NEWS FROM EVERYWHERE

J. Ronald Smith '56, '58, was in West Berlin at Christmas time, participating in a special Christmas Day telecast to allied occupation forces overseas. Roniie is conductor of the "Sea Chanters," a chorus affiliated with the US Navy Band. Members of the chorus include Kenneth W. Moly '59, and Richard G. Penney, '61.

Alice Glasgow Mainbourg '58 has recently returned from two years in Germany to her home in St. Savage, Maryland.

Ray W. Smathers '32, First Baptist Church, Atlanta, Georgia, conducted his Church's 21st Annual Christmas Carol Service on December 10th. Mrs. Smathers was organist.

Fred Kelly '57, Columbia Baptist Church, Falls Church, Virginia, presented a Christmas recital of Sacred Music at Christmas time. Sherry (Bill '56) Kelly was soprano soloist, Marjorie Green '46, mezzo-soprano, Marvin Keenze '60, organist, and Fred Kelly, baritone soloist. Fred intends to present similar recitals four times a year.

Bill Holby '47, '59, First Presbyterian Church, Mount Vernon, Ohio, will present a community-wide performance of Effinger's oratorio "The Invisible Fire," with orchestra, on March 11.

Clinton Heyer '48, conducted the Advent and Christmas portions of "The Messiah," on December 3d, with choir members of six Episcopal Churches in the South Amboy, N.J. area participating. Helen Collins Carroll '51, was organist; Ernestine Crum '51, alto soloist, and Reverend William Forrest '54, tenor soloist.

Virginia Babikian '51, '52, has fulfilled the following singing assignments: September 24 - October 3, three performances of Haydn's "Creation" and 3 solo recitals, Colombia, South America; October 12 - 15, soloist with New York Philharmonic; Carnegie Hall, in Milhaud's "Les Coihphores" (recorded for Columbia Records); October 18 - 26, two performances of the Sammartini Mass "Tre Angeli" (Continued on Page 3)

MR. SARGEANT'S LETTER

President Noel Sargent transmits the following news items to alumni via the NEWSLETTER:

We are receiving increased local area publicity. For example, the "Princeton Packet" of December 28 carried three favorable news items about the College.

Here at the College we are all administration, faculty and students- highly pleased with the outstanding job done recently by our Symphonic Choir with the New York Philharmonic.

This year we have had the largest freshman class since 1951, as this is written we have a few more applications for enrollment next fall than we had at the same time last year.

The Board of Trustees has decided not to sell the 19 acres north of Franklin Avenue to the Board of Education, and to oppose any efforts at condemnation which might be made.

VOCAL CAMP

As announced in last month's Newsletter, the dates for the Vocal Camp on the campus of Westminster Choir College are July 9 through July 28. Various persons connected with administration of the camp offer the following suggestions in regard to sponsoring students:

First, try to send those who are either now providing leadership in your graded choir program or who are going to next year. Attendance can also serve to develop those who have talent or interest in music generally speaking.

Second, encourage those you select to make their plans now. Each year the Camp has grown larger (over 250 last year). Early planning for this summer means you can register your candidates earlier. If we have the same percentage increase this year as last, we shall not be able to house them all.

Last, but certainly not least, it is important to have a high percentage of boys in the Camp. Musical success as well as the social success of the Camp depend on it.

Application forms and brochures (Continued on Page 2)

YORK IS NEW EDITOR OF WESTMINSTER CHORAL MUSIC SERIES

David S. York, professor of theory at Westminster Choir College since 1946, has been named by Warren Martin, musical director, as editor of the Westminster Choir College Library series with Theodore Presser, music publishers. This series, begun by Dr. Williamson in 1949, has grown to include 75 titles, chorale music composed mainly by Westminster Choir College alumni and faculty. Much of the widely varied numbers have been used by Westminster Choir and other concert groups throughout the country; the anthems are included in the repertoire of most of the Alumni's church choirs everywhere.

Mr. York has been teaching theory, composition, and music history at Westminster for the past 15 years. He is a graduate of Yale University in 1944 where he studied organ under Luther Noss and theory with Paul Hindemith. (Continued on Page 2)

DR. WILLIAMSON RECOVERING IN OHIO FROM HEART ATTACK

Word has just been received on campus that on Friday night, January 5, Dr. Williamson suffered a serious heart attack in Canton, Ohio, where he was holding classes. As we go to press, the news is that he is improving, although he is still on the critical list at Altoona Hospital. On Sunday he was allowed to leave his oxygen tent and to take food. The heart specialist in charge of his case has said that if there are no set-backs and if he takes due care, he can have his summer school this summer, and possibly can go to Japan next fall. The day before his attack, Dr. Williamson received an invitation to spend six months in Japan, establishing a music school to be sponsored financially by an interested Japanese citizen.

In Canton, Dr. and Mrs. Williamson were the house guests of Ruth Cogan, 3726 Darlington Road. It is expected that Mrs. Williamson will remain there during her husband's hospitalization.
Music critics of New York newspapers paid tributes to the Symphonic Choir in their reviews of the four performances the group gave with the New York Philharmonic, under the direction of Joseph Krips. They performed Lukas Foss' "Parable of Death" and Beethoven's Ninth Symphony.

Harold C. Schonberg, critic for the New York Times, wrote: "In the finale (Beethoven's Ninth Symphony) one could admire Mr. Krips' admirable control, and also the equally admirable training of the Westminster Symphonic Choir. Entrances and responses were exact to the second, and the predominantly young singers responded as though they actually liked hovering around fortissimo high A. Certainly there was none of the forced, ugly noise sometimes heard from choirs in this exceedingly difficult movement . . . . . . . Mr. Krips, Mr. Petrak (who sang the tenor solo) and the Westminster Symphonic Choir sounded thoroughly convincing in this (A Parable of Death) score."

