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Program for the Stage Production The Man Who Came to Dinner

Curtain Club

Ursinus College

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The Dramaturg

Ursinus College Theatre
MEMOIRS OF GREASE, PAINT AND POWDER

Dramatics have had a long and interesting career at Ursinus College. Years ago there were two literary societies on campus, the Schaff Literary Society and the Zwinglian Literary Society. Every year each group presented a dramatic production to celebrate its anniversary. The junior class also presented a play each year. Minor dramatics were encouraged on the weekly programs of the literary societies.

These dramatic productions were splendid, yet there was a poignant desire to organize a club which would be solely interested in dramatics. Consequently, in 1925, a group of students drew up a petition and secured faculty approval for the Dramatic Club. This club presented the two anniversary plays and several other smaller ones. Professor W. Ralph Gawthrop, assistant professor of chemistry and physics from 1921-25, contributed very much to the furtherance of dramatics at Ursinus.

In 1930, the Dramatic Club was reorganized and became known as the Curtain Club. It continued to present the anniversary plays. In 1933, a new constitution was formulated. In the beginning of each year, try-outs were held for probation membership. If anyone secured a part in a play, he succeeded in entering full membership of the club. When a person acted in at least two plays or served on three committees, he was entitled to a key.

During the 1930's, Professor and Mrs. Reginald Sibbald directed the dramatic productions. With the death of Professor Sibbald in 1942, Mr. and Mrs. Donald Helfferich succeeded to the directing position.

At the present time the Curtain Club is a very large organization on campus. Everyone who is interested in dramatics may join. Because a new system was adopted in 1944, prospective members write applications to the president or secretary of the club and become members automatically, instead of trying out and actually being in a production. All new members are considered extras. This is part of the merit system which was established by the club in 1944. If an extra proves himself worthy by working in productions, he may rise to the status of understudy. By more diligence, he will become a player, and by still more work, he will become a star. The stars are the guiding "lights" of the club. As stars they are eligible to join the Delta Tau Chapter of Alpha Psi Omega, the national honorary dramatic fraternity organized in 1943 at Ursinus. The players and stars together promote the extras and understudies, and the stars alone promote the players.

The club is divided into another four groups with a chairman for each group. The purpose of these groups is for each to give a small play or some other kind of entertainment for the club on its meeting nights.

The Curtain Club still produces at least two plays each year, one each semester, but they are no longer called anniversary plays. The club also joins with the musical organizations on campus to produce an operetta each year. Last semester the play was Agatha Christie's thriller, Ten Little Indians. This year's operetta was Jerome Kern's Very Good Eddie. The play tonight is the comedy, The Man Who Came to Dinner.

Much of the success of the Curtain Club plays are attributed to Mr. and Mrs. Helfferich who do everything for a play, from directing it to contributing furniture to complete the sets. Actors and committees also work hard to present these splendid productions.

The officers of the club for this year are: President, Jane Estabrook '47; Vice-President, Susan Bellis '48; Secretary, Carolyn Howells '47; and Treasurer, Jack Norman '48.

May the Curtain Club continue a successful career!
STANDING (left to right)—Jack Norman, Ronnie Sare, Winfield Atkinson, Joseph Newlin, Winifred Clark and John Ulmer.

SEATED (left to right)—Joyce O'Neill, Carolyn Howells, Andrew Souerwine, Charlene Taylor, Susan Bellis, Jane Estabrook, Dorothy Kleppinger, Ruth Reese, Roberta Blauch.

ALPHA PSI OMEGA, the National Honorary Dramatic Society, has the Delta Tau Chapter at Ursinus College, which includes 13 members at present. Election to the chapter is determined by outstanding service to the Curtain Club and its affiliated activities. The Curtain Club assumes the fee for initiation of the new members.

Those admitted to the society must first rise to the rank of star in the Curtain Club's merit system. For this year Andrew Souerwine '47, is the grand director of the chapter; Carolyn Howells '47, is the secretary; and Charlene Taylor '47, is the stage manager.

Alpha Psi Omega has local chapters at various colleges throughout the United States—about 250 chapters in all. The organization is designed to aid colleges in their play productions and from them may be secured information concerning sets, make-up or other pertinent information.

The society publishes annually The Playbill, a magazine devoted to college plays and how to stage them. This magazine includes an annual report from each of the chapters as to their respective activities throughout the year. The Ursinus College Thespians consider themselves fortunate to have such an organization on campus.
NOTICE—Look around you now and choose the nearest exit to your seat in case of an alarm. Walk (do not run) to that exit. Do not try to beat your neighbor to street. Red lights denote exits. It is urged for the comfort and safety of all, that theatre patrons refrain from lighting matches in this theatre.

