

CALLS LITTLE THEATER PECULIARLY AMERICAN

Harold Ehrensperger Tells Threshold Players of Development of Drama Movement

The Threshold Players of Glencoe heard a splendid talk on the little theater movement by Harold Ehrensperger, at their meeting last Tuesday evening, at the home of Miss Rebecca Anthony, 684 Bluff street, Glencoe.

Mr. Ehrensperger is well known as a lecturer and authority on the drama and staging. He is thoroughly versed not only in the theory but in the practice of the modern drama methods, and has had wide experience and study both here and abroad. He is the secretary of the Drama League of America, and at the present time is giving a series of lectures at Northwestern university. His knowledge of the subject, and his engaging way of talking made the evening particularly interesting.

19,000 Little Theaters

He said that 19,000 little theaters were registered in the Drama League of America, and that this movement is one of the most phenomenal things that ever happened to the theater. These little theaters are being organized in high schools, small and large clubs and in very big organizations, and through them thousands of people are becoming acquainted with types of plays that are of a higher character, more serious and better than productions put on by the legitimate theater at the present time. They have their faults, of course, but their audiences are trained to know good plays, and to feel a deep interest in the theater.

The little theater in America, said Mr. Ehrensperger, is an absolutely new movement, something that is unique and entirely American. There is nothing like it in Europe. In large

cities where the population is continually circulating, where every community is almost completely changed every year, little theaters cannot survive; but in communities like Glencoe, where homes are established and where people are acquainted with each other, the little theater flourishes. The genius of such an organization, he said, is a group of people who are interested to become charter members, a group that can be counted on to be a board of directors to settle the policies of the organization. Such groups that find no rapid changes of personnel and leadership, live. By growing together and getting to know each other's peculiarities and idiosyncracies, the members of the organization are enabled to put on work that vies with the professional.

Mr. Ehrensperger believes that the little theater movement is leading toward an entirely new step in the drama, that through it will be developed originality in America, and a thoroughly American theater.

Mr. and Mrs. Sanford B. White and their family of 795 Foxdale avenue are leaving Sunday to spend three weeks at Island Lake camp at Iron River, Wis. Mr. and Mrs. Edwin R. Keeler of 630 Walden road and their daughter, Lucy Jane, will accompany them.

The Rev. A. G. Scandler of Yale spent last week-end with Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Chatwin of 972 Spruce street. Prof. Wissenhunt, superintendent of schools at Shreeveport, Ia., has also been a guest of the Chatwins. He has been taking some special work, at the University of Chicago summer session.

Mrs. John Cordner West of 937 Gordon terrace will leave September 1, for Champaign, where she has taken an apartment for a year. Her daughter, Jessie, will be a senior at the university, and her son, John Cordner, will be a freshman. The Gordon terrace home has been taken for a year by Dr. George F. Munns of Winnetka.

C. L. Chatwin of 972 Spruce street has returned home after attending the Diamond Jubilee of Canada, celebrating the sixtieth anniversary of the confederation of the provinces. After having been away from his home town, Owen Sound, Ontario, for forty years, Mr. Chatwin attended a homecoming held there.

Mr. and Mrs. William J. Hough of 1024 Cherry street, with their small son, Dick, and Mr. Hough's mother, Mrs. A. M. Hough, of Toledo, left Thursday to take the Georgian Bay trip to Mackinac. They will be gone two weeks.

Mrs. Gary Sutcliffe of 610 Spruce street has returned to Winnetka after spending five weeks with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. George McClure, in their home at Danville, Ky.

Mr. and Mrs. William Fox of 579 Arbor Vitae road have returned from a sixteen day motor trip through Wisconsin. They spent about a week at the Lawsonia estate, Green Lake, Wis.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Lange, with Harold F. Lange and Edward Lange, Jr., of 838 Locust street, have been registered at the St. Catherine hotel, Catalina Island.

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