1957

UA68/17/2 Summer Players Scrapbook 1957

Western Players

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Summer Theater
1957
A stock company formed
Officers of Western's Summer Theatre

1957

Julius E. Rather . . . . . . . . . . . President
Robert B. Hensley . . . . . . . . . . . Vice-President
Marjorie Hanna . . . . . . . . . . . Business Manager
Jane Lovell . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Secretary
Walter Langford and Pat Hooper . . . Public Relations
Russell H. Miller . . . . . . . . . . . Producing Director
Frances Dixon and James B. Jones . . Assistant Directors
Play Reading and Selection: . . Pat Hooper, Paul Wilder,
Jane Lovell, Walter Langford, Martha Garnett
Activities Committee: . Robert B. Hensley, Martha Green,
Marjorie Hanna, Joyce Mosley, William E. Hensley
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Strategy planned
Summer Theatre Group Plans Two Productions

Bowling Green was assured of its second season of summer theatre as the Western group stepped up its activities during the second week of the current summer session. Selections were made for the first two productions to be presented in middle and late July.

The Western Summer Theatre will open with that favorite of all murder mysteries, "The Night of January 16." This will be followed next by Arthur Miller’s latest, a drama of Sicilian-Americans called "A View From the Bridge."

At an organizational meeting last week—officers were chosen for the interim season. Julius E. Rather, senior of Bowling Green, was elected president; Marjorie Hanna, sophomore from Henderson, business manager; Bobby Hensley, graduate of How’s Cave, vice president; Jane Lovell, senior from Macon, secretary, and Walter Langsford, junior from Owensboro, and Ed Bohrer, graduate from Albany, as public relations representatives.

In addition to the productions, activities of the group will include field trips to Berea’s "The Wilderness Road" and to Nashville’s Circle Theatre or TV stations. A picnic outing is planned for Wednesday afternoon and a more formal party at the end of the summer.

Auditions for the two plays were held during the week. Joan Ditto, Jane Lovell, Julius E. Rather, Ed Bohrer and Richard S. Smith head the large cast chosen for "The Night of January 16." Russell E. Miller, director of speech and dramatic activities at Western, is serving as producing director for the summer group. Assisting Miller are Mrs. Frances Dixon of College High and James B. Jones of Bowling Green.

The acting company at present also includes Pat Hooper, Barbara Burch, Shelby Jeanne Maloney, Martha Ann Green, Jean Halas, Lou Mae Davis, Joyce Mosley, Marjorie Hanna, Martha Garrott, Jeannetta Scott, Lottie Higgin.

Western Players Select Productions

Western Players selected "The Night of January 16" as its first production this summer and "A View From the Bridge" as the final production.

Tryouts for these two plays will be held tonight at 7 p.m., in Van Meter Auditorium. Tryouts are not limited to Western students. Anyone interested may try for a part.

Committees appointed at the first summer meeting of Western Players included activities, Bobby Hensley, chairman; Joyce Mosley, Martha Green, Marjorie Hanna, and Julius Rather; and selection of summer productions, Pat Hooper, chairman, Jane Lovell, Martha Garret, Paul Wilder, and Walt Langsford.

Western Plans More Plays In Arena Style

Bowling Green, Ky., June 29. — Western Kentucky State College is repeating its last year’s venture into arena-style summer theatricals.

Two plays have been booked so far for presentation in Van Meter Auditorium—"The Night of January 16," tentatively scheduled for July 15, and Arthur Miller’s "A View From the Bridge," for July 24.
Work begins —
Western Kentucky State College . . . Summer Theatre Presentations

Favorite Murder-Mystery of Them All

"THE NIGHT OF JANUARY 16"

Arena Style
Week of July 15

and

Arthur Miller's Newest Dramatic Smash

"A VIEW FROM THE BRIDGE"

Center Stage
Week of July 24

Produced and Directed by Russell H. Miller
Assisted by Frances Dixon and James B. Jones

VAN METER AUDITORIUM

All Performances at 8 P.M. C.S.T.
Miss Ditto, Ed Booher
Head Opening Play Cast

JOAN DITTO

Two outstanding collegiate actors head the cast of Western's Summer Theatre's opening production, "The Night of January 16."

Joan Ditto, who plays the defendant on trial for murder in the play, distinguished herself locally as a member of College High's championship debating team of '54-'55 and as a promising young actress in Bowling Green Community Players' "Good House Keeping," when she played the ingenue in a star-studded cast headed by Dr. and Mrs. Earl A. Moore.

