



TIP OF THE MORNING: Count Basie and Connie Boswell will be back on records. He has just signed with Mercury and she'll be on Decca discs.

VERA CASPARY'S "LAURA," murder mystery familiar to many through its previous appearance between covers and on screens, had its first Madison stage performance Thursday night at West high school, when the Madison Theater Guild sent some shivers down the spectators' backs.

The story involved, mainly, a girl who apparently was killed in the prolog but who returned in Act One; the detective assigned to the case—who fell in love with a portrait of the supposedly murdered girl, and her long-time friend, a writer.

The players assigned these roles did a usually competent job, except that Jeanne Remus Neher (in the title part) was more than competent. She drew a pretty accurate picture of the advertising writer whose attraction for men almost caused her death, a girl entangled in a web woven by her own beauty and personality.

Subdued in her performance most of the time, she created some high moments of dramatic tension and, through her interpretation of the girl's temperament, helped heighten the play's mystery.

Rex Rucker was the detective—the strong, silent type except during a 10-hour session with the magnetic Laura which kept him talking about himself instead of about her. Most of the time, he had a suitable intensity, with a suggestion of underplaying the part—a manner which at the end of the second act became a fault instead of a virtue, since it reduced the impact of the scene's climax.

Ralph Hunter DeSha was the writer. Usually good and credible, he took the playwright's description of him as "precious" and "a poseur" a bit too literally.

Russell Shank was the Laura-worshiping son of the apartment house's janitor, still a spoiled brat at 19 or 20. Kenneth E. Buzzell played the rough, stuffed-shirt affianced to Laura.

Lols Klein, Duke Yost, and J. Fyfe Frederickson made brief but impressive appearances in minor roles.

The setting and lighting were first-rate, and Al Barracough's direction kept the solution well hidden, the suspense present most of the time.

The play will be repeated at 8:15 tonight at West and at 8:15 p.m. Saturday at East high school.

NAMES IN THE NEWS: When Warners film "Springfield Rifle," the story of the birth of the army's intelligence setup, Gary Cooper will star.

Gilbert Roland will play Hugo, the disbeliever, in the color film, "The Miracle of Our Lady of Fatima."

Danny Kaye will be featured in a special program, "The Head and the Heart," on NBC-WIBA at 2 p.m. Sunday. At the end, he will receive the "service to humanity" award of B'Nai B'rith.

Cornel Wilde will portray Major Peter Ortiz, of the U. S. marine corps, in "The Fighting Marine." And Ortiz probably will have a small part in the picture.

Douglas Steensland, former director of instrumental music at Central high school, will conduct the Elgin (Ill.) Civic Symphony orchestra in the first concert of its second season next Tuesday in the Elgin high school auditorium. The program will include Beethoven's first symphony and the Mendelssohn violin concerto, with Concertmaster Marion Laffey as soloist.

Music of the Eddy Lawrence band will be on WKOW when that station broadcasts from the "March of Dimes" ball Jan. 31.



DOUGLAS STEENSLAND

Radio Timetable

FRIDAY

Table with columns for WIBA, WISC, WKOW, and WIBU, listing radio programs and times for Friday.

Starred programs are also carried on corresponding FM stations. FM channels: WIBA-FM 101.5 M, WWCW (WIBU) 94.9 M, WISC-FM 98.1 M.

Tallulah's Ex-Maid Gets Suspended Term for Stealing

NEW YORK (UP)—A judge wrote a happy ending to the last act of Tallulah Bankhead's real life drama Thursday by giving the actress' former maid a suspended sentence for stealing.

Mrs. Evelyn Cronin, convicted of stealing from Miss Bankhead by raising expense checks, broke into sobs of happiness when Judge Harold A. Stevens suspended her 18-month sentence.

"Thank you, your honor," she said through her tears. Even Miss Bankhead was pleased although Mrs. Cronin had said she would show in her trial that she used the money she was charged with stealing to buy love, liquor, and narcotics for the actress.

