

Weslyan Observes 10th Anniversary



Lt. Governor Scott

Pops Concert to be held tonight

N.C. Wesleyan will present the third annual "Pops" Concert by the Wesleyan Singers and Concert Band in the college gymnasium tonight at 8:15 p.m. The public is cordially invited to attend without charge.

The Concert Band, led by Richard Dill, will present several concert numbers, including marches and popular tunes. William Gruver, trombonist and president of the band, will be featured as soloist in "Reflective Mood" by Sammy Nestico. Gruver is a senior from Springfield, Va. Another number of unusual interest will be "Dixieland Jamboree," to be performed by a jazz combo with the band.

The Wesleyan Singers, under the direction of Dr. William Sasser, will join the band for two groups of numbers. The first will present novelty arrangements of two well-known spirituals, "Joshua Fit de Battle of Jericho" and "Dry Bones." The second will consist of selections from "My Fair Lady" and a medley of Cole Porter tunes, including "True Love" and "From This Moment On."

The "Pops" Concert has become a traditional and eagerly anticipated event on Wesleyan's fall calendar of musical events. Over 100 students will be participating in this year's program, the band numbering around 40 and the chorus around 65 students.

The social Commission has announced that Mary Wells, popular recording artist, has been booked for the Homecoming Dance to be held December 17.

Miss Wells, famous for such songs as "Beat Me to the Punch", "My Guy", and "Two Lovers", will give two performances during the evening.

North Carolina Wesleyan observed its tenth anniversary on Tuesday with a day long celebration which featured a Founder's Day Convocation address by Lieutenant Governor Bob Scott and the unveiling of a historical marker on 301 by North Carolina Department of Archives and History.

Numerous friends of the college, alumni and parents of students were on hand to view the events which marked the tenth year since the state issued the charter and building of the college was set into motion.

In addition to Lt. Governor Scott's address, those on hand for the Founder's Day Convocation witnessed the giving of citations to 35 new honorary members of the Founders Honorary Alumni Association by Rocky Mount Area Wesleyan College Foundation President Edson L. Washburn. These persons were so honored because they had

made yearly contributions of \$100 or more to the Continuing Support Fund for Wesleyan College.

The Convocation was followed by an old-fashioned barbecue for the students and guests.

State Archivist Christopher Crittendon of Raleigh served as master of ceremonies for the unveiling of the marker. He was assisted by Josh L. Horne, a local publisher and Chairman of the Executive Board of the North Carolina Department of Archives and History, an organization which selects and places historical markers at important sites throughout the state.

The college Board of Trustees held its semi-annual meeting during the afternoon.

The day's festivities were capped off by a performance by the Aviv Theater of Song and Dance. The four performers in the company presented a show of Slavic folk dances and songs.

"Our Town" Receives Plaudits of Reviewer

(THE DECREE wishes to thank the Rocky Mount Evening Telegram for giving us permission to reprint this review of "Our Town.")

By VIVIAN MCMILLAN
A Review

"Our Town was a happy choice for the first theatrical production to be presented in the new theatre of the Arts and Crafts Center.

Playing before an invited audience last night for dedication of the Center, the Thornton Wilder play won praise from the audience, which among other distinguished guests included Paul Green, the famous dramatist, and his wife.

The play, while depicting the everyday life of a small town, Grover's Corners, New Hampshire, has a sophistication and meaning that soon captures the audience.

The production last night was certainly no "amateur" effort, such as one may expect from a cast recruited from the citizenry. It was polished, sure and convincing, and the director, Vance Mizelle, did a professional job with the large cast of 31.

John David Stewart who played the Stage Manager, the principal part, had full command at all times. His delivery of his lines was so completely natural and well done that one almost had the idea that he was not quoting lines as written by Wilder, but that he was in such rapport with the audience that he was addressing them as interested friends. This was Mr. Wilder's intention for the part, one feels sure.

The principal parts as played by Bud Morgan, Dr. Gibbs; Saravette Trotter, Mrs. Gibbs; Frances Bourne, Mrs. Webb; Norwood Anderson, George

Gibbs; Patsy Lassiter, Emily Webb; Willard Miller, Mr. Webb, were finely executed.

Excellent performances were also by Robert Brewer as Howie Newsome, the milkman; Rexford Tucker as Professor Willard; Allen Gurganus as the alcoholic choir director; and Margaret Harris as Mrs. Soames, a rather silly lady; and Ed Collins as Constable Warren.

The bit players were also good. They included Jim West, Olivette Trotter, William Shannonhouse, Lorraine Barnes, Clay Turner, Swettie Cochran, Dana Dickens, Paul Robinett, Martin Lang, Joe Highsmith, Whit Blackstone, Carl Carter, Inez Dawes, Mary Belle Finch, Anne Van Wagoner, Blaine Adams, Hal Lloyd, Martin Lang and James Pender.

Technically the production was also professional. Using very simple sets the lighting was good, as was the timing. The play moved to its conclusion without a hitch.

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Weslyan Players See Play

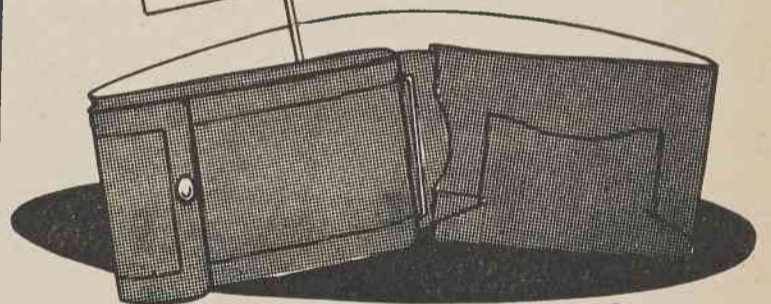
Dr. David Batcheller, associate professor of theater at Wesleyan, took a bus load of college theater members on their first field trip last Saturday. The group went to UNC - Greensboro to see Eugene O'Neill's "A Touch of the Poet" which is currently being produced by the National Repertory Theater.

The trip was coordinated by Tom Hinte, Donald Dove, and Edith Nurse, officers of the Wesleyan players, who worked with

college officials to arrange the trip.

UNC - Greensboro is serving as host for the National Repertory Theater for its in-residence period during which the company prepares for a national tour before going on to Broadway. In praising the program, Dr. Batcheller said the state was fortunate to have UNC - Greensboro serve as hosts so that students might conveniently see the best of theater at popular prices.

VACANCY

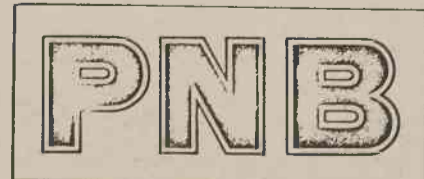


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