by Euripides

THE TROJAN WOMEN

offered by Speech 64 in the Little Theater

Seventh Season
Production 108
Argument

"The crying of one of the great wrongs of the world wrought into music."

Action Preceding the Play

Troy has fallen. Flushed with confidence, which the hysteria and brutality of successful conquest always brings, the victors are ready to set sail for home. The women of Troy, last of the spoils which the conquering Greek hath won, have been herded together to await their disposal among the various leaders.

Prologue

Poseidon, God of the Sea and especial guardian of Troy, be- moans the fall of his beloved city and laments the fate of the surviving women. Pallas Athena, Goddess of War and patron of the victorious Greeks, appears to ask the help of Poseidon to chastise the homeward bound Greeks because of a grievous wrong done her in her temple. Together they plan a vengeance on the Grecian ships. This doom to come foreshadows the entire action of the play so that the great conquest "seems to be a great joy and is in truth a great misery."

The Play

"The 'Troades' is an intense study of one great situation. . . . It is conquest seen when the thrill of battle is over, and nothing remains but to wait and think. . . . The living drama for Euripides lay in the conquered women. It is from them that he has named his play and built up his scheme of parts: four figures clearly lit and heroic; the others in varying grades of characterization, nameless and barely articulate, mere half-heard voices of an eternal sorrow."*

Four characters stand out, each typifying a different type or element among women:

Hecuba—Once the epitome of great queenliness and dignity.

Cassandra—Ravished and made mad, represents the spiritual force of women.

Andromache—the wife and mother.

Helen—the disturbing, the physical woman.

*Gilbert Murray in his "Introductory Note."
The Trojan Women
BY EURIPIDES
TRANSLATION BY GILBERT MURRAY

Prologue
The God Poseidon.........................Ernest Sarracino
The Goddess Pallas Athena.............Betty Timmons

The Players
Hecuba, Queen of Troy, mother of Hector...Rosalind Buckley
Cassandra, daughter of Hecuba, a prophetess...Harriet Dexter
Andromache, wife of Hector...............Mary Shipp
Helen, wife of Menelaus, carried off by Paris,
Prince of Troy..........................Dorothy Steck
Talthybius, herald of the Greeks.........Hyman Fox
Menelaus, King of Sparta.................James Boles
Astyanax, son of Andromache and Hector...Robert Scott
Leader of the Chorus....................Nellie Jo Goodale
Chorus, captive Trojan women...B. Andrews, L. McClanahan,
R. Osheroff, N. Dale, V. Golt, A. Hunt, M. Davis,
C. Croxton, P. Lee, M. J. Gaston, D. Morgan, M. Livesay,
J. Shea, S. Smith, C. Allen, H. Robertson.
Greek Soldiers..................D. Nelson, F. Hunter, H. Silverman,
D. Dudley

The Scene
A ruined temple, halfway between the Greek encampment and
the city of Troy. (The "Troades" was first acted in the year
415 B.C.)

Production Conceived and Staged by
MR. JERRY BLUNT

Art Direction......................Mrs. Lois Waag Morgan
Chairman, Department of Drama........Mr. Harold Turney
The production of this play is the result of the semester's work by the students enrolled in Speech 64, Mr. Jerry Blunt, instructor.

This presentation marks the ninth in the Plays and Players series of semi-annual classical productions.

The following list gives the productions in the order of their presentation:

By Euripides:
- Electra
- Iphigenia in Tauris

By Shakespeare:
- Macbeth
- Much Ado About Nothing
- Romeo and Juliet
- Hamlet
- Taming of the Shrew
- Henry IV, Part I