

DRAMA

The UNB Drama Society is putting on three one-act plays two comedies and one tragedy, for its fall production this year. With three curtain nights, November 10, 11 and 13, student actors and actresses, mostly making their debuts in the society, will be presenting "He Ain't Done Right By Nell", "Box and Cox", and "The Sisters' Tragedy".

While in recent years the Drama Club has been staging avant garde works, the most recent of these plays, "He Ain't Done Right By Nell", was written in 1935, the oldest "Box and Cox" was written more than 120 years ago, and "The Sisters' Tragedy" was written in 1922.

"He Ain't Done Right By Nell" is an American play by William Braun. It is a good old-fashioned, on-the-edge-of-your-seat melodrama. Tension mounts, tears flow and boos abound as the hero struggles to save his love from the clutches of the villain. Since we have been heralded out of the woods onto the big city stage, we'll have to say "No peanuts this time" (to throw at the cast) but prepare yourself for a heart-warming play that will carry you back to the mountains and the old mill stream.

This is David Attis' first attempt at directing instead of acting. He has won best-actor awards in the Maritime Region for the Dominion Drama Festival in "Inherit the Wind" (1964) and "Death of a Salesman" (1966).

Pat Cumming, a first year Bus. Admin. student from Bathurst makes her stage debut as the heroine, Nell Perkins. Peter Graham, a first year Arts student from Montreal, is the hero, Jack Logan, her true love. In high school he performed in "Julius Caesar". John Van Burek, a post graduate English student from Buffalo, N.Y., is a wolf in sheep's clothing, Hilton Hays, who is out to "get" Pat (Nell) and the estate (and money). Mr. Burek has acted in "Murder in the Cathedral", "Fantasticks", and "Henry IV, Part II" at St. Angela's College, Manchester, New York.

Beverly Clarkson, a second year Arts student from Fredericton, plays Granny Perkins who carries a secret for years. In high school she performed in "I Remember Mama" and "Riders to the Sea" and "The Sound of Music".

Libby Thornton, a third year Education student also from Fredericton, plays a girl "from the city", Vera Carleton. She acted in this past UNB's Summer School production, "What Shall We Tell Caroline?" and has performed downtown in "Capital Capers".

Barb O'Neil, a third year Arts student from Saint John, makes her stage debut as Laura (Lolly) Wilkins, "a typical old maid".

"Box and Cox", by mid-nineteenth century playwright John Madison Morton is a hilarious farce in one act. Since its first stage production, it has held the boards in numerous productions. In the early 1860's, Sir Arthur Sullivan turned the play to music, and in its musical version it is sometimes presented as a curtain raiser to one of the shorter Gilbert and Sullivan operettas.

As a play, "Box and Cox" presents a rather pointless but amusing situation: the antics and incidents which develop between two normally mild-mannered gentlemen tradesmen when they discover to their horror that they share the same accommodations in Mrs. Bouncer's boarding house. Box, a printer, works by night and sleeps by day. Cox, a hatter, has an opposite routine. But, one day, they happen to meet unexpectedly in "their" room. This provides an inevitable series of arguments, misunderstanding and general uproar, culminating (happily) in a surprising turn of events.

Eric Thompson, an English post graduate student from Montreal, is directing the play. This is his first directing experience. He has acted in several one-act plays while at high school and college, and has sung in Gilbert and Sullivan operettas. He received his BA from St. George Williams, his MA from UNB in 1965, and is working towards his PhD.

Christopher Rose, a first year Arts Student from England with considerable past acting experience, plays Mr. Box. Jay Baxter, a first year Science student from Vancouver who is building an acting background, plays Mr. Cox.

Ann MacLeod, a second year Arts student, from Hartland plays Mrs. Bouncer. Last year she appeared in one of the Drama Club's fall productions, "The Hole". In high school she travelled around New Brunswick as a member of a singing trio called the Teen Tones.

The third play, "The Sisters' Tragedy", by Richard Hughes is a tragedy in which the apparently innocuous killing of an injured rabbit to end its suffering leads to another fatal act of mercy.

Directing the play is Steve Kuzky, a post graduate English student. He was active in drama while in Acadia University.

Bonni Sherman, a first year Science student from Fredericton, plays Lowrie, the youngest sister. While at high school she performed in "I Remember Mama", "Oedipus Rex" and two musicals, "Oklahoma" and "Carousel".

Nikki Chabot, a second year Arts Student from Kingston, Ontario, plays Charlotte, the second sister. Last Fall she acted in "The Hole".

Linda Lean, a fourth year Arts student from Fredericton plays Philippa, the eldest sister, in her first role for the UNB Drama Society.

Gerry Allaby plays John, Charlotte's fiance. In charge of properties is Mrs. E. A. Boby, who has been with the Drama Society for quite a few years.

