

College Players to Demonstrate Play

The College Players will open their activities for 1941-42 season with the public appearance of some of their group before an assembly of the Central District Pennsylvania State Educational Society, which will meet on the college campus Saturday, October 19. The program, *Educational Dramatics in the Junior and Senior High School*, was prepared by members of last year's Play Production course, assisted by others in the club.

The principal feature of this demonstration will be the presentation of the one-act comedy, "The Romancers," written by Edmund Rostand, author of "Cyrano de Bergerac," and directed by Charles Norlund. Preceding this will be given an exposition of work required before the play is the finished product, such as blocking a play, staging it, securing appropriate costumes, and applying makeup, so that the audience can recognize and appreciate them in the production that follows. The director, Mr. Norlund, will talk on Directing and Blocking; Richard Hartzell on Interpretation and Characterization; Frances Molitor on How We Choose the Play and Players; Janice Stratton on Collecting Properties. J. Russel Gabel will speak about Lighting and Staging (with particular mention of the collapsible wall which has been used so far, successfully, in the production of "The Romancers.") Costumes will be discussed by Sonia Venger and Make-up by Lois Reeder and Charles Norlund.

"The Romancers" is really a take-off on Shakespeare's "Romeo and Juliet." This humorous satire concerns two young lovers, separated not only by their fathers' enmity, but also by a high stone wall dividing their respective back yards. Because the play is one that has been prepared for the purpose of presenting to high schools in this district, the elaborate staging, so typical of Rostand and his period, has been reduced to a minimum to facilitate transportation. With few properties (including the portable wall designed by J. Russel Gabel) to suggest the flowery courtyards of ancient Florence, the remainder of the setting is left to the imagination of the audience.

Cast in the role of the young lover, Percinet, is Mr. Gabel, well-known to Lock Haven T. C. audiences for his romantic leads; opposite him as his estranged sweetheart is Lois Reeder in the role of Yvette. Richard Hartzell enacts the role of Berganin, and Dale Olmstead that of the highly erascible Pasquinot, the respective fathers of both hero and heroine. Charles Norlund, as well as directing the play, portrays Straforel, the villain, who misses his cue and lends a happy ending to the story.

1940-1941 THETA ZETA STATE TEACHERS COLLEGE LOCKHAVEN, PENNSYLVANIA

The Theta Zeta Cast was organized this year under the direction of Miss C. Cordelia Brong, director of The College Players, and the members were initiated on April 29, 1941. Charter members who took part in the fall production, "You Can't Take It With You," are Lois Reeder, William R. Bittner, J. Russel Gabel, Kathryn Greenhill, and Robert Bowes. Several one-act plays presented under the direction of experienced members of the dramatics club were: "The Valiant," "The Romancers," "Jazz and Minuet," "Gas, Air, and Earl," and "A Cup of Tea."

The officers of the Theta Zeta Cast are: Director, Lois Reeder; stage manager, Kathryn Greenhill; and business manager, J. Russel Gabel.

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Townspeople are invited to attend the premiere of this play, directed by Dale J. Olmstead. Miss Doris Huffman will play "Eva," Donald Swope will play "Joseph," Francis Staffieri will play the "Warrior" and Mr. Bittner will play the part of "Darwin" in the play.

"Incident at Dusk," a fantasy, written in verse, tells of the last scientist of an age after civilization but of "Darwin," who has picked his name from the scientific books he worships. He has named his assistant "Joseph Priestley," and his servant "Eva Curie," after other names in these books he can hardly read. His work is to keep a generator in operation, so that the two electric lights that are left may burn, even though one is worshipped as a god by the savages who live nearby. "Eva," however, is also a savage, and therein lies the complication.

This play is produced, written, directed and acted entirely by college students, and some of the best dramatic talent in the college is participating. It was written this summer, and shows the greater bulk of Mr. Bittner's writing since he won the Atlantic contest.

"INCIDENT AT DUSK" WELL RECEIVED

"Incident at Dusk," an original one-act play written in verse by William R. Bittner was presented in last Friday's assembly. The play was directed by Dale J. Olmstead. The cast was a skillful blending of veteran and novice College Players. Doris Huffman played Eva, Donald Swope, Joseph; William R. Bittner, Darwin, and Francis Staffieri played the warrior.

