

Brilliant Array of Talent in Rehearsal for Club "Gaieties"

Entire North Shore to Contribute Stars for Wilmette Woman's Club Show

By Lillian M. Christy

Mrs. Bernard Brown, director, reports rehearsals are being held daily for the Wilmette Woman's club "Gaieties" which will be staged on the evenings of February 15, 16, and 17, as a benefit for the club's building fund. From the splendid array of talent engaged, the production promises to be one of the very finest entertainments of its kind ever presented to discriminating north shore audiences.

Musical numbers, clever dancing, and dramatic skits are arranged in smart gaiety form, it is pointed out, and the artists are well known and popular. One of the many who will appear is Miss Katherine Ellis, Coloratura soprano, who will sing solos, as well as duets with William Balhatchet. Miss Ellis sings in the A Cappella choir at Northwestern university and is also member of a quartet at the Highland Park Presbyterian church. She directs the Junior Evanston Woman's Glee club, and last year was in the WAA-MU musical show at Northwestern.

Balhatchet to Sing

William Balhatchet, tenor soloist at St. Mark's in Evanston, will present several numbers in addition to his duet work with Miss Ellis. At one time he was staff artist for stations WHT and WERH, and a few years ago belonged to the Wilmette Operatic company which gave "Pirates of Penzance" and "Bulbul."

Lea J. Orr will take part in the "Gaieties" and also serve as stage manager. Mr. Orr has served in this dual capacity before, and a critic has said that his characterization of "Captain Jones" in "Beware of Widows" was equal to that of any professional performer. His co-workers are eloquent in their praise for the smooth and efficient manner in which he manages the stage properties.

Another actor to take part will be Sam Otis of Winnetka, formerly director of the North Shore Theatre guild. Mr. Otis needs no introduction in the Chicago area, as he is well-remembered for his recent role in "Return to Folly" in a Loop theater.

Glencoe Artists Assist

Frank Morré and the Threshold Players of Glencoe are putting on an act for the "Gaieties", which will demonstrate to all that such popularity must be deserved. Mr. Morré will be remembered for his part in "The Tavern", a George M. Cohan production.

Another hit will be scored by Conrad Frykman in his humorous skit. This is vastly different than the roles of Sam Hargrave in "Why Men Leave Home", and Peter Chadwick, owner of the ill-fated Journey's End, in "Beware of Widows" and gives Mr. Frykman an opportunity to show his vaudeville ability.

Then, of course, we have the best talent available in the junior and collegiate groups to add to the "Gaieties." Some are attending school now and some have graduated but all are promising local stars that dance and sing with the smart sophistication of professionals.

Offers Dance Novelty

Miss Elizabeth Balhatchet, who spent last year at Wellesley college and is now at Northwestern, will do an acrobatic waltz. Her sister, Josephine, and Miss Lois Greider will

do some song and dance specialties assisted by Miss Mary Jane Elder, who is a born comedienne, besides having a splendid voice and ability to dance. Jack Foley has a natural flare for the stage and was a popular entertainer in University of Illinois circles last year. Victor Joyce has a splendid voice and is well known to the Wilmette younger set, as is also Bob Blanchard, son of the Knight Blanchards, who has recently returned from military school.

Refreshments, Too

There will be a Green Room party between acts where refreshments will be served. This social feature will be in charge of Miss Dorcas Tuttle and her assistants. Mrs. Elizabeth Muehlberg is chairman of the ushers who are recruited from our attractive junior group. Among these are the Misses Adelaide Franklin, Harriet Mons, Hazel Kraft, Gertrude Copeland, Alma Muehlberg, Josephine Cressy, Dorothy Klunder, Laura Reichman, Ann Klapperich, Jane Calloway, Jane Roberts, Hazel Knepper, Patsy Flentye, Betty Michelet, Virginia Hannah, Harriet Woodcock, and Mrs. Ann Davis Alexander.

Tickets are going fast and may be secured from Mrs. Arthur Dixon or any member of her committee.

Hark Ye, Juniors: "Penrod's" on Way to Visit Wilmette!

By L. M. C.

"Come on, Bud, let's go see Penrod."

"Who's Penrod?"

"Aw, he's a swell guy, my Dad says, and if he didn't have to work Saturday afternoon, he'd go with me—he says so, and he knows."

"Knows what?"

"Why, that 'Penrod' is the funniest thing ever. It's a real show with real actors, and the fellow who takes the leading part goes to military school. Ain't that sumpin'?"

