

# THE SIREN

Vol. V

May 6, 1937

No. 10

## "PIRATES OF PENZANCE" TO BE GIVEN ON MAY 27 AND 28

Andre Christopher and Evelyn Swanson in Leads

With Andre Christopher and Evelyn Swanson in the leads, "The Pirates of Penzance", a Gilbert and Sullivan operetta, will be presented by members of S. H. S. and some outside talent on May 27 and 28 at 8:30 p. m. Tickets will be 50c, or 75c for reserved seats.

The following are members of the cast:

Samuel—Earl Good  
Major-General—Donald Harriott  
Sergeant—Chester Buttrec  
King—Andrew Kellerman  
Edith—Bettie Miller  
Kate—Virginia Merritt  
Ruth—Helen Cardis

They will be aided by the combined Glee Clubs, A Capella Choir, and Orchestra.

### John Block's Ancestor Famous Conn. Citizen

*Adrian Block, the first white man in Conn., is a Great great-great-great grandfather to John Block, one of S. H. S. seniors. Adrian Block traded with the Indians and as Jack says he was quite a "chisler."*

### SMALL SCHOOLS PREFERRED TO BIG STAMFORD HIGH

Small schools in preference to large ones is the choice of Edward Wilson, a former Windham High School student, who came to S. H. S. this year. Windham is a four year school with approximately 650 students. Because in small schools classes are smaller and more attention is given to the individual, Windham High is preferred to S. H. S.

(Continued on page 4)

### Commencement Week Plans Are Formulated

"Baby Day", long regarded as one of the most colorful of Senior activities, is to be held Wednesday, May 26. The class representatives urge all Seniors to give the occasion their staunchest support, and to dress in costumes fitting for the day. Strictly a Senior affair, all Sophomores and Juniors will be asked not to partake in the refreshments, such as lollipops, which are usually connected with that day.

The Senior Prom will be held June 18th. Plans are being made for the decoration of the "gym", and any suggestion that might be helpful would be greatly appreciated by the Decorating committee.

The outing, which is to be held in June, also, is yet in a most undeveloped state, according to latest reports. A suitable place has not yet been decided upon, and any suggestions that Seniors would like to offer, as to what would be a good location for the outing, would be appreciatively received by the class officers.

### JOSEPH MELFI WINS SENIOR PRIZE-SPEAKING CONTEST

Mr. Hughes Says "Splendid"

"The Senior Prize speaking contest of this year was as splendid an exhibition of speaking as many of our former excellent contests," said Mr. Hughes, a veteran judge of prize speaking. The judges found it very difficult, according to Mr. Hughes, to pick the best ones, but finally decided on Joseph Melfi, who gave an excellent rendition of a part of "The Gentleman from Indiana," as the winner of the first prize. Second honors went to Rita Maffucci, whose monologue was partly original.

(Continued on page 4)

### CURRENT EVENT CONTEST NEXT MONTH

#### FIVE DOLLAR AWARDS TO THREE WINNERS

Tests Sponsored by TIME

A competitive Current Affairs Contest, sponsored by *Time* news-magazine, which will award five dollar book prizes to the three students—a sophomore, a junior, and a senior—averaging highest in their respective classes, is scheduled for the regular home-room activity period on May 27.

The test is especially prepared for *Time* by Professors Eurich and Wilson of the University of Minnesota, and will cover events in the first four months of 1937.

Hitherto such contests have been held at Andover, Exeter, Gorton, Lawrenceville, Penn Charter, Shipley, and other private schools where officials have been uniformly enthusiastic about the interest aroused.

The student with the best score in his or her grade may select any book valued up to five dollars approved by the school authorities, and formal presentation will be made at an assembly.

### SENIOR "QUARTERLY" TO HAVE HEAVY CLOTH COVER

The June "Quarterly", which is really a senior yearbook, will feature as a special innovation this year heavy cloth bindings. These bindings will add years to the life of the Graduation issue. They are being made possible through a \$30 donation from the Senior Class Treasury.

The Senior Quarterly will also contain the usual graduation features: class pictures, with short biographies, class poem, class will, and athletic pictures.

