

THE SIREN

Vol. IV

May 28th, 1936

No. 10

"CHIMES OF NORMANDY" SUCCESS IN ALL WAYS

Recently a most delightful two-hour entertainment by a cast of high school pupils and outside talent was presented to the student body and to the townspeople of Stamford in three performances. All who viewed them were unanimous in acclaim of their artistic merit. Mr. Randall says of the operetta:

"The 'Chimes of Normandy' in my opinion was the most ambitious production the high school has ever attempted. Musically, it more nearly approached Grand Opera than operetta because it is the French style of 'Opera Comique', the Opera Buffa.

"The members of the Chorus and orchestra are to be commended, for they gave hours of school and night time for rehearsals.

(Continued on Page Two)

REPTILE CLUB HOLDS SNAKE-MEAT BANQUET

On Monday, May 11, the newly organized Rattling Reptile Revelers Club held its first official meeting in Room 267. The meeting was opened with formalities applicable to a reptilian organization. Later the event was celebrated with a royal banquet; the main item of food was rattlesnake meat, which was consumed with much fear and consternation on the part of one of the members, but with enjoyment and smacking of lips on the part of the rest. After the formalities were witnessed by the spectators, they were permitted to enter the room and enjoy the customary refreshments served to guests.

This is the first introduction of an R. R. R. club in S. H. S. and in

(Continued on page two)

ANNUAL PARENTS NIGHT TO BE HELD THIS EVENING

This evening the annual S. H. S. parents night program will be presented in the school auditorium. An ambitious performance has been planned, under the general supervision of Miss Higgins, consisting of outstanding scenes from various assembly programs of the year in addition to original features presenting some of the representative activities of the school.

The entertainment will be opened by selections from the High School Orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Randall. The orchestra includes sixty pupils.

(Continued on page two)

158 PUPILS ENJOY TRIP TO BALL GAME AND OPERA

On Wednesday, May 20, at 12:15 P. M., one hundred and fifty-eight students and eight teachers of S. H. S. gleefully departed from school en route to New York in four large buses.

Arriving at New York, the group first visited the Polo Grounds where they witnessed a baseball game between the Giants of New York and the Cardinals of St. Louis. Before the game started, there was a mad rush for autographs, as Doctor Sloman of (Continued on page four)

JEROLD WALLMAN, VALEDICTORIAN, BARBARA BELANICH, SALUTATORIAN

The names of the ten scholastically highest ranking pupils in his year's graduating class, numbering over 500 members, have been made public by Mr. Smith. They are as follows:

1. Jerold Wallman,
2. Barbara Balanich,

450 ATTEND JUNIOR PROM HELD MAY 22d IN GYM

The Junior Promenade, the first formal social event of the season, was held in the gym on Friday evening, May 22. It was a colorful affair with over five hundred Juniors and their friends dancing to the lilting strains of Wharton Ford's orchestra.

The patrons and patronesses for this gala affair were:

Mr. and Mrs. Edward H. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. E. H. B. Humphries, Miss Florence Holbrook, Mrs. Louisa Bohn, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Farrell.

Many of the other teachers were in attendance.

Congratulations should be given (Continued on page three)

ADVERTISING SOLICITORS AID MUSICAL PROGRAM

For the last three years the music lovers of Stamford have looked forward to the operettas and other fine musical productions presented to them by the Combined Glee Clubs and the Orchestra of Stamford High School. The 1936 program, which proved itself to be no exception to the rule of excellent productions, consisted of the Opera Comique, "The Chimes of Normandy." (Continued on page 2)

BIG DAYS AHEAD FOR SENIORS IN LAST WEEKS

Baby Day, that period of frivolity and foolishness annually observed by the Seniors of our fair school will be held this year on June 10. This period of laughter and ridiculous costumes will be followed three days later by another Senior class landmark, notably the Senior Prom.

As yet no information can be gathered concerning wearing apparel for the prom., or for the last roundup on June 18, the date set for graduation.

