

AH WILDERNESS TRYOUTS

Today-----March 16- - - - -Cowan Hall Stage---Tonight 8:00 to 10:00 P.M.

Tomorrow----March 17 - - - - -4:00 to 5:30 meet in Makeup Room.
6:30 to 9:00 meet on Cowan Hall Stage.

If you cannot come to any of the above listed times,
please contact Prof. Dodrill for an appointment.

COME ONE * * * * * COME ALL * * * * * TO TRYOUTS
for the May Day Play.



One big happy family as portrayed in "Ah, Wilderness!" being presented tonight and tomorrow night in Cowan Hall.

Photo by Art Green

O'Neill's Play Climaxes May Weekend Festivities

Culminating this year's May Day Weekend will be the Speech and Drama Department's production of Eugene O'Neill's "Ah, Wilderness!" The play will be presented on May 8 and 9 at 8:15 p.m. in Cowan Hall. Tickets will be available at the Cowan Hall box office from 1-5 p.m. this afternoon.

O'NEILL'S PLAY is set in Connecticut around 1906. The action revolves around the Millers, a typical small town family. Problems arise from the youthful fervor of Richard (Richard Davise) as he absorbs the writings of Swinburne, Shaw, Wilde and Omar Khayyam and sends their passionate verses to his young girlfriend, Murel (Judy Stone).

Muriel's father (Dave McCracken) finds these letters and forces Richard to break off with Muriel. Richard's rebellious spirit and poetic order then lead him into actions and situations which he is incapable of handling.

AUTHENTIC PERIOD furniture and decorations from local antique dealers will be featured in the Otterbein production. They are being furnished by G. W. Henderson Antiques and Uhl Antiques. Mr.

Charles W. Dodrill, director of the production, invites the audience to come on stage after the final curtain to inspect these antiques.

Tryouts Scheduled For "Ah Wilderness"

Tryouts for the May Day play, "Ah Wilderness," by Eugene O'Neill will be held on March 16 and 17, Monday and Tuesday of next week, on the Cowan Hall stage. Tryouts will run from 8:00 to 10:00 p.m. on Monday and from 4:00 to 5:30 and 6:30 to 9:00 p.m. on Tuesday. Anyone who cannot make any of the above times should contact Professor Dodrill, who will direct the play.

The play is a family comedy set in New England at the turn of the century. Featuring a cast of 15, including six females, eight males, and one small boy, the play centers around the problems of love encountered by a rebellious young man. It is he who enjoys quoting the more exciting lines of Swinburne to his young girlfriend.

Set on the Fourth of July, Richard believes that life would be wonderful were it not for the interference of staid parents, firecrackers, and flag-waving celebrations. Richard finally discovers that life holds a great deal more than he had originally suspected.

O'Neill Play Is Produced At Otterbein

The department of speech and drama of Otterbein College will present one of the great works of Eugene O'Neill, "Ah, Wilderness!" on May 8 and 9 at 8:15 p.m. in Cowan Hall on the Otterbein campus. This three-set play will be presented as part of the annual May Day activities.

Mary Anderson of Westerville and Richard Spicer, 919 S. Warren St., Columbus, will both take featured roles in the production.

Written in Georgia in 1932, the play opened in October, 1933, and ran for 282 performances on Broadway with George M. Cohan in the starring role. Characterized by its author as "a comedy of recollection," the play is a nostalgic family comedy, laid in a small Connecticut city in 1906. The play is full of sentiment, farce, comedy, pathos and unforgettable comic situations.

The Otterbein production

Rehearse For Play



Three members of the College May Day Play cast, *Ah, Wilderness!* are shown rehearsing a scene. Left to right are Jack Hinton, Richard Davis and Ralph Bender.

Comedy Set For May Day Play

As the Cap and Dagger Dramatics Club of Otterbein College goes into the final stages of rehearsal for their May Day Play, *AH, WILDERNESS!*, they anticipate that the play will be well attended.

TICKETS for the Friday and Saturday night production may be purchased at the Cowan Hall Box Office from 1 to 5:00 p.m. daily. Admission is \$1.00 and seats may be reserved by calling TU 2-3611, Ext. 25, or purchased at Cowan Hall prior to the 8:15 p.m. curtain time.

Often called the "Happiest play" of one of America's great playwrights, Eugene O'Neill, *AH, WILDERNESS!* will be a feature event of the annual May Day festivities at Otterbein College. A warm "Comedy of recollection" which is set in the days at the turn of the century, the Otterbein production will feature a cast of fifteen, including Douglas Allton, ten year old son of Mr. and Mrs. Morris E. Allton, 240 North Vine Street, and Miss Mary Ann Anderson, 138 West Main Street, who was Ado Annie in *OKLAHOMA!*

In addition to three sets, the production will feature antique furniture and stage decorations from George Washington Henderson Antiques, 99 South State St., and Uhl Antiques and Organs, 6162 Westerville Road. All items will be priced tagged and patrons are invited to visit the stage to examine furniture, properties, and set at close range. Costumes of the period have been rented from the Eaves Costume Company, New York.

This final dramatic production of the year is directed and de-

signed by Prof. Charles Dodrill, of the Otterbein College Department of Speech and Dramatics. He also designed and executed all phases of production on *OKLAHOMA!* and *SQUARING THE CIRCLE*, but this marks the first play he has directed at Otterbein.

