

# THE CHILTERN HUNDREDS

## DRAMA 1952 . . . DRAMA'S FALL PRODUCTION



The General's Office in "Press Cuttings", 1952's fall production of the UNB Drama Society. Bill Barwick, always with an eye to the future, is seen staring into the wings as the rest of the Society rehearsed this year's edition of "The Chiltern Hundreds". Also in this memorable shot are Iain Barr and Neil Marsh Oakley, the latter being an actor of very low note and an editor of even poorer note.

### THE PLAY'S STORY . . . UP TO A POINT

Fredericton (UNB) — Lord and Lady Lister, with June, son Tony's American fiancée, await the election news that will tell them whether or not their Tony has won the local seat on the usual family Conservative platform. He hasn't, which 1) deeply shocks the butler, a staunch conservative type, and 2) annoys June, who feels that young Tony lacks get-up-and-go.

"Jackie" Cleghorn (Bill Barwick) who has won the seat, comes to visit, and also Lord Lister's sister, Lady Caroline ("face like the back of a bulldozer"). During the visit Prime Minister Atlee offers Cleghorn a peerage, and the local seat is therefore again vacant.

June decides that she must do something to jolt Tony, and she certainly succeeds, for he does not approve at all of her political ideas. In the meantime Cleghorn is looking tenderly at Lady Caroline, Tony is kissing the maid, Lord Lister is shooting rabbits and other fauna that get in the way, Lady Lister is looking after her pet duck Clara, and the butler is dropping the sausages, with very good reason.

Somehow it's all untangled in three acts. Every play has its difficulties. Last year the Drama Society, producing "Fortune My Foe", had to make puppets, learn to handle them, and stage a puppet show, because author Davies had written a puppet show into the play.

W. D. Home, author of The Chiltern Hundreds, runs to meals on stage, and butler Iain Barr has to do a lot of butling in proper style, while the property crew cook and cook backstage — sausages, hard-boiled eggs, toast, coffee, cereal, to say nothing of weak tea, which, contrary to rumours, is what is served on stage instead of whisky, sherry, etc.

Then there are the animals that Lord Lister shoots, and tells his butler to collect and bring on stage — rabbits, foxes, and ducks — so someone must find reasonable facsimiles of their corpses, and also fire off blanks backstage as Lord Lister shoots.

The play also features some BBC announcing, when the Lister family turn on the radio to hear the election news. Prof. David Galloway has made a special recording in the authentic BBC ringing tones, and the prop man will play it

### Chiltern Hundreds Nearly Cancelled

Fredericton (UNB) — A week before The Chiltern Hundreds was cast, the drama society executive called a general meeting and presented a resolution to the society. The resolution stated, in effect, that the executive felt that unless more response and support was forthcoming from the society, the fall production could not go forward. The Society, as a whole, felt that there was sufficient support to justify proceeding with The Chiltern Hundreds, and enough members volunteered for the various jobs to make the show possible.

To make the most possible money out of the fall production, the society is considering a trip to another New Brunswick town for a one-night stand. St. Stephen and Sussex are rumoured to be on the list of prospects.

eous and not at all owing to premeditated art. However on the strength of it two of those in the cast — Miss Osborne and Miss Mersereau were asked to take part in the next college play, Sheridan's "Rivals" and needless to say they chosen.

### On Stage Next Week At The High School

Fredericton (UNB) — Next Monday and Tuesday evening the UNB Drama Society will present its fall production, The Chiltern Hundreds, on the stage of the Fredericton High School Auditorium.

The Chiltern Hundreds is a three-act comedy, which was both a successful stage play and a popular movie about three years ago. The comedy is about the vagaries of Lord Lister, who "takes no part in party politics, even though his only son turns from the traditional family stand while the butler gives up domestic service and challenges the young lord for the seat on a conservative ticket."

What Lord Lister is really interested in is shooting the rabbit in his garden, and some of the most hilarious scenes in the play center about the "bunny in the begonias".

The staging of a three-act play in the fall constitutes a change in policy for the Society. Usually the Society's fall production is an evening of three one-act plays. This year the society, looking the facts in the eye, decided that 1) the three one-acts of last year were not a financial success, and 2) the Society needed money. The Society then decided that its fall production should be a laugh money-maker, accompanied by an all-out drive on publicity and ticket sales.

Director-actor Shaw says that rehearsals are going well, and the show will be one of the best the Society has staged.

Hazen Marr and Greg Hater are attending to lighting problems, which include moonlight on an English garden.

The show will be staged in the new high school auditorium, and will be the first play ever presented there. The fifty-foot stage will be cut to a more suitable thirty-five feet, and the seating plan adjusted accordingly.

Tickets are selling for 50 cents rush and 75 cents reserved. The reserved seats are all in the balcony.

Since the first act features, in the first scene, June Farrell (Oneta Loughery) in SHORTS, an unbroken view of the stage should be much in demand by UNB types.

### THE DIRECTOR . . .



Prof. A. J. Shaw

Fredericton (UNB) — Since 1950 Prof. A. J. Shaw has been faculty advisor-director to the Drama Society. This fall he is not only directing the play The Chiltern Hundreds, but playing the leading role of Lord Lister, which was played in England on stage and the screen by the great English actor A. A. Mathews. The campus is by now familiar with the professional quality of Prof. Shaw's productions. He has produced here Robertson Davies' "Overland", Priestly's "An Inspector Calls", G. B. Shaw's "Press Cuttings", and, last spring, Robertson Davies' "Fortune My Foe". "An Inspector Calls", and "Fortune My Foe" were both entered in the regional festival. Though neither play won, there was many a UNB student who, having seen the plays said "We wuz robbed".

