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STAGED BY DICK ODLIN

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Third Row: PAUL NOLAN, DR. MAL MACDONALD, JOHN BRYANT, NORMAN BRADLEY.

Fourth Row: DORIS BUSBY, CLAIRE HOFFNER, PEG NOURSE, HELEN CHAPMAN, DOREEN HOPPER, ROXINE BJELLAND, COLOMBE MILLER, ARLENE LEDDY.

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Not appearing in picture: CASEY JONES.

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## CAST OF CHARACTERS

Millicent Jordan	HELEN CHAPMAN
Dora	CLAIRE HOFFNER
Gustave	PAUL NOLAN
Oliver Jordan	DR. MAL MACDONALD
Paula Jordan	DORIS BUSBY
Ricci	JIM HOFFNER
Hattie Loomis	DOREEN HOPPER
Mr. Fosdick	CASEY JONES
Miss Copeland	ARLENE LEDDY
Carlotta Vance	PEG NOURSE
Dan Packard	NORMAN BRADLEY
Kitty Packard	ROXINE BJELLAND
Tina	MARY ORMSBY
Dr. J. Wayne Talbot	JOHN BRYANT
Larry Renault	BURKE ORMSBY
The Bellboy and Waiter	BOB DETTLING
Max Kane	BOB DIXON*
Mr. Hatfield	FRANCIS BUSBY
Miss Alden	EMILY ROUDEBUSH
Lucy Talbot	MARGARET JONES
Mrs. Wendel	COLOMBE MILLER
Jo Stengel	LARRY MORTIMER
Ed Loomis	HORACE GEER

\* The role of "Max Kane" will be played on Feb. 20, Feb. 27, by Gene Skidmore.

NOTE: Musical Prelude Feb. 17, 20, 27 and Mar. 6 by Eunice Crain, Doris Helen Smith and Jeanette Jensen.

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ACT I

- Scene 1: Upstairs sitting room in the New York house of Mr. and Mrs. Oliver Jordan. 10:00 A.M.
- Scene 2: Oliver Jordan's office. 2:30 P.M.
- Scene 3: The home of the Packards. 4:30 P.M.
- Scene 4: The Jordan sitting room. 5:30 P.M.

ACT II  
A Week Later

- Scene 1: Larry Renault's apartment in the Hotel Versailles, 4:00 P.M.
- Scene 2: Dr. Talbot's office in his home, 5:00 P.M.
- Scene 3: Butler's pantry in the home of the Jordans. 5:30 P.M.
- Scene 4: The sitting room. 6:00 P.M.

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ACT III

- Scene 1: The Packard home. 7:30 P.M.
- Scene 2: Larry Renault's apartment. 7:45 P.M.
- Scene 3: The Jordan drawing room. 8:00 P.M.

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- ing, Carroll Smith, Shirley Breshears, Bonnie Shaughnessy; Larry Renault's Apt., Janet Shogren and Ann; Kitty's Bedroom, Jack Miller; Dr. Talbot's Office, also Pantry, George Hughes and Mel Light; Portrait of Oliver Jordan by Oliver Jordan, Jr.
- Cast Photo.....Bob Rudsit
- Custodian of Make-up and Music.....Marion Seymour
- House Managers.....Ted Knightlinger, Chairman  
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## WHO'S WHO

By TED KNIGHTLINGER

The "Dinner at Eight" cast reads like an "All-Time-Great" of TLT, and hardly needs more than a recounting of names to forecast an evening of splendid and sparkling entertainment. Virtually all of the cast have turned in glowing performances in past shows, so you can settle back and be assured of a couple of hours of top-notch theatre. But here's a quick rundown, more-or-less in order of appearance.

**Millicent Jordan** (Helen Chapman). Always a top performer whom you've seen in "Our Town," "Two Mrs. Carrolls," "I Remember Mama," "Dodsworth," to name a few. Helen also co-directed the "Letter," and has long been active in anything for the good of TLT.

One thing unusual about "Dinner at Eight," it's sort of a "family dinner" with three husband-and-wife teams in the cast. First of these are **Dora** (Claire Hoffner) and **Ricci** (Jim Hoffner). You certainly remember Claire for her work in last year's "Merry Widow" and we're sure this season's musical will bring her back again; she likes to sing and act and does quite a bit of both. Husband Jim Hoffner appeared in "Detective Story" and does a great deal of work backstage like hauling properties and set construction. And, proving that everyone gets into the act, the small dog in Act III, is Hoffner property, too, and they pick him to be a scene stealer.

**Gustave** (Paul Nolan) is another well-known playbill name from "Command Decision," "The Tavern" and "Dodsworth;"

is on the TLT Executive Committee heading the Play Reading Committee hard at work on the 1954-55 schedule.

**Oliver Jordan** (Dr. Mal MacDonald) is a smooth performer and a great guy to work with in a show. You've seen Mal in "Dodsworth," "Detective Story," "The Letter" and several good play readings. Incidentally, Mal has his own offices now at 19th and Tacoma Ave. So., where he is an optometrist.

