

Lenten Season Activity Tends Toward the Charitable

Success Attends Performance of Benefit Comedy

By JEAN TEN BROECK

Men leave home because of ever-globe trotting wives, wives who make their home a stopping off place between journeys to distant places, wives who deprive their husbands of their companionship and leave them to lonely hours, Avery Hopwood disclosed in his clever comedy presented by an able cast at the Woman's club, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday evenings of last week and Tuesday night of this. Swift moving, modern, sophisticated, the cast took the play and brought the flavor out of its fun and realism out of its characters through the impersonations given by actors well chosen for their parts and presented it smoothly and in finished manner against a background of gay and charming settings and charming costumes.

A taxi made tardy by March's display of bad-weather temper last Saturday evening prevented us from arriving at the Woman's club in time for the opening curtain but we were seated in time to hear three disgruntled husbands moved by self-pity indulging in criticism of their wives and admitting their own little frolics on the side. This they poured into the ears of the one single man present. He told it to the girl whom he hoped to marry, who in turn passed it on to the wives. Enough said. From that time on the plot unwound itself through the three acts cleverly called "The Afternoon of Crimination," "The Evening of Recrimination," and "The Morning After." In the Long Island home of the Tom Morgans the action started and ended, with the husbands victorious, their wives chastened through fear of losing them, eager to remain in their homes.

John Graham and Mrs. Bernard Brown were Tom and Fifi Morgan, the house party hosts. Their acting was finished, easy, poised. While there were no outstanding leading roles in the play itself, these two characters really called for the widest portrayal of character development. The others remained truer to type, though changed of heart.

Mrs. Thomas M. Mintz and Conrad T. Frykman, as Nina and Sam Hargrave, cleverly took the parts of one of the disturbed families. Anne Whitmack and Earle D. Lyon, as another, made their far-different characters very real. Marion Ortseifen and John Oren Weaver as Sybil Sutton and Billy Reynolds, solved their problems convincingly and Mrs. J. Nye Macalister as Grandma Sutton, who had had forty happy years of marriage to her credit, lent saneness and understanding of human nature and of men to help untangle the threads of those distraught. Thora Shedden, happy and at home on the stage, was the appealing little child who brought Tom and Fifi together, and Fred V. Lippen and Katherine Panushka as butler and maid, took their places well in the scheme of things.

Not on the professional stage have we seen settings any more charming or artistic, or costuming more attractive than in "Why Men Leave Home." It was evident that the effect of color in setting and costumes was carefully studied out to bring out harmony in their ensemble not always found even on the professional stage.

A jolly air of informality pervaded the club Saturday night for those who were able to overcome blizzard difficulties, arrived with the spirit of adventure and entered into the fun of the play and enjoyed to the utmost the sociability of the green room where Mrs. A. G. Ackerman and Mrs. Paul

Fete Miss Jane Ridgway Prior to Her Wedding

Parties in honor of Miss Jane Ridgway, daughter of the Grant Ridgways of Kenilworth, previous to her marriage to William B. Plumer have included one given on March 10, by Mrs. James Doig of Wilmette, who entertained at a bridge luncheon in Miss Ridgway's honor. On March 16, Mrs. Samuel Ross of Barrington, the former Constance Hannah of Kenilworth, will give an afternoon tea at her home; while the following day a bridge luncheon will be given by Mrs. L. T. Ellis and Mrs. S. H. Clark, who are attendants in the wedding party. March 18, a few days prior to the wedding, Mrs. C. G. Littel of Kenilworth will be hostess at a kitchen shower which will terminate the pre-nuptial affairs given for the bride-to-be.

On March 19, Mr. Plumer will arrive from the east for the wedding and that evening Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Y. Ball and their son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. S. Butler of Winnetka, will entertain at a buffet supper in honor of the bride and groom-to-be at the home of the former. The following night the bridal dinner will be given at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ridgway, 207 Cumberland avenue.

Entertaining Follows

Engagement Announcement

Mrs. Foster E. Fike, 1241 Forest avenue, gave a tea last Wednesday at her home to announce the engagement of her sister, Miss May Witcher of Evanston, and Dr. Harold S. Condit of 614 Laurel avenue, Wilmette. Miss Witcher is a teacher at the Logan school.

Several of the faculty members at the school will give Miss Witcher a luncheon at Marshall Field's on Saturday.

On March 17, Mrs. Burtner, Mrs. Glennon, and Miss Hardick will be co-hostesses at a shower for the bride-to-be at the former's home. Mrs. William Balhatchet of Wilmette is to honor Miss Witcher at a luncheon and bridge on March 21.

Announce Marriage

The marriage is announced of Miss Catharine Farrar, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Clinton Farrar, 1210 Greenwood avenue, Wilmette, and Gordon Hughes Rogers, son of Mr. and Mrs. Stanley B. Rogers of Evanston, formerly of Winnetka. The marriage took place Saturday, March 7. Both are graduates of New Trier High school.

At Shawnee April 12

Maria Matyas, mezzo-soprano, who was the artist for the music hour program planned at Shawnee Country club for Sunday, March 8, has consented to come to the club on April 12, for the musicale which last Sunday's blizzard made impossible for club members to attend.

Rensch poured coffee at a long table bright with green candles and a bowl of spring flowers, and where wafers were served. Members of the junior auxiliary assisted, and acted as ushers and sold candy throughout the evening. The cast presented a fourth performance Tuesday night in order that those who were unable to reach the club Saturday night might use their tickets and that others who had planned to attend might see "Why Men Leave Home," the proceeds of which will swell the club building fund.

