

UNB  
Drama Society  
Presents

# loot



By ANNE HODGSON

The Drama Society had great success in their first production last fall, *The Skin of Our Teeth*. They are looking forward to presenting their second production, *Loot*, and hope that it will be equally as well received by the students and the city.

*Loot* was written by the English dramatist Joe Orton. It won the Evening Standard Drama award for the best play of 1966. Orton studied at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Arts and had a varied career including a spell in jail. In 1967 he met a violent death at the age of thirty-four.

*Loot* is a black comedy dealing with crime. Mrs. Mcleavy has just died. She lies embalmed in her coffin, her perishables, such as eyes and intestines, neatly tucked away in a little casket. The nurse, Fay, has had seven husbands, all of whom have met peculiar accidental deaths. Now she has her eyes on poor old Mr. Mcleavy. Mcleavy's son Hal and the undertaker have just completed a successful bank robbery. But

the inspector comes knocking on the door. Where can they stash their loot? A bazzare game of hide and seek takes place. The money goes from the closet to coffin to casket. The naked body is stuffed in the closet, a glass eye left rolling on the floor, then swathed and passed from hand to hand. Where is the loot? Where is the body? Who is the innocent? Who is the guilty?

*Loot* is a combination thriller and comedy, using unique, quickwitted dialogue. Orton gives a cynical view of sex, religion and death. He fills his play with paradoxes, misunderstandings and cliches of a disturbed reality, where the guilty become innocent and the innocent become guilty.

*Loot* is under the direction of Alvin Shaw who has produced many successful plays for the UNB Drama Society. A number of Professor Shaw's plays have been invited to compete in the national finals of the Dominion Drama Festival. The Society is sending *Loot* to the Regional Drama Festival in Saint John during the March break. The cast and crew feel it is representative of the good work and efforts that UNB students can achieve.

The cast is small but every role is quite extensive and the members have been rehearsing since before Xmas. Mr. Mcleavy is played by Alex MacAlpine who has shown promise in smaller roles in the society's last two productions. Joan McDaniel who has been with the society for several years plays the Nurse. Brian McLaughlin plays Mcleavy's son Hal. Lawrence Peters and Rick McDaniel made their last appearance two years ago in, *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead*, a play which won Best Production in the Regional Drama Festival. Rick McDaniel directed last year's *Disintegration of James Cherry* which went to Saskatoon for Theatre Canada. Lawrence Peters designed and built the set for *James Cherry*, and was stage manager in Saskatoon. It will be good to see both Lawrence and Rick acting again. Lawrence plays the undertaker and Rick, Trescott the inspector. Meadows, his assistant, is played by Jim Duplacey.

The cast and crew have been working very hard in preparing *Loot*, and they hope the university will support them. The set was designed by Alvin Shaw and stage properties have included such unobtainable items as coffins and glass eyeballs. The UNB Drama Society hopes you will come and help them search for the *Loot* in and out of coffins and glass eyes; February 21st through to 24th at 8:00 p.m. in Memorial Hall. Admission is 75 cents.



## MR. DRESSUP

Mr. Dressup is coming to Fredericton on February 20. He will give two shows in the SUB Ballroom at 4:30 and 7:30 Tuesday evening.

Tickets are \$1.50 for children and \$2.00 for adults. They are available at the Pre-School Centre, Tiny Tots childrens' wear, the Cablevision office on Queen Street, Herby's Music Store, Ross Drug at the Medical Clinic, the Villager in the K-Mart, Jack and Jill Childrens wear at the Wig Well in the mall.

Proceeds are for the Pre-School Centre Building Fund.