

Conservatory Crescendos "Medium" Wins Convert to Modern Opera

by Patterson Yeargin

Never again will I think of opera as a static medium, not after having seen what composers are producing today. It was a hard concept for me to adopt because the word itself - brought forth immediately such names as Puccini, Verdi and Mozart. I knew, of course, that Benjamin Britten, Deems Taylor, et al. were writing works which fell into an operatic classification but I didn't quite understand what their music would be like. During the Thanksgiving holidays I saw in Thomasville a production of Gian-Carlo Menotti's "The Medium," and this won me over completely to modern opera.

Story Spine Tingling

The story is a spine-tingling one, dealing with a fake medium who, with the help of her daughter, Monica, and a mute boy, Toby, convinces those who seek her help that they are actually able to talk with the dead. In the midst of a seance the medium suddenly feels a hand at her throat, a supernatural hand, and goes into a panic. This feeling of cold horror increases in her until she, in a state of drunkenness, half out of her mind with fright, mistakes Toby for the being she fears so and kills him.

The production we saw was masterful. The part of the medium was played by Marie Powers who created the role, and all the cast had been in Broadway performances of this or other of Menotti's opera's.

Effects Become Fascinating

The effects were fascinating. During the seance the whole stage was in darkness except for one candle flickering on the left and a dim, dim, lamp just over the seance table. Gradually a ghastly green light began showing through what had appeared to be a picture behind the medium. Slowly a veiled form appeared in this screen and began a mournful wail of "Mother, Mother, are you there?" It created one of the eeriest sensations I've yet experienced.

Perhaps the most beautiful scene was the one which began

with the mute and Monica dancing light-heartedly. Toby, becoming more intense, longed to tell Monica of his love, but was unable to utter a sound. She, knowing his mind, spoke for him what was in his heart, ending with "O, Toby, you have the most beautiful voice in the world."

Study of crack-up superb

As a psychological study of a woman's crack-up it was superb. In the beginning Madam Flora is hard and brutal to both her daughter and the mute. After her experience with the supernatural touch on her throat she goes through various agonies, first seeking comfort from Monica, then trying vainly and with desperation to cajole Toby into admitting that it was he who touched her. She refuses to have any more seances, returns most of the money she has been paid for them and prays for forgiveness. Failing to find comfort in any of these ways she begins drinking and in a moment of complete panic shoots Toby. Finally she is deserted by the horrified Monica and left alone with dead boy. The impact of it is tremendous.

DKG Meets Here

Lambda Chapter of the Delta Kappa Gamma Society had its mid-winter luncheon meeting at Flora Macdonald College December 3. The members of the Society are from Fayetteville, Lumberton, Matxon, Laurinburg, Red Springs, and Fort Bragg.

Guests speaker was Miss Catherine Dennis, State President of the Delta Kappa Gamma Society. She told of the White House Conference, of which she was a member, and its relation for the purpose of Delta Kappa Gamma. Following this came the initiation of the new members. Mrs. P. P. McCain of Flora Macdonald was received as an honorary member. Four regular members were taken in and they were Miss Mary Thomas Carswell of Raeford, Miss Alma Eason of Fayetteville, Mrs. Sarah Dowling Gill of Laurinburg, and Miss Sarah Elizabeth Hamilton of Lumberton.

Who's Who Includes Senior President

by Dee Jordan

She is five feet three inches tall, twenty-one years old, with light reddish-brown hair and hazel eyes. She is Bonnie Mae Bunn, President of the senior class.

Bonnie is from Rocky Mount, and she graduated from Rocky Mount High School in 1952. She is the baby of a very close-knit family, which has an excellent time together. Bonnie admires her father very much and thinks he is a smart man.

Bonnie Favors Two Colleges

Bonnie has, I believe, two favorite colleges: Flora Macdonald and State. She has quite a record at FMC, too. She was a member of the math club and the Classical Club. She played volleyball in her freshman and sophomore years. She has been a member of the International Relations Club. Last year Bonnie had the job of Tea Room Manager; and that is really a job. This year she is Presi-

dent of the Senior Class and was chosen for Who's Who in American Colleges and Universities.

Her interests are very diversified. She likes to walk —(al-

Bonnie Bunn



AA Names Varsity

Volleyball season ended officially with recognition of the Flora Macdonald College volleyball varsity. From the Senior class were Sallie Anne Munroe, president of the Athletic Association; Emojeane Womeldorf, two year varsity winner; and Delores Stone, Athletic Association treasurer. Pat Powell, winner of the 1955 tennis tournament, was the only representative from the junior class.

From the sophomore class came Mac Calhoun, captain of the volleyball team; and Sarah Goodman, captain of the team her freshman year. Chosen from the freshman class were Sarah Jordan, captain of the basketball team; and Becky Browning. All were elected by the Athletic Association in secret ballot on the basis of ability, sportsmanship, and teamwork.

Athletic Association also awarded monograms to seven girls-four seniors and three juniors. A total of 500 points is required to receive this award. Recipients were Emojeane Womeldorf, winner; Mary Ruth Matze, captain of the senior team; Betty Joe Hatcher, team member freshman and sophomore years; Pat Powell, Norma Pittard, captain of basketball team her sophomore year; and Anne Turner, captain of volleyball team her freshman year.

Home Ec Club Sells Gifts From Bazaar

by Jane McDonald

"Have you already sold the black angora earrings?" "Do you plan to make any more?" These were some of the questions the Home Economics girls were answering Tuesday afternoon when they opened the Christmas Bazaar chest.

