

THRILLS AND CHILLS IN NEXT GUILD PLAY

Production to Be Given in Various North Shore Towns; Presents Difficult Task

Everything is in readiness for the presentation of what promises to be one of the most unusual plays ever given in this vicinity by an amateur group. The mystery melodrama, "Number 17," scheduled for next week by the North Shore Theater guild in local playhouses, has taxed the ingenuity of a trained staff of stage technicians from Northwestern university to the utmost. Few plays equal it in the variety of unique effects and complex lighting called for, and it has taken weeks of planning to perfect the "back stage" program necessary for satisfactory presentation.

Strangely enough, "Number 17" will be given its initial performance in Lake Forest January 17. It will require the largest staff of stage hands the guild has ever carried. While the last year's production of "Henry IV" exceeded the present offering in the size of its cast, and in scenic variety, it did not use the number of "supers" that "Number 17" must have.

Promise Chills Aplenty

All plans have been carefully laid. Complete sketches of all details have been made, and sound, lighting and other mechanical effects have been scheduled to the second. The illusion thus created promises to affect even the most cold-blooded of spectators with chilly sensations in the region of the spine.

Meanwhile, the cast of "Number 17" is rapidly smoothing out its end of the performance, which is, after all, important. Under the direction of David Owen they are learning how to conduct themselves as crooks, detectives and desperate criminals in the accepted manner, familiar to those who have seen "The Cat and the Canary" and "The Bat." In a play of this kind, where a quirk of the eyebrow, or an inadvertent chuckle, may lead the audience to suspect the guilty party, it is necessary to practice the grossest deception. The whole point of the play will be to keep the audience guessing as to "who's got the button" up to the final moment of suspense. Thanks to the skillful work of J. Jefferson Farjeon, author of "Number 17," the actors' efforts in this regard should be made easy.

Two Male Leads

J. Williams Macy and Samuel S. Otis take the leading parts in "Number 17," and are well suited to their respective roles. Hawley Mertz, of Evanston, whose work in "Autumn Fire" last year brought him to the attention of north shore audiences, plays an eccentric "hard-boiled" part in an exceedingly natural manner. Zoe Comer, dramatic director at Deerfield Shields High school, Highland Park, and a graduate of the school of speech, Northwestern university, has been entrusted with the difficult and mysterious role of Rose Akroyd. Eugene Macy, prominent in "Henry IV," has an important part in the play that calls for deft interpretation. Other guild members taking part in the play are Mary A. Harding, Joseph Shippen, J. Lincoln Gibson, and George W. Bartlett.

The itinerary for "Number 17" is as follows: Durant Hall, Lake Forest, January 17; Woman's club, Highland Park, January 18; Central School auditorium, Glencoe, January 19; Skokie school, Jane Kuppenheimer Memorial hall, Winnetka, January 20 and 21; Shawnee Country club, Wilmette, January 24; and the Woman's club, Evanston, January 25 and 26.

Little Interest Shown at Filling Station Hearing

Lack of interest in the public hearing before the Winnetka zoning commission on the proposed amendment to the building ordinance limiting filling stations to class D industrial territory, is indicative that the commission will recommend to the Village council that the ordinance be so amended, it is said.

The hearing was set for 8 o'clock Tuesday evening, on which date, beginning at 9 o'clock, the hearing on the proposed amendment to the zoning ordinance affecting apartment buildings was scheduled.

It was presumed the hour would be consumed in the filling station discussion, but less than twenty minutes were used, no objections were offered, and the commission "marked time" until 9 o'clock by permitting an informal discussion of the subject technically set for 9 o'clock.

There is but a very small section of class D industrial territory in Winnetka, extending along Center street from Spruce street north to the village yard, and a small section in Hubbard Woods, between Merrill and Scott avenues, immediately west of the tracks.

The proposed amendment, if passed, will not affect filling stations already in, or approved, it is said, neither do curb pumps come under its provision.

Permission for the latter is granted by the council, from year to year, at an annual fee of \$10, and curb pumps are permitted in class C commercial territory.

Filling stations have, until recently, been permitted in the latter zoning. There is no ordinance, at present, governing the location of filling stations, hence the proposed amendment.

Water Tests Show Complete Absence of Contamination

The report of Carl Leopold, superintendent of the filtration plant, to the Village Manager for 1927 covering the analysis of water distributed to the Village of Winnetka and Glencoe contains some rather interesting information as to the safety of the water supply.

The report shows that during the year 104 special tests were made at various points about the village and these tests show a complete absence of bacterial contamination as well as freedom from turbidity and color.

The tests also show the presence of a very slight excess of chlorine, which condition is an assurance that the water has been thoroughly sterilized at the filtration plant.

"Traveling" Salesman Unfurls False Colors

Authorities at New Trier High school have been advised concerning the exploits of a youthful necktie salesman who is scouring the north shore with his stock of cravats, the while representing himself as a peculiarly ambitious student of the high school.

This salesman informs householders of his intention to enjoy a trip to Washington, D. C., during the Spring vacation period as one of a group of New Trier students and under the sponsorship of the high school. He must defray one-half the expense of the journey, he says, while the High school bears a burden to the extent of the other half.

Facts are, no trip of that nature is contemplated by the high school authorities, since the tours are made in alternate years, 1928, sadly enough for the salesman, being one of the off years.

The neckties may be O. K., my dears, but the young man's story is, well, rather fanciful. Govern yourselves accordingly!

DEHMLOW ON 'CARPET'

Veteran Officer "Called in" by Village President; Receives Watch and Chain from Police Chief and Force

John Dehmlow, 70 year old veteran police officer of Winnetka, who at the close of 1927 retired from the service on pension, was "called on the carpet" for the first time in his 28 years of police service, last Sunday afternoon.

