

"The Taming of the Shrew" staged at Saint John last Saturday in 1951 New Brunswick Regional Drama Festival

(Special to The Brunswickan)

Last Saturday morning at the in-human hour of seven-thirty a.m. a chartered bus left Fredericton headed for Saint John. Aboard were the cast of "The Taming of the Shrew", the experts—in wardrobe, makeup, stage-setting and lighting—over twenty in all; their object to represent U. N. B.'s Dramatic Society at the 1951 New Brunswick Regional Drama Festival. By 9.30 the city was reached, by 11 there had been some rehearsal and prop-setting at the Saint John Vocational School, scene of the Festival. By noon dinner was over and by three all was ready for the curtain to rise.

The company excelled their previous performances at Teachers' College in the home town, and presented what director Bob Lawrence conceded to be their best effort to date. The adjudicator, Robert G. Newton, singled out Gwen Dimock, in the title role, for a special comment, that she would

make a good actress with further dramatic training.

Speaking more generally Mr. Newton described "The Taming of the Shrew" as "a spontaneous, fresh performance," and the costumes as "very ingenious and simple," although in some cases they were too much alike, making it hard to tell some of the characters apart. Lighting was just a little too dark and while he was not asking for anything elaborate or expensive, the production could be improved by adding a few more stage effects. The presentation also needed a little more understanding of the times in which it was written.

"On the whole there were too many gestures. About 75 per cent of them could have been left out," and the players did not move around enough, movement being extremely important because the cast have to stand a great deal of the time.

The cast returned to the school for the evening performances, two one act plays, "One Morning Very Early" by the Saint Andrews Club and "The Lampshade" by the Mount Allison Players. They also witnessed, but with true sportsmanship the presentation of the Lieutenant-Governor D. L. MacLaren Cup for the best play to the Saint John Theatre Guild for their production of the "Glass Menagerie"—a cup last year in the proud possession of U. N. B.

A reception was held at the Vocational School following the final adjudication, and another no less festive gathering, a party for the cast was held at the Admiral Beatty Hotel.

At six or thereabouts Sunday evening the troupe ended their brief road tour as they again reached Fredericton.

Debaters Lose

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dent in a debate which waged over that issue. This was all done in the name of Maritime Intercollegiate Debating. Speaking in support of the resolution were Derek Wiggs and Bernie Ganong of the U. N. Debating Society.

On the negative side were two guests from St. Thomas University, Chatham, Ralph Hello of Campbellton and Brian Mulherne Grand Falls, members of the Aquinas Debating Society. Time-keeper for the encounter was Fred Allen.

The judges were Mr. Ben Medjuck, Mr. Charles Hughes and D. W. Griffiths. Mr. Malcolm Neill, President of the Maritime Association of Broadcasters and of the Canadian Association of Broadcasters was present at the debate.

Affirmative Argument

The affirmative based their arguments largely on the example of CFNB, the local independent station. Bernie Ganong pointed out that Mary Grannan, now nationally known as "Just Mary", Don Pringle, who conducts radio interviews at Ottawa, and Barry MacDonald, now of station CBI, Sydney, all had begun their careers with the Fredericton station.

To offset this claim of more talent being developed by private stations, Brian Mulherne cited two commendable CBC productions the French Series, "Our Future Stars", and John Adaskin's "Opportunity Knocks". In his rebuttal, Bernie countered that claim by mentioning the CHSJ, (Saint John) program, "Junior Radio Stars", which has been presenting new talent for twenty years past.

Private Stations Attacked.

The private stations were attacked for using so largely recorded, American originated programs, and the CBC was railed at for sending out programs no one wanted to listen to. With a network of private stations, we were told, television, would soon flow to every part of Canada, and, at the same time we heard that soon the CBC would disseminate video all across Canada. So enthusiastic did the affirmative become that the negative expressed concern over whether there would be a rostrum left from which to speak.

The oratory on the negative part was equally punctuated.

The debate did uncover some interesting aspects of Canadian Radio. When the decision was handed down by the judges in favour of the negative, there was warm hand-shaking and back-slapping on the part of the friendly contenders.

Film Society Extends Thanks to Patrons

The members of the U. N. B. Film Society have expressed pleasure in the student reaction to their recent efforts. Many favourable comments have been heard around the campus concerning the programs which have been presented by them.

