

# Bethinking of Old Orleans

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## 'The Show Off'

Our photo this week represents the cast of "The Show Off," a play which was presented by the Albion High School Alumni Association on March 11 and 12, 1948.

Left to right: Janice Bar-  
num, Harrison Bartlett,  
Margaret Robinson,  
Domonic Socciairelli,  
Pauline Trupiano, Morris  
Wright, Homer Brown and  
Terry Cole. Robert Babbitt,  
also a cast member, was  
absent from this picture.

It was taken on the stage  
of the Albion High School.  
The exotic wallpaper in the  
background was part of the  
set, which was designed by  
Morris Wright. The three-  
act play written by George  
Kelly was directed by Marc  
W. Cole Sr.

It was on more than sev-  
eral occasions that Morris  
Wright and Marc Cole

teamed up to produce a  
play to benefit some organi-  
zation. Wright had the artis-  
tic talent for sets while Cole  
took great interest in dra-  
ma.

He directed a number of  
community plays with adult  
casts as well as stepping in  
to direct high school stu-  
dents in Senior plays. His  
granddaughter recently told  
me he had even corre-  
sponded with George Ber-  
nard Shaw.

"The Show Off" was pro-  
duced for the benefit of the  
Albion High School Ath-  
letic Association. The pro-  
gram was dedicated to  
Edwin M. Phillips, Class of  
1911 "...who labored unceas-  
ingly in behalf of the A.H.S.  
Athletic Association."

The printed program for  
the play gave this brief syn-  
opsis: Heywood Broun, for  
years dramatic critic on the

New York World, said of  
this play: "I might as well  
begin boldly and say that  
"The Show Off" is the best  
comedy, which has been  
written by an American.  
George Kelly, its author,  
builds up the case for  
Aubrey Piper and by  
degrees opens up the heart  
of man.

"There he stands: liar,  
braggart, egotist, but the  
very consistence of the  
faults colors them with  
magnificence. There is not  
need to say 'Be yourself,  
Aubrey!'

"Of course Aubrey lives  
in a fantastic dream world  
of his own creation, but  
once he has built his world  
he stands by it. God himself  
has done no more."

The part of Aubrey Piper  
was played by Harrison  
Bartlett.

