

Near Perfect Casting Results In Enjoyable Footlighters Play

A small crowd attended Medford Footlighters' initial performance of "The Glen Menagerie," written by Tennessee Williams and first produced in 1945.

They weren't disappointed, as a cast of four took a difficult psychological drama and turned it into an enjoyable evening of entertainment. The outstanding feature was the near perfect casting of the four roles.

A play with only four performers demands an exacting casting. Director Glen Foster should be commended for his selection of Betty Lou Foster, Cheryl Bulger, Al Reis and Dr. Lawrence Ware. They proved to be a harmonious combination.

Familiar Faces

Mrs. Foster, Reis and Dr. Ware are familiar faces in Footlighter presentations. Miss Bulger is a newcomer, having come to Medford from Eugene. She appeared in several high school plays there. She will undoubtedly prove to be a valuable asset to future Footlighter endeavors.

In the notations on characters, Williams describes the role Miss Bulger portrays as that of a daughter who "having failed to establish contact with reality, continues to live vividly in her illusions. A childhood illness has left her crippled, one leg slightly shorter than the other. Stemming from this, her separation increases till she is like a piece of her own glass collection, too exquisitely fragile to move from the shelf."

Miss Bulger had an excellent concept of what the role demanded. Her movements revealed deep inner emotions and frustrations, definitely conveying the psychological element Williams intended.

Reis' performance as a mother clinging frantically to another time and place made the presentation a success. Her role was complicated by requiring a southern accent.

Alvin Reis portrayed the son and also was narrator. He was trying to escape from a trap created by his mother's desire for him to turn out better than his father (a drunk and deserter). He was subjected to constant nagging from his mother, which brought forth an outflow of emotions at times. He combined narration with character portrayal credibly.

Dr. Ware, as the gentleman caller, conveyed vigor and enthusiasm well.

The action takes place in an apartment in St. Louis. The mother is obsessed with

marrying off her shy, crippled daughter. She has a constant fear her son will turn out as her husband, who left her some years earlier. The son is supporting the family by working as a laborer in a warehouse. He dabbles in poetry, and has a constant hope of leaving his complicated situation in favor of world adventure. He loses his job and is forced to attend the movie every night. He resents his mother's constant attention and nagging.

The mother finally persuades him to bring a gentleman caller home to work in hopes that the daughter will meet a prospective husband.

The caller turns out to be a high school hero the daughter admired while in school. The conclusion is unexpected.

Some observations:

1. The play would have been a flop if any actor didn't grasp the proper meaning of his or her role. It was a success because they did understand the right characterization.

2. There were few mistakes. This was surprising. Extremely lengthy lines and an opening night performance combined to make it a difficult task.

The drama will run for four more days, concluding Saturday night. Performances start at 8:30 p.m. at the Footlighters theater, Medford Fairgrounds. —J.S.

Two Thefts Reported To Ashland Police

Ashland - Ashland police Tuesday reported two thefts over the week end. Four wheels were taken from a power mower trailer in Mountain View cemetery. Candy machines were broken open at the Bagley Cannery company, 280 Helman st. Police said candy and money were taken.

Richfield Oil Men Plan Meeting Here

About 100 Richfield Oil corporation service station operators, agents and sales personnel will meet for a sales conference Thursday night at North's Chuck Wagon, according to E. R. Kennedy, Richfield's local agent.

The dealers will hear a discussion on problems facing their industry today, and Richfield's plans for advertising and marketing in the months ahead will be announced, Kennedy said.

Robert V. Berger and Arnold L. Espey, Richfield Oregon district supervisors, will be in charge of the session.

Dealers, agents and company personnel from throughout southern Oregon, extending as far east as Lakeview and west to the coast, will participate in the meeting.

Two Ashland People Involved In Accident

A car driven by Ruth Brown Rogers, 55, of North Valley View rd., Ashland, was struck in the rear by one driven by Irene Ellen Bradshaw, 36, of 1370 South Tolman rd., Ashland, yesterday at the junction of Valley View rd. and Highway 99, state police said.

Both cars were headed south on the inside lane of Highway 99 when the Rogers car slowed to make a right turn into Valley View rd., officers said.

MOTORIST'S LAMENT

New York—The New York Herald Tribune today published the following letter under the heading "Note to scientists," from E. S. Tilton, an obviously harassed motorist:

"Help yourself to outer space. Take your moon and star. Give me just some inner place where I can park my car."

To make a right turn into Valley View rd., officers said.

Two Classes Planned For Real Estate Men

Two classes in the certificate education course will be offered real estate brokers and salesmen of Jackson county during April. Real Estate Commissioner Robert J. Jensen has announced.

Alvin E. Isak, of Salem, will give a lecture on "Selling Real Estate" on April 11, and James F. Loneragan, of Portland, will discuss "Real Estate Law" April 25. Both classes will be held at Hedrick Junior High school beginning at 7:30 p.m. There is no charge for the classes.

Registrations Open For Telecourse

There is still time to register for Oregon College of the Air telecourse being offered over KRES-TV in Medford.

The course, History of Pacific Northwest (HAT 478), is shown Wednesdays from 4 to 4:30 p.m. The series began March 22. Last day for registration for a telecourse is 10 days after initial telecast.

Registrations are still being accepted at the registrar's office, 1734 SW Park ave., Portland 1. Registration material may also be obtained from any general extension division office. The division has a regional office on the college campus in Ashland, and the state-wide office in Eugene.

Taught by Dr. F. D. Haines of Southern Oregon college, the history course traces the history of the Northwest from the beginning of White exploration to the present. Off-campus students either attend campus classes or prepare equivalent work by correspondence.

