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N. Y. JOURNAL AMERICAN

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— Walter Winchell

"A solid smash.... irresistibly moving."

— Variety

"The beauty and exaltation of a remarkable drama."

— Brooks Atkinson
N. Y. TIMES

"A highly-prized playgoing experience.... a fine dramatic play."

— Christian Science Monitor

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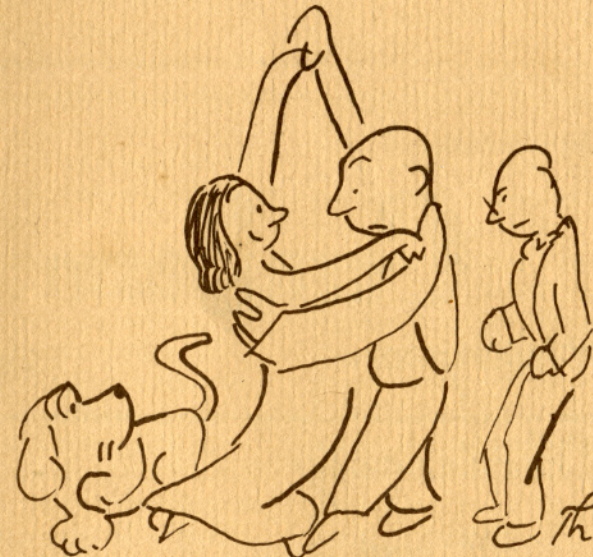
"IT TAKE A MIRACLE", an original Musical Comedy by David Sheldon; followed by "DESIRE UNDER THE ELMS", by Eugene O'Neill.

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PLAY ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Gateway Theatre

BELLPORT NEW YORK

The MALE ANIMAL



By JAMES THURBER
and ELLIOTT NUGENT

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Gateway Theatre

BELLPORT, L. I., NEW YORK



WHAT IS THE FUNCTION OF THE THEATRE? We believe with Arthur Hopkins: "When a thousand people sit before us, appealingly receptive, how are we to enrich them? How often in our lives has theatre-going been an experience for which we will be forever grateful?... Are we to send people away exalted, compassionate, proud of being human beings, or are we to add to their frustration and cynicism? Chain reactions did not begin with the atomic bomb. It began with ideas. The theatre is essentially a place of ideas. What chain reactions do we want to set in motion?

THIS SEASON MARKS a turning-point in the Gateway's ever changing history, with TEN productions rather than five, and a company of 18 instead of 8.

IN THE BEGINNING the Gateway was nothing but an empty barn and a handful of idealistic actors. Six years ago a press notice said, "The Gateway Players, a recently organized group of young actors will make their bow at 8:30 p. m. tomorrow in Shakespeare's "Taming of the Shrew", to be presented in the new 'theatre-in-the-round'." The following week a review said "If this youthful, enthusiastic company maintains as high a standard with its next production..... Bellport and the surrounding area is in for an enjoyable summer of interesting theatre."

NOW SUCCESSFUL the Gateway Theatre operates a student workshop which enrolls some thirty resident teenagers as well as adults from this area. Courses in all phases of the theatre are given daily in addition to student productions and dance concerts... the actors in the professional companies providing the drama instruction. Gateway is a member of the American National Theatre and Academy, and the American Educational Theatre Association.

THE ENSEMBLE consists of Sally Pomeran who returns to Bellport after a season in Europe. One of Gateway's founders, now general director, Miss Pomeran has had an extensive career in New York and on tour, the most vivid roles being in "Antigone", "Liliom", "Pygmalion", and "Taming of the Shrew". Educated at Principia College and Columbia University, Miss Pomeran studied drama under Frank Parker and then acted with C. W. T. in N. Y. for 3 yrs. and played leading roles at the Putney Theatre in Vermont. She is now leaving her post as head of the Putney School Drama Dept. to lead the Gateway Players in winter repertory.

