

# REPORTS OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF COLLEGIATE SCHOOLS

## Romance Languages Are Destined to Take a Very Important Position in the Private Schools Studies

HOW many students in the secondary schools of this country, especially in the private schools where more attention is given to modern languages, can translate correctly this phrase: "On un piano va sono; chi se sono va lontano?" Precious few. And no doubt some of these boys and girls who can puzzle out its meaning do not know whether the language in which it is written is French, Spanish or Italian. As a matter of fact it is Italian and in English it reads: "He who goes gently goes safely; he who goes safely goes fast."

It is said that a man who, like many other persons, deprecated the all but universal practicing on pianos by people utterly devoid of talent for music translated the phrase as follows: *Chi se sono va piano, chi se sono va lontano, chi se sono va lontano, chi se sono va lontano.* The next question let us put to the headmasters and principals of our private schools and academies. Are you prepared to teach the Romance languages—French, Spanish and Italian—to the boys and girls and the young men and young women of this country?

The third question let us put to the parents of the pupils of the secondary schools. Are you not aware of the great value to your children of a thorough study of French, Spanish and Italian? It is not the intention of the School Editor to add to the burdens of either parents or headmasters and principals, and their teaching assistants, but he wishes merely to point to a part of the secondary school curriculum that is bound to be affected as a result of what is now being done in the United States.

Our export trade with the Spanish speaking South American countries has doubled within the past year. Have our private schools given due heed to this sign of the times? Do our headmasters and principals make any special efforts to teach Spanish? In sporadic cases, yes; but generally speaking, no. And yet not only will lucrative positions be offered to young Americans in South America who can speak Spanish but also a knowledge of Spanish will be a decided asset to persons seeking positions in our export cities.

Then too there is the trade of this country with Central America and the West Indies, which is bound to increase annually. Some day the dream of Pan-America will be a reality. Do our schools of this country that will knit the Spanish speaking countries of Central and South America closer to the United States will be the means to the desired popularity of the study of Spanish in our secondary schools.

There are plenty of indications of new interest in the study of Spanish in colleges and universities. It is only the schools and academies that are lagging behind. For example, last May an anonymous American donor gave to the University of Washington \$50,000 as an endowment fund for the inauguration of a school of Spanish language, literature and history.

It is interesting to note in passing that the first exchange professorship arrangement to be entered into by the University of Washington of Seattle, Wash., in that by which Prof. George M. Strong of the department of Spanish of the University of Washington will exchange with Prof. Benjamin Oyarzun of the University of Chile. Prof. Strong will teach English in the Institute Commercial, a department of the University of Chile, which is under the direction of the Chilean Government. While in Chile Prof. Strong will make a study of the relations between the United States and Chile, including an observation of the reaction of the public thought of the southern republic to United States imports.

How many principals of private schools and parents who send their children to their schools, what are you doing to grapple with this new superlative in modern languages? It demands larger and more important place in the school curriculum of the present and future?

**WARTIME SCHOOL PROGRAMME.** Suggestions for a programme of school activity for different types of educational institutions during the war have been issued by Dr. F. P. Claxton, United States Commissioner of Education. Among the things that should be done are: 1. That attention be given to the study of the language of the enemy. 2. That attention be given to the study of the language of the ally. 3. That attention be given to the study of the language of the neutral.

**PRINCIPALS OF private schools and academies are invited to discuss scholastic topics of timely interest in the columns of the School Page of THE SUNDAY SUN.** School news should reach The School, College and Camp Bureau of THE SUN, 110 Nassau street, New York city, not later than Thursday for insertion in the School Page of the following Sunday.

**THE NEW YORK SUN IS PERMANENTLY ESTABLISHED AS THE ADVERTISING MEDIUM FOR PRIVATE SCHOOLS. DURING THE YEAR OF 1916 THE SUN PRINTED MORE PRIVATE SCHOOL ADVERTISING THAN ANY OTHER NEW YORK NEWSPAPER.**

## Latest News of Events in the Scholastic World

**COMMENCEMENT** week at Centenary Collegiate Institute for Girls at Hackettstown, N. J., was marked with much enthusiasm. Under the new leadership of Dr. Robert John Treavor, who recently came to the school from the presidential of Drew Seminary for Young Women at Carmel, N. Y., affairs were of especial interest to every one concerned.

