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Western Players

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1948-49 Season
Presentations and Events of the
Western Players
Thomas White
President

Betty Ray
Secretary

Nick Diachenko
Vice President

Robert Spiller
Treasurer

Henry P. Smith
Historian

and

the One Who Knows All the Lines—the Director

Mr. Miller
A Tree Is Kentucky to Them

NEW YORK

THERE'S a tree on the campus of Columbia University which is Kentucky so far as summer students from the Bluegrass State are concerned. In fact, a sign nailed to its trunk says "Kentucky."

To this tree one Kentuckian may pin a note for another, while he learns of such events as the watermelon cutting which took place under that very tree on Tuesday.

The custom of state trees is one way in which Columbia's summer students group themselves according to point of origin. It is part of the activity of the Kentucky Club, which during this session is headed by Louise Galloway of Lexington, who is school-library consultant for the State Department of Education in Frankfort. Louise is attending Columbia's Library School.

The vice-president is James Edwards, Madisonville, teacher of mathematics in Marion, Ky., and the secretary is Evalyn Willey, librarian at Bowling Green, who is studying library science.

Club Gets Show Tickets

Through the Kentucky Club, students may buy tickets for the Broadway shows which have the longest lines at the box office. The tickets they get are not the expensive ones which the box office sometimes deigns to sell; they are the balcony seats which suit student pocketbooks. Tickets for broadcasts are available in the same way.

Russell H. Miller, teacher of speech and play production at Western, leaves note by tree for a Kentuckian.

Bluegrass students at Columbia have own meeting spot on campus

By Rhea Talley

Grace Hurst, kindergarten teacher at McFarren, who is studying the psychology of the younger child. Library science is the interest of Evalyn Willey, Bowling Green, Ky.

Drama is the study of Russell H. Miller, for he directs the Little Theater in Bowling Green, Ky., and teaches speech and play production at Western State College.

Most of the Kentucky students live in residences on the campus. Evalyn Willey is in the Parmaissi Club, which is chiefly for students of the arts; she is one of the few residents not studying music.

Sue Robinson is at International House, a residence for students of foreign lands. When I visited her there, during an hour we talked to a Polish displaced person, a Dutch law student, who was going to work at United Nations for two months, the wife of a Puerto Rican professor, a Canadian studying radio, a Greek medical student, and a New Zealander, and we watched dozens of Hindus in saris and Chinese girls in slit skirts.

HERE'S WHAT HAPPENED TO MR. MILLER LAST SUMMER
THE FIRST PRODUCTION and PLAYERS' MEETING

WESTERN PLAYERS
The first meeting of the Western players' club was held at the Kentucky building Tuesday night, September 28. Mr. Russell H. Miller, dramatics teacher, gave a review of the twenty leading plays he saw in New York this summer. Some of these were ALLEGRO, LOOK, MA, I'M DANCING; MArcH MANHATTAN; THE HEIRESS; and A STREETCAR NAMED DESIRE.

Mr. Miller suggested the fall production to be MISSOURI LEGEND and said the date of tryouts would be posted. He also told of the one-act play, DUST OF THE ROAD, as rehearsed and to be presented in accord with Religion Emphasis Week, October 3-9, on October 6.

The meeting was dismissed and refreshments were served.

CHRISTIAN LIVING EMPHASIS WEEK

VAN METER AUDITORIUM
October 6, 1948 8:00 p.m.
Worship Service followed by
The Western Players
Presenting
“DUST OF THE ROAD”
by Kenneth Sawyer Goodman

CAST
Prudence Steele
Joyce Allen
Her uncle, an old man.
Charles E. Solley
The Tramp
Henry P. Smith
Peter Steele
Thomas White

The Time is about one o'clock of a Christmas morning in the late nineteenth century.
The Place is the living room of a Middle Western farmhouse.

Directed by Russell H. Miller
Technical Staff

“Dust of the Road” is presented through special arrangements with The Stage Guild of Chicago and Longmans, Green & Company of New York City.

(W. K. C. Industrial Arts Print Shop)
MISSOURI

LEGEND

NOVEMBER 11, 1948
WESTERN PLAYERS

Letter to Russell Miller from Elizabeth Girty, author of "Missouri Legend", Nov. 4, 1948

[Gift of Sarah Jackson Smith UA# 98-87]
Mr. Russell Miller

To The Western Players

1403 College St.

Bowling Green

Kentucky.
Mr. Russell Miller:

Dear Sir:

I am pleased that you are about to direct "The Massacre Legend" for the Western Players. How I wish I could see that care when Jesse fired out! I became interested in Jesse when I was associated with David Belasco who had everything he could get abroad. 

Sarah J. Smith gift 1892-89
Jesse in the librar Y over the theater.

