

The
Little Theatre of Fort Smith, Inc.

presents

UP IN CENTRAL PARK

Music by
SIGMUND ROMBERG

Book by Herbert and Dorothy Fields and Sigmund Romberg

Lyrics by Dorothy Fields

Staged and Directed by
DONALD MORSE

DECEMBER 8 and 9

8:15 P. M.

JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM

Fourth Season 1950-51



AS WE BEGIN

OUR FOURTH SEASON

Tonight, the curtain rises on the first musical production to be presented by The Fort Smith Little Theatre and their sponsors, the Junior Chamber of Commerce. An auspicious beginning for the 1950-51 season, UP IN CENTRAL PARK is the answer to all of you who have asked for a "Broadway" Musical Comedy. Packed with snappy tunes, humor, dancing, and using the original scenery, costumes, and score; boasting Mr. Ronald Jordan, our guest star, and a local cast of seventy-five, UP IN CENTRAL PARK is offered in confidence it will meet your approval.

This production is staged and directed by Mr. Donald Morse of The Empire Producing Company of Kansas City, Missouri, which owns the sole rights to this show, outside New York City. This is the largest producing company in the Middle West, and has recently acquired the rights to the well-known ANNIE GET YOUR GUN.

The Fort Smith Little Theatre has endeavored to produce for you the best in the entertainment field, and especially to utilize the talent found in our city. In choosing a vehicle that highlights the outstanding qualities of our local musicians, the organization feels a justifiable pride in the steady growth epitomized on this stage tonight.

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THE CAST

TIMOTHY MOORE, a foreman in Central Park JOHN D. KING
 ROSIE MOORE, his ambitious young daughter OUIDA BASS
 DANNIE O'CAHANE, subforeman under Timothy THOMAS ROSS
 BESSIE O'CAHANE, his daughter NANNIE RUTH WILSON
 JOHN MATHEWS, reporter on "The Times" RONALD JORDAN
 THOMAS NAST, cartoonist for Harper's Weekly DAVE SPEER
 JOE STEWART, "from a fine old family" RONALD SIMS
 GEORGE JONES, owner of "The Times" JACK COFFEY
 WILLIAM TWEED, Grand Sachem of Tammany Hall JOHN A. HOLT
 MAYOR A. OAKLEY HALL FRANK WEISS
 PETER SWEENEY, Park Commissioner PAT PORTA
 ANDREW MONROE, a co-hort of Tweed LOUIS SCIVALLY
 VINCENT PETERS, a co-hort of Tweed RICHARD LYNCH

THE CAST

(Continued)

JAMES FISKE, Jr., "man-about-town" DOC MILLER
 LOTTA STEVENS, his girl-friend MARY WOOD
 MILDRED WINCOR, friend of Nast CELIA POLA
 WILLIAM DUTTON, a laborer with ambitions CHARLES TODD
 FANNY MORRIS, friend of James Fiske, Jr. NAN WENDEROTH
 CLARA MANNING, one of the "Tweed Ring" SALLY HENDRICKSON
 GOVERNESS MRS. TOM HARPER
 NEWSBOY HARRY FOLTZ
 NEWSBOY BILL STELL
 MAID CYNTHIA BABCOCK
 FIREMEN JAMES A. ETTER, HERMAN BROOKS,
 RAYMOND WITTER, W. A. KNIGHT

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SEQUENCE OF MUSICAL NUMBERS

ACT ONE

1. Up From the Gutter Bessie, Rosie, Timothy, Danny, Men's Ensemble
2. Carousel In The Park Rosie
3. It Doesn't Cost You Anything to Dream John and Rosie
4. When She Walks In the Room John
5. May I Show You My Currier & Ives Bessie, Joe, Skaters Ballet
6. Close As Pages In A Book Rosie and John
7. Rip Van Winkle Tweed, Bessie, Joe, Fannie, Clara, Peters
Little Rips and Ensemble
8. Reprise: Close As Pages In A Book John
9. Can-Can Frances Snedecor and Ginger Frye
10. The Fireman's Bride Rosie, Bessie, Firemen, Ensemble
11. Finale Principals and Ensemble