Ticket Sale Starts For May Day Play

Tickets are now on sale for the Otterbein College production of Eugene O'Neill's "*Ah! Wilderness!*" to be presented on Friday, May 8 and Saturday, May 9 in Cowan Hall on the Otterbein College campus. This comedy is the last production of the school year, being produced by the Cap and Dagger Dramatic Club and the Department of Speech and Drama.

THE COWAN Hall box office is open from 1:00-5:00 p.m. daily except Sunday. Tickets are \$1 per seat, with only reserved seats on Saturday night. For reservations call TU 2-3611, Ext. 25.

Viewers of the recent television production of this play, starring Helen Hayes, will not want to miss the complete play at Otterbein. Prof. Charles Dodrill, Director of the play, reports that television viewers saw less than

two-thirds of the complete script. He further stated that "abbreviated television versions are never as satisfactory as stage versions because television must tell the story while much of the humor, must of necessity, be deleted from the script."

TWO OF the outstanding student actors of recent years at Otterbein will make their final appearance on the Cowan Hall stage. Jack Hinton and Ralph Bender, both seniors, will portray Nat Miller and Sid Davis respectively. Others in the cast include Miss Mary Ann Anderson of Westerville as Lily and Miss Cheryl Dollison, Salesville, as Essie. Richard Davis, freshman from New York City will take the role of Richard.

In addition to three complete stage sets, the production will feature antique furniture and stage decorations from Henderson Antiques, 99 S. State Street and Uhl Organ Shop, 6162 Westerville Road. Since the play is set in 1906, period costumes will be furnished by the Eaves Costume Company of New York.

Ah, Wilderness! Is May Day Play

"A Book of Verses underneath the Bough,
—and Thou
Beside me singing in the
Wilderness—"
The above words are taken from "The Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam," and from these words Eugene O'Neill took the title for one of his greatest works. "*Ah, Wilderness!*," by Eugene O'Neill is the May Day play which will be presented by the Speech and Drama Dept. of Otterbein College on the Cowan Hall stage, May 8 and 9, as part of the Annual May Day Festivities.

Written in Georgia in 1932, the play opened on Broadway in October, 1933, and had a very successful run of 282 performances. Characterized by its nostalgic "dream walking," and as a "comedy of recollection," it is a small family comedy, laid in This is undoubtedly O'Neill's happiest play full of sentiment, farce comedy, pathos, and unforgettable comic situations.

Winner of the Pulitzer prize in 1920, 1922, and 1928, and winner of the Nobel prize in 1936, O'Neill's work ran the gamut from comedy to tragedy, from symbolism to expressionism, and include the following:
"Beyond The Horizon," "The Emperor Jones," "Anna Christie," "The Hairy Ape," "Desire Under The Elms," "Marco Millions," "Strange Interlude," "Dy-namo," "Mourning Becomes Electra," "The Iceman Cometh," "The

Great God Brown," "Long Day's Journey Into Night," and the current Broadway hit, "A Touch Of The Poet."

While most of his more serious works are better known, it seems somewhat of an oddity that his "comedy of recollection" should remain one of his most popular works today. Frequently revived in community and college theatres, *Ah, Wilderness!* has been the Otterbein production will feature authentic stage settings, Washington Henderson Antiques and Uhl Organs dealers (George Eaves Costume So. Inc., in New York City).

Tickets for this final play of the year will go on sale April 29 at the Cowan Hall Box Office. Box office hours are 1 to 5 p.m. daily. Tickets are \$1 each, with reserved seats on Saturday night only. For reservations call TU 2-3611, Ext. 26.

Cast Chosen For Play, O'Neill's "Ah! Wilderness"

The cast for the May Day play, AH! WILDERNESS, has been released by the director, Prof. Charles Dodrill of the Department of Speech and Drama. The play will be presented in Cowan Hall on May 8 and 9 as a part of the annual Otterbein May Day activities.

The cast includes the following:

Nat Miller, owner of the
"Evening Globe"

Jack Hinton

Essie, his wife

Cheryl Dollison

Arthur, their son

Richard Spicer

Richard, their son

Richard Davis

Mildred, their daughter

Myra Hiatt

Sid Davis, Essie's brother

Ralph Bender

Lily Miller, Nat's sister

Mary Ann Anderson

David McComber, local

merchant Dave McCracken

Muriel McComber, his

daughter Judy Stone

Wint Selby, a classmate of

Art's at Yale Bob Reichert

Belle

Kaye Koontz

Nora

Marilyn Brown

Bartender

Bruce Hickin

Salesman

Hap Arnold

Unlike so many of Eugene O'Neill's works, AH! WILDERNESS is often described as his happiest work. Written in 1933 after most of his great works had been produced, the play is set in a small New Hampshire town in 1906. The action revolves around the Miller family, and particularly the adolescent son Richard, who is tasting the pangs of his first love. When his girl friend

Muriel appears to scorn him, his rebellious spirit and poetic fervor lead him into actions and situations which he is not capable of handling.

He finally discovers that Muriel's father had forced these actions on her because he felt that the poetic passages sent to her by Richard would lead his daughter to immorality.