

AT BOSTON PLAYHOUSES

"THE BAT" REVIVED AT BOSTON OPERA HOUSE

Thrills, laughter and suspense are all in "The Bat" at the Boston Opera House, for the next two weeks. The famous play by Mary Roberts Rinehart and Avery Hopwood is again in Boston playing to large audiences, many of the members of which have seen it before and are back again to try and pick a flaw in the suspense factor that grips everyone from the start to a few seconds before the curtain drops for the last time.

"Lizzie" played by Ursula Ellsworth supplies laughter at the times when the suspense becomes unbearable. Her grimaces and antics, witty retorts and superfluous worries did much to insure the success of the production. Zita Reith who played the part of Miss Ogden had a hard role which she carried off in a most realistic manner.

The rest of the cast supports the production in a way which keeps the identity of the "Bat" concealed very effectively with suspicion first resting on one man, then another, until almost every one is suspected, even including the detective sent from police headquarters.

L. C. C.

MYSTERY PLAY AT THE ST. JAMES THIS WEEK

John Willard's "The Cat and the Canary" which is playing at the St. James this week is an entertaining mixture of thrills, mystery and comedy. There are tolling bells, secret panels, strange noises, murders and many more of those hair raising incidents that go to make up a real thriller.

Twenty years before the play opens an eccentric old gentleman left a will which was opened and read to the relatives in the first act and the plot centers about a proviso in this document that if the heir or heiress is mentally incapable the estate should go to the relative named in a third envelope. This envelope is to be opened if the

need arises. Peculiar conditions arouse the suspicion that the will has been tampered with and as the play progresses this suspicion is confirmed. The heroine, who is incidentally the sole heir, seems to be constantly in danger and although this condition is not taken seriously by the audience, it does afford interesting entertainment.

Mr. Gilbert, who played the role of Paul Jones, the backward suitor, performed exceedingly well but Miss Middleton as little Annabelle West is not so successful, failing on several occasions to reach the proper emotional depths. To the sepulchral tones of Miss Layng, who performed as the West Indian servant, must go the credit of producing most of the tense moments in the play. Miss Roach as the talkative and vindictive Susan Silsby also does well.

C. E. M.

SHAW'S "MISALLIANCE" PLAYING AT COPLEY

Three episodes of that highly satirical comedy "Misalliance," by Bernard Shaw were presented last Monday evening in a commendable fashion by the Copley Players to an appreciative audience.

To say the least, Shaw is skillful with the use of wit. He ever paints an individual, one we can visualize with ease, and then proceeds to give it life and substance in a manner which is unmistakably his own. His plays are always creative and are played with zest, since they keep the actor on the alert with startling expressions and ideas. He has not failed us in the "Misalliance," for he sprinkles it generously with that tireless and unending faultfinding with conventionalities. It is a highly instructive play.

We are very happy to note that the Copley Players are once more rounding into the form of former seasons. It is to be hoped that this standard will continue, carrying on that which the critical playgoer expects of a first class repertory company.

B. L.

Notices and Announcements

All notices for this column should be in by the morning of the day preceding the issue.

OFFICIAL

SOPHOMORE MILITARY SCIENCE

A three-reel training picture will be shown in room 5-330 at 5 tomorrow. Attendance is required of all Sophomores as part of the M. S. 32 course, and double credit will be given for attendance. All other students are invited.

GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIPS

Attention is called to the regulations regarding applications for graduate scholarship aid for the year 1924-1925. Applications should be filed by the first of March in order to receive consideration by the Committee on Graduate Courses and Scholarships at its March meeting. This applies not only to new applications but to the renewal of previous grants. Application blanks may be obtained at the Admissions Office.

COURSE 5.942

The sixth meeting will be held tomorrow in room 10-250 at 4. Professor R. S. Williams of the Department of Chemistry will speak on "Elektron and a few other Alloys."

AIR SERVICE R. O. T. C.