The play seemed to be well received considering that it was a drama in verse. The story concerns the remnants of civilization which are being kept alive by Darwin and Joseph. When the "culture" shows signs of dying a message of hope is injected by Joseph. He asserts that "the new day is just beginning. We will go on to discover."

'Of Time and Blizzard' Chapel Presentation

My J. RUSSEL GABEL

Friday, November 7th, the College Players presented "Of Time and the Blizzard" by John Fitzpatrick, the first of the one-act plays for the purpose of giving experience to aspiring actors and actresses. The director, William R. Bittner, tried an innovation by using musical recordings in an attempt to set the mood of the play. However, it seems that Igor Stravinsky's ballet music, "Sacre du Printemps," was a bit too heavy for the audience to appreciate or perhaps because the music came from the rear of the auditorium, and none too clearly; the audience failed to see that there was supposed to be a connection with the music and what was to follow.

The play itself evoked a great deal of poet-performance comment from all who witnessed it. The plot, as I see it, was based on the relativity of time and that's all. When the play was over, I was not quite sure whether I should go back stage to congratulate the actors and actresses or whether that had been done years ago. The play, of course, was a light satire on the series of time plays which were so popular a year or so ago. Speaking of the cast, their performances was excellent. James Peet and Ardon Munson seemed a bit stiff and formal throughout the play, but Sally Loncoske carried her role with vivaciousness that will prove valuable in later plays. Jack Probst's interpretation of the confused English author was very good, but when he became a bit excited his accent noticeably changed from Picadilly to Pennsylvania. The portrayal given by Rose Minnie Probst, in her first character role, was excellent. Perhaps her sudden change to a grandmother mystified the audience, but it certainly showed talent. Marjorie Wise, who entered carrying the baby, was so convincing in her cough that I was tempted to toss a box of cough drops at her. Jean Wright's role, as the indolent, chocolate eating book-worm, was done so well that she was even unconcerned about being married to a bigamist. Regardless of a few missed cues and skipped lines, the play was very well done, and the cast deserves all the credit they received for their first performance.

But the acting before the audience is no more deserving than the acting that took place behind the scenes. Hank Ryan, the ingenious sound technician of the Dramatics Club, was kept on the jump imitating a crying baby, baying blood-

hounds, and the wind in a blizzard. While Hank was doing this, Dale Olmstead was throwing snow about. By the use of a strange device composed of bed sheet and scraps of paper, he was kept busy making the blizzard realistic. The snow thrown on the characters entering the door had but one fault, it didn't melt when it got into the warm room. Next time maybe he'll use REAL snow. However, with the aid of Lois Reeder, Ray Rathmell, and Bud Bradbury, Olmstead managed to keep the snow falling as long as the script called for it. While this was going on, John Akeley was having his troubles in the lighting booth. The director would give an order from the projection booth about the lights, and then a voice would come over the 'phone from the audience (it was a real 'phone connection) telling him to flicker the flame in the fireplace because the door opened.

With all this activity going on "out in front" and "behind" the play was quite effective. The audience was in stitches part of the time, and the actors did fail to pause for the laughs, but I dare say the audience enjoyed the play, even if they are still doubtful if they saw the play in 1941, or 1888, or maybe in 1978.

Quiz Features Players' Meet

The College Players held a general meeting Monday evening, Nov. 3, at 7:30, in the new auditorium. A "Know Your Handbook" quiz was arranged by the program committee, with Jack Probst, chairman, as announcer. Joel Freedman as Professor Whiz, and Russell Judd, Helen Burgess, Mary Jean Moyer, and Jean Erleg as judges. Everyone in the audience participated in an hour of instruction, spiced with humor provided by Professor Whiz, the announcer, and the contestants. Honors were awarded for correct answers.

The remainder of the series of one-act practice plays have been cast and dates for presentation arranged. "Ten Minutes by the Clock," director Kathryn Drauker, will be presented Nov. 24, with the following cast: "Gypsy," Mary Jane Earon; "Queen," Jean Dunn; "King," Dan Stanley; Pompom, Russell Judd; "Bitter-Batter," Martha Miller; "Page," Alice Bubb; "Dux," Jane Bittner; "Dox," Jean McDonald; Prompter, Mary Jane Earon.

