

"PIPER" BASED ON ANCIENT TRADITION

"The Piper," Presented Last Night and Tonight, Taken From Tale of Hamelin

Of all the plays produced by the Winnetka Community players in the past none has approached the production of "The Piper" in number of people taking part, elaborate costuming or artistic scenic effects. This play has 55 people in the cast and was only made possible by the cooperation of the Skokie school a large number of whose pupils are included in the production.

"The Piper," by Josephine Preston Peabody, is based on tradition centering around the German town of Hamelin, and Robert Browning's charming poem, "The Pied Piper of Hamelin." This tradition is one of the oldest in Europe and is commemorated on a stone, dating back to the year 1284, in the village of Hamelin.

The production is under the direction of Mrs. Donald Murray, assisted by Willard W. Beatty and Mrs. Myron T. Harshaw. Mr. Beatty, in addition to his directing, has charge of the stage setting and lighting. Wendell Nowell, director of manual arts in the Skokie school, is in charge of the construction of scenery and properties. The music is under the direction of Griff Lathrop, supervisor of music at Skokie. Make-up is in charge of a committee headed by Mrs. Carleton Washburne and Mrs. A. F. Sterrit has charge of properties.

One of the most difficult tasks in connection with the whole production has been the making of the 55 costumes, it is said. This features alone would make the play worth seeing. Mrs. Rogers K. Ballard has seemed to accomplish the impossible in designing and making the costumes for the entire cast.

The cast includes William C. Boyden, Jr., in the title role, and such well known persons as Barrett Conway, Ralph Varney, Mrs. Taliaferro

Milton, Miss Olive Grover and others who have been outstanding in other productions by the Community players.

The production was staged this Friday and will be presented again tonight, beginning at 7:30 o'clock, in the Jane Kuppenheimer Memorial auditorium at Skokie school. Members of the Community players will be admitted on their membership tickets while the general public will be charged the customary admission fee.

Large Cast

The cast of characters is as follows: Strolling players—The Piper, William C. Boyden, Jr.; Michael-The Sword, Donald Cameron; Cheat-The Devil, Emma Rummeler; Men and Women of Hamelin—Jaconus, the burgoemeister, Ralph W. Varney; Kurt, the syndic, Barrett Conway; Peter, the cobbler, E. Irving Belote; Hans, the butcher, Graeme Canning; Axel, the smith, J. H. Deming; Peter, the sacristan, E. J. Flannery; Anselm, a young priest, William Ayer McKinney; Old Claus, a miser, Edgar Dale; town crier, Frank Bailey; Veronika, the

wife of Kurt, Mrs. Taliaferro Milton; Barbara, daughter of Jacobus, Louise Conway; wife of Hans, the butcher, Mrs. E. A. Rummeler; wife of Axel, the smith, Florence Canning; widow of Martin, the watch, Mrs. Donald Cameron; Old Ursula, Olive Lothrop Grover.

Children in Cast

Children—Jan, Constance Conner; Hansel, Tom Carson; Isle, Ruth Offner, Jean Forrest; Trude, Edward Klee; Rudi, Betty Barroll. Other children of Hamelin—Louise McKenzie, Janet Shepard, Edith Hirsch, Sue Potter, David Lindsay, Peter Cable, Fred Fairman, Tom Heffner, Richard Longini, Robert Walgren, Dan Wachs, Alan Robinson; two acolytes, Olin Sethness, William Kidd.

Other women of Hamelin—Paulina Mitchell, Myrtle Ness, Bertha Gehrke, Mrs. Irving Belote, Minna Fox, Monks—Mary E. Williams, Clara Harsh. Nuns—Catharine Smith, Mona Graham. Other men of Hamelin—E. A. Rummeler, D. R. Kennicott, A. F. Sterrett, A. M. Schaaf, William Marsh. Other strolling players: Edward Porter, Louise McKenzie, Rosalie Roach. John Borino, of Winnetka, teacher of flute

and piano, who for many years played with the Chicago Civic Opera orchestra, will do the piping.

DEPICT ESKIMO LIFE

One morning last week the first grade of the North Shore Country Day school gave a carefully prepared morning exercise in costume, on the "Life of the Eskimo." Certain interesting customs were shown in front of a constructed Igloo.

HOLD THEATRE PARTY

The Winnetka Coal-Lumber company gave its annual dinner and theater party to its office employes and department heads, last Monday evening. There were 18 in the party. They saw George White's Scandals at the Illinois theatre.

The Current Events class will meet Friday, February 19, at 2:30 o'clock, with Mrs. M. R. Crittenden, 466 Linden street, Winnetka.



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