Here's another of the husband-and-wife teams:

**Paula Jordan** (Doris Busby), **Mr. Hatfield** (Francis Busby). Doris is active in TLT work way up to here . . . with appearances in "Detective Story," and "Mama" to name just a couple; co-directed "Mr. Roberts" and is always ready to help out anywhere on a show. Francis Busby showed up in "Detective Story" and works in backstage activity—serves as a house manager and daytimes can be found in the appliance department of Washington Hardware. So, a tip of the typewriter to the Busby's for combining in this show.

**Hattie Loomis** (Doreen Hopper). Doreen is another active participant in many phases of TLT activity. She's pleased you in "The Women," "First Lady," "Beggar on Horseback," and "Life With Father"—also is well-known for her writing and radio work.

**Miss Copeland** (Arlene Leddy) chalks up her fifth character part with this one, add-

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## WHO'S WHO — Continued

ing to "Goodbye My Fancy," "First Lady," "Detective Story" and others. Daughter Georgene getting TLT starter-interest via check room work during shows. Arlene occupies off hours with writing stories, plays, and music.

**Carlotta Vance** (Peg Nourse). Mrs. Salem Nourse, it says on the Board of Directors—a lovely lady and grand to work with in a show. Everyone has pleasant memories of Peg's roles in "Chicken Every Sunday," "Strange Bedfellows," "The Women," "Fancy Meeting You Again," "John Loves Mary"—she's also this year's chairman of Play Reviews and at present has written a lot of script for the Mason P.-T.A. show in March and she's helping Maxine Mandles of TLT put it together—sounds busy? She is.

**Dan Packard** (Norman Bradley), a newcomer to TLT, but he's been in Tacoma since completion of service as a Lieutenant Commander in Uncle's Navy in World War II; prior to that Norm was bound to the Mile-High City of Denver. He's an at-

torney and is active in many Tacoma Civic Affairs.

**Kitty Packard** (Roxine Bjelland) has been real busy! Moved into a new home week-end of January 31; flew to Alaska the week-end of February 5th with her husband on a business trip; rehearsed between times, and has two youngsters, a girl 3, and boy 6, to keep home life hopping! Roxine in a "first" at TLT, but is a natural for a crowd-pleaser in this, and future roles.

We said there were three husband-and-wife teams in this cast, so meet **Tina** (Mary Ormsby) and **Larry Renault** (Burke Ormsby). You applauded Mary in shows like "Dodsworth," "The Letter," and many others—but that isn't all she does—she's served on Play Selection Committees, is slated to co-direct this season's musical with Dick Odlin, and has headed the Play Review Committee. Husband Burke hasn't been seen on these boards since about 1942, that's too long, when he did "Arsenic and Old Lace"—but in that span, Burke has been busy on committees that planned

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## WHO'S WHO — Continued

summer shows, selected plays, and has always been first to lend a big hand in publicity and promotion as well as aiding in getting sound effects and music. Burke is program director at KTNT-TV, Channel 11.

**Dr. Wayne Talbot** (John Bryant). This is John's first return to TLT since last year's "Merry Widow," although he worked "Goodbye My Fancy" last fall at Lakewood, and very well, too. John and wife spent most of the time talking about 3-month-old John Jeffery, a mighty worthwhile subject!

Bob Dettling doubles in this one as the **Bellboy** and the **Waiter**. Young Bob (He's still at Lincoln High) is creating quite a reputation as a character actor, which is fine for TLT. Surely you remember those parts in "Detective Story" and "Mr. Roberts!" Bob figures to continue his work at the U. of W. beyond graduation.

**Max Kane** (Bob Dixon). Behind that corn-cob pipe lays a sense of humor that gives a deft touch to roles such as this, the agent, Max Kane; and, believe me, you'll enjoy it as much as you did his characterizations in "Mr. Roberts" and "Detective Story."

**Miss Alden** (Emily Roudebush). Mrs. Rex Roudebush is first vice president of TLT—ardent worker on committees—hard at work on this year's Musical plans; a grand person and fine trooper, anxious to do anything that will make the theatre bigger, better and more enjoyable for the whole community. Emily also lines up the foyer hosts and hostesses for this season.

**Lucy Talbot** (Margaret Jones). Like we said, this cast list reads like an all-time-great—and Margaret is no exception. Has done expert work in shows like "Two Mrs. Carrolls," "Dodsworth," "The Letter." Margaret is also assisting Dick in direction of this production, and she serves on the Theatre General Board.

**Mrs. Wendel** (Mrs. Jack Miller) graduated from University of Nebraska where she majored in drama—and she's also a Registered Nurse. This is her first show here. Appears that TLT work is "catching" because husband Jack made his debut here as Philip in the December show.

**Ed Loomis** (Horace Geer). One of Tacoma's prominent attorneys who first played here in "Detective Story"—and especially remembered as the palm-tree-loving captain in "Mr. Roberts;" wife, Eleanor, is also a highly busy TLT person and this show finds her backstage on properties work.