The last two films have had their shortcomings, but the general effect of the shows has been one of satisfaction for most in attendance. The Society had intended to include brief criticisms of pictures presented in the Brunswickan, but have decided that audience reaction is the best criticism of a film, and the spontaneous applause which has broken out during the programs seems to indicate the students' agreement with the splendid programs being presented.

The size of the audience, in spite of the numerous college and local attractions, was large enough to be taken as another mark of success. Reflecting on this point, the Society has decided to endorse the new position of campus co-ordinator as a definite necessity and a step in the right direction for U.N.

B. They believe this new function will eliminate a lot of 'coin tossing' which seems to crop up as a result of crowding several college activities into one time.

In announcing their last production, "Four Feathers" (which is an English film) the Society advertised that "... everything has been arranged for your comfort, convenience, and, we trust, satisfaction. All that is needed is an audience." With a group like this working to provide us with entertaining, perhaps more intellectual, diversion, the student body should not be lacking in support, and should therefore provide a good turnout for future programs at the Teachers' College.

Skier Is

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well he may be able to leave Fredericton by ambulance in a couple of weeks. It is not known whether he will proceed to the University or return to his home.

Girardin accepted his misfortune stoically, and cheerfully remarked that he is "anxious to get back on his skis."

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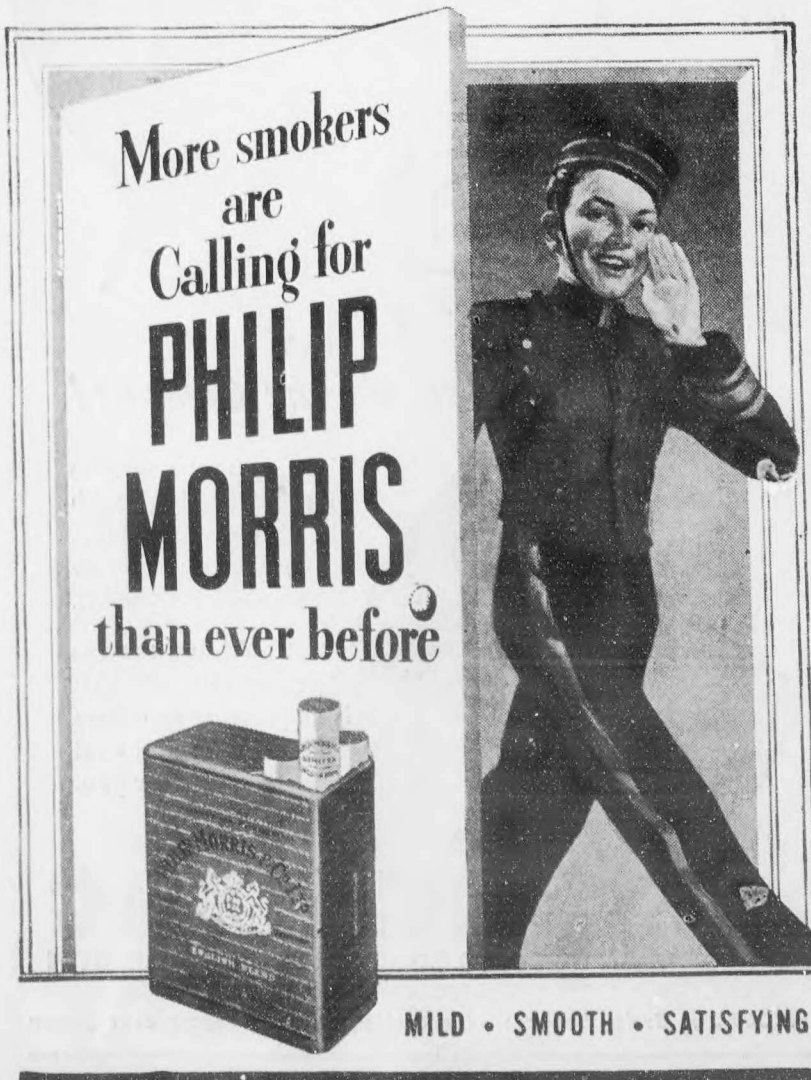
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