From all indications, this year's parting literary shot from the senior class will be the biggest, most expensive, (not to the pupils), and best ever.

### DOROTHY MALKIN WINS JUNIOR PRIZE SPEAKING

Dorothy Malkin won first prize in the Junior Prize-Speaking finals, held in the High School auditorium on Tuesday, April 27. Irving Lebow was given honorable mention.

Others taking part were Wilbur Canaday, Mollie Mollozi, Rosemary Lockwood and Dorothy Anthony.

### A CAPELLA CHOIR TO GO TO STATE MUSICAL FETE

On Friday, May 14, the S. H. S. A Cappella Choir will go to Waterbury to participate in the annual State Musical Festival to be held there.

The Choir will be rated by judges, not only from a musical standpoint which includes pitch, tone color, balance of parts, etc., but also by the discipline and attention shown to the conductor.

Among the other musical organizations to be present will be an A Cappella Choir from Hartford, the Connecticut State College A Cappella Choir, and a mixed chorus of one hundred students from Greenwich.

The Choir has been working diligently on a difficult Madrigal by Robert L. de Pearsall entitled "When Alan A Dale Went A Hunting," a number it hopes to make the cream of its repertoire.

### CARL PAIGHT ADDRESSES GROUP OF STUDENTS

Officer Carl Paight, of the Stamford Police Department, addressed a group of students in the small auditorium, Thursday, (Continued on page 4)

## THE SIREN

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## SUGGESTIONS

An exceedingly prevalent question to both student and teacher has been the conflict between classes, homework, and extra curricular activities. Teachers are highly pleased when students show an active interest in the school's educational diversions. Many students derive a great deal of pleasure from such participation.

Four reasons, however, keep many pupils who would be invaluable, from taking part in these activities. The first is that some work. The second is some conscientious students are overburdened with homework. Third, often times participation necessitates the active person to be out of class. Fourth, some teachers object to absence in their classes.

Many activities are really subjects for study and should have regular hours. The homeroom programs are the first step towards that goal.

Then, too, the school could have extra homeroom periods during which the student might go to the club to which he belongs. Many schools have done this and Stamford High School might strengthen its prestige by taking some such step.

## LETTER FROM STUDENT COUNCIL

## Open Letter to S. H. S. Students

The Student Council wishes to thank all those who helped to make "Mr. Bob" a success. As a result of their cooperation the school is out of debt for the first time in many years. The entire amount collected was \$293.12.

The Council feels that the fact that the home rooms are so well organized this year enabled them to sell many more tickets than they might have in former years. In this connection mention should

be made of the fine cooperation of each home room teacher, a fact which goes far in explaining the success of the ticket sale in the school.

The movie that Mr. Hecht offered to the home room handing in the most money has been enjoyed by Rm. 214 which handed in \$11.30. They were guests of the Stamford Theater. A close second was Rm. 122 which had the amount of \$11.15.

Signed,

THE STUDENT COUNCIL

## IMBECILITY TEST

With Apologies to the "Literary Digest" and the "Criterion"

Circle with a pencil the figure beside "yes" or "no" after each question. Add up your score and divide by 25. A score of 25 indicates a perfect imbecile; 20-25 not quite so dumb; 10-20 average; 16-18 fairly bright; 14-16 very bright; 12 and under—a prodigy—no less.

1. Do you believe in those "wise guys" who boast of getting good marks without studying at all?  
Yes, 21; No, 11.

2. Have you the "what" habit—when asked a question? Do you automatically emit this word in order to gain time while your scattered thoughts are reorganizing?  
Yes, 23; No, 13.

3. Do you believe in enjoying yourself when a substitute takes the place of an absent teacher?  
Yes, 12; No, 7.

4. Do you worry all Friday, Saturday, and Sunday about that week-end home work and finally at 10:30 p. m. Sunday night decide to do something about it only to discover you have brought home the wrong book?  
Yes, 49; No, 41.

5. Have you ever played any practical jokes on your classmates such as sticking out your "hoof" for tripping purposes, or dexterously pulling a chair out from under just at the right moment?  
Yes, 19; No, 6.

