...ter News

...Student Gypsy

By EUPHEMIA WYATT

...STUDENT GYPSY of ... Prince of Liederkranz: ... music, lyrics and direc... by Rick Besoyan, com... of Little Mary Sunshine ... though the Prince has ... of sunshine he lacks the ... of Little Mary. Taken ... however, as a nostalgic ... of the days when senti... overlaid sex, when girls ... skirts, when violins rever... d in the pit instead of sax... es and when leads were ... because they could sing ... Prince offers a very pleas... melodious evening with the ... sweetness of Eileen Bren... voice; the strong contralto ... annan Bolin; the humor of ... de Luise; Don Stewart ... ig in handsome uniforms ... his also come in an innocent ... and much applause with ... d b e l l accompaniment to ... duet "Ting-a-ling" by very ... y Mitzi Welch and Dick ...

Ella and Kate and Mag! All, all are sleeping, sleeping, sleeping, sleeping, on the hill.

In 1916, with a more bitter pointed pen than Thornton Wilder, Edgar Lee Masters created his town of Spoon River letting each former citizen speak for himself in such taut, dramatic free verse that it has occurred to an actor, Charles Aidman, to present selections from the anthology on the stage. First produced at UCLA, the people of Spoon River are now brought to life by Betty Garrett, Joyce Van Patten, Robert Elliston and Mr. Aidman with such astounding vitality and variety that it makes for an engrossing evening, with musical interludes by two folksingers, Hal Lynch and Naomi Caryl Hirshorn.

THE REHEARSAL: As charmingly elegant as a prize rose, it is hard to guess the corruption in its heart. Marivaux was the fashionable playwright of the early 18th century and there is a French verb, "marivauder" which means to imitate Marivaux. This is exactly what Anouilh has done in this comedy even to the length of dressing his characters in period costumes because they are rehearsing Marivaux' Double Inconstancy.

The Count and Countess only live together to give their famous parties; this one is to be a ball preceded by a play in the castle just left them by an aunt who has stipulated in her will that the estate must be shared with 40 selected orphans. To take charge of the orphans, a governess has been engaged and it is this young girl with her undisciplined heart who ends both the rehearsal and the comedy.

For the first time, the Count discovers what it means to love and both his wife and mistress foresee a crisis. To really fall in love with an inferior, is not playing the game. The mistress irritated, the Countess, determined to ruin the romance. She will steal the perfume from the rose and enlists the Count's best friend for her project. A telegram recalls the Count to Paris, his friend, Hero, visits the young girl in her room. The girl may be a rose but not a lily.

She has already received the Count but next morning when Hero has paid back the grudge he bore his friend and finds the girl has disappeared, he suddenly discovers he has a conscience. Hero forces a duel and it is probable he will fire into the air. Coral Browne, Alan Badel, Keith Mitchell and Jennifer Hilary give brilliant performances; the set and costumes are perfection—so is the direction of Peter Coe—only the play leaves one with a sour aftermath.

...ERE'S LOVE: Book, music ... are again by one man, ...edith Wilson but the direc... is by the thirty-one year ... producer, Stuart Ostrow, ... publisher of Wilson's music, ... shamelessly full of sentiment ... the story and screenplay ... acle on 34th Street from ... ch it was adapted. Here's ... e has plenty of crackle, be... ning with the spectacular ...cy's Parade and sustained by ... energy of Janis Paige, her ...s, R.H. Macy (Paul Reed) ...d the stalwart Marine Craig ...evens.

There is also the salesman... r who faints at the mention ... Gimbles and who has mista... nly ordered eight thousand ...astic alligators — they end up ... shoes! Actually the pivotal ...aracters are Santa Claus, who ...lls himself Kris Kringle and ...anis Paige's little daughter, ...usan Walker, who loses her ...isbelief in Santa Claus.

She's not too cute as played ...y Valerie Lee who speaks and ...ings with unusual clarity. Lau...ence Naismith is a distinguish...ed Saint Nicholas who infuses a new spirit of Christmas into Macy's — and even Gimbel's. The Eckharts have designed the sets; Alvin Colt, the costumes and Michael Kidd the lively dances — I particularly liked the hobby horses. Miss Paige, R.H. Macy and Craig Stevens are all brimming over with vitality. Mr. Stevens can also sing. Here's Love ends up on a high note of smartness and good humor. Ideal for family parties.