The Finance Committee, composed mainly of Seniors has contributed fifteen dollars toward the payment of the school debt. This money was raised by the pennant sale.

The photography committee reports that they are holding down their end of the job in fine (Continued on page 3)

G. H. S. EDITORS MEET WITH SIREN STAFF AT S. H. S.

The "Siren" staff had a joifit meeting with the "Greenwich High News" staff on Wednesday, April 29. An interesting discussion was held on the problems both papers had in common.

Those representing the SIREN were Thomas Nealy, Helen Karp, Jim Hayes, Lester Danks, John Tucker, Joseph Fine, Claire Redmond, and Estelle Rochlin. Carl Bennett, Mary Librandi, Olga Zatorski, Gertrude Bruce, Grace Enright, and Harry Bennett represented the "Greenwich High News."

The visitors were taken on a tour through our school. Mr. Larabee, adviser of the SIREN, and Mr. Cunningham of the Greenwich High News were the faculty members present at the meeting.

THE SIREN

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LETTER OF ADVICE
TO FUTURE EDITORS

Considerable comment during the past year has been evoked from students and teachers regarding the editorial policy pursued by the SIREN. Some maintain that we have been trying to put across a certain definite point of view. Nothing is further from the truth. We had hoped for a real open discussion on all subjects and events; but apparently many have found an honest expression of opinion to be something subversive.

We must begin to wonder where such a narrow viewpoint will eventually lead to. When so many begin to object to such things as freedom of speech opinion, and press that is a danger signal. The very principles of our great democracy have been founded on these essential human rights; are we going to throw all this overboard?

Again amongst the arguments one hears, is that we have too much controversial matters discussed and that not enough school news is presented. We disagree most emphatically. If we report an assembly or discuss plans of a Peace meeting—are not these school news? Yes! and these items of school news are of real importance—of greater significance we believe than a silly little gossip. Or if someone refers jokingly to some teacher can't he or

she too have a sense of humor? It is only meant in that spirit.

The discussion of controversial matters should be encouraged. Let us not be ostriches and hide from things with which we may not be entirely in agreement. Free, open discussion is a healthy state of affairs. To suppress it is a sign of decay.

FROM A READER

To the editor of the SIREN:

School and college students have demonstrated their intense interest in the problem of facing the youth of today i.e., War and Fascism, by holding student peace meetings. Many school officials allowed the use of the auditoriums as was the case in our school. In some cases students actually walked out of class and held demonstrations where the officials opposed the will of the students.

The work of seeing to it that all the rallies were held at the same time was done by an organization of the students called the American Student Union.

At the Peace assemblies sponsored by the Peace Club in our school both Dr. Stewart and Mr. David Hedley made it clear that war was not for the benefit of the majority of the people. Both of the speakers endorsed the call of the American Student Union for urgent peace rallies.

(Continued in next column)

ANNUAL PARENTS'

(Continued from Page One)

The Marionette show will then be presented by Mr. Mack, Miss Pfeiffer, and thirty students. The famous play, "Hansel and Gretel" will be given.

"La Faim est un Grand Inventeur," a French Play involving eight students, and enacted under the supervision of Miss Sherbourne will be the third number on the program.

Eight students under Mr. Booker's direction will next present a tumbling act as the fourth feature of the evening.

Mrs. Bohn is responsible for the fifth presentation, which is a recitation by Earl Smith, who recently received honorable mention in the Junior Prize Speaking Contest.

Russian, Irish, Tap and Minuet Folk Dancers will be presented by Miss Ballard and Miss Bacon.

Ray Toranto's orchestra in their inimitable style will close the show with several popular tunes.

This year students in Spain, Belgium, Puerto Rico, France, and England also held peace meetings and rallies such as the students of the United States did on April 22. Next year will see students of the entire world voicing their protests against war. It is their contention that such action will make the warmakers in this country and elsewhere think twice before they dare use the youth for their cannonfodder. Each year the youth in the schools and colleges become more and more interested in this problem.

