



Here's a special present for all who return to high school next semester. At a meeting of the Board of Education on December 10, lengthening the school day by one-half hour, from the present five and one-half to six hours, was proposed. No opposition was voiced.

The *Red Mill* is now a thing of the past but a vivid memory lingers. Miss Hachtman is still being praised for the brilliant dance arrangements. Credit is due her for the designing of all costumes, including some of the principals.

The Sports Sprint given by the Sevens Club proved successful, both socially and financially. About 36 dollars was realized.

Sevens and eights are especially anxious for 2:30 to roll around today. That's when their Christmas dance begins.

Posters reminding students to keep the building clean, made by Miss Kimber's Art 3 classes, have been placed in strategic spots about school. Why not make it your New Year's resolution to practice what the art classes preach?

Probably you've noticed that Southwest has had its face decorated for the holidays. It's the handiwork of the boys of Miss Lodwick's classes.

As a parting thought, pupils are reminded of the after-Christmas blues (C. W. R.'s to be exact). Grades on report cards received Tuesday serve to tell what share of your Christmas vacation should be spent with your books.

Holmes and Watson Solve Mystery at SW

Sherlock Holmes and his pal, Watson, have been busy around Southwest lately trying to locate the Biology Club in which certain students claim membership and which others wish to join.

Here's the lowdown, they say. If you want to belong to the Biology Club, join the Junior Academy of Science. They're one and the same.

The club meets in Room 108 every other Thursday, with Miss Nagel and Miss Nuebling as sponsors.

Theodora Alefantis On Super-Honor Roll

To the list of super-honor roll members published in last issue of *Pioneer*, add the name *Theodora Alefantis*. Her grades are four E's and two G's (two half-credit subjects).

THE PIONEER

Christmas 1940 Issue

Vol. III

SOUTHWEST HIGH SCHOOL, DECEMBER 20, 1940

No. 6

P. H. L. Classes Give Tea for Parent-Teachers

Members of the Problems in Home Living 1-4 class on Tuesday, December 17, served a Christmas tea for the Southwest Parent-Teachers Association, who had as their guests the presidents of the P.T.A.'s of the other St. Louis high schools, the Southwest faculty and the mothers of students in the class.

In order to have all the classes represented the officers of each class assisted.

Mrs. Bermel, President of the Southwest P.T.A.; Mrs. Scott, chairman of the Home Economics Committee of the St. Louis P.T.A.; Virginia Dell, and Fred Marschel stood in the receiving line. Jeanne Ruppel and her committee acted as hostesses and hosts.

Tea and coffee were served by Gerry Koetker's committee; salad puffs, by Betty Dressler's committee; fancy Christmas cookies, by Shirley Gallagher's committee; candy, by Martha Stapp and Mildred Schultz.

Those who worked exceptionally hard attending to supplies were Pearl Sorrentino, Marie Warnecke and two girls from the advanced classes, Ethel Repohl and June Saylor.

Attending to refills of coffee and tea was August Mazzoni, while Charles Wiethuechter took charge of the cup and saucer supply.

The two girls serving at either end of the table were Dorothy Cantoni and Marion Weiss.

The tea was given on the auditorium stage in an atmosphere which definitely suggested the Yuletide spirit. During the tea soft organ music was played by Ruth Walser and Jane Zigrang.

Vernon Page Leaves for Naval Training

Vernon Page, a naval reservist and one of Southwest's honor roll pupils, left St. Louis on December 17 to serve as apprentice seaman on the S. S. Schley, docked at San Diego, California.

Vernon, a seventh semester student in Miss Ernst's advisory, informs us, "I would like to be a fireman working in the engine room of a battleship." In order to attain this rank he must qualify as an apprentice seaman and then seaman, second class.

In answer to a question as to how long he had been a member of the naval reserve, Vernon replied, "I joined on June 25, 1940, and have practiced since then each Tuesday evening at the armory."

This time next year, after Vernon has completed his year of service in the navy, he expects to return to Southwest, graduating with the class of June 1942.

Xmas Vacation Begins Today, Ends Jan. 1, 1941

By vote of the school board on Tuesday, Dec. 10, Christmas vacation is extended to include December 23 and 24. This means that students will be dismissed for the holidays at 2:30 today and will return to school Thursday morning, January 2, 1941.

Mizzou Stage Show At Fox; Half-Price For SW Students

Student identification tickets for the University of Missouri talent show at the Fox Theater are available in the office at Southwest. These tickets presented at the box office admit two people for the price of one.

This stage show starts today for a five-day run, during all of which time tickets may be used for either the day or evening performances.

Haymer Flieg, a St. Louis boy, will be master of ceremonies for the 13 act, 50 minute jamboree of campus life. Flieg won the prize last spring for being the best individual performer in the Student Talent show.

Harry Voelker, also of St. Louis, is the originator of the show.

Music will be furnished by Count Solomon's "Rhythmianacs."

A guitar playing comedian, twin tap dancers, a Texan songstress and a jitterbug act by a one-legged cheerleader will be a few of the many features of the show.

'Red Mill' Ticket Sales Bring 750 Dollars

Approximately 750 dollars was grossed by Southwest's production, "The Red Mill", on December 13 and 14.

