

American Opera Needs Public Support-Weisgall

By SUSIE EBERLY

American opera will continue to be provincial and of little importance unless the American public realizes that music is valuable and important culturally and politically, Dr. Hugo Weisgall, composer, conductor, and visiting professor of music, said last night in his talk on "Opera In America."

"American opera has been described as an imported luxury which serves and has served as a status symbol for the wealthy bourgeoisie," Weisgall said. Comparing opera in America to that in England where there is also a lack of important native opera and it is also a status symbol, Weisgall said that another common factor and perhaps the explanation of these facts is that neither country's opera is subsidized by the government. Weisgall suggested that subsidization is perhaps the cure for American opera's ills.

The Ford Foundation recently subsidized three American seasons at the New York City Center and 22 American works were produced, Weisgall said. "Of these 22 productions perhaps six could be considered favorably," he said.

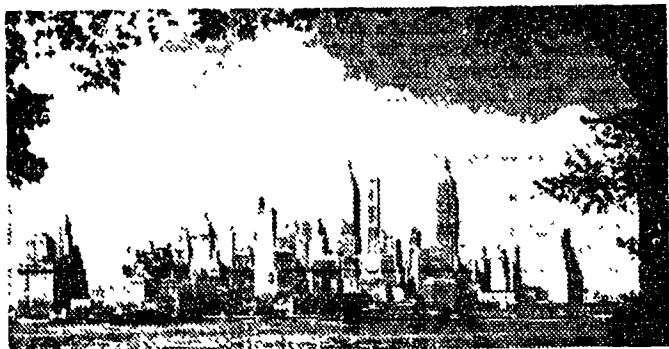
One reason for this is that American operas still have themes of a by-gone era when the United States was a pioneering nation, Weisgall said.

This perhaps is the fault of the audience which really doesn't want an opera set in modern times, he said. Weisgall cited as an example the opera "The Mighty Casey," by William Schuman which deals with one of America's favorite sports—baseball—and yet has never been produced.

"The major operatic movement in America today is some 600 operatic workshops scattered across the nation in universities, schools and towns. But though they have met regularly for 30 years to prepare composers for this field only one composer, Carlisle Floyd, a product of a workshop, has achieved national status," Weisgall said.

Chapman Authors Article

Dr. Hugh H. Chapman Jr., associate professor of Romance languages, is the author of an article published in the latest issue of Hispania.



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Prexy Announces Woman of Year

Miss Cora Foster, a retired lieutenant colonel, has been chosen as the University's woman of the year, President Eric A. Walker announced.

Miss Foster is the third recipient of this award. It was established by the Board of Trustees in 1958 to honor "a woman whose personal life, professional achievements and community service best exemplify the objectives of her alma mater."

The medal that accompanies the honor will be presented to Miss Foster as part of the alumni reunion program in June.

Coed Names Handbook To Win Spaghetti Dinner

Barbara Foster, senior in journalism from Williamsburg, discovered the password for a spaghetti dinner for two at The Tavern.

Miss Foster won the dinner by renaming the Women's Student Government Association Handbook which will come out next fall.

Her winning name was "University Girl." The old name of the handbook was "Women's World."

Neuberger Gives Talks

Dr. Hans Neuberger, professor and head of the Department of Meteorology, served as visiting scientist at Waynesburg College, Waynesburg, on March 29-30.

He gave four lectures sponsored by the National Science Foundation through the program of the American Meteorological Society.

Equal Rights

(Continued from page one) sue, Charles Trautman, a member of the group, said "We hoped that what integration takes place in State College would be undertaken by the town itself, as a direct result of our bringing the issue into the open."

Trautman also said that there is a University regulation preventing members of the faculty and administration from participating in town issues. "The apparent hesitancy of the faculty to participate in this moral issue or the administration to make an official statement on it may be a result of this regulation."

In 1948 and 1949 similar picketing of a segregated barber shop in State College was conducted largely by the faculty, he added.

Whisler Presents Paper

Dr. Benjamin A. Whisler, professor and head of the Department of Civil Engineering, presented a paper to the New England Council of the American Society of Civil Engineering at their annual conference on Saturday at the University of Rhode Island, Kingston, R.I.