Good luck Lea and your company,

Sincerely,

E. B. Ginty
Souvenir Program

THE
Western Players
Season 1948-49

PRESENTING
"Missouri Legend"

November 11

BOWLING GREEN, KENTUCKY
THE WESTERN PLAYERS

OFFICERS 1948-'49

Charles E. Solley .................................................. President
Thomas W. White .................................................. Vice-President
Betty Ray ............................................................. Secretary
Bob Spiller ............................................................ Treasurer
Henry P. Smith ....................................................... Historian

THIS SEASON

Presenting significant Americanas

"Missouri Legend"
"The Contrast"
"Life With Father"

1947-'48

"Dear Ruth"
"Invitation to Laughter"
"Joan of Lorraine"
"Tonight at 8:15"
"Idiot's Delight"

Russell H. Miller, Director

The Western Players

Of

WESTERN KENTUCKY STATE COLLEGE
Bowling Green, Ky.

PAUL GARRETT, President

Present

"Missouri Legend"

By

Elizabeth B. Ginty

Directed by

RUSSELL H. MILLER

Thursday Evening, November 11
Van Meter Auditorium, 7:30 P. M.

Fall Production
1948
The Characters—as yer meet 'em

Billy Gashade ........................................ Thomas W. White
Aunt Belle ............................................. Nettie Jean Miller
Frank Howard ........................................... Jim Wright
Jim Cummins .......................................... Roy A. Lilly
Charlie Johnson ........................................ Kermit Binkley
Bob Johnson ............................................ George Utley
Mrs. Howard ........................................... Freda Deaton
Thomas Howard ....................................... Louis H. Shelton
Brother Williams ....................................... Charles E. Solley
The Widow Weeks ..................................... George Anne Lowe

THE CHARACTERS—Continued

Hosea (Pop) Hickey ..................................... Bob Spiller
Sam ................................................... Morris Lowe
George ............................................... Harold Matthews
Ben ................................................... Greg Colson
Asa .................................................. Frank Cole
Enoch, Old Timer ...................................... A. J. McCarty, Jr.
Hank ................................................ Coleman Carter
Joe .................................................. Arnold Robinson
Police Commissioner Gregg ......................... Nick Diachenko
The "Reverend" ....................................... John B. Murphree
Scenes

ACT I
A room in the home of Thomas Howard in St. Joe, Missouri. An evening in early March.

Intermission of twelve minutes

ACT II
Scene 1. The Widow Weeks' cabin in the Ozarks.
Five days later.

Scene 2. The back office in a small bank.
The next day.

Intermission of twelve minutes

ACT III
Scene 1. The room in the Howard home. Night, one week later.

Scene 2. The same. The next night.

Scene 3. The same. The next morning, after breakfast.

Scene 4. The same. The next day.

Time: 1882

Western Players' Productions
are an activity of

The Department of English
DR. GORDON WILSON, Head

Technical Staff for "Missouri Legend"

Assistant to director ........................................... Charles E. Solley
Script .............................................................. Marion Ditto and Bill Dolan
Scenic Design ................................................... Russell H. Miller and Ruth Hines Temple
Construction ..................................................... Vernon Lightfoot
Decoration ........................................................ Betty Hewins, Grace Lane, Bob Spiller, Thomas W. White, Charles E. Solley
Stage Manager ................................................... Bob Spiller
Construction ............................................................................................................

Properties ............................................................... Charles E. Solley, George Anne Lowe, Marion Ditto, John B. Murphree
Special Effects ....................................................... A. J. McCarty, Jr.
Make-up ............................................................... Grace Lane and Greg Colson
Publicity ................................................................. Norma Van Nori, Doris Winn, Grace Lane, Jim Wright, George Anne Lowe
House Committee .................................................. Betty Ray, William R. Russell, Norma Van Nori, Doris Winn
Special Music and Score ................................. Greg Colson and John B. Murphree
THE WESTERN PLAYERS WISH TO EXPRESS THEIR APPRECIATION TO—

CHES JOHNSON, for photographs for advertising display.

PARK CITY DAILY NEWS, for cooperation in handling publicity.

RADIO STATIONS WKCT AND WLBJ, for cooperation in publicity and sound effects.

ROYAL BARN, for antique pieces used.

MR. PERKINS, of Lost River Cave and PHARIS GROCERY, for pistols and firearms loaned from the Jesse James collection at Lost River.

"Missouri Legend" was first produced by Guthrie McClintic, in association with Max Gordon, with a distinguished cast including—Jose Ferrer, Karl Malden, Dan Duryea, Dorothy Gish, Dean Jagger, Mildred Natwick, James Craig, and others. This production is presented through special arrangements with Dramatists Play Service, Inc., 6 East 39th Street, New York City.
MISSOURI LEGEND

Carl Ginty, Sandburg has been chosen as the fall production of the Western Players. MISSOURI LEGEND concerns itself with the last days of Jesse James and is built around a sequence of incidents at the last days of his life when he was living in St. Joseph, Missouri under the name of T. J. Howard.

The popular ballad developing the theme of the bandit's biography has been harmonized by Marian Lychen.

The technical staff will be drawn from the members of the Play Production class and the Western Players. Special musical effects are to be worked out by Gregory Colson.

The production is under direction of Russell H. Miller, who was responsible for the presentation of DEAR RUTH, JOAN OF LOHR, and IDIOT'S DELIGHT by the Western Players of last season.

Charles Solley is serving in the capacity of assistant director. Freda Dunton and Marion Ditto have been chosen as the script holders.

