

Backstage With Sylvia

by Sylvia S. Cutler

Little Theatre presented the community with a very successful run of "Promises, Promises," the David Merrick Broadway production based on "The Apartment," a film starring that clown of clowns, Jack Lemmon. The Saturday night audience I joined was enthusiastically responsive to the yocks in the play, and liked the Burt Bacharach-Hal David score. The sharp cracks drew laughter and the chorus productions were enthusiastically received. Musicals are usually fun, and this one appeared to capture the packed house.

Warren Cox's splendid baritone and his air of wide-eyed innocence as he day-dreamed about the girl he wanted, the nicest girl in the company, were most endearing. From the start, he offered the audience a most appealing character; the small boy not yet grown into sophistication, a very small cog in a very large organization, hoping to climb the ladder of success and win the beautiful waitress in the executive dining room. As he fantasized the warm loving conversations between himself and Fran Kubelik, he apprised the audience (with whom he had established a running conversation) with the fact that it was all a daydream. Fran couldn't see him for dust. For good reason. Fran (played with finesse and skill by Marion Mihalko), was in love with J.D. Shelton (Robert Kintz), one of the executives, and personnel director of the company. (One criticism: The orchestra invariably drowned out the singers.)

Another fine performance was given by Ray Patsko (Dr. Dreyfuss) who saved the girl's

life after an overdose of sleeping pills. Jean Flynn was effective as Mrs. Sheldrake and Ray L'Dera excellent as Karl Kubelik. The cast was rounded out by a group of men who played executives in the firm, namely Doug Arbetman, Jim Callahan, Dave Williams and Scott Clarke. In the song and dance numbers they did, they were bright and entertaining, with one particular standout; Doug Arbetman showed a liveliness and verve that attest to his theatrical training. Doug is so goodlooking, I resented the mustache! Kathy Reese was good as Miss Olson, the rejected secretary, one of Sheldrake's collection. The girls who did the chorus numbers—Betty Rocograndi, Cathy Rocograndi, and Janet Drozda—were excellent.

Bob Niznik's direction, was, as always, smooth and professional. The orchestra under direction of Anthony Kane gave the production sparkle.

Filling out the cast were Gail Piasecki, Linda Abbey, Cheryl Markoski, Ellen Robinson, Andrea Palencar, Mary Callahan, Ed Goman, Connie Douglas, David Fiashi, John Gillespie, Calvin Gensel, Jean Flynn, John Gillespie and Don Roberts. The choir, consisting of Dawne Roberts, Clair Roos, Babetta Demmick and Karen Aicher, were excellent, and added lustre to the musical numbers. Marion Mihalko's voice was clear and true, and the choir behind her often added whipped cream to the cake.

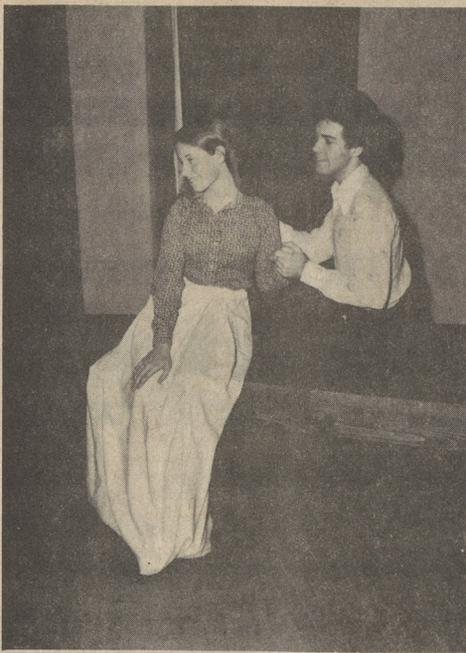
Now, reader, stop there, if all you're interested in is a "Good" review. I've said everything nice there is to say about this play. What isn't nice is seeing all the blood, sweat, and tears,

not to speak of money, invested in a play, the premise of which is good for about five minutes of real entertainment.

