

DRAMA ON CANADIAN CAMPUS

A University of Toronto CUP Feature by Pearl Parnes

Judging from reactions of twelve universities to a CUP questionnaire sent out by the Varsity, the calibre of Canadian amateur acting is on a high level. Support of the university drama group, however, ranges from the apathetic state at Western to the well-filled theatre at the University of Toronto.

Acadia, too, suffers from the mediocre reception given to its productions. It has an ambitious programme including a Shakespearean play, a current Broadway hit, French plays, a religious one-act by S.C.M. and an interclass drama festival with entries by each of the four years. It is headed by Prof. H. S. Sipperell, "probably the best dramatic coach in Eastern Canada," according to the report received. Yet some of the productions **Joan of Lorraine**, despite enthusiastic reviews, brought out only one-tenth of the student body.

Dalhousie, with superior stage and lighting equipment, and acting of "amateur excellence," fares rather better, with one-half to two-thirds of the students attending on student nights.

Bob Toye, president of the University of Western Ontario, gave a discouraging report of drama on his campus. The acting, he claims, "as amateur acting, is amateur." He blames lack of dramatic atmosphere and general lack of interest on the campus for this condition. The stage available to the Guild is very small, with no dressing rooms and poor lighting facilities. "a very high schoolish affair," he explained. Although **Purple Patches**, the annual show is enthusiastically received by students and city officials alike, the drama productions are poorly attended.

Paradoxically, it is the smaller colleges which generate the greatest enthusiasm for dramatic productions. The Sock and Buskin Drama Club at Carleton College, equipped with a very good stage and actors who participate in the Canadian Repertory Theatre and the Ottawa Little Theatre as well as in campus productions, creates a good deal of interest, prompting the following editorial comment in the College newspaper:

"The Buskins deserve praise and encouragement for their full schedule of dramatic endeavours. If

the other clubs on the campus showed as much interest in their work as this group, Carleton would be the most active club centre in the university field."

The University of Montreal, with only two productions in the last two years, has reached a high standard of excellence. "Fantasio" by Alfred de Musset, viewed by University of Toronto students on one of the Carabin week-ends, sent the Toronto people home raving about the modernistic decor, which gave a three-dimensional effect, and the "impeccable manner" in which a three-act play was produced by a minimum of sets on a stage without curtains. A one-act adaptation of **Oedipus Rex** was enthusiastically received by the Montreal students, who designed and made all stage props and costumes. Concentrated effort is put into the production, with the actors of **Oedipus Rex** spending one week up north to get perfect precision.

The University of Alberta, with a drama department closely allied to their drama club, two theatres and excellent technical equipment, covers all aspects of dramatic art. A full program includes one-act and three-act plays, classics, Canadian and radio plays, with such ambitious projects as **Madwoman of Chaillot**, **Anna Christie** and **Macbeth**. Costumes and scenery are designed and made by the students, with ingenious plans for duplication of sets.

Saskatchewan, with a drama school, a small but adequate theatre, good stage and excellent lighting equipment, produces all their own scenery and costumes. Their usual six to eight night stands, including Russian and Greek translations, are well supported on the campus. McMaster, with facilities which are "terrible, or worse" still manages to produce a three-act play and participate in the Inter-Varsity Drama League Festival.

St. Francis Xavier, another small college, specializes in modern three-act plays. Despite crowded rehearsal time, little or no previous training, and few productions, the enthusiasm and interest created in the student body is excellent, particularly musicals, (e.g. **Brigadoon**), comedies and farces. Serious drama does not draw well, however, and fifteen to twenty percent of the students will not attend any production. An excellent auditorium in the basement of the college chapel possesses a large, rather disproportionately long stage, with good lighting equipment. All scenery and costumes are made by the students, as at most of the universities. Muslin covering is used here for sets, since it is cheaper than canvas and adequate for the purpose. As is the case in most universities, there is a lack of construction and storage space for scenery.

Prices for campus productions usually range from 50 cents to one dollar, with the University of Ottawa, which gets an excellent student support, charging 25 to 40 cents.

(Continued Next Week)

Antigonish — (CUP) — An enthusiastic move has been started to initiate Canadian Football here. A committee has been set up and arrangements are being made to finance this new sport. In explanation it was stated that there are only two universities in the Nova Scotia rugby league, while several others play Canadian Football.