Included in the cast of MISSOURI LEGEND are: Lewis Station, Vicki Randolf, Charles Finlen, George Ann Love, Nettie Miller, Roy Lilly, Jim Wright, Thomas White, Harry Smith, Bob Spiller, Morris Love, Charles Solley, Gregory Colson, Harold Masters, and Bill Russell.

The production is scheduled to be presented in the Van Meter auditorium, on November 11.

Bob Spiller

Jim Wright

The Park City Daily News, October 17

"Missouri Legend" Chosen As Fall Production Here

Bob Spiller

"Missouri Legend" by Elizabeth B. Colly, has been chosen as the fall production of the Western Players to be presented at Van Meter auditorium Nov. 11.

"Missouri Legend" concerns itself with the last days of Jesse James and is built around a sequence of incidents in his life when he was living at St. Joseph, Mo., under the name of T. J. Howard.

Included in the cast are Lewis Station, Vicki Randolf, George Ann Love, Nettie Miller, Roy Lilly, Jim Wright, Thomas White, Harry Smith, Bob Spiller, Morris Love, Charles Solley, Gregory Colson, Harold Masters, and Bill Russell.

The technical staff will be drawn from members of the Play Production class and the Western Players. Special musical effects will be worked out by Gregory Colson.
In "Missouri Legend," full production of Western Players to be presented at 7:30 o'clock Thursday night at Van Meter auditorium, George Anne Lowe, left, playing Wilder Weeks, makes her initial appearance with the group. Freda Deaton will be seen in the role of Zee Howard, devoted wife of Jesse James under his assumed name. Reserved seats for the play, directed by Russell H. Miller, are on sale at the boxoffice.

Freda Deaton plays the role of Jesse James in "Missouri Legend," to be presented by Western Players at 7:30 o'clock tonight at Van Meter auditorium under direction of Russell H. Miller. Tickets may be secured from the players or at the boxoffice.

To Appear In 'Missouri Legend':

Herald Blakley
George Ann Lowe
Bradley Taylor

Missouri Legend' To Be Presented November 11

Drama Portrays Legendary Life Of Jesse James

Louis Selsdon
Freda Deaton
Thomas White

With the presentation of MISSOURI LEGEND as the fall production, the Western Players bring a series of plays representing the different phases of American Drama. Here represented in the legendary biography of a real character in American folklore, whose exploits have furnished the basis for ballads, stories, novels and songs.

In the war of 1861-65, Missouri was divided in its loyalties between the forces of the north and south. Fighting in Missouri consisted largely of more or less disorganized raids by guerrilla bands. In the back-woods of this war that resulted in the defeat of the southern forces, many of these bands carried on their activity in forms of gangs of outlaws and continued to recruit younger members from disillusioned veterans, who found difficulty in adjusting themselves to life in the law-abiding era. It was in this way that Frank and Jesse James came to be members of Quantrell's raiding bands.
"Missouri Legend" Tells Of Jesse James' Finish

By Russell H. Miller

Folklore gives credit to an Ozark mountain singer named Billy Gasheade for the original composition of the "Ballad of Jesse James." The lines of the refrain —  

"That dirty little coward, that shot Mr. Howard,"  

reflect the hero worship of the mountain boy who guided Jesse and Frank to safe hideouts in the Ozarks on trips to and from the sites of their banditry.

"Missouri Legend," a fall production of Western Players, tells a story of Jesse's last raid. Living in St. Joe, Missouri, under the protection of a church-going alias of J. T. Howard, but he was human. The devotion of J. Gasheade to his idol is a touching part of melodrama. Bill Gasheade is played by Thomas W. White of Springfield. A senior at Western, majoring in English, he played the principal role of Harry Van in "Idiot's Delight," the spring production of "Dear Ruth," "Invitation to Laughter," and "Jean of Loraine.

In the role of Mrs. Howard, Jesse's wife, gentle yet dauntless, she flung her life away to be in his arms. Freda Deaton of Vite Grese, makes her second appearance with Western Players. The natural proven her versatility as her first part was that of Bethia, the bubble dancer. In the spring production of "Idiot's Delight," she was named for best performance of the period.

Scheduled for November 11, the production will be presented in Van Meter auditorium. Items of costume, hats, boots, or firearms, typical of the period are being collected by the group to give authenticity to the play.
Harry Deweese

George Ann Howe

...and then the scenes...
The CONTRAST

January 20, 1949
THE WESTERN PLAYERS
Season of 1948-'49

Presenting Royall Tyler's

"THE CONTRAST"
Directed by RUSSELL H. MILLER

THURSDAY, JANUARY 20--8:00 P. M.