The Christmas play, directed by Frances Molitor, will be given Dec. 10, with these people participating: "Rachael," Jeanette Earon; "Arah," Elizabeth Harrison; "Leah," Priscilla Hess; "Mary," Margaret Madden; "Joseph," Charles Zong; "Beggar Girl," Mary Debo; Prompter, Mary Debo.

Lois Reeder's play, "The Eldest," which will be produced in January, before the second semester, has this cast: "Rose," Virginia Baugher; "Floss," Sara Lee Mark; "Neighbor," Marion McPhee; "Harry," Garth Kreamer; "Al," Elmer Bradbury; "Pa," Charles Zong; "Ma," Lois Biddle, who also acts as prompter.

Play 45
THE COLLEGE PLAYERS

of
LOCK ELLEN STATE TEACHERS COLLEGE

present

a Program of Laboratory Plays Directed by Members of the Speech Department

CAN THE LEOPARD? - W.E. ATKINSON.

Scene: the Farr sisters' new home near New York City
Time: the present

Georgina Farr.....	Rose Minnie Akeley
Minnie Farr.....	Layne Bronson
Charlotte.....	Nancy Zimmerman
Eva.....	Betty Holter
Mrs. Flip.....	Doris Fontressor
Joan.....	Peggy Swope

Director, Peggy Swope

NOW IS THE TIME - JOHN KIRKPATRICK

Scene: living room of the Binghams, anywhere in America
Time: the present

Walter Bingham.....	James Hartle
Charles Reeves.....	William Brown
Lucy Bingham.....	Virginia Speaker
Kate Bingham.....	Kitty Kelly
Rose.....	Sara Zibler
Cora Reeves.....	Carolyn Carpenter
Madge Emery.....	Martha Padick

Director, Kay Johnson

TWENTY YEARS LATER - ESSFX DANE

Scene: Fenner Inn, near a college campus
Time: 1938

Percy Vaughn.....	Everly Talls
Mrs. Fenner.....	Dorothy Heston
Elsa Von Kerner.....	Ethel Zimmerman
Elizabeth Grey.....	Marion Turkart
Mildred Pryce.....	Betty Lorigan
Alevia Borden.....	Lois O'Neill
Peggy Carteret.....	Mary Curran
Mary French.....	Josephine Pavlock
Patsy Collingham.....	Edith MacIntyre
Carrie Fenner.....	Jean Reed

Director, Pat Bodle

COLLEGE AUDITORIUM MAY 1, 1945 8:30 P.M.

PLAYS A SUCCESS

The College Players presented Tuesday their three one-act plays before an audience of over 400. "Now Is the Time," directed by Mrs. Jack Tate, and "Can the Leopard?" under Peggy Swope's

direction, provided the element of comedy. The heavier side of life was enacted in "Twenty Years Later," under the direction of Patricia Bodle, and the sympathetic reaction of the audience was indicative of how effectively the players portrayed their roles.

The Drama Corner

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Before this, they had been introduced to the serious business of the Club. Forums—Lighting, Staging, Costume, and Make-up—Acting—Honors—Outer Circle—Inner Circle—One-act plays—and Alpha Psi Omega. Now they were ready to be entertained!

Helen Burgess, Mary Drick, and Jean Drye, Program Committee, added their welcome when the doors were thrown open to the backstage party room, which had been decorated in a traditional manner with corn stalks and pumpkin vines. "Get Acquainted" games—"Jump Jim Crow", "The Farmer in the Dell"—these, too, are a tradition at a Dramatic Club Party.

We were delighted to see so many new faces among the upperclassmen and, of course, we liked to see so much interest among the freshmen. The guests at the party were Dr. McElwee, Dean of Women; Lois Reeder Hartzell, formerly one of the most active members of the club; and Cpl. Dale Olmstead, last year's president.

More new members—late comers—bobbing for apples—refreshments! The rest of the evening was spent listening to records, dancing, and socializing.

CAMERAODDITIES

Was that Miss Brong and Dr. McElwee on their knees bobbing for apples?

This, with the entire club as a smiling bacground, will make a grand PRAECO picture.

FUTURE ATTRACTION?