On graduation she chose Centre College where she has continued to distinguish herself as a major in dramatic arts with highly praised performances during the past two seasons in Noel Coward's "Blithe Spirit," Shakespeare's Macbeth, and the title role in that popular new classic of the theatre, "Anastasia."

Ed Booher, graduate student at Western, transferred here last summer from the University of Kentucky. Prior to that his experience was largely in the field of radio and high school teaching. After U. K. he held radio assignments at WIXL, Elizabethtown, WANN, Columbus, WLCK, Campbellsville, and taught two years in Kentucky and last year at Gladford, Ill.

As an active member of Western's Summer Theatre group last summer, Booher did a notable job of playing the elder son in Sidney Howard's "The Silver Cord" and worked on technical staff for all the other productions.

Booher, in the role of the defense attorney, and Miss Ditto as his client, spark the large cast of "The Night of January 16."
"Night Of January 16" Opens Tomorrow Night

"The Night of January 16" opens tomorrow at 8 p.m. in Van Meter Auditorium as the first production of Western's 1957 Summer Theatre. Ayn Rand's popular melodrama is packed with entertaining values ranging from the broadest comedy to intense dramatic clashes. In this arena type of presentation the audience "gets into the act" actually as they witness the courtroom battle.

"The Night of January 16" is a comedy-drama that offers fun for all - audience and actors alike, for unlike most plays its ending is not fixed. It is determined by the audience reaction to the case as built by the opposing attorneys and to the conflicting testimony of the witnesses. This can only be known as the jury presents its third verdict.

The story vaguely suggests the life and death of the great Swedish match king whose mysterious passing in the early Thirties was felt in financial repercussions around the world. The intricate involvement of the case bring into the courtroom a vivid array of characters as the attorneys seek to unravel the complications of the murder mystery.

As the young wife of the murdered man, Jane Lovell, Western senior from Morgantfield, plays a main line socialite caught in a situation where she is forced to vindicate her position. The range of the role offers interesting challenge to the actor. Outstanding in the Swedish coterie associated with the murdered financier is Cecil Mabe, junior from Elizabethtown, who plays the loyal bookkeeper of humble origin. Unwittingly he becomes a key figure in the final solution.

Director Russell H. Miller with assistant Frances Dixon and stage manager Pat Hooper and crew have transformed Van Meter stage into a courtroom for the legal battle on Monday and Tuesday evenings. Since last summer fans have been installed to insure the comfort of the Summer Theatre's patrons. Tickets for either performance may be secured at the door or in advance from members of the Summer Theatre company.

Outstanding college players seen in principal roles in "The Night of January 16" are Joan Ditto, Julius E. Rather and Edwin Boor er. Lucille Scott, James B. Jones, Paul Wilder, Joe Harris, Ronnie L. Jones and Martha Garnett of the current cast are veterans of Western's Summer Theatre '56.

Prominent new-comers in the '57 company are Walter Langford, Joan Halnes, Barbara Buich, Lou Mae Davis, Robert H. Henley and James Elmer Crabtree. Shelby Mallory, Harold Grace, Martha Green, William E. Henley, Jerrietta Scott, Marilyn Murray and Mary Ellis Smith round out the cast of on-trium personnel involved in the sensational trial.

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Joan Ditto
Julius E. Rather

Have top roles in Western's 'Night of January 16'

Morgantfield, is stage manager. Also in the cast are Edwin R. Becker, Albany; Jane Lovell, Morgantfield; Walter Langford, Owensboro; Cecil Mabe, Elizabethtown; and Paul Wilder, Louisville.

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JANE LOVELL

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Audience Approves Of Play

The first night audience for Western's Summer Theatre "57 expressed its approval of "The Night of January 16" with a spontaneous ovation as court was dismissed at the close of the third act.

Russell H. Miller's center staging of Ayn Rand's melodrama played to "standing room only" last night and a number of latecomers were turned away. The jury drawn from the audience rendered its verdict as a climax to the evening's entertainment. The fact that the play's ending is determined by this verdict adds an element of novelty and suspense to the production.

"The Night of January 16" will be presented again tonight at 8 p.m. Patrons are urged to be prompt and observe the 8 o'clock curtain time as seating the audience is difficult after "court is in session.