The plot, such as it is, is that the hero has a crush on a girl in his company, who is sleeping with one of the executives, who is interested only in "scratching an itch." Four executives, learning that the hero has a Manhattan apartment, "Borrow" the apartment in which to keep their own rendezvous—none of whom have the slightest interest in the girls with whom they share these illicit afternoons. When the executive learns about the apartment, he promises promotions to the young man if he will throw out the four itchy men and leave the apartment to him.

When the young girl learns that Mr. Executive has no intention of leaving his wife, she, poor deluded girl, takes an overdose of sleeping pills. Our hero picks up a girl at a bar, and brings her home; then finds the heroine there. The pickup leaves; hero calls doctor; doctor saves girl; heroine's brother arrives; punches hero in nose; heroine consoles hero; hero forgives heroine; all live happily ever after. End of play.

The plot was a bore; the score less than memorable. People seem to be impressed with names. Burt Bacharach wrote the music. So what? David Merrick produced it. So what? It was a hit on Broadway. So what? The audience loved it; I didn't. Somebody's out of step; maybe it's me. Ho hum.



Joanne Toner and Dennis Lenahan of King's College are pictured in a rehearsal scene from the Oliver Goldsmith play, "She Stoops to Conquer," which will run Thursday through Saturday at 8 p.m. in the King's auditorium, North River Street. Matinees for high school students will be at 2 p.m., Nov. 22, 25, and 26. Carl E. Wagner, Dallas, chairman of the theatre department is director, with Brother James Miller, CSC, designer. Among cast members are Dallas students Joseph Harris and Thomas Yarnal. Choreography is by Kathleen Jonsson of Shavertown.

Local Couple to Observe 50th Wedding Anniversary

Cancer Program to Be Held at Center, Nov. 21

The Luzerne County Senior Citizen Center of Dallas will have a special program on cancer Nov. 21, at 2:30 p.m.

On Nov. 25 from 10 a.m. to 12 noon, Luzerne County bowlers are accepting a challenge made by the Tunkhannock Senior Citizen Center bowling team. It will be appreciated if all bowlers are present and a few spectators for a cheering section.

All day Tuesday and Wednesday-morning Esther Twordusky will be in charge of the class making Christmas ornaments using shrink art. There will be finished samples of all of the craft items that will be made in the craft classes on display in the center. Many new and different items are being made.

Esther Jones will be continuing her classes in flower making Wednesday afternoons. Crafts are done Tuesday and Wednesday and needlework is done Thursday.

Reservations are now being taken for the Christmas Party to be held Dec. 13 at the Castle Inn. There are a limited number available so please purchase tickets early.

Additional information concerning the center may be obtained by calling 675-2179 between 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Thanksgiving Day will mark the golden anniversary celebration of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Purcell, 125 S. Pioneer Ave., Trucksville. The couple was married in St. Nicholas Catholic Church, Wilkes-Barre, by the late Msgr. Charles Gackel. Mrs. Purcell is the former Mary Walters.

The attendants were Theresa Kerstetter of Kingston and the late Dr. James Purcell.

Mr. and Mrs. Purcell have five children: William, Harveys Lake; Joseph, Dallas; James, Garden City, N.Y.; Mrs. Robert Siani, Warren, N.J.; and Robert, Syosset, N.Y. They also have 22 grandchildren.

Mr. Purcell, now retired, had been associated with Fowler, Dick and Walker as an advertising and sales promotion manager for many years.

A Mass of Thanksgiving will be celebrated in St. Theresa's Church, Shavertown at 12 noon, Thanksgiving Day. A reception honoring the couple will be hosted by their children at the Hotel Sterling from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.

An open invitation is extended to relatives, friends and neighbors to join in celebrating the happy occasion. No formal invitations will be issued.



College Misericordia juniors and their escorts meet outside the Grand Ballroom at the Treadway Inn, Saturday night prior to the college's annual Junior Ring Dance. Left to right are: Joe Artim, Swoyersville; Cora Marie Harkins, Dallas; Debbie DeBonis, Kingston; and Dave Salantino, Shavertown.

Misericordia Jr. Class Holds Ring Dinner-Dance

College Misericordia's junior class officially opened the college's social season Saturday evening with the first of four dinner-dances scheduled to be held by the college during the academic year.

