

THE SIREN

Vol. IV

January 16, 1936

No. 5

BOYS' AND GIRLS' GLEE CLUBS PLAN CONCERT FOR JAN. 27TH

Selections from "Faust" to be
Featured at annual concert

The senior boys' and girls' glee clubs, together with the junior orchestra, are preparing for their second annual concert which will be given during the week of January 27th.

At the first concert last year a crowd of 1,300 adults braved the worst weather of the year to hear our musical clubs render miscellaneous numbers with Bizet's "Carmen" as the highlight of the program. Admission was by invitation, but many generous supporters contributed to our music fund and the orchestra was richer by one bassoon, a double-reed instrument. This year, invitations will again be distributed through the members of the clubs.

The program will consist of orchestral numbers, choral numbers by each glee club, soloists, vocal and instrumental, and the combined Glee Clubs and orchestra rendering an abridged concert version of Gounod's "Faust".

The stage setting will be simple but effective—blue drops around the stage, with the glee clubs attired in formal evening clothes seated on a bleacher in the middle of the stage, and with the orchestra in front and on the sides of the bleacher.

The girls' glee club numbers forty-four singers; the boys' number forty-two, and the orchestra has a personnel of forty-five.

The soloists will be Miss Bettie Miller, soprano, who is president of the Girl's Glee Club. Miss Miller last year won the State Festival prize for the finest voice.

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DAMAGES OF \$887 CAUSED BY CONFLAGRATION IN ROOM 122 AS OAKUM CAUGHT FIRE

No, those desks you saw adorning the back corridor of the first floor last week were decidedly not an invitation to "sit this one out." Unfortunately, this arrangement was a result of the fire which occurred in room 122 on Tuesday, December 24.

The exact cause of the conflagration is not quite thoroughly understood, but it seems that the oakum, a loose hemp substance used in insulation, caught fire and thus started the disastrous affair. How the oakum became inflamed, however, is a matter that remains a complete mystery.

It is estimated that the damages caused by the fire amounted to about \$887. Several books and

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CRITICISM OF ATHLETIC FIELD CONSTRUCTION IS BASELESS SAYS ENGINEER

In an interview granted a SIREN reporter by Mr. J. Campbell, the landscape architect in charge of the work on the athletic field project, new light was shed on the work being done and the methods being employed. According to Mr. Campbell most criticisms about the work being done incompetently are baseless. Any delays to date have been unavoidable due to weather conditions or slowness in receiving materials.

Mr. Campbell, who was in charge at the Belltown Field and Waterside School jobs, claims that the greatest problem here is drainage. "Until adequate provisions for removing water from

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NEUTRALITY LEGISLATION TO BE DISCUSSED BY PEACE CLUB

S. H. S. Peace Club Activities
Are Getting Under Way

At the next meeting the Peace Club will discuss the proposed National Neutrality Laws. In view of the fact that it is one of the important issues before Congress, it seems today of great significance that we become aware of the issue. America's neutrality policy is of utmost importance in the prevention of future wars. This subject has been and is widely discussed in our press.

Miss Whiting, adviser of the Peace Club, has suggested that prominent speakers be presented, but without the support of many pupils, the club cannot accomplish a great deal.

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CALENDAR

- Thurs., Jan. 16
Debating Club Meeting
Room 122. 2:30 p. m.
- Mon., Jan. 20
Peace Club Meeting
Room 124
- Mon., Jan. 20
Classical Seminar
- Tues., Jan. 21
Dancing in Gym
Admission 10c
- Thurs., Jan. 23
Political Science Club
Room 122. 2:30 p. m.
- Fri., Jan. 24
First Indoor Tennis Practice
- Mon., Jan. 27
German Club Meeting
- Wed., Jan. 29
Journalism Club
- Thurs., Jan. 30 (Tentative Date)
Concert by combined
Glee Clubs

MR. SMITH RECEIVES FAVORABLE COMMENT ON POLICIES OF SIREN

Mr. Smith recently received an interesting letter from Mr. Samuel Gruber, attorney-at-law. Mr. Gruber, among other matters, made various comments about the SIREN and its policies. We are publishing portions of the letter.