VAN METER AUDITORIUM

WESTERN KENTUCKY STATE COLLEGE
Bowling Green, Ky.
Paul Garrett, President
WESTERN PLAYERS' PRODUCTIONS
are an activity of
THE DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH
DR. GORDON WILSON, Head

Presenting, this season, dramatic Americana—
"Missouri Legend"
"The Contrast"
"Life With Father"

Technical Staff for "The Contract"

Assistant to director ........................................... Thomas W. White
Stage Crew ......................................................... Bill Dolan, A. J. McCarty, Jr., Nick Diachenko, Coleman Carter,
William R. Russell, Jim Wright

Script .............................................................. Kermit Binkley and David Mefford
Scenic Design ...................................................... Russell H. Miller, Thomas W. White, Henry P. Smith
Construction .......................................................... Vernon Lightfoot
Properties .............................................................. Susan Jones, Leveta Bradley
Lighting .............................................................. Henry P. Smith
Music and Special Effects ........................................ Charles Lively

House Committee ... Joyce Allen, Betty Ray, Doris Winn, Norma Van Nort
Costumes by Eaves Costume Company, New York City.
Wigs by Oscar Bernner, New York and Hollywood.

WESTERN PLAYERS WISH TO EXPRESS THEIR APPRECIATION TO—

MILLER, INCORPORATED, for antique furniture.
PARK CITY DAILY NEWS, for cooperation in handling publicity.
RADIO STATIONS WKCT AND WLBJ, for cooperation in publicity.
CHES JOHNSON, for photography and display.

DRAMATIS PERSONAE—

Colonel Manley .................................................. Mr. Louis H. Shelton
Dimple .......................................................... Mr. Bob Spiller
Van Rough ....................................................... Mr. Morris Lowe
Jessamy .......................................................... Mr. Hugh A. Noffsite
Jonathan .......................................................... Mr. Larry A. Dewese
Frank ............................................................. Mr. David E. Mefford
James .............................................................. Mr. Kermit Binkley
Charlotte ......................................................... Mrs. George Anne Lowe
Maria .............................................................. Miss Martha Crady
Letitia .............................................................. Miss Martha Crady
Jenny .............................................................. Miss Leveta Bradley
Betty ............................................................... Miss Susan Jones

Scene: New York City in 1787

Prologue.

ACT ONE—
Scene 1. An Apartment at Charlotte's.
Scene 2. A Room in Van Rough's House.
Scene 3. An Apartment at Charlotte's.

Intermission—Twelve minutes

ACT TWO—
Scene 1. The Mall.
Scene 2. Dimple's Room.
Scene 3. The Mall.

Intermission—Twelve minutes

ACT THREE—
Scene 1. Charlotte's Apartment.
Scene 2. Van Rough's House.
Scene 3. The Mall.
THE CONTRAST

The Western Players' production is based upon the original script of the comedy, played first by Thomas Wignell's John Street Theatre Company of New York City, April 16, 1787.

Royall Tyler, the author, was born in Boston, Massachusetts, on July 18, 1757. As a student at Harvard, he attracted attention by his ability, his wit, and his lively nature. As a graduate of Yale Law School, he engaged in the study of law with Francis Dana in Cambridge. He served with distinction in the colonial forces in the American Revolution. At one time he was engaged to Abigail Adams, daughter of John Adams, then minister to France. After the Revolution he settled in Boston and married Mary Palmer.

In 1787 he made an expedition to New York in connection with the suppression of Shay's rebellion. It was here he saw his first play, "The School for Scandal," performed by the John Street Company. He met and admired Thomas Wignell and in less than three weeks completed and sent him the manuscript of "The Contrast" which was immediately produced and proved popular.

Tyler took no credit for its composition or publication. Wignell published it in Philadelphia in 1790 as by "a citizen of the United States" with a list of subscribers headed by George Washington, who is also reputed to have been present on the occasion of its opening night in New York.

In the present revival, the shadow-box technique of presentation has been substituted for the old wing-and-drop type of scenery used in the period of the original.

BOWLING GREEN-WARREN COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE in providing these printed programs.
Western Players Scheduled To Present
The Contrast' On Thursday Evening

Larry Deweese Martha Crady Hugh Noffsinger

Western Players will present THE CONTRAST, the second in their series of significant American dramas, in Van Meter auditorium on Thursday evening, January 20.

THE CONTRAST, a patriotic play written to bring out Americanism in America, was written by Royall Tyler on his first visit to New York after he had seen New York produce SCHOOL FOR SCANDAL. He wrote THE CONTRAST with the idea of contrasting fine qualities of pioneer America, with the Tories in America.

To accomplish the purpose of his satire, the plot of THE CONTRAST deals with the experiences of a veteran of the American Revolution in the New York social circles. Veteran's problems in 1787 were much the same as the veteran's problems after any war. He finds himself faced with a difficult business of adapting himself to a society from which he has been separated for several years; a society which is unaware of the personal sacrifices and hardships that he has undergone during that separation and that cares little. Colonel Manley is wearing a regimental coat while on a military mission in New York offends his coquettish sister, Charlotte, because of his disregard for fashionable dress.

THE CONTRAST in ideas and in manners and morals extends throughout the entire group of characters. The literary significance of the play lies in the fact that it was the first successful American play written by an American, with an American subject, and performed first by American players.

The dramatic significance of THE CONTRAST lies in the fact that American life for first time was given presentation in the theater and Royall Tyler is credited with creating the character of the typical Yankee, in his Jonathan.