6. Do you constantly hum the current rage in popular songs?  
Yes, 23; No, 16.

7. Do you tote on "cowbell" bracelets?  
Yes, 19; No, 11.

8. Did you fall a victim to the craze for reading "Anthony Adverse"?  
Yes, 25; No, 14.

9. Can you successfully resist the wonderful "line" which that intriguing new boy or girl friend hands you?  
Yes, 11; No, 24.

10. When introducing someone, does your mind suddenly become a total blank while you grope in agonized embarrassment for the friend's elusive name?  
Yes, 24; No, 12.

11. After making a witty remark, do you immediately snicker in keen self-appreciation?  
Yes, 56; No, 41.

12. Does your daily conversation consist mostly of I—I—I—etc?  
Yes, 25; No, 12.

13. Are you an addict to the incessant use of any of the following words: cute, swell, hi toots, okay, doke?  
Yes, 16; No, 8.

14. Do you go to school without a hat when the temperature is slightly above zero?  
Yes, 23; No, 16.

15. Do you ever do your week-end homework Friday night?  
Yes, 8; No, 16.

16. Do you always wait for the green light when crossing the street?  
Yes, 12; No, 25.

17. Have you ever been caught with a sudden question while day dreaming in class?  
Yes, 29; No, 16.

18. Are you or would you like to be proficient in the dance called "trucking"?  
Yes, 25; No, 14.

19. Do you persist in "bluffing" your homework assignment in spite of repeated past unsuccessful attempts?  
Yes, 42; No, 23.

20. Do you always or ever crave to be "the life of the party"?  
Yes, 28; No, 15.

21. Have you ever met a stranger in your path, neither of you being able to decide whether to go to the right or left, and decide desperately to dodge back and forth instead of firmly shutting your eyes and forging ahead, leaving the other fellow to shift for himself?  
Yes, 22; No, 13.

22. Do you indulge in that pencil chewing habit while wrapped in deep thought?  
Yes, 26; No, 19.

23. Do you persist in thumbing cars already packed with an entire family plus baggage plus a stern looking person at the wheel?  
Yes, 20; No, 6.

24. Do you laugh at teachers' jokes?  
Yes, 27; No, 9.

25. Did you "fall" for this column?  
Yes, 40; No, 1.

## IN THE LIMELIGHT

Name—Winnie Goulden.

Noted For—Puns.

Usually Seen—Punning.

Pet Aversion—Worse Puns than his.

Hobby—Girls and Golf.

Ambition—To go to Rutgers.

Name—Doatie Wadhams.

Noted For—Cheerfulness.

Usually Seen—Laughing.

Pet Aversion—People who don't like cats.

Hobby—Movie Stars.

Ambition—To be a nurse.

Name—Frank Weeks.

Noted For—Sense of humor (?).

Usually Seen—Trucking (??)

Pet Aversion—Trucking (Oh, Yeah?)

Hobby—Food.

Ambition—To Graduate.

Name—Arthur Henshaw.

Noted For—Height de Luxe.

Usually Seen—Looking down on someone.

Pet Aversion—Girls.

Hobby—Riding a bike.

Ambition—To make the Lacrosse Team.

Name—Jimmy Downey.

Noted For—Powers of Speech.

Usually Seen—Talking.

Pet Aversion—Getting up early.

Hobby—Lacrosse.

Ambition—To be President.

# CHATTER

The birds are singing tweedle dee  
All the flowers are in bloom,  
So here's a little chatter  
To brighten up this tune.

How are you all enjoying the A Cappella Choir try-outs—that la-la-la is very soothing to the nerves when trying to solve a mean math problem or take a test (you take 'em, we don't want them). But if we get a Lily Pons or a Grace Moore out of it why kick? Smooth new Packard Dick O'Meara has and a smooth red-head followed its purchase. We saw them out there by the thirteenth tree. tsh tsh—Those sedate little sophies, Helen and Clare should be told that it isn't good etiquette to call up boys.—Flashy Steve Richert will not appear before high school fans anymore. He had to contend with Bill Li-

## A CAPELLA CHOIR RECEIVES PRAISE FOR RECORDING

The A Capella Choir, under the direction of Mr. Randall and with the aid of Mr. Thompson, a former professor of Physics at Worcester Tech., made a phonograph record which was sent to the Musical Convention in Buffalo. The A Cappella Choir received high praise for an excellent recording.

