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News Release from:
University of Minnesota
University of Minnesota, Morris
Morris, Minnesota
February 17, 1961

For Release February 20, 1961

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA, MORRIS TO PRESENT FIRST PLAY

First production of the Morris Players of the University of Minnesota, Morris will be "The Curious Savage" by John Patrick. The student theatrical group will present the comedy at 8 p.m. Monday and Tuesday, March 6 and 7 in Edson Hall Auditorium on the University of Minnesota, Morris Campus.

Susan Stahler of Morris is cast in the leading role of Mrs. Savage, who is placed by her stepchildren in "The Cloisters", a home for people who are having difficulty adjusting to life.

Rodney Twitchell of Appleton plays the important role of the stepson, Senator Titus. DeAnne Frederickson of Murdock is his scheming sister and William Zinda of Morris is the dominated brother.

The staff of "The Cloisters" where all action of the play occurs, includes Gary Lund of Brandson as Dr. Emmet and Patricia Hopkins of Villard as the nurse. Adding zest to the performance are the guests, who are played by Anne Douglas of Edina, Vincent Jaeger of Glenwood, and Gary Spaulding, Janet Lawler and Anita Keiffer, all of Morris.

"The Curious Savage" which is under the direction of Theodore S. Long of the UMM faculty was originally produced by the Theatre Guild and Lewis and Young in the Martin Beck Theatre in New York in 1950. Author of several films, including "The President's Lady" and "Three Coins in a Fountain", playwright John Patrick's greatest triumph was his dramatization of Vern Sneider's novel, "The Teahouse of the August Moon" in 1953. Patrick's first successful play, "The Hasty Heart" was produced in 1944 and published in 1945.