My dear Mr. Smith:

It is startling and at the same time immeasurably satisfying to realize that even High School people, supposedly cloistered and confined, are realizing today that the world they are entering, in but a very few years, is a world that is not, unfortunately, the bright, receptive, and cheerful place that I was brought up to

believe it was. To find that the editors of the SIREN realize that it is a place where the vicious heads of War and Fascism are trying to confound an already confounded world, is, I repeat, a heartening and encouraging sign. For, and I think no one can deny it, it is undoubtedly on the young people now in High Schools all over the country that the severe burdens of these twin evils, War and Fascism, will eventually alight if they do not take steps now to forestall them.

Gone, I think, are the days when a High School paper such as the SIREN had the right to

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THE SIREN

Published at the Stamford High School
Member of the Connecticut Scholastic
Press Association

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MORE INTEREST IN SCHOOL PUBLICATIONS SHOULD BE TAKEN BY STUDENT-BODY

It is surprising how little interest is shown by the student-body in their school publications, the SIREN and the QUARTERLY. These two publications should serve as vehicles of expression for all students, and all should feel free to make complete use of them.

There certainly must be many among us who feel they have something important to suggest or say. Then why not put it down on paper? Some of it may be suitable for a column in the paper. Everyone should feel that the SIREN and the QUARTERLY belong to each one and should therefore try to make it part of his daily school life.

We hope that in the future more of our classmates will show a little more active interest and feel free to offer any suggestions or criticisms.

IT'S HERE

Recently a student of high school made the following remark: "One of the most outstanding characteristics of S. H. S. is the spirit of friendliness that exists between teacher and pupil." Perhaps upon reading this, you, too, like the pupils who heard this statement, will laugh and say, "Oh, yeah? As far as I can

see that spirit is pretty well buried at present."

If you do find the above quotation humorous, you really are missing one of the finest things that Stamford High has to offer you. That spirit of friendliness does exist here. Perhaps you are among the unfortunates who have failed to discover this gold mine.

In considering the subject, can you find many, if any, set of laws that your teachers make for you? If there are such statutes, they are few and absolutely necessary. Can you think of any teachers who have not been willing to help you, if you showed that you really wanted aid? I'm afraid yourself to the benefits of the before being able to cite such a case.

Think the matter over, and determine here and now to awaken yourself to the benefits of the teacher-pupil friendship and to grasp opportunity when it knocks.

Center String Orchestra

Conducted by
W. Raymond Randall
Guest Soloist—Beatrice Gilman
At Stamford Jewish Center

Wednesday Evening
January 22nd, at 8:30 p. m.
Students' Tickets—25 cents

MR. SMITH RECEIVED FAVORABLE COMMENTS ON POLICIES OF SIREN

(Continued from page 1)

neglect the important problems that confront our country today. It seems to me to be not only the right of the editors of the SIREN to encourage such participation in political and economic events, but in truth, their duty to so do. And the freedom of editors to comment as they please is a right that we Americans from time immemorial have cherished as a sacred and inviolable privilege. Be it on the spectre of war as it affects youth, be it on the outrages of the Nazi government, be it on any political subject whatsoever, their latitude of comment should be circumscribed only by their unawareness of these events.

The SIREN, at the present moment, is engaged in just that sort of necessary comment and activity. I, for one, for the first time, see and read a High School paper that sincerely arouses my interests and sympathies. These editors who are guiding its policies at the present time should be congratulated for their awareness of the importance of the events now taking place. Above all, the High School itself should be thanked for making it possible for these young people to express themselves on issue of such large concern. I have no doubt, and the results give proof of the fact, that the activities of the SIREN have been and will be splendidly encouraged and fostered. For my own part, it has reawakened an interest in a school that not so many years ago had a second place to none in my affections.

Sincerely yours,

SAMUEL GRUBER.

Selection from "Faust" to be Featured at annual concert

(Continued from Page One)

William Fischer, concert master of the orchestra, will be the instrumentalist.

Mr. Randall, who is director of the Glee Clubs and orchestra, will conduct.

EXCHANGE TID-BITS

Clark—Man who works in a hotel.

S. H. S. PEACE CLUB GETTING UNDER WAY

(Continued from page 1)

You are invited to attend the next meeting, and by your presence show that you are actively interested in the preservation of peace. Remember the date, January 20th, next Monday, in Room 124 at 2:30 p. m.

