

Auden Calls "Night" Fun But Not Art

By W. H. Auden

In spite of an air-raid alarm, Night Fell as it Must over Clothier Hall on March 26. Was it art? Don't be silly. The characters came out of the old clothes closet in mother's attic, the psychology from Aunt Daisy's Ethical Problems, the dialogue creaked along its well-worn lines like a pit pony. Was it fun? My, yes. What is good theatre? An excuse for carrying on charmingly in public. And which of us doesn't long to do that?

The Little Theatre Club carried on very nicely. Behind-the-scenes had done a sound job. Not a flat fell down, not a prop was missing, not a fuse blew, and the tempo was professionally snappy.

The chief honors must go to Professor Scott McLean as Dan and Diana Rodman as Olivia. From his first entry in a most fetching busboy's uniform, until his last exit in handcuffs, McLean was never on the stage without dominating it with exactly the right kind of snake-like physical charm. Occasionally, I think, he overdid the facial expressions; the Dans of this world are poker-faced when they think no one is watching.

Laurels to Rodman

Miss Rodman's performance was, perhaps, even more remarkable, because Olivia is such an unsympathetic shy-making part. To convey to the audience that one is not simply neurotic but really corrupt, without the least help from the lines, must be very difficult, but Miss Rodman succeeded brilliantly.

I suppose Emlyn Williams would have objected to the Mrs. Bramson of Katherine Kehoe, but to me she was pure heaven. Instead of a horrid old beast who tormented everyone and very properly got murdered, we saw an adorable, intelligent battleaxe, with a heart of gold whose bad-temper was transparently just a camp. Incidentally, this made her final scene with Dan extraordinarily moving. For one reason I cannot explain, Miss Kehoe made me think all the time of a man dressed up. I kept expecting her to light up a cigar the moment the door shut. Yes, I suppose her rendering of the part was wrong, but I am very glad it was, as I prefer "The Importance of Being Earnest" to "Night Must Fall."

MEC Neatness Rule

In view of the shortage of janitors, the MEC Men's Affairs Committee under the chairmanship of Cliff Gillam, is asking the men to take more responsibility in caring for their rooms. The committee will set a certain time of day by which personal belongings must be in order. If they are not, the janitors will not be asked to clean the rooms.

Collection To Feature A.F.S. Movies, Slides

Hammond Douglas of the American Field Service will show slides and moving pictures in Collection Thursday, of the Ambulance Corps in North Africa. Mr. Douglas has recently returned from North Africa where he has been with the British troops. He will explain the opportunities offered by the Corps, which has already established a great record with its work in Africa. The chorus will sing in Collection on April 22nd.

On Thursday, April 8, Peter van de Kamp, Director of the Sproul Observatory, spoke on "The Development of Our Modern Notions Concerning the Milky Way System" with special emphasis upon the influences of Copernicus and Newton. Copernicus, he said, first developed the scheme of the solar system as having the sun in the middle and all the planets moving around it in circular orbits. Newton showed that these motions in the system could be explained by the universal law of falling, or gravitation. Until 1918 scientists thought that the sun was near the center of the milky way system, and that this system was rather small. Now it is realized, said Mr. van de Kamp, that the system is really very large, but because it is full of small particles, we can't see very far. Scientists are now sure that there is a distant nucleus of suns whose attraction holds the whole Milky Way system together.

Diners Now "Parly Fransay," "Sproiken Doitch" At Tables

By Sally Demond

One of these fine spring evenings at about 6:03, after you have clawed your way into the dining room, you will heave yourself into a chair with a sigh of relief. But before you can settle down and start craning to see what is for tonight's din-

Politics, Cheese And Hou Intrigue Individualist Fran

By Marj Way

An individualist who has limited her salesmanship to selling blood to the Red Cross to pay for a trip to Cambridge, Fran Sears combined an early enthusiasm for left-wing politics with an inclination towards art and incongruous situations. She came to Swarthmore because her family was somehow informed that it was a terribly conservative campus.

After a good solid middle-class Republican childhood in Toledo, Ohio, Fran, for the sake of getting off the family bandwagon, turned Communist and memorized long parts of the Manifesto. Her next political departure was to Socialism; but her official standing in this party was rather vague because the local secretary, whether by disillusionment or by sabotage, filed Fran's registration with a grocery list. Still loyal, Fran spent a relative-shocking summer campaigning with petitions to have Norman Thomas' name placed on the ballot. Her influence on the Toledo electorate was dubious, but she gained a thorough knowledge of Toledo street corners. Undeterred, Fran continued her talent for political harangue at Swarthmore by active participation in the O'Rourke campaign-to-end-all-campaigns.