STATE NOW

Today: 1:30, 3:32, 5:28, 7:30, 9:32
Sunday: 2:50, 5:02, 7:14, 9:26



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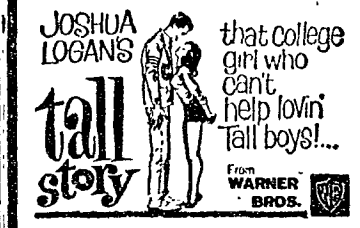
2nd Feature . . . "BLUE DENIM" with Carol Lynley - Brandon DeWilde Showtime — 7:30 P.M.

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Sun.: 2:26, 4:13, 6:00, 7:47, 9:34



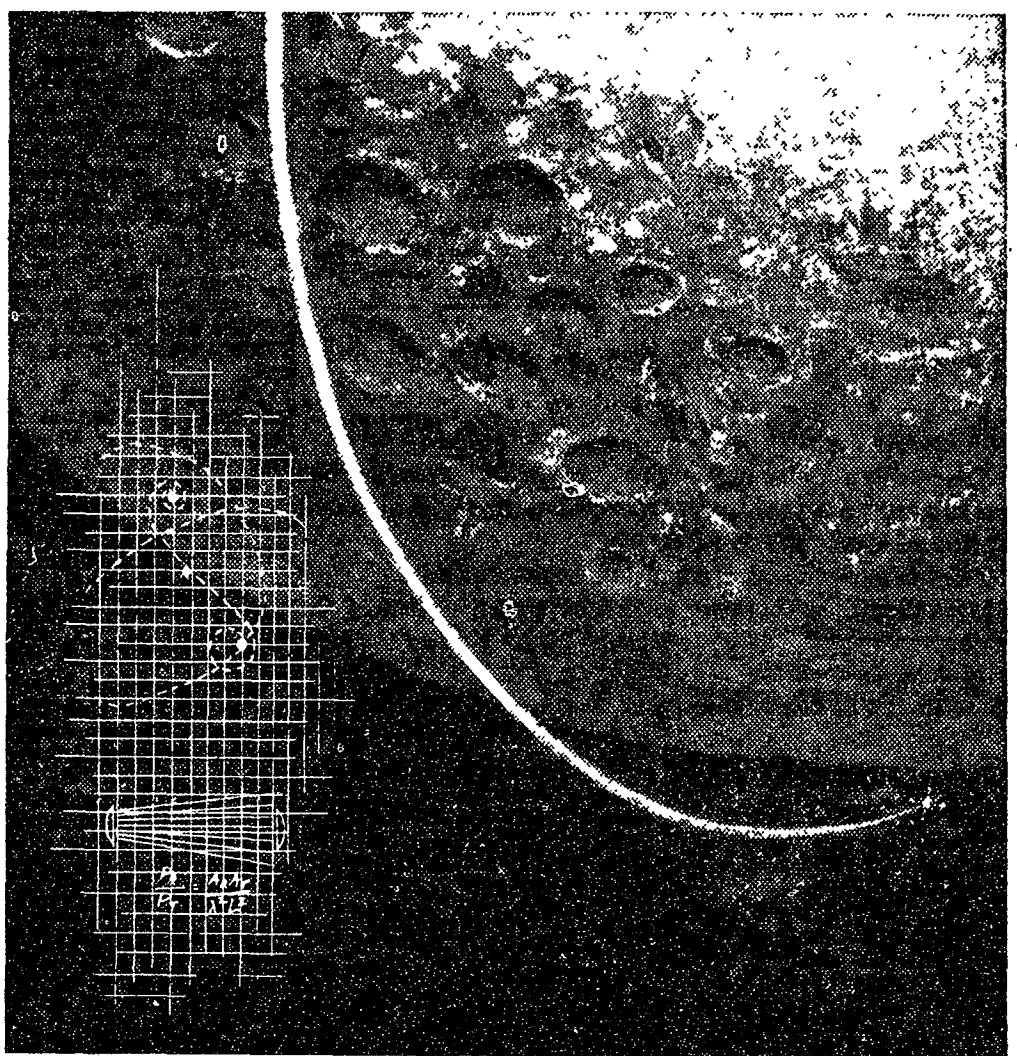
Anthony Perkins - Jane Fonda

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