All Air Service R. O. T. C. students who will have finished the advanced Air Service R. O. T. C. work by June 1924, and desire four months training as a pilot at Brooks Field, Texas, will call at the Military Science Office, room 3-310, and see the Air Service representatives.

UNDERGRADUATE

CORPORATION XV

Signup and first deposit of \$10 for spring tour are due Monday, February 18, between 10 and 1, in front of Dr. D. R. Dewey's office, building 1. Accommodations are limited to first 35 men signing up.

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T. C. A. LEADERS FOR BOYS' WORK

Provides Advisers for Boys' Clubs and Coaches for Athletic Teams

At the present time there are five men in the Institute doing boy's work under the T. C. A. Boys' Work Department, F. R. Shaw '24, Director. Four men are leading boys' clubs at the Cambridge Neighborhood House, the Margaret Fuller House, and the Cambridge Y. M. C. A., while the fifth is coaching boys' basketball teams in the gymnasium of Walker on Wednesday nights. There are three leagues playing basketball, the Financial League, made up of boys from the banks and insurance companies, the News League, and the Retail Stores League.

There are a number of calls for men to lead groups of boys. Another leader is needed at the Margaret Fuller House, the Cambridge Neighborhood House wants five men, and the Y. M. C. A. boys' department, the Harvard M. E. Church, and the East End Union all need leaders. In addition to the call for men to lead clubs, the Y. M. C. A.

wants a man to act as basketball coach and referee on Saturday mornings.

In connection with Boys' Work, the Beverly Y. M. C. A. has asked for a speaker to give a talk on "Clean Living, Clean Speech, and Clean Athletics," March 1. All this work will be done by volunteers.

In addition to the men needed at once, there is a call from the Boston "Y" for five or six camp leaders and a woodcraft instructor for Camp Ousamequin, the Boston Y. M. C. A. summer camp for boys, in the southern part of the state. The men working at the camp receive room and board free.

SOPHOMORES WILL SEE THREE TRAINING REELS

Three reels of training films are to be shown the Sophomores in room 5-330 at 5 o'clock tomorrow. The pictures were taken of regular troops actually at work on the construction of cave shelters, the erection of barbed wire entanglements, the placing of revetments in trenches, and timbering in soft ground. The pictures are shown for the purpose of familiarizing the students with the work of the Engineers in action.

COFFEE AND THE HUMAN SYSTEM

Extracts from "An Address on Scientific Coffee Research"

By PROFESSOR SAMUEL C. PRESCOTT

It was understood from the start that the work should be conducted scientifically with the purpose of finding out as much as possible of the truth about coffee and about how to make coffee. As all know, there have been put forth suggestion in certain quarters, innuendoes regarding the wholesomeness of coffee. The questions that we had to consider were, first of all, were these opinions sound and generally accepted among scientific men who had given deep and continuous thought to the subject, and were these suggestions based on good science, on experimentation, or were they based perhaps on ulterior motives?

Neither in the dispassionate study of the vast literature on the subject, much of which is medical literature, nor as a result of our long-continued studies, have we been forced as scientific men to any conviction that well-made coffee if used in moderation is harmful to the great mass of consumers and as such dangerous to public health and welfare. On the contrary, the more deeply we have gone into the matter, the more we have read, the more we have looked up this literature in different languages, the more firmly fixed has become the belief that for the overwhelming majority of adults coffee is a safe and desirable beverage.

During the past three years a large amount of investigation has been carried out under my direction with the aim to clear up many disputed questions and traditions regarding coffee. The facts discovered or confirmed will be grouped under the following headings:

1. Action of coffee extractives on animals. 2. Preparation of coffee beverage. 3. Chemistry of coffee.

We shall first deal with the effect of coffee on animals. Coffee has a remarkable effect due to the action of caffeine on the central nervous system. It promotes heart action mildly, increases the power to do muscular work, and increases the power of concentration of mental effort, and is therefore an aid to sustained brain work. It is not followed except in excessive quantity by undesirable after effects. Caffeine has no depressive after effect, whereas all other stimulants have. A few individuals have a marked coffee idiosyncrasy, that is, they are adversely affected by coffee, but are able to drink tea, which contains caffeine in about equal amount. The condition of the animal unquestionably plays a very important part in these matters, as

may be expected. With doses corresponding to the quantity normally used by a coffee drinker, no injurious or deprecatory effect was noted.

