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IN MEMORIAMs

Matchett - In loving memory of my dear husband who passed away on February 8, 1973. God knew that he was suffering. That the hills were hard to climb. So he closed his weary eyelids. And whispered Peace be Thine. Away in the beautiful hills of God. By the valley of rest so fair. Some day we know not when We will meet our loved one there. Wife Dorothy and family.

Scott - In loving memory of my dear friend Grace, who passed away February 6th, 1972. As time unfolds another year Memories keep you ever near. Silent thoughts of times together. Hold memories that will last forever. Sadly missed, Marsha.

BIRTHS

Stone - Michael and Faye are happy to announce the arrival of their son Jason James at Penetang General Hospital on January 11th 1975 - 8 lbs. 1 1/2 ozs.



The scream

Thora Badior, one of the Huronia Players, screams at the horrifying sight of a dead body in the apartment opposite her in the play "Night Watch" which is being presented again this coming weekend at Sacred Heart School in Midland. This will be the second set of performances for the play as two were held last Friday and Saturday. Performances will be on Friday and Saturday, February 14 and 15, with curtain time at 8 p.m. sharp. Admission is \$2.50 for adults and \$1.25 for students.

'Night Watch' never gets off the ground

by Shirley Whittington
Following the curtain calls at Huronia Players' second production of the season Night Watch, director Allan MacMenemy appeared on stage and urged the audience not to reveal the surprise ending to those who hadn't yet seen the play.

This Hitchcockian play was hardly necessary. It seems unlikely that patrons would even reveal what went on between curtain rise and fall in this thin little play. I doubt that the plot twist in the final scene will inspire any breathless breaches of confidence between director and audience.

Night Watch is just not a very good play. Lucille Fletcher made her reputation with *Sorry Wrong Number*, a play about an individual's struggle to summon aid through the Bell bureaucracy.

In *Night Watch*, Elaine Wheeler has the last word with a metropolitan police department which refuses to take a crazy lady seriously. She knew all along that they wouldn't, and the plot hung from this slender thread.

So, in spite of a stunningly beautiful set, (which inspired a spontaneous burst of

applause as the curtain opened, and a great deal of effort expended by some of the Players' most talented members, *Night Watch* never really got off the ground.

There seemed to be little opportunity for character development in Fletcher's script. Thora Badior was given no opportunity to be anything but agitated and restless, beautiful and expensive looking, as Elaine.

Her husband (in fact and script) was played by Mark Badior, John Wheeler was so constantly gruff and exasperated that one wonders what Elaine (and later Blanche) found about him to love.

As Curtis Appleby, (played superbly by Ray Knight) remarked, "He (John Wheeler) hasn't one iota of gait."

Emily Lloyd played Helga, and maid, with appropriate gracelessness. Her every gesture and movement was perfectly expressive of the lumpishly stolid and suspicious serving woman.

I was unable to get a fix on Blanche Cooke (Mary Norwood). The script didn't seem to give any clues. Was she a good girl gone bad? A

vamp? A snake in the grass who was only pretending to be Elaine's best friend? Even Mrs. Norwood's excellent stage presence and crisp delivery failed to hide these flaws in the basic characterisation.

The police force was represented by Vanelli (Don MacNabb) and Lieutenant Walker (Bill Hanna). They were given some good dialogue which they delivered excellently.

"Switzerland?" says Walker "Very nice country. They have a low crime rate there." That, to me, was one of the funniest lines in the play.

The first act of *Night Watch* bristled with little unexplained clues which never seemed to be resolved. Why was Elaine cold all the

time? Why did Appleby continually make dark supernatural references? Why did Helga surreptitiously poke through Dr. Lake's handbag? Why did Helga hate, John and adore Elaine?

Huronia Players have an excellent reserve of acting talent. Their set designers and builders are inspired and hard working.

The directors work with professional polish. The people who handle lighting and sound know what they're doing.

They have a new home which was relieved them of financial strain.

They have an ever growing following of appreciative playgoers.

Now - how about some good scripts?

Anastasia

MSS to present play

On February 20, 21, and 22, Midland Secondary School will be presenting the play *Anastasia* in the auditorium. The play may, in effect, be regarded as a continuation of the story of Tsar Nicholas of Russia and his Empress Alexandra, about whom a movie was recently released that has been touring the movie theatres.

The entire Romanov family was assassinated in 1918 by Bolshevik revolutionaries, but for

many years there were rumours that some or all of the Russian imperial family escaped.

The play is about a girl who appeared in Berlin in 1926 and claimed to be the Tsar's daughter Anastasia. The entire story is based on fact. Indeed the woman who made the claim is still living in Germany.

Of course she is not really Anastasia - or is she? You must see the play and decide for yourself.

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Regent Fastmatics team defeats St. Joseph's

by John Carpenter
Four students, Brenda Ryersee, George Tesseris, Diana Dymont and Pam Spears, showed their mathematical prowess as they took part in the first section of Fastmatics, a skill testing math game. The contest between Regent and St. Joseph's was hosted by Paul Dion of Penetanguishene Secondary

School and was shown on channel 12. Next year all of Regent's team will remain together since the members are from grade seven. Many extra hours of practice and drill were supervised by Mr. Pape, Mr. Rose, and Mrs. Beardsall. Our congratulations to our team who were competing against grade 8 students, and only lost the match by one question.

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Midland Secondary School
presents
"ANASTASIA"
by Marcelle Maurette
M.S.S. Auditorium
Curtain 8:00 p.m.
Thursday, Friday, Saturday
February 20, 21, 22, 1975

Admission:
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