Place—Assembly

Action—One-act play

THE RECTOR

Cast:

John Herresford .. Nathan Pletcher
Margaret Norton .. Jeannette Earon
Victoria Knox .. Eleanor Williams
Mrs. Lemmingworth—

—Marian McPhee

Mrs. Munsey Mary Drick
Miss Trimball .. Rose Minnie Akeley
Janie Mary Debo
Prompter Sara Zubler
Directed by: Doris Huffman

Remember, drama fans! Forums are held every first and third Monday of the month! Let's carry on the good work of previous years and top them with pep and cooperation.

The College Players Drama Corner

By DORIS HUFFMAN

"I've churned myself today!" a burst of laughter floats from the stage—hmm, the cast seems to be enjoying this as much as we hope the audience will!—And our hopes seemed to be realized as the comments were all favorable. We're speaking of the one-act comedy, THE RECTOR, which was presented in assembly on October 22. The title rôle was ably carried by Nathan Pletcher, an outer-circler. One of the most enjoyable characters, Janie, was portrayed by Mary Debo. The man-hunting ladies in the Rector's congregation were played by Rose Minnie Akeley, Marion MasPhee, Jeannette Earon, and Mary Drick. Eleanor Williams played the part of Victoria, the vicious heroine.

On Friday, November 5, the cast went to Jersey Shore and played before an enthusiastic audience of high school students. Despite many handicaps—a strange stage and set, hurried practice, and the absence of one member—the comedy was well-received and the Dramatics Club was invited to give another play there as soon as possible. Yes, the play must go on! When one of the members announced her intention to be off campus that week-end, the director, Doris Huffman, stepped into her role.

Coming Attractions

On November 23, the Clare Tree Major players will present two performances of *The Nuremberg Stove*. These performances will be sponsored by the College Players and the Campus School. The general chairman of the committee will be Rose Minnie Akeley, and all the members of the club have been assigned special duties.

Although there will be no public production by the Dramatics Club this semester, they are presenting a series of one-act plays in assembly, directed by members of the clubs. On November 19, *The Eldest*, a drama, will be given. It is being directed by Mary Debo.

The cast includes:

Rose Patricia Bodle
Henry Joseph Hutnyan
Floss Marion Burkhardt
Al Frank Yon
Pa Merrill Jones
Neighbor Miriam Park

Eleanor Hardy is serving as prompter, and the club forums will be responsible for the production activities.

Fall 45

DRAMA CORNER

by Josephine Pavlock

On Monday night, September 17, the College Players raised the curtain on a year that promises to return our organization to normal—a word synonymous with "men". At that time the club was "normalized" to the extent of ten freshmen men. Of course, we're glad to have the freshmen girls, too, but they join upperclassmen in gazing at prospective leading men.

The governing board met early and made plans for the Clare Tree Major production of *Alladin and His Wonderful Lamp*. The Clare Tree Major is a group of professional actors from New York, and they come to our campus once a year with a well-known children's play, mainly for the benefit of the Campus School and the other grade schools of the city. College students enjoy them, too, and live for a few hours in the land of fairies and magic wands. They would probably like a wand that would wave papers and themes right into the correct instructors lap.

Members of the play-reading committee are evidently reading those dramas that may be chosen for production this fall or next spring. Under consideration are such well-known successful Broadway plays as *Susan and God*, *The Man who Came to Dinner*, and *The Women*. Try-outs for a play to be given before Thanksgiving will be held soon, so watch the bulletin board for the announcement.

At the meeting several new officers were chosen to replace those who did not return. Nancy Zimmerman is our new Vice President, and Virginia Speaker is Honor Chairman and Bulletin Board Custodian. Congratulations, girls.

We regret the fact that Miss Brong has left us, but we are glad of the fact that she is steadily climbing the road to success. Miss Thorton who "hails from down Georgia way" is our new adviser and already we know that we won't want her to leave. Who knows? By next year the college may grow so much that we will need two speech teachers, and we'll be able to keep both.

1944

Theta Zeta

State Teachers College

Lock Haven, Pa.

