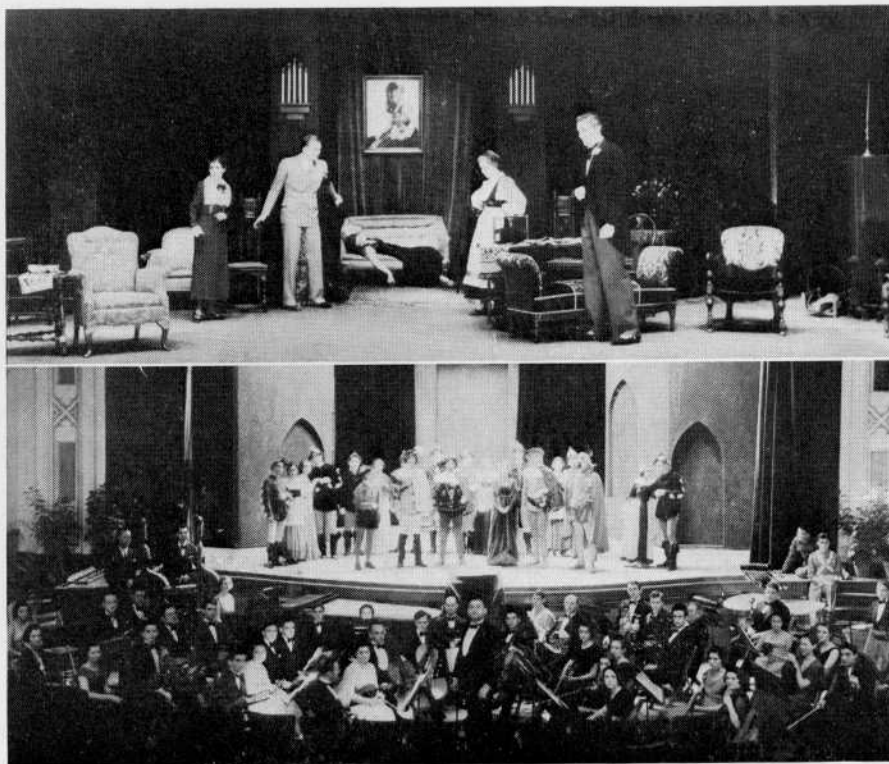


«Marco Millions»

A deserved recognition was given to the superb production of Eugene O'Neill's "Marco Millions" by the University Playhouse, February 10 and 11. These pictures portray well the mood of the satirical comedy and the delightful seriousness in which it was acted. Directed by L. Albert Haydon, "Marco Millions" was one of the smoothest and finest shows ever staged for a campus audience in Norman. The Russian-like picture below shows the exhausted slaves of the King of Persia; above right are Kublai, the Great Khaan (Marcus Cohn) and Princess Kukachin (Emily Stephenson); below right a silhouette of Chu-Yin, the Cathayan Sage and companion to the Khaan, played by Fred Wheeler.



Art in two mediums for the cultivated: a dramatic moment (above) during the Playhouse presentation of Ibsen's "Hedda Gabler," placed against a background of L. A. Haydon's fine settings. Opera (below) comes to Oklahoma in Gounod's "Faust:" the cast with Prof. William G. Schmidt and his orchestra in the foreground



HEFFNER

Grand opera and drama

BY SAVOIE LOTTINVILLE, '29

DRAMA and music, twin aids to the cultivated life, have been singularly fruitful of peace on a Mount Parnassus considerably disturbed this spring by economic gusts of notable severity. The presentation of Henrik Ibsen's *Hedda Gabler* and Gounod's *Faust* on successive weekends at Norman at bottom prices of 25 and 35 cents respectively gave a new orientation to the university in the cultural life of Oklahoma. For the first time it became apparent that the art of the tragic stage and the arias of the classic opera need not be denied those with a taste for them merely because of adverse conditions in Wall, Lombard and Main streets.

Like the German civic theatre of other years, the Playhouse and the school of music have been able to provide entertainment for students and alumni that could not, in this depression, have been made available otherwise. For the scores who came to Norman from nearby towns and cities on March 24 and 25 to see *Hedda Gabler*, there was an Ibsen production that lacked little, if any thing, of the professional swing of the legitimate stage. This is especially significant when eastern companies no longer come to the provinces.

Directed by Miss Ida Z. Kirk, the play was in many respects one of the most satisfying productions of recent years. Miss Josephine Landsittle, Tulsa, was a brilliant *Hedda* in spite of the obvious difficulty of a role that requires the utmost of an unseasoned actress. Scarcely

less real as portrayals were those of Bressem Holtschue as George Tesman, Hedda's spouse, William Lee as Judge Brack, William Cope as Eilert Lovborg, Louise Lillard as Mrs Elvsted, Georgia Ledbetter as Miss Julia Tesman, and Mary Covert as Berta. The many alumni who came for the production were well pleased.

Remarkable not only for its quality as a production, *Faust* was also notable for the spirit in which it was undertaken. Few more ambitious projects have ever been undertaken by university groups. Grand opera in five acts is something more than a stunt even for tried artists; for Professor William G. Schmidt, '12 mus, and his orchestra and singers it was a signal achievement. A near-capacity audience of 2,000 people that heard *Faust* on its first night, March 31, acclaimed it by their applause as a satisfying rendition of Gounod's superb music. Notable were Frances Atwater Lindloff as Marguerite, Emily Stephenson as Martha, Rene Stone as Faust and Milton Asfahl as Mephistopheles. Hundreds of alumni and visitors from nearby cities were in attendance for what was in many respects the outstanding musical event of the year.

Following close on the heels of *Faust* came the announcement from Professor Schmidt of plans for the organization of an opera society to present light opera each fall and grand opera each spring at the university. With the financial blight in the east, grand opera is no

longer a certainty for Oklahoma one week out of each year. The possibility that the university might provide this high type musical entertainment at popular prices is being looked upon with favor by thousands of people throughout the state.

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More Sky

French's Bulletin for February announces that the new play of Lynn Riggs, '23ex, is called *More Sky* and is now in the hands of Broadway producers. The *Bulletin* states that "Mr Riggs describes this play as a complete departure in subject matter and treatment from his other works." A one-acter of Mr Riggs, "Reckless," was included in *One-act Plays for Stage and Study*, Fourth Series, edited by Paul Green and published by Samuel French.

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An honor for Wooldridge

Dean Wooldridge, '32as, straight "A" student in the college of arts and sciences and now a graduate assistant in the department of physics, has been named a teaching fellow at the California Institute of Technology at Pasadena. The appointment, made by Dr. Robert Robert A. Millikan, Nobel prize winner, was in advance of the regular appointments, a tribute to the unusual brilliance Mr Wooldridge has shown in the university.