

## 'AMACHOOR' IS RELIC OF PAST

### North Shore Players Follow Modern Idea

"It's a far cry from the days of old 'amatchoor' shows to the present up-to-date productions as given by the North Shore's leading dramatic organizations," according to M. Hawley



Mertz, veteran north shore actor, who is to be featured in the North Shore Players' production of "The Wren," soon to be presented in this vicinity. "An example of such an up-to-date organization is the North Shore Players, founder several years ago by a group of talented amateur actors. Not only has this organization proved to be a success, but it has also earned for its community the reputation of doing the alert and interesting things in dramatics. The North Shore Players believe that it is a good thing for communities to enter into serious dramatic work," continued the youthful thespian.

"In using this phrase 'serious dramatic work,' Sidney M. Spiegel, Jr., president of the North Shore Players, says:

"We do not mean by it that we have only sombre, blank-verse tragedies in mind nor the usual run of tearful 'legitimate drameys.' Not at all. We do mean that we are going about our work seriously and carefully."

"As Mr. Spiegel points out, this applies to the choosing of the plays as well as the casting. Our professional director, Mr. Weil, usually looks for the following qualities in selecting an amateur cast—1, intelligence; 2, a good strong speaking voice; 3, willingness to work,—and, as Mr. Weil, puts it, 'the greatest of these is—willingness to work!'

#### Intelligent Work Important

"It is the habit now in professional theaters to cast by type. Likewise with the North Shore Players. However, careful intelligent work is likely to be more important than the mere fact that the actor looks, speaks, and moves like the character depicted in the play chosen.

"In other matters, too, the North Shore Players in their work follow closely the practices of the professional stage. The director chosen is strictly and essentially a professional director.

"The staging of all the North Shore Players' Productions is under the careful supervision of expert managers, artists, electricians, and property people. In fact, the whole staging and management of these amateur productions closely parallels the professional style. And why not? Isn't a Little Theater or amateur organization such as the North Shore Players really the field the professional stage draws from? Indeed it is.

"The amateur actor has come into his own. He is recognized, sought after, sponsored by his communities and clubs, and he is ever under the watchful eye of the professional producers.

#### Would Have Own Theater

"Many amateur organizations older than the North Shore Players own their own theaters. This, of course, is our ultimate goal. Right now we use professional directors, engage our shows seasons ahead, and are putting shows on the road. Our own community play-house is the next ambitious move. This is just a part of the work going on in a field rich with possibilities.



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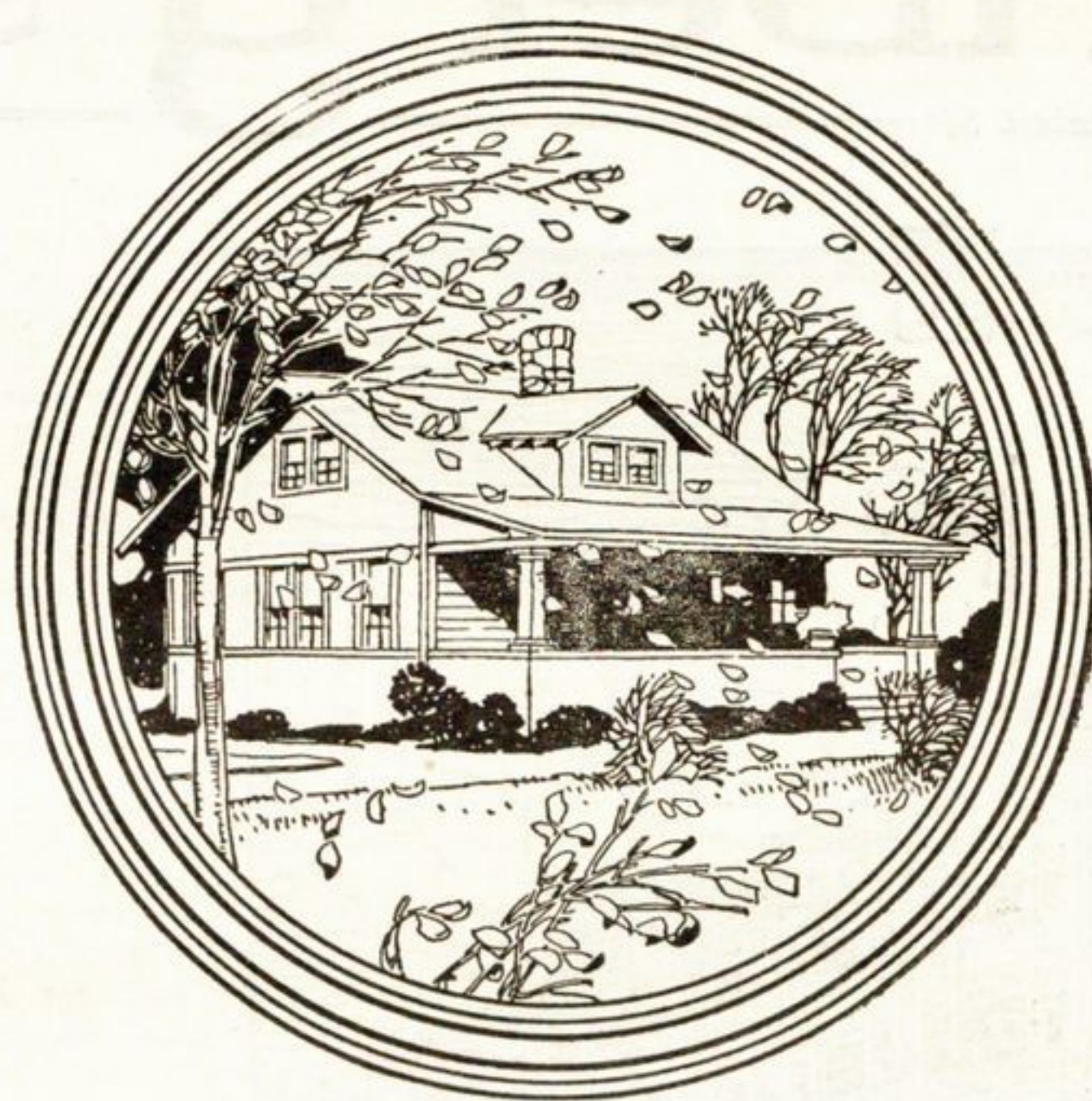
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