

# LET'S TAKE A LOOK

By  
WHITT NORTHMORE SCHULTZ

(SPECIAL TO THE HIGHLAND PARK PRESS)

## The Music Theater Opens!

A gay but warm group of nearly 1,000 North Shore music lovers enthused last Sunday night over Victor Herbert's "Naughty Marietta", first operetta of the season at Barrie O'Daniel's new and handsome Music Theater at Skokie and County Line Roads.

Beautifully staged in the big, red, white, and green tent, the operetta, returning to the Chicago area for the first time in 14 years, has as its leads Elaine Malbin and Harry Stockwell.

Both are talented young musical veterans whose voices agree with the country air and out-perform the steady roar of trains and trucks on Skokie highway.

### Rotov Gets Most Applause . . .

Alexis Rotov as Silas Slick, Captain Dick's servant, and Marty Lynn as Lizette, the eager-beaver casket girl, garnered more applause from first nighters than did the leads with clever and humorous antics.

It's easy to see Rotov will be a favorite at the Music Theater this summer.

Most of you folks out front know the story of "Naughty Marietta," her runaway episode; her flirtation with Captain Dick; her hard-to-get actions and her final winning of the handsome captain.

The operetta, which takes place in old New Orleans about 1870, was staged by Edward Clarke Lilley and runs thru July 2. Choreographer is George Pronath. Music is under the direction of Alexander Aster who did a fine job opening night despite the heat and the trouble he was having with his glasses.

Veteran director Barrie O'Daniels, a likeable gentleman, is supervising all production. Before the operetta began, he made a friendly talk to first nighters, welcoming them and promising that hereafter curtain time would be at exactly 8:30 P.M.

### More Music Theater Notes . . .

If "Naughty Marietta," with its wonderful music, its beautiful costumes and its excellent direction, is a sample of what Highland Parkers can expect during the rest of the 10 week season, then we predict great popularity for the new and comfortable music theater which also includes ample free parking and refreshments that are priced right.

A green, sawdust-like material covers the grounds and halts the excess noise usually made by late-comers who, by the way, should be penalized in some way.

Your seats are reserved at the Music Theater. Seats, incidentally, are green, porch-like canvas chairs and comfortable, too. You're directed to your seats by a group of pretty young ladies.

Others in the cast who were outstanding include Romona Robinson, Jack Bankhurst, Arvis Kent, Aristide Copulas, Michael Sheehy, Hans Kupfer, James Demarest and Hans Alten. Ballet and singing sequences were well done by a versatile and good-looking group of spirited youngsters.

Highland Parkers we saw opening night included Mr. and Mrs. Howell Murray and the Morton G. Schamberg.

Yes, the Music Theater will please Highland Parkers this summer! "Rio Rita" is next—from July 4 to 9.

## STAR IAN KEITH IS GOOD IN POOR CHEVY CHASE PLAY

First, I'd like to thank popular Marshall Migatz and his courteous staff for inviting us to Ian Keith's performance in "The Play's The Thing", this week's feature attraction at Chevy Chase.

Second, a word of praise to Ian Keith who tried his hardest to make an utterly stupid and vulgar play half way decent!

### Play Must Be Good

Third, a loud "boo" to P. G. Wodehouse, the play's adapter. We've seen bum plays in our day, but this one tops 'em all. I certainly agree with critic Syd Harris who repeatedly writes no matter how talented

an actor is, the play he is in must be good or time is wasted.

Fourth, about the story . . . well, let's skip that.

Fifth, a suggestion, or two, to Mr. Migatz who, I know, is eager to please North Shore theater lovers:

1. Could you please install comfortable chairs?
2. Could you please arrange to start the plays at 8:30 P.M. (as your tickets state) . . . and not at 9:10 when the curtain finally went up?

3. Could you please persuade bustling waiters and waitresses at the club to use the outside approach to the dining room instead of treacherously swinging heavy trays of food over the heads of eager, patient and unsuspecting theater-goers?

### Fresh Air Needed

4. And, could you please let some of that wonderfully fresh country air into your theater? It certainly would be better than that strong odor of liquor coming from the club's bar.

But thank you, Mr. Migatz, for your generous invitation.

We certainly look forward to seeing your next plays which will be much better, we know!

## Commons Association Names New Chairmen; Plans June 30 Meeting

The last meeting of the Ravinia Auxiliary to the Chicago Commons Association of the 1949-50 season will be held Friday, June 30th, at 1:30 p.m. at the home of the Vice-President, Mrs. Edwin P. Hart, 1015 Lincoln Avenue, with a dessert-luncheon preceding the usual business meeting. Mrs. Armand McPhee, the retiring Chairman, will be in charge of the meeting, at which plans will be made for Christmas gifts for the Oldster Group at the Chicago Settlement.

Mrs. Guy Finlay is the incoming Chairman, and the other officers are as follows: Co-Chairman, Mrs. Robert Billeter; Treasurer, Mrs. Percy Prior, Sr.; Secretary, Mrs. Walter Lillie; Chairman of the Sewing Committee, Mrs. Ross Goodwin; Knitting, Mrs. E. T. Allen; Rummage Sale, Mrs. Edwin P. Hart; Fall Tea, Mrs. William Poston; Publicity, Mrs. Arthur Raff.

Almost a hundred flannelette baby jackets and kimonos are being made currently by this rapidly growing group of local women interested in helping mothers and children in a congested area in Chicago. A Membership Tea will be held at the home of Mrs. William Savin on Lakeside Place the last Friday in September at which graphic accounts of the work of the Settlement and of the summer camp will be given by one of the members of the staff.

You can be sure that if you laugh at your troubles you'll never run out of something to laugh at.

—Gilcrafter

## The Pearl and the Price

Most people know the parable of the "pearl of great price," and the man who sold all that he had to buy it (Matt. 13:46).

Have you ever asked yourself what it meant?

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## Moose 'Governors' Win Over 'Jewelers' In Benefit Game

The feature attraction at the Community Benefit Ball Games last Sunday at Sunset Park was an excellent contest and our lads did themselves proud by trouncing the "Jewelers" to the tune of 8 to 6. The Moose lads led throughout the game by a wide margin and faltered a little in the ninth inning to permit the visitors to make their total a little more respectable. Danny and Donald Coleman with Don Rossi wielded heavy bats to offer the deciding factor.

The Martin Jewelers have asked for a return engagement in their home stadium, in Chicago and the date is expected to be set within a week or two.

After the event was over the Local Moose Lodge was host to the Fort Sheridan Army Band, the Wacs Baseball team and all the other participants. Refreshments were served and an informal dance followed.

## Boys To Spend Three Weeks At Camp Adventure Trails

A group of Highland Park boys are leaving this weekend for Camp Adventure Trails at Ely, Minnesota. They are Richard Denzel, Jerry Moran, Edward A. Greenwald, Tom Briddle, Ralph Gerken, Jim Parker, Robert Adler, Rony Walz, Ted Dimsdale, Bill Dimsdale and Richard Hopp.

They will leave Friday by Grey Hound bus along with another group of 25 boys to spend three weeks camping and canoeing in Minnesota and Canada. This will be the fifth year this camp has been under the direction of Kenneth H. Margeson, well known Scoutmaster in Highland Park.

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