

PUBLIC OPINION

ABOUT AND FOR THE WESTERVILLE AREA

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WESTERVILLE, OHIO, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 9, 1958

Popular Play, "Oklahoma" At Otterbein Oct. 17-18

Activity is at a fever pitch on the Otterbein College campus this week as the Departments of Speech and Music make their final preparations for the Homecoming musical comedy, **Oklahoma!** This ever popular musical will be presented at 8:15 p.m. on October 17 and 18 in Cowan Hall.

AT NIGHTLY rehearsals on stage the cast is busy putting the final touches on such well known hit tunes as "Oh, What a Beautiful Morning", "Everything's Up-to-date in Kansas City", "I'm Just a Girl Who Can't Say No", "People Will Say We're in Love", and the famous finale, "Oklahoma!"

Dancers are busy polishing final routines under the capable

direction of Miss Joanne Van Sant, Dean of Women of Otterbein College. The chorus and orchestra are hitting the high notes and low notes, under the baton of Professor Lee Shackson, Chairman of the Department of Music.

MEANWHILE, underneath the stage in the scenery and property shops, Otterbein students are busy wielding hammers and paint brushes on not one but four colorful settings, designed by Charles Dodrill, new Director of Dramatics. In Akron, Ohio, Miss Nancy Leonhardt, Otterbein graduate, is busily turning out sixty vivid and stylized costumes for this great American musical comedy.

The man responsible for unifying all this activity, involving

110 people, and for staging the production is Professor Marion Chase, former Director of Dramatics and currently Dean of Men.

Tickets for this full-scale production of **Oklahoma!** are \$1.00 each. Reserved seat tickets may be obtained at the theatre ticket office in Cowan Hall from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. and from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. daily, or by telephoning TU 2-3611, Extension 26.

College Play Season Set

Otterbein College Department of Speech and Drama announces its 1958-59 season of plays. The musical comedy, "Oklahoma," is the first of four major dramatic productions which will take place in Cowan Hall on the Otterbein Campus, October 17 and 18.

SECOND major production will be the traditional Freshman One-Act Plays to be given on Wednesday, December 10. These plays are directed by senior members of Cap and Dagger, campus dramatic organization.

Next February 28, is the date for the student production of "Squaring the Circle," a three-act Russian comedy by Valentine Kytayev. It is a satire on the communistic system of marriage.

OVER THE May Day weekend next May 8 and 9, the final major production will be Eugene O'Neill's romantic comedy, "Ah, Wilderness!" This play centers in the rebellious and youthful fervor of a young man in a small Connecticut town around the beginning of the twentieth century.

Tickets for any or all of these productions are available by calling the Otterbein College Speech Department, TU 2-3611. Reserved seat tickets are \$1.00.

Oklahoma To Be Given In Cowan Hall

The Speech and Music Departments of Otterbein College are combining their talents to present Rodgers and Hammerstein's "Oklahoma" on Friday and Saturday, October 17 and 18. Curtain time is 8:15 p.m. in Cowan Hall on the Otterbein Campus.

TICKET reservations, can be made by calling or writing the Otterbein College Speech Department, TU 2-3611. Reserved seats are a modest \$1.00.

Two Juniors at Otterbein, Mervyn Matteson, Marion, Ohio, and Dorothy Sardinha, Centerburg, Ohio, will play the leading roles of Curley and Laurey. Other members of the cast are:

Ado Annie — Mary Anderson, Westerville.

Ali Hakim — Ralph Bender, New Philadelphia.

Will Parker — Jack Hinton, Canton.

Aunt Eller — Cheryl Dollison, Salesville.

It was fifteen years ago that Richard Rogers and Oscar Hammerstein collaborated for the first time and produced a box-office revolution with the musical comedy, "Oklahoma."

THE play was first produced by the Theater Guild on April 1, 1943 at the St. James Theatre

in New York City. Featured in the leading roles of the original stage production were Alfred Drake as Curley, Joan Roberts as Laurey, and Betty Garde as Aunt Eller. After a run of some 2200 performances, the play closed more than five years later.

Outside the theatre on that opening night in April, it was cold with unseasonable show showers. But inside the Oklahoma sun shone with ever-growing radiance. That sun's luster has never dimmed.