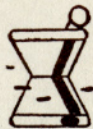
DAVID SHELDON, also a Gateway founder, returns for his sixth acting and directing season in Bellport. Noted for a variety of char-

(Cont'd on Pg. 4)



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Sanders

(Continued from page 3)

acter roles, Mr. Sheldon played the Gentleman Caller in "Glass Menagerie" and "Imaginary Invalid" last season. Appearances in Illinois, New York and Connecticut include radio acting and experimental TV. Having studied at Principia College and his MFA at Yale Drama School. This season Mr. Sheldon is directing one of his own plays, Mr. Sheldon is now director of Gateway's Student Workshop.

BEVERLY WHITE, directing five of Gateway's ten productions, comes from Arena Stage, Washington, D. C. Formerly director of drama at the Putney School in Vermont, Miss White established the Putney Summer Theatre in 1947 and directed its work for six years. In the summer of 1950 she toured the British Isles with members of her company, representing the U. S. A. in an international festival sponsored by the British Drama League. Miss White has been associated with Weston Playhouse, Rollins Studio and McLean Summer Theatre and has instructed in the theatre departments of Wesleyan Univ. and Sarah Lawrence College.

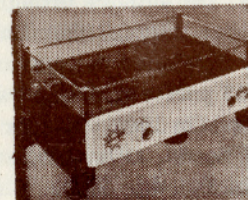
GEORGE BUTLER, one of Gateway's founders, is back after an absence of two seasons during which he played leading roles with America's only professional Gilbert and Sullivan company in N. Y. Gateway audiences will remember him as Earnest in "The Importance of Being Earnest", which he also directed; his Antrobus in "Skin of Our Teeth", his stage manager in

(Cont'd on Pg. 8)

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the male animal

Conceived by James Thurber, the play was plotted by him and his former Ohio State classmate, Elliott Nugent, in Hollywood in 1939, where it was tried out with Nugent and Mary Astor in the leads. Encouraged by its West Coast reception, the authors brought the play to N. Y. C. where it was optioned by Producer Hermin Shumlin after one reading. (Nugent did the reading; Thurber furnished the gestures.) Opened in N. Y. on Jan. 9, 1940, a total of 243 performances, subsequently enjoyed a successful tour of many key cities. In 1942, Warner Brothers movie version appeared, starring Henry Fonda, Olivia deHavilland and Jack Carson.

JAMES THURBER is married to Helen Wismer, a former pulp magazine editor. His books include "The Beast in Me and Other Animals", "My Life and Hard Times", "Thurber's Merry Go Round", "The Owl in the Attic", "The Thurber Carnival", "The Middle Aged Man on the Flying Trapeze" and (with E. B. White) "Is Sex Necessary?" Though "The Male Animal" is his only playwriting venture, at this writing, he has at least two play projects in the fire, one based on his adventures at the New Yorker magazine, and the other about the conflict between policemen and artists.

ELLIOT NUGENT, meanwhile, has carved a niche for himself in the theatre as a playwright, actor, and director. He made his theatrical debut at the age of 4 as a monologist, his vaudevillian parents having rushed him into their act to fill a vacancy left by their ailing "straight man". He made his Broadway debut in 1921 in "Dulcy" with Lynn Fontanne. He subsequently appeared in "Keppy", "The Rising Sun", "The Poor Nut" and "The Breaks", with his father, the late J. C. Nugent, with whom he collaborated on these comedies. He also appeared in a score of other plays and co-authored several others with his father, before going to Hollywood in 1929 to appear in the screen version of "Dulcy" with Marion Davies. Films he directed include "She Love Me Not", "Three Cornered Moon", "The Cat and the Canary", "Up in Arms", "The Male Animal", "Nothing But the Truth", "Mr. Belvidere Goes to College". In addition to playing the lead in "The Male Animal", he played opposite Katherine Hepburn in "Without Love", and appeared as the week-ending GI during most of the record breaking run on Broadway of "The Voice of the Turtle".