The money remaining after the expenses of the operetta have been met will be used to purchase robes for the sixty A Cappella Choir members.

SW Singing Groups to Carol In Four Christmas Programs

Class of January '41 Chooses Motto and Colors

"What you are to be, you are now becoming." This is the motto of the graduating class of January, 1941. It was selected by a committee of four seniors, Jocille McIntyre, Carol Travis, Robert Van Houten and Ray Kessler, and voted on by the entire senior class.

This motto, chosen from the five of those considered best, was used as the theme of a talk, "Building a Bigger Tomorrow," given by Mr. Cameron Beck in the Southwest High School Auditorium, September 14, 1939.

"I think it was a very nice choice," remarked Miss Murray, the senior sponsor, although there were many other good mottoes to choose from."

The senior class also selected their colors, which are maroon and white. These colors are to be used in the caps and gowns worn at graduation.

Basketball Passes 50c For 27 League Games

For Friday nights crammed with fun and excitement, come to the St. Louis University Gymnasium. Every Friday evening three complete basketball games will be played.

Basketball season tickets are now on sale and may be purchased either from members of the basketball team or Mr. Chervenka for 50 cents.

This ticket is transferable and will admit anyone to the 27 league games.

Last year 200 students purchased basketball tickets. This year, as an improved Southwest team enters the contest, the number of ticket sales is expected to be doubled.

Marching Band's Latest Trophy Displayed in Corridor Case

Have you seen the newest trophy in the main corridor display case? That glittering bronze representation of a drum major brought home by the band? Yes, Southwest's band was awarded second place in a contest with the marching bands of Beaumont, Blawie, Cleveland, McKinley, Roosevelt and Soldan. The contest was held between halves of the North-South football game on Friday, November 29. Soldan High School Band placed first.

Each band went through a required set of maneuvers which were as follows: Band forward march at gun fire, increase front at 30-yard line, halt while play-

ing, forward march and counter march, decrease front, turn on column right and face judges' stand. Then each also went through maneuvers of the school's own choice. Southwest's band formed a school house and played "School Days" while the drum majorettes tap-danced. A medley of the pep songs of the various St. Louis High Schools followed.

In the composite report of the judges of the contest, Southwest was rated the best playing band. Their "School Days" number, too, won approval.

Mr. Libero Monachesi directs the band, which is made up of 60 boys and girls from all semesters.

Aud Session, Hall Carols Today; Union Station, Tuesday

This morning the A Cappella Choir will move through the halls, entertaining the classes with carols.

Something new will be introduced this morning during the annual Christmas program in the auditorium. Carols will be sung by the entire student audience.

On the same program the following numbers will be heard: Girls Glee Club

Jesu Bambino, featuring Dorothy Hutchings as soloist.

Sleep Baby, Sleep, a Czech Carol.

Boys Glee Club
O, Little Town of Bethlehem.

A Cappella Choir
I Wish You a Merry Christmas.
Cradle Song of the Shepherds.
Lullaby, My Liking.

Mixed Chorus
Sanctus-Gounod.
The Lost Chord.

In addition, several special solos will be sung, but as this issue of the *Pioneer* goes to press, the program has not been formulated in its entirety.

For the third consecutive year the A Cappella Choir will sing Christmas Carols at Union Station on Tuesday afternoon, December 24, from 12 noon till 2 p. m.

The choir will sing from the steps of the restaurant, in the waiting room and high up in the balcony, where the singers are not seen but may be heard by the rushing crowds.

Among the old and well known songs to be sung are: *Silent Night, Joy to the World* and *O, Little Town of Bethlehem*. In addition to these, the choir offers from its own repertoire *Angels We Have Heard on High, Cradle Song of the Shepherds* and *I Wish You a Merry Christmas*.

Funds collected by the singers are to be given to the Children's Aid Society for the benefit of underprivileged children in the St. Louis area.

Christmas Eve, Southwest carolers will join various neighborhood groups, singing in behalf of the Children's Aid Society. Light a candle in your window, and they may pay you a visit.

Twelve Movies Head Entertainment List

As a holiday treat, movies offer excellent entertainment.

The following list of the year's best pictures comes from the January issue of *Modern Screen*: *The Long Voyage Home*, *Our Town*, *Arise My Love*, *Rebecca*, *The Grapes of Wrath*, *Foreign Correspondent*, *The Mortal Storm*, *All This and Heaven Too*, *They Knew What They Wanted*, *Waterloo Bridge*, *Three Faces West* and *Abraham Lincoln in Illinois*.

THE PIONEER

SOUTHWEST HIGH SCHOOL ST. LOUIS, MO.

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L'Etoile



Surrounded by the Stygian night
 I gazed upon the heavens bright.
 All hope denied, my soul then cried
 Where is the star of Bethlehem?

He said that He would come again
 To right anew the wrongs of men.
 I know when He returns we'll see
 The star, the hope of Bethlehem.

by Fred Lundberg

An Opportunity And a Challenge

New Year, with fresh opportunities and responsibilities is almost upon us and the annual resolutions, devised to placate consciences, sheepish with very nearly a year's guilt, are again in point.

Doubtless, the condition most needful of remedy at Southwest is the continued lack of courtesy displayed at auditorium sessions. Lately the disrespect shown to speakers has become so general that waiving all other resolutions and concentrating with singleness of purpose on improving the school's auditorium conduct seems justified.

