

Lew Welsh Stars in Flag Waving Play at Evanston This Week

Lew Welsh, well beloved character man of the Evanston Players, steps up into a lead part this week in "Friendly Enemies," a war echo at the Evanston theater. Welsh lends to the part all of his ability as an actor and makes it stand out as a real dramatic achievement.

Albert West, as Henry Block, the other of the two friendly enemies, plays his part in a workmanlike manner, ably supporting Lew, who is Karl Pfeiffer. An excellent characterization is given by Gertrude Le Brandt, a newcomer, who portrays Mrs. Pfeiffer.

The other two important parts, William Pfeiffer and Walter Stuart, are well done, respectively, by William Rath and Bruce McLeod, both strangers to the local stage. Maude Fealy is the daughter of Block, June, and Beatrice Leiblee is Nora, the maid.

Block and the elder Pfeiffer were both born in Germany and emigrated to America as young men. Block is an ardent supporter of America's participation in the war and, unknown to his friends, is a member of the secret service. Pfeiffer is equally loyal to the Fatherland. The two, friends at heart, nearly come to blows every evening over the war.

Without telling his pro-German father, William has enlisted in the army and has obtained a lieutenant's commission. He is engaged to June and asks her to break the news to his father. Neither she nor her father nor Mrs. Pfeiffer, however, manage to screw up their courage to the point of actually telling him until William comes home, in uniform, the day before he is to sail for France.

Meanwhile the elder Pfeiffer has negotiated with Stuart, a German spy chief in disguise, to contribute \$50,000 for pro-German propaganda in this country. Stuart tells him that \$25,000 of the money will be used to help put a quick end to the war.

Pfeiffer renounces home and family and friends when he finds that his son has enlisted, but later returns in an attempt to keep William from going with his regiment. The son sails, however, and the ship he is on is blown up two miles off shore by a charge of dynamite in the coal bunkers. Pfeiffer finds that his \$25,000 financed the plot and promptly turns American. He determines to kill Stuart.

William escapes intact, Stuart is captured—and so to bed.

The play, in the main, is a blatant bit of flag waving, saved from melodramatic mediocrity and the role of mere propaganda, however, by humor and real dramatic power. It is not a perfect vehicle for Welsh but, nevertheless, a good one. West, Miss Le Brandt and Rath are exceptionally well cast.

C. V. K.

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Miss Christine Baumann of 279 Linden avenue, Winnetka, has left for a stay in California.

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Services

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9:45 a. m. First service and sermon.
11 a. m. Second service and examination of catechumens.
Sermon: Revelation and Knowledge.

Ascension of Christ

Thursday, May 17 at 7:45 p. m.
Divine services.

Meetings

Monday at 4:00 Classes for children.
Monday at 7:30 Classes at the pastor's study.
Monday 7:45 Choir rehearsal.
Monday at 8:30: Committee of the confirmed.
Tuesday at 8: Building committee.
Friday at 7:45: Junior Walther league.

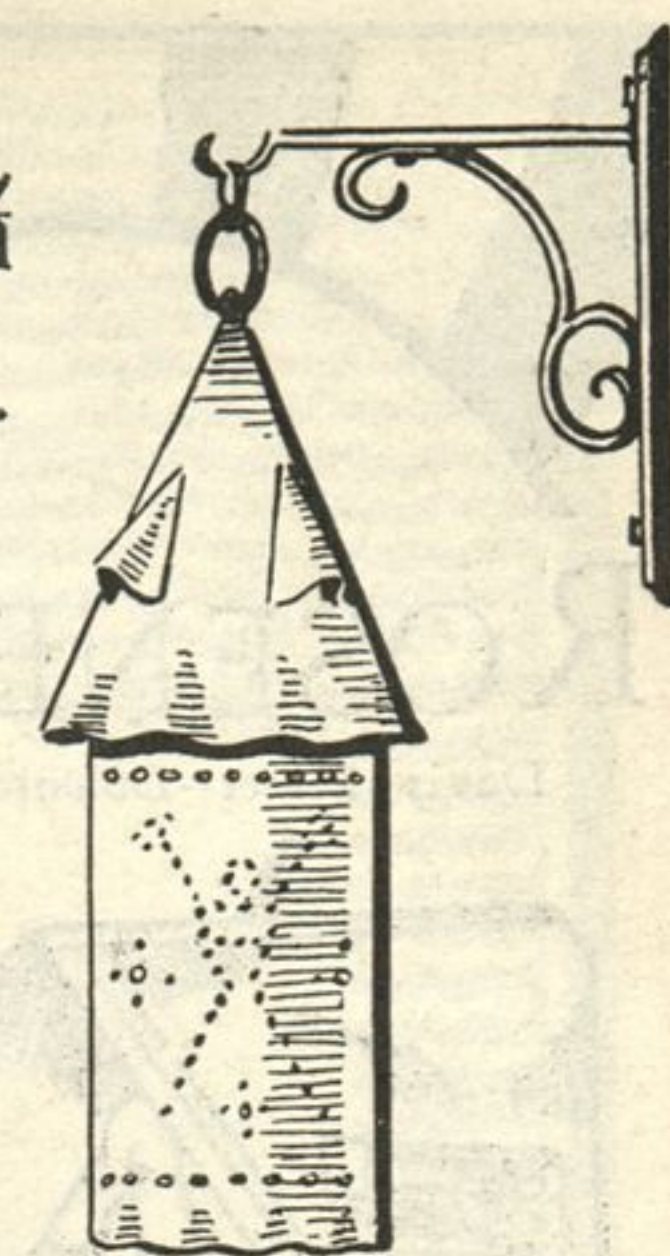
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