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Opera Progresses Toward Opening

After Many Years Former 'Mikado' Cast Together

Mary Jane France, Kermit Hansen, Ed Clark Now Working in This City

Will history repeat itself? What will Virginia Slabaugh, John Plank, and Bill McBride be doing in 1946? Seven years ago the Central High music department presented "The Mikado" for the first time. Two freshmen, Mary Jane France and Kermit Hansen, sang the roles of Yum Yum and Nanki-Poo. Also in the cast was Edward Clark, a senior, who took the part of Ko-Ko and was encored five times for the song "The Flowers That Bloom in the Spring."

First Reunion of Cast

Eight operas have been given in the auditorium since then, but this year, the year that "The Mikado" is being repeated, is the first year that the three members of the 1932 cast have been in Omaha together.

Since her graduation in 1935 and her post-graduate course which she took in 1936, Mary Jane has been working at the United States National Bank. Besides her office work, Mary continues to sing, with Jack Hanson's orchestra and also as one of the three maids in "Three Maids and Their Mike," heard over WOW.

Hansen on Radio

After graduating from Central High school in 1935, Kermit Hansen attended the University of Nebraska for four years. While at the university, he was a member of the Lincoln cathedral choir for four years and assistant director for two. Since August, Hansen has been on the KOWH staff, announcing, singing, and writing his own program, "Dear Diary."

Edward Clark was the leading character of this trio. Graduating in 1932, he went one year to Omaha university and three years to the University of Chicago where he obtained his bachelor's degree. After spending two years at Columbia university getting his master's degree, Clark taught one year at a boys' school in Milwaukee. This year he has returned to Omaha and is teaching English at Benson High school.

Survey Completed of 1939 Graduating Class

Universities Claim 279; All but Five Contacted

Mrs. Dorothy Archer, Miss Helen McManis, and Principal Fred Hill have completed a survey of the 1939 graduates of Central High school.

Two hundred and eighty-eight members of the graduating class, or 53 per cent, are attending some school. The University of Omaha has claimed 102 of the group; the University of Nebraska, 57; Creighton University, 19; other colleges and universities, 91; and business colleges, 12. Six are taking post graduate courses at Central and one at Technical High school.

Eighty-two members of the 1939 class have obtained work, either through personal application, friends or relatives, Central High school, or the Nebraska State Employment agency.

Only sixty graduates are not working or attending school. Of these, 38 are at home, 19 are looking for work, six are visiting in other cities, and three have been married.

Only five graduates could not be contacted.

Register Staff Attends Dinner; Mactier Speaks

Nineteen members of the Register staff and Mrs. Anne Savidge, journalism adviser, attended a dinner at the Regis hotel Wednesday night. Allan Mactier, managing editor, spoke on his trip to the National Scholastic Press association convention in Chicago last week-end.

These dinners, at which discussions on writing and make-up are held, will be held monthly.

Oh Me! Oh My! Report Cards Out

Tuesday, November 14, 1939, was just another day to the rest of these United States of America. To the students of Central High school, however, it was a very important occasion—the issuing of report cards.

"How did ja do? I did terrible."

"Wow, what'll your folks say?"

"Well, you can stand a cut in allowance anyway." From the groans in the halls of this venerable institution, one would think nothing but D's appeared on cards. Yet, for all the groans, the number of A's and B's was astounding.

Speaking of grades, one teacher pointed out that one can always know what a student has on his card by the way he prefaces his remarks. If he says "She gave me . . ." the student has a C or D. If he says, "I received . . ." his grade is A or B.

Cards have now been taken home, signed, and along with discussions of "What did you get?" put away till January and the end of the semester. Don't worry till then, students. Save up and have one grand and glorious "Worry, worry, wor-r-r-ry."

Science Movie Depicts Progress

Commentary by Lowell Thomas Explains Film

"Frontiers of Science," with commentary by Lowell Thomas, gave students and faculty members of Central an accurate picture of frontiers of research that have taken the place of geographic frontiers. The picture was shown Thursday morning in the auditorium.

The research laboratory has taken the place of "the wide open spaces," but vocational opportunities are greater than ever. Airplane propellers from sour milk, rubber from soy beans, and even chocolate candy from coal are but a few synthetics that have already been discovered.

Lowell Thomas, well known commentator, appears in the picture. He explains processes and use of materials.

The picture was shown through the courtesy of the General Motors Acceptance corporation, with Paul Van Valkenburgh of the local branch supplying the equipment for the projection of the film.

Students Make Red Cross And Fall Play Posters

Red Cross posters made by Florence Rundell, Maxine McCaffery, Adeline Loeck, and Elaine Weiss have been put on display in several downtown stores.

Shirley Sims, Norma Pellisero, and Carol Lutevish designed posters for the fall play, "Dollars to Doughnuts."