ACT TWO

1. When The Party Gives A Party Principals and Ensemble
2. The Big Shipyard John and Ensemble
3. April Snow John and Rosie
4. The Birds and The Bees Danny, Rosie, Timothy, Bessie
6. Central Park Band
7. Finale Entire Company

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ON STAGE YOU'LL SEE

RONALD JORDAN. "John Matthews". Born in Topeka, graduate of Julliard School of Music, and University of Kansas School of Music . . . Sang with the San Carlo Opera Co. . . Three concert appearances in the Hollywood Bowl . . . Appeared in "Student Prince," "Brigadoon," "Desert Song" and other touring productions . . . Radio and television appearances on national hook-ups from New York.

OUIDA BASS (Mrs. John). "Rosie Moore". Master of Music in voice and opera from L.S.U. . . . Studied with Ralph Erralle, formerly of the Metropolitan and Chicago Opera Companys . . . Sang leading roles in opera . . . Taught privately in Baton Rouge . . . Studied in New York City with Estelle Liebling . . . Did three shows at Radio City Music Hall.

NANNIE RUTH WILSON (Mrs. James H.) "Bessie O'Cahane". Alumna of Sparks Follies, Kiwanis Minstrels, Junior Civic League Circus Cabaret . . . Member of the choir of the First Presbyterian Church . . . Studied at Lindenwood College and the University of Arkansas.

RONNIE SIMS. "Joe Stewart". Studied at Northwestern, appearing there in such shows as "Bury the Dead," "The Rivals," "Shall We Join The Ladies," "Macbeth," "Oklahoma," and "The Drunkard".

TOM ROSS. "Dannie O'Cahane". Comes here from Nashville where he was active in the Nashville Community Theatre . . . Has appeared in "The Count of Monte Cristo", "Growing Pains", and "Lost Horizon".

JOHN HOLT. "Boss Tweed". Has appeared in Fort Smith Little Theatre productions of "Blithe Spirit" and "See How They Run". Has sung in other local shows and appeared in various minstrel shows.

JOHN D. KING. "Timothy Moore". Played in "The Devil's Disciple" for the Little Rock Little Theatre . . . Appeared in several minstrels . . . Was "The Senator" in the local "Two Blind Mice".

DAVE SPEER. "Tom Nast". Was active in high school dramatics . . . is well-known to Fort Smith Little Theatre from his performance in "John Loves Mary" and "What A Life".

MARY WOOD. "Lotta". Makes her first appearance for our Little Theatre . . . has been active in high school and college dramatics.

JACK COFFEY. "George Jones". Has been in several local shows, including the Kiwanis Minstrels . . . in First Methodist Church choir.

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presents



Directed by
DONALD MORSE

Dance Choreography — Betty Jane Wilkins
Choral Direction — Opal Clark
With Guest Star **RONALD JORDAN**

ACT I

- Scene 1 — A Site in Central Park, New York, Summer, 1870
- Scene 2 — Park Commissioner's Office
- Scene 3 — Stetson Hotel, Central Hotel, Christmas, 1870
- Scene 4 — Birdhouse in the Zoo, Next Day
- Scene 5 — Central Park Gardens, March, 1871

ACT II

- Scene 1 — Playground in Central Park, July, 1871
- Scene 2 — Office of George Jones, owner of the New York Times
- Scene 3 — Central Park, Next Day
- Scene 4 — Stetson Hotel, Later that Day
- Scene 5 — The Mall, Central Park, July 4, 1872
- Scene 6 — Bandstand in the Mall, Same Evening

— Refreshments will be served in the foyer during the intermission —

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Tap Specialty — Manda Joiner and Sue Halley

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ORGANIST — VIRGINIA BROOKS

BAND IN THE PARK

Mike Shaw, Hermit Welch, George McAllister, Lloyd Herrick, Bob Griffin, Fred Allison, Jimmy Hull, Richard Daniels.

— Under the direction of Don Durden —

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