

CONTENTS

CHAPTER	PAGE
I. INTRODUCTION	1
A. The Period of Caricature	4
B. The Transition Period	15
C. The Establishment of Social Comedy	29
D. The New Century	35
E. Post-War Comedy	38
II. THE PHASES OF AMERICAN SOCIAL COMEDY	45
A. The International Contrast	45
B. The Social Scene of the Past	60
C. The Conflict between Society and the Individual....	65
D. The Conflict between the Generations	84
E. Society and the Institutions of Marriage and Divorce	93
F. The Interrelations between Society and Business and Public Life	116
G. The Conflict between Society and Love	126
III. THE TYPES OF CHARACTERS SOCIAL COMEDY HAS DEVELOPED	131
IV. CONCLUSION	143
BIBLIOGRAPHY AND PLAY LIST	145