Dillinger Put to Shame

Hamlet's Uncle Grade A Public Enemy; Twentieth Century Criminals Pikers

Every once in a while nowadays you hear people kicking about so many crimes being committed all over the country. Well, maybe they have a kick coming, but things either aren't as bad as they were in that duck Shakespeare's time or else there's a lot of stuff that doesn't get into the newspapers.

Why, in the days when that guy was walking around loose writing plays and in other ways wasting his time, murders were committed by the keg. Take this prince, Hamlet, for instance. His dad gets killed by Ham's two-faced uncle, who afterwards takes the throne and marries the old queen; and she's some babe.

Things are going along fine till the old king's ghost ups and tips off Ham about the murder. Well, Ham likes the ghost okay, but he wants to be sure about it all before he does anything rash; so he stages a vaudeville or play or something that acts out a murder just like the one the

Chief Justice Simmons Speaks at Armistice Day Mass Meeting

District Judge John W. Yeager Talks to Freshmen on Same Occasion; Reynolds Presides

"This America of ours will be yours in future years. In your hands, in your determination, lies the answer to this question: Will our government of the people, by the people, and for the people continue on this earth?"

With this statement Judge Robert G. Simmons, chief justice of the Nebraska supreme court, challenged American youth at a Central assembly held last Friday, November 10, in the auditorium. The assembly was presented in recognition of Armistice day, and was sponsored by the American Legion.

Sam Reynolds, a Central alumnus and past commander of the American Legion, presided. At his suggestion, after the colors had been presented, the audience stood for a moment in reverent silence. Then Bill McBride recited John McCrae's immortal poem, "In Flanders Field," and Kermit Hansen '35 sang "My Buddy."

Mr. Reynolds introduced Judge Simmons whose speech stressed the future duties of America's youth. Following the address, Mr. Hansen led the student body in singing "The Star Spangled Banner." When the first verse had ended, "Taps" rang out over the audience.

At a freshman assembly held at the same time in Room 145, Walter Byrle, director of the metropolitan Utilities board, introduced District Judge John W. Yeager, member of the Eighty-eighth division in France.

"We are not here to celebrate deeds of valor, nor are we here to celebrate the victory of great battles; but we are here to celebrate the peace that has come, and I hope will continue to come," declared the judge.

Virgil Haggart, attorney and member of the American Legion program committee, planned the program for both assemblies.

Virginia Slabaugh Sings At Milk-Cap Banquet

Virginia Slabaugh, who has the lead in the opera, The Mikado, to be presented by the music department December 7, 8, and 9, was the soloist at the National Milk-Cap Banquet held in Kansas City November 11.

"It was all very exciting, and I had a wonderful time. Only I'm wondering how I came to be called, since I still don't know who suggested me," says Virginia. Those who have heard the opera rehearsals know that Virginia needs no other recommendation than her lovely voice.

The banquet was held at Hotel Bellereve in Kansas City.

Crew Constructs Oriental Garden For Comic Opera

Rustic Bridge, Temple Have Place in Elaborate Scenery of 'Mikado'

Stage settings for the two acts of "The Mikado" were nearing completion this week, designed, constructed, and decorated by the student stage crew under the direction of Frank M. Rice. The Gilbert and Sullivan comic opera will be presented by the music department December 7, 8, and 9.

The first act takes place in a beautiful Japanese garden which is enclosed by a stone wall. Against a sky blue backdrop a fan-shaped Japanese bridge carries an elevated stone pathway over a brook. Wide steps from a small red temple gate lead from the path to the stage level. Graceful trees hem in the garden where colorful Japanese choruses throng.

Portray Castle Courtyard

The courtyard of the palace of the great Mikado is the scene of the second act. A wall of the magnificent dwelling forms one part of the set, and is painted in wide horizontal stripes of soft contrasting colors. An elevated runway enters from the palace; weird Japanese figures silhouetted in black against vivid red lights make startling panels. Trellises entwined with flowers finish the quaint Japanese scene.

Although the stage crew has taken many questions from the motion picture version of "The Mikado," the designs and decorations are all their own work. They have built the sets from plain lumber and have worked out their own coloring schemes. Oscar Lieben, who is costuming the opera, has also given many helpful suggestions.

Freshman Stage Electrician

Student stage director of the opera is George Kieser, assisted by Walter Hammond and Bob Buchanan. Bob Freshman is student electrician, assisted by Bob Beck, Burton Howard, and Don O'Brien. Faculty stage manager is Frank M. Rice.

Members of the stage crew are Oscar Beasley, Jack Borghoff, Edward Cahill, Leon Gaskill, Ray Helaney, Andrew Higham, Darwin Marcus, Dean Morrill, Jack Mynatt, Dale Paterno, John Sibbernson, and Nuncio Vaccaro.

