



Dyer Strums Ballads in Spoon River Anthology

Captivating Ballads And Fine Acting By Cast Make Spoon River Worth Seeing

By Carolyn Yuziuk

The American Folk Classic, SPOON RIVER ANTHOLOGY opened last night in The Parkway Playhouse in Burnsville and will run through Saturday evening. The Parkway Ensemble perform the Edgar Lee Masters work with eloquent simplicity that is beautiful and effective. The stage adaptation of the great poem is a tribute both to Masters and the theatre.

As the viewer enters the playhouse, the Spoon River Cemetery lies before him, quiet, still and calm. The house lights dim as the Parkway company enters the stage and begins to tell of Spoon River.

Via musical interludes, we are introduced in a cemetery to ghosts of former inhabitants of Spoon River who have carried secrets with them to the grave. Over 60 characterizations are presented by a group of eight actors and two singers in this play, which is an achievement worthy of note. Some of the vignettes are humorous, some tragic, and some sordid... All of the players showed themselves remarkably capable of bringing different emotions to each of their parts. Throughout the evening there are lovely ballads and of course the free verse form of Masters.

I was completely captivated by the ballads performed by Ellen T. Leeds and Mike Dyer. This young couple sat together just off the stage and enthralled the audience every time they sang. Miss Leeds' voice is unique and moving with its clarity and range. I am looking forward to hearing more from this exciting team in future Playhouse productions.

Other cast members include Barbara Wolff, Mike Coyne, Carol Dreesen, Tom Bates, Bob Leh, Nelson Allison, Marta Schley and Genni Jennings.

Maynard French of Greensboro, N.C. directed the show. The pacing of the production is effective, moving nicely from one vignette to the next. Frank Silberstein has designed a very simple yet very attractive and useful set and along with Boyd Ostroff's fine lighting, they create the perfect mood for Spoon River.

The next production at the Parkway Playhouse is THE MISER by Moliere. I hope it will provide as entertaining an evening as Spoon River Anthology.

Dog Tick Becomes Killer-2 Die From Spotted Fever

The rising number of cases of "Spotted Fever" has put North Carolina first in the number of cases of this acute communicable disease, according to State Board of Health. Two deaths in the state have been reported already this year with the season barely begun. There were two deaths last year out of the 39 reported cases.

"Spotted Fever", sometimes referred to as "Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever" because of its original diagnosis in the Rocky Mountain states, is often misjudged as measles or German measles. It is an acute communicable disease characterized by fever, headache, muscle pains and a rash. The rash generally begins on the hands and feet and rapidly progresses to cover the entire body. In severe untreated cases, delirium, convulsions and death may occur.

The organism that causes this disease (Rickettsia) is very similar to a virus and is transmitted by the bite of the dog tick.

The disease is most common on the eastern seaboard, especially in North Carolina, Virginia, Maryland and Tennessee. The largest percentage of cases occur in the months from July to September when the ticks are most prevalent and when people spend more time out of doors. Almost three-fourths of the cases are in pre-school and school age children.

In calling attention to the seriousness of this disease, the following practical preventive suggestions are given: (1) Parents should examine their children at least once a day for ticks. If the ticks are present, they should be removed gently with tweezers or forceps so that the head of the tick does not remain imbedded. (2) Dog owners should remove all ticks from their dogs each day. (3) The possibility of "Spotted Fever" should be kept in mind whenever a person complains of a rash and fever in the summer months. Antibiotic treatment is effective if instituted early.

Jaycee Team Wins 6, Loses 2

The Yancey Jaycees Baseball Team won 12-1 over White House behind the hitting of Randy Barker and the pitching of Bobby Pane.

Parker went 4 for 4 with 3 home runs and 8 runs batted in.

In the second game, Frank Hensley hit 2 home runs and J. P. Young made the final home

run bringing the score to 11-6, in favor of the Jaycees.

The Jaycees now have a 6 and 2 won and lost record.

Record Observes Holiday

In accordance with President Nixon's proclamation the Yancey Record will be closed next Monday, giving its employees a holiday to commemorate the U.S. Astronauts' brave endeavor. Let's see some flags out on July 21st!

House Burgle Bungled As Bandaged Finger Points Out Culprit

By Rebecca Boone

A robbery in broad daylight? That's what happened, say the neighbors living near the Mattie Ray Estate at Pensacola. A robbery did take place in broad daylight last Friday afternoon.

The neighbors watched as two men and a woman drove up to the old house and began loading their car with valuable antiques. Old trunks, valued at \$50 apiece, picture frames, old books, side saddles and clocks were taken from the house.

While in the process of carrying the goods from the house, one of the men cut his hand. Taking time out, he rushed down to the nearest store for bandages. Ironically, the grocer, Billy Wilson, happened to be the nephew of Wayne Ray, heir to the Ray Estate. Not knowing the man was engaged in looting his uncle's property, Wilson was very helpful in bandaging the wound. The man thanked him and rushed back to the house to proceed with his work.

One of the neighbors who became curious enough about the "goings on" finally called the owner and told him that he'd better rush right over, someone was carrying things out of his house. Ray did rush right over, but when he failed to see a car, which the men had cleverly hidden behind the barn, he returned to his place of business. Later that night Wayne Ray discovered that his house had indeed been robbed, and he called Sheriff Banks to the scene.

Neighbors informed the Sheriff that the car had headed toward Cattail. After investigating in this vicinity for some time, Banks came upon the man whose hand was bandaged and began to question him. He led the Sheriff right to the cabin at Cattail where the valuable goods were found.

Suspects in the case were identified as Peter Jefferson, his wife and son, of Florida, who had been living at Cattail for several weeks. They were arrested and jailed overnight and were released on bond Saturday morning.