The addition of new electric fans to the arena theatre in Western's Van Meter Hall was a welcomed improvement over last summer.

Joan Ditto, appearing locally for the first time in several seasons, did an outstanding job as Karen Andre, the woman on trial. Her performance was well balanced with intensity and restraint. Julius E. Rather and Edwin Booher as the opposing attorneys offered interesting character contrasts as they very effectively battled for prosecution and defense into the stretch of the third act. Here a series of quick reversals pointed the finger of guilt in several new directions.

Lucille Scott, James B. Jones, Jane Lovell, Cecil Mabe and Barbara Burch provided the sensational moments in the dramatic parade of witnesses. Walter Langford, Joan Halme, Elmer Crabtree, Robert B. Hendley, Lou Mae Davis and Ronnie L. Jones contributed the exposition and comic effects to the many-angled plot.

Court personnel, headed by "Judge" Paul Wilder, moved effectually and efficiently about the business of the trial. From the moment "Clerk" Joe Harris empaneled the jury the audience felt it was "in court." Harold Grace, Merveta Scott, Shelby Mallory, William E. Hendley, Mary Ella Smith, Marilyn Mury, Martha Green and Martha Garnett completed the court personnel.

Credit for the smooth running of "The Night of January 16" goes to Frances Dixon, assistant director, and Pat Hooper, stage manager, of the technical staff.

Roles Assigned In Western's Play

TOP ROLES in the first production of the Summer Theater series of Western Kentucky State College, "The Night of January 16," have been assigned to Joan Ditto and Julius E. Rather, both of Bowling Green. The Ayn Rand murder-mystery will be produced arena style by Western's drama director, Russell H. Miller, in Bowling Green's Van Meter Auditorium. Curtain time is at 8 p.m. on July 15 and 16.

Assisting Miller are Frances Dixon and James B. Jones, both of Bowling Green. Pat Hooper,
Finished product —
WESTERN’S Summer Theatre ’57
— Presents —
For the Week of

“THE N’ JAN’”
A Co

Next Production
“A View from the Bridge”
Week of July 24

Officers of Western's Summer Theatre
1957

Julia E. Rucker
Robert B. Hensley
Marjorie Hanna
Jane Lovell
Walter Langford and Pat Hooper
Frances Dixon and James B. Jones

Activities Committee
Jane Lovell, Walter Langford, Martha Garrett

Play Reading and Selection:
Pat Hooper, Paul Wilder

Executive Committee:
Robert B. Hensley, Martha Green

Vice-President
Rosemary Tinker

Business Manager
Katherine Rommel

Secretary
Mary McLaughlin

Production Director
Robert B. Hensley

Assistant Directors
Jane Lovell, Pat Hooper, Paul Wilder
One of us is lying and we both know which one.

He's alive. I know he's alive—
Sin is sin. Judge, any name you call it!

I lied to my attorney I was going to lie here.
I killed him, I helped that man do it!

The entire company
Joa...\-0
ho-+
s off C~t\~'.

Joan Ditto

Our hats are off to this Bowling Green Junior Dramatics major of Centre who sparked the company with her brilliant performance as Karen in The Night of January 16.
On the road —
Circuit Court Room Is Scene Tonight Of Rotary Sponsored Murder Mystery

The Circuit Court room at the courthouse will be the scene tonight for the staging of a murder mystery, "The Night of January 16," which comes to Franklin from Western State College's Summer Theatre production.

Sponsored by the Franklin Rotary Club, the courtroom was chosen for the staging to add realism to the play which in its arena type presentation "gets the audience into the act" as they witness the courtroom battle.

Fun For All
"The Night of January 16" is a comedy-drama that offers fun for all—audience and actors alike—for unlike most plays its ending is not fixed. It is determined by the audience reaction to the case as built by opposing attorneys and to the conflicting testimony of the witnesses. This can be known only when the jury—picked from the audience—presents its third act verdict.

The story vaguely suggests the life and death of the great Swedish match king whose mysterious passing in the early thirties was felt in financial repercussions around the world.

The intricate involvements of the case bring into the courtroom a vivid array of characters as the attorneys seek to unravel the complications of the murder mystery.

Plays To Packed House
The production, under the direction of Russell Miller, Western's drama director, played to "standing room only" in Van Meter Auditorium in Bowling Green Monday and Tuesday nights of this week.

