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GREETINGS from the WKSC Hilltop!

Again Christmas has rolled around the first issue of the WESTERN NEWSICIAN has not made its appearance for the 1959-60 school year. Let's do several things at once and get an issue out before another week slips by. One more week of school remains before the campus becomes as quiet and deserted as a cemetery on Hallowe'en night, and the faculty and students will forget (?) the cares of a busy school year for a couple of weeks of relaxation to celebrate the traditional Yuletide Season.

We in the music department at Western wish to convey to each of you warmest greetings and the best wishes for a happy Christmas season.

Claude Rose, Editor

FALL ACTIVITIES:

A record enrollment in the entire college (2919) flooded the Hilltop the second week of September with many Freshmen on hand for two days of testing and faculty counseling under a new system devised by Western's new Dean and Registrar, Dr. Raymond Cravens and Mr. Dero Downing, assisted by Dr. T. O. Hall. Thirty-five faculty members were each assigned a group of freshmen students for purposes of personal and academic guidance to extend over the entire school year. The first result was that Freshman registration went unusually smooth. About thirty-five music students enrolled in this year's Freshman class, coming from near and far: New York, Ohio, Illinois, Pennsylvania, Alabama, Tennessee, Florida, and Kentucky.

The Marching Band enjoyed a successful fall season even though the band was not quite as large as last year. The sound was solid and the appearance was neat and the routines were precise and snappy. Five majorettes fronted the band; Johnny Smith from Jacksonville, Florida, was Drum Major. The band helped our football team beat Eastern at their homecoming as well as "beating" the Eastern Band (Nick K. would dispute this) on the field. Anyway, Westerners had a good time.

In addition to playing at all of the local games and at Richmond, the band travelled to Frankfort, December 8, and marched in the inauguration parade for our new Governor Combs. They also presented a concert in the rotunda of the State Capitol building. Two busses carried the group to Middletown the night before where they "camped" over night before going on to Frankfort for the parade the next morning. The weather warmed up somewhat and Inauguration Day turned out very successfully.

HOMECOMING & BAND DAY

For an innovation Homecoming and Band Day were combined this year. The day was a very busy one, to say the least, with many alumni returning to the Hill as well as some twenty bands being on hand for a parade at noon and a half time show as well. Tennessee Tech brought their band along to add to the confusion. They played an arrangement of their alma mater song done by none other than our own Eugene Steinquest, Western music grad, who is teaching at Tenn. Tech.—so it was Western's show after all!

The annual Music Homecoming Breakfast was held at Western Hills Restaurant with a good group on hand.

In the Band Day parade trophies were awarded for the first time with Glasgow taking home two trophies for the best appearance and best sounding band in the parade. The Central City majorette corps was judged best in that event.
CHOIR NEWS:

The A Cappella Choir of 38 voices presented a Christmas program in Smiths Grove at the high school auditorium, Sunday evening, December 6, and were well received. New bright red robes have been ordered for the choir to be here about January 1. Reversible satin stoles complete the ensemble-white on one side and silver on the other. An appearance at the KMEA State Convention in January and a trou later in the spring are on the agenda for this year's group.

ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP STATUS IN N.A.S.M.

At the annual meeting of the NASM (National Association of Schools of Music) held in Detroit over the Thanksgiving weekend, Western was voted active status in this national accrediting agency for music schools. Since 1948 the department has been on an associate membership basis pending final approval for full active membership. Following our last visitation last May, Western was accepted by this highly regarded accrediting organization. Western is the fourth school in Kentucky to be accepted for this honor. The others are: U. of K., U. of L., and Murray. The faculty and students are very proud of this achievement and are just a bit "chesty" about such distinction. Western is now granting the Bachelor of Music degree in music education. All of you degree holding alumni can value your degrees in music just a little bit higher now that your school and its music department have been so recognized.

K.M.E.A. STATE CONVENTION IN JANUARY

You editor has been snowed under this fall as chairman of this year's annual KMEA State Convention to be held on the Western campus, Thursday, Friday and Saturday, January 11, 15 and 16. The program is about ready to go to the printer which should give an idea as to how plans are progressing. An interesting program of convention activities has been planned for the three days. As one of the features a noon luncheon is planned for the various college alumni who will be in attendance at the convention. Friday noon, January 15, Westerners will dine and meet together for fellowship in the cafeteria of the Student Center. No reservations are necessary, but be sure to come and eat with your former college friends and all good WESTERNERS! Dr. Stone will be in charge.