The occasion was the reception of class rings by the juniors, celebrated with the annual Junior Ring Dance held at the Treadway Inn, Wilkes-Barre.

Nearly 200 Misericordia juniors and their escorts attended the dinner dance as the climax to a weekend of celebration in honor of receiving the rings. Private parties started the festivities Thursday and were followed Friday afternoon with the special Mass for juniors conducted by the Rev. Michael J. Rafferty, Misericordia Chaplain.

Following Mass, the juniors met for dinner in Merrick Hall. Dinner Saturday began at 7 p.m. and was followed by dancing to the music of Strawboss. Several faculty members and college administrators joined the Misericordians at the dance.

Co-chairmen of the Ring Dance were Mary Shields and Marianne Hogan. Assisting were class officers Debbie Tomasura, president; Judy Hughes, vice president; Cathy Mangan, secretary; and Lorraine Rodzinka, treasurer.

All excess is ill; but drunkenness is of the worst sort. It spoils health, dismounts the mind, and unmans men. It reveals secrets, is quarrelsome, lascivious, impudent, dangerous and mad. He that is drunk is not a man, because he is void of reason that distinguishes a man from a beast.

Pen

Nancy Ashton, Robert Potter United in Church Ceremony

Nancy Ashton, daughter of Irene Ashton, RD 2, Hunlock Creek, and the late Irving Ashton, and Robert H. Potter, son of the late Curtis Potter, were united in marriage, Oct. 19, in the Jackson Methodist Church. The Rev. Fred Whipple performed the double ring ceremony.

Given in marriage by her brother, 1st Lt. Ronald Ashton, the bride selected a white Sata-Peau gown featuring a bib bodice of Chantilly lace and pearls edged with a dainty ruffle extending to the high neckline and long classic sleeves. The Princess line skirt was designed with motif of Venice lace and edged with a deep ruffle of lace extending to the long traditional train. Complimenting her gown, she wore a lace and pearls Camelot headpiece attached to a finger length veil. She carried a Victorian bouquet of white carnations, roses and baby breath with long satin streamers with love knots.

Barbara Kocher was matron of honor and Peggy Disque was maid of honor. Bridesmaids were Sally Salach, Bernice Markowski and Helen Geib. The flower girl was Terry Brader and ring bearer was Walter Dadey.

The matron of honor chose a maize empire gown designed with a bib of lace and sheer bishop sleeves trimmed with matching lace. She wore a Camelot headpiece with a shoulder length veil. The bridesmaids and flower girl wore identically styled gowns of Nile green and apricot. They carried colonial bouquets of yellow carnations and apricot roses with long streamers in respective colors.

Richard Potter, brother of the groom was best man. Ushers were Greg Moyer, Steve Salach, Walter Meski and James McKenna.



Mr. and Mrs. Robert H. Potter

An afternoon reception was held at the Regency Crown Ballroom, Wilkes-Barre, after which the couple left on a trip to the Poconos.

The bride is a graduate of Lake-Lehman High School and Wilkes-Barre School of Practical Nursing. She is employed on the pediatric staff of Wilkes-Barre General Hospital.

Mr. Potter is a graduate of Crestwood High School. He is presently attending Wilkes College in the ROTC program and will be commissioned in May.

Following the rehearsal, the couple was feted at a party given by her attendants.

Vacations for Thanksgiving Featured at Pocono Resorts

Several of the larger Pocono Resorts have announced special plans for Thanksgiving this year. Thanksgiving is traditionally a family time in the Poconos, and resorts cater to families during this holiday period.

White Beauty View Resort on Lake Wallenpaupack will be offering a festive Thanksgiving dinner with all the trimmings. A planned program for the adults and children is scheduled for the entire weekend.

Picasso Inn and Resort in White Haven starts the Thanksgiving weekend off Nov. 27, with the Russ Morgan Orchestra. Of

course on Thanksgiving there will be a turkey feast with all the trimmings.

Buck Hill Inn in Buck Hill Falls has five fabulous fun-filled festive days and four

nights planned for a Thanksgiving holiday. They will be offering a great traditional Thanksgiving feast from 12:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. Buck Hill Inn also reminds you to bring a swim suit for their new indoor pool, ice skates for the new indoor rink and sneakers for paddle tennis. These along with numerous other activities are available at Buck Hill Inn.

