

Play opens October 27

“Bury the Dead” coming soon

History of the play

by Stephen R. Mills

Irwin Shaw was born in New York in 1913 and as a young man spent a great deal of time fluctuating between writing comic strip dramatizations and radio serials.

In 1936 at the age of twenty-three he wrote “Bury the Dead”. The play is a study of common men basing their values of life against the futility of war and its inevitable consequences. Although written before the Second World War, it is contemporary in its concept and depicts no particular era of history.

“Bury the Dead” was produced in New York Theatre League under great difficulties in an obscure New York playhouse. It is included in Gassner’s “Twenty Best Plays of the Modern Era”, and has been presented across the U.S. by almost every little theatre group. It has been produced in England and Ireland by the Habina Players of Palestine in a Hebrew translation. Having attracted enormous applause it became an overnight success and moved to Broadway.

The Dalhousie Musical and Dramatic Society, under the direction of D. Ray Pierce, is producing “Bury the Dead” on October 27-31 in the McInnes Room of the Dalhousie Student Union building. Student actors involved in last year’s production of “Inherit the Wind” and the Pumpkin Theatre which operated in the city during the summer months, are in the cast. Tickets are available at the Central Box Office — phone 424-2298.

Play credible, timely — Jones

Time fast approaches for the premier of DMDS’s first production of the year. Blurbs and bulletins (similar to the above) have given students some idea about the play. But one still wonders what is the theme of the play and why did DMDS decide to produce it. Dave Jones, as Society president and a person involved with all facets of the play, explains.

“It’s a credible play”, he said. “A play one would expect a serious company to tackle.” He called the play timely and interesting in approach. The anti-war sentiment it expresses is placed within the larger

condemnation of a society based on competition. The quality of human life in such a society is explored through the varied lives of the six men who refuse to be buried. Although the characters are stereotyped symbols, they are far from stagnant, he explained.

The play could be dull because of the amount of dialogue needed to keep the characters vibrant, but Jones explained that, while there was little action within each scene, the scenes constantly switch. This keeps the audience aware of the play, he added.

“A lot of work has gone into the play”, said Jones. “The cast



Debi Watson

is enthusiastic and confident.” All indications point to an evening of intense and interesting drama.

more profiles

There are thirty-five people on the stage in “Bury the Dead” and numerous others behind the scenes. Obviously a profile of everyone involved would be impossible. However, short profiles of six more participants are included this week.

Liz Wadden was born in Halifax and brought up in New Glasgow. Her previous experience includes Speech

Festivals, the New Glasgow High Drama Club, the Pictou County Players, and Theatre 100.

Laurie Gallant, from Moncton, N.B., is language-oriented but managed to be in two productions with the French Amateur Theatre. This is his first year at Dal.

Debi Watson, from Dartmouth, is a third year chemistry major. Her previous experience consists of playing a puppet who comes to life at the age of twelve.

Fred Anthony was born in Kentville and attended high school and university in Halifax. He has experience in ballroom dancing and on the stage — high school and local shows.

PHOTOS BY ELIO DOLENTE DAL PHOTO



Henry Boyd



Fred Anthony

(bob jeffries/ dal)



Stephanie Reno

THE BEAN SPROUT
 UNPACKAGED ORGANIC FOODS
 WHOLE GRAINS — BEANS & PEAS
 FRESH FLOUR — FRUITS — NUTS & SEEDS
 HERBS — SPICES — TEAS
 UPPER LEVEL ↑ 1709 BARRINGTON ST.
 423-8630



Laurie Gallant



Liz Wadden

THE PIRATE’S DEN
 Beverage Room
 3 Choices of Atmosphere to Suit Your Mood
 Taped music to add to Your Relaxation
 5 Fireplaces to warm Your Toes
 It’s the Perfect Location to meet your friends!
 Corner of Hollis & Morris Sts.

HALIFAX BRITISH MOTORS LIMITED
 “Your Authorized Dealer”
BRITISH LEYLAND
 AUSTIN — MG — ROVER
 TRIUMPH — JAGUAR
 Dalhousie Representative Tim Herbert
 St. Mary’s Representative Bill Manley
 2386 Maynard Street
 422-7456