Joan Ditto of Bowling Green, who plays the defendant on trial for murder in the play, has distinguished herself in productions of the Bowling Green Community Players. Ed Boher, graduate student at Western, plays the role of defense attorney and Miss Ditto as his client, spark the large cast of players.

Curtain Time
Curtain time is 8 p.m. Tickets will be available throughout today at Franklin's three drug stores or may be purchased from any Rotarian at the door tonight.

Cooperating with the local Rotary Club in its annual program for raising of funds for various charities, the play is being brought here for minimum play royalties and travel expense. All proceeds will go to charity.
Benefit Performance Of Play Set For Franklin

After playing to packed houses for each of its performances in the Van Meter arena, Western's Summer Theatre's opening production, "The Night of January 16," moves to Franklin for a special benefit performance on Friday night. This presentation is sponsored by the Franklin Rotary Club and will be presented in the circuit court room of the Simpson County Courthouse at 8 p.m. All proceeds will go to charity.

"A View from the Bridge," Arthur Miller's drama about a man who is driven to committing the unforgivable sin of breaking his own code, is being readied for presentation as the next attraction in the Van Meter arena. It is set for Thursday night, July 25.

"A View from the Bridge" was a resounding dramatic hit when it was produced in both New York and London. Other outstanding successes of the Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright include "All My Sons," "Death of a Salesman" and "The Crucible."

"A View from the Bridge" concerns a longshoreman caught in a web of tragic circumstances resulting from a death-bed promise to raise an orphaned niece as his own daughter. Author Miller has used the classic Greek form, including a chorus or commentator who fills in the gaps of the narrative.

In the current version, Walter Langford plays the commentator, who in this case is also one of the drama's leading characters. A neighborhood lawyer, he sees the inevitability of the tragedy, even as he recounts the events leading up to the hero's death.

The Dockworker's eventual self-destruction is foreshadowed at the play's opening when he reproaches his 17-year-old niece for "walking away" and being too friendly. The girl is destroyed by his reprimand. She does not understand it. Her love for her uncle and her eagerness to please him cause her more pain when she falls in love with the younger of two Sicilian "submarines" who have entered the United States illegally and taken shelter in the longshoreman's house. A code of honor in the colony of Italian-American waterfront laborers where the unfortunate family lives, decrees that immigrants who have slipped by port authorities must be protected.

This longshoreman, essentially a decent man who is undone by blind passion and self-ignorance, is portrayed by Julius E. Rather. Jane Level will have the role of his fiercely loyal and loving niece, Joe Harris will appear as her engagingly naive fiancé, Cecil Mabe as his venetian older brother, and Pat Hooper as the longshoreman's anxious and courageous wife.

"A View from the Bridge" is being directed by Russell H. Miller, assisted by Frances Dixon and Lou Mae Davis.

Rotary Club Of Franklin Will Sponsor Murder Mystery At Courthouse Friday

Unusual, yet quite appropriate in its setting, the Franklin Rotary Club will sponsor the production of a murder-mystery, "The Night of January 16," in the Circuit Court room of the courthouse here next Friday night.

The play comes to Franklin from Western State College's Summer Theatre production and features a cast of outstanding Western players under the direction of Russell H. Miller, Western's drama director.

Cooperating with the local Rotary Club in its annual program for the raising of funds for various charities to which it contributes, the play is being brought to Franklin for minimum play royalties and travel expense. All proceeds will go to charity.

By permission of Simpson Fiscal Court, the play is to be staged under actual courtroom conditions and standard procedure. The author, Ayn Rand has written some fantastic drama into "January 16" that makes it good and exciting theatre. The quick reversals that carry the story from the broadest comedy to compelling and suspenseful melodrama, is said to be highly entertaining.

Local Jury

Adding local color to the play, the 12-member jury is to be selected from the audience as the trial gets underway. Their verdict will determine the play's ending. As a result, the cast must be prepared for multiple conclusions to the production.

Harold Grace, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ora Grace of the Barnes community of Simpson County is bailiff in the case.

Curtain time is 8 p.m. Tickets are available at Moore's Rexall Drugs, Shugart and Hunt Drug Store and Arnold Drug Co. or may be obtained from any Rotarian. Price of admission is $1 for adults and 50 cents for children. Tickets may be purchased at the door Friday evening as long as seating is available.