The All State Band and All State String Orchestra will be on hand during the three days; they will present a joint concert on Saturday afternoon as the final session of the convention. Several Western groups will perform during the three days and others will be directed by Western alumni. All you alumni now teaching in the Bluegrass State be sure to make plans to come back to the Hilltop for this big event. It will be well worthwhile, I can assure you.

WHO'S WHERE AND WHY

Last year's Grads:

Everette Ruby is teaching music in the twelve grades at Allen Co. H.S., Sebreeville.

Francine Walker, winner of last year's Music Honor Award to Seniors, is teaching music in two schools in Jefferson County.

Aileen Clay is teaching music at Centertown and paraded her band in the Marching Band contest at Beaver Dam this fall. They did right well.

Jesse Haycraft has a new instrumental program under way at Clarkson.

Hilda Mollor is with her husband and new baby boy at Paducah.

Mike Longo is touring the country with a combo. He has been on the campus several times this year. He presented a big sparkler to Karlene Engleman recently.

Shirley Price is back teaching at Hughes-Kirk up in Muhlenberg County.

Mrs. Laura Bowles, M.A., 59, is teaching fifth grade in a school in Chicago.
Other Graduates and Their Doings:
Steve Combs, '51, moved from Mayfield to Nashville where he is directing choral at North High School.
Gene and Helen Lenton, both '53, moved from Franklin to Ocala, Florida, where Gene is teaching in a new Junior College.
Bevge Long, '56, moved from Munfordville to Owensboro where she is teaching Junior High music and loves it. She attended Peabody last summer.
Lowell McClure, '57, is the new band director at Franklin, Ky.
Wendell Counts, '56, took on the gigantic task of carrying on the music program at Corbin. This is the place nationally known for its high school choir.
Beverly Megan Bell, '55, Harrisburg, Illinois, visited the music department last summer. She and her husband are both teaching in the Harrisburg schools.
Beverly Harper, '56, was also at Peabody last summer. She rooms with Bevge Long at Owensboro where she also teaches in Junior High.
Jeanette Rider, '58, was the Belle of the Stephen Foster Story production at Bardstown last summer. She is studying full time at Cincinnati this year and husband Bob is "truant officer" of Hamilton County.
Earl and Barbara Petty, both '56, new located at Greensburg, Indidana, had a new son born last summer, Mark Earl.
Wayne Wilson, '50, also was the father of a son, Thomas, born Sept. 28, at Crossett, Arkansas.
Elaine Kelly, '57, became Mrs. Steve Murphy last summer. Her husband plays organ at Manhatten Towers and works with his father in the cement business.
Floyd Farmer, '57, took his Beaver Dam H. S. band to the Lions International Convention at New York City last summer. His band will appear on the KMEA State Convention program next month.
Charlie Black, '55, is taking his Butler Co. H. S. (Morgantown) Band to the Gator Bowl in Jacksonville in January and will enjoy a five day stay at Daytona Beach.
P.S. Don't plan drive through Morgantown before the Gator Bowl unless you leave a dollar for the Band Fund. Charlie has road block at all entrances to the town.
Bob Morton's, '52, Henderson band took second place at the Princeton Marching Band Cont this fall.
Bob Walker's, Ex 139, Central City band took first at the Beaver Dam Festival.
Geraldine Humphries, '56, is teaching grade school music at Key West, Florida.
Gerald Dotson, '55, has moved from Lebanon, Florida, to Orlando.
Ray Lunsford is back in school and will graduate in June. He's married & expecting.

FACULTY NEWS:
For the first time in many years the personnel of the Western music faculty is the same as it was last year.
Mr. Thaden was in school at Florida State last summer continuing work toward his Doctorate in applied music. Dr. Carpenter, Mosers Beach and Knob, and McDermont Rose and Thaden are again playing in the Nashville Symphony this year and enjoying their new conductor, Walter Page, who came to Nashville from Buffalo, N. Y.
Mr. Knob is about to lose more sleep due to an impending visit from the store within the next few weeks. Will the band get it now? He has organized a new group, a Symphonic Wind Ensemble, modeled along the same plan as the Eastman Wind Ensemble. They sounded great in the Spring band concert and are scheduled to appear during the KMEA Convention in January. Dr. Stone and his family, including Sahni, the dog, are enjoying their new home which they moved into last June. It is located in the new Crestmoor division near the Detrex plant. They entertained the faculty at open house recently.
Mr. Ross will direct the Central City Community Chorus again in a performance of the MESSIAH, December 20. The Ross family ensemble will accompany.

MERRY XMAS and HAPPY NEW YEAR FOR 1960