Most of our speakers move from one school to another. Comparison is therefore unavoidable and the impression left by audiences, preoccupied with reading, talking or knitting, is scarcely a favorable one.

The age of chivalry is not past. Fixed conceptions of common courtesy still exist. Unhappily, when these are not practiced, they slip rather easily into the limbo of forgotten things.

The New Year offers an opportunity and presents a challenge to loyal Southwesterners. A reputation for courtesy is more to be desired than even a football championship.

Christmas Charm

"The time draws near the birth of Christ;
 The moon is hid, the night is still;
 A single church below the hill
 Is pealing, folded in the mist."

Alfred Tennyson.

"That stanza always reminds me of Christmas at home in Connecticut.

"We were a large family. Father was a farmer and not particular wealthy, so our Christmases consisted more in preparing good things to eat, decorating the house with fir boughs and holly and performing simple little rites than in the giving of gifts.

"Snow and cold weather invariably accompanied the Christmas season, but we all hoped for clear weather on Christmas Eve. On that night the whole family would climb into the sleigh that Father had purchased in one of his more prosperous years and ride down to the church in the village. On the way home mother would distribute candied popcorn balls to the delight of all. Once at home we children would prepare ourselves for bed, chattering excitedly all the while about Santa Claus."

Recollections of past Christmases on the part of mother, father, or even an acquaintance, delight us. There's a charm in remembering gay, carefree times of the past. Laughter and fun. "Peace on earth; good will toward men."—All the things that have gone together in past years to make Christmas.

This year people in the United States will be faced with the unpleasant reality that for millions of people in Europe and Asia there will be no joy, no happiness. Still, here, as always, the same spirit of brotherhood and friendliness will prevail. Uppermost in the hearts and minds of the people in this country will undoubtedly be the wish for "Peace on earth, good will toward men."



Let's Get Acquainted

Everyone has a birthday. But only a few students can boast of a birthday on Christmas day or New Year's day.

Bill Benson

One of those with a Yuletide birthday is Bill Benson, a senior, who says, "I like having a birthday on Christmas because it is the birthday of Christ, but I have received only one birthday present in 17 years."

Betty Vaughn

Betty Vaughn, who will be 18 this Christmas, doesn't like having her birthday fall on December 25. "You can't have a birthday party," she complained.

Raleigh Robinson

For Raleigh Robinson, a semester four student, having a birthday on Christmas is "just a gyp on presents." "When I was born, my father said it was the last time he would ever hang up his stocking," he added.

Wanda Kinsner

"No, I don't like my birthday on Christmas," remarked Wanda Kinsner, a junior, who will celebrate her seventeenth birthday this Christmas. "You always have to have the two together and never get enough presents."

Alice Walters

Alice Walters, semester six, says, "I don't like having a birthday on Christmas because some people don't give me two presents."

Calvin Duke

"Everybody celebrates my birthday," grinned Calvin Duke, who will be seventeen this coming New Year's Day. Calvin, whose parents claim he is "A new boy every year," saw his first New Year's Day in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Antoinette George

Antoinette George, by a narrow margin, can celebrate her birthday on New Year's Day, also. "I was born at exactly twelve-thirty," she explained. Antoinette, who will be 17 this January first, approves of a birthday on that date, for it is a new beginning for her.

Hi'ya Butch!

Variety is the spice of life, and a variety of nicknames is what SW students have.

Dorothy Stapp has on her list the name of "Spooks," while Margaret Lasater answers to "Boo." Catherine Schneider is known as "Muttie"; Wayne Wachter and Dick Watkins hurl at each other the nicknames of "Tidbits" and "Black Nigger," respectively.

Betty Bermel is the possessor of the somewhat pugnacious nickname of "Butch."

Exchange Corral

Central's paper, *The News*, tells that only seven out of 35 pupils in a certain advisory group were able to give the first three lines of the first stanza and the first three lines of the last stanza of "America."

Would this be true at Southwest?

Two kittens were watching a tennis game. One of them said, "Why do you always watch these tennis games?"

The other answered, "My mom is in that racket."

The Griffin



I wish that this holiday season may be the happiest that you have ever had, and I hope that you will remember to contribute towards the happiness of others in the spirit of Him who told us that it is more blessed to give than to receive.

C. H. Sackett, Principal.

Once more we exchange Christmas greetings and all good wishes. And may this ancient custom, ever new, inspire each of us to do his very best to make this school, this community, this world approach more closely the Christmas ideal.

N. B. Dee, Assistant Principal.

To all students and teachers a very merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year!

SW Patrons Association.

Best wishes for a merry Christmas and a happy New Year to the faculty, students and members of the P-T. A.

SW P-T. A.

A Tree For Christmas

By CAROL TRAVIS

It was the Christmas tree that started everything. Janis saw it on her way upstairs. Crouched in the corner, it was a tired, dejected thing that seemed to become more apologetic and embarrassed each time someone chanced to glance at it. A few awkward ornaments had been placed on its drooping limbs by the inartistic and apparent Christmas-tree-hater, Erskine, the butler.