The song "Yankee Doodle Dandy" is part of the play and was probably sung on the stage in the original production. Historically, the play is significant in its apt presentation of life, manners, and dress of the people of the United States in 1777.

In the cast of THE CONTRAST, a number of players are making their first appearance in the Western Players production. These include Larry A. Deweese, Martha Crady, Grace Lane, Hugh Noffsinger, LeVeta Baudeler, David Mefford, and Susan Jones.

Other members of the cast:
George Anne Lowe, Louis Shelton, Don Fuller, Morris Lowe, and Carroll Buckely. were seen in MISSISSIPPI LEGEND last November.

The play is scheduled for Thursday, January 20, in Van Meter Auditorium. The technical staff includes Thomas W. White, assistant director, assisted by W. B. Ernest, A. J. McClary, Jr., Nick Ditchenko, Colleen Carter, Bill Dolan, and Jim Wright.

The play is under the direction of Mr. Russell H. Miller, of the English department faculty.
LIFE
WITH
FATHER

April 7, 1949
Clarence Day's
"LIFE WITH FATHER"
Made into a play by
HOWARD LINDSEY and RUSSEL CROUSE
Directed by RUSSELL H. MILLER
Thursday, April 7 - 8:15 P. M.
VAN METER AUDITORIUM
WESTERN KENTUCKY STATE COLLEGE
Bowling Green, Ky.
Paul Garrett, President
WESTERN PLAYERS’ PRODUCTIONS

are an activity of

THE DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

DR. GORDON WILSON, Head

Technical Staff for "Life With Father"

Produc ing Director .................................................. Russell H. Miller
Assistant to director ............................................... David Mefford
Stage Manager ......................................................... Robert Rogers

Stage Crew

Georgia Howard, Martha Crady, Carolyn Carr, Mary F. Taylor,
Goldie Wilson, Delphine Cunningham, Julia C. Smith

Lighting ................................................................. Henry P. Smith
Script and curtain .................................................... Kermit Binkley, David Mefford
Costumes ............................................................... Georgia Howard, Goldie Wilson
Make-up ................................................................. Carolyn Carr, Delphine Cunningham

Publicity and Sales

Martha Crady, Georgia Howard, Delphine Cunningham, Mary F. Taylor,
Julia C. Smith, Carolyn Carr

House Committee

Louis H. Shelton, Nick Dianchenko, Grace Lane, Jim Wright,
Leslie Thomas, William R. Russell, Coleman Carter,
Hugh Noffsinger, Larry Dewese

Costumes for Miss Crady, Mrs. Lowe, and Miss Cunningham by Brooks of
New York, customers of the original Broadway production.

Costumes for Messrs. Spiller, White, Kimbrough, Dolan, Roberts and
McCarty by Van Horn and Son of Philadelphia.

Wigs by Oscar Bernner, New York and Hollywood.

CAST

(In order of appearance)

Annie ................................................................. Goldie Wilson
Vinnie ............................................................... Martha Crady
Clarence .............................................................. Thomas W. White
John ................................................................. Joe Kimbrough
Whitney ............................................................. Bill Dolan
Harlan ............................................................... Gary Roberts
Father ................................................................. Bob Spiller
Margaret .............................................................. Mildred Burns
Cousin Cora ......................................................... Delphine Cunningham
Mary Skinner ....................................................... George Anne Lowe
The Rev. Dr. Lloyd ............................................... A. J. McCarty, Jr.
Delia ................................................................. Georgia Howard
Nora ................................................................. Carolyn Carr
Dr. Humphreys ..................................................... David Mefford
Dr. Somers ......................................................... Robert Rogers
Dr. Stevens .......................................................... Owen McPeek
Maggie ............................................................... Betty Ray

SYNOPSIS OF SCENES

The entire action takes place in the morning room of the Day home at
420 Madison Avenue, New York City, which served as a breakfast room
and a living room for the family. The time is Spring, late in the 1880's.

ACT ONE—

Scene 1: Breakfast time. An early summer morning.
Scene 2: Tea time. The same day.

Intermission

ACT TWO—

Scene 1: Sunday, right after church. A week later.
Scene 2: Breakfast time. Two days later.
(During the Second Scene the curtain is closed to denote a lapse of
three hours.)

Intermission

ACT THREE—

Scene 1: Mid-afternoon. A month later.
Scene 2: Breakfast time. The next morning.
THE WESTERN PLAYERS
Officers 1948-'49

Thomas W. White .......................................................... President
Nick Diachenko ............................................................ Vice-President
Betty Ray ................................................................. Secretary
Bob Spiller ................................................................. Treasurer
Henry P. Smith ........................................................... Historian
Russell H. Miller ......................................................... Faculty Director

Presenting, this season, dramatic Americana—
"Missouri Legend"
"The Contract"
"Life With Father"
1947-'48
"Dear Ruth" ................................................................. "Invitation to Laughter"
"Joan of Lorraine" ....................................................... "Tonight at 8:15"
"Idiot's Delight"

FOR COOPERATION IN THE PRODUCTION OF "LIFE WITH FATHER" THE WESTERN PLAYERS WISH TO EXPRESS THEIR APPRECIATION TO—

MILLER, INC., for antique furniture and pictures.

