

The Man Behind The Man Behind Those Footlights

As they sit backstage during one of those brief moments when they are not very busy, crew members sometimes smile and wonder if anyone in that audience beyond the blazing footlights realize that there are other people back of the scenery besides the actors waiting to go on. In a few, very few productions, the director reminds the audience by letting crews take a curtain call or by being very radical and leaving the curtain up between scenes so that the audience can watch the organization and efficiency of a stage crew changing sets. But these occasions are rare, for the crews are the original "unsung heroes." This is as it should be, in a way, for a show is considered a flop if many people come backstage to congratulate a director on the sets or the lighting, "The play's the thing" and if the illusion is well-created, the audience will have only a vague remembrance of the technical work and will retain the impression of the play as a whole.

IT'S INTERESTING to the story back of a story in some cases, however, and there's a lot of amusing and unusual events that happen during preparation for a show that an audience never sees. Like if you'd happened to walk down the alley back of the Temple on a sunny afternoon last week. You would have seen Mill Hoffman, doubling in brass as both a cast member and a member of the construction crews, and Dennis Vernon, last seen in the cast of *Due Unto Caesar*, but a newcomer to the field of stage construction, with a hose and scrub brush in hand, scrubbing layers of paint from a french door. Watch for that piece—it will be in the back corner of the stage and painted cream when you see it in *Hay Fever*.

UPSTAIRS, ON the fire escape you could have seen Ginny Seacrest, ex-Wave and a master of the art of using a ratchet screwdriver, and Christine Phillips, another cast member doing double duty, "taking a break" from building and covering the sets. Inside, executing a neat pirouette, with tack hammer in hand was Ruth Ann Richmond, sound manager and member of the construction crew. Watching and pounding tacks at the same time, a feat only the best set builders can do, was Mary Sigler, technical director. Jo Zolot, stage property man-

ager and crew, keeps herself busy getting the furniture and visible stage equipment ready. So far her biggest problem is getting furniture of the right color and size, for you can't use just any kind of furniture on a stage. It must match the color of the set and fit any "business" in the play.

ANOTHER PROBLEM is the hand properties. The crew must get everything used by the actors such as suitcases, umbrellas or flowers. Kirk Sorenson, crew manager, however, said that "due to the extreme efficiency and bravery of himself and his crew, Jack Thornberg, no difficulties had been encountered."

The light crew, consisting of Morris Hayes, music instructor from Scottsbluff, and Walt Murrish, Wesleyan's debate coach for next year, hides away in the light room under the Temple stage, preparing exciting lighting effects. Their biggest job has been to move the portable (?) switchboard to the Union stage.

IF YOU were to say that costume crew sounds easy, Mrs. Bowlin, literature teacher from Northeast High and Mrs. Faling, an English teacher at Lewiston, Idaho last year, would tell you differently. It is their duty to clothe all of the actors to fit their roles. At the moment they are issuing a plea for gardening gloves. Does anyone have a pair of gardening gloves they would like to see go on the stage?

The make-up crew's work does not start taking too much time until the few days before the production, during technical rehearsals, but Trudy Page, who taught in the Denver high schools last year, and Walt Simon must make out charts of just what shade of make up to use on each character. Would number 6 look best under the light we're using or would number 23?

LAST, BUT certainly one of the most interesting of the crew members, is Viola Drath, a graduate student from Berlin who is acting as prompter.

And so you see there is much more work and many more interesting people behind the scenes of a production than the audience dreams. There's hard work and organization, and a lot of planning by many people. When you see the curtain go up on *Hay Fever* next Thursday, give a moment of thought to the workers behind the scenes that helped to create the illusion that will be before you.

General Sturgis Labels Basin Area America's Bread Basket

The Missouri Basin was envisioned here Monday night as the heart of America's future food producing enterprise. The speakers were Brig. Gen. S. D. Sturgis, Jr., Division head of the Corps of Engineers at Omaha, and Shelton H. Streater, chief of the program and reports section of the Bureau of Reclamation regional office in Denver.

THEY ADDRESSED a public lecture audience which concluded the first day of a two-day discussion of Missouri Valley Development sponsored by the University summer session.

The Missouri Basin Development program, the speakers said, has set in motion a tremendous wealth-producing program as significant as the railroad and automobile in transportation, and the tractor in mechanizing farm operations.