"We haven't had a real Christmas since I was little," she thought miserably. Christmas had ceased to mean anything to her father since her mother's death long ago. He donated large sums of money to various charitable organizations, gave a ten thousand dollar check to his daughter, drank a weak egg-nog and called it Christmas.

Janis took another look at the cringing tree. That settled it. Squaring her jaw, she summoned the head of the kitchen staff.

"Show me the menu for tonight's dinner, please," she said. A stolid Swede handed it to her.

After a momentary internal debate, Janis said grimly, "This is going to be changed." She gave the Swede detailed instructions.

Slipping into her coat again, she banged the massive oak door behind her. Without waiting for her own car, she half-ran, half-walked a few blocks, hailed a cab and rode downtown.

Henry Kincaide relaxed in the cushioned softness of his limousine.

"I'll just have time to shower and dress before McPhail comes." He felt happy. For weeks he had been discreetly hounding McPhail without success. Kincaide wanted to handle McPhail's sizeable account, but he had been unable to pin him down to any definite answer. McPhail, however, had finally consented to come to Kincaide's home for dinner that night.

"Just so everything goes all right tonight," he thought anxiously. "A well-planned, expensive dinner (he had personally drawn up the menu) and no fuss or commotion. McPhail's a bit of a stuffed-shirt; but if things run

Turn to Page 3 CHRISTMAS TREE

FASHIONS AND FANCIES

BY BARBARA LANCTOT

It's Christmas Eve and not a soul stirs through the house but Snooping Suzy, who predicts that:

Margie Lugenebel will place her beloved brown excuse for a hat in a propitious place near the tree and feel she's done the ultimate in successful decoration; Bob Golden will sleep gently, with visions of the morning, in order to keep intact his "coiffure de haircut"; E. Heselton will announce "Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson" in stentorian tones to an amazed Santa (remember the Red Mill?); Esther Barclay will be finishing in mad haste the last sleeve of her father's sweater; and Bob Helfrich will be dreaming of rabbits, squirrels and a hunting limit.

Paul Magoon will be wondering how you can successfully put a Royal Ice cream cone in a stocking; Johnny Cyrus will be scheming up a last successful party to put in the sevens' stocking; and Bob Wilkamsen will be listening

to the strains of "Silent Night," interspersed with a dash of "Beat Me Daddy, Eight to the Bar."

Have You Heard? of the uncomfortable position of Mr. Rosenkranz in his sixth hour public speaking class — "trapped like a rat in a hole"—making necessary a speech on ninth hours? A text, educational and with a moral not to be ignored. The very sing and swing-able song Dick Barnard has written? Weldon Huckins speak French? (We'll say no more.) Wayne Wachter really play the piano? (omitting chopsticks, garbage-man and the first five bars of "Moonlight Sonata").

During Christmas Week you'll wear — earrings, novel or simple in shape, with your hair swept up on the sides—mittens of all kinds and colors—pasta wools and plain gold hand bracelets—knee sox (if there aren't too many objections) and a matching skating sweater.

Outstanding Rooms Chosen by Judges In P. H. L. Contest

"Clever! Lovely! Novel!" Compliments galore were paid the students in Problems in Home Living 2 classes for their miniature rooms on Friday, December 6, when these classes held a reception for the Home Living 1 classes and for their friends.

At the same time judges, Miss Mehl, Miss Oestereich and Miss Price, chose the four outstanding rooms with difficulty, declaring that the other 32 all deserve honorable mention since they present concrete evidence of the interior decorating ability of their creators.

Most original was the award won by Melvin Keaton for the bathroom which had fixtures carved realistically of white soap and was complete from a green shower curtain to infinitesimal water faucets.

Peggy Zimmerman and Virginia Edmiston combined their efforts to work out the most practical bedroom—a boudoir very daintily styled with white dotted swiss and set off by a wine colored floor and pale blue walls.

Pink taffeta curtains, spread, and vanity petticoat trimmed in gold lace easily made Ethel Mathews' blue bedroom the most feminine.

Leroy Brummell's boy's study stood out immediately as the most masculine in the dark mahogany wood with a sturdy looking desk and a modern corner window.

Unusual details in many other rooms were noted: Theodora Vasely's maroon velvet draperies; Dorothy Weckler's and Lane Hughes' tiny candlewick spreads on twin beds; Hope Dodge's oil silk shower curtain; Evelyn Kirk's upholstered furniture and Roy Stock's bunk bed with printed covers.

Nine or ten of these students are going to send their models to Shriners Hospital to be used as Christmas presents for crippled children being treated there.

Meet Your Neighbor

"Come right in," said Mrs. Frank Gilk of 4959 Kemper Park. "Oh, you want to know what I think of Southwest? Well, I think it's wonderful! Yes sir! And the children are grand. I really enjoy living near such a nice school. The teachers are awfully nice, too. I see Miss Nagel nearly every morning and like to talk to her."

Mrs. Gilk has been living in this neighborhood for 19 years. Her son, now attending Kennard School, makes raising pigeons his hobby. Mrs. Gilk herself collects shells and sea objects. A Lincoln head statue, made of old boiled down money, is one of her prized possessions.