WALTER LANGFORD
Then back to the Grindstone—
"View From the Bridge" Is Next For Summer Theatre

"A View From the Bridge" is chosen and will be presented by Western's Summer Theatre '57 on Wednesday and Thursday, July 24 and 25, at 8 p.m. (CST) in Van Meter Auditorium.

Arthur Miller, husband of Marilyn Monroe and one of America's most gifted playwrights, wrote the play. The play concerns a run-of-the-mill longshoreman, a fellow who loves his wife and is kind to kids and especially kind to an orphan girl he has reared. He is faced with the problem of finding shelter for a couple of his wife's relatives have entered the country illegally.

Story of Conflict
One of the refugees is a handsome blonde youngster who falls in love, almost at once, with the pretty orphan kind-hearted Eddie has watched over so carefully. And out of the innocent and unsuspecting affair between two likable children there rises hell's own how to envelope Eddie. Eddie does not understand what is happening to him, but he cannot bear to have the girl touched. He is ready to do anything—spread the word that the boy is a homosexual, tip off the immigration authorities to a crime he has himself created, take a switchblade knife to the whole neighborhood—before he can surrender a child he has only ever gentle with.

Sharing cast honors for this production are: Robert B. Hensley as Louis; Harold Grace as Mike; Walter Langford as Mr. Alfieri; Julius E. Rather as Eddie Carbone; Jane Lovell as Cathrine; Pat Hooper as Beatrice; Cecil Mabe as Marco; William Hensley as Tony; Joe Harris as Rodrigo.

Others in the cast include James B. Jones, Elmer Crabtree, Edwin Bohrer, Mary Ella Smith, Ronnie L. Jones, Paul Wilder.

Night of January 16.
Last Monday and Tuesday the audience witnessed the players' presentation of Ayn Rand's "Night of January 16th." This was the story of the intriguing trial of Karen Andre for the murder of her employer-lover, Bjorn Faulkner. Flicking testimony given by the many witnesses who appeared and Miss Andre's frequent outbursts added to the mounting tension as the trial proceeded. The realism was startling when the jury actually picked from the audience delivered the verdict.

Joan Ditto played the part of Karen Andre. Joan is a Junior drama major at Centre College in Danville and is working with Western's Summer Theatre through the summer.

Rather Enacts Flint
Julius Rather, a senior at Western, enacted the roll of Flint, the district attorney. Defense attorney Stevens was played by Edwin Bohrer. Jane Lovell was the widow of the late Bjorn Faulkner.

The cast included: Paul Wilder as Judge Booth, Ronnie Jones as Mr. Kirkland, Jean Haines as Mrs. John Hutchins, Robert Hensley as Homer Van Fleet, Elmer Crabtree as as Elmer Sweeney, Lucille Scott as Magda Svenson, Jim Jones as John Graham Whitfield, Lou Cecil Mobe as Siguard Jungquist, Walter Langford as Larry Hegeman, Barbara Burch as Roberta Van Hueser, Joyce Molloy,玛丽・马瑞 as the prison matrons, and Harold Grace as bailiff.

For both productions Director Russell H. Miller chose again to use the center staging technique, which was effectively used last summer. The audience sits on the stage, achieving an intimacy that is impossible with conventional staging.
"A View from the Bridge" is a modern classic set in a neighborhood inhabited by Sicilian-American longshoremen, in the shadow of Brooklyn Bridge. It enjoyed great success when produced in New York during the 1956 season. Later it achieved hit proportions. It is this version that is to be presented here.

The opening night, Arthur Miller's dream of a longshoreman driven to a heartless betrayal by emotions he never understands, will be the next presentation of the Western Summer Theatre. Walter Kerr, writing in the N.Y. HEARALD TRIBUNE, called "The Bridge" . . . a dramatic bombfire. A moat for anyone who is at all interested in what the contemporary American theatre is thinking about."

Performances are scheduled for the Van Meter arena on next Thursday and Friday evenings. Arthur Miller's hit is a modern classic set in a neighborhood inhabited by Sicilian-American longshoremen, in the shadow of Brooklyn Bridge. It enjoyed great success when produced in New York during the 1956 season. Later the Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright expanded the script for a London production, which also achieved hit proportions. It is this version that is to be presented here.

The plot deals with the tragic circumstances affecting an entire family as the result of a decent longshoreman's misplaced affection for his adopted niece, Julius E. Rather will be seen as the "tragic hero" who turns informer against one of his own kin, because he can't admit an unthinkably cruel truth to himself.