THE PENNY ROYAL GIFT SHOP OF WARREN COUNTY HARDWARE CO., for decorations and properties.

CHES JOHNSON, for photography and display.

PARK CITY DAILY NEWS, for cooperation in handling publicity.

RADIO STATIONS WKCT AND WLBJ, for cooperation in publicity.

BOWLING GREEN-WARREN COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE has provided these souvenir programs for the 1948-'49 season.

Dear Russell Miller:

We are delighted that the Western Players are going to play LIFE WITH FATHER.

We know it will be a lot of fun for the cast because we had so much fun playing it for five years ourselves.

Best of luck!

Dorothy Stickney

Howard Lindsay

Mr. Russell H. Miller,
Director, The Western Players,
Western Kentucky State College,
Bowling Green, Kentucky.
Spiller And Crady Carry Lead Roles
In Production Of 'Life With Father'
By June Easter

To think of Tommy White without Bill Russell is about as hard as to think about him without aging, Albert without Costello, Burns without Allen, Mutt without Jeff, Ames without Alman, Bill is usually straight man in the act, giving Tommy his cues, but frequently getting in his own punch lines.

For the benefit of the few who missed the absurdist, out-of-the-way performances, the people who have not met Bill and Tommy, the couple in question are both seniors on the Bill and both from approximately the same place near the outer rim of the Bluegrass. In fact, getting their definite place of abode is a little difficult to determine as Tommy lives at Hillsboro, near Williamstown, went to school at Muckville, gets his mail at Mackville. The attraction at Lebanon seems to be the assistant cashier of the Marion county bank, the sight of whose sets the sound of wedding bells tinkling in Tommy’s ears.

Bill is from Rose Hill which he declares is not a city, and he gets his mail at Muckville. He seems to like red hair and is constantly irritated by Potter male office girls saying “I’m sorry, you have the wrong number.” This in Potter hall isn’t Cherry hall.

They were trouble all during high school, and part of the time which was separated for four years while Tommy went to Hawaii, and the Army Signal Corps and Bill took a 22-month tour with the Navy Amphibians. The first time he had ever been outside the Kentucky hills was the day he left, and he went to Canada, Ireland, England, France, Belgium, Holland, Germany, and Norway. While in England he met Lady Astor and Lady Cavendish who are two of the most interesting people he has ever met.

After returning from the service Bill decided to come to college. One quarter of staying at home while Bill came to college was all Tommy could stand, so he packed up and came too. For the past three years they have roomed together and have taken all classes together if possible. Tommy is an English major, majoring in art and history, while Bill is a geography major with minors in art and English.

Their extra curricular activities on the Bill run to unconventional. Tommy was the other soldier in DEAN RUTH, the drama with the last line whim in A WEDDING HAS JUST ARRANGED, a brother of the stage manager in JOAN OP LORRAINE, the tap-dancing, vasscracking showman in COOTY DELIGHT, the simple bel-lad-maker in MISSOURI LEGEND, and assistant director of THE CONTRAST. He will be Clarence Day Jr., in LIFE WITH FATHER.

Bill’s historic contributions consist of speaking a two-line part in DEAN RUTH, and being the man behind the scenes in most of the others. The beautiful poplar trees in THE CONTRAST exhibited some of his latest work.

Bill likes fishing and interior decorating as his hobbies. Tommy adds: “Life With Father” the Howard Lindsay and Russell Crouse dramatization of Clarence Day Jr.’s biographical sketches, under the direction of Russell H. Miller is being rerafted for spring production by the Western Players at Van Meter Auditorium on April 7.

The play has been unanimously acclaimed by drama critics. “A perfect comedy, No sooner or later everyone will have to see ‘Life With Father’,” was Brooks Atkinson’s evaluation for the New York Times, and Walter Winchell dubbed it, “Public entertainment No. 1,” in the Daily Mirror. “No less than a masterpiece,” opined Chicago Tribune’s Cecil Smith; and in Boston, “An incomparable evening’s entertainment for anyone from nine to 90. The happiest, gayest, most solidly human, humorous, hopeful play in at least that many years,” wrote Elliot Norton for the Post.

Recreating the Victorian styles of the Day home at 439 Madison avenue in New York City in the late 1800’s is proving an interesting project of the play production group. In addition to cast assignments, members of the staff already actively engaged in bringing “Father” to life include: assistant to director, David Mefford; stage manager, Robert Roger; scenic design, Mary Franklin Taylor and Julia C. Smith; scripts, Kermit Binkley and David Mefford; set decoration, Goldie Wilson; Julia C. Smith, Carolyn Carr and Mary P. Taylor; costumes, Georgia Howard and Goldie Wilson; makeup, Carolyn Carr and Delphine Cunningham; publicity, Martha Crady and Georgia Howard.

Father Day was a scathing man; put he had very definite opinions about hospitality, and they were not southern. What complicated the matter was that his houseguests were usually Mother’s relatives. His
Friday, March 25, 1949

Youth Plays Role In Next Production

Gary Roberts

A play does not often require the part of a ten year old boy, but such is the case of the youngest son of the Day family, Harlan, in the next Western Players production, LIFE WITH FATHER.