"My father-in-law likes to watch the children and talk to them," continued Mrs. Gilk. "He says they cheer him just as they do me. Have I ever been inside of Southwest? Oh, yes, we go to all the meetings there. I think it's a beautiful school. I can honestly say I've never had any trouble with the students, as they are very well behaved."

In parting, Mrs. Gilk added, "Merry Christmas to all Southwesterners."

Birthday Review

It's time to extend birthday greetings and salutations.

Yes, this column is devoted strictly to those who have birthdays between today and January 17 (date of next issue of the Pioneer.)

Say *Many happy returns—*

Today to Lawrence Belgert and Marion Primrose.

December 21 to Billie Clark and Elsie McElhiney.

December 22 to Kermit Fales and Bob Kline.

December 23 to Bob Hancock, Yvonne Pascal, Ray Russell and Marie Warnecke.

December 24 to Mary Hennessy and Jim Kelker.

December 25 to Bill Benson, Raleigh Robinson, Betty Vaughn, Alice Waters and Wanda Zismer.

December 26 to Jennie Aiello, Lorraine Daniels and Concetta Gianino.

December 27 to Helen Gerau, Marcella Guelker and Roy Lee Martin.

December 28 to Warren Copeland, Earl De la Roche, Charles Knopfel, Viola Lang and Shirley Zanone.

December 29 to Ruth Turnure.

December 30 to Mary Ann Westel.

December 31 to Bob Osborne and Audrey Payer.

January 1 to Calvin Duke and Antoinette George.

January 2 to Eugene Baumgarth, La Verne Hatchard, Jeanne Lannis and Rose Marie Sabath.

January 3 to Bernice Doder, Luella Hagaman, Elaine Huebner and Patricia O'Donnell.

January 4 to Mae Carosello, Jacquelyn Howe, Eugene Litten and William Tracy.

January 5 to Robert Hein and Pete Passiglia.

January 6 to Leo Carosello, Lorna Gideon and Marilyn Sappington.

January 7 to Isabelle Craig and Audrey Siefert.

January 9 to Bob Willis.

January 10 to Ferry Atchisson and Adeline Kochs.

January 12 to Shirley Gallagher and Howard Weber.

January 14 to Ray Biggers and Beverly Winburne.

January 15 to William Pfundt and Virginia Weicker.

January 16 to Ginia Bruemmer, Ray Montgomery, James Smith and Dorothy Wagner.

January 17 to Ferry Ehrhardt, Jane Hennessy, Betty McCreary, Martha Pellegrini and William Tanner.

Test Your Vocabulary

Words in the left hand column come from the *Star-Times* of December 3. Test your vocabulary. Find a synonym for each in the right hand column. Answers on page 4, column 4.

celestial	frankness
abyss	excitable
chasm	eager
arid	heavenly
supple	respect
impetuous	immeasurable depth
adverse	deep gorge
contemplate	obstruct
candor	flexible
impede	antagonistic
deference	barren
ardent	consider thoughtfully



AN OPEN LETTER TO SANTA Dear Santa:

Please bring a strong soap box for Wally Warner, higher doors for Mr. Clark, all the library slips you can spare for Winton Clark, a "Sherlock Holmes" magnifying glass for June Campbell, a comb for Johnnie Iacometti, a stack of new jokes for the *Pioneer* — and Merry Christmas to you, too.

Mrs. S. W. H. Wearibottom.

Elaine H.: "I hear that Bob got a job."

Ruth H.: "Isn't it awful what some people will do for money!"

An unknown voice: "There's a horse thief in here!"

Another unknown voice: "Oh, someone stole your pony!"

One girl's New Year Resolution:

To date every Tom, Dick and marry.

Teacher: "Joe, make up a sentence using the word *triangle*." Joe S.: "If the fish won't bite on grasshoppers, *triangle worms*."

HE CAN PROVE IT

Bob M.: "Bill hasn't worked a bit all study period."

Henry R.: "How do you know?"

Bob M.: "I've been watching him all the time."

CHORUS AGAIN!

Mr. Monachesi: "We will now play 'Cyrus the Great!'"

Ruth T.: "Gee, I just finished playing that."

CHRISTMAS TREE

(Continued from Page 2)

smoothly, I think I'll get this contract." He sighed deeply.

When Kincaide reached home, Erskine was waiting at the door. With a word of greeting Kincaide bounded up the stairs, throwing decorum to the winds.

McPhail and his son arrived promptly. It just so happened that Kincaide, who was descending the steps at the moment, met the two in the hall. A few polite remarks were exchanged, followed by tactful laughter. Together the three entered the living room.

Kincaide saw it first. There it stood in a prominent position. Huge, tall, magnificent it was, glowing with countless lights and twinkling with glow ornaments. Over the whole thing had been drawn some gossamer that looked like snow. At the very top—and Kincaide wondered how anyone had been able to reach it—was a shining, silver star. He gasped for breath and cast a covert glance at McPhail for any manifestation of annoyance.

"Do you like it, Dad?" An enthusiastic Janis emerged from behind the tree.

"Great guns! She's not even dressed for dinner," moaned Kincaide to himself. In spite of his paternal pride, he could have spanked his daughter soundly in his helplessness and rage. "There goes the McPhail account."

After introducing Janis to McPhail and his son, Kincaide pointedly asked his daughter if she hadn't forgotten something.

