

# 'Lo and Behold' Players Lose an Uphill Battle

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 22, 1969 PRESS-HERALD A-5

By JACK LYONS  
The question, "Where are we?" uttered by one of the characters in the Palos Verdes Players production of "Lo and Behold" by John Patrick is a very revealing and telling line of dialogue.

The comedy, an old chestnut, was written by Patrick in his college days before his success with such popular plays as "Teahouse of the August Moon" and "The Hasty Heart." It appears as not the best selection of a play to display the talents of an engaging group of community theater actors as the Palos Verdes Players.

Community theater is the powerful province of the director. The play unfolds and moves at a pace and interpretation conceived by him. The director accepts the accolades when there's a hit in the house and conversely, he must accept a bump on the head when things aren't going too well.

DIRECTOR Billy Creamer must have quietly muttered the same phrase, "Where are we?" many times to himself, but not enough times to his cast as they went through their paces in rehearsals. No matter how hard they tried, the actors in the performance of "Lo and Behold" were fighting an uphill battle right from the outset.

The play concerns an ailing Nobel Prize winner, Milo Alcott, (Phil Wing) whose coldly cynical attitude toward people is re-

flected in his 33 books. After signing a will leaving one-third of his estate to a young family physician, Dr. Dorsey (Hal Hoffenberger), a third to perpetuate his house as a sanctuary for his spirit, and a third to the Harvard Law School to insure that the will won't be broken, he eats a medically forbidden sumptuous meal and dies.

UPON ENTERING the Great Beyond, Milo finds his solitude invaded by three kooky spirits bent upon moving into and haunting his supposed sanctuary themselves. Even the real world

intrudes, when Daisy Durdle (Billie Galleran), the substitute housekeeper who unwittingly cooked him the fatal meal, returns to the house and is mistaken for Milo's illegitimate daughter. Daisy, however, is much more concerned with finding a husband than being an heiress and the remainder of the play concerns her efforts to entrap Dr. Dorsey aided and abetted by the resident ghosts.

Phil Wing, as the acid-tongued misanthrope, was properly acerbic but a touch too one-dimensional in the roles of the human

and spiritual Milo. Wing, an actor of obvious abilities, found himself constricted by either the director's concept of the character or the equally guilty author.

BILLIE GALLERAN as Daisy, a former "interpretative dancer," proved to be visually striking, although considerably older than the part seemed to call for. Miss Galleran had her moments, and there were many, but her performance didn't quite come up to the level of a fully developed characterization. The three invading ghosts played by Helen Borst, as an In-

dian; Carlee Lorenz, as a southern belle; and Walt Tyler as a frustrated jazz composer, didn't show us the ensemble playing that might have made their intrusive presence as characters into the romantic storyline less jarring.

WHERE Miss Borst underplayed Minnetonka, Miss Lorenz overplayed Honeychild, and they left Walt Tyler, an engaging character, lost in the middle. It would seem that the problem here lies with the director for failing to blend the two elements in this play so that both would

receive equal value, while not confusing the issue.

Hal Hoffenberger seemed a little weak as romantic love interest Dr. Robert Dorsey, and Matt Bond as the lawyer minced in his brief scene. Earl Smith, was visually menacing enough as an old suitor.

The cast as a whole was spirited and attempted, despite some hesitant cue pick-ups, to give us an evening of pleasant spoofery. The vehicle however, leaves something to be desired. "Lo and Behold" will be performed Fridays and Saturdays through Feb. 8. Curtain is 8:30 p.m.

## Half Exhibitor Space At Home Show Taken

The 1969 Los Angeles Home Show has been set for an 11-day run May 15 through 25 at the Pacific Auditorium, according to word from J. Frank Park, newly-elected Home Show president. The famous building trades exposition is now a civic institution in the Los Angeles area. Largest, most complete and most successful show of its kind west of the Mississippi, the Home Show will celebrate its 24th birthday this year under the close and continuing sponsorship of 14 regional construction industry associations, and the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce. Park revealed that due to the dramatic 30 per cent increase in attendance at last year's show, nearly half of all available exhibitor space has already been reserved for '69, with a sharp increase noted in the size of individual displays and space on or-

## Children's Classes Scheduled

The Redondo Beach Recreation and Parks Department will sponsor the second session of the pre-school program beginning, Feb. 3.

The classes will be under the instruction of Mrs. Mabel Crane, who has taught the classes for the past four years. The program goal is to provide meaningful playtime experiences with emphasis on learning to get along with other children.

Pre-registration for the classes is required and will be held between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., Redondo Beach Recreation and Parks Department, 415 Diamond St., Redondo Beach, now through Jan. 31.

CLASSES for 3- and 4-year-olds will meet on Monday, Feb. 3, at the Senior Citizens Building, in the City Park, at the foot of Torrance Boulevard. Classes are from 10 to 11 a.m. and 11 to 12 noon.

Tuesday classes will begin Feb. 4 for 3- and 4-year-olds at the Lincoln Recreation Center, corner of Ernest and Vail Avenues, Redondo Beach. Classes are from 10 to 11 a.m., 11 to 12 noon, 1 to 2 p.m. and 2 to 3 p.m.

