

Curtain Call With Ritch

by Paul Ritch

Recently, in the auditorium of Lee H. Edwards high school, the Barter Players of Virginia presented their somewhat liberal interpretation of Shakespeare's "Twelfth Night" for the members of the Asheville Community Theatre. Needless to say, they gave an excellent performance, but the purpose of this column is not to discuss its merits, as it has already been adequately reviewed in the local papers. We would like, however, to bring the subject a little closer to home and see what effect the Barter group might have on the field of drama in North Carolina.

The Barter Theatre is an experiment in a new phase of American theatre. It was formed in the pre-war days by a group of young stage aspirants who were unable to find work in New York. They managed to purchase an old barn in the small farming town of Abington, Virginia and there set up housekeeping. But soon they found that the people in the surrounding territory were unable to support a theatre with money so admission was granted on the basis of barter. The audiences showered the young group with all sorts of food, clothing, and services for the privilege of seeing them perform. It was not long before the popularity of the new company began spreading, and the state legislature, realizing the possibilities of drama as a state institution, adopted the theatre and extended the hand of assistance. Since then Barter has gone on to win national acclaim as the best stock company in the land, and even is now on a tour through the South.

As to what effect this may have on North Carolina, let us look at the work begun by the late Professor Frederick H. Koch, former head of the dramatics department at the University of North Carolina. Under his guidance there was started a movement to further the cause of native drama in this state. He encouraged young play-writers at Chapel Hill to turn to the history, legends and traditions abounding in the state for their play material. Also, he organized the annual dramatic festivals held at Chapel Hill. His labors have proven that there is a great wealth of talent that should be developed lying dormant in this part of the country. All it needs is a suitable outlet.



A-B-C's DREAM GIRL. Gert Gregg. A Lovely Heavenly being on Earth. Its a Joy to watch her Lips form the words "Prune-Juice". (Photo by Don McMahon, staff photographer.)

Los Sabios Plan Social

It looked like Old Mexico had appeared in Asheville-Biltmore College last week, with all its regalia. If you had peeped into the library while the annual pictures were being made you might have seen Pablo Raine, characterized as a Mexican peon, wearing a sombrero and a Mexican blanket. Who would have doubted that he was from South of the border?

The next meeting of Los Sabios will be held March 25, at the home of Mrs. Miller on Fairview Road. Mrs. Miles, one of the members, is bringing two Spanish guests who will sing, and Miss Miller will introduce "un muchacho" from the University of Georgia who is active in the Spanish club there. Further entertainment will be furnished by members of Los Sabios; Rod Miller on the accordion and Walter Byerly on the piano.

The final social activity this spring will be a banquet to end a most enjoyable and profitable year of Los Sabios.

Letters To The Ed

(Continued from page 2)

haps illustrated by the Bluets' Ball, Valentine party, Language Club parties, and picnics which a great many students attended and enjoyed (and they also stayed until the end!). Last year, a meeting of all students interested in working on the SUMMIT was announced; over fifty showed up. This year, well, we had less than half that number attend.

As to athletics, the editor might be interested in knowing that football uniforms were ordered last year, and both coaches were hired then.

Certainly this administration deserves many bouquets, but no slurs on last year, please! !

Yours truly,
Elaine Naiman
Pat Sherrill

Building Material . Paint
Hardware

Ed Atkinson Lumber
Company

Asheville, North Carolina

Disks And Dat(a) On The Platter

Fifty-five prom dates in one season is a record for any band—and that's the record that's been made by Elliot Lawrence, twenty-two-year-old band leader. What's more, Elliot is so fresh from the University of Pennsylvania's Academy of Music that seniors there still remember his playing as an undergraduate at college functions.

Interviewed recently by Varsity, the young man's magazine, Lawrence reviewed his amazing college career. Entering at the age of sixteen, he was awarded a scholarship after one term. Then in quick order he became a musical aide to the famous Mask and Wig club, drum major for the football team, and leader-of-the-band at most Penn dances. Lawrence received his diploma at nineteen and with it an alumni prize in music, another prize in creative art.

Incidentally, this campus favorite began his musical career at the age of three—conducting a "kid" band on a small Pennsylvania radio station.

AS YEARS GO BY backed by ECHO SAID NO in the Lawrence manner are still selling like mad. WILLIE isn't doing so badly either.

For a quick change from the living to the dead, get Frankie Laine's KISS ME AGAIN, or SHINE. (WRAP YOUR TROUBLES IN DREAMS).

Be sure to lend an ear to MANANA by Peggy Lee. Its positively a hit. The way Peggy warbles the tune Manana is really a treat.

Co-eds Discuss Current Aims

At a meeting held at the home of Miss Billie Ray DeVault the Classical Coeds drew up the following list of aims for the club; (1) to promote a four year college for Asheville, (2) to support one national or community drive each season, (3) to carry out one project for the school each semester, (4) to help promote a spirit of cooperation among the college students, (5) to sponsor one social event each semester.

At the meeting a round-table discussion of the four-year college plan was led by Dr. Bushey. The following reasons for such a college were brought out in the discussion: Educated men and women are needed to help maintain peace throughout the world. Profession and technical training is needed in the fields of science, medicine, and education. Asheville needs a four-year college for those students who can not afford or do not wish to leave home to attend school. It would bring more trade into Asheville and act as a incentive for improved social and cultural life of the city. "Asheville", Dr. Bushey pointed out, "ranks high among the cities of the U. S. in spendable income per capita. A four-year college would be an investment in good citizenship and a higher standard of living."

BROWN BOOK CO.

Office Supplies School Supplies
Engineering Equipment
Office Equipment

Students!

"Look Sharp"

from

Winners