The Ursinus College Curtain Club

— Presents —

"The Man Who Came to Dinner"

— By —

MOSS HART and GEORGE S. KAUFMAN

Directed by CAROLYN HOWELLS '47    Staged by WINFIELD ATKINSON '48

Prompter — HELEN SOUTHALL '48

By permission of DRAMATISTS PLAY SERVICE, INC., New York City

Antiques and Furniture from Dora Seeley's Antique Shop, Ambler, and the Helfferich home.
CAST

(In order of their appearance)

* 

MRS. ERNEST W. STANLEY .... VIRGINIA HALLER '47
MISS PREEN ........................................... POLLY PECHTER '49
RICHARD STANLEY .......... CHARLES WILLIAMSON '50
JUNE STANLEY ........................................ MARY FLAD '48
JOHN ................................................... ELMER MEISNER '50
SARAH .................................................. JANE ESTABROOK '47

MRS. DEXTER .................... CAROLYN HOWELLS '47
MRS. McCUTCHEON ............. MARJORIE COY '47
MRS. STANLEY ...................... VIRGINIA HALLER '47
MAGGIE CUTLER .................. FLORENCE CHERRY '48
DR. BRADLEY ...................................... DEAN EVANS '49
SHERIDAN WHITESIDE .... ANDREW SOUERWINE '47
HARRIET STANLEY ............... CHARLENE TAYLOR '47
BERT JEFFERSON .................... RICHARD REID '49
CAST (continued)

PROFESSOR METZ .................. HAROLD GROSSMAN '49

THE LUNCHEON GUESTS ............. DAVID KOHLHAS '48
                               DICK DAVIDSON '50

MR. BAKER ........................ GEORGE DILLINGER '49

EXPRESSMAN ........................ AL MAZURKIEWICZ '50

LORRAINE SHELDON .............. JANE NAGEL '49

SANDY ................................ RAYMOND LEVAN '47

BEVERLY CARLTON ............ WILLIAM KELLER '50

WESTCOTT ......................... WILLIAM MITCHELL '48

RADIO TECHNICIAN .............. DONALD SCHULTZ '50

YOUNG BOYS ..................... GEORGE HARTZELL
                               DOUGLAS GODSHALL
                               JOHN HEILEMANN
                               WILSON BAKER

BANJO ............................. WILLIAM LAMBIE '47

DEPUTIES ......................... PAT DOUGHERTY '50
                               WINFIELD ATKINSON '49
Synopsis of the Scenes

SCENE: The home of Mr. and Mrs. Stanley in a small town in Ohio.

ACT I

Scene 1. A December morning.

Scene 2. About a week later.

— Intermission —

ACT II

Another week has passed. Christmas Eve.

— Intermission —

ACT III

Christmas morning.

THANKS TO FOUR BOYS:-

The youngest members of the Ursinus family to make their debut tonite are George Hartzell, son of Dr. and Mrs. George W. Hartzell; Douglas Godshall, son of Mr. and Mrs. Horace Godshall; John Heilemann, son of Dr. and Mrs. John J. Heilemann, and Wilson Baker, son of Dr. and Mrs. Donald Baker. We want to thank these actors for their participation in this production.

THANKS TO HELFFERICHs:-

We point with pride to Mr. and Mrs. Donald Helfferich for their invaluable and timely aid and assistance in producing another Ursinus hit. The cast, backstage crew and committees wish to express their sincere appreciation and gratitude to the Helfferichs.
CAROLYN HOWELLS (Mrs. Dexter) is more commonly known around campus as "Tweeter." A Senior, English major from Hazleton, Pa. "Tweeter" asserts that she is "a coal cracker from way back." This is her fourth year with the Curtain Club and she has worked up through the ranks—with committee work and group plans—to her present position of star and secretary of the Curtain Club. She is also a member of Alpha Psi Omega.

"Tweeter" is student director of tonight's production as well as playing Mrs. Dexter. Besides her dramatic pursuits, this vivacious Senior is active in YWCA work, a member of Future Teachers of America, English Club, the Library Staff and the college band. Following up her musical talent and ability to play the drums, Tweeter is chairman of the Music Committee for May Day.

STAGE COMMITTEE: Winfield Atkinson '49, chairman; Al Mazurkiwicz '50, William Cochran '49, Roberta Blauch '47, Shirley Hoppel Peter '47, and Elizabeth Herrick '49.

COSTUME COMMITTEE: Jean Bartle '49, chairman; Mary Arison '49, Joyce Stewart '50, Mary Ewen '49, Mildred Noble '48, Maureen Hickendorn '49.

