

ADAMS MEMORIAL THEATRE

1957-1958 CALENDAR

Spring 1957

The following program of events, scheduled for the coming season, is designedly in line with the policy outlined in the article "Some Contribution To Education and To Art" and is described in more detail in the article "Prognosis". So far as the academic part of it is concerned it is closely linked to the life and work of Harley Granville Barker, actor, playwright, producer, director, Shakespearian scholar and one of the most potent influences on the contemporary theatre. It is hoped to arrange for a public lecture on Granville Barker to be given early in the season.

October 15th. Concert Reading of **THE SECRET LIFE** by Harley Granville Barker.

(This, the last of Barker's completed plays, was written after he had renounced active work in the theatre: a renunciation that Bernard Shaw and many other of Barker's admirers considered akin to "treachery". So far as can be ascertained **THE SECRET LIFE** has never been performed before. Its production at the Adams Memorial Theatre, like the concert readings of last season, will utilise the techniques of radio dramatic presentation, though lighting will be employed as a visual aid. A special musical score is being composed for the production, and will be played "live".)

Oct. 31, Nov. 1, and 2. Cap and Bells production of **THE TIME OF YOUR LIFE** by William Saroyan.

(This delightful American comedy, the Pulitzer Prize winner of 1939, is the choice of Cap and Bells for their own production of the season.)

Dec. 12th, 13th and 14th. Production of **THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST** by Oscar Wilde.

(This classic comedy of manners--one of the funniest and most polished plays in the English language--will be produced in a stylised manner with the aim of giving a fantastically impression of the late Victorian period, rather than a realistic representation of it.)

Feb. 13th, 14th and 15th. FACULTY ENTERTAINMENT.

(Though this is still frankly in the formative stage, it is hoped that it will turn out to be a potpourri of good things, genuinely reflective of the Faculty's creative talents. It will definitely include a presentation, under the musical direction of Thomas Griswold, of Stravinski's rarely performed L'Histoire d'un Soldat.)

Mar. 4th. Concert Reading of JOHN BULL'S OTHER ISLAND by George Bernard Shaw.

(Though this is one of the least revived of Shaw's plays, it was written at the height of his powers, and its ideas and humor still seem astonishingly fresh. It was the first of several Shaw plays to be produced by Granville Barker under the banner of the famous Barker-Vedrenne management at the Royal Court Theatre in London.)

Mar. 19th, 20th and 21st. Production of CORIOLANUS by Williams Shakespeare.

(The last of Granville Barker's Prefaces to Shakespeare was concerned with CORIOLANUS, and was completed only a few months before his death. The aim in this production will be to follow as closely as possible Barker's interpretation of the play and his directions for it: directions intended in their turn to reproduce the manner of acting and of stage mounting current in Shakespeare's own time.)

Apr. 15th and 16th. Production of a play in French.

(Though a final selection has not yet been made, John Savacool, who directs a production of a play in French annually on behalf of the Department of Romanic Languages, intends this season to turn to Molière for his choice.)

May 1st, 2nd and 3rd. Student Musical.

(This, like the Faculty entertainment, is still in the formative stage. But, with more time for preparation and more experience behind them, Cap and Bells are hopeful that it will surpass last season's successful venture.)