The songs which the Choir recorded were: "O Bone Jesu" by Palestrina; Chorale, "Sleepers Wake!" by Bach; "Brahms' Lullaby", "Adoramus Te Christi" by Palestrina; and "Now the Day is Over" by Barnaby.

### WIT WHAT By Shepard Lencheck

With the April Fool Issue out of the way, (my aren't we prompt!)

With all the feuds going on between radio comedians and movie stars our blood is beginning to boil in sympathy, and we hereby challenge Grand-ma Gregory to a duel with swords at fifty paces.

Speaking about radio programs, how about this description of the weekly Jellorodeo, "From the lemon and lime to the ridiculous?"

And then again with the whole world suddenly thrown into a

Volpi for position of S. H. S. second-base man and Bill came out on top. And whose Ford car was it we saw going thru town decorated with, well, anyway, disclosing secrets. Zelda Wake-man and Art Lang seem to be going pretty strong. The romance of Kurt Muller and Janet Bowne seems to be all one-sided, eh, Kurt? You should be careful on slippery floors, Frances McDonald. That was a nifty spill you took in 222 with Kevie's help. Ros. Davidoff's boy-friend recently arrived at S. H. S. and is she thrilled. Better be careful where you spill your perfume, Eddie, or Mrs. Morrison's little boy will be in "bad" in Room 256. Well, I've given some chatter, advice, and flung some dirt; I hope to goodness no one is hurt.

state of excitement by the reported birth of Chinese Quintuplets, we wonder what ever happened to the "sextet from Lucia"?

We saw a newspaper headline the other day reading: "Soap Salesman Saves Self from Death at Sea". He probably washed himself ashore.

Another story at the expense of our Scotch Cousins has to do with the little Scotch boys who had to leave school because they wouldn't pay attention.

To conclude, we offer this story about the sweet young thing who was stopped by the motorcycle policeman for going 80 miles an hour and niftied with the following: "80 miles an hour! Why officer, how do you know? You've been following me for only ten minutes?"

## HATCH'S

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## PARENTS' NIGHT PROGRAM DRAWS HEAVY PRAISE

The Parents' night program held for the parents of juniors, Wednesday evening, April 28, drew much favorable comment from parents, the faculty, and other visitors.

Miss Higgins in charge of the production, said, "I was highly pleased with the student's performance throughout. It showed excellent cooperation. Notes and telephone calls have been received in praise. Mr. Smith said that it was our best Parent's night performance. Mr. Martin Kane of the School Board and "Stamford Advocate" said he enjoyed every moment."

Drama, the band, the choir, umbling, dancing, and prize speaking were presented. Time did not permit other outstanding assembly programs of the year to be shown.

The object of Parent's night is to show to the public assembly activities in which High School students may participate.

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There is a decided shortage of good office workers. Robert Hoppock, a director of the National Occupational Conference, says: "The emphasis is now shifted from hunting jobs to hunting qualified applicants for various types of office work. It is increasingly difficult to find male and girl stenographers and machine operators." Exactly this situation is reflected at Merrill. Merrill is

receiving more calls than it can fill. Take advantage of this upturn in business; prepare at Merrill Business School, 79 Prospect St., Stamford, for a good position while the number of office workers is so limited that there is a wide choice of positions. The Merrill School receives pupils for complete secretarial courses or for brief finishing courses, students entering any day in the entire year.—Adv.

