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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Thanks to you for your wonderful support of our attempts to be the people's theatre in Ann Arbor. We are happy to report that our first production of the 1950-1951 season, the SILVER WHISTLE, was a great success both artistically and financially.

Tonight we bring you our second offering, LAURA, under the able direction of Carl Conrad. There are both an excellent cast and a production crew who have worked long and hard to make this the most enjoyable evening you have had in the theatre for some time.

STRANGE BEDFELLOWS, another sure-fire costume comedy, scheduled for April, will close what we anticipate as Ann Arbor Civic Theatre's most successful season. Again thanks to you for your continued, deeply appreciated support of your Civic Theatre.

T. TODD JONES

President, Ann Arbor Civic Theatre

The Ann Arbor Civic Theatre is deeply grateful to Mrs. Roger L. Stevens for the superb portrait of Laura which she painted especially for our production.

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THE FIRST ARENA PRODUCTION



We are now preparing the first arena production to be offered to the general Ann Arbor public. This will be the famous Maxwell Anderson classic, WINTERSET, which will be given March 15, 16 and 17 in the League Ballroom and will be directed by David B. Marshall. Watch for further announcements. Because of limited seating available for the nights of performance, season ticket holders will be given first choice of seats before remaining seats will be sold to the general public. Please make your plans early to avoid disappointment. For further ticket information we suggest you call Mary Kessel at Ann Arbor, 2-1308 or 7972.

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ABOUT THE DIRECTOR

Carl F. Conrad

A good director is really half the show, and Carl Conrad, by welding the cast and the production crew into a single unit, is perhaps responsible more than any other person for the preparation of "Laura." Now a member of Civic Theatre's board of directors, he was formerly with the Long Beach and Luguna Beach Players in California. Carl has appeared in two motion pictures—Hal Wallis' "Sorry, Wrong Number" and "Wake of the Red Witch," a Republic Picture. Although this is the first three-act play that he has directed for Civic Theatre, he has directed and acted in numerous laboratory productions and was "Ralph Twiller" in last season's "The Torchbearers."

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MARK McPHERSON

Ken MacDonald, popular disk jockey of "FM Club" fame, and account executive for WPAG, plays the part of McPherson, the detective. This is a switch from the harassed young college professor, Tommy Turner, in the "Male Animal," for which Ken won the Ann Arbor Civic Theatre "Oscar" in the 1949-1950 season as the best actor of the year. Ken also brings a professional touch to our theatre, as he played feature roles in Broadway productions, including the part of Tommy Arbuckle in "Junior Miss." Ken has always taken an active part in the welfare of your theatre. He is a member of the Board of Directors, chairman of the Steering Committee, and Publicity chairman for the year.

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OLSEN

Leonard "Swede" Carlstrom, a new member of Civic Theatre, won plaudits from the membership for his portrayal of "Big Steve Olsen" in Charlotte Timm's original one-act, "What a Team!" He appears for the first time in a major production.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

ANN ARBOR CIVIC THEATRE'S NEXT MAJOR PRODUCTION WILL BE "STRANGE BEDFELLOWS," A COMEDY IN THREE ACTS BY FLORENCE RYERSON AND COLIN CLEMENTS.

It will be produced on April 13 and 14 in the Lydia Mendelssohn Theatre.

Try-outs for "Strange Bedfellows" will be held the week of January 29th. Everyone is invited to try.

The next membership meeting of your Ann Arbor Civic Theatre will be held on Tuesday, February 6th, 8:00 p.m., at Tappan Junior High School auditorium.

A one-act play, "The Singapore Spider," under the direction of Robin Hall, will be presented. Come and join us; no charges.

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ACT II

THE NEXT MOR

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WALDO LYDECKER

Fortunate indeed is Ann Arbor Civic Theatre to have as one of its members Mr. Charles Lopez Isaacs. Little Theatre groups such as ours are enriched and built around colorful personalities like Mr. Isaacs who brings untold weath and professional experience to our town. Mr. Isaacs brings to the role of the urbame, caustic Waldo Lydecker a lifetime of work before the footlights. After his first curtain call in Cecil B. DeMille's "Land of the Free" in 1910, Mr. Isaacs earned the title of "trooper" by acting, directing, and producing all through the Caribbean Islands, Central and South America. His countless roles have ranged from comedy to that of Shakespeare's Danish Prince. This superb artist gives Waldo Lydecker its breath as the cast of "Laura" pivots about him.

LINA

As Lina, Laura's German maid, Helga Hover has an authentic background in professional theatre. She was born in Germany and attended the Kassel Theatre school in Kassel, Germany. At school, and after graduation, she appeared in plays by Goethe and German Shakespeare productions. Later she entertained GI's with Army service shows. Mrs. Hover has been in Civic Theatre workshop productions, but speaks her first line before a large American audience as Lina.

DANNY DORGAN

James "Al" Douglas brings to his portrayal of Danny previous acting experience gained in Ann Arbor High School. Now a student at Ypsi Normal, "Danny" Douglas plans to enter the University in February. He is playing for the first time with Civic Theatre in "Laura."

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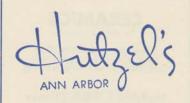
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SHELBY CARPENTER

After a clerical role in "The Silver Whistle," Sheldon Slavin plays as Shelby Carpenter for Civic Theatre tonight. A senior at Ypsilanti Normal, Sheldon has acted with the Ford Players and Dearborn's Junior Theatre Guild. His stage experience dates back to his enrollment in Emerson College in Boston, and roles in "Antigone and the Tyrant" and "The Great Adventure."

MRS. DORGAN

Mrs. Dorgan, Danny's very maternal mother, is Sara Howard of Ann Arbor, a Civic Theatre debutante in "Laura." Mrs. Howard has had previous stage experience in short skits and one-act plays as a member of an Ann Arbor woman's club.

PRODUCTION STAFF (continued)

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To the Members of the Ann Arbor Civic Theatre, we of the City of Ann Arbor thank you for your efforts in bringing to us a very needed part of our civic development. Best wishes for a successful 1950-1951 season!

WILLIAM E. BROWN, Jr. Mayor

THE ANN ARBOR BANK

101-107 SOUTH MAIN STREET

330 S. STATE STREET — Branches — 1108 S. UNIVERSITY AVENUE

MEMBER OF FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION

Ann Arbor Federal Savings & Loan Assn.

SAVINGS ACCOUNTS — MORTGAGE LOANS

116 N. FOURTH AVE. Organized 1890 OPPOSITE COURT HOUSE