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By WALLY ROBERTS

'CURTAIN GOING UP'

A pessimist, a cynic, or a guy that just plain hates mankind and the false society man has created is surely a mixed-up character. Alceste in Moliere's "The Misanthrope" qualifies easily on all three of these counts.

The APA Repertory Company in their seventh Fall Festival at Ann Arbor's Lydia Mendelsohn Theater opened last week with "The Misanthrope." After a two-week stand the play will go on to Broadway for a full season's run.

"THE MISANTHROPE"

starts slowly, but builds nicely.

Its fantastic pace—often times the players speak their speeches so trippingly upon the tongue that you almost marvel that communication prevails. But the actors in the APA company are old hands at giving stellar performances.

Director Stephen Porier has

shown his usually strong hand in guiding the APA professionals. Such performances are given by everyone in the company. The dialogue rattles along swifter than the speed of light, but the audience reacts perfectly, laughing in all the right spots.

"The Misanthrope" clocks in at two hours and five minutes and that includes two 10-minute intermissions. Moliere, played at this speed, loses none of the satiric bite so prevalent in all his comedies. In fact, the peppy tempo helps stress the cogent comments that prick and pester your conscience as you mull this play over later.

Richard Easton rants and raves in a convincing fashion. His fanciful pleading for more frankness and truth; his blind candor so complete, so comic points up his tragic condition. Easton's Alceste veers sometimes on the side of being too grotesque, but comic implications get a little lost. He recovers though when the fine support of Keene Curtis, Sidney Walker, Brian Bedford, and Christine Pickles lend a steady influence to his monumental characterization.

The outstanding quality of the APA company is evident throughout the evening by short, show-stopping bits by either

Keene Curtis when he argues with Easton about the effectiveness of a script or when Brian Bedford punctuates the reading of a letter so effectively with telling facial grimaces and abrupt vocal by-play.

MOLIERE'S "Misanthrope" is one of the great plays seen too seldom. As always in Moliere's comedies he holds society up to a mirror and points out its blemishes. In "Misanthrope" he strips society of its tinsel and fancy veneer. He wants the world to face up to life as it really is.

Forget all the false advertising. Scruple off the layers of cosmetics. Let some light fall on the darkness that covers most of our governmental operations. It's time for us to see ourselves and each other as we really are.

This play is a comedy of principle. You can't help come away from it without giving some serious thought as to how corrupt we have become over the years as we have stewed so comfortably in our conformity.

To add even more reality to the situation Moliere has his seer of truth (Alceste) be a sucker for clever, disarming girl-friend.

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Radio Code Classes Registering

The Hazel Park Amateur Radio Club has begun registration for its fall classes in Amateur Radio Code and Theory, in the Hoover Elementary School, 23720 Hoover, Hazel Park.

Classes for novice, technician, general, and advanced licenses will be held each Wednesday evening from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.

Enrollment will be open through the Oct. 9 session. The classes are free to everyone who joins the club. It is not necessary to be a resident of Hazel Park. Membership is open to anyone in the metropolitan area who is interested in amateur radio.

Further information may be obtained by calling James Turner at 547-1508, or Mrs. Maurice McGleish at 542-3837.

attention

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