

Drama Will Stage "Death of a Salesman"

North Americans being optimistic have never had as much interest in tragedy on the stage as have people of other nations. But all the same one tragedy has become an outstanding hit of our time and it will be staged at the Fredericton Playhouse for three evening performances on Jan. 29, 31, and Feb. 1.

This is the play by Arthur Miller called "Death of a Salesman", which when it was first produced in New York carried off both the Pulitzer Prize and the New York Drama Critics Circle Award. It is only the third play in the history of the American theatre to achieve this double honour. After having been trouped to probably more cities than any other play of modern times, "Death of a Salesman" was then made into a very popular motion picture starring Frederick March.

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Late Flash:

TEACHERS APPROVE SUB PAYMENT PLAN

Students of New Brunswick Teachers College have voted overwhelmingly in favour of the plan to pay for the new Student Centre. The well attended poll showed over 75% of the college in favour of paying \$10 annually, for a number of years equal to the time UNB and STU pay.

The Building Committee says it expects the period to be about fifteen years.

67% of the freshman class approved the decision. The first payment will be made in the fall of 1966.

"Death of a Salesman" is the story of a time beaten drummer who, as his son says at his funeral at the end of the play, "he never knew who he was". He had clung all his life to a cheerful delusion that he was a successful "big man". But when on the threshold of old age, the hard facts of existence make it almost impossible for him any longer to continue this self-deception, he cannot accept the new picture of himself that he is forced to see.

By means of flashbacks to the significant incidents in his life, when the salesman Willy Loman strutted boastfully in his false beliefs about himself the bitter story is told of his mistake in trying "to get by on a shoeshine and a smile", and of his anguished uncertainty when he finds that

everything he had lived by is false.

The success in all parts of the world of this grim tale has been ascribed to the fact that many of the play's details reach into the lives of all people... that everyone recognizes in it at least some of the things that give him times of panic on sleepless nights.

This tale of a victim with a false code of success has won the reputation of being one of the most tearful plays of our times — and the most hard-boiled members of the play's audiences in New York where it ran for over twenty months have admitted that they wept unashamedly. Yet the play is also said to have an abundance of humour and "recognition" touches that delight its audiences.



"STREAM OF CONSCIOUSNESS"

... warmth is a feeling you get when a woman smiles... warmth is a child cuddled in your lap, a smaller hand nestled in yours... warmth is Mario Lanza singing "When I Fall In Love"... warmth is watching two young people walking hand in hand... warmth is watching a gnarled old man tending a flower garden... warmth is giving a gift to a stranger... warmth is hugging a forgotten friend... warmth is softly falling snow wrapping you in protective gentleness... warmth is your memories of the quiet times past, a hand on your shoulder, a kiss on your forehead... warmth is a never-ending waltz... warmth is words used to caress and soothe and beautify... warmth is your name said softly... warmth is a rose sunset over a tranquil lake and a lone-standing pine on a hill... warmth is gentle and sad tears... watching a colt first wobble onto his hooves, smelling newly-mown hay, hearing the ripple of a quiet brook, touching a woman's cheek... warmth...

... cold is being alone in a crowd... cold is the frenzied bitterness of anger... cold is the senseless destruction of a weak man's futile hope... cold is a deserted house, a bleak, wind-swept cemetery... cold is hearing someone apologize for their father and mother... dead roses, empty bottles, cruel snubs... cold... cold is the desperate fear of helpless loneliness...

... but warmth is life, is needing, is feeling, is laughing, is crying... warmth is the sharing of a thought in a glance... warmth is blending of two minds and two bodies... warmth is the unashamed emotion of the young and the old and the honest...

... warmth is a swirl of colour and light, is playfulness... a slap on the back, is laughter and singing... warmth is a child's freshly washed face, polished walnut, punchbowl's glistening, gravy bubbling...

... warmth is a magnificent surge of well-being and satisfaction which comes from living life to the lees... now only in your own small orbit, but in the totality of all the experiences of your peers, for their warmth is yours... warmth is capable, in these senses, of being felt... but word pictures or any other prose cannot adequately describe it... perhaps though, they may impart a little bit of it... I wish you warmth....

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