On January 14th the club had a rare opportunity. They were invited to attend a luncheon and heard Frederick J. Libby speak on "What We Can Do for Peace." Mr. Libby is secretary of the National Council for the Prevention of War. He is a delightful speaker and an outstanding worker for peace in America today. Following the luncheon meeting some were able to go to the Y. W. C. A. at Greenwich, where Mr. Libby spoke on Neutrality.

Reports will be given at the next meeting, January 20th, at 2:30, Room 124. Everyone is welcome.

FIELD CRITICISM IS BASELESS SAYS PROJECT ENGINEER

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"the field are made," he explained, "it is senseless to continue."

Another reason for slow progress to date is the fact that the majority of men assigned to this job are as yet unaccustomed to the type of work required of them, many of them having been unemployed the past few years and in no conditions to do heavy labor.

However, work is now being speeded up and will be continued throughout the winter.

Anyone who feels that these men are not earning their wages should remember that all two hundred men employed here have been receiving almost the same amount as relief charges as they now receive for actual services rendered.

At present, plans call for the football field to be curbed to permit flooding during the winter, thus providing a skating and hockey rink for winter sport fans.

After hearing Mr. Campbell's well laid plans, we feel sure that this project when completed will be the pride and joy of all Stamford.

FACTS AND FIGURES

Do you know the amount of different food stuffs consumed in the cafeteria? Well, here are some facts which will surprise and interest you.

There are 410 bottles of milk, 300 sandwiches, 200 cup-cakes, 400 pieces of candy, 150 pretzels, 2 bushels potatoes, 50 orders of meat sold daily. Also there are sold 480 ice cream sandwiches and ice cream cheerios. This enormous amount of ice cream is really partaken by many students, and Thomas Skidd holds the record for eating ice cream sandwiches, seven at one time.

BOXING CLUB

The Boxing Club, on December 20, gave three two-round non-decision bouts for the benefit of the Old Men's Home in Darien.

The first bout was between David McKeithan and Mario Delmazio. After this Eddie Mack, the trainer, did a tap dance while jumping rope. This was followed by the second bout of the program, Samuel Robertino vs. Leon Greenfield. Then followed the match between Charles Remson and Herman Travis. There was also a bout between two professionals, Micky Donahue and K. O. Morgan, who once knocked out the champ of Scotland.

The officers of the club were recently elected and are:

President—Herman Travis.
Secretary—Leon Greenfield.
Treasurer—Charles Remson.

POLITICAL REVIEW

Rome brings civilization to Ethiopia by bombing Red Cross . . . President Roosevelt advocates more stringent neutrality laws . . . All this talk about neutrality must mean war cannot be very far off . . . What are we going to do about it? . . . J. P. Morgan claims in an investigation going on in Washington that U. S. was drawn into the World War by the actions of Germany . . . Can he explain the famous cablegram from Ambassador Page to President Wilson urging the U. S. to enter the war on Great Britain's side to protect the American investments? . . . Whose American investments did he mean? . . . Take another guess . . . AAA declared unconstitutional . . . Report of revolt by Italian troops.

GERMAN CLUB

The Executive Board meets the second Monday of each month. The regular meetings are scheduled as follows: January 27, February 24, March 23, and May 25.

The club activities embrace German songs, games, crossword puzzles, and skits. The January meeting will include a Schiller program with a sketch of Schiller's life and works, and a scene from "Wilhelm Tell."

At the February meeting the new members will be initiated. They consist of those beginning pupils who have maintained a C average or higher

GIRLS' FASHIONS

Frogs, soutache braid, and other military-looking trimmings are still definitely with us. Pleats and front fullness are still going strong. Skirts, pleated all around, if you're one of the "chosen few" with hips small enough to wear them, are smart for either sports or school. A short string of seed pearls worn with your classic type sweater is chic. Gray promises to be very popular from now on through the spring; gray and brown being a particularly smart combination.

This spring man-tailored suits will be as popular as ever, the designers are even aping chauffeurs' uniforms now. The felt "Hamburg" is coming back into being—shades of the pre-war days! Ultra chic are the patent leather sandals, not black as you've always seen them, but red, white, and all bright and pastel colors. The print season is in and though it be snowing outside, you look as fresh and "springy" as an April morn.