Theatre tradition dictates when an actor doubles in several parts, the play bills list it as "George Spelvin"—but this is "REAL GEORGE" Spelvin in the case of Gene Skidmore who first showed up at TLT as the Chief Boatswain in "Mr. Roberts;" since that time, Gene appeared as the sinister Chinese merchant in "The Letter" (also was "the body")—worked lights in the December show; played a detective in "Suds in your Eye." Started out to only work lights in this, but meanwhile he's playing Max for a couple of fill-in nights; Foadick, ditto; and a Hungarian Musician (Local 708½).

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## WHO'S WHO — Continued

Vienna). "Skid" is credited with catching the biggest rainbow ever to come out of Alder Lake; he can beat anybody up the Ross Lake Trail, and he's a darn good cook on a fishing trip! In between the hobbies of TLT and trout fishing, Gene and Mrs. Skidmore keep occupied with three lovely daughters.

**Jo Stengel** (Larry Mortimer). Another first-timer at TLT, and a newcomer to Tacoma, having arrived from California last

September. Larry is engaged in the insurance business, and has two sons who are enrolled at Marymount Military Academy: Welcome, Larry, to our theatre!

**Mr. Fitch** (Casey Jones). Better known as the husband of our Margaret, but in order to uphold the family reputation is taking a roll in "Dinner." "But," Casey says, "I'd rather fish than put on grease paint."

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Feb. 19—Mr. and Mrs. Stewart L. Simpson  
Feb. 20—Dr. and Mrs. Kurt Blau  
Feb. 23—Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Reading  
Feb. 24—Mr. and Mrs. Fred Dorsey  
Feb. 25—Mr. and Mrs. Charles McFail  
Feb. 26—Mr. and Mrs. John Muckey  
Feb. 27—Mr. and Mrs. William S. (Scotty) Miles



Mar. 2—Mr. and Mrs. Henry Longstreth  
Mar. 3—Dr. and Mrs. Joseph B. Harris  
Mar. 4—Mr. and Mrs. Louis Burnett  
Mar. 5—Mr. and Mrs. Waldo Stone  
Mar. 6—Mr. and Mrs. Frank Backstrom

## COFFEE HOSTS and HOSTESSES



Feb. 17—Mr. and Mrs. Rodney O'Heiser  
Feb. 18—Mr. and Mrs. Robt. C. Chapman  
Feb. 19—Mr. and Mrs. E. R. Rogers  
Feb. 20—Mr. and Mrs. Fred Dorsey



Feb. 23—Mr. and Mrs. Robt. Rudsit  
Feb. 24—Mr. and Mrs. George Smith  
Feb. 25—Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Murphy  
Feb. 26—Mr. and Mrs. Charles Guilford  
Feb. 27—Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Uptegrove

Mar. 2—Mr. and Mrs. Herb Love  
Mar. 3—Mr. and Mrs. Nick Babnick  
Mar. 4—Maude Hulbert, Mrs. Katherine Gabriel  
Mar. 5—Mr. and Mrs. Roy Nichols  
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Feb. 18—Marjorie Sargent, Esther Blockley  
Feb. 19—Judy Fetterolf, Mary Mellinger  
Feb. 20—Pat Day, Carolyn Solberg

Feb. 23—Beverly Johnson, Kathryn Kirkreit  
Feb. 24—Ida Mae Kempton, Mary Lee Stone  
Feb. 25—Hazel Abney, Alice Trippear  
Feb. 26—Jacqueline Slater, Brenda Weller  
Feb. 27—Nancy Jackson, Elizabeth Hunter

Mar. 2—Virginia Bunn, Sandra Slater  
Mar. 3—Joyce McDonagh, Shirley McDonagh  
Mar. 4—Mary Helen Mc Nerthney, Jacqueline Saletic  
Mar. 5—Patty DeVoto, Joan Taylor  
Mar. 6—Peggy Reed, Charlene Reynolds

## CHECK ROOM GIRLS

Feb. 17—Jane Starr, Babs Weston  
Feb. 18—Idellene Haakinson, Suzanne Swayze  
Feb. 19—Dorothy Kernwein, Barbara Walls  
Feb. 20—Diane Handke, Mary Lou Handke

Feb. 23—Mary Lou Babnick, Althea Sherman  
Feb. 24—Darlene Kent, Lorna Jean McCrary  
Feb. 25—June Fors, Babs Weston  
Feb. 26—Barbara Egan, Nora Manley  
Feb. 27—Terry McGown, Mary Alice Moosey

Mar. 2—Ann Foreman, Sylvia Pfeiffer  
Mar. 3—Judy Egan, Marjorie Graham  
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Scene 1: Gowns worn by Hattie, Paula and Millicent

Scene 2: Gown worn by Carlotta

Scene 3: Gown worn by Tina

Scene 4: Gown worn by Paula; suits worn by Millicent and Hattie

### ACT II

Scene 1: Gown worn by Paula

Scene 2: Gown worn by Lucy

Scene 4: Gowns worn by Millicent, Carlotta, Paula

### ACT III

Scene 1: Gown worn by Tina

Scene 3: Gowns worn by Millicent, Dora, Lucy, Paula

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