Travel Talks and Music on Garden Club Program

At the meeting of the Wilmette Garden club on March 6, at the home of Mrs. Hayes McKinney, two of the members told most interesting accounts of their journeys. Mrs. D. M. Gallie gave an impression of Egypt gained during a wonderful trip up the Nile to the tombs of the Kings at Karnac. Mrs. Gallie's viewpoint is always original and her anecdotes clever. Mrs. C. P. Berg's talk was an intimate picture of home and village life in Norway many miles above the Arctic circle. Her audience gained an impression of a simple, kindly, and spent in a scene of indescribable sincere people whose daily lives are and rugged grandeur.

Elizabeth Potter varied the program with two piano selections played with distinction and verve. Mrs. C. R. Norman arranged the flower study of the afternoon and Mrs. Harvey A. Bush and Mrs. J. C. Baker poured at the tea tables. Mrs. C. R. Bixby and Mrs. A. E. Logie were the assistant hostesses of the afternoon.

St. Patrick's Day Is Time of Benefit Bridge

Mrs. M. J. Kelling is opening her home at 1112 Elmwood avenue on the afternoon of St. Patrick's day for the bridge party which is the new project of the ways and means committee of the Woman's Catholic club of Wilmette planned to raise funds. Prizes will be given and refreshments served.

Mrs. Kelling, or Mrs. Peter J. McGurk, chairman of the ways and means committee, are taking reservations for the event.

Assisting with the arrangements for the benefit bridge are Mesdames Peter Barton, Gardner Callahan, Thomas Chambers, John Downey, William Krippes, J. D. McCue, Walter Miller, William Mooney, C. H. O'Reilly, Alfred J. Ruby, and Arthur Wernecke.

At Kenilworth Club

The Kenilworth club offers as its diversion for Friday evening, March 13, at 7:15 o'clock, a supper bridge, with Mrs. Alfred L. McDougal and Mrs. Bentley G. McCloud the hostesses for the evening.

On March 27, the club promises an entertainment replete with local color and interest, one to which Kenilworth looks forward from year to year.

Plan Mother-Daughter Tea

The Junior Sisterhood of the North Shore Congregational Israel is giving its mothers' and daughters' tea Sunday afternoon at the temple in Glencoe. During the afternoon Virginia Lang will play a piano solo and Helene Adler and Claire Simon will present a dance. The rest of the program will include a reading by Blossom Rosenthal, and refreshments will be served.

Church Luncheon Today

A luncheon today after a church service at 10:30 o'clock, with a business meeting following, terminates the membership drive the Woman's guild of St. Augustine's church has been conducting. The luncheon is to be served by the Daughters of the King.

All members of the church and parents of the children of the Sunday school are invited to attend.

Skokie Country club is having a dinner and card party for its members and guests Saturday evening, March 14.

Margaret Whitsett Announces Members of Wedding Party

Invitations are being issued this week by Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Whitsett of 830 Oakwood avenue, Wilmette, for the marriage of their daughter, Margaret, to Robert MacNeille, son of Mr. and Mrs. Clarence T. MacNeille of Glencoe. The wedding will take place at 8:30 o'clock on April 4, at the Wilmette Methodist Episcopal church with Dr. D. H. Cornell, pastor of the Glencoe Union church officiating, assisted by Dr. H. G. Smith, pastor of the church. A reception will follow the ceremony at the home of the bride-to-be's parents.

Miss Whitsett has chosen to attend her as maid of honor, the sister of the groom, Miss Harriet MacNeille, and as her bridesmaids, Misses Frances Nicholas of Evanston, Gertrude Winzenburg of Wilmette, Inez Webster of Kenilworth, Barbara Cox of La Grange, and Carolyn Colby of Montclair, N. J., formerly a resident of Wilmette, who will arrive in Wilmette two or three weeks preceding the wedding to take part in the parties being given in honor of Miss Whitsett. Mr. MacNeille has asked Walter MacNeille, his brother, to be his best man and, the ushers include Ralph Whitsett, brother of the bride; David Dunning Brown of Chicago; John Innes of La Grange; John Pope of Glencoe, and Merrill Greer of Chicago.

Among recent parties which have been given by friends of Miss Whitsett was one on February 21, at which Miss Gertrude Winzenburg was hostess at her home. The affair was a hosiery tea.

On February 28, Miss Frances Nicholas of Evanston and Miss Jessie Sparrow, also of Evanston, entertained at a hosiery tea for the bride-to-be. February 24, was a luncheon and bridge party given by Miss Whitsett's aunt, Mrs. W. Beatty of Chicago.

Mr. MacNeille is to graduate from the University of Chicago on March 17. He is a member of Delta Kappa Epsilon and Miss Whitsett is a member of Kappa Kappa Gamma at Northwestern university.

Luncheon Hostess

Miss Dorothy Hall of Wilmette gave a luncheon at Shawnee Country club recently in honor of Mrs. Perry Lieber, the former Margaret McCue of Wilmette. Guests were sorority sisters of Miss Hall and Mrs. Lieber, members of Pi Beta Phi at the University of Illinois. Mrs. Lieber, who has been staying with her sister, Mrs. Fred Armstrong of the Edgewater Beach apartments while visiting friends on the north shore, left last week for her home in Hollywood, Cal.

Wellesley Circle Hostess

Mrs. Bruce MacLeish is opening her home, Birken Craig, 85 Wentworth street, Hubbard Woods, for the next meeting of the North Shore Wellesley circle at 2:30 o'clock, Tuesday, March 17. The program will consist of news of the graduate council related by Mrs. Francis Broomell of Chicago and music by the Chicago College Club Glee club.

Give Sleigh Ride

Mr. and Mrs. John L. Bennett of Shawnee Country club gave a sleigh ride last Monday evening, returning with their guests to the club for refreshments.