

Actor Makes Real Quaint Characters in "Pickwick Papers"

Mr. Pickwick, his friends of the Pickwick club, Sam Weller, Mr. Weller senior, Mrs. Bardell, her women friends, her son, her lawyer of the trial scene, and the judge—one by one stepped out upon the stage of the Woman's Club of Wilmette at the afternoon meeting of the club December 4. Frank Speaight, celebrated English actor, like a sleight of hand performer, produced the whimsical characters from "Pickwick Papers" out of the air and made them live and act and talk.

Very simply Mr. Speaight began the century old narrative, acting the role of each character as he or she came into the story. He was round-faced, corpulent, naive and middle aged; he was sharp-faced, thin and shrewd; he was the soft and rounded Mrs. Bardell reposing in the unwilling arms of Mr. Pickwick. Lowering his glasses on his nose, now letting his shoulders droop, now pushing out his chest, now opening his mouth in blank amazement, now snapping his fingers, now pacing back and forth, flapping his coat tail at every turn, Mr. Speaight skillfully impersonated the different kinds of men and women who make "Pickwick Papers" so amusing. He was the judge in robe and wig, he was Mr. Pickwick in the barrow, he was Sam pushing the barrow.

He told the story in all seriousness, beginning with the scene where Mr. Pickwick's landlady mistakes his meaning and thinks she is receiving a proposal of marriage and continuing with the scene where the breach of promise notice is served on the innocent Mr. Pickwick. The hunting episode follows, where Mr. Winkle's ignorance of firearms alarms Mr. Pickwick; then the part where Sam tells about the cats and "weal pie flavor"; the scene where Sam and Mr. Pickwick are at the barrister's; the scene in Mr. Pickwick's chambers; Sam at Mrs. Bardell's listening, waiting to find out how Mrs. Bardell is disposed towards his employer—for "he well knew that he had only to remain quiet and the women were sure to talk"; Sam hurrying to and fro between the lawyer's and his employer's, always with the same reply from the lawyer, "as well as possible," to Mr. Pickwick's question, "Is all going on well?"; the scene between Sam and Mr. Weller, senior, where the latter suggests that Mr. Pickwick needs an "halibi," and the trail scene where Dodson and Fogg win out and Mr. Pickwick chooses jail to paying them.—F. B. M.

Motor South

Mr. and Mrs. Archibald R. Maclean and their son, Alec, of 129 Ninth street, returned on Friday of last week from a delightful motor trip through the south. They were away about five weeks. At Miami they left the car and took a boat to Cuba, where they spent two weeks enjoying the perfect climate and scenery.

Scavenger Hunt

Last Friday night, Betty Jane Smoot, 901 Central avenue, entertained the high school group of the Wilmette Parish Methodist church at a scavenger hunt. More than forty young people were present.

North Shore Girls Are Active at Mount Holyoke

Miss Elizabeth Best of Glencoe, a student at Mount Holyoke college, is among the hundred members of the Glee club who are taking part in an off-campus tour this month to New York and Philadelphia. Spreading once again the glad tidings of "peace on earth, good-will towards men," the student choir will appear in Town hall, New York City, on December 20, and in Irvine auditorium, Philadelphia, the following night. Before the Christmas holiday the girls will also sing in Holyoke and at the college.

Under the direction of Dr. William Churchill Hammond, head of the college music department and organizer of the now famous carol choir, the Glee club each year presents a choral program of old favorites to which are added one or two carols never before sung to American audiences. This season's presentation will include, in addition to such well known selections as the fifteenth century "In Dulce Jubilo" and the modern American "God Give Ye Merry Christmas-tide," dedicated in 1927 to the Mount Holyoke College Carol choir by John J. Bishop of Springfield, Mass., two carols published this year and two others never included in the Glee Club series.

Miss Georgie Pettibone of Winnetka, another student at Mount Holyoke college, is on the general committee which is staging a bazaar at the college on Saturday, December 14, to raise money for the swimming pool fund. With a number of other students Miss Pettibone will be in charge of the auction, one of the features of the pre-Christmas bazaar held annually in Chapin auditorium.

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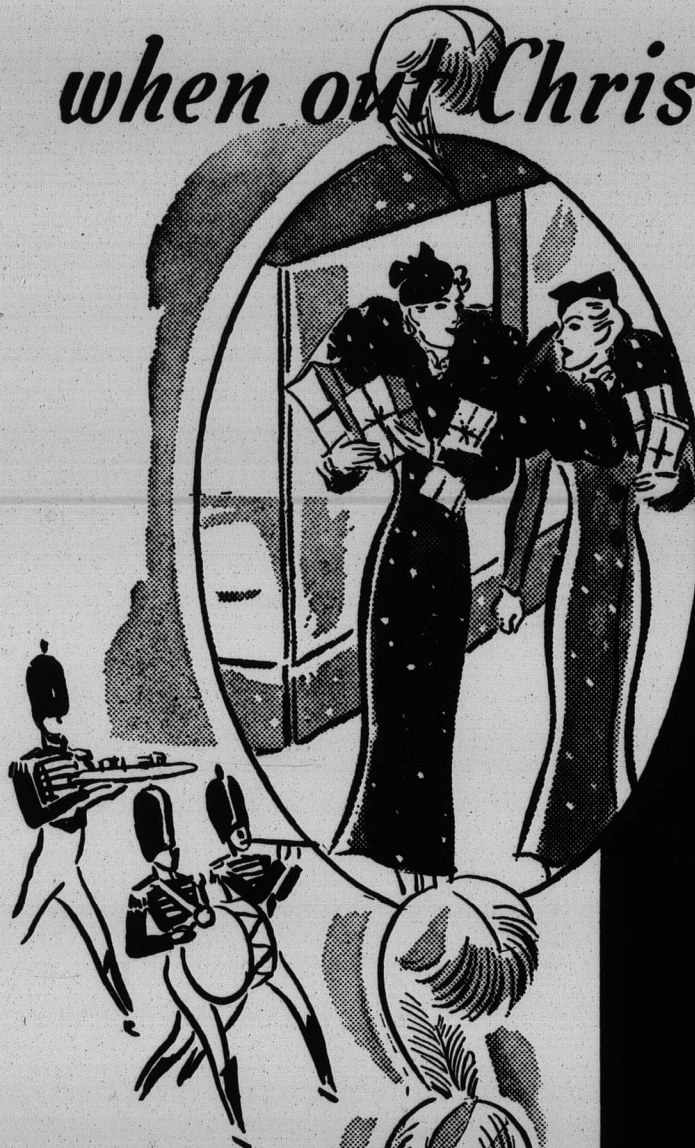
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