



VIOLINS— S. Strunk, M. Strunk, M. Billiter, J. Meyer, P. Taylor, L. Mosier. VIOLA—C. Gifford. CELLOS—N. Allison, FLUTES—C. Curtis, C. Bennett. OBOES—N. Fuldner, M. Bartsch. BASSOON—N. Johnson. CLARINETS—B. Cadwallader, D. Kepler, D. Moraites, W. Young. BASS CLARINET—J. Michelman.

HORNS—S. Paolino, M. Humphreys, M. Knodel, M. Meyer, J. Lewis. SAXOPHONE—D. Allen, D. Lebi, D. Sorg, C. Diers, J. Hohnson. Trumpets—F. Averil, R. Henderson, H. Patterson, J. Shoemaker, M. McManaman. TROMBONES—T. Blumenstein, A. Tiemeyer, R. Martin, L. Joseph, C. Platt. BASSES—J. Thiel, B.

This year for six consecutive nights the Withrow Minstrels presented its eighteenth show. Few of us at Withrow know how the show got its start. Therefore we here present a brief history of Withrow's greatest tradition. In 1929 Mr. George G. Smith, a young, ambitious musician with generations of musical background and his inherited nickname—"Smittie," came to Withrow as a part time band director and harmony teacher. In 1930 the Withrow alumna association wanted a little musical program for part of its entertainment. Mr. Nelson Walkie was the director and Smittie had the job of handling the musical end of the program.

The first stage set; a very simple one, was merely a backdrop of grey curtains with a painted wooden moon hung in the center of

the stage above the orchestra. There were a few soloists, but the major part of the program was handled by the orchestra alone. That performance was such a success that it was decided to repeat the show in order to make money for the band. With the contribution of a piccolo from Tower News, Smittie and the orchestra set out to build up the show. The Ponies were added along with more soloists, and the entire program rounded out. In 1932 the minstrels had no equipment, but they rented lights and had Mr. Paul Heckel with them. Mr. Heckel was a master at set design and produced some beautiful, imaginative backgrounds for the show. The first pony costumes were made of oil cloth and were knee length. The show was a scintillating hit. Smittie and his Minstreleers did

Mr. Martin; S. Vega and R. Shepard