"Not a thing. Dad." Janis said

"Ouch! I hit my crazy bone." "You poor thing, I'll bet you ache all over."

Joe Emerich: "Hooray! Mr. Rush said we'd have a test today, rain or shine."

Joan Edmonston: "Well?" Joe Emerich: "It's snowing."

Mr. Rosenkranz (during a Public Speaking class): "Can't you show more enthusiasm? Now open your mouth and throw yourself into it!"

JIM ONE OR TWO?

"Where's Jim Moore?"

"Didn't you know? He graduated."

"Ah! There isn't any Moore."

And then there's *Martha Stapp's favorite lunchroom command: "Shoot the desert to me, Sahara!"*

Webster C.: "Such luck! I was held up this morning coming to school in my jailopy!"

Walter U.: "Gosh! What did you lose?"

Webster C.: "Ten minutes. The traffic was heavy."

brightly. "It's too late to dress for dinner now. See, here's Erskine already."

Kincaide nervously mopped his face.

"If anything goes wrong with this dinner—," he thought. "Why doesn't McPhail say something? What a mess!"

Kincaide's heart sank when soup was served. It wasn't what he had ordered! He threw an accusing glance in Janis' direction, but she had suddenly become oblivious to all save young Mr. McPhail.

Kincaide passed through the rest of the meal in a state of mental turmoil. Vaguely, bits of savory meat, steaming vegetables, spicy salad and some flaky, golden pie made their way to his mouth. Even the coffee was good! Different from the insipid beverage he was accustomed to. There wasn't a hint of the tomato canape, spiced cranberries, sweet potato, apples, or the toasted Brazil nut chips he had ordered. He was dimly aware that around him Janis and the two McPhails were carrying on an animated conversation. Kincaide numbly thought of the contract.

Suddenly dinner was over. As out of a dream, a grinning, jovial McPhail was pounding Kincaide vigorously on the back.

"Best dinner I've had since I left Des Moines 23 years ago," he was saying. "Yes sir, nothing like an old-fashioned Christmas with good plain cooking." Then unbelievably Kincaide heard McPhail say heartily, "Well, Kincaide, I guess you and I have some business to talk over. How about it?"

Hints on Wrapping Christmas Bundles

Picture a girl buried deep in piles of tissue paper, ribbons streaming through her hair and seals stuck to her face, clothes and the furniture. That's what I used to see in the mirror every Christmas.

"How anyone could get in such a mess," was the question of all my friends when they saw me, for not only one night was I able to conjure up this beautiful ensemble; but for weeks I would take on the pleasure of wrapping my presents. Since, after many years of experience, I have finally discovered how to come out of this annual ordeal in a safe and sane condition, I am passing on my secret of success.

1. Decide upon a definite set of colors, seals and paper so that your gifts have a unique style of their own.

2. Place all your material in neat piles near you.

3. Fancy bows are simple to make if the technique is known, so practice a little and become proficient.

(a.) One method is to leave two loose ends for tying around the bow which has been formed with as many loops as you desire.

(b.) Another idea is to use cellophane straws—a wire pulled tight and tied around the center of about 50 straws. They then spread until they look like a round porcupine.

4. Put the wrapped parcels away.

5. If your mind, however, doesn't want to run systematically, you might use this philosophy: Everyone wants to see his present so why hide it in silly looking paper that costs additional money.

By a Wrapper-Upper

Sorry, Seniors

Seniors were inadvertently omitted from the list of the Student Council members published in the last issue of the *Pioneer*. Representatives of the senior class are Louis Doerr, John Stradel, Arleen Weinberg and Carol Travis.

Do You Know That

1. The first Christmas celebration took place on May 20?

2. It was celebrated also in April and January before the present date, December 25, was definitely fixed?

3. In Shakespeare's time festivals lasted for 12 days following Christmas day?

4. During the middle ages Christmas became the most elaborately celebrated of feasts?

Janis and young Mr. McPhail finally decided on the Stork Club. Erskine was at the door opening it.

Janis stopped by his side and laughing gaily said, "Erskine, you're a lamb. I'll never be able to thank you for making such a miserable mess out of that—that thing," and she pointed to the original tree. "Merry Christmas, Erskine."

Erskine closed door on two happy young people. He smiled, "A Merry Christmas Miss"

SW Cagers Lose to Beaumont 31-13 in Opening League Game

Southwest suffered its first league defeat at the hands of the Beaumont five by a score of 31-13 on Friday, December 13, in the opening basketball game of the City High School League at the St. Louis University Gym. Beaumont's lead, which was 18-1 at the half, wasn't threatened once during the game, but the contest was rough with 15 fouls called against Southwest and 11 against Beaumont.

Rough play was free during the first period, with the ball rolling on the floor occasionally and neither team scoring a basket during the first ten minutes. Beaumont gained four points on free throws and six on baskets, while Southwest only made one point on a free throw by Deiringer to end the first period by a score of 10-1 in favor of Beaumont.

Trailing by a score of 18-1 at the half, the Longhorns opened the third period with their first field goal of the game when Marshall made a short one-handed shot for a basket, but Beaumont again increased its lead with two baskets and a free throw. The period ended with Beaumont leading by a score of 23-5, after Marshall sank a basket with a short center shot.