Yours, truly
Ray Shilepsky.

"CHIMES OF NORMANDY"

(Continued from Page One)

Moreover, the operetta was a financial success, and a considerable sum was raised toward paying off the school debt. Mr. Baggs issued the following statement:

"It is impossible to give a definite statement as to the exact amount realized from "The Chimes of Normandy," but all reports indicate the show was a greater financial success than "Pinafore." The reason for not being able to give a more definite statement is that several rooms still have final returns to make

ADVERTISING

(Continued from Page 1)

This operetta, however, would probably never have been such a financial success had it not been for the unselfish devotion of a committee of 23 boys and girls, whose task it was to solicit advertisements for the program. They unselfishly gave their time after school for the sake of their Alma Mater. They did not ask or expect to be given the limelight, but instead went quietly about building the financial basis of the opera. The fruits of their labors were 148 advertisements, totaling \$426.

The committee was headed by Mr. Clear who appointed the following 23 members: Adel Fertig, Muriel Perry, Lillian Plotkin, Julie Link, Ada Stevens, Helen Fengler, Vivian Wexler, Marjorie Cook, Betty Ramsey, Jack Humphries, Dorothy Madison, Virginia Borneman, Albina Davis, Sally Chipnick, Lydia Cascerta, Virginia Elliot, Olive Daly, Nina Dolgitsky, Joseph Romano, Dorothy Beaudoin, Alice Brown, Elizabeth Murphy, Betty Miller, and Ira Lang.

In an interview with the SIREN reporter Mr. Clear spoke as follows: "Very few realize the tremendous amount of work involved in getting out this printed program. These students put their shoulders to the wheel and have succeeded in turning out a mighty fine piece of work. I cannot commend too highly the wonderful spirit of cooperation and loyalty to his school that each one of these students manifested in producing the finest program in the history of Stamford High School; and to them is due the acclaim of the entire school."

REPTILE CLUB

(Continued from Page One)

In the future it is hoped to carry on with a greatly increased enrollment.

The officers are:

President—Robert Speirs; Vice Pres.—Rosemary Lockwood; Secretary—Marian Elliot; Supreme Sufferers—Miss Wilber and Miss Krause.

Other members are Bruce Ward and Matthew Kenealy.

CHATTER

Well, here we are again, with lots of chatty chatter for you, so let's not delay this time as we tell you who's been doing what . . . We hear that Nick Bolanio thinks the theatre is the ideal place to show his affections for Frances Miller—oh well, be it ever so humble, there's no place like—the theatre . . . And boy! did Evelyn learn not to touch things that don't belong to her, when that ducky piece of silverware from the automat fell out of her pocket on the New York trip. How about it, Miss Goldberg???. . . And speaking of embarrassing moments, Carol Buckley's face sho was a fiery color when she bumped into that locker door. How's your head feel now, Carol . . . It's been rumored that our student lawyer, Sallie Chipnick, seems to enjoy history since Peter O'Connell answers "Yes, my love," when she calls him in class . . . And it seems as though there was some mistake in an item we printed last issue. Probably none of you remember, but anyway we take back what we said about

Doris and Bauer. It seems as though there was no truth at all in what was reported to us . . . And when the brilliant young history class was asked who Prince Albert was, the whole gang responded "A tobacco!" So cute, these high school kids . . . But the apex of apexes comes when we hear that high schoolers are taking out 12 year old infants—We didn't know you believed in robbin' the cradle at such an early age, Oscar . . . And we note that several of the sophomores got opera-minded. During the last assembly the "400" of S. H. S. saps gathered in the balcony and viewed the stage presentation through opera glasses . . . And they still pull these cracks in biology. This time Anita Fleischer, upon seeing a picture of the human skeleton, remarked: "No wonder they put skin on our bones, if we looked like that." But you gotta forgive her, folks, she'll learn in two more years . . . And now since we do not choose to talk any more, we'll say so-long and let it go at that!