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to a scholarly study of the Bible. A vote of thanks was extended to the speaker by the S.C.M. President, John Smith, after which refreshments were served. Following this the group retired to St. Anne's Church for a short period of worship lead by the General Secretary of the group, George Morrison.

UNB RADIO CLUB

The next meeting of the UNB Radio Club will be held on Thursday, November 1st at 7.30 p.m. in the Electrical building. The agenda will consist of further plans for the club transmitter, films of radio interest and a talk by Professor Collier of the Electrical Engineering department. It is hoped that all members will be able to attend this meeting. Any interested non-members are also invited to attend this meeting.

NOTICE

There will be a meeting of all class presidents, club and society presidents, and committee chairmen on Sunday, November 4, in the Forestry building at 2.30 p.m. Presidents unable to attend are asked to have executive members present. This is an urgent appeal issued by the Students' Representative Council.

(Continued from Page 1, Col. 5) encouraging, and he and his executive anticipate an excellent show. Student participation promises to be exceptionally good this year, he said. Interest and desire are the only requisites, talent and ideas are, of course, desirable assets, Mr. Shaw added.

A meeting of all students interested in any way with the show has been tentatively scheduled for November. However, notices will be posted on the bulletin boards in this regard. In the meantime, everyone is asked to think over and discuss the show with a possible view of performing acts. Any ideas may be submitted to members of the executive. Directors who have been appointed include: Sandy Valentine, Noreen Donahoe, Bob Sansom and Dan MacArthur.

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future. The formation of the League of Nations, he said, was the first "leap" into the unknown of international co-operation on a political scale. The League wasn't entirely a failure since it conditioned the world for the next "leap" formation of the United Nations.

(Continued from Page 1, Col. 3)

stances would be such that in the near future there would be more people willing to act as managers. Special crests and awards were suggested as inducements for people to accept the office. He also suggested that there should be novices to train as managers for future years. At present it states in the A.A.A. Constitution that managers should have served as assistant managers for at least one year.

Regarding the recent misunderstanding concerning referees in MIAU sports, it was recommended that at the conference in the spring that it should be suggested that in the event of controversy over a referee, the team who complains should pay half-cost of bringing in a referee.

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ARTS CENTRE PROGRAMME

The regular Sunday evening concert for November 4 will consist of semi-modern music by Debussy, Richard Strauss and other composers.

These programmes each Sunday evening at 8:30 p.m. are produced by the students and for the students.

This year students wishing to present a programme may contact Miss Jarvis at the Art Centre or Howard Boucher at the Men's Residence.

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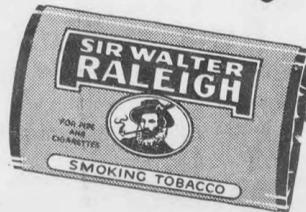


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VOL. 71

Hamm Success

By Miller &

Saturday, Oct. 21, city of Fredericton other day. Beginning and on through until Wallace smashed fat hamster Big Bens and to begin their chores.

Several hours hands began poking blankets, followed bloodshot eyes through the smoke focus on timepieces. ers was stirring, but to change position hands disappeared a reign. Energy was in healthy bodies, later would shake the tonight — the Ham.

By five o'clock cleared and the win promising a perfect Flanagan festivities. esters were now or Faces were smiling. Some of the boys previous night in shirts so as to appear on this great occasion so far as to c President Sewell, seriousness of this, a committee headed Hanusiak, to invest take appropriate dis action.

Although the committee had arrangement to convey the woodlot, many e vide their own pass doubt was due to t of some stout chaps and help with the I strongly suspect the more crafty and v plating a head star knew who would be afternoon and were ing percentages.

The arranged was in the form of form only. Any for means of conveyanc the Forestry building the bus. He rode to Regent and Albert, walked behind the agan road. Next y the foresters will w the cabin and whe activities are over

Social Note

The Social Comm nces that the Fall I held in the Lady Gymnasium on M Dancing from 9:30 a.m.

Fifty non-student sold and will be a Stan Jobb or Barbara attending the danc ed to refrain from decorations as this deal of extra work in charge of the da

THAN

The generous adv ance rendered by th of the Brunswickan preciated. Without would have been i culty and we trust t will result in a mini sion and trouble for