The Theta Zeta cast of Alpha Psi Omega found their greatest field of activity in the program of the College Players. "Of Time and the Blizzard," "Where the Cross is Made," "Ten Minutes by the Clock" (given for the campus school children), "A King Shall Reign" and "The Wonder Hat" constituted this year's series of practice plays. The first public production, Thornton Wilder's popular drama, "Our Town", reached a new high in artistry. In Clifford Goldsmith's "What a Life," several participants completed their requirements for Alpha Psi Omega.

Theta Zeta cast carried on several enterprises. With the motto "Seek a Life Useful" clearly in mind, they pre-



Lois Reeder Hartzell and Charles Norlund in "Our Town," Theta Zeta Chapter, Lock Haven, State Teachers College.

pared a one-act play, "The Romancers" by Rostand, and presented it with a series of demonstrations to the Pennsylvania State Education Association convention. Then the play went on tour and played to fifteen different high school audiences. The second Theta Zeta project was the sponsoring of Clare Tree Major's "Sleeping Beauty" for the enjoyment of the children of Lock Haven. Finally, the cast conducted a dramatics festival on our campus for high school dramatics organizations in our area in central Pennsylvania.

Honors were received by Mr. J. Russel Gabel, who was chosen to lead the panel discussion on college dramatics at the Eastern States Conference for Professional Schools, held in New York City. Miss Brong, our director, was the panel adviser.

At the close of the year special awards were received as follows:

For the best character acting during the year, Richard Hartzell.

For the best backstage work during the year, J. Russel Gabel.

For superior participation during four years, Lois Reeder Hartzell.

The new members, Kathryn Draucker, Mary Anne Mauk, Dale Olmstead, Lucy Read, Janice Stratton, and Sonia Venger, were initiated at a dinner meeting in February.

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Townpeople are invited to attend the premiere of this play, directed by Dale J. Olmstead. Miss Doris Huffman will play "Eva," Donald Swope will play "Joseph," Francis Staffieri will play the "Warrior" and Mr. Bittner will play the part of "Darwin" in the play.

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Plays At College

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Place—Assembly
Action—One-act play

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Margaret Norton .. Jeannette Earon
Victoria Knox .. Eleanor Williams
Mrs. Lemmingworth ..

—Marian McPhee

Mrs. Munsey Mary Drick
Miss Trimbull .. Rose Minnie Akeley
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Directed by: Doris Huffman

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The College Players Drama Corner

By DORIS HUFFMAN

"I've churned myself today!" a burst of laughter floats from the stage—hmm, the cast seems to be enjoying this as much as we hope the audience will!—And our hopes seemed to be realized as the comments were all favorable. We're speaking of the one-act comedy,

THE RECTOR, which was presented in assembly on October 22. The title role was ably carried by Nathan Pletcher, an outer-circler.

One of the most enjoyable characters, Janie, was portrayed by Mary Debo. The man-hunting ladies in the Rector's congregation were played by Rose Minnie Akeley, Marion MasPhee, Jeannette Earon, and Mary Drick. Eleanor Williams played the part of Victoria, the vivacious heroine.

On Friday, November 5, the cast went to Jersey Shore and played before an enthusiastic audience of high school students. Despite many handicaps—a strange stage and set, hurried practice, and the absence of one member—the comedy was well-received and the Dramatics Club was invited to give another play there as soon as possible. Yes, the play must go on! When one of the members announced her intention to be off campus that week-end, the director, Doris Huffman, stepped into her role.

Coming Attractions

On November 23, the Clare Tree Major players will present two performances of *The Nuremberg Stove*. These performances will be sponsored by the College Players and the Campus School. The general chairman of the committee will be Rose Minnie Akeley, and all the members of the club have been assigned special duties.

Although there will be no public production by the Dramatics Club this semester, they are presenting a series of one-act plays in assembly, directed by members of the clubs. On November 19, *The Eldest*, a drama, will be given. It is being directed by Mary Debo.

The cast includes:

Rose Patricia Bodle
Henry Joseph Hutyman
Floss Marion Burkhardt
Al Frank Yon
Pa Merrill Jones
Neighbor Miriam Park
Eleanor Hardy is serving as prompter, and the club forums will be responsible for the production activities.