The second factor to be considered is the preparation of the beverage; as the best coffee can be spoiled by poor preparation. Without going into details the results of these studies may be summarized into the following paragraph:

The temperature of the water plays a very important part in coffee making. The most favorable temperatures seem to range from 85 deg. to 95 deg. C., as at these points the caffeine is nearly all dissolved, the flavor-giving oils or ethers are not so largely boiled off and certain changes resulting in bitterness and woody taste are absent or negligible. The action of coffee infusion on metals is pronounced, and bitter, astringent or metallic tastes may be produced. Tinplate, aluminum, copper, nickel, and silver all affect the taste of coffee, and in general in the order named, tinplate being the most objectionable in this respect. Glass, porcelain, stone ware, agate, and other vitrified wares exert no influence on the taste of coffee.

The fineness of the grind also exerts an influence on the flavor. In general, a fine grind yields a richer flavor than a coarse grind because of the more rapid and complete solution of the flavor-giving substances. The grind should, however, be adapted to the method of brewing. It also must be noted here that the question of time should come in. Obviously, if the coffee is more finely ground, all the soluble and emulsifiable things in the ground coffee will be brought into the solution in a very much shorter time than if a coarse grind is being used. It is desirable to grind the coffee beans immediately before infusing if one wishes to secure and conserve all available flavor and aroma.

The results of these experiments in as much as they were tried on animals can be taken only as indicative, not absolute. A rabbit is not a man, but the data obtained confirm in a general way the results so frequently expressed in the literature on caffeine, namely, that small repeated doses are without harmful effects on the general metabolism, and in view of our findings and those of others it seems to be well established that ingestion of caffeine as it occurs in beverage coffee (that is, the drinking of properly prepared coffee) does not have any harmful effects.

FACULTY TRIUMPH IN VI-A BOWLING CONTEST

(Continued from Page 3)

committee. Humorous speeches, songs and musical selections were then given in rapid succession by members of the Faculty, Alumni and undergraduates. One of the humorous events on the program was a skit given by Professor F. S. Dellenbaugh, Jr. and Professor W. H. Timbie, assisted by four students. It was a laughable burlesque on the red tape involved in registering for Course VI-A and the attempt to get a thesis approved. The imaginary "properties" which included a curtain, represented by a chalk mark on the floor; and a door, which persisted in remaining locked, represented by a hypothetical space in the ether; were productive of uproarious laughter in addition to that provoked by the action of the play.

Following this the meeting broke up into a general social gathering to enable the various classes to become better acquainted. About 30 Sophomores took advantage of their first opportunity to meet the upperclassmen in the course.

MECHANICAL ENGINEERS TAKE TRIP TO WALTHAM

On Monday afternoon members of the Mechanical Engineering Society took trip to the Waltham Watch Company Waltham.

The men arrived at the factory 2.30 o'clock. They were shown through the different departments by two guides. The party saw some interesting automatic machines in operation which appeared almost human in doing certain work.

On account of the interest shown in this last trip to Waltham, another trip has been planned for those who were unable to go along, to take place sometime in the spring. The Navy Yard trip which was taken by the Society last year will be repeated this year. The date of the trip has not as yet been decided by the officers of the society.

The official opening of the new Aerodynamics Laboratory of the University of Toronto has been announced for February eighth. The building was begun as a war measure in 1917 by the University. However, until now, it has never been completed because up to last year improvements were more imperatively needed in other departments. There will be quite a celebration to honor the formal opening of the new laboratory.

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