

ANTIGONE & THE SKIN OF OUR TEETH  
 The Questors Student Group  
 February 1959  
 Press cuttings

Middlesex County Times  
 7 March 1959

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## Plays of old Greece and new America

### SOPHOCLES AND WILDER

#### BY QUESTORS STUDENT

**REAL** tragedy lies in pain, not in horror—in young lives cut short and lovers bereaven; not in broken bodies denied formal funerals. But a plenitude of "realistic" war stories has reminded our generation that horror impinged upon man's imagination long before pain and remains a very present pre-occupation of the sub-conscious.

In its time it has inspired better things than Grand Guignol, and among them is the "Antigone" of Sophocles—one of two plays, of which a four performance run has just been given by the Questors' second-year student group.

**Girl's anguish**  
 The play—as the classical do not need informing—deals with a girl's anguish at the desecration of her slain brother's corpse. Her real cause for grief is in the loss of her brother's mind, not in what happens to his bones; but the early part takes the over novel view, only with an act they cannot touch. Perhaps the student cast—ages around 19 and 20—did not quite "get" this as might their seniors with first-hand knowledge of war. But they had been well coached and gave a lively and convincing performance—up indeed, except for the language, to something like university Greek play standard.

**Prima Donna style**  
 Josephine Rowbottom made a lovely Antigone, who could act in the prima donna style when called upon. Tony Barber gave an ambitious performance as Creon; and Shaun Curry was formidable (in the French sense) as Terisias, Veronica Meredith (Ismene), Derek Marlow (Haemon), and especially Sandra Turner (Eurydice) helped things along. The chorus was charming and John Chapman and Marian Wood provided recorder and drum accompaniment.

Second play in the programme was Thornton Wilder's "Skin of our Teeth," which was attacked heartily, if not quite in the American idiom. Tony Barber, as the announcer and the professor, Shaun Curry, as Mr. Antrobus, Sandra Turner (Mrs. Antrobus), Terry Quinn (Sabina), and Veronica Meredith and Josephine Rowbottom as the dinosaur and mammoth, kept things going with proper student enthusiasm.

Geraldine Alford produced both plays to advantage with help from Questor—made sets and costumes.

W.H.

### Smashing time in a police station!

A 22-year-old window cleaner was alleged at Ealing Magistrates' Court on Thursday to have smashed a wooden table and chair and a window of reinforced glass at Greenford Police Station the previous evening.

Gilbert Smith, of New-road, Hillingdon, pleaded guilty to maliciously damaging the property. He was fined £5 and was ordered to pay £6 5s—the cost of the damage.

Smith, who said he could not remember anything about the incident, was also fined £2 for being drunk and disorderly.

### EALING CHESS CLUB

One thing you can be certain of in the realm of competitive games is the glorious uncertainty of form. What was reputedly the strongest cricket team to leave these shores since the war has been soundly trounced in Australia, a Third Division football side has reached the sixth round of the F.A. Cup, and, a year or so ago, Dr. Fazekas shook the chess world by winning the British Championship. Ealing, not to be outdone in this matter of springing surprises, held Wimbledon I, one of the strongest sides in the South of England, to 3-3, with two games for adjudication. That was in the Thames Valley League.

A week or two previously Wimbledon's second team humiliated Ealing in the London League, 8-1½. Other recent results are: Ealing 4, B.B.C. 3, with 3 for play-off; Southgate 6, Ealing 4. Thames Valley League: Richmond Common 4½, Ealing 3½.

Personalities (5). J. Hyde is a comparative newcomer to Ealing. Last year, in Ealing tournaments he had a thin time, but this year he has so far

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