Loving's long shot from center accounted for the first field goal of the fourth period and Deiringer sank a basket at the same time that he was fouled by a Beaumont man and his free throw was good for another point. Near the close of the game, Hill counted on a free throw and tipped-in a basket.

AVOURIS — — — ASKS THE QUESTION

What do you expect to enjoy most during the Christmas holidays?

Or will Santa Claus remember you Christmas day? Don't forget he's allergic to bad report cards.

Robert Bahn—fourth semester student—"Eating turkey and not having to go to school is going to be my enjoyment."

Dave Reppell—"B" team half-back—"I'm going to my club on the Meramec River to hunt rabbits and quail."

Jean Crouch—seventh semester student—"I'm hoping for a nice present from Santa Claus and a swell time on New Year's Eve."

Barbara Hill—sixth semester student—"I'm looking forward to attending the Lambda Gamma Phi sorority formal with a certain somebody."

Bob Hull—seventh semester student—"I'm looking forward to a lot of sleeping, eating and more sleeping." (Ho hum.)

Ed Kaldor—industrious seventh semester student—"I just want to sleep, that's all." (Two sleepy sevens.)

Doris Rehling—seventh semester student—"Christmas day has several things in store for me, but the highlight of my holidays will be New Year's Eve."

Bernice Doder—fifth semester student—"Besides what I'm waiting for from Santa, I'm going to spend my time visiting my friends in St. Louis and out of town."

Rosemary Parmenter—second semester student—"I'm going to spend my time roller skating and going to movie theaters."

SW Outscored In Early Games Of 1940-41 Season

Southwest's basketball team lost to McBride on December 3 at McBride by the close score of 22-18. McBride, state champions last year, still had some of that zip left.

The score was tied at the half at 12-12 and also at the third quarter, 16-16. McBride bewildered SW in the last quarter by passing the ball as though there were no opponents and then scored 6 more points to end the hard-fought game. Bill Treptow scored half of the total points for Southwest.

Southwest suffered another setback at Maplewood on December 6. The game ended with the score in Maplewood's favor, but Maplewood showed much skill and experience in making perfect one-handed shots throughout the game. 11 points in this game were scored by Captain Bob Marshall.

Another shellacking was received by Southwest at the South Side floor, December 10, when South Side scored 40 points to Southwest's 17.

South Side's very tight defense kept SW from scoring. South Side had already rolled up a top-heavy score of 18-3 at the half and then let baskets fly left and right in the second half.

The members of the varsity cage team are:

Bob Marshall (captain), forward; Jim Moore, forward; Kermit Fales, forward; Truman Hill, forward; Bill Treptow, center; Bill Marlo, guard; Jack Berron, guard; Ted Dieringer, guard; Jack Langsdorf, forward; Collier Loving, guard; Bob Allen, guard.

ESSIG'S LONGHORN LORE

Perhaps the news most recently shocking to Southwest sports followers is the result of the two opening basketball games of the season, the box scores in each case showing a loss for the Longhorns. The assumption that Southwest has again departed on the trail of cage futility, however, scarcely seems justified.

Maybe Figures Do Lie

To begin with box scores are such deucedly confining items of printed matter that it sometimes seems their conception is intended to deliberately misrepresent. Only the bare facts, never what almost happened or what might have, only the accomplishment, never the effort, appears within their hallowed confines. And the old axiom that figures don't lie is sometimes just about as truthful as Ananias. Enough proofs of that are at hand to make their recital tedious.

All of which is to say that the Southwest cagers do have genuine merit despite their defeats at the hands of Maplewood and McBride. The boys showed

25 Gridders Receive Football Letter Awards

Twenty-five members of the 1940 football squad have fulfilled the necessary requirements and have been awarded letters by Coach Kittlaus. They are as follows:

First award — Robert Allen, Nicholas Bova, William Dally, Robert Danner, Russell Dyer, Charles Gualdoni, William Kehm, George Kehm, Collier Loving, Robert Nischwitz, Benny Pucci.

Second award — Leroy Brummell, Harold Crocker, Lyle Downing, Fred Fairchild, John Galimberti, Vincent Garegnani, Harris Gerhard, Melvin Keaton, Fred Kleisly, Paul Magoon, Edward Winkler.

The manager's letters are as follows:

First award — Theodore Schuster, Albert Henke.

Second award — Robert Helfrich.

Beaumont Swimmers Outpoint SW, 42-24

Taking first place in six out of eight events, Beaumont defeated Southwest's swimming team in their first league meet of the season by a score of 42-24 on December 13 at Beaumont High School.

The results are as follows:

40-yard free style — Won by Fields, B.; Strele, B., second; Golden, SW., third. Time, 20.4s.

100-yard breast stroke—Won by Russell, B.; Bleikamp, B., second; Wheatcroft, SW., third. Time, 1m. 22.8s.

220-yard free style — Won by Classen, B.; Duke, SW., second; Gardey, B., third. Time, 2m. 41.8s.

100-yard back stroke—Won by Classen, B.; Bohm, B., second; Crowder, SW., third. Time, 1m. 77.8s.

100-yard free style — Won by Fields, B.; Fugua, SW., second; Hetlage, B., third. Time, 1m. 1.8s.

