that little affair. . . . And didja' notice that all the boys on the Glenbrook team have gotten Fritz haircuts. Was that to keep the gals away, fellows? . . . L. Swanson has recently acquired the name of "Studge." We don't know what it's all about, but somebody hopes she's satisfied now. . . . And boy, oh, boy, is Tip Bohannon infatuated with the lovely dancing teacher, Mrs. Hallowell—And have you noticed the way Josephine McGrath hurries up to chemistry first period? We wonder if it's to see "Bird" Jansen???? . . . And in the home room statistics of 152 it seems as though Estelle Romanos was very often mentioned gaining the prettiest girl, the most conceited, and the most boy-crazy, while in room 142 Irene Johnson walked away with the honors (?) of noisiest girl, most sociable, class chiseler, silliest girl, most changed, most comical, and most popular girl. . . . And someone recently remarked that the S.H.S. band doesn't sound like a bunch of tin cans any more. We thought you might like to know that at last we have an uncanny band at S.H.S.

SPECIAL SENIOR STUDENT GOVERNMENT

(Continued from Page One)

This code would be enforced mainly by the Seniors, with, perhaps, the cooperation of the older pupils of the Junior class as assistants. The latter would learn the method of conducting the government, and be ready to assume control after the Seniors graduate.

The class of '36 could make a name for itself in the history of S.H.S. by introducing this system of self government as the only class that had the initiative to start the ball rolling. Because the students themselves make the rules, they could vary them to meet any change of condition which may from time to time occur.

"KIMONO" STOPS SPELLER IN HOME-ROOM CONTEST

(Continued from Page One)

change with other rooms who have programs to offer. For particulars, see Edward Markman, 122, or Mr. Moon.

On January 21, 122 invited Miss Wheeler's home room to attend one of their meetings. The meeting was presided over by the President, Andrew Littlejohn. The program was under the management of Edward Markman. Marie Barry gave a talk on Mr. Baggs' employment agency. John Kane followed it by a speech on the lighting and heating system of Stamford High School. Albert

Maravnick offered an interesting discussion on the assembly hall and how it is run. Vera Altomare, substituting for Josephine Biessman, read an article on the cafeteria. Matin Kulegia concluded the program by giving a description of the athletic field now being erected in the rear of the school.

Several rooms decided at the end of the half that they should change officers. Two of these rooms are 226 and 242. Room 226 elected officers as follows: Pres., Marion Lefumen; Vice Pres., John Millet; Sec., Audrey Lord; Treas., Walter Lvons. Room 242 elected Audrey Fisher as Pres.; William Ellis, Vice Pres.; Charles Dwyer, Sec.; Charles Duffy, Treas.

SIREN ENTERS COLUMBIA PRESS

(Continued from page 1)

admitted to membership in the Association.

The C. S. P. A., aiming to maintain the school press as an instrument published by the students, for the students, and containing news of student activities, was founded in the fall of 1924. Since its establishment twelve years ago, the C. S. P. A. has strived to render services to school publications, editors, advisers, and staff members, and has organized its annual contest, not as a competition, but as a periodic rating.

Approximately thirty judges compare the publications with other entries in their respective classes. Awards consist of blue ribbons, indicating first place; red, second; and white, third, according to the placing of the publications in the highest rating groups.

The "Medalist," a recent addition to the contest, awards a gold medal superimposed on a blue ribbon to publications achieving exceptional standing. As the judges work through their various groups, they will pick out the examples of the best work in each of the fields covered in the publications. An ideal composite newspaper, the "All-Columbian," will then be edited by grouping the outstanding divisions of each field.

The convention gives delegates from all parts of the country the opportunity to mingle with leaders in the school publishing and press world.

The SIREN hopes to send a number of representatives to the three day convention which, together with the many sectional and general meetings, each including speakers in their own fields to answer questions and give advice, offers a series of entertaining and instructive events and visits.

RIDING CLUB CONSTITUTION ADOPTED AT LAST MEETING

(Continued from Page One)

the club's sponsorship of an Assembly program this spring. Arrangements already have been made to secure a film showing life at a U. S. Cavalry post.

TIPS ON TALKIES

By Anita Rochlin

Music, comedy, mystery, and love blended together beautifully, provide the material for Jeanette MacDonald's and Nelson Eddy's starring picture, "Rose Marie". The Herbert Stothart-Rudolf Friml songs are sung by the glorious voices of the co-stars in a never-to-be-forgotten manner. The scenes, each one a masterpiece, are an example of the marvelous direction of W. S. Van Dyke, the producer of this truly fine picture.

EXCHANGE NOTES

Here is the enrollment of Cordova High, Cordova, Alaska:
 Seniors—5 boys, 5 girls.
 Juniors—11 boys, 4 girls.
 Sophs.—5 boys, 10 girls.
 Freshmen—9 boys, 8 girls.
 The total is 57. Just about fit in 228, eh?

JUNIOR SECTION

By A. Lang

CALLING ALL JUNIORS

This section of the SIREN is exclusively for Junior news. You may contribute any interesting article you wish. The object of this section is to arouse junior interest in class activities.

Now that we are upper classmen, we should be getting experience which will enable us to edit a bigger and better paper next year.

All those interested in contributing to this column or working on the staff please give your name to your home-room representatives, class officers, or to Mrs. Bohn and Mr. Farrell. Remember, juniors, this is your section!

READ THE SIREN

FOR SCHOOL NEWS

PRIZE SPEAKING

"The first speaker this afternoon is—"

Thus the 1936 Junior Prize Speaking gets under way. Various students show their ability in speaking. In the preliminaries each one gives a two minute speech on some interesting topic. Ten are chosen for the semi-finals.

Winners of this year's preliminary contest were: John Lowell, Dorothy Duggan, Stella Sagritta, Helen Nevas, Earl Smith, Virginia Johnson, Christine Pagliaro, Arthur Lang, and Catherine Faringa.

The victors in the semi-final held February 19 were: John Lowell, Christine Pagliaro, Earl Smith, Virginia Johnson, and Stella Sagritta.

The finals are to be held some time in April in the assembly. This will prove to be a very interesting program.

REPRESENTATIVES

BETTY BOYD

Petite Betty, our last year's secretary, is taking up the commercial course in hope of becoming a stenographer when she leaves S.H.S.'s dear portals. She is a home room representative and takes an active part in the meetings. She likes costume designing, but most of all the movies and Ginger Rogers.

MARIE RITCH

May, another active representative, says that history is her favorite study. It's the best or nothing for her so she picks Robert Taylor and Clark Gable as her favorite actors. Now this is not a chatter column but, by the way, May, how's that "secret passion"?

FRANK COOPER

This representative says his future is undecided; however, did I hear something about ditch digging? Frank's hobby is radio. His favorite movie star is Myrna Loy, and he takes the favorite subject of all of us, study hall.

Listen! All you Juniors who were complaining about not being able to dance, your troubles are over.

The newly organized class in social dancing is the answer to your dreams. This class offers you the facilities for learning the latest proper form step, and the best ballroom manners.

There are five lessons at twenty-five cents each. Don't forget our prom is coming soon. So here's a chance for you either to learn or to brush up on your dancing before the prom.

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