"I'm sure the judge did exactly what was right," Miss Bankhead said in her Connecticut dentist's office. "You get so mad you could spit, as they say... You're like to 'right' someone, but when it comes right down to it, you don't really, you know, dahling."

Fred G. Moritt, poetry-quoting attorney for Mrs. Cronin, escaped a threatened contempt citation by apologizing for his tactics during the trial.

Moritt, at one time, was pushed into a chair by two uniformed bailiffs when he tried to continue an argument with the judge during the trial.

PLUTONIUM COSTS LOWER RICHLAND, Wash.—Despite rising costs in labor and material, the cost per unit of producing plutonium at the Hanford Atomic plant near here has been reduced more than 50 per cent since 1947, according to Project Manager David F. Shaw.

Today's Radio Highlights

Music 10:30 a. m.—Pipes and Platens (WHA): Don Voegeli with organ and record melodies. 11:30 p. m.—Magazine Theater (WISC): "Evangeline's One-Short War," story of early Texas days.

Sports 8 p. m.—Basketball (WIBA-FM and WFOV): Madison West vs. Kenosha. 9 p. m.—Boxing (WISC): Johnny Saxton vs. Livio Minelli. 9:45 p. m.—Roundy (WIBA): State Journal sports columnist predicts outcome of weekend events.

Variety 7:30 p. m.—Martin and Lewis (WIBA): with Alexis Smith. Big Time (WKOW): Georg Price salutes Maurice Chevalier.

Discussion 7:30 p. m.—America and the World (WHA-FM): "What Will It Cost to Defend Freedom?" 8:45 p. m.—Income Taxes (WIBA): Art Schroeder interviews R. W. Roloff, division chief of internal revenue bureau, on tax forms, deductions, other problems.

Farm Programs 12:15 p. m.—Farm Service (WIBA): "What's a Farm Worth?" Bernard Dregne, Lancaster; Ralph Matthews, Plattville; Frank Mayfield. 12:30 p. m.—Farm Program (WHA): "1952 Model Chick." Howard King; "White Oak for Farm Woods," F. B. Trenk.

For Children 9:30 a. m.—Rhythm and Games (WHA): "Wind Up Jack" and "Glass Blower." 1:30 p. m.—Book Trails (WHA): "Jataka Tales." 4:45 p. m.—Kids Club (WIBA): portion of "Alice in Wonderland."

Drama 7 p. m.—Roy Rogers (WIBA): old man's stubbornness isolates a community... Richard Diamond (WISC): stool pigeon makes a deal, loses his life. 7:30 p. m.—This Is Your FBI (WISC): armed robbery at fiesta time. 8:30 p. m.—Mr. District Attorney (WISC): financier predicts own murder... Short Story (WMAQ): "The Hut," by Geoffrey Household. 9 p. m.—Mr. Keen (WIBA): on new schedule. 10:30 p. m.—Adventures of Maisie (WISC): Ann Sothern of-

Mario Moves to Friday Tonight... and every Friday MARIO LANZA

sings the songs that made you love him!

Presented by THE COCA-COLA COMPANY Station WIBA, 8:00 p. m.



Table listing radio programs for WFOV-FM and WHA-WHA-FM.

Shrimp Basket 70c The DOME 118 E. Main St.

SPECIAL SELLING! SUEDE CLASSIC LOAFERS Not \$6.95! Not \$5.95! just \$3.99 Banker's 22 E. Mifflin Street Buy U. S. Defense Bonds and Stamps

Which of these dances do you want to learn quickly? RUMBA, FOX TROT, WALTZ, SAMBA. Any Dance You Wish For Information 6-9056. This Magic Step Is the Short Cut That Saves You Time and Money! It's easy, it's fun to pick up the newest dances at Arthur Murray's...

BIG INVENTORY SALE OVERSTOCKED... DRASTIC REDUCTIONS ON ALL MERCHANDISE! You can still use these real buys in winter clothing! Sale starts Friday, January 25th. Rock-Bottom Prices! Women's and girls' Cotton Snuggie Pants and Vests, 59c and 69c values, all now 39c. Flannel Pajamas for entire family, values up to \$3.49... ALL REDUCED 25%.