You'll Never See:—

- “Soup” Jessup gloomy;
- No broken bottles in cafe;
- J. Tammany standing still;
- Helen Bardes minus baby talk;

HOME ROOM SPEAKERS BUREAU

This column has been started for the purpose of giving recognition to the students who go from room to room, speaking during the Monday home room activity periods.

Many of you have heard these speakers and will readily agree that they deserve great praise for their informative and entertaining talks. The topics chosen concern high school students, and the speeches contain some very interesting material, as the pupils who present them have each made a special study of his subject and is therefore very well-prepared to tell you some facts worth knowing.

The following are some of the speakers and their subjects: Erwin Markowitz and Joseph O'Connor, who will speak on S. H. S. Traditions; Helen Karp, on History of S. H. S.; Dombroski, on Aviation; John Doyle, on Lacrosse; and Jerold Wallman, on Parliamentary Procedure.

Students who are interested in this field, and would like to gain some experience in public speaking by talking in the home rooms, may consult Mr. Moon in room 122 for full particulars.

HATCH'S

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and
Fine Candies

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Registration—

PACE INSTITUTE

MIDWINTER registration in business subjects at Pace Institute enables High School graduates to save time in preparing for satisfactory business placement. Both daytime and evening classes, beginning in February, are available for immediate registration. The courses include the following:

- ACCOUNTANCY (C. P. A.)**—Professional accountancy course—accredited as preparation for New York C. P. A. examination
- ACCOUNTANCY AND BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION**—Preparation for beginning and executive-accounting positions in business
- ADVERTISING AND MARKETING**—Preparation for positions in advertising agencies and advertising departments of business organizations
- SELLING AND MARKETING**—Preparation for positions in selling, sales management, and sales analysis
- SECRETARIAL PRACTICE**—Preparation for secretarial and related positions based on shorthand writing
- SHORTHAND REPORTING**—Preparation for higher shorthand positions in business and for court reporting
- SHORTHAND SPEED CLASSES**—Special dictation work for development of shorthand speed

The General Bulletin of the Institute, including description of each program of study and subject of study, together with class dates, will be furnished upon application. Office hours 9 A. M. to 9 P. M.—Saturday until 4 P. M. Telephone BRclay 7-8200.

PACE INSTITUTE 225 BROADWAY NEW YORK, N. Y.

THEY SAY, "SILENCE IS GOLDEN"

A few days ago a prominent man of this city stated that children of the high school lacked esprit-de-corp, loyalty, and responsibility towards each other. He claimed that we did not realize what effect our behaviour outside of the school had on the high school standing.

If we are to be judged by our boisterous behavior on the way to and from school, monopolizing the sidewalks, jaywalking, and improper language, is it not up to us to correct these things? If each boy and girl were conscious of this action, as it is an individual matter, I am sure that no adverse criticisms would be made of the school. For the students of the high school are really proud to be members of such a fine organization.

"A bad beginning makes for a good ending." It is hoped that this old adage will prove true in the Bowling League which has recently been formed among eight of the Home Rooms. On January 7th four of the teams in the league were to meet for the first matches. Two rooms, 122 and 256, lost by default. Rooms 114 and 109 put on a special match which was won by the former, two games to one.

By the way, did you know that your senior class president was a "lefty"? And, did you ever see a mighty sweeping curve ball? If not, get behind Art Danna and watch him get a strike on a spare. Seriously though, it is hoped that each Home Room will follow the schedule as posted, and be on hand promptly with a complete team so that play may begin by 2:45.

FLEAS

I think that I shall never see
A bug as jumpy as a flea.
A flea that jumps around all day
And jumps on me to my dismay;
A flea who may in summer bite
And which I cannot put to flight.
Flies are caught by fools like me,
But who the heck can catch a flea?

S. H. S. MELODIES

"I'm Full of the Devil"—our new sophs.

SPORTING AROUND

WITH
JIM F. HAYES

With the ping-pong match past history, the SIREN Staff realizes its potentialities and hereby issues a challenge to any five men of the faculty to a bowling set-to to be decided at Scalzi's or some such institution. As you know, the SIREN staff ping-pongers defeated the faculty, 3-2. Representing your paper were Fine, Hayes, Levine, Leventhal, and Tucker. Those on the wrong side were Booker, Good, Gordon, Humphries, and Larrabee.