The PUBLIC OPINION, Westerville, Ohio, Oct. 9, 1958 Page 8

TAN AND CARDINAL

Student Publication Of Otterbein College

Westerville, Ohio, Friday, October 10, 1958

Speech Department Presents Play List

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"Oklahoma" To Be Staged As Homecoming Musical

Speech and Music Departments of Otterbein College are combining their talents to present Rodgers and Hammerstein's "Oklahoma" on Homecoming weekend, October 17 and 18. Curtain time is 8:15 p.m.

Featured in the leading roles of this musical comedy are two juniors, Mervyn Mateson as "Curly" and Miss Dorothy Sardinha playing "Laurey". Portraying "Ado Annie" is Miss Mary Anderson, "Ali Hakim", Ralph Bender, "Will Parker", Jack Hinton, and "Aunt Eller", Miss Cheryl Dolison.

Mr. Marion Chase is directing the production with the aid of Mr. Lee Shackson, musical director and Mr. Charles Dodrill, scene designer.

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Tickets will go on sale October 8 at the Cowan Hall box office.

Production Work Hightens In Oklahoma Presentation

By Judy Boyd

"On with the show!" is rightly the motto of the crew who are readying themselves for the Rodgers and Hammerstein musical, *Oklahoma*. With scenery painting in one section of Cowan Hall, directing in another, and singing in another, production zooms ahead for the October 17 and 18 performance.

In the basement, ten students making scenery take time from their studies and other activities to obey directions given by Mr. Charles Dodrill. Using primarily earthcolors, these students are racing to beat the Saturday deadline for having the work done.

On the stage of Cowan, Mr. Marion Chase gives directions to the chorus on how to get off the stage in a strategic spot. As he finishes, Miss Van Sant, director of the modern dance group, directs the dancers in a difficult step. The dips and bends gradually evolve in a set pattern of expression. Mr. Lee Shackson,

meanwhile, confers with Dorothy Sardinha, who has a leading role.

Behind the stage approximately 45 people making up seven committees are doing their share of work. This includes such things as scenery, costumes, props, lighting, publicity, programs and tickets, all important in making a play successful. Four major sets and 65 costumes are being made.

The students and directors have already done four weeks' work and have one more to go. Beginning Monday, the cast will have technical rehearsals as their final preparation for the big moment Friday night when the curtain goes up.

Term "Oklahoma"

Booming Success

This year's Annual Homecoming Production at Otterbein, **Oklahoma!** presented by the Departments of Speech and Music on October 17 and 18, may justly be called a booming success.

More people attended this production than any previous Otterbein College Theatre production. The large Friday night crowd was superseded by an even larger one on Saturday night when all but 16 seats were filled in the 1628 seat theatre.

In the judgment of many regular Otterbein College Theatre patrons, this was the finest musical production which has ever graced the Otterbein stage. The booming applause and ever-present laughter would seem to verify this judgment.

The next major production

will be **Squaring the Circle**, by Valentine Kaetaev, to be presented on Feb. 28, 1959. On December 10 the Cap and Dagger Dramatic Organization will present their annual Freshman one-Acts, for which no admission is charged.

Few Tickets Remain For 'Oklahoma'

Tickets are going fast for the homecoming musical play, "Oklahoma" to be given Friday and Saturday evenings in Cowan Hall on the Otterbein campus. Curtain time is 8:15 p.m.

WESTERVILLE residents are urged to attend the Friday evening production since reserved seats for Saturday's performance are at a premium. Tickets are now on sale at the Cowan Hall box office for \$1.00.

The Speech and Music Departments of Otterbein College are combining their talents to present Rodgers and Hammerstein's famous musical comedy "Oklahoma". Featured in the leading roles are two Juniors, Mervyn Matteson as "Curly" and Miss Dorothy Sardinha as "Laurie." Portraying "Ado Annie" is Miss Mary Anderson. Others in the cast are "Ali Hakim", Ralph Bender, "Will Parker", Jack Hinton, and "Aunt Eller", Miss Cheryl Dollison.

SOME OF the well-known hit tunes to be sung are, "Oh, What a Beautiful Morning," "Everything's "Up-to-date in Kansas City," "I'm Just a Girl Who Can't Say No," "People Will Say We're in Love," and the famous finale, "Oklahoma."