GENERAL STURGIS, describing the huge flood control program involving 105 dams and

reservoirs to be built in cooperation with various other state and federal agencies in the 529,000 square mile Missouri basin, cited these causes and effects of the Pick-Sloan plan:

- (1) When completed the basin dams and reservoirs will control 110,000,000 acre feet of water, a significant figure when you consider an acre foot of water will supply a town of 10,000 people for one day.
- (2) The engineering program was developed on exhaustive studies made by various state and federal agencies during the past several decades and is not a hastily conceived project.
- (3) The program will help stabilize floods which cost \$300,000,000 and destroyed 260 human lives in the past decade.
- (4) Stored water will stabilize agricultural production in years of drought which in the 1930s cost Missouri Basin states untold millions lost in farm and business

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Short Term Classes Will End Tomorrow

Saturday Classes Scheduled For Six-Weeks Student

It's over. The University of Nebraska summer session will be over for many students when classes for the six weeks session end at noon on Saturday, July 16. The official announcement came from the office of Dr. Frank E. Sorenson, director of the summer session.

The registrar's office does not have an official calculation of the number of students who will leave campus at the end of the short term, but the drop is expected to be substantial.

Capt. Huffaker Assigned to NU ROTC Staff

Capt. Robert L. Huffaker, formerly of the Panama Canal Zone, has been assigned to the University Army ROTC staff, Col. J. W. Clyburn, commandant, announced Tuesday.

Capt. Huffaker will be an assistant professor of military science and tactics in the Military Police unit of the ROTC. He is a native of Lanagan, Mo., and a graduate of the Missouri State Teachers College.

In the Panama Canal Zone, Capt. Huffaker served sixteen months as a company commander, and eight months as a criminal investigator for Headquarters, Atlantic Sector, U. S. Army Caribbean Zone.

Capt. and Mrs. Huffaker and their two children will reside at 3142 North Cotner street.

Grades in Mail Next Week, Says Registrar's Office

There is good news, for those of you eagerly awaiting last semester grades.

They will be in the mail by next week, the registrar office promises. Much of the delay can be attributed to the new method of recording grades, that was put into effect this year.

Basin Agriculture Development Condenses 100-Year Program

The Missouri Basin agricultural development program will telescope a 100-year job into 30 years, Gladwin E. Young, field representative of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, said here Monday.

He spoke at a session of the two-day Missouri basin development clinic being held at the University. The clinic is the third in a series of University summer session programs dedicated to issues of public interest.

Young said the agricultural program for the Missouri basin, now being readied for congressional authorization, will "accelerate and complement existing agriculture programs" being carried on now by the Department of Agriculture and Colleges of Agriculture.

"THE MISSOURI river basin is a great national asset still awaiting full development," Young said. "The hazards of weather, extremes in production and income, and population instability present a challenge to the nation. The flood control act of 1944, which authorized the Pick-Sloan plan, was designed to partially meet this challenge.

"But comprehensive resource development cannot be attained alone by engineering development to impound and use the waters of the rivers. The rivers and watersheds must be considered together, a fact which

SATURDAY CLASSES will be held for short term students. Those students who are enrolled in eight week classes will not be affected by the Saturday requirement on July 16, but will go to class on Saturday, July 30. The following departments will end all classes on July 16: Home Economics, Agricultural Vocational Education, Art, Educational Services, Geology, Physical Education. A number of departments offer courses in both the six and eight weeks session. These courses carry two credit hours in the six weeks session and three credit hours in the eight weeks session.

THE UNIVERSITY'S summer school curriculum also includes a post-session course at the College of Agriculture.

Although no system of final exams is set up for the summer session, finals will be given during the regular classroom periods. Grades and credits for summer school courses will be mailed to the student in the fall.

The University's summer session program, which this year is under the direction of a summer session committee headed by Dr. Frank Sorenson, of Teachers College. The committee is composed of heads of the various departments in which summer session courses are offered. In addition to setting up the summer session curriculum, this committee is responsible for the artists series and a variety of clinics.

was considered early by the Missouri Basin Inter-Agency Committee."

Young said the agricultural development program was prepared to "telescope the job of conservation of cropland and grassland into a 30-year period instead of a hundred years."

"THE PROGRAM would increase shelterbelts and improve a forests that protect valuable water supplies," Young said. "It would contribute to flood control and reduce siltation by retarding flood waters at their very source. Thus, it would enhance the efficiency and increase the effective life of reservoirs.