The action begins when two ilegally entered the United States. The central character is the violent happenings in a dockworker's family when they harbor two Sicilian cousins who have illegally entered the United States. The central character is a kindly stevedore who has raised his orphaned niece from her early childhood.

Julius E. Rather will play the brawny stevedore destroyed by his own barely realized emotions. Jane Lovell is cast as the spirited niece around whom a flood of vehement passions center, while Joe Harris will portray the immigrant youth she loves and Cecil Mabe will appear as the older brother who champions his cause. Pat Hooper will have the role of the dock worker's anxious wife and Walter Langsford will play an observant family lawyer.

Tickets are available from members of the Summer Theatre company or at the door on Thursday and Friday evenings. Curtain time is 8 p.m.
"View From The Bridge" Scheduled Again Tonight

"We who are without kings," says Arthur Miller in "A View From the Bridge," "find tragically in the heart and spirit of the average man. Last night's presentation by the Western Summer Theater group told a pungent tale of the Brooklyn stevedore, an immigrant, concerned with a bewilderment of shoremen, driven by a jealousy that he himself did not suspect, to the most degrading of betrayals and a destruction of his whole household."

The favorable audience reaction to this psychological drama filled with violent action proved again that there are now as there have always been a considerable number of people who feel they are being entertained at tragedies, where they have their hearts touched with what Aristotle defined as "pity and terror."

"A View From the Bridge" will be presented again tonight at 8 p.m. in the summer theater arena in Van Meter Auditorium. Miller based his plot on the story of a particular family until he gives shelter to worker's two "submarines"—immigrants from Italy and Sweden, until in the end he finds seemingly good fatherly Mary Ella Smith, Victor Beach, Mary Ella Smith, Lenox Davis, Joan Combs, Dianne Michael, Lochinda Dixon and Martha Garnett.

The neighborhood characters are played by Robert H. Hensley, Harold Grace, William E. Hendley, James E. Jones, James Elm e Crabtree, Victor Beach, Mary Ella Smith, Lenox Davis, and Joel Rich.

Director Russell H. Miller's technical staff for "A View From the Bridge" includes Frances Dixon, Lois Mae Davis, Joan Combs, Dianne Michael, Lochinda Dixon and Martha Garnett.

"A View From the Bridge," Arthur Miller's savage powerfully written play about the disasters flooding over a man who never knew what hit him will be presented in Van Meter Auditorium tonight and Friday at 8 p.m. Seats are now on sale for either performance.

It is a haunting play of power and substance based on a story Miller once heard during that period of his life that he worked as a steetman to earn enough money to go to college. The author of "Death of a Salesman" saw in this story from Brooklyn Bridge a seeming Italian-American neighborhood inhabited mostly by stevedores servicing the docks along the waterfront. He focused his view on a particular family wrecked by violent storms arising from a likeable but dumb man's unrealized love for a teenage niece he has from infancy as his own daughter.

His feelings are more or less dormant until he gives shelter to two "submarines"—immigrants from Italy who have illegally slipped into the country—and the young girl full-heartedly falls in love with one of them. At first he merely finds interestingly good fatherly objections to this romance, but gradually his passions are aroused against his niece's sweetheart.

Joe Harris, Western junior from Bowling Green, plays the girl's youthful fiancé. One powerful episode follows another in this highly-charged drama, until in the end jealousy of the youth drives the tormented stevedore to commit the most unspeakable betrayal that his world condemns. He then becomes a pitiful and still incomprehending victim of revenge.

The Western Summer Theatre cast includes Julius E. Basler as the Brooklyn shorerman, Jane Lovell as the niece around whom the violence of the play centers, Cecil Mabe as the other "submarine," Pat Hooper as the dockworker's steadfast wife, Walter Langsford as the squallid neighborhood's lawyer and father-confessor, Harold Grace, Robert H. Hensley, James E. Jones, William E. Hensley, Elmer Crabtree, Mary Ella Smith, Victor Beach, Joel Rich and Lenox Davis.