"Gee, I guess I'll ask Mom if I can go. Let you know later. S'long!"

All of which is a reminder that the Lake Shore Players are staging "Penrod" at the Woman's club Saturday afternoon, February 3, at 2 o'clock. The play is the second of a series of three juvenile productions put on by the Lake Shore Players and directed by Mrs. LeRoy Stransky, who is widely known for her theatrical ability and experience in this field. The third play, "Treasure Island" will be given in April. All are benefit productions for the club building fund and are sponsored by the Ways and Means committee of the club.

ECONOMY SHOP NEEDS

During the past week Economy Shop has had three separate requests for a Bible. Not one Bible; three. One for each person in need. One of them must be in large print for eyes that are not as good as they once were.

No one wishes to part with the Bible that has been a companion for years, but there may be an extra Bible on the shelf that is not in immediate use. Will you see if there is one to spare on your book shelves and let us have it? Soon?

—Mrs. A. L. Grinnell, chairman.

Note: Economy Shop is conducted by the Woman's Club of Wilmette.

Commander



Capt. John P. Crehan of the Third Field Artillery has taken command of the Skokie Civilian Conservation corps camp at Harms and Glenview roads west of Wilmette. Captain Crehan has had signal success in other CCC camps and is regarded as a singularly fortunate selection as supervisor of the vast Skokie Valley reclamation project now in progress.

De Cou to Give Third Lecture on February 8

The Wilmette Sunday Evening club has arranged to have another lecture by Branson De Cou, who has been extremely popular with Wilmette audiences for many years. Mr. De Cou will give his dream pictures with musical accompaniment of "Venice and the Dolomites" Thursday evening, February 8, at 8:15 o'clock at the First Congregational church in Wilmette. There will be a small admission charge for this lecture.

Mr. De Cou has given two other lectures this season before the club—one on "France" and the other on "Mexico." Both were delivered to capacity houses. He always turns over one-half of his receipts towards the deficit of the Sunday Evening club.



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LEAGUE STUDIES "LOAN" PROJECT

Civil League President Names Probe Committee; Leaders Endorse Plan

A large attendance marked the monthly luncheon meeting of the Wilmette Civic league, held at noon last Friday in the Mission room of the Marshall Field and company State street store.

Pursuant to a motion passed at the meeting George H. Redding, president of the league, appointed a committee to investigate the association plan as it is now constituted and report at a later meeting. Mr. Redding this week appointed to that committee Elmer D. Becker, 519 Linden avenue, George F. Iliff, 924 Linden avenue, and Henry J. Brandt, 1530 Washington avenue. Members of this committee, Mr. Redding said, will be glad to supply information to any citizen, whether a member of the league or not.

The feature was a presentation of the plan for a Federal Savings and Loan association by R. O. Kreutz, organizer under the Federal Home Loan Bank board for such associations in Illinois and Wisconsin. In his usual quiet but graphic manner the speaker presented the plan in detail, bringing out the advantages it will afford to citizens desiring to finance homes either new or old, and emphasizing the responsibilities of citizens in its proper management and support. He stressed the need for such an association in Wilmette, saying that under the plan mortgages would be reduced monthly, thus aiding home owners to gradually liquidate their indebtedness. The investment features were also fully covered.

Asks Co-operation

Dr. Donald M. Gallie, 1115 Elmwood avenue, a former president of the Civic league, supported the project in a characteristically powerful five minute talk, reaffirming the needs and urging fellow members to become subscribers.

C. E. Clifton, secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, which organization took the initiative in promoting consideration of the association, gave a report of the accomplishments to date. He stated that the charter had been applied for, all requirements of the Federal Home Loan Bank board having been met.

Charles H. Jackson, 1017 Elmwood avenue, former Village attorney, reported that a committee consisting of himself and William E. Hughes, 1917 Greenwood avenue, an authority on building and loan associations, are working with Henry Fowler, 1404 Forest avenue, general chairman, on suggestions for organization and management to be submitted to the board of directors when such board is created.

Offers Suggestions

General Chairman Fowler made several splendid suggestions pertinent to the formation of the organization. He also suggested that the Civic league appoint a committee to undertake a thorough investigation of the plan as set up, and report back to league. G. T. Hellmuth, 1700 Forest avenue, who presided in the absence of the president, Geo. H. Redding, 1516 Elmwood avenue, who was confined to his home by illness, stated that he would refer the matter to Mr. Redding for action.

The whole tenor of the meeting was one of intense interest in the plan, and that it will have the united support of the Civic league appeared certain.