Penn Hills in Analomink offers a special five day, four night Thanksgiving package which includes delicious full course meals, use of Penn Hills wide array of indoor and outdoor facilities along with nifty entertainment and dancing. A special Thanksgiving dinner is planned for Thursday evening with a floor show following in Cupid's Nite Club.

Those wishing to make plans for the Thanksgiving holiday may do so by contacting the resorts directly or by writing the Pocono Mountains Vacation Bureau, Box D, 1004 Main St., Stroudsburg, 18360.

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Several College Misericordia faculty members and administrators joined the students for the ring celebration. Above, far right, Arnold Garinger, assistant professor of education, and wife, Marge, join three Misericordians and their escorts. Left to right: Kevin Bode, Donna Holdem, Port Jefferson, N.J.; Rex Paulukiewicz, South Amboy, N.J.; Maryclaire Ryan, Paramus, N.J.; Donna Ellis, Woodbridge, N.J.; John O'Connor, South Amboy, N.J.; and Mr. and Mrs. Garinger, Harveys Lake.

Cultural Center Board Adopts New Programs

The board of directors of the Back Mountain Cultural Center recently met at Kennedy Lounge, College Misericordia. The board took several actions of interest to Back Mountain residents. A new program brochure was authorized for mailing to members. Chairperson Charlotte Watchulonis stated that the brochure represents a "continuing cooperative arrangement with College Misericordia and others in presenting programs to Back Mountain residents."

Non-members may obtain the brochure and other services by joining the Cultural Center. Information on membership may be secured by writing Box 129, Dallas, 18612.

In other actions, the board authorized submittal of an application to the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts for a grant to help support its forthcoming spring major arts festival. The application will be transmitted in time for the Jan. 15 deadline

of the Council on the Arts.

John Sheehan, vice-president of the center, gave a status report on the community center meeting. A site study is underway to determine possible locations for a community center to serve the Back Mountain. The board authorized continuation of this project.

Rebecca Loveland, representative of the Teenage Advisory Board, announced that her group has met and will expand its membership. She pledged to continue the efforts of the Teenage Advisory Board to support the programs and activities of the center.

Other items discussed at the meeting include the proposed book discussion group, a special Feb. 1 program at Showcase Theatre in Wilkes-Barre, a suggested scholarship program, and expansion of board membership.

The next meeting of the board will be the second Tuesday in December.

Dorothy Husband Celebrates Marriage to Alfred DeRemer

Dorothy Husband, Centermoreland, became the bride of Alfred DeRemer, Centermoreland, Sept. 7, in the Vernon Community Baptist Church, Vernon.

The double ring ceremony was performed by the Rev.

Douglas Klein. The organist was Herbert Husband, son of the bride. The soloist was Patricia Bartlett.

The bride was attired in a green polyester floorlength dress with a crown collar. The gown featured long sleeves of

close-knit lace and an A-line skirt. Her headpiece was an attachment of yellow satin half-bows assembled by a large yellow satin bow with waist length streamers and a waist length veil of yellow English illusion. She carried a cascade bouquet of yellow carnations and baby roses accented with yellow bows and streamers.

Judy Rusinko, daughter of the bride, was matron of honor. Jack Husband, son of the bride, was best man. Claudia DeRemer and Angelia DeRemer, daughters of the groom, were flower girls. Alfred DeRemer Jr. was ring bearer.

The matron of honor wore a floorlength dress in shrill pink of identical style to the bride's attire. The matching headpiece was green. She carried a cascade bouquet of green carnations accented with green bows and streamers.

The flower girls were attired in green streetlength dresses and green headpieces.

Mildred Cross, mother of the groom, chose a blue polyester jumper and a white polyester blouse imprinted with pink and blue flowers.

Following the ceremony, an open house luncheon reception was held at the bride's home.

Mr. DeRemer is employed at Rex Shoe Company, Wyoming, and is a graduate of West Side Tech in the field of apoplestry.

The couple spent a honeymoon in New Milford, they now reside in the bride's home in Centermoreland.



Mr. and Mrs. Alfred DeRemer