Village President Henry F. Tenney and Chief of Police W. M. Peterson informed the retiring officer they had a matter that they wished to take up with him and requested that he meet them in the Council chamber at the Village hall at 3 o'clock Sunday afternoon.

When John arrived, he found assembled his fellow officers and members of the Winnetka Police Pension board, before whom he was presented a beautiful gold watch and watch chain set. On the watch was engraved, "Presented to Officer John Dehmlow by Fellow Officers of Winnetka Police Department, January 1, 1928."

The chain and knife set was a gift from the head of the department, the knife bearing the engraving, "Officer John Dehmlow from Chief Peterson, January 1, 1928."

The presentation of the watch was made by President Tenney and the other gift was presented by the Chief.

"Thank you," John said—it was all he was able to say. Then, as he gazed at the beautiful tokens of esteem which he held in his hands, he continued:

Did His Best

"As long as I have been on the force, I have tried to do my best. Sometimes I made mistakes, but I always did the best I could."

And it was just doing those very things that won for John Dehmlow the high esteem in which he is held, not only by the members of the Winnetka Police department but by the citizens of the village, in general.

This, in substance, was told to him by President Tenney, in his brief presentation speech, and by Chief Peterson in his official farewell to the Senior officer of his force.

J. M. Dickinson, Jr., representing the Winnetka Police Pension Board, said he considered himself fortunate to witness the retirement of such a man as John Dehmlow, whose record of faithful and efficient service to the village will be an example worthy of emulation.

Local School Children Sell \$689.51 in Seals

Winnetka school children sold \$689.51 worth of Tuberculosis Institute Health stamps this Christmas season, according to Mrs. Theodore Buenger, who was in charge of the sales this year. The sales were divided as follows: Skokie, \$200; Greeley, \$189.09; Horace Mann, \$161.41; Country Day, \$67.76; Hubbard Woods, \$56.05; and banks and drug stores, \$15.20.

Each school will receive a volleyball as a reward for its sales. The sales this year exceed those of last by nearly \$20, last year's having totalled \$671.

Missionary to Talk on Experiences in China

Wednesday evening, January 18, at 8 o'clock, at the Parish House on Oak street, the Rev. Elof Franzen of the Swedish Missionary society, Ichang, Hupeh, China, will speak on his thrilling experiences during the recent times in China. The service is in charge of the Christian Fellowship church. This missionary has an extraordinary story to tell, and the church extends a hearty welcome to all who are interested in spreading the gospel of our Lord among the millions in China. A free-will collection will be taken up on behalf of this most worthy cause.

ART LEAGUE EXHIBIT ATTRACTS VISITORS

Annual Event in Matz Hall, Winnetka, Displays Art Works of North Shore People

by Critic

The opening reception and exhibit for members of the North Shore art league and their guests was held last Thursday evening in Matz hall, Winnetka Community House. As each person entered the hall, he was given a slip on which to record his vote for the winner of the Loraine Miller Stewart prize. This award was offered by William A. Stewart of 620 Cherry street, Winnetka, to encourage the purchase of pictures. Another prize that attracted much attention was one offered by Mrs. Grace Tower Brion of Glencoe for the most popular water color on exhibit.

The Stewart purchase prize of \$250 for the best oil painting was won by Allen Philbrick, the subject of his painting being "Shadow Clouds," and the other prize, \$25.00, was won by Lawrence Buck. The subject of his painting was "From the Bluff."

Violin and harp music was played throughout the evening by a number of Chicago artists, and in the middle of the evening a dancing group, coached by Mrs. Mildred Haessler of Ravinia, gave a program. Refreshments were served.

Awards for Posters

The posters submitted by New Trier High school students, announcing the exhibit, were on display in the Camp Fire room. Prizes were awarded to the makers of the four judged to be best, and honorable mention was given four others.

Nearly all of the most distinguished artists on the north shore were represented in the exhibit, most of them showing two samples of their work. Among the most outstanding of the works in oils were two beautiful landscapes by Frank Peyraud, an honorary member of the league. Another honorary member, A. F. Brooks, exhibited a lovely marine painted in California. Rudolph Ingerle had a marine in oil, showing gorgeous coloring. Allen Philbrick showed two of his fine landscapes and Marguerite Taylor exhibited a charming boat scene. Among other landscapes worthy of particular mention were ones by Percy B. Eckhart, Max Gundlach, and Elbert G. Drew.

The portraits were fewer in number than usual, but their quality was unusually good. Leslie Raymond Nash had an interesting one of a Russian Street urchin and another of himself at work. Mrs. Elizabeth B. Millard had a striking portrait to which she gives no name. Mrs. J. W. F. Davies exhibited two fine portraits, one of Mrs. Arthur Dean, and the other of Mrs. Clarke Washburn. Mrs. Anita Willits Burnham exhibited a charming portrait of her small daughter, Ann, who, it seems, could not be painted without her puppy. Another portrait of distinction was one of Mrs. Heyda, painted by Mrs. Elizabeth Boldenweck.

Pastels Win Praise

Many pastels were on exhibit. "From the Bluff" and "Skokie," two paintings by Lawrence Buck, were particularly attractive. Jane Johnson had an interesting still life, "Collector's Luck." Miss Catherine Murphy's landscape of pines, Mrs. James Cady Ewell's colorful garden scene, and Mrs. Winifred Wilson's snow scene could not be omitted from a list of the best.

Grace M. Haskins had one of the out-standing studies of flowers. Winifred Wilson, Marguerite Taylor, and Sybell Vennema also exhibited flower studies. Frances Bowman had two stunning water colors, "From My Garden" and "In October." Emery C. Andrews had an interesting conventional flower picture, "Wall Flowers."

Water colors that attracted attention
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