OBRATSOV PUPPETS: Not being a puppet fan, I went rather laggingly to the Russians but must admit their adroitness although in too large a theatre. Their elaborate proscenium arch and curtained stage look very miniature in the vastness of the Broadway Theatre where its difficult to understand the Master of Ceremony but the characterizations are very apt. Opening with a concert of pianist, cellist and two chorus — the highlight were a troup of black poodles, a duet between a black dog and a hen — she clucks — and a magician who managed to drink the wine he poured out of his silk hat! When the eight puppeteers thrust their hands up from below, they were the uncouth hands of giants. The puppets actually seemed more human.

CHIPS WITH EVERYTHING: Arnold Wesker is the young Englishman who writes simply of simple folk. His Roots had a very brief run here, his Chips a phenomenal one in London. Its a simply study of the training in the R.A.F. of one company of recruits and depends on its authenticity, rapidity and tautness of the acting of the men, the corporal and the officers. It incises not only the ugliness of war training but British snobbery.

Pip, a General's son, has seen fit to enlist as a private and the Brass are outraged. Pip's motivation puzzled me in London and still puzzles me here. He does fascinate the men with his condescending descriptions of life at home but when he refuses to take part in bayonet practice one feels respect increasing. But — the Brass ordain he have another chance and an astute Pilot Officer suggests all Pip really wants is a felling of power. Alas, it must have been true. Pip punches the sack with his bayonet and returning to barracks breaks off friendship with the boy who really wanted his tutelage.

Wesker, telescoping time, then has Pip appear in officer's uniform just in time to save Smiler from injustice. Has aristocracy proved itself or has the experiment in democracy been fruitful? Everyone is topnotch, especially Smiler—Ronald Lacey—of the origial company who is always in trouble with his superiors because he has a smile that won't come off. A raid, led by Pip, for fuel turns out a most exciting incident when the passage over a high wire fence is timed exactly with the passing of a sentry. The second night, the fence was wobbly but not the actors.

SPOON RIVER: Where are Elmer, Bart and Charley—...

Play To Highlight Festivities At St. Agnes

The entire student body of St. Agnes High School will arrive most eagerly at school on Thursday, Oct. 17, feast of St. Margart Mary — but not for school. There will be no classes that day. Instead, there will be festivities culminating the many preparations now being made to celebrate with appropriate zeal their principal, Sister Marie Margaret's feast day.

To begin this special day Rev. Walter F. Cushing will offer Mass for Sister's intentions. Each girl will participate in singing Mass IX while the Glee Club will chant the Proper of the Mass and render Franck's "Ave Maria" for the supplementary offertory. Kathleen Campbell at the organ will accompany both the Glee Club and the student body.

A special assembly is planned for shortly after Mass, first to present "Sleeping Beauty" in which Rose Marie Harmon as Queen Arabella, Nancy Kingsbury as the King, Barbara Ko... zimor as Princess Beauty and Charlene Territo as Prince Charming play the leading roles.

Other members of the cast includes Lady Bettina played by Cheryl Schifferli; Lady Celestina, Kathleen Carroll; Lady Margaretta, Susan Rasmus; Lady Annellia, Sue Ricotta; Lady Floriana, Beverly Scorfano; Nanny, Jane Dearie, Amaryllis, Janice Leonid; Prince Reginald, Patricia Sloan; and Heralds, Patricia Morlon and Mildred Lenorth. Fairies will be Mary Lou Alvarado, Diane Pirinea, Kathleen Cunning, Patricia Davis, Dolores Pedersen, Patricia Martindale, Ginette Rose, and Carol Webb.

When Barbara Pinckney and Sally Cohen, president and vice-president of the Student Council, respectively, will call upon Sister Marie Margaret to come to the stage that they might present her with the gifts of the entire student body — spiritual offerings from each girl recorded in homeroom groups, and a beautiful set of seven branch candelabra to be used in the new school chapel.

Extended lunch periods are part of the schedule. The menu for this day features a special turkey dinner with all the trimmings and plenty of leisure to enjoy it and the company of favorite companions.

This program of "special features" continues through the afternoon with a movie according to tradition; and the aura of perfection is complete with a two-thirty general dismissal.

St. Agnes High School seniors, Rose Marie Harmor as Queen Arabella and Nancy Kingsbury as the King, dramatize a scene from "Sleeping Beauty" to be presented before the student body in honor of Sister Marie Margaret's feast.

Disc Notes

From Paul Contestable

Folk-singers come and folksingers go, but the master of them all is still around and turning out new records regularly. Bur Ives lates album on the Decca label, The Best of Burl's For Boys and Girls, is sure to please. In this latest collection of folk songs, Burl Ives is cast in the role he loves best, that of the jovial pied piper for the small fry.

But don't think the record will please only the children. Any adults within ear shot of the phonograph will find themselves as entranced as the children with this record.