Fancy diving—Won by Seeler, SW.; Huckins, SW., second; Swaker, B., third.

180-yard free style relay—Won by Beaumont. (Bonds, Bleikamp, Hartman.) Time, 1m. 30.5s.

150-yard free style relay—Won by Southwest. (Harting, Stone, Golden, Fugua.) Time, 1m. 28s.

Alley Cats Win in Meet Gold League

William Wack, Irwin Holdener, Tom Cooper, Kay Koetter and Kenneth Kalisch are men-in-waiting.

For two weeks they have been champions of the Boys Green Bowling League and still have three weeks to wait in order to play for the Southwest High Bowling Championship. This contest is to be held January 9, 1941. Their worthy opponents will be the champions of the Gold League.

Each bowler of the two teams will receive a large trophy with his name and average and his team's name engraved.

AVOID ACCIDENTS, INJURIES, EXPENSE

To combat the rising toll in traffic accidents and deaths in St. Louis, Mayor Dickmann has announced that a safety campaign will be carried on during the winter months.

More than 300 St. Louis pastors have been asked to help make their people more safety-conscious.

Fifty billboards have been placed over the city reading:

"FELLOW CITIZENS: PLEASE OBEY TRAFFIC LAWS — COOPERATE NOW — AVOID ACCIDENTS, INJURIES, EXPENSE, WALK AND DRIVE CAREFULLY."

Because of hurried holiday shopping and the short days of December, accidents are more numerous during this month than any other. The hours between five and seven are especially dangerous.

Mayor Dickmann asks that all persons, particularly older people and school children, look twice before crossing the street.

Courtwright Shines in Cross-Country Meets

With the close of the cross-country season, Southwest has found a new hope for next year's track team—William Courtwright.

In a dual meet with Beaumont, which ended in an 18-18 tie, Courtwright finished the one and one-half mile run in 8.17 minutes, and again in a triangular meet with Beaumont and Central he finished first. Courtwright, who has been on the track team for the past three years, has not won a letter in track yet, but he is expected to be one of Southwest's best runners next year.

Boys who ran for Southwest finished as follows in the two meets: Southwest vs. Beaumont—Courtwright, first; Crow, fourth; Miller, sixth; and Myers, seventh. Southwest vs. Beaumont and Central — Courtwright, first; Miller, fourth; and Crow, seventh.

Southwest won the triangular meet with 12 points, while Central tallied 16 and Beaumont 17.

Vocabulary Quiz Answers

commemorate—keep in remembrance
celestial—heavenly
abyss—immeasurable depth
chasm—deep gorge
supple—flexible
impetuous—excitable
adverse—antagonistic
contemplate—consider thoughtfully
arid—barren
candor—frankness
impede—obstruct (hinder)
progress of
deference—respect
ardent—eager

Green League; Champs in Playoff

The following boys are recognized as the better bowlers of the Green League:

1. Bob Kreutzer, 158, Mugwamps
2. William Wack, 148, Alley Cats
3. O. H. Jones, 148, Mugwamps
4. Walter Siefert.....147, Eagles
5. Irwin Holdener, 140, Alley Cats
6. James Keller.....138, Sharks
7. Howard Weber, 137, Taillights
8. Vince Hunter.....137, Flyers
9. Ken Kalisch.....135, Alley Cats
10. Dave Rhees.....135, Mugwamps
11. Al Duwe, 135, H. H. Hoosiers
12. Carl Hunike.....135, Sharks
13. George Essig.....133, Splits
14. Henry Schroeder.....133, Splits
15. Eugene Bean.....133, Taillights

Senior Survey

Season's greetings, Seniors:

A motion was made that comic books and a year's subscription to *Esquire* be given to the school by the departing class. Do I hear a second to that?

Personal!!! (By Request)

Santa Claus:

On bended knee,
I beg of thee,

Please bring Kay Koetter an algebra book with all the answers in it.

Thank you,

Pat Wahrhausen

Oh!!!!

The mystery of the week is why Betty Rascher meanders around the corridors until 3:15 and then dashes down to the corner. We wonder whether a Roosevelt man known as "Duke" could be the attraction?

Contrary to popular belief—Seniors aren't dumb!!! Thank you . . . Thank you . . . Thank you . . .

Glamour boy Dameron . . . an answer to a maiden's prayer (or do maidens still pray)?

When it was announced that senior invitations were to be limited to five, Sam Spinali remarked in a distressed tone, "With all my relatives?"

At Random

Catherine Hense's starry-eyed gaze. (Maybe that's why she's known as "Hedy") . . . Disappearance of Norris Dolvin's eighth button . . . Johnny Iacometti's bubble bath . . . Wayne Wachter, "Peck's bad boy" . . . Betty Bernmel's witty sense of humor . . . Betty Trogdon's agonizing plea just to have her name in the paper . . . Marian Happel's desire to be a fuse box . . .

Notice:
Don't forget the dance after school today, you Swinging Sues and Jiving Joes.
Since when do bashful boys believe mistletoe is profitable—Uh, Nick?

Merry Christmas and happy New Year,
I. Scribble

P. S. You might begin studying for C. W. R.'s in your spare moments during the holidays. They'll be sneaking up on you before you can get used to dating your papers January 1941.