PROPERTIES COMMITTEE: Christine Franzen '47, chairman; Jeanne Heal '49, Phyllis Brown '48, Phyllis Dillman '50, Margaret Corliss '50, Catherine Faust '49, Vangy Tilton '48, Diane Seely '49, and Jane Rathgeb '47.

MAKE-UP COMMITTEE: Hal Grossman '49, chairman; Winifred Clark '47, and Barbara Leon '50.


PROGRAM COMMITTEE: Jane Day '48, chairman; Arlene Boltz '47, Louise Eisenhower '50, and Betty Sheffer '50.
Who's Who in the Cast

ANDREW SOUERWINE (Whiteside) is back at Ursinus this year after a three-year interval with the Army in Germany. Prior to army life, Andy was active on campus in many activities — among them — student council, orchestra and band, Curtain Club and is well-remembered for his enactment of the madman in "The Cat and the Canary."

A Senior, Andy is a Psychology Major and plans to do graduate work at Pennsylvania University as an assistant in the Psychology clinic. An active man on campus, he is a star in the Curtain Club, president of Alpha Pi Omega and Tau Kappa Alpha (honorary debating fraternity), Cub and Key Prexy, co-activities editor for the Ruby and is treasurer of Sigma Rho Lambda fraternity.

WILLIAM LAMBIE (Banjo) trekked up to Ursinus from Nashville, Tenn. A former V-12 man here, Bill is a Senior Math Major and plans to take graduate work in law at Vanderbilt. Lambie, who is a member of the Pre-Legal Society made his first hit as the butler in "Ten Little Indians."

VIRGINIA HALLER (Mrs. Stanley) makes her appearance for the first time tonight, having served on various play committees before. A Senior English major Jinny plans to enter the field of journalism. She is a member of the English Club, Weekly feature and Ruby staffs.

RICHARD REID (Bert Jefferson) is appearing in his first part tonight as the unconquerable newspaper man. Dick is a member of Student Council, Alpha Pi Epsilon Fraternity. Weekly sports staff, and is a football letterman and vice-president of the Pre-Legal Society.

JANE NAGEL (Lorraine) makes her debut tonight on the Ursinus stage as the exotic and ever charming Lorraine Sheedon. Jane, a sophomore English Major obtained her first dramatic training in high school productions. She is a member of the May Queen's Court, Phi Alpha Psi Sorority and served as chairman of the Soph Hop dance committee.

FLORENCE CHERRY (Maggie) a veteran actress, made her debut as Olivia in the fascinating murder mystery, "Night Must Fall." She is a member of the Suburban Theatre Guild and an avid follower of the theatre. "Cherry" holds the position of alto chorus leader for the Messiah, member of Rosicrucians, English Club, Phi Alpha Psi Sorority and will fulfill the post of co-editor of the Ruby and vice-president of Student Council next year.
Who's Who in the Cast

JANE ESTABROOK (Sarah) has long been connected with the Curtain Club. Her keen interest has gained her presidency of the Curtain Club and membership in Alpha Psi Omega. Her past dramatic activities are mostly those of a hard working stage hand and include director of "Spring Again," prompter of "Mr. and Mrs. North," properties chairman for "Night Must Fall," and participant in one act plays. It is not often a day student receives so much recognition in several fields but Jane's pep and enthusiasm have garnered many awards. Among these are presidency of Alpha Sigma Nu, presidency of the Inter Sorority Council, business manager of the Ruby, and listing in Who's Who in American Colleges and Universities.

CHARLENE TAYLOR (Harriet) has become famous on the Ursinus stage for her role as Jenny, the maid, in "Jupiter Laughs" and for her humorous monologues. This Senior English Major from Spring City is a star in the Curtain Club, secretary of Alpha Psi Omega and was the student director of "Ten Little Indians." She was active in high school in plays, assemblies, and pep rallies. Her campus activities also include membership in Kappa Delta Kappa, Women's Student Council, and Future Teachers of America.

MARJORIE COY (Mrs. McCutchen) is the scientific member of our cast in that she is a senior chemistry major. Marge is a player in the Curtain Club and played the part of Edith Heybright in last year's May Day Production "Spring Again." Marge is active on campus as President of the Woman's Student Government Association, business manager for The Weekly and is a member of Tau Sigma Gamma Sorority. Marge also rated in all-College Who's Who.

RAYMOND LEVAN, (Sandy) is a senior Pre-medical student hailing from Reading. Ray took part in several high school plays but this is his first crack at the Ursinus stage. He attended Ursinus as a member of the V-12 and returned after Navy service to become active on campus as a Biology consultant, baseball team manager and a member of the Pre-Medical Society and Ruby Business Staff.