

Display Stage Art for Next Play at Children's Theater

That the Children's theater has a real artist in its production manager is a fact commented upon by all who have been attending the plays at Haven school theater, Evanston, this season. The settings of the Children's theater of Evanston are generally admitted to be as lovely and imaginative as can be seen in any children's theater in the country.

At the small cost made necessary by the low rate of admission, Dean Farnsworth, of the School of Speech and Haven school, has designed and executed scenes which again and again call forth rapturous "ohs" from the children, and spontaneous applause from the adults.

Students from the School of Speech make up the construction and production crews of the Children's theater, and so valuable do they consider the experience under his direction that a most efficient permanent stage staff has been built up. Ruth Broan, as assistant production manager, Alice Grantham as construction manager, Douglas Bryant as electrician, Richard Hadley as stage manager, Joe Shikany as make-up director and Bernadine Kenison as property manager, are some of the capable workers who make the production end of the theater what it is.

In "The Poor Little Rich Girl," to be presented at Haven school March 10 and 17, some unusual problems have been worked out. The first act is realistic, but changes suddenly near the end when the sleeping medicine begins to work on the little girl, and she thinks she is in the Tell-Tale forest. In a few seconds, in which things get black to her, and she thinks she hears the rumbling of thunder, the scene must change, without the closing of curtains, from the reception hall of Gwendolyn's home to the Tell-Tale forest, where she thinks she is wandering. With very simple devices, Mr. Farnsworth accomplishes the transformation.

Comedy, pathos and fantasy combine to make it a play of great variety, while the characters are such as to delight all ages. There is the Italian organ-grinder, played by Clarence Westerlund, who has a most delightful "make-believe" scene with little Gwendolyn (Mary Frances Dodd), in which he pretends to be Rover, the dog. There is a jolly scene with the plumber (Dick Rose), who stops his work to play with her. And there are strange, fantastic scenes in the Tell-Tale forest, where she is wandering about in her dreams. And there is at last the scene which Mary Frances likes best of all—the scene in the nursery, when her parents come back to her, never to leave her again.

The cast of fifteen men and girls from the School of Speech, and two children from the dramatic department of Haven school are having final dress rehearsals today and tomorrow, under the direction of Winifred Ward. The play opens Saturday morning at 10, and plays again at 2:30 in the afternoon, and at the same hours Saturday, March 17.

PAN-HELLENIC LUNCHEON

The annual Chicago Pan-Hellenic luncheon will take place Saturday, March 17, at 12:30 at the Lake Shore Athletic club. Dr. Francis W. Shepherdson, national president of Beta Theta Pi fraternity, author of Baird's Manual and an editor of "Banta's Greek Exchange" will deliver a lecture of interest to all. Miss Lillian Thompson (Gamma Phi Beta) will give a report of the 1928 Pan-Hellenic congress. Music will be furnished by the Chicago Treble Clef quartet. Make reservations through local groups.

Among the Winnetka people attending the dinner dance of the Chicago Junior school at the Edgewater Beach hotel last Tuesday evening were the Edgar Foster Aldens of 352 Linden avenue, and the George Karnes of 151 Fuller lane.

Mr. and Mrs. Aaron Younker, 349 Sheridan road, entertained at their home last Tuesday evening the Book and Play club. Mr. DuBois spoke on the Negro Problem in America.

MUSICAL COMEDY

Northwestern women's annual musical comedy given by the Women's Athletic association with more than 100 women in the choruses and cast, will take place at the Haven Intermediate school auditorium March 28, 30 and 31. "Sea Plus," a tale of adventure aboard a floating university, written by two Northwestern students, Neal Stanford and Mary Deutch, will be the book of the show.

Pi Beta Phi sorority at Northwestern university will hold its formal initiation Saturday, March 10.

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