Prepare For Homecoming Play



Pictured during rehearsal this week at Cowan Hall, in the musical comedy, "Oklahoma" is Mary Ann Anderson of Westerville as "Ado Annie," and Jack Hinton, Canton, as Will Parker. The play will be given on Friday and Saturday evening in Cowan Hall on the Otterbein campus at 8:15 P.M.

Award Winning Musical Begins Tonight At Cowan

"OKLAHOMA!", the Rodgers and Hammerstein musical comedy to be featured as the Homecoming play tonight and tomorrow night, will be comprised of a cast of about 50 performers. Curtain time is 8:15 p.m. in Cowan Hall.

The play is under the joint sponsorship of the Speech and Music Departments and is under the directorship of Professors Marion Chase, Charles Dodrill and Lee Shackson. Miss Joanne Van Sant is directing the choreography for the show. The costumes for the show were made by Miss Nancy Leonhardt, an Otterbein graduate from Akron, Ohio.

THE POPULAR musical of the stage is being brought before audiences again in Otterbein's version. Heading the cast of characters are Miss Dorothy Sardinha and Mervyn Matteson in the romantic leads, Laurey and Curly, and Miss Cheryl Dollison as Aunt Eller.

Appearing in supporting roles are Miss Mary Ann Anderson as Ado Annie, the girl who "Cain't Say No"; Ralph Bender as the peddler, Ali Hakim, Duane Dillman as the villain, Jud Fry, Dennis Gustin as Fred, Jack Hinton as the dude, Will Parker, Terry Hitt as Andrew Carnes, Ado Annie's gun-totin' pa; Dave McCracken as Slim; John Payton as Ike Skidmore; Miss Edith Walters as Gertie Cummings and Larry Willey as Cord Elam.

FEATURED IN the chorus are Hap Arnold, Ralph Barnhard, Marilyn Brown, Ellen Busler, Ron Cox, Dennis Gustin, Alice Hall, Nancy Hamilton, Beth Hanning, Delyte Jones, Dave McCracken, Marilyn Miller, Eileen Mitchell, John Mizer, Connie Myers, John Payton, Paula Peters, Sharon Plank, Bob Reichert, Anne Rose, Pat Speer, Thelma Speis, Carolyn Thordsen, Edith Walters and Nancy Wurster.

Dancers in the show are Mary Ann Anderson, Barbara Bennett, Jack Hinton, Miriam Hoover, Priscilla Huprich, Judy Inman, Delyte Jones, Dave McCracken, Eileen Mitchell, Judy Nosker, John Payton, Kendra Pittman, Bob Reichert, Tom Ribley, Rachel Siviter, Dick Spicer, Sharon Swank and Suzanne Viotor.

14A *Columbus Dispatch* ... TUES., OCT. 7, 1958
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At Otterbein**
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—(Photo by Art Green)
Preluding the weekend's homecoming activities were rehearsals for the Rodgers and Hammerstein musical, "Oklahoma!" and sorority serenades.

Jack Hinton makes his point known to Miss Mary Ann Anderson during a play rehearsal and Miss Judy Graham listens to the salute of her sorority sisters in last Monday's serenades

Four In Oklahoma

Cast Entertain

Columbus Graduates

Four principles of the Oklahoma! cast at Otterbein College appeared at the monthly meeting of the Columbus Chapter of the Otterbein Women's Club last evening. Dorothy Sardinha, Mary Ann Anderson, Jack Hinton and Mervyn Matteson sang selections from Oklahoma! for the group at the home of Mrs. William Dren-ton of Columbus.

Six Localites In "Oklahoma"

Six Otterbein college students from Westerville will appear in the stage musical, "Oklahoma," which will be produced Friday and Saturday nights of this week at Cowan Hall, Otterbein College.

Miss Marilyn Miller, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Wade Miller; Miss Alice Hall, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Clalude Hall and Miss Connie Myers, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Myers are all members of the chorus.

John Payton, son of Mrs. Paul Frank, will play one of the leading roles.

Those in the orchestra are James Shackson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lee Shackson and Miss Patty Hopkins, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Hopkins.

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Oct 1958