

# 'The Man Who Came to Dinner' Impudently Portrays Woolcott

Alexander Woolcott, so the story goes, once spent a night with the George S. Kaufman's and they never forgot it. It must have been quite an evening because out of it, and their friendship with the late Town Crier of Radio fame developed one of Kaufman and Hart's most successful plays.

In fact, "The Man Who Came to Dinner," to be presented October 24, 25, 29, 30, 31 and November 1 by the University Theatre, makes no pretense of disguising its main character, Sheridan Whiteside, who is the counter part of Woolcott. The Falstaffian wit was not in the least offended by this impudent characterization of himself and would even have played the lead if he hadn't been committed to a lecture tour.

### HAPPY CHOICE

The authors made a happy choice for the lead, however, in Dr. Edgar Montillon Woolley, better known to movie audiences at Monty Woolley. The professor was formerly associated with the drama society at Yale. With his beard fairly crackling with sarcasm, Woolley was the center of action, emanating violent activity in the play. He repeated the role in the screen version which necessarily lost some of its sting because of foreboding censors.

Kaufman, called "the gloomy dean of Broadway wits," acted as director of the play as well as co-author. He rehearsed the acts backward so that each one could be seen as a compact unit that was self explanatory of what action had preceded it.

### Six Months to Write

It took six months to write the play and by the time it was finished they had the actors in mind and the opening date set. Both suffer acutely on opening nights and hate opening night audiences, although no other authors are held in higher esteem by New Yorkers who consider opening night performances as essential to their prestige.

Not poetic writers, Kaufman and Hart use the plot as a frame for fire works. Romantic scenes are inserted as dutiful gestures midst a fury of gags, bitter and speedy attacks on stupidity, and loud humor.

As final magnanimous gesture, the authors dedicated their masterpiece of invective "To Alexander Woolcott—for reasons which are nobody's business."

### Spanish Teachers To Honor Author

Teachers and friends of Spanish have been invited to a luncheon at the faculty club today honoring the 400th anniversary of Cervantes, Spanish author of Don Quixote.



**DOROTHY SHAY, "The Park Avenue Hillbilly," sings the ballads that made her famous, on "Spotlight Revue," the big, new Spike Jones musical variety and comedy show over CBS each Friday night.**

Approximately 50 people will attend the luncheon which has been arranged by Dr. Anibal Vargas-Baron, assistant professor of Romance language and president of the American Association of Teachers of Spanish.

### Pianist's Recital Gets Re-schedule

Originally scheduled for October 24, the recital of George Hopkins, professor of piano, has been re-scheduled for October 23.

French-American music will predominate throughout the program, with Ravel's "Bolero" and a "Concert Paraphrase on Gershwin Themes" highlighting the performance. Both of these numbers will be presented as transcriptions by Professor Hopkins. Other compositions by Debussy, Ravel, Copland, Elmerco, Bloch, Soro, Milhaud, and Villa-Lobos will also be featured.

The program sponsored jointly by Phi Mu Alpha, men's music honorary, and the music school, will begin at 8:15 p.m. in the music school auditorium.

### Oregana Slates Phi Psi Pictures

Individual house pictures for the 1948 Oregana are being taken by Kennell-Ellis studio according to the following schedule:

- October 11: Phi Kappa Psi.
- October 13: Alpha Chi Omega, Alpha Delta Pi.
- October 14: Alpha hall, Alpha Gamma Delta.
- October 15: Alpha Omicron Pi, Alpha Phi.
- October 16: Alpha Xi Delta, Kappa Alpha Theta.

Under the plan, which its backers hope will become nationwide, farmers are donating corn, and the townspeople are giving money to buy the grain.

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Student Supper, 6 p.m.

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Dave Seaman, director

Student supper, 5:30  
Recital, 6:30  
Discussion Group, 7:00

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Rev. W. B. Maier, pastor  
Church School, 9:45 a.m.  
Worship Service at 11 a.m.  
Gamma Delta for Lutheran students and friends, Sunday, 5 p. m.

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Dr. Victor P. Morris, teacher  
Town and Campus Group, 6:15  
Bible Breakfast Forum, 9:40 a.m. (donuts and coffee)  
Worship Services, 11 a.m., 7:30 p.m.

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