

University of Montana

ScholarWorks at University of Montana

Summer Session Sun, 1943-1953

University of Montana Publications

7-18-1950

Summer Session Sun, July 18, 1950

Students of Montana State University, Missoula

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarworks.umt.edu/summersessionsun>

Let us know how access to this document benefits you.

Recommended Citation

Students of Montana State University, Missoula, "Summer Session Sun, July 18, 1950" (1950). *Summer Session Sun, 1943-1953*. 52.

<https://scholarworks.umt.edu/summersessionsun/52>

This Newspaper is brought to you for free and open access by the University of Montana Publications at ScholarWorks at University of Montana. It has been accepted for inclusion in Summer Session Sun, 1943-1953 by an authorized administrator of ScholarWorks at University of Montana. For more information, please contact scholarworks@mso.umt.edu.



The Summer Session Sun

Volume 7 Extra

Montana State University, Missoula

Tuesday, July 18, 1950

Reviewer Finds 'Boy Meets Girl' Funny, But Not Top Show Fare

Play Uneven in Spots—Often Too Bitter for Real Humor

BY BILL SMURR

Maybe it was an overheated theater, maybe it was a plain lack of appreciation, or maybe it was the popular preoccupation with Korea. Whatever the cause, Mr. Hinze's zany merry-go-round, "Boy Meets Girl," missed the brass ring by a substantial distance at the opening performance in Simpkins Little theater last night.

"Boy Meets Girl" is, and has been, a whopping success as a burlesque on that California Babylon, Hollywood, and why it didn't go over last night is anybody's guess.

The acting ranged from fair to very good, and was seldom less than satisfactory. The sets were uninspired, but they seemed playable. This leaves the onus on the director, Mr. LeRoy Hinze, but we can't see that he made many mistakes, for it was obvious from the start that he had a real grasp of what was needed, and that the cast knew what that something was.

There is one other possibility: Maybe the play just isn't any darn good.

This is sacrilege in California, of course, but we can't help that. There are some things about Hollywood (and this play) that just aren't funny. We are guessing now, but we think that the audience simply got tired of the shouting, the hysteria, and the cussing.

The suspicion lingers that, in spite of its hell-for-leather pace, this play is inherently uneven. Maybe we can blame the actors for some of this unevenness, but we don't think so.

No doubt the denizens of Hollywood and Vine would say that every situation in which Joan Markley (Susie) found herself was as entertaining as all get-out, but in hard fact Susie is a pathetic character, and much of her history is as funny as a crutch.

In a pre-war movie, Susie was played by Marie Wilson, who has two distinct advantages over Miss Markley, but in our opinion neither

of these ladies could get much from this ill-drawn role. But we give Miss Markley "A" for effort.

Something like this might be said also for Carroll O'Connor, who handsomely played the role James Cagney made famous on the screen. O'Connor (who delivers a line as well as any Montanan we ever saw) was in fine form last night, and got all the laughs he expected, but there is something about this Mr. J. Carlyle Benson that isn't very funny either. There is an undercurrent of bitterness here that nullifies the burlesque.

But O'Connor and Larry Kadlec (Robert Law) were easily the best things in the show, and the audience recognized that fact. Kadlec was clever, consistent, professional. Rather than frighten audiences away, we want everybody to see these two gents. They are worth the price.

We liked Dick Barsness. Playing Rosetti, he was the epitome of a Hollywood ten-percenter, a wolfish, grasping, unprincipled schemer.

And we also liked Loring Calkins, who, as the titled English ham-actor, Rodney Bevan, was able to get through a chump love affair in good form.

James Callihan (C. F. Friday) was passable, but far from exciting. He was supposed to be both unpleasant and amusing—a difficult assignment, admittedly—but somehow he was mostly unpleasant.

O. Maurice Thompson, as Larry Toms, the oafish cowboy film hero, was pleasing for two reasons. For one, he handled his part well. For another, he drove still another spike into the Cowboy Myth, and

Situation Normal In Logic Course

Probably no college course leaves a student more confused during its first week as does Psychology 50, otherwise known as Logic.

The logic prof might put it this way.

"It's difficult to explain what a course in Logic will do for a person's thinking, but let me illustrate with a story," he told a doubting class.

"Suppose two men come out of a chimney—one is clean, one is dirty. Which one takes a bath?"

"The dirty one, naturally," answers one student.

"I'll ask again," continued the professor. "Remember, the clean one sees the dirty one, and notices how dirty he is, and vice versa. Now, which one takes a bath?"

"Now I get it," answers another student, "the clean one, seeing his dirty companion, concludes he's dirty too—so he takes the bath. Am I right?"

"Wrong!" finished the professor nonchalantly. "Logic teaches you this—how could two men come out of a chimney, one clean and one dirty?"

for this we are particularly grateful.

The supporting players were adequate, sometimes a little more so, sometimes a little less.

Shirley Calnan (Peggy) was average, Mary Lou Grote (Miss Crews) was difficult to hear, and Floyd Chapman (Major Thompson) overplayed.

In difficult minor roles, Charles Stone (Green) and William Simmons (Slade) caught their cues nicely, delivered their lines with the proper abandon, and generally added the right amount of madness to the action.

Josephine Martin, Richard Iversen, Fred Cunningham, Bob Hoyem, James Beakey, and Joan Hardin were quite satisfactory in other small roles.

ROTC Honors Six Students

Six university students have been designated as distinguished military students, according to Major W. F. Redmond of the Fort Lewis, Wash., ROTC camp.

The students are Alton D. Forbes, Great Falls; Ralph W. Julian, Flandreau, S. D.; Armund E. Foley, Great Falls; George J. Gogas and Dallas J. Reed, Missoula; and John A. Mitchell, Laurel.

Selection for the distinguished student rating is made on the basis of outstanding qualities of military leadership, high moral character and aptitude for the military service, in addition to academic grades and leadership in campus activities at the University.

The six students are now participating in six weeks of intensive field training at the Fort Lewis ROTC camp as part of their preparations for commissions.

Upon graduation from MSU and successful completion of the ROTC course, each student will receive a commission as a second lieutenant in the organized reserve corps.

CROWDER RETURNS

School of Music Dean John Crowder returned to the campus this week after a month's tour to California and Mexico.

While en route, Dr. Crowder attended teachers' conventions at Portland, San Francisco, and Long Beach.

MAINTENANCE SPRINGS NEW-TYPE LAWNMOWER

The job of cutting the grass on the campus will be a simple thing in the future. Maintenance department has acquired a new \$750 tractor-type lawnmower. The rig has three sets of cutting blades. The operator merely steers the machine and the mower does the rest.