

## PARIS 1863

France in the mid-nineteenth century was in one of her periodic turmoils. Napoleon III occupied the throne and by 1863 (the date of this play) was in difficulty with his finances and with nearly all his diplomatic neighbours. The Crimean war was only one of the blunders of the "Imperial Meddler." Meanwhile Bismark, who had become Chancellor of Prussia the previous year, was quietly stropping his sabre and biding his time.

The Second Empire was at the beginning of its decline.

However hollow and bankrupt the Empire's political structure, its facade was brilliant. Napoleon constituted his court on elaborate and resplendent ceremonial. It set the tone for society. Life in Paris was a constant round of balls, banquets, state visits to the theatre and the opera. This was the time the city built up its reputation for elegant luxury and carefree gaiety. The serious-minded found much to question, others jumped on the band-waggon.

In the theatre the Comédie Française no longer had the monopoly of the Capital's resources. Reputations were being made elsewhere, The dramatists of the time reflected the facets of the regime. The younger Dumas and his contemporaries explored current social problems, but Labiche, revolting against this approach held the torch of farce high with resounding success.

With various collaborators he wrote over 150 light comedies between 1838 and 1877. His humour is basic stuff, but he raised French farce to a height it has seldom attained since, and gave life and gaiety to the theatre of an era that has gone forever.

G.K.B.

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### FUTURE EVENTS

HAVE YOU BOOKED YOUR SEATS FOR MARIA MARTEN?  
Tuesday, December 23rd, Saturday, December 27th, and Monday,  
December 29th. IF NOT, BOOK NOW!

Saturday, January 3rd, NEW YEAR PARTY in the Bernard Shaw  
Room at 8 p.m. Tickets available 2s. 6d. each.

Opening on Saturday, January 31st, "Marching Song" by John  
Whiting. A gripping story of life in a capital city of a small state that  
lost the last war.

THE QUESTORS PRESENT  
THE THIRD PRODUCTION  
OF THEIR THIRTIETH  
SEASON - - 1958-59

## EVERYBODY LOVES CELIMARE

BY LABICHE AND DELACOUR

THE ENGLISH PREMIERE  
AT THE QUESTORS THEATRE  
MATTOCK LANE, EALING, W.5  
DECEMBER, 6th - - 1958

PROGRAMME - PRICE 6d.

# EVERYBODY LOVES CELIMARE

a farce

by EUGENE LABICHE and DELACOUR

(Translated by Lynn and Theodore Hoffmann)

with lyrics by Eric Bentley to music by Offenbach

425

## Characters

Adeline ... ..	DILYS DODD
Pitois ( <i>Célimare's butler</i> )	DEREK CUSDIN
Colombot ... ..	PATRICK BACON
Célimare ... ..	LAURENCE IRVIN
Vernouillet ... ..	BERNARD McLAUGHLIN
Bocardon ... ..	HENRY HEILPERN
Mme. Colombot ... ..	THERESA HEFFERNAN
Emma ... ..	DOROTHY BOYD-TAYLOR
Decorator's assistants ... ..	TONY BARTLETT and STUART HARTLEY

Production by ALFRED EMMET

Scenery and costumes designed by JULIETTE HOWARD

At the piano ... ..  
BARBARA HUTCHINS or  
ERIC KIRBY

Smoking is not permitted in the Auditorium at any time. Will members wishing to smoke in the intervals kindly use the Bernard Shaw Room.

BOX OFFICE (6.30-8.00 p.m.) ... .. EAL 5184

The action of the play takes place in Paris in 1863.

## ACT I

Célimare's parlour

## ACT II

Célimare's dining room—the next day

## ACT III

A room in Célimare's country house—eight days later

There will be two ten minute intervals during which light refreshments will be served in the Bernard Shaw Room.

The price of coffee and biscuit is 9d. and it will assist service if members will kindly have their money ready.

The performance on WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 17th is in aid of the New Theatre Fund. If you have enjoyed the play this evening why not come again on the 17th and bring a friend? On this night any member may buy two seats for the price of one, but members' free seats, as such, are not available.

The DISCUSSION on this production will take place on FRIDAY, DECEMBER 19th, at 7.30 p.m., in the Bernard Shaw Room.

Stage Manager ... ..	... .. DAPHNE WILLIAMS
Deputy Stage Manager ... ..	... .. SYLVIA LANGDON-DOWN
assisted by ... ..	BARBARA DAVIS and AWEN GRIFFITHS
Sets constructed under the direction of ... ..	PETER TALBOT
and painted by ... ..	JEAN MANSFIELD
Costumes made in The Questors wardrobe under the direction of ... ..	LENA CANN
assisted by ... ..	EILEEN WOODER
Properties ... ..	JANET McMILLAN, LEO JOHNSTON, MARY VENUS and VIVIEN INNES
Lighting ... ..	COLIN JAMES and RICK WILLITS
Sound ... ..	... .. STUART HARTLEY
Production Secretary ... ..	... .. LINDSAY BOUVET
Theatre Manager ... ..	... .. RENA RICE