Prof. Shaw was an old hand in the theatre long before he came to UNB. His drama experience dates back to 1939 and high school plays in Owen Sound, Ontario. Overseas in England during the war he helped to organize and was the Vice-president of the Dramatic Society at the Khaki College of Canada in London. Later, at the University of Toronto, he both directed and acted in University College plays and revues, and also in the famous Hart House productions. In Fredericton, besides his work with the UNB Drama Society, he helped to organize and was first president of the local Players' Guild, and for two years he has lectured in drama at the annual New Brunswick Folk School at Shediac.

This year he became first vice-president of the newly formed New Brunswick Drama League, and was appointed a governor of the Dominion Drama Festival.

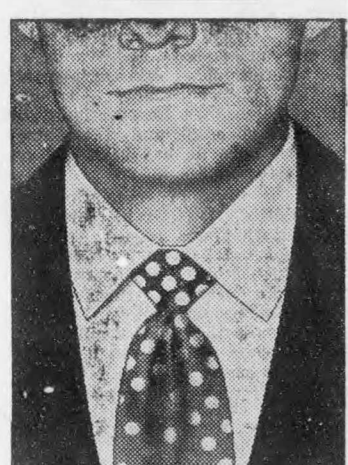
### BEHIND THOSE SCENES IN THE DRAMA SOCIETY

Fredericton (UNB) — While the cast has been rehearsing every night, scores of other Drama enthusiasts have been busy accomplishing the hundred and one tasks that must be done before the show goes on.

Noreen Donahoe has designed posters and painted the big backdrop. Mac Babin, the Society's business manager, is in charge of ticket sales and the Society's budget. Jim Henderson, Helen Howie, and Moira Thompson, and Bud Sellers as over-all director, are looking after publicity and advertising. Press and radio are carrying "spots" and stories, and three down-town windows feature displays to attract the town crowd.

The first announcement of the play was in the form of a six-foot by three-foot coloured poster by Mrs. David Galloway. The poster is on display in Maritime Electric window.

Then there's a three-page list of properties and furniture that must be begged and borrowed from somewhere, and some of the items, like dead rabbits, are hard to come by. Moira Thompson, Sandra Wilson, Beth Cattley, Pete Mansfield, and David Mann are looking out for props. If you've a pet bunny, guard it well for the next few days. In charge of all the many projects going forward in connection with the play is the president of the Society, Bob Sansom. Co-ordination of the 50-odd drama society members who are working on play, all of whom have other things to do as well, is a large size job.



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### DRAMA 1953 . . .



The Barroom in "Fortune My Foe", last spring's major production of the UNB Drama Society. Old friends are old friends but virtue comes before all, or so said Mike Snow to George Watson. This year the Drama Society is producing "The Chiltern Hundreds".

# I'M NO

The boy was obviously ed with the way things His youthful face registri plete disgust. He had b ing in the same spot, l the same store, for tv Several times he had cross the street to where marquee blazed the titl My Bread and Butter. time he had halted half and returned to his ori tion. He thought that if just a few more minute would come along and lift to the dance being Lakeview Pavilion away. Each time, ho had been disappointed, was thinking idly of go room and turning in. "B said aloud, "it's been a He turned from the lit dirt he had accumulated ing his feet, and headed street feeling as disgu looked.

He was a stinky boy, teen years of age, who ing in the town during v vacation from school. lips and shifty eyes, rather dissipated, appee his tanned face and l hair suggested many lo the sun. He walked sort of self-conscious peculiar to adolescents. "Jeez, what a way to cooped up in the dead world; nothing to place to go," he rema mently. Then, realizi had been talking out checked himself lest p him crazy. "Two wee talking to myself al thought.

He approached Al's decided to stop in for a fee. The big, many co box at the far end of was being stuffed full by one of the boys. He was turning toward Eben; what new and He was a tall, well-bui years Eben's senior, ner bespoken easy livi hours.

"Oh, hello, Tim. I' to find someone who is ing, or neckin' with Those lucky sons o'gun Jeez, but I wish I coul excitement."

"You mean you can't ment in this town? W place is lowed with know where to go. S going anywhere in par now?"

"Nope, just heading room for some sleep. ing man you know. "I know where we up a babe or two, if be bothered. Of cour that you need your be said Tim, giving him wink as he rose to pay Eben rose and follo the door.

The two walked ac and got into a flash, vertible, which Tim his. "I didn't know you car," said Eben. . . Well, now that we're where to?"

"Wait and see, Eb Tonight you live!" s found friend with an After a five minute stopped before a dilap men house. The lea the building and up t well-worn stairs. Eb feel a little excited, wasn't every night the guy with "connectio nections" are what T had.

"Apartment 4C." "Here we are." He entered without v answer from within. ped into a large, c Eben noticed that the furniture left mu sired, but the occup did not. Several c dancing to a scratchy June, while others v various romantic pos ently oblivious to th the two boys.

A vivacious young in a door-way whic other room. "Tim, said, as she ran tow outstretched' arms. time you showed up, just getting under w said, noticing Eben time, "who's your fr She was introduc who was quite taken tionate manner in v regarded him. "You bring anyth or are you on the bu she asked Tim. "I'm afraid I forgo Kay," he said. "H mind."

"No, I suppose no other room; help said as she grabbe and led the boys r room to point out th A few minutes la seated comfortably chair with a cool dri and one in his st party, Tim," he rem for bringing me al what I've been need