The first week of the annual contest for the James W. Jackson prizes. The first prize was won by Miss Sarah Mackey of Trenton, N. J., and the second award was shared by Miss Natalie Parker of Mount Vernon, N. Y. Dr. Treavor brought a strong lesson to the large congregation which filled the local Methodist Episcopal Church on Wednesday. His theme was "Fight the good fight of the faith; lay hold on eternal life." This was followed by a short address to the members of the graduating class.

Monday and Tuesday were spent in reunions and in viewing exhibitions displayed by the departments of practical arts which form so interesting a part of Centenary's work. The annual recital of the finely equipped music department of the school was pronounced a great success by all who attended. The current program of singing and class day exercises on Tuesday afternoon came the reception in the evening.

On Wednesday the crowning event of the week was enjoyed at the commencement exercises. Dr. Lynn Harold Hoop, professor in Garrett Biblical Institute, gave a stirring address to the graduates. The making of to-morrow was elaborated upon in a wonderfully effective way, favored throughout with the eloquence of patriotism. He made his hearers realize the truth about the matter of making to-morrow, that it lies within the reach of every one, that it is every one's duty to make to-morrow better than today, that it is every one's duty to make to-morrow in relation to one's fellow men and in relation to the church and to the country, that it is essential to life that we should be a better world, a truer world and a stronger world.

**HARVARD UNIVERSITY.** Cambridge, Mass. July 14.—Harvard's athletic season cancelled. The schedule of the varsity football team for this fall and also announce that there will be no football played by the freshman team. If the situation permits a varsity football team will play a few informal games with nearby college eleven.

**ALLEN SCHOOL.** The Allen School for Boys, West Newton, Mass., founded in 1853, has passed into new hands, and is to adopt military training when it opens its doors next fall. The new director, who is to assume the entire control of the school, is the Rev. Dr. Thomas Chalmers of Manchester, N. H. Besides his active career in the ministry and in public affairs in his native State, Dr. Chalmers has had experience as an educator. He was superintendent of schools in Vandalia and Buchanan, Mich., and was also a member of the Board of Trustees of the State College at Durham. He announces the adoption of military training along with the regular college preparatory work in the Allen school.

**UNIVERSITY OF VERMONT.** An event of importance in educational circles is the announcement made this week that Secretary of State George W. Bailey of Essex Junction had been elected to the position of president and controller of the University of Vermont, Burlington, Vt., and would resign his State office early in the fall to assume the duties of his new position.

**FACE INSTITUTE.** Accounting and bookkeeping classes for the summer work of Pace Institute, New York city. The draft and the calling of National Guard organizations into Federal service are leaving many vacancies to be filled.

**UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA.** Philadelphia, July 14.—The thirteenth annual session of the summer school of the University of Pennsylvania opened on July 9 and will continue for six weeks, ending on August 18th. The summer school is a department of the university for professors and teachers in colleges and schools, superintendents and supervisors of the State, and candidates for the degree of master of arts and students in the college courses for teachers and other special students.

**COLLEGE OF ST. ELIZABETH.** The faculty of the College of St. Elizabeth, Convent Station, N. J., announced that they had received a large number of bonds from Miss Agnes Genevieve Garrigan, the fund to be used as a medal fund for the sophomore essay prize.

**SMITH COLLEGE.** The Hillier Art Gallery of Smith College has just received a gift of a number of Oriental works of art from Charles L. Freer of Detroit. Mr. Freer has been interested in the Smith College since 1913, when his gift of Japanese and Chinese wood carvings was installed in what is now known as the Freer cabinet in the Japanese corridor. Mr. Freer's latest gift includes thirty-two Japanese and five Chinese Kakeemono (paintings which roll up on scrolls), the first examples of original paintings from the East that the college has possessed. An original Chinese painting in the present Freer cabinet, three bronze gilt Buddhist statues from Siam and several very interesting and valuable pieces of Chinese and Japanese pottery complete the collection.

**UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME.** Notre Dame, Ind., July 14.—An important date in connection with the annual addition of the department of Latin American trade relations will be observed at the University of Notre Dame is the fact that the Rev. John P. O'Hara, C. S. C., who has spent many years in Central America, was appointed dean of the department of Latin American trade and commerce on Monday, July 10. In view of the present critical state of the commercial intercourse of the United States with foreign countries, the addition of a department of Latin American trade to the college of commerce and business management for next year is very timely.