YORK IS NEW EDITOR

(Continued from Page 1)

In 1946 he was graduated from Westminster, earning his Master of Music degree with a major in composition under Henri Switten. Last year he studied at Indiana University in the graduate program there toward a Ph.D. in music theory. His dissertation topic, MODULATION FROM 1720 TO THE PRESENT was accepted last July and he hopes to complete work on the degree by September of 1963.

After an interview last month with Mr. Calvert Bean, publication director, and Mr. Arthur Hauser, president of Theodore Presser, Mr. York reports that he hopes to be able to add 6 new works each year to the well known Westminster Choir College Library series. These new works will be featured in alumni festivals and by the several choirs of the college in their concerts in Princeton and on tour. The series will be expanded to include responses and amens for the worship service, sacred solos, and 20-minute cantatas with organ or organ and instrumental accompaniment.

Those with creative pens are invited to send their manuscripts to Mr. York at the college for consideration for publication. When music is accepted for the series, Theodore Presser will make the contract arrangements with the composers. Send manuscripts to Mr. York at your earliest opportunity.
NEWS FROM EVERYWHERE
(Continued from Page 1)

MARY SCHMON SINGERS WIN IN CBS CHOIR COMPETITION
Mary Elizabeth Pierce ’46, is director of The Mary Schmon Singers, of St. Catharines, Ontario, Canada. The group was organized in 1953 and has been guest artist at the Chicagoland Music Festivals, has appeared in three concerts with the Buffalo Philharmonic, and has sung on radio and TV in Canada. In April, 1961, the group won first place in the CBS choir competition, out of 132 choirs. The singers present complete programs of Haydn, Bach and Brahms as well as light folk and popular music for conventions, banquets or special occasions. Music critics have been particularly pleased with their performances of Haydn’s “Mass in D minor”. The group has also produced its own show, “From Carnegie Hall to Broadway”.

WEDDING BELLS
Ann K. Dothard was married on December 23rd to Krine Westhoven, Jr. ’52, ’56, at Bala-Cynwyd Methodist Church, Bala-Cynwyd, Pennsylvania.

NEWSLETTER Page 3
Alumni are living examples of every college of the education and training of that institution.

The faculty and administrators of Westminster Choir College have discovered during the past year that we are receiving an increasing number of inquiries from areas where there are no alumni active in the field of music. In addition, there are students applying from areas where we have alumni, but where there has been no communication between alumni and prospective students. During the past year Mr. Robert Rooks, 59, admissions counselor, has requested the help of several alumni to do occasional visitation work and to interview prospective students in some of the local areas throughout the country. Many of the alumni who were asked to help last year, responded in a way that reflects the closeness between the college and its alumni. In most cases where an alumna or alumnus interviewed a student at our request, that young person was accepted and is now a student at Westminster.

Because of the success in this counseling program, Mr. Rooks and I have outlined a program which we hope the alumni will endorse wholeheartedly.

In the near future, several of our alumni will be contacted and requested to serve as local representatives of Westminster Choir College.

There will be two very important parts of this service: 1. To contact guidance counselors and vocal music teachers in the high schools within a limited distance of your town and make known your availability to counsel with any students they may have who are interested in the kind of training Westminster offers. 2. We will furnish each area representative with names of each person in his area who has requested information. Usually these people are students in the high schools and can be interviewed during school hours.

We will prepare complete information about admission procedure, entrance requirements, and organization of the college program which will provide you with most of the answers needed in counseling with students and high school representatives.

As training at Westminster Choir College has always been largely on the basis of personal relationship between faculty and student, we hope such a program will extend this personal approach to young people before they apply to Westminster. For the purpose of a growing Westminster community and a continued interest in the place of music in the lives of God's people, let us continue to work together.

John T. Clough
Director of Alumni Affairs, and Placements

ALUMNI WEEK
April 24, 25, 26, 1962
Westminster Choir College
See February, March and April issues for details.
RESERVE THESE DATES

ALUMNI NEWSLETTER
Westminster Choir College
Princeton, New Jersey

YOUR ADDRESS
If this address is incorrect in any form, please notify this office.

REGIONAL DIRECTORS ASSIST WITH ALUMNI CONTRIBUTIONS
In addition to the class agents, listed in the December NEWSLETTER, the six Regional Directors are sharing the burden of contacting Alumni who live in their particular area. Our appreciation is extended to the following Directors who are giving hours of their time to this project.

District I
John Hawkins '39
Bogota Methodist Church
P.O. Box 307
Bogota, Texas

District II
Benjamin Lehn '42, '48
1138 Griswold, S.E.
Grand Rapids 7, Mich.

District III
Donald Brakebill '55
2008 Sevierville Road
Maryville, Tenn.

District IV
Lee Belknap '52, '53
7515 Seminary Avenue
Richmond, Virginia

District V
Robert Mangold '39
19 Maple Street
Princeton, N.J.

District VI
Henry Pfohl '29, '41
16 Cranberry Street
Brooklyn 2, N.Y.

NEW POSITIONS
Norman Elliott '57
First Methodist Church
Salina, Kansas

Gail Gregolet '61
Grace Methodist Church
2221 Slane Avenue
Norwood, Ohio

Carl Knitter '59, '61
First Methodist Church
Skaneateles, N.Y.

ALUMNI NEWSLETTER
Westminster Choir College
Princeton, New Jersey

Entered as Second Class Mail at the Post Office, Princeton, N. J.