After scouting over the community in search of a young actor, Mr. Russell H. Miller, director of LIFE WITH FATHER, decided upon ten year old Gary Roberts, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Roberts, 30 Sample Avenue. Gary is in the fifth grade at the Junior training school, where Miss Mac Wilson is his teacher.

Playing the role of Harlan in LIFE WITH FATHER is Gary's second appearance on the stage, his first being in the Bowling Green Players Guild production of GRANDMOTHERS NICE, which was given in the "Playshop" and directed by Mr. and Mrs. Paul Clark.

Besides being a junior member of the Players Guild, Gary is a Democrat. He has been taking violin lessons for two years and is now playing in the College high school orchestra.

Gary's hobbie is pets, including a squirrel named "Prista," a black cocker spaniel, "Boo," and horses, which are his favorite. Gary won these ribbons for good horsemanship while riding his horse "Dodie" in the Western Kentucky horse show.

The play "Moonshine," by Arthur Hopkins, was played in Mindsville by two members of the Western Players, March 16.

Friday, April 8, 1949

Third Drama Of Series Enacted

LIFE WITH FATHER by Howard Lindsay and Russel Crouse, was presented last evening in Van Meter auditorium by the Western Players. It is a sequel to "LIFE WITH MOTHER." The Western Players have written a sequel, LIFE WITH MOTHER, which was tried out in Detroit and moved to New York, where it is still playing.

Gary's role is that of Harlan, who in 1898 takes his household. The plot also revolves around Marilyn's (Marta Cosby) desire to see her husband gain his. The play is a domestic comedy portraying home life as it was lived in the 1890's.

Father and Vinnie have four red headed sons, Clarence, Jr. (Thomas W. White), John (Joe Kimbrough), Whitney (Bill Dolan), and Harlan (Gary Roberts). These boys do anything on stage from playing tidily with, to making medicine for their mother.

Father constantly frightens the maid away, which results in the changing of maids in the acts. Playing the parts of maids are, Annie (Carolyn Carr), Delta (Georgia Howards), Nora (Carolyn Carr), and Maggie (Betsy Ray), and Margaret (Mildred Burnes), the one who has been with the family for many years.

Others included in the cast are: Dr. Lloyd (A. J. McCarty Jr.), Dr. Humphreys (David Mefford), Dr. Bowers (Robert Rogers), and Dr. Stevens (Owen McPeek).

LIFE WITH FATHER is under the direction of Mr. Russell H. Miller favorite member of the English department.

The technical staff is drawn from members of play production class and Western Players.

Working on the scenic design is Mary F. Taylor, chairman; and Julia C. Smith, stage manager is Bob Rogers, with the assistance of David Mefford, Goldie Wilson is chairman of the set decoration committee with Mary Taylor, Carolyn Carr, and Julia C. Smith. Costuming is by Georgia Howards, and Goldie Wilson. On the make-up Committee is Carolyn Carr, Delphine Cunningham. The publicity is in charge of Martha Croud, Georgia Howard, Julia C. Smith, Mary F. Taylor, Delphine Cunningham, and Martha Griffith.

The play "LIFE WITH FATHER" is on sale, and may be purchased from any member of the cast, at the price of $1.00 or $1.50 for reserved seats.
Romance Important Part In "Life With Father"

George Anne Lowe

"In the spring, a young man’s fancy lightly turns to thoughts of love," was just as true in 1888 as in 1949. Romance is an important element of any drama and is seldom lacking in any popular comedy. "Life With Father" has its full share.

Clarence Day’s delightful staccato dramatized in "Life With Father" by Howard Lindsay and Russell Crouse, provide the basic character material of the spring production of Western Players.

No effort is being spared by Western Players to bring the incidents to life effectively. Costumes have been ordered from Brooks of McCarty Jr., Mildred Burns, David Skimmer, and Martha Crady. Other properties and decorations are from the Pennyroyal Gift Shop of Warren County Hardware Company.

ON AN APRIL morning, Clarence Day Jr., sees in the first stirrings of the tender emotion in his 17-year-old son the fact that Clarence Jr., is becoming a man. Mary Skinner, fresh from Ohio and in New York; for the first time, reminds him of his own courting days.

In the Western Players’ production, Clarence Jr. is played by Thomas W. White, senior from Springfield. Mary Skinner, the girl who first wins his heart, is George Anne Lowe. In private life Mrs. Morris Lowe of Bowling Green.

Others included in the cast for "Life With Father," under the direction of Russell H. Miller, are Bill Dolan, Joe Kinmonth, Delphine Cunningham, Odelle Wilson, A. J. McCarty Jr., Mildred Burns, David Metfield, Robert Rogers, Carolyn Carr, Gary Roberts, Owen McPeek, Georgia Howard, Betty Ray, Bob Spiller and Martha Crady.

This popular comedy is scheduled for Van Meter auditorium on April 7.

