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**"THE DETOUR" LAST GUILD PLAY OF 1927**

IS 3-ACT PLAY BY DAVIS

Said to Be Powerful Drama and Will Be Seen Here Latter Part of Month; Notes and Comment

With the presentation of "The Detour," a three-act play by Owen Davis, the North Shore Theater Guild brings its winter season to a successful close. The production, the fourth to be offered by the Guild this year, will be given in Highland Park on April 27, at the Woman's club.

"The Detour" is one of the best one of the greatest that ever came plays of the popular dramatist, and from the pen of an American playwright. Scholars and critics have been unanimous in ranking it in the very fore-front of contemporary American drama, and it has been included in several notable collections of representative American plays.

When Davis wrote "The Detour," he threw a bombshell into the ranks of unsuspecting critics. For years his work had been considered mediocre. Little was expected of an author who, while prolific, had turned out nothing better than glib for the ten-twenty-thirty mill, and whose best-known work was "Bertha, the Sewing Machine Girl."

Out of Clear Sky  
Out of a clear sky came this powerful, human document, "The Detour," masterly, worthwhile, true. The critics buzzed. Impossible, they said, that this could be the work of a well-known hack writer. Their doubt led them to dismiss it from consideration as a possibility for the Pulitzer prize.

The following year, however, Mr. Davis again showed his dexterity in "Icebound," a striking piece which proves him to be, beyond a doubt, a master of plot, character and dramatic diction. The critics accorded him for this work the praise he deserved, and awarded him the prize.

"The Detour" is a slight variation from the Guild's policy to present only those worthy plays which Chicago audiences have not been privileged to see. In its initial run here, however, it was presented very early in the fall before the season was well under way, and stayed only a short time. It played in an out-of-the-way theater so that comparatively few members of the Guild audiences will have seen it, though it is very probable that many have read it.

In the original production of "The Detour," the leading roles were ably handled by Effie Shannon and Augustin Duncan. Miss Shannon is soon to appear at the Blackstone theater in Chicago, in an all-star production of Trelawney of the Wells.

**SUN-CANNON TIME MEASURER IN PARIS**  
Also Smaller One of Similar Type at Art Institute, Chicago  
A scientifically constructed astronomical instrument for measuring time was developed during the reign of Louis XVI, king of France. In 1786, the Place du Palais Royal, being the center of attraction, the government replaced an old form of sundial by one of the new style muzzle loading cannon with converging lenses. Collecting the sun's rays on passing the meridian, sufficient heat was produced by the lens to fire the cannon exactly at the noon hour.

**DISCOVER ANCIENT TEMPLES IN SERBIA**

NEAR OLD TOWN OF STOBI

Famous Old Capital of Macedonian Kings Excavated by Archaeologists; Valued Finds

A short time ago the Belgrade National Museum authorities opened up the remains of the old town of Stobi near the town of Gradsko in South Serbia, says the Christian Science Monitor. As far back as 197 B. C. it was mentioned as an "old town" which served the Macedonian kings as an outpost against the barbarian hordes which were penetrating into the Balkans from the north. In the year 479 A. D., King Theodoric, the mighty Goth, took, plundered, and laid waste the town. After that it remained forgotten under the invasions of the Slavs and later of the Turks.

Its position was very important, at the crossways of the two chief routes in the Balkans, one from Salonik on the Aegean to old Viminacium on the Danube, and the other from the Illyrian capital of Durazzo on the Adriatic to old Serdica, the present Bulgarian capital, Sofia. The historical remains show that Stobi was a flourishing commercial center on the routes where crowds of Romans, Greeks, Macedonians and barbarians met.

**Find Three Temples**  
The excavations have revealed three Greek temples, of which one is richly decorated with mosaic, and certainly belong to the fourth or early fifth century. In addition the walls of Stobi have been opened up, and finally a theater, which is regarded as the most important of all the discoveries. It is very well preserved, and it is believed that when the whole is excavated it will represent one of the finest remains of its kind.

The diameter of the orchestra alone is 30 meters, and it is thought that the whole theater will have a diameter of over 90 meters, and consequently be greater than the theater at Athens. The whole building is carried out in white marble, in slabs of at least three meters. The seats all have names marked on them, very probably of the regular subscribers. It is interesting to note in connection with the life of the period, that these names do not include any female names at all.

Further excavation is being awaited by historians with the greatest interest and impatience, because it is hoped that it will furnish valuable data concerning Athenian life.

**COMBING THE WORLD FOR RAW MATERIALS**

Search for Natural Resources Is One of the Marvels of Present Age

The combing of the world in the search for raw materials and natural resources is a marvel of the new industrial era. The era began about the opening of the twentieth century, but its activities did not get into full swing until after the World War. The war brought to the nations and the leaders of industry a new realization of the importance of locating, cataloging and bringing under control the stores of minerals, metals, forest resources and the enormous producing capacities of the tropics. Probably more political interest, capital and industrial activity are being devoted to the search for petroleum than for any other single resource. But scores of other materials essential in this merchandised age are sought everywhere with constantly increasing eagerness.

Thus far the American government has been less disposed than many others to encourage and support its citizens in this quest in foreign parts. Our own enormous resources at home constitute the chief explanation of this attitude. American industrial interests, however, have been very active, their efforts aiming to assure plenty of raw materials for the country's enormous industrial establishment to work on.

The myth-destroyers having proved to their own satisfaction that Washington was a rake and that Captain Kidd was a great guy, it should not be hard, in time, to show that Ben Hur's chariot race was fixed.—Detroit News.

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