Wednesday classes will begin Feb. 5, for 4- and 5-year-olds at Perry Park Recreation Center, 2301 Grant Ave., Redondo Beach, from 10 to 12 noon, and 1 to 3 p.m.

THURSDAY classes for 4- and 5-year-olds, Senior Citizens Building, in City Park, Feb. 6, from 10 to 12 noon and 1 to 3 p.m.

Children must be either three, four or five years of age prior to class registration.

Registration will be on a first come, first served basis, for Redondo Beach residents only. The fee is \$5 for the two-hour session and \$3 for the one hour session.

## Long Beach Band Slates Concert

The California State College at Long Beach symphonic band will present a concert under the direction of Don Wilcox tomorrow at 8:30 p.m. in the El Camino College auditorium.

Admission to the program is free.

Included in the program will be "Symphonic Songs" by Robert Russell Bennett, "Quintet for Brass" by Sir Malcolm Arnold, "Toccata" and "Fuge in D Minor" by J. S. Bach-Leidsen and "Variants on a Medieval Tune" by Norman Dello Joio.

## Stamp Club Will Meet

The Torrance Stamp Club will hold a regular meeting Monday at 7:30 p.m. The session will be held in the Scott Park Community Building, 23410 Catskill Ave., Wilmington.

A bid board is planned for the evening for members who have stamps which they wish to sell.

# SHOP AT FOX DRUGS TODAY!

**\$2.49 VALUE CHILDREN'S LUNCH KITS**  
BIG CAPACITY VACUUM BOTTLE HANDLE ON CUP  
BY THERMOS **\$1.79**

**98c VALUE CONTINENTAL MUGS**  
PORCELAIN WHITE - IRONSTONE CHINA. EACH HAS A DIFFERENT INTERNATIONAL SCENE.  
**3 FOR \$1**

**3 QUART ELECTRIC CORN POPPER WITH CORD**  
1-YR. GUARANTEE BY CHILTON  
**\$2.79**

PRICES EFFECTIVE THURS., JAN. 23 - WED., JAN. 29

**39c VALUE CARNATION IMITATION ICE MILK**  
1/2 GAL. CTN.  
**29c**

**\$1.25 VALUE MAX FACTOR SPRAY-A-WAVE HAIR SPRAY**  
13-OZ. CAN  
**2 for \$1**

**BONUS COUPON**  
\$1.05 VALUE  
**CREST TOOTH PASTE WITH FLUORISTAN**  
FAMILY SIZE TUBE LIMIT 1 TUBE PER ADULT CUSTOMER  
**59c** WITH THIS COUPON  
COUPON GOOD THURS., JAN. 23 - WED., JAN. 29

**10c VALUE SHASTA SODA**  
12 OZ. CANS ALL POPULAR FLAVORS  
**12 FOR \$1.89c**

**INDOORS - OUTDOORS - TRAVEL LITTLE GIANT CLOTHESLINE**  
147 inches of sturdy vinyl coated cord that reels in and out. Stores compactly in jam-proof plastic case.  
**79c**

**29c VALUE 9 VOLT TRANSISTOR BATTERIES**  
**2 FOR \$2.25c**

**39c VALUE ZEE NAPKINS**  
MIX & MATCH  
150-CT. PKG. ASST. COLORS  
**25c**

**69c VALUE LADIES' SEAMLESS NYLONS**  
ALL SIZES IN A VARIETY OF FASHION SHADES  
**4 PAIR \$1**

**\$1.19 VALUE VICKS FORMULA 44 COUGH MIXTURE**  
3-OZ. BTL.  
**79c**

**FOR FAST RELIEF DRYSPAN COLD CAPSULES**  
PACKAGE OF 10 BUY 1 PACKAGE—GET 1 PACKAGE FREE!  
**\$1.49**

**69c VALUE MOROLINE—WHITE PETROLEUM JELLY**  
1-LB. JAR  
**39c**

**\$1.49 VALUE ANTISEPTIC LISTERINE MOUTH WASH**  
20-OZ. BTL.  
**99c**

**53c VALUE ALKA SELTZER TABLETS**  
12 TABLETS FOR SPEEDY RELIEF  
**39c**

**89c VALUE HEAD & SHOULDERS SHAMPOO**  
MEDIUM SIZE LOTION FOR DANDRUFF  
**59c**

**GERBER'S STRAINED BABY FOOD**  
**12 FOR \$1**

**2 FOR 35c VALUE PET OR CARNATION EVAPORATED MILK**  
TALL CANS  
**6 FOR \$1.89c**

**\$1.09 VALUE ROLL-ON DEODORANT SECRET**  
EXTRA LARGE SIZE  
**69c**

**89c VALUE SCHICK SUPER STAINLESS DOUBLE EDGE BLADES**  
PACKAGE OF 5  
**2 FOR \$2.89c**

**49c VALUE REGULAR OR SUPER TAMPAX TAMPONS**  
PACKAGE OF 10  
**3 FOR \$1**

**\$1.29 VALUE JOHNSON BABY OIL**  
10-OZ. BTL.  
**79c**

**TORRANCE 1327 EL PRADO BETWEEN CRAVENS & SARTORI COMPTON 415 W. COMPTON COMPTON AT OLEANDER**