Each girl made an article or articles and donated them to me sold to make money for the Home Economics Club. Such things as collars, potholders, earrings, covered cloth racks, dollies and other articles were made.

Since this was the first bazaar, the club feels it was a great success.

Library Shows Material About Walt Whitman

In connection with the recently enjoyed Feinberg of an Exhibit of valuable Whitman holographs and related materials in photostatic copies, FMC librarian, Mrs. Flora Perry, arranged a supplementary exhibit of books and magazines. Of special interest among the latter were eighty eight issues of the *Conservator*, generous gift of the Feinberg Foundation and rich in Whitman articles by Horace Traubel, the editor, and other friends and contemporaries. Noteworthy, too, were the print of a bronze model of Whitman's hand, with samples of his manuscript; various editions of *Leaves of Grass*, whose first a century ago has been widely celebrated all year; and the new critical biography by Allen, author of the *Whitman Handbook*.

Juniors Receive Rings

November 30, 1955, marked the day arrival of the Junior class rings at Flora Macdonald. Several class pins and a pendant were also received.

Ring, pin, and pendant are standard in their form. They are gold and the seal of the college forms the top part. Inscription of the initials of the student, the year of graduation, and the degree which she will receive upon graduation decorates each.

so to talk). Also is learning to hop. Maybe she will give us an exhibition when she learns. Another of her interests is drinking coffee and fellowshiping. That truly sounds like a "Flossie Macker." Reading, though, is her real hobby. Among her favorite books are LOOK HOMEWARD ANGEL and THE PROPHECY. Historical novels suit her the best.

Likes Pineapple Cake, Fried Chicken

Bonnie likes pineapple cake, fried chicken, ham and adores cheese. She doesn't care for people who have too much to do, but her pet peeve is chewing gum; just ask some of her students. She loves music by Jackie Gleason; to beat her roommate; and her favorite perfume is "Toujours la Smooche." (Mr. Reagan almost had a French major.) Bonnie likes the country and particularly the western part of the state where she hopes to teach. She does not like mosquitos.

Bonnie is a loyal Zetesian and she has lived on Fleming Hall all four years. She is a Bible and history major.

Williams Performs

Professor of organ, John R. Williams, gave a recital at the organ November 1 in the Flora Macdonald auditorium. Mr. Williams has returned to the faculty after a year's leave of absence.

Numbers by Purcell, Couperin, Buxtehude, and Bach were played. Frank, Brahams, Langlais, McAmis, and Dupre pieces also composed the program.

Receiving his B. M. from Oberlin Conservatory of Music and M.M. from University of Michigan. Mr. Williams has studied with the Grigg Fountain and Robert Naehren. Winner of the Southern Region of American Guild of Organists Organ Playing Competition in 1951, he is recitalist for the convention in 1957.

Last year while studying as a Fulbright Scholar at the Royal School of Church Music, Croydon, England, Mr. Williams appeared as a recitalist of the yearly series presented by the St. Jude's Church of Thorton Heath, London, and received wide acclaim from London critics.

Poole Presents Varied Recital at Piano

by Della Evans

Attired in a striking gown of white faille and black velvet, Miss Arlette Poole, professor of piano, gave a brilliant piano recital Monday evening at 8:15 o'clock in the college auditorium. Miss Poole's initial performance consisted of works of Bach-Liszt, Scarlatti, Franck, and Mozart. The audience sat spellbound as she rendered two groups from Brahms and Chopin. Miss Poole's masterful interpretation of the selections were magnificent. She played as encores "Widening-Schumann Song", Liszt and "Gavotte"-Handel.

A newcomer to the music department, Miss Poole is from Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Her musical career began when she was 4 years old. She received a scholarship to Louisiana State University at the age of 13 and she holds Bachelor and Master degrees in music from that university. Miss Poole has done additional music work at Mich-

igan University, L. S. U., and New York. She has accompanied Mischa Mischakoff, concert master of the NBC Symphony Orchestra under Toscanini. Miss Poole has appeared on national network radio programs and has made concert tours in 10 states.



Miss Arlette Poole Plays at the piano.

Day Students Celebrate Christmas Holidays

by Juanita Nurnberger

Sleep, dance, and party! These three words describe perfectly what the Day Students' plans for the holidays are.

Out of the whole group of nearly forty, it seems that the happiest "Floras" will be those whose "Charlies" are coming home. The Huggins sisters are looking for Mac and Craig, a Lewis by the name of Myra is looking for Dale and the married students Jessie Longwith and Dora Braak will have a complete Christmas when their husbands arrive from "Sagebrush."

Check this for an advertisement! Warren McNeill plans to spend his holidays working at McNeill's Cleaners!

Other male students have their definite plans, too! Robert Holt will find this Christmas his greatest if his new parsonage is completed at the Zion Bap-

tist Church in Lumberton. Mr. Britt, as he is known, will bring others happiness by working in the Lumberton Post Office. Frank Shelburne and his family will spend Christmas in Radford, Virginia. Billy Currie just wants to sleep!!! John Gathings plans to follow the crowd, and Lewis Levine, being part of the crowd will follow along.

Pat Lewis and Margaret Pamplin fill find contentment at being home with their families. Mrs. Campbell's only plans are to be with her children and rest. The most original remark came from Clyde Williams. She plans to play Santa Claus.

As for the single girls, they look forward to, as Fay Murchison expressed it, "a date every night," as Jerry Powers exclaimed, "parties, a big time, seeing old friends, and eating!" and "looking for Santa Claus," was added by Ann Nimocks.