Fran's aesthetic other half had the early ambition to become a fashion artist and live in a garret on cheese. More practically, she did the illustrating for a social studies textbook, "This Useful World," and designed the sets for the Little Theater productions of "Cradle Song" and "Thunder Rock."

At present Fran is something like a quasi, non-party socialist or a "greatly reformed" capitalist. Her current plans are directed towards work in the field of pre-fabricated, low-cost government housing city planning. But she is taking the precaution of majoring in math to enable her to find a job which will permit a diet over and above cereal-and-peanut-butter.



—Credit Curr
Republican O. K.
expresses disapproval

Wilcox Boosts OI Urges Tax Increa

With a comparison of price situation to the price rise in the first the OPA's accomplishments were stressed. Wilcox, of the economic department, now head of the Materials Division of the War Relocation Authority, is dressing an SSU meeting March 28.

"The OPA," Mr. Wilcox "has never interfered with its control of prices and production of things essential to the war. The execution of the war that taxes are a better way to reduce consumption than price controls. He emphasized the need for increased taxes on income which is being spent, and on wage and farm price.

Student-Facult

The Annual Spring Faculty Tea will be held 6 p. m. on Sunday in

DO YOU DIG IT?

Submitted by Lig Mayhew
Kent State University

* "AXE THE GR
HEAVE YOU
PALACE AND

pose her rendering of the part was wrong, but I am very glad it was, as I prefer "The Importance of Being Earnest" to "Night Must Fall."

Coming to the rest of the cast, Barbara Stone and Marion Steuber were admirable stage domestics, and Doris Parker a competent nurse.

Paul Ousley made a very handsome detective, but in England, Inspector, we don't put our hats on inside the house. William Phelps as Hubert Laurie batted at a sticky wicket for that immortal Britannia of Burlesque which no blitz, I fear, will ever destroy. (And Hubert, my dear, where DID you get that liberty scarf in Act

Entertainment or Art?

Robert Gilkey wrestled shyly with the vocabulary and cadences of legal prose. An anonymous organizer gave a loud shudder at the psychological moment. An interesting effect, don't you think? Hm.

Yes, I enjoyed myself enormously like everyone else. But, dreary old highbrow that I am, I couldn't help asking myself whether dramatics at a small college like Swarthmore, where they are obviously not the training ground for future Broadway professionals, ought to be merely better and cleaner fun for the students than drugstore sundaes or the bars of Chester; whether they should not be an opportunity to produce plays like — what shall I say? — Ben Johnson's "Alchemist" or Cocteau's "Orphee," which, unless a college performs them, are unlikely to be performed at all. Undoubtedly neither the actors nor the audience would enjoy themselves as much; but perhaps it would have more relation to the House of Learning which — correct me if I am wrong — a college is supposed to be.

at about 11:00, after you have glared your way into the dining room, you will heave yourself into a chair with a sigh of relief. But before you can settle down and start craning to see what is for tonight's dinner, you are going to be electrified by having someone babble at you incoherently. You may be able to make out something like, "Parly voo fransay" or "Vooly voo passay mwa le burr" or "Sproiken zee doitch." Relax, it's all right. It's not a band of fifth columnists; it's just a language table.

The French department first opened this means of letting students practice what they learn outside of class. Every evening at 6 o'clock a table is reserved for those who wish to speak French only. Every Wednesday evening a table is reserved for German students. And this Tuesday a Spanish table is being held. If the night you are there the waitress has any vague foreign language in her background, she will doubtless cooperate and offer you the choice in it. It adds mystery and suspense to chicken a la king to be known as "poulet au roi."

The participants make serious efforts to make their wants known; but some of them are in vain. If you don't know the right name, substitute! That is the motto and

we want. She keeps pointing to things and we keep saying, "Non," until she finally hits on the cranberry sauce we wanted and we joyfully nod and say, "Merci beaucoup," or "Danke," or "Gracias," as the case may be. It certainly does sharpen your appetite.

However, not every table's vocabulary is quite so rusty. At one dinner a French sailor was invited from the Naval Convalescent Annex. He spoke nothing but French and the conversation was anything but slow.

Now that you know what is going on, if you have any half-forgotten language, drag it out, revive it, keep your seat, and just see what you can do. You might go hungry at first, but it should be worth it.

Cutting Collection

The Cutting Collection program for this week will include: Delius' Sea Drift, Bach's Piano Concerto in D Minor and Beethoven's Archduke Trio.

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