

Curtain Up

The Reviewer's Random Remarks

By JAY RAKE
Collegian Reviewer

As the summer theatre season at the Mateer Playhouse draws to a close this week, it is time for this corner to do a little housekeeping—make some comments based on observations of the entire season and get ready to close up shop.

In our first review this summer, "Visit to a Small Planet," we mentioned that Patricia Thompson didn't seem to be enjoying herself and it showed.

During the run of "Gazebo" we had occasion to talk with Miss Thompson—whose performance in the latter was far better. Her reason for the improved performance: "I'm having a good time." She didn't like the role in "Visit."

Since she plans to invade New York shortly, we'd like to advise Miss Thompson (someone probably already has) to overcome this malady. She must learn to like every role she plays or de-lude herself into thinking she does—especially since it affects her performances.

During the past few weeks a new comedy performer has been turning in some excellent jobs at the playhouse. In his first role this season, as the soldier in "Visit," there was little reason to notice Peter E. Deuel.

Since then he has added to the audience's enjoyment of "Playboy" and "Male Animal" with some varied, but always funny characterizations. Add to that his dramatic role in "Twelfth Night" and you have a glimpse of a nice new talent.

The way the theatre can work

was shown Wednesday night when Ann Driscoll received a long distance call at the playhouse. Planning to return to her home in New York City on Sunday, Miss Driscoll altered plans and headed for South Carolina where a role awaited her.

For David Frank it isn't quite as easy. He left one night after his performance in "Playboy" at Mateer, took a bus for New York, read for the understudies job in a future Broadway production and flew back to town in time for the next night's performance. Still no word on the job.

Performances change from night to night and can make the reviewer's remarks completely inappropriate. At least twice this season—in "Twelfth Night" and "Male Animal" that we know of—the shows were improved over opening night.

Although the show was still too long, several of the characters in "Twelfth Night" began to save some of their comedy bits for the second and third acts, which helped.

In "Male Animal" we remarked after viewing the opening night's show that Miss Thompson didn't show the love she felt for her



Haggerty

Haggerty Gets Registrar Post

Samuel W. Haggerty, who has been a teacher in the Conneaut Lake schools for the past five years, has been named assistant registrar at the University.

Dr. Robert G. Bernreuter, dean of admissions and registrar, said that he will be responsible for maintaining records of the continuing education program, a position formerly held by Millard T. Bunnell, who has been named assistant dean of admissions to handle the admission of undergraduate students transferring to Penn State with advanced standing.

Haggerty is a 1952 graduate of the University, receiving a bachelor of science degree in education. He has also completed graduate work at the University.



Mac Sez...

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India Aid Program Must Persist—Swope

"We must continue our aid program to India if they are to survive," says Dr. Robert E. Swope, assistant professor of veterinary science, who recently returned after two years in that country. And he indicated we will have to continue it for a long time.

With the increasing population, and stagnating effect of old customs, India cannot produce enough food, said Swope who was an adviser to the Veterinary College in Mhow in central India.

"India needs a revolution in agricultural methods," he said. "She would be in bad shape were it not for our excess wheat."

"India has made some progress since gaining her independence in 1947," Swope emphasized, "but the Indians are a slow moving people and you can't change them."

"Time and patience on our part are important factors."

Two keys to India's lagging standard of living are the 80 per cent illiteracy rate and her multilingual base, Swope said.

There are 14 different basic languages and innumerable dialects, many of which are not understandable by others, he said.

Swope sees a changing trend in the way in which the United States is rendering technical assistance to India.

"Instead of sending American technicians over there, where

they spend most of their time learning to understand the Indian people, the trend is to bring Indians over here and teach them our systems to take back."

Swope describes the average Indian as a peasant farmer with a seven-acre plot, big family, many cows, little food.

He said that the increasing population of the cow, which the Hindus consider sacred and will not kill, is becoming alarming, and the Indians may reach the point where they will have to lock horns with the cattle to determine who's going to survive because there won't be enough food for both.

Benford Receives Grant

James G. Benford, graduate student from Leechburg, will continue his studies toward a doctor of philosophy degree in metallurgy at the University under a graduate fellowship provided by the United States Steel Foundation, Inc.

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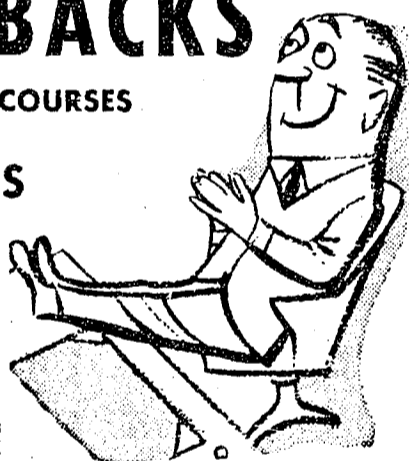
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