

Shore Theaters News

Richard Ward, Larry Coghlan Scintillate in "The Unseen Way"

With Richard Ward and Larry Coghlan (whoever he may be) giving steller performances, the Evanston Players are presenting "The Unseen Way," a "romance of the unusual" at the Evanston this week.

Considerably more people were out on the first night this week than have been attending the Players' productions lately, and they all went home, without a doubt, vastly pleased with Ward, an old friend, and Coghlan, a new one. The former was never in better form, and the latter, undoubtedly a veteran of the stage, did a practically flawless job in the part of George Holt, bank president.

George Pembroke and Robert Lowes were the only other outstanding members of the cast, altho Maude Fealy,

guest actress, was passable in a part much too young for her, which she considerably over-acted.

Beatrice Leiblee, Ann Dere, Lew Welsh, Joan Peers and Karl Way all had minor parts and did them in a very satisfactory manner. Here and there throughout the action each of them had a chance to do some distinctive work and they were at all times equal to the occasion.

On the shoulders of Ward, however, fell the duty of putting across most of the comedy lines, with which the play is replete, and it was Coghlan's task to play a rather difficult, heavy, double part, which he did admirably.

Any explanation of the plot would divulge the solution of the mystery involved and spoil the show for those who have not yet had the pleasure of seeing it. It is enough to say that the plot is carefully worked out and the denouement is satisfactory. The play,

however, would not stand up as a mystery play alone. The comedy running through it is what makes it worthwhile and the prickly chills resulting from dark scenes, sudden and mysterious appearances and disappearances, secret panels and ghost music are just so much extra for your money.

For the benefit of those who must have a corpse to enjoy a mystery, there is one murder in the show, the most meretricious stage murder, by the way, that I ever hope to witness.

I can recall hardly any other show that affords a more satisfactory evening's entertainment than this. It is a well written play with a heavy sprinkling of sure-fire laughs, and enough thrills to elicit a goodly number of nervous squeals from high strung members of the audience.

C. V. K.

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