

Betty Brown Has Part in Little Theater Plays

BY JEAN TEN BROECK

Wilmette, through the participation of Mrs. Bernard Brown, both as actor and a member of the advisory board, is sharing in the little theater venture of the Uptown Players Circuit Theater, Inc. Moving down into the heart of the city, this group has made the charming Little theater of the Chicago Woman's club the locale for the six plays it is presenting once a month, with five still to be staged, the next "Passing Glory," by John J. Irving, to be given January 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6.

Its first presentation this month, "Canaries Sometimes Sing," by Frederick Lonsdale, whose stage successes have been many, was a most creditable performance, auguring well for the other plays, three of which are original productions. In direction, acting, and staging, "Canaries Sometimes Sing" was lifted up and beyond the rank of the amateur, one perceived at once. Sincerity and at-homeness on the stage and complete lack of self-consciousness and audience-consciousness marked the performance of the four actors who convincingly and effectively interpreted the smart and sophisticated lines and amusing situations of the clever play. Modern in its note, and laid in the country house of the Geoffrey Lymes in England, it concerned itself with the scrambling, and the more or less unscrambling of two marriages. Such in brief was the plot acted by a well balanced cast.

We like the work of J. Bradley-Griffin, the director. For with him at the helm there is no awkwardness or lagging, but alertness and alive-

ness of manner that holds the interest of an audience. With professional promptness the play was given, with, to our delight, only brief intermissions. Betty Brown, made real the petulant, affected wife with the both high-brow and the baby-talk complexes. Francis Edwards as the pompous and unbending Englishman who could never forget "Eton and Oxford," shared with Mrs. Brown the two roles most demanding because of the character interpretation required.

John Graham, the playwright who philosophizes into the non-understanding ear of the canary we recognized immediately as having been in the last Woman's club play. But he is a more mature John Graham whose acting has achieved more poise. He and Muriel Anda, as the former chorus girl who married the Englishman of high social standing, gave natural interpretations of their parts.

Color was used artistically in the charming stage setting and in the becoming costumes of the actresses. The carrying out of the living room to the edge of the stage effected a oneness between audience and actors and added between-act atmosphere to the very harmonious and reposeful green and silver theater that houses the plays. The evening gave entertainment that satisfied.

Margaret Gordon Marries

Rev. and Mrs. Robert Gordon have announced the marriage of their daughter, Margaret May, to John William Schuchardt of Chicago. The service was held at 4 o'clock Sunday afternoon, December 17, in the Thorndike Hilton Memorial chapel of the Chicago Theological seminary. The bride's father, who is pastor of the First Baptist church of Stevens Point, Wis., officiated.

Sends Out Publicity for Foreign Affairs School

Jean Duncan-Clark, daughter of the S. J. Duncan-Clarks of Wilmette is the publicity chairman for the Evanston School of Foreign Affairs.

The school is beginning its ninth season. The meetings will be held in the Great hall of the First Methodist church of Evanston, at 4 o'clock. The first of the series will begin on Sunday afternoon, January 7. The remainder of the series to be given on each succeeding Sunday. The dates are January 7, 21, and 28. The

topics for discussion will pertain to international affairs. All meetings will be open to the public, without charge.

Debut Tea Christmas

Miss Barbara Anne Bastien, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Alvin E. Bastien, who spent the summer in the former John Scott home in Hubbard Woods, will be presented to society by her parents at a tea dance to be given at Indian Hill club on Christmas day from 5 o'clock until 7. The Bstiens have an apartment for the winter at 1448 Lake Shore drive, Chicago.

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