"It would assist in the job of fitting irrigation and farm drainage into an efficient farm production pattern, contributing to stabilization of population and the basin economy. It would hasten completion of rural electrification and increase efficient use of electricity on farms. It would supply sources of credit to farmers for investments in conservation and irrigation.

"IT WOULD extend educational efforts on all phases of land, water and forest resource development, and through soil surveys and specific research on these problems would expand our technical knowledge. In all

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Graduates

Your attention is called to the following dates which appear on the graduate calendar for the 1949 Summer Session. July 23—Foreign Language Examinations (final date for second language for those expecting the doctor's degree in January.) July 26—Final date to deposit thesis and file final report for degrees.

R. W. Gross, Dean Graduate College.

98 Cadets Leave For ROTC Camps

Ninety-eight cadet officers in the University of Nebraska Army ROTC advanced corps are attending four summer training camps, Col. J. W. Clyburn, Commandant, announced Wednesday.

Infantry, Field Artillery and Military Police cadets attending camp at Camp McCoy, Wisconsin, are:

- Robert P. Bass, Richard L. Beattie, Gerald F. Blatchford, William K. Brinkman, Donald D. Calvin, Robert R. Camp, Dwan H. Ehrlich, Herber L. Franden, Robert H. Greens, Sheldon J. Harris, Cedric J. Hartman, Robert E. Johnson, William T. Kimball, Thomas J. Kowber, Richard J. Koban, Milton Maize, Orval A. Colder, David C. Myers, Kenneth F. Oehle, Elmer H. Petrasek, Robert C. Pfeiler, Alan G. Potter, Donald A. Rice, Phillip L. Sheridan, Robert D. Vanderstee, Robert E. Vogler, Paul R. Weltchek, William W. Wickenkamp, Len W. Allen, Fred Bauer, Robert H. Bush, John B. Christopoulos, John B. Conley, Donald F. Copes, Dean M. Dellinger, Glenn W. Elliott, Ernest J. Gotschell, Paul L. Holm, John R. Lilly, James L. Lotspeich, Paul W. Mechem Edgar F. Steele, Robert G. Steinhoff, Eugene E. Taylor, Richard L. Torzon, John E. Wilson, Lawrence L. Wilson, Thomas Avner, Harlan G. Heideck, Donald G. Canaday, John R. Brogan, James W. Ferris, Willard B. Gelwick, Kirk W. Gillespie, Phillip D. Grimm, Charles D. Huestis, Ralph E. Kellogg, Derald L. Lembrich, Gordon O. Luhrs, James D. Lutes, James C. Lyle, William C. Marbacher, Louis Meyres, Jack L. Moore, Congdon E. Paulson, Fred W. Phifer, Robert E. Reid, Richard P. Russell, Andy A. Schizas, Howard E. Schneider, Robert M. Swanson, Robert L. Wait, Lester P. Westcott, Ward E. Zimmerman.

Engineers corps cadets attending camp at Ft. Belvoir, Va., are: John W. Campbell, Donald F. Flesher, James R. Holmoss, Luther J. Johnson, Vincent A. Kamrath, Ralph R. Koch, Dwight S. McVicker, Jr., Ben A. Shaw, William L. Mulder, Richard S. Renard, Charles A. Wiseman, Jr.

Ordnance cadets attending camp at the Aberdeen Proving Ground, Aberdeen, Maryland, are: David N. Armstrong, Donald D. Augustin, Rodney G. Benson, Vincent T. Goeres, Donald W. Hodder, Mark F. Radke, Patrick T. Rance, Raymond V. Real, Norman F. Vleck, Wiley D. Vogt, John B. Westcott, William D. Welson.

Medical corps cadets, all attending the College of Medicine in Omaha, taking summer camp training at Fitzsimmons General Hospital in Denver are:

John N. Baker, Harris W. Barber. (See 98 CADETS... Page 3)

Furst Things Always First

Dr. Lyle Furst of York is the first dentist in the state to contribute to the University of Nebraska College of Dentistry fund, the dental college alumni association's fund committee reported Friday.

The association began a drive this week for \$50,000 from the 750 graduates of the college, about 500 of whom live in Nebraska. The fund will be used for loans to needy and deserving students and for the purchase of special experiment equipment.

The fund was given a special gift of \$1,000 earlier this year by Dr. George Nakagawa of Honolulu, but the campaign to solicit all graduates of the dental college did not start until this week.