THE GATEWAY PLAYERS PRESENT

Directed by THE MALE ANIMAL Designed by
Beverley White By James Thurber and Elliott Nugent Frank Albright
with

MARY WOOLVERTON DAVID SHELDON FELIX C. ZIFFER

CAST

Cleota Mary Perrine
Ellen Turner..... Mary Woolverton
Tommy Turner..... David Sheldon
Patricia Stanley..... Ruth Vickers
Wally Myers Al Woodend
Dean Frederick Damon Edward J. Varneau
Michael Barnes Josef Sommer
Joe Ferguson..... Felix C. Ziffer
Mrs. Blanche Damon..... Ethel Martin
Ed Keller Herb Appleman
Myrtle Keller..... Sally Pomeran
"Nutsy" Miller..... Al White, Jr.
Newspaper Reporter..... Martin Heyert

SCENE: The living room in the house of Professor Thomas Turner, in a Mid-Western University Town.

ACT I - Late Fall. A Friday evening

INTERMISSION

ACT II - Scene 1. The following day, after lunch
Scene 2. Three hours later

INTERMISSION

ACT III - Two days later, noon.

Stage Manager....Josef Sommer Sound.....Martin Heyert
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(Continued from page 4)

"Our Town". Mr. Butler has participated in the Shakespearian festival in Dock St. Theatre, N. Y. An accomplished singer and pianist, he comes to Bellport after a season in Europe and a year at the Goodman Theatre in Europe.

RUTH VICKERS has proven her versatility during the past five seasons, her parts ranging from Ruth Gordon in "Years Ago" to Miss Metcalf in "Dark of the Moon". She will be remembered as the Little Prince, Irma in "Madwoman of Chaillot" and "In All My Sons". Making her debut in 1948 as the pert Corliss Archer in "Kiss and Tell" with Lesley Savage's Company, Miss Vickers was welcomed by NY in Monte Meacham's production of "The Indian Captive", participating in a nation-wide theatre conference.

WILLIAM DAPRATO takes leave once again from his TV appearances in NY to participate in the Gateway ensemble. Audiences will remember his vivid characterizations in "All My Sons", "Skin of Our Teeth", "Beautiful People". Having made many appearances on the TV screen in "You Are There", "Studio One", etc. Mr. Daprato has had a broad experience in NY and on the road. Appearing with the Encore Players in New York, Mr. Daprato has done off-Broadway work for a number of years appearing in such plays as "Of Mice and Men".

(Cont'd on Pg. 9)

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(Continued from page 8)

MARY PERRINE, having starred in "The Madwoman of Chaillot" and "Skin of Our Teeth" before Gateway audiences, returns to create roles as Madame Arcati in "Blithe Spirit". Besides acting in summer stock, Miss Perrine also toured with Ch. World Theatre. She was with a repertory group in California and worked in NY with American Actors' Co. She has made appearances on WJZ-TV WABT and weekly WNBT shows. She directed at the Perry Mansfield school of theatre and at the New Caanan Country School.

FRANK ALBRIGHT - designing Gateway's ten productions has behind him an extensive and varied career. Having had 2 years at Cape May Summer Theatre, and 19 years of experience in education and theatre in New Mexico and Oklahoma, Mr. Albright a member of the Am. Educational Theatre Ass'n., and the Speech Ass'n of America, has designed, staged and directed in such productions as "Our Town", "You Can't Take it With You", "Barretts of Wimpole Street". Having studied at the University of Colorado, and received his MFA from the University of Oklahoma, Mr. Albright played in "Darling Daughter" and "Romeo and Juliet".

EDWARD J. VARNAU - having played in productions of "Ghosts", "Taming of the Shrew", "Hannele", "A Doll's House" "Private Lives", "We Were Dancing", and "Don Juan", was a member of Komisarjevsky's Studio Players. Also with the Theatre Art Colony Players in San Francisco, Mr.

(Cont'd on Pg. 10)

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Leave	Leave	FRIDAY NIGHTS	SATURDAYS	SUNDAYS.
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10:15 A. M.	6:45 A. M.	7:15 P. M.	8:00 P. M.	12:00 Noon 11:00 A. M.
1:30 P. M.	12:00 Noon	8:00 P. M.		2:00 P. M. 1:00 P. M.
6:30 P. M.	4:30 P. M.	9:00 P. M.		6:30 P. M. 5:00 P. M.

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