MANY ATTEND

(Continued from Page 1)

to the committees who helped to make this smoothly run affair a success. The chairmen of these committees are as follows:

Invitation—Phoebe Forbes; Music—John Lowell; Program—Hazel Griffith; Refreshments—Earl Smith; Reception—Class Officers; Ushers—Robert Tracy; Decoration—Paul Basile; Flower—Mary Wynne.

This was a very unique prom, unique for two reasons: first, excepting for six or seven couples, everyone remained until the end; second, the attractive decorations were untouched.

REUNION PLANNED

The Class of 1934 plans to hold its second annual reunion next month.

BIG DAYS AHEAD

(Continued from Page One)

style, and that their work is practically concluded.

The prom committees are being formed by Mrs. Wells and will soon be at work on that noble institution.

Much has been said concerning the senior picnic, but up to this time nothing has been done because the class officers are at their wits' end now trying to think of a place that is suitable,

H. S. ALUMNI IN TRAVELING ORCHESTRA THIS SUMMER

Dave Leferman and Max Loewe, former students of S. H. S. will play in an orchestra this summer aboard the S.S. Acquaticum. The orchestra is "The Collegians" of Connecticut State College, and is directed by Leferman, a graduate of the class of '32; Loewe graduated from S. H. S. in '34.



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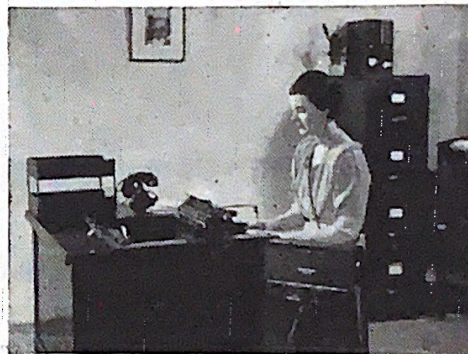
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158 PUPILS

(Continued from Page One) the School Board, appeared on the scene with Jimmy Braddock' World's heavy-weight champion.

The group then proceeded to the high-spot of the trip, an evening at the Metropolitan Opera House. Here they were entertained with the opera "Lucia" and the ballet, "The Bat."

On the way home the crowd was fortunate in having the opportunity of seeing the huge zeppelin, the "Von Hindenburg" as it soared over New York on its way back to Germany.

Mr. Hecht, the supervisor of the trip, was, for the main part, responsible for the great success of the venture. Other teachers who went along and helped to make things enjoyable were: Miss Wick, Miss Whiting, Mr. Randall, Mr. Harriott, Mr. Boyle, Mr. Deane, and Mr. Lessard.

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The Sport Whirl

By N. WOLFF

Pessimistic predictions concerning the baseball team have been dissolved in the smoke of three straight victories; and if the squad maintains its present fast pace, the end of the season will find it well up among the ranking teams of the state . . . The fans could help out by contributing to the old hat when it passes their way. Strange how so many people can all disappear at the same time . . . Mr. Olson's Faculty All Stars are trying to prove that old age and wobbly knees are no handicap when it comes to playing ball, and have scheduled quite a number of games with different home room teams. Here's hoping their breath holds out. So far they have defeated Rooms 251, 107, and 233. Softball which has taken the city by storm has finally invaded the high school, and Mr. Booker has organized a league for Friday afternoons . . . Intramural baseball is off to a good start, with the

sophomore and junior A teams leading the loop, and the Seniors resting at the bottom. The teams play at the park on Wednesday afternoons . . . After a somewhat slow start the tennis team is coming along like a house afire, winning impressive victories over some of the best teams in and out of the state . . . Although not quite living up to expectations, the lacrosse team has gained quite a reputation, and the sport is becoming increasingly popular. The most important matches are yet to be played and victory in these would make the season a success . . . Room 122 emerged as the champion pin-topplers in the intra-mural bowling league which recently ended . . . Just what happened to the swimming team? Perhaps they ran out of water or something. They will probably have some team meets next year, however . . .



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