

# WEIL DIRECTS PLAYERS' CAST

**Noted Chicago Stage Genius Secured by North Shore Thespians**

**HAS ENVIABLE RECORD**

**Miss Virginia Fitzhugh to Head "The Wren"**

The North Shore Players, a group of amateur and semi-professional youthfulness, who for the past three or four seasons, have been offering the local play-going public some very satisfying morsels of dramatic delectables, come forth this week with the startling announcement that its president, Sidney M. Spiegel, Jr., has secured E. A. Weil, of New York and Chicago, as director of Players productions in the current season.

To those who are familiar with professional theatricals, the name of E. A. Weil is burdened with import, for he has, in recent years, produced many successes for such notables as Frazee, Henry Savage, William B. Morris, Weber and Anderson and John Cort, claiming among his outstanding achievements such pieces as "Nothing But the Truth," "The Very Idea," "Fine Feathers," "A Full House," "The Ghost Breakers" and other Broadway successes.

**Interested in Players**

Mr. Weil is now active head of one of Chicago's foremost theaters and has manifested a profound interest in the players since having witnessed one of their productions late last season in conjunction with a group of leading dramatic critics of the Chicago dailies.

Under Mr. Weil's personal direction the Players inaugurated their 1924-25 season with a try-out night last Thursday at Winnetka Community House at which a probable cast for "The Wren," Booth Tarkington's light comedy success, was selected. The production is to be staged within a month for some worthy charity on the north shore.

Among those who may be expected to appear in the cast of this initial piece under the Weil directorship are Miss Virginia Fitzhugh, J. Lincoln Gibson, Montgomery Major, M. Hawley Mertz, Richard Bradley, Miss Helen Sanford and Miss Earleen Edwards.

**Brilliant Young Cast**

Miss Fitzhugh was last seen in "Mary the Third," while Messrs. Gibson, Major and Mertz are well known veterans of Players productions. Richard Bradley and the Misses Sanford and Edwards are newcomers who give promise of adding genuine merit to the season's presentations.

It was announced this week that the Players will continue their policy of presenting productions and kindred enterprises. In past seasons these youthful stars have aided by their talents such meritorious agencies as the Winnetka Legion, the Hadley Correspondence School for the Blind, the Wilmette Police Benefit fund, the Midway Masonic Temple association, the Junior Woman's Guild and Auxiliary of Evanston, and the Young Woman's club of Evanston.

The announced purpose of the players is presentation of superior amateur productions, without thought of

financial remuneration. The plays are given at cost.

**Have Own Stage Crew**

Worthy of special comment is the fact that the Players comprise a complete theatrical organization including its production staff and stage crew. Among the important personages behind the scenes is Robert Felsenthal, stage director, a graduate of Boston Tech and a young electrical engineer of great promise. A. Luther Adams, a worker both on and back-stage with the Players, has charge of properties and is the art director.

The general managership of North Shore Player's productions falls to the lot of Sidney M. Spiegel, Jr., of Winnetka, who as president of the organization, is credited with having secured the services of Director Weil. Arrangements for appearances of the players are made through him.

**New Trier Orchestra Sought for Concerts**

The New Trier Symphony orchestra has already received requests from various organizations in the north shore villages to play at meetings to be held in the near future. The plans as outlined by Mrs. Homer E. Cotton, the orchestra director, call for at least three public concerts during the year in addition to the performances that will be given at the high school.

Fifty students reported to the orchestra director for rehearsals during the past week. There are also a number who desire to play but have no instruments, it was stated by a member of the high school faculty. In addition to the first orchestra, there is a junior group of 15 freshmen who are directed by one of Mrs. Cotton's assistants.

**"MOON-SHINER" FINED**

Carlos Frigosi, 377 Provident avenue, paid \$50 and costs in Justice Nelson's court this week on a charge of selling intoxicating liquor. Frigosi, it was alleged, sold the intoxicants on June 19.



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