## The Sport Whirl

by Winfield Goulden

### BASEBALL TEAM WINS TWO AND LOSES TWO CONTESTS

Ho, hum—Here's the old baseball season around again and we find S. H. S. out there on the diamond ready to tee off again in State Competition. To date the record stands at 2 wins and 2 losses. The Conde Nast team was beaten in a ninth inning volley 10-9. Rolling Mills capitalized on several misplays and defeated the Kuczomen 7-4 and the Gasco outfit whaled out an 11-0 shutout. However, it must be said that these teams consisted of experienced men who are older and more adapt than the high boys... Koprowski is one of the best hitters on the squad, as are O'Meara, Fuda, Morrelli, and Pareese... The Lincolnale game proved to be a slugging affair as the Orange and Black overcame an early inning lead to carve out a 9-7 victory.

### SMALL SCHOOL PREFERRED TO BIG STAMFORD HIGH

(Continued from page 1)  
by Wilson. Socially a smaller school is at an advantage because everyone knows everyone else, and therefore functions go over better. Because the members of the teams are known personally by the student body, full attendance at games is evident.

Social life in each of the classes holds a prominent place, and even the freshmen give dances at night. All classes are allowed to attend other class functions. Class dues start at \$1.00 in your first year and run up to \$2.00 in your Senior year. For these dues, you receive a senior year book, a bid for the Senior Prom or Senior Reception as they call it and an invitation for a banquet at Conn. State College.

Marks come out six times a year and a certified list is posted on the bulletin board stating those who have made grades that are high enough for college entrance.

### THREE WINS—ONE LOSS FOR S. H. S. LACROSSE TEAM

Three victories and one defeat... yes, that's the lacrosse team's record to date and a very fine one it is. Alumni was bested in a free scoring affair 14-6. Then the Yale Frosh succumbed to a last period rally and were beaten 7-5 as Fuda got 4, Semple 2, and "Gobby Coppola one. This game is to the lacrosse team what the New Britain game is to the football team... A more experienced and older Army Plebe team defeated the Orange and Black 9-2. A constant string of substitutes hampered our boys considerably; nevertheless, Steve Fuda and Doyle each tallied once... White Plains was cold meat for the Stamfordites as Fuda caged 3, Doyle 3, Jarina 1, M. Doyle 1, and Copola, 1... A 7-1 half time score didn't satisfy the Stamford boys because they got 2 more in the second half to bring the final count to 9-1. With a tough schedule ahead of them the squad is buckling down with a will...

### JOSEPH MEI FI WINS SENIOR PRIZE-SPEAKING CONTEST

(Continued from page 1)  
Other contestants were Betty Roman, Arthur Lang, Earl Smith, and Betty Jordan.

### SOPHOMORE CONTEST WON BY DRAMATIC MARY DYER

On Tuesday, April 27, the Sophomore Prize speaking contest was held in the school auditorium. The students participating in the contest were Allan Rubin, Mary Dyer, Alfred McChaud, Taylor McKeown and Nancy Bennett. The first prize was won by Mary Dyer who recited "What Came to Slavin" by Ralph Connor. Honorable mention went to Taylor McKeown.

The judges were Mr. Hughes, Miss Evelyn Osterby, and Mr. Hawthorne.

### CARL PAIGHT ADDRESSES GROUP OF STUDENTS

(Continued from page 1)  
April 29. The talk was in keeping with the current home-room activities, the topic discussed being safety. Mr. Paight explained the methods used in cutting down automobile accident rates, and steps taken to trace run-away law breakers.

Officer Paight urged all drivers to go to Greenwich to test their reactions in case of an emergency, and in this way find out at what speed they may drive assured of their safety, and the safety of others. The test, he explained, is given free of charge. He also gave various statistics showing the number of deaths and accidents caused by drivers, and the number of persons destined to be either killed or injured in motor accidents during the coming year.

Said Mr. Baggs at the close of the talk: "Now all of you remember this, and when you go out, drive as I do."

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### S. H. S. DOWNS CONDE NAST BY 10-9 SCORE

Wiping out an eighth inning 9-9 deadlock, the Stamford High baseball team opened its baseball season by defeating Conde Nast by a 10-9 score. Dan Morrelli and Stankard pitched the first six frames with Danny fanning 8 and "Queenie" 2. Kuczo switched his lineup considerably, taking the mound himself in the seventh.

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