College of the Air courses are approved by the state system of higher education and may or may not be taken for credit. Credit earned is acceptable at all state system campus institutions.

Minneapolis - Mail storms may cause several times as much property damage in the U.S. as tornadoes in a year.

Orchestra Students To Present Spring All-School Festival

About 300 orchestra students from the 17 Medford public schools will present the spring all-school orchestra festival April 6 at Hedrick Junior High school.

Groups taking part include the Medford public school all-elementary orchestra, the McLoughlin Junior High orchestra, Hedrick Junior High orchestra, the Medford High school orchestra, and the combined group.

The concert will begin at 8 p.m. next Thursday, under the supervision of John Drysdale, orchestra supervisor. There will be no admission charge. Each group will play three selections and, as a finale, the combined groups will present "The Star Spangled Banner."

First rehearsal

Drysdale said rehearsals of the all-school elementary orchestra have been held each Saturday morning, and the final practice will be held Saturday, April 1.

Individual directors include Elmer Ayres, McLoughlin Junior High and elementary; Alice Saunders, elementary; Al Huntmann, elementary; and Drysdale, elementary; Hedrick Junior High and Medford High.

The performance is the orchestra's complement to the all-school band festival which was staged at Hedrick Junior High March 23 before a capacity crowd.

Bills Approved By Legislature

Salem - 479 - Measures approved Tuesday.

By the Senate

SB171 - Loans by banks and companies.

SB361 - Insurance.

SB240 - Teachers' retirement.

SB280 - Cemetery maintenance districts.

SB261 - Allows counties to name their own welfare commissioners.

SB329 - School districts.

SB488 - Plumbing and sewage.

SB489 - Courts, judges.

Ten HB - Budgets National Guard, State Police, Labor bureau, Justice department, Civil Service commission, Employee Suggestion Awards board, State Library, Game commission, Board of Control and other agencies.

HB1084 - Revocation of licenses and registrations.

HB1098 - Teachers' institutions.

HB1248 - Working hours for children under 16.

HB1338 - Water control districts.

HB1407 - Public employees' beneficiaries.

HB1448 - National Guard.

HB1458 - Motor carrier fees.

HB1859 - Fisheries.

By the House

HB1170, HB1135 - Boats.

HB1189 - Oregon Beef council.

HB1231 - Property taxes.

HB1328 - Inheritance taxes.

HB1341 - Gift taxes.

HB1404 - Water carriers.

HB6 - Rules.

Signed by Governor Tuesday:

HB1047 - Motor vehicles department.

HB1057 - Motor carriers.

HB1083 - Ballots.

HB1137 - Fishing near fishways.

HB1142 - Forestry.

HB1211 - Public employees' retirement.

HB1254 - Sets salary range of OTI director.

HB1263 - Operation of OTI's FM station.

HB1264 - State normal schools.

HB1287 - Surplus property.

HB1458 - Fishing in Al-bany's Waverly lake.

HB2005, 2014 - Budgets for Council on Aging, Highway commission.

HB2084 - Payment of expenses involving Supreme court reports.

HB2078 - Budget of Patton Home for the Friendless.

SB20 - Motor carriers.

SB140 - Quarantines.

GOES SCOTT FREE

Knoxville, Tenn.—Ver-non Ray Cole, 27, who admitted the fatal shooting of William A. Knight, 30, at a tavern, was released without a trial Tuesday. "There was just a bunch of drunks out there and we don't want to waste money on a trial," Atty. Gen. Clarence Blackburn said in dropping the charges.

STATEMENT TO THE PUBLIC

Hubbard Bros. of Medford 77th Anniversary and overstock Hardware Sale, a store-wide event embracing Entire Store Stock slashed prices, except manufacturer's agreement items. We decided to give thousands of our loyal customers such sacrifices that are to be taken on our superb quality merchandise. This sale is dedicated to the People of This Community who have patronized us down through the years since our inception in business.

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COMMITTEE REVIVES Teacher Pay Bill

Salem—479—The Senate State and Federal Affairs Committee has revived a bill to increase teachers pay, but trimmed the hike from some \$800 to about \$200.

The committee took no final action on the amended bill.

The measure came up for Senate action earlier in the session but was returned to committee.

Phoenix Juveniles

Accused of Vandalism

Four Phoenix juveniles from four to nine years old are accused of doing from \$300 to \$500 damage in the Associated Fruit company packing house in Phoenix Monday the sheriff's office has reported.

The juveniles, two nine-year-olds, one four and the other seven, broke into the fruit packing plant and tore up a large quantity of chemically treated paper wrappers for pears, peaches said.

The four youngsters tried a board off a door to enter, they said.

Adlai Tells Africans U. S. To Back Program

United Nations, N.Y.—Ambassador Adlai E. Stevenson told the African countries Tuesday that the United States is prepared to back a "realistic" program for their economic development with the world's capital-rich countries contributing 1 per cent of their gross national product.

Stevenson, in a 70-minute meeting with diplomats of 23 African countries, declared that the initiative for a continental development program must come from the Africans themselves.

PURSE HIKE VOTED

Salem—479—A bill designed to encourage race horse breeding in Oregon by increasing purses two per cent has won approval from a Ways and Means sub-committee.

NUMBER UNLUCKY

Quincy, Fla.—479—Judge Tracy Riddle fined Hazel Swints \$41 Tuesday for stealing a jar of jelly. He also ordered her to pay 41 cents to the store from which the jelly was stolen.

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FOLKS! Our Downstairs Housewares and Gift Dept. is overlooked with many Moneysaving Items. We advise you to BUY NOW. It's a Store-Wide SALE. Savings galore. Many items reduced half price and more.

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