



The cast of "Blithe Spirit" relaxes a moment during rehearsals. Seated at left is Betty Parks who plays Ruth Condomine the second wife. Standing is Dick Johnson, who plays her husband Charles. At the right of Dick are Tinkie Millican and Eleanor Johnson. In the foreground is Ann Mixon, the prompter.

Rehearsals For "Blithe Spirit" Gain Normalcy As Colds Are Cured And Scripts Laid Aside

By Sally Reiland and Ann Mixon

As "Blithe Spirit" goes into the final week of rehearsals, the cast is beginning to look more normal. Numerous pills, capsules and tissues have succeeded in taking away the deep voices and red noses of colds.

Scripts have been laid aside, the chalk marks on the stage have been converted into furniture, and British accents have been acquired. The long weeks of work are beginning to pay off as each member of the cast lives his part.

Pook Assumes Character

The first rehearsals of several weeks ago brought forth many strange situations. It was hard to decide whether "Pook" was training for cross-country marathon, planning to make her operatic debut in the "Met" come March 18 or sponsoring an hour of fairy tales for the faculty. She was trying to assume the character of a robust English woman and get feeling into her lines and body movements, first by singing and then by wearing a scarf over her face that tied in two pointed, ear-like appendages on top of her head.

Dick Suffers Cheerfully

One of the characters, rushing in from the basketball court, was often seen tip-toeing around the stage with eyes closed and arms waving. It was not a butterfly or a bird. It was Tinkie, assuming the floating personality of a ghost.

The only way she could keep her eyes from twinkling was to close them.

Quite a few authorities on various subjects are found in the cast. On versatility is Betty Parks, who usually plays her "grand lady" scenes with finger-nail polish in one hand and a cross-word puzzle in the other. Then she walks around like a preying mantis with hands outstretched to dry the polish. Incidentally the cross-word puzzle virus has struck the entire cast. Dick offers helpful advice in all matters from puzzles to feminine grace, aside from furnishing intermission piano music, coffee and cokes. It's too bad that everyone has to throw books, tin cans and what-have-you at him in the end of the play. Even the door fell on him one night.

Skeletons Roam Stage

Mr. Chambers seems to know all about electrical effects. His ties and sports coats usually light up the stage. Jane Brown, with her Southern drawl, professes to know all about the confederacy of England.

At the present, Ann Mixon has given up substituting for Dick. Playing a man's part with her little-girlish voice and five-foot height just didn't seem authentic.

At one rehearsal, Tinkie and Dick were improvising on their own personal affairs to get a rise out of each other, a situation which was necessary for the scene. They got the rise, but also let several skeletons out of their closets to roam around the stage.

With the production a little over

a week in the future, the cast has agreed that "the play is the thing" and that rehearsals have brought lots of fun along with the hard work.

White, Derrick Compose Song

Joann White and Ruthie Derrick have written a song, "Alone." Monday night Ruthie wrote the words and Joann set the words to music. The song was first presented at the I. R. S. coffee.

The song is about a girl standing in the mist remembering her lover. She recalls all the things they have done together, but now they are apart. She remains alone with her memories.

Ruthie and Joann hope that the song will be published someday, and that it will be a popular song hit.

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Basketball Title Won By Sophs

The sophomores won the basketball championship of Salem last Thursday night in a low scoring 26-25 contest with the freshmen. An overtime was required, and even then the final outcome was not decided until after the last whistle.

Lu Long Ogburn sank a foul shot in the last 30 seconds and put her team in a one point advantage. The sophomores committed a foul just as the horn sounded ending the overtime, but the freshmen missed their chance to tie the score again.

The contest was a close one from beginning to end. At the end of the first quarter the score stood 11-6 with the sophomores leading. This lead was relinquished to one point at the half when the sophomores led 13-12.

In the third quarter the freshmen took the lead for the first time and kept it until almost the end of the game. With just a few minutes left in the regulation game, the sophomores tied the score at 25-25.

In the five minute overtime neither team could score a goal from action, and Ogburn's foul shot was the decisive point.

Anne Merritt and Marlene Hedrick were the outstanding guards for the game. High scorer was Lu Long Ogburn who netted 20 points for the sophomores. Jean Currin and Allison Long led the scoring for the losers with 12 and 11 points respectively.

Campus Shots

Everyone worried about a flu quarantine that would shatter week-end plans... New song writers in Strong... Ann Evans passing up desserts and patting her stomach... Emily Gunn's usual attire for breakfast—curlers and p. j.'s... Nancy, Fay and Phyl, heads together over the script for the Day Student program... The gleam issuing from Syd Fryer's third finger, left hand... Lu Long being swarmed again by photographers... Bert and Linda doing the Charleston... Miss Byrd's sophomore literature class suffering from English nerves... Dot Smothers' anxiety about her plans for a beach trip (term papers, you know)... Sara and Bobbie rushing from the Red Cross to court... One pair of beat-up loafers sailing out the top story of Clewell... Jean Edward's horrified scream when she discovers her bath water turning to black ink... Crossword puzzles in Bitting... New yellow curtains decorating "Davy"... Worshipful looks at the new water fountain in the Day Student Center... Martha and Newton... Cooking students being mistaken for waitresses... Carol Stortz's tubercular cat... B. B.'s new hair cut... Emily Mitchell driving to the drug store.

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