Age is no barrier to the constant enjoyment of songs like I Know an Old Lady or Blue Tail Fly, or to the adventures of the man in the coon-skin cap as depicted in The Ballad of Davy Crockett, or to the nonsense favorite of the troops during the Civil War, Shoo Fly.

And when these songs are presented in the inimitable style and with the special quality that singles out Burl Ives as one of the true giants of the entertainment world, there are hours of warm and stimulating entertainment guaranteed.

Able support is given by the Ray Charles Singers on Polly Wolly Doodle and by Ken Darby and the King's Men on The Man on the Flying Trapeze.

Adjectives seem weak in trying to describe the radiant and impressive styling of Burl Ives. Perhaps it would be best to simply state that the record couldn't do better — a true showcase of pleasing entertainment. Whether it be in nonsense verse or in the tender Kentucky Babe, Ives is the master of them all.

Some of the songs tell a story, some set our toes to tappin', still others get the velvety Burl Ives treatment befitting lullabies. Gay songs, sad songs — all will fascinate and entertain children and adults alike.

The light and pleasing music of Guy Lombardo has been captured in a new release on the Decca Label, The Sweetest Music This Side of Heaven — 1941-48. The unique artistry of Lombardo has thrilled audiences down through the years with charming tunes presented in a charming manner.

This latest release features some of the best of the period of the '40's including Frankie and Johnny, Take It Easy and Managua, Nicaragua. The humorous touch is added with I'm My Own Grandpaw and Shoo Fly Pie and Apple Pan Dowdy. From the spirited Bell Bottomed Trousers to the sentimental Seems Like Old Times, Lombardo presents a freshness in sound that will please all ages.

Other tunes include The Band Played On, Humoresque Tales of the Vienna Woods, Everywhere You Go, Give Me the Moon Over Brooklyn and It's Love, Love, Love.

Documentary On Pipe Organs By Philip Kreckel

A new work, entitled "Documentary on the Pipe Organ" has been written and compiled for the music department of Nazareth College by Philip G. Kreckel. The purpose of the work is to provide knowledge of the mechanical and tonal resources of the pipe organ for organists and also for those interested in the pipe organ.

Through many years of experience, by frequent visits to organ factories and by observing the trend in organ design, the writer has been able to learn the basic principles concerning the instrument.

Several chapters in the work cover the technical, as well as the study on improvisation and modulation. Mr. Kreckel is the composer of seven volumes of organ music, which have been used extensively by churches of many denominations. Publication of the Documentary will be available within the next few months.

25 Years Ago

(From files of the Catholic Courier Journal, Oct. 13, 1938)

St. John Fisher, the "Martyr Bishop of Rochester" was offered as a model to diocesan sodalists by Bishop Duane G. Hunt of Salt Lake City, Utah at a rally in Columbus auditorium. Bishop Kearney celebrated Pontifical Mass for the Sodalists on the auditorium stage.

Twenty-five civic leaders invited to the Bishop's residence, East Ave, voiced enthusiastic approval and cooperation in Bishop Kearney's proposal for a city-wide program to provide more employment through stimulation of dormant purchasing power.

A devastating tornado totally destroying a church, rectory and parish hall in South Carolina in his diocese brought an urgent appeal from Bishop Emmet M. Walsh of Charleston to Bishop Kearney for financial aid.

Stanford Bars Religion Classes

San Francisco — (NC) — Off-campus organizations may not use Stanford University facilities for teaching religious subjects, Wallace Sterling, university president, has ruled.

THE STEERING committee of the university faculty recommended unanimously refusal of a request by Hillel Foundation for use of class space for night courses in Jewish history and the Hebrew language, Sterling said.

In his refusal Sterling noted: "It has always been the policy of the university to insist that formal instruction on the campus be given only by persons holding university appointments. This applies to all fields."

Ithaca CDA Lists Meeting

Ithaca — Court Santa Maria 240, Catholic Daughters of America will meet Tuesday, Oct. 15 at the KC Home for the annual canned goods shower and dinner for the Sisters of St. Joseph at 6:30 p.m. Cochairmen are Miss Helma Tudi, Mrs. Genevieve Bossach and Mrs. Rita Smith.

A surprise birthday party for Miss Mary Clines was held Oct. 1.

Legion Of Decency

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Class A, Section 2
Stolen Hours
Suitor, The
War Is Hell
Class A, Section 3)
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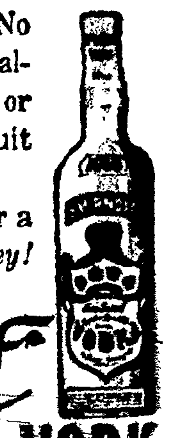

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