The production was designed and directed by Russell H. Miller, assisted by Frances Dixon. The technical staff includes Lois Mae Davis, Dianne Michael, Martha Garnett, Mary Ella Smith, Marjorie Hanna, Lochinda Dixon, Noel Mabe, Joan Combs and Walter Langsford.
Two Please!
WESTERN'S
Summer Theatre '57
Presents
For the Week of July 24th

"A VIEW FROM
THE BRIDGE"

A Play In Two Acts
by
Arthur Miller

Produced and Directed by
Russell H. Miller

VAN METER AUDITORIUM

Thursday and Friday Evenings
8:00 P. M., (CST)
I'm just worried about you that's all I'm worried.

Hell, I've seen spiders that could stop a Buick!
All right, Marco, give me back my name and we go to the church together.
There's a trick to it.
It's the angle.
I'm gonna buy a paper doll.
I'm a patsy, what can a patsy do?
murderer— you murdered my children.
It took not only "sweat and tears" to achieve a successful summer theatre program, but according to Russell Miller, Western drama chief, it took a little blood to finally turn the trick.

A week ago in the final "death scene" of Arthur Miller's "A View From the Bridge" blood was actually shed as protagonists grappled for a switch-blade knife at close quarters.

Julius E. Rather was cut slightly on the hand during the vendetta as the play ended in tragedy. But true to the tradition of the theatre, the show did go on and Rather took his curtain call on schedule after hasty first aid.

"It was a realistic play," quipped director Miller.

Miller added that this summer session was a great success. "We made money and had to turn people away from our two productions," said Miller. The players also did a one-night stand of their first production, "The Night of January 16," before an overflow audience at the Simpson County Courthouse in Franklin.

Not one to rest on his large accumulation of favorable reviews, Miller is currently engaged in an ambitious project which might someday result in a regional drama here based on the history and folklore of the Bowling Green-Mammoth Cave region.

The first draft of Miller's play, "Giants Lie Sleeping," has been completed. Miller says the production is based on the actual history and folklore of this region from 1803 to 1947.

The basic ideas behind the embryo production have been accepted by Columbia University and Miller says he intends to begin revisions of the first draft when his teaching and directing duties permit.

Other regional dramas of epic proportions, especially those of Paul Greene in North Carolina and at Berea, Ky., have gained wide fame and are billed as prime tourist attractions.

Some of Greene's best known efforts, presented against the wide, wide "screen" of the outdoors are "The Lost Colony" at Manteo, N. C., "Union These Hills" at Cherokee, N. C., and of course, "The Wilderness Road" at Berea.

The regional drama project is Miller's final hurdle before receiving his doctors degree in education from Columbia.

We can only imagine what a fine attraction and addition such a drama would be to the local scene and at the same time wish Miller the best of luck with his labors.
Proof that a symphonic drama such as that proposed for the grounds of My Old Kentucky Home is of considerable economic benefit to the locality in which it is staged is seen in the experience of Berea.

Berea, of course, is the town in which "Wilderness Road," the symphonic drama by Paul Green, is being staged this summer for the third season.

The year before Berea College inaugurated its symphonic drama the town played host to a mere 4,000 tourists. The next year, the first year of "Wilderness Road," Berea had ten times that many visitors and bank clearings increased by a half a million dollars, a not inconsequential sum in a community of that size.

Boone Tavern, one of Kentucky's famous hostels, returned a profit for the first time the first year of the production. And Berea College, which sponsored the symphonic drama, got so much publicity that it received a $100,000 donation as a result of the first season of the attraction.

A similar production based on the life of Stephen Collins Foster has just been proposed for My Old Kentucky Home state shrine. The theme seems to be a natural.

But Kentucky's possibilities for attractions of that kind do not end there.

For instance, a story with its locale in Kentucky's cave country should prove attractive to the public, and Russell H. Miller, director of speech activities at Western State College, has done some work on just such a drama.

The cave country attracts plenty of out-of-state visitors, but unfortunately most of them only spend a day or two in this area.

Sharing of a successful symphonic drama somewhere in this area would prolong the stay of many of them by another 24 hours and add appreciably to the section's income from tourists.

The summer fare on television has just received a good pushing by a columnist in the Lexington Leader, which we think is worth repeating here.

"I expect to have a million friends in the near future because I've hit upon an idea to make a million dollars," wrote the anonymous author of the "Cornered" column in the Leader several days ago. "The idea isn't exactly new because it came from television. Nevertheless, I expect to put this idea to work with newspapers and grow rich."

The plan is this: During the summer months, newspapers could run the same comics as they used during the winter months. Instead of tossing away the comics each day, the 'better ones' and therefore the one's that the public is least likely to remember reading, could be saved for summer use.