But on the level, folks, the teachers were not quite so bad as we would have you believe (they couldn't be). I know that popular "Tony" Good blasted me out of the match! We believe this is a chance to even the score. How about it?

Oh, yes, I almost forgot; how about a little bet on the side? Hold your hats. If you, the faculty, raise your self-esteem by defeating us you publish the next SIREN. But (heh! heh! now it's coming) we take your jobs one day in class, providing we take you over the hurdles again.

THE MODERN TREND IN FOOTBALL

On all sides we hear, "Football is over-emphasized. 'Foocy,' says I. When one considers the relative importance of football as a source of income (I'm speaking chiefly of college football) it is obvious that football, the favorite autumn pastime of many, occupies the position it richly deserves. Some noble institutions of learning climb aboard the proverbial "high horse" at the mere mentioning of subsidized athletes. But colleges that make it possible for those who are gifted with athletic prowess (above the average) to receive a higher education increase the drawing power of their football team. Therefore it is possible for them to have finer laboratories, a more capable faculty, and in general a superior development of the school. Thus the studious bookworm (usually horn-rimmed spectacles adorn his fine Roman nose) benefits in-

directly from football.

Consider the briefness of the season, ten games at the most (in the East).

With nearly all teams meeting a major opponent, the first week in October, three weeks of pre-season practice are about all that the coach has in which to whip a team into shape. Consider all these complications and others, and do you still wonder at the wave of hysteria that sweeps the country at the "unmothballing of the moleskins?"

Bearing in mind the fact that football is played in a season of slightly more than two months, one should use a little tolerance toward the statement, "Football is over-emphasized."

Odds and ends:—The tennis team will start practicing indoors in the near future . . . The prominent "movie" football hero, Oscar Sweet, has changed his name to "Ossie." Evidently he believes the stuff he writes . . . S. H. S. will have a swimming team. On a recent rainy Friday half the school were out improving their strokes . . . "Buddy" O'Meara is basketball captain.

Junior Class

The Junior sponsored pre-Christmas dance held in the gym, Friday evening, December 13, proved to be one of the outstanding social events of S. H. S. Approximately 300 students attended.

The gym was attractively decorated. Henry Dubes' orchestra provided the music. At 10:00 a short program of entertainment was presented, followed by a half hour intermission, during which refreshments were served in the cafeteria. The dancing was then resumed and continued until 12:00.

The following teachers honored us with their presence: Mr. Smith, Miss Holbrook, Mr. and Mrs. Morse, Miss Almy, Mr. Hecht, Mr. Sessa, Mr. Clear, Mr. and Mrs. Tracy, Mrs. Wells, Miss Wells, Miss Lyon, Miss Marion, Miss Wentworth, Mr. Boyle, and Miss Cram.

Damage of \$887

Caused by Fire

(Continued from Page One)

valuable papers were destroyed, but one of the most unfortunate results of this disagreeable calamity is the fact that the constitution of the Political Science Club was severely damaged.

Fortunately, there is an optimistic outlook to this event, since no one was present when the fire broke out and the efficient janitorial staff prevented more than a minimum amount of damage.

While room 122 was being renovated by special contractors, Mr. Moon's home room was situated in the small auditorium, and his history classes met in various rooms.

Once again the sagacious proverb "Every cloud has a silver lining" proved true. Here it was a case of the students enjoying the change, for they believe that "Variety is the spice of life."

JUNIOR WHO'S WHO

ANGELINA RONDANO

Our little vice-president held this same office in Burdick. They say practice makes perfect. She is a member of the French Club and recently appeared in a play for that organization.

CHRISTINE PAGLIARO

"Chris" was secretary in Burdick. She is a member of the French Club and took part in several plays for it. Our "most artistic girl" is editor of the Quarterly Art Board.

MILTON FODIMAN

"Napoleon" came from Rogers, where he worked on the paper, the "Jolly Roger". He has proved to us that good things come in small packages, so we have re-elected him. Who knows, some day he may become secretary of the treasury of the United States.

Come on, all you juniors, write for the "Junior Section" of the SIREN, and make it a success. If you have any suggestions, tell your representatives and they will let us know.

By the way, have you paid your class dues?