DRAMA CORNER

by Josephine Pavlock

On Monday night, September 17, the College Players raised the curtain on a year that promises to return our organization to normal—a word synonymous with "men". At that time the club was "normalized" to the extent of ten freshmen men. Of course, we're glad to have the freshmen girls, too, but they join upperclassmen in gazing at prospective leading men.

The governing board met early and made plans for the Clare Tree Major production of *Alladin and His Wonderful Lamp*. The Clare Tree Major is a group of professional actors from New York, and they come to our campus once a year with a well-known children's play, mainly for the benefit of the Campus School and the other grade schools of the city. College students enjoy them, too, and live for a few hours in the land of fairies and magic wands. They would probably like a wand that would wave papers and themes right into the correct instructors lap.

Members of the play-reading committee are evidently reading those dramas that may be chosen for production this fall or next spring. Under consideration are such well-known successful Broadway plays as *Susan and God*, *The Man who Came to Dinner*, and *The Women*. Try-outs for a play to be given before Thanksgiving will be held soon, so watch the bulletin board for the announcement.

At the meeting several new officers were chosen to replace those who did not return. Nancy Zimmerman is our new Vice President, and Virginia Speaker is Honor Chairman and Bulletin Board Custodian. Congratulations, girls.

We regret the fact that Miss Brong has left us, but we are glad of the fact that she is steadily climbing the road to success. Miss Thoron who "hails from down Georgia way," is our new adviser and already we know that we won't want her to leave. Who knows? By next year the college may grow so much that we will need two speech teachers, and we'll be able to keep both.

NOV. 1940
THE COLLEGE PLAYERS

present

THE VALIANT

by

HOLWORTHY HALL AND ROBERT MIDDLEMASS

CAST

The Warden-----Louis Rathgeber
Father Daly-----Walter Lindberg
James Dyke-----Ray Rathmel
The Girl-----Frances Molitor
Attendant-----William Hoffman
Jailer-----Dan Stanley

Directed by Richard Hartzell

Time--Three years after the close of the first World War; about
11:15 P. M.

Place--Office of the warden of Connecticut state penitentiary

COMMITTEES

Costumes--Jane Bittner(chairman), Phyllis Wolfe

Properties--Emily Elliott(chairman); Emily Day, William Bickford,
Dan Stanley.

Make-up--Earnestine Flanagan, Dan Stanley, Lewis Rathgeber

Stage--George Given,(chairman); Joel Freedman, William Bickford,
Dan Stanley



Lois Reeder Hartzell and Charles Norlund in "Our Town." Theta
Zeta Chapter, Lock Haven, State Teachers College.

pared a one-act play, "The Romancers" by Rostand, and presented it with a series of demonstrations to the Pennsylvania State Education Association convention. Then the play went on tour and played to fifteen different high school audiences. The second Theta Zeta project was the sponsoring of Clare Tree Major's "Sleeping Beauty" for the enjoyment of the children of Lock Haven. Finally, the cast conducted a dramatics festival on our campus for high school dramatics organizations in our area in central Pennsylvania.

Honors were received by Mr. J. Russel Gabel, who was chosen to lead the panel discussion on college dramatics at the Eastern States Conference for Professional Schools, held in New York City. Miss Brong, our director, was the panel adviser.

At the close of the year special awards were received as follows:

For the best character acting during the year, Richard Hartzell.

For the best backstage work during the year, J. Russell Gabel.

For superior participation during four years, Lois Reeder Hartzell.

The new members, Kathryn Draucker, Mary Anne Mauk, Dale Olmstead, Lucy Read, Janice Stratton, and Sonia Venger, were initiated at a dinner meeting in February.

1941-1942
Theta Zeta

State Teachers College

Lock Haven, Pa.

The Theta Zeta cast of Alpha Psi Omega found their greatest field of activity in the program of the College Players. "Of Time and the Blizzard," "Where the Cross is Made," "Ten Minutes by the Clock" (given for the campus school children), "A King Shall Reign" and "The Wonder Hat" constituted this year's series of practice plays. The first public production, Thornton Wilder's popular drama, "Our Town", reached a new high in artistry. In Clifford Goldsmith's "What a Life," several participants completed their requirements for Alpha Psi Omega.

Theta Zeta cast carried on several enterprises. With the motto "Seek a Life Useful" clearly in mind, they pre-