

THURSDAY, MARCH 24, 1932

DEERFIELD PLAYERS PLAN CIVIC CENTER

Give Melodrama on March 31 and April 1 to Raise Funds for Structure

Back Stage, the three act melodrama to be presented at the Deerfield grammar school on Thursday and Friday evenings, March 31 and April 1, is the first full-time play to be produced by the Deerfield Drama League.

Funds for Civic Center
Funds raised by these performances of the Deerfield Drama League go into the League's special fund for the erection of a community center in the village of Deerfield. It is the only organization in Deerfield that has as one of its primary objects the erection of such a building. The village is without recreational facilities of any kind at present and the members of the league hope and expect to raise sufficient funds through their various entertainments to start work on a community center.

Choose Melodrama
In selecting *Back Stage* the Deerfield Drama League departed from the current run of musical operettas and comedies prevalent along the north shore. *Back Stage* is a good old-fashioned melodrama with all the enjoyable thrills accompanying this type of entertainment. There is the long-lost son, the bag of gold, the distraught lovers, the villain about to depart with the girl and the cash, the sheriff about to... Well, you should see the show and you'll enjoy every minute of it. *Back Stage* rates three stars in any reviewer's notebook.

The Cast
The cast of *Back Stage* follows:
Iris Ventor.....Margaret Galloway
Cora Betts.....Arlene Fehr
Carnahan.....Ray Dobbins
Dixie French.....Lois Fehr
Danny Cassidy.....Edw. Bleimehl
Judson Dupont.....Kenneth Hunter
"Ma" Dupont.....Lois Beebe
Hugh Kane.....Arthur Borchardt
Paula Nelson.....Nellie Soper
"Butch".....Dubby Peterson

Aides
Properties.....Ferd Borchardt
Tickets.....Dan Hunt
Publicity.....Mrs. Ray Dobbins
Maurice Cazel
Stage and Prizes.....Carl Bates
Chorus and Specialties.....
Mrs. Lyman F. Gurney

Mrs. Gurney Directs Chorus
With the selection of Mrs. Lyman F. Gurney, a former stage star, to direct the large chorus and specialty acts, plans of Director Kenneth Hunter are rapidly nearing completion.

Mrs. Gurney is favorably known to north shore residents for her singing and work as an instructor in dancing and specialty numbers. Several Gurney-trained choruses have taken part in the recent Highland Park and Highwood shows that proved so popular with the public.

In the entertainment given by the Dante Alighieri Musical and Dramatic society in co-operation with the Highwood Italian Woman's club, on March 3 and 4 in the Oak Terrace school, Mrs. Gurney not only took

a leading solo part in the program but trained the chorus as well.

Many Girls Take Part
Many Deerfield, Highland Park, and Highwood girls are in the chorus of *Back Stage* and also furnish the specialty numbers between the acts under the direction of Mrs. Gurney. Girls taking part are Misses Julietta and Luella Willman, Katherine Beckman, Ruth Johnson, Ida and Mildred Sticken, Kathleen Galloway, Mary Jane Condon, Evelyn Kent, Pauline Thompson, Jean Scully, Violet Thompson, Genevieve Steiner, Hazel Scully, Marie Lawther, Annette Licari, Angeline Licari, Marie Guidotto, Olga Somenzi, Dorothy Glass, Ida Cortesi, Bianca Guadlandi, Ida Monterastelli, Marie Pierantoni, Helen Feraldo, Lina Calabri, Louise Leonardi. Miss Helen Engstrom will be the accompanist.

Kenneth Hunter Directs
Kenneth Hunter has directed a number of successful plays, the most recent hit being *The Professor of Love*, given for the Deerfield Legion Band on New Year's Eve. His is a most difficult role in *Back Stage* for he not only directs but carries one of the leads as well. However, his past experience in amateur productions enables him to cover both duties gracefully and well.

Actors Well Known
Miss Lois Fehr and Mr. Lansing Beebe will be remembered for their excellent portrayals of the eastern girl heroine and the pseudo artist in *Rainbow of the Rio Grande*.

Ray Dobbins shone as the kid-brother in the *Rainbow* play and his role as the hard-boiled stage manager of a second-rate band of actors will win him new laurels.

Miss Nellie Soper and Edward Bleimehl received great acclaim for their shrewd interpretation of roles as the elderly housekeeper and college boys lover, respectively, in the *Professor of Love*.

Others in the cast are well known for their good work in amateur theatrical groups and the combined talent herein presented promises two evenings of fine entertainment.

Tickets have been placed on sale at drug stores in Glenview, Northbrook, Deerfield, Ravinia, Highland Park, Highwood and Lake Forest, or may be purchased from members of the league or at the door.

Bethany Choir Sings "Our Risen Lord"

The combined choirs of the Bethany Evangelical church will present another of their fine musical treats on the coming Sunday at the 4:30 vesper service. Mrs. O. K. Wessling, the director, and Miss Charlotte Brand, the organist, have been working with the children's choir and the adult choir on Rhodes's cantata entitled "Our Risen Lord." This cantata presents the Easter message in a very effective manner, and it will give all who are present a new appreciation of the Resurrection story. All who are interested in sacred music are invited to come.

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PRIMARIES APRIL 12th



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