‘Life With Father’ Chosen For Presentation April 7

LIFE WITH FATHER, by Howard Lindsay and Russell Crouse, has been chosen for the next presentation by the Western Players in Van Meter auditorium, April 7.

Tragedy sentiment and hearty, kindly laughter have made the play a popular comedy and a smash hit in countless engagements.

The plot deals with Father, an irascible but charming gentleman who in 1880 rules his household with an iron hand and is an immaculate chauvinist. The plot also revolves around Vinnie’s desire to see her husband baptized. It is a domestic comedy portraying home life as it was lived in the 1880’s.

The sequel of LIFE WITH FATHER, called LIFE WITH MOTHER, is concerned with Vinnie’s frustration about the fact that she and father have been married for over two years, but he has never given her an engagement ring.

LIFE WITH FATHER was chosen as the third in the Western Players’ current series of dramatic American comedies, because of the fact that it is universally the great American comedy.

Bob Spiller has been chosen for the part of Father, which marks his seventh appearance in a Western Players’ production. Western players will remember Bob for his performance of the father in the production DEAR RUTH. He has also appeared in other productions in Western such as: INVITATION TO LAUGHTER; JOAN OF LORRAINE; IDIOT’S DELIGHT; MISSOURI LEGEND; and THE CONTRAST.

Playing Mother in LIFE WITH MOTHER is alsoiza John: Bill Dolan as Whitney; George Anne Lowe as Mary Skinner; Delphine Cunningham as Cora; Mildred Burns as Margaret; Odelle Wilson as Aisle; A. J. McCarty Jr. as Dr. Lloyd; David Metfield as Dr. Humphrey; Robert Rogers as Dr. Romer; Owen McPeek as Dr. Stevens and Georgia L. Howard as Maggie.

LIFE WITH FATHER is under the direction of Mr. Russell H. Miller, faculty member of the English department.
**McCarty Cast**

**As Clergyman**

Jack McCarty

In “Life With Father,” the popular domestic comedy that has broken all longevity records in the field of theatrical entertainment, family life of the late 1880’s is the theme of the amusing incidents that comprise the plot. Under the direction of Russell H. Miller, Western English department instructor, this spring production of Western Players is being prepared for presentation in Van Meter auditorium on April 7.

Sunday was the most important day of the week in the life of the Clarence Days. Both Father and Mother Day (Bob Spiller and Martha Croady) insisted strongly on attendance at church, but they did not agree on their reasons. Father thought it was simply the right thing to do, but Mother put it differently — she said one owed it to God. Church to her was a place where one worshiped and learned to be good. To both of them the right thing to do for religion was to go to some good church on Sundays. When Father went to church and sat in his pew, he felt he was doing enough. Any further spiritual work ought to be done by the clergy.

In “Life With Father,” the clergyman was a plump, bustling man, very good-hearted and pleasant; though, in spite of his good-heartedness and kindness Father Day never felt at ease with him.

Dr. Lloyd, played by Jack McCarty Jr., in the current production, was more at home speaking to a large audience. He had warm and sympathetic feeling toward people on stage. McCarty contributed the sound effects for last spring’s “Idiot’s Delight” and has been on technical staff and played bits in this season’s “Missouri Legend” and “The Contrast.”
# Financial Report
## Spring Semester 1949

**Balance on hand Feb. 10, 1949:** $540.30

Expenses guarantee Munfordville trip: $25.00

Receipts for ticket sales on "Life With Father": $585.60

**Total Receipts:** $660.80

**Total Receipts and balance:** $1,140.80

**Operating expenses Feb. 10 to May 10, 1949:**

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<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Expenses Munfordville trip</td>
<td>$2.75</td>
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<tr>
<td>Expenses for &quot;Life With Father&quot;</td>
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<td>Dramatist Play Service (Scripts) (Paid in Fall Semester)</td>
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<td>David Ransom, construction</td>
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<td>Ches Johnson, photos of &quot;Life With Father&quot;</td>
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**Total expenses:** $415.20

Less $10.24 for scripts $194.96

**Spring Semester Payments:** $404.96

**Balance to May 10, 1949:** $755.84

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Russell H. Miller, Director
Western Players
Clarence Day's

...Life

With Father

Dramatized by Howard Lindsay and Russel Crouse

"The Great American Comedy"

Spring Production of Western Players

Directed by Russell H. Miller with cast of . . .

BOB SPILLER
GEORGE ANNE LOWE
JOE KIMBROUGH
GOLDIE WILSON
JACK McCARTY, Jr.
CAROLYN CARR
DAVID MEFFORD
ROBERT ROGERS
BETTY RAY

MARTHA CRADY
THOMAS W. WHITE
DELPHINE CUNNINGHAM
BILL DOLAN
MILDRED BURNS
GARY ROBERTS
GEORGIA HOWARD
OWEN McPEEK
KERMIT BINKLEY

VAN METER AUDITORIUM

Thursday, April 7 - - 8:15 P. M.

Reserved Seats On Sale Bursar's Office, WKSC, April 4-7 . . . . $1.00
General Admission . . . . 50c

BOB SPILLER
GEORGE ANNE LOWE
JOE KIMBROUGH
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