"You can see what a saving this would be for the newspaper in fees paid the service which furnishes the comics to use; to the stereotype departments which 'casts' the comics so they can be printed and to all the people who handle the comics in between. And the people would be better served because you folks, having read the comics once before, wouldn't have to concentrate too hard. The idea probably could be expanded to include the editorial page on days when editorials appear on general topics. Perhaps even some advertising could be looped into the scheme. And maybe news and features."

"If the plan works well enough, and I see no reason why the public would not accept it, it could be expanded to take in all sorts of things—preachers could preach old sermons, traffic officers could give old lectures, photographers could supply old pictures and employers could hand out canceled checks."
Not all was work —
Western Theatre Group
To See ‘Wilderness Road’

Thirty-two representatives of Western's Summer Theatre '71 will journey to Berea on Saturday by chartered bus on the third annual field trip to see “Wilderness Road.”

After dinner at Boane Tavern, members of the dramatic group will travel to Indian Fort Theater for the new production of Paul Green's prize-winning outdoor drama. The Western group has been invited backstage after the performance to inspect the new mechanical staging devices.

The Summer Theatre group is putting the finishing touches on its opening production, “The Night of January 16.” This presentation on Monday and Tuesday, will be a first arena staging of this classic of courtroom melodramas. Dramatist Ayn Rand, more recently in American literature with comic relief. The new structural arrangement adds much to the fun of audience participation.

Characters for “The Night of January 16” are drawn from all walks of life and all strata of society. Typical of this blending of extremes is the role of John Graham Whiffeild, financier, played by James B. Jones of Bowling Green, and the character of Roberto Van Remsley, right out of the chorus line of teh “Club O'Toole” where there's no cover charge. Barara Burch Western sophomore from Louisville, plays Roberta, the saloon-crean.

The legal battle is waged between Julius B. Rather as the district attorney and Jane Lovell as the widow of the murdered man and Edwin Bubber as attorney for the defense of John Ditto, accused of the murder.

Lucille Scott, Walter Langford, Cecil Mabe, Ronnie Jones, Jemanne, Robert Hensley, Elmer Cline and Lou Mae Deva as witnesses give the plot its many turns and reversals. Paul Wilder, Joe Harris, Harold Green, William B. Hensley, Marilyn Murray, Martha Garnett, Martha Green, Shelby Mallory and Jeannette Scott play the personnel of the court.

Tickets are now on sale for the presentation in Van Meter Auditorium on Monday and Tuesday evenings.
Company with cast and crew of Wilderness Road
Summer Theatre Group Plans Nashville Visit

Western's Summer Theatre will sponsor its first field trip for members and guests on Saturday afternoon. This trip in the form of an expedition to Nashville is a "double feature."

In the afternoon the party will be guests of WSM-Radio- TV to observe the rehearsal and broadcasting techniques employed in televising a program of local origin, "Pride of the Volunteer State."

After the trip through the television studio in the afternoon, the group will attend the opening presentation of the Nashville Circle Theatre for the summer. The play chosen is Andre Roussin's popular French farce, "Nina."

This will provide an opportunity to observe and study the staging and playing techniques of the arena style production. The summer productions of the Western group employ this type of staging.

Western's company opens its summer season on July 15 with its in-the-round production of Ayn Rand's all-time favorite murder mystery, "The Night of January 16," starring local collegians Joan Ditto and Julius E. Rather, in a large cast including Ed Booher, Jane Lowell, Lucille Scott, James B. Jones, Cecil Mabe and Walter Longford. The following week the company will present Arthur Miller's dramatic smash, "A View from the Bridge," seen on Broadway last season.

Productions of Western's Summer Theatre are under the direction of Russell H. Miller, Frances Dixon and James B. Jones. Pat Hooper is production manager for "The Night of January 16."
WESTERN'S SUMMER THEATRE
1957

Presents

"THE NIGHT OF JANUARY 16"

The Most Popular Murder-Mystery of Them All
ARENA STYLE
Week of July 15
Monday and Tuesday

and

"A VIEW FROM THE BRIDGE"

Arthur Miller's Newest Dramatic Smash
CENTER STAGE
Week of July 24
Wednesday and Thursday

VAN METER AUDITORIUM
All Performances 8:00 P. M., C. S. T.