Opera Characters Have Odd Names

How would you like to have your name fit your character? You'd rather not? Well, that is the case of the leads in the opera "The Mikado"; every name describes in a word the character who owns it.

Yum-Yum, of course, is the luscious Japanese beauty who looks good enough to eat. Peep-Bo and Piti-Sing are youthful schoolmates of Yum-Yum, petite and coy as their names.

Ko Ko, the timid Lord High Executioner, is a sweet, milky sort of person just like cocoa. Katisha is an old cat who spits and growls and scratches.

Pooh-Bah is the most expressive of all the characters names. A "retailer of state secrets at a low figure," he is forever exclaiming "Pooh!" or "Bah!" at insinuations against his family pride. Two noble lords of Titipu are Go-To and Pish-Tush; were names ever more expressive?

The table was decorated with white chrysanthemums and white candles. Miss Jessie M. Towne poured. Miss Adrain Vestberg was chairman of the committee on arrangements.

Students to Elect Officers In School-Wide Election

Many File Petitions for Place on Ballot in First Student Government Plan at Central High School

Central students were assured a taste of politics as plans for the election of student council officers were announced this week. Candidates began immediate campaigns, and indications are that several slates have already been formed.

Any students who apply for petitions and are declared eligible for school officers by the student council and Principal Fred Hill will be candidates in the coming school-wide election.

Mrs. Irene Jensen states, "Although the petitions are coming in, the number is not nearly enough. We want to interest the students in the school and impress upon them the work that can be done by an effectively organized council and group of officers."

Latin Club Feasts On Italian Foods

Program of Annual Banquet Includes Play and Songs

Central's Latin club will hold its annual banquet in the south dining room of the Regis hotel, Thursday, November 23, at 6 p.m. The dinner will consist chiefly of Italian foods and will be prepared by an Italian chef.

At the banquet, several Latin students will give the play "Vacuum," which they gave at the State Teachers' convention. The play concerns the eternal triangle of the husband, the wife, and the other man. The dialogue is in Latin, but consists of such Latin expressions as "e pluribus unum," and "tempus fugit," common enough to be found in the daily newspapers.

Parts in the play will be taken by Walter Mailand, as the husband, Howard Johnson, as the other man, and Jean Kolezar, as the wife. Richard Creedon and Coraleone Kidd will play the parts of the two servants, and Marilyn Manske, Juanita Faulkenberry, and Dorothy Schwartz will impersonate the three fates.

Also on the program will be a dialogue in Latin between a master, played by John Phillips, and his servant, played by Morton Gilinsky. Several Latin songs will also be sung, as the main theme of the program is to show the connection between the Latin and the Italian language.

French Club Holds After-Dinner Dance

L'Alliance Francaise will sponsor an after-dinner dance at Brownell Hall Monday, November 20, from 7:30 to 9:30 in the evening.

Each person will be given a tag at the door to help the dancers get acquainted. Refreshments will be served.

Miss Marguerite Wickenden, principal of Brownell Hall, and Miss Bess Bozell, sponsor of the French club at Central, will be in charge and have appointed student committees to assist them.

Bob Freshman's recordings will furnish the music. Admission will be by Alliance tickets.

Faculty Gives Tea For Summer Brides

Honoring Mrs. Thelma Stenlund, formerly Thelma Moss, and Mrs. Dorothy Moucka, Dorothy Anderson before her recent marriage, the faculty gave a tea Friday after school in Room 38.

The table was decorated with white chrysanthemums and white candles. Miss Jessie M. Towne poured. Miss Adrain Vestberg was chairman of the committee on arrangements.

Girl Cheer Leaders

Several school questions will be voted on at the time of the election. Students are to decide whether Central will or will not have girl cheerleaders. The debate squad which takes part in inter-school competition has asked for some form of recognition. This form will also be determined by the vote.

Because of the lack of time, homeroom representatives hope to get longer homerooms in which to report to the students the problems discussed at the representative meetings.

The representatives and their alternates, who must also attend every meeting, should be given time to speak by the homeroom teachers.

A few of the prospective candidates who have taken out petitions are Geraldine Anderson, Dorothy Burton, Duane Carey, Ann Dickinson, Jim Green, Eugene Hauge, Malcom Hallway, Bill Jensen, Bill Parr, Rose Rottner, Charlotte Smith, and Stanley Yergey.

Three Girls Make Honor Roll in Type III Class

Three girls made the honor roll in Miss Marguerite Burke's Type III class sixth hour during the week of October 23. They are Dorothy Herzberg, 31 words a minute; Betty Domet, 32 words a minute; and Shirley Brown, 37 words a minute.