The course in foreign trade and an auxiliary to it will be another new one, a course in Latin American history. One of the interesting features of the new department will be a board of trade to be chosen from the students of the course which will hold weekly meetings. Of great importance in connection with these new courses is the fact that they are required "South American Library" of the Rev. J. A. Zahm. Father Zahm is well known as H. J. Mozzani, and his work has been favorably recognized throughout the world. The Rev. John O'Hara will have as his assistants Father Zahm, Father Bolger, dean of the department of economics, and the Rev. John Bolger, dean of the department of sociology.

**WESTERN RESERVE UNIVERSITY.** Steady and large enrollment gains in Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio, are indicated by the figures covering recent years and to be published in the annual report of President Charles F. Thwing. In the last ten years Adelbert College has grown from 274 to 450 students, the college for women from 380 to 492, and the university from 845 to 2,345 students.

**WEST SIDE Y. M. C. A.** The summer term of the day school conducted for the benefit of boys in high and upper grammar grades who failed to pass last year's school year was opened this week at West Side Y. M. C. A., 318 West Fifty-seventh street, New York city, with a preliminary enrollment of 212. The school is expected to be doubled quickly. There are high school courses in English, French, Spanish, German, Latin, history, algebra, geometry, trigonometry, chemistry, physics, bookkeeping, stenography and typewriting and all the subjects of the eighth grammar grade. In addition this year the school includes a course in debating and another in manual training. The boys in the coming six weeks will make kites, window boxes, toy boats and similar articles, which will be given to the boys of the war zone at Christmas. All boys will be taught to swim also and a large number of them are expected to be inducted into the military service.

**MASSACHUSETTS TECH.** The report of a board of army officers, commissioned to look into the curriculum of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Boston, Mass., and to formulate a plan for a full four years course of training for officers, has received the approval of the War Department, and in September there will be established at the institute the four year military option which will make of the graduates true military officers. The curriculum of the institute, which is larger than that of any other military school in the United States, is relatively less thronged than in other years, while the classes are unusually large in such subjects as dietetics, food conservation, first aid to the injured, and the use of the arms of the sick and like practical themes.

**CORTIA FRENCH AND ENGLISH MILITARY MANUAL.** Foreword by Major-Gen. Leonard Wood. Several chapters devoted to hospital and ambulance work. The manual is published by the American Military Academy, 115 West 42nd Street, New York City. Price, 50 cents. The manual is a complete and up-to-date guide for military officers and non-commissioned officers. It covers all the essentials of military science, from the fundamentals of drill to the advanced tactics of battle. The manual is written in a clear and concise style, and is illustrated with numerous diagrams and photographs. It is a valuable addition to the library of every military officer and non-commissioned officer.

**PHILADELPHIA.** July 14.—The thirteenth annual session of the summer school of the University of Pennsylvania opened on July 9 and will continue for six weeks, ending on August 18th. The summer school is a department of the university for professors and teachers in colleges and schools, superintendents and supervisors of the State, and candidates for the degree of master of arts and students in the college courses for teachers and other special students.

**QUESTIONS THAT ARE QUESTIONS.** Following a drill for efficiency recently held for the assistants of the Chicago Public Library, an examination was conducted in the sphere of child lore. It was designed with humorous intent and it occurred to us that it might form a means of entertainment for an evening on a porch, affording the gentle mental exercise suitable to the season.

**MOUNT SAINT MARY'S.** The Mount Saint Mary's College, Emmitsburg, Md., has received a large number of bonds from Miss Agnes Genevieve Garrigan, the fund to be used as a medal fund for the sophomore essay prize.

**THE DANVILLE SCHOOL.** Wm. Holmes Davis, A. B., Headmaster. A college and university preparatory school. 8400 A Year. For information, DANVILLE, VIRGINIA. EASTHAMPTON, MASS.

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**CORTIA FRENCH AND ENGLISH MILITARY MANUAL.** Foreword by Major-Gen. Leonard Wood. Several chapters devoted to hospital and ambulance work. The manual is published by the American Military Academy, 115 West 42nd Street, New York City. Price, 50 cents.

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