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OUR TOWN

Simpkins Little Theatre
MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY

November 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 1949

MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY THEATRE

AND

MONTANA MASQUERS

PRESENT

Thornton Wilder's

OUR TOWN

Simpkins Little Theatre

LeROY W. HINZE, Director

A. WOLLOCK, Technical Director

CAST

(In order of appearance)

STAGE MANAGER	HERB CARSON
DR. GIBBS	DICK HAAG
JOE CROWELL	JOEL FLEMING
HOWIE NEWSOME	JOHN BADGLEY
MRS. GIBBS	JOAN HARDIN
MRS. WEBB	HELEN HAYES
GEORGE GIBBS	FRANK HOULE
REBECCA GIBBS	PHYLLIS CLARK
WALLY WEBB	CLEM WARD
EMILY WEBB	MARY MAURER
PROFESSOR WILLARD	LOUIS ELMORE
MR. WEBB	CARROLL O'CONNOR
WOMAN IN AUDITORIUM	BARBARA HILL
MAN IN AUDITORIUM	LARRY KADLEC
LADY IN THEATRE	THELMA HAGGARTY
SIMON STIMSON	ART LUNDELL
MRS. SOAMES	DOROTHY ROSS
CONSTABLE WARREN	FRANK FITZGERALD
SI CROWELL	MANLEY BRIGGS
BASEBALL PLAYERS	DON NICOL, GAY RISSMAN, LARRY BRODIE
SAM CRAIG	ELBERT MORTON
JOE STODDARD	CHARLES SCHMITT
ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGERS	FRANK FITZGERALD, C. SCHMITT
PEOPLE OF THE TOWN	JOYCE SIPERLY, ANN STONE, THELMA HAGGARTY, BARBARA HILL, DOLORES WHITE, ISABELE GOPIAN, JUNE THAYER, MAXINE TAYLOR, KEN SAYLOR

SCENE

The entire play takes place in Grovers Corners, N. H.
Production rights granted by Samuel French, Inc., New York, New York

PRODUCTION STAFF

Assistant to the Director	Dick Haag
Staging	Frank Houle, Charles Schmitt
Costumes and Properties	Nancy Hays, Virginia Bulen, Donna Mithun
Lighting	Nancy Fields, Hugh O'Connor, Walter Zwicker
Makeup	Tom Roberts, Edna-Marie Thompson, Maxine Taylor, Yvonne Kind, Irene Stritch, Dorothy Ann Willey
Program Design	Yvonne Kind
Sound Effects	Tom Sherlock
General Publicity Manager	Marge Hunter
Publicity Staff	Ann Stone, Yvonne Kind, Helen Hayes, Tom Roberts, Phylliss Clark, Alice Mary Johnson, Dolores White, Charles Schmitt
House Manager	Larry Kadlec
Box Office Managers	Joan Harrington, Grant Dean
Box Office Staff	Tom Roberts, Helen Hayes, Bob Hoff, Hallis McRae
Theatre Secretary	Helen Hayes
Ushers	Spurs, Bearpaws, R.O.T.C. Sponsor Corps

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We wish to thank MERCER'S for their assistance in costuming OUR TOWN.

COMING ATTRACTIONS

THERE SHALL BE NO NIGHT.....January 31, February 1, 2, 3, 4,

SIMPKINS LITTLE THEATRE

ANTIGONE—April 11, 12, 13, 14, 15SIMPKINS LITTLE THEATRE

The patrons who purchased single admission tickets for OUR TOWN may, by presenting their seat checks at the box office after the performance, apply the \$1.20 single admission price to the cost of the season ticket. Thus \$1.20 plus your single admission seat check will purchase tickets for the remainder of our season.

ABOUT THE PLAY

OUR TOWN is an experience at once poignant and reassuring. Most of us who saw Thornton Wilder's play eleven years ago have changed immeasurably. It, however, remains unchanged. It does not seem old-fashioned. It has not lost its rightness. It tugs with original directness at emotions which are beyond change.

In **OUR TOWN** Mr. Wilder dispensed with scenery and depended upon his own words, a few properties, a stage manager, and the imagination of his audience for the setting. He did not bother to contrive a story. Everybody's life was his plot. His acts divided themselves into the growing-up, the marrying, and the dying in one New England township. The swift race of the years was his villain, and man's blindness in running this race his sure appeal to our compassion.

Mr. Wilder was concerned with all those average things which are the common lot but which seem exceptional when we experienced them. If he did away with scenery it was because the human heart was his real scene; the heart of a community, which, quaint in custom and removed in time though it was, managed to include us all.

Mr. Wilder's interest was not what gets into public prints. It was what each of us must live with in private.

Adding to the timelessness of **OUR TOWN** is the form in which Mr. Wilder elected to have his say. It is make believe of the frankest sort, old as the theatre, new as the last time it was used.

It is the right form for **OUR TOWN**.

It sets the author free. It leaves his imagination unimprisoned within settings. Indeed, it is as timeless as his own subject matter.

Not many plays have come out of the American theatre which better with the years. **OUR TOWN** is one of these. Much as I admired it in 1938, I find that now I admire it even more.

Excerpted from John Mason Brown's
'Wilder: "Our Town"' Saturday Review of Literature — August 6, 1949.