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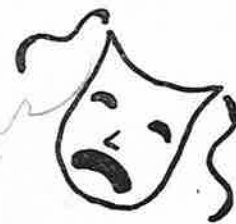
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THE
Fort Smith Little Theatre, Inc.

presents
Bertha Stromberg
Kind Lady

By
EDWARD CHODOROV

Adapted from a Story
by
HUGH WALPOLE

Directed by
MARJORIE ALLEN JOHNSTON

*M. One
Nancy Oppenheimer*

Yvonne Jackson

Lucy Jones

November 9 and 10

8:15 P. M.

JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM

Third Season 1949-50

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Recapping

The Young Ladies' Guild of Sparks Hospital is proud that the project we chose to sponsor in 1947 has grown so rapidly in such a short time.

The Guild this year has taken care of all ticket selling and advertising. As in years past the Guild will continue to buy equipment for the operating room. In return the hospital donates an equivalent amount in charity work.

We realize that without the support of the community we would be unable to carry out our program. We sincerely thank you all.

Mrs. L. S. Lester, President

CONGRATULATIONS and BEST WISHES

Beckman Dairy Company

The presentation of Kind Lady marks the beginning of the third season of the Fort Smith Little Theatre.

We are most pleased you are back with us again this year and know you will be pleased with this play. It is to you we owe the success of Little Theatre as you, our season ticket holders, make up its membership.

About six weeks before each production tryouts are held at Junior High School and all of you are urged to come. Why don't you realize your secret ambitions and become an acting or back-stage member of Little Theatre?

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***Backstage in the Fort Smith Little Theatre
(or) Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea(ts)***

With only enthusiasm and nerve and a small amount of training and experience a few ambitious souls reported in response to a newspaper article telling of a plan to start a Little Theatre group in Fort Smith nearly two years ago. The growth of this crew has truly kept pace with the increasing scope of the rest of the Theatre.

Although they're rarely seen by the audience (except at a second curtain call or occasionally by accident), if a show proceeds without breaking down in the middle, the actors and actresses appear with the correct hand props, the stage is set, decorated, lit, and tastefully arranged, makeup is on straight and in character, prompting is swiftly done where needed, the curtain is opened and closed on time, you may be sure that there are those backstage who are responsible.

The first production presented the greatest problem for the crew. The Theatre, of course, had no scenery, no lighting equipment, no makeup, no sound—no money. Heads were scratched, meetings were held, ideas were discussed. Should we build scenery or should we try it in the modern manner with only a suggestion of a set? Then came the thought that there were some old flats, long in disuse, at the Senior High School. A committee went out to examine them and reported that they were in terrible shape. They needed painting and were warped to such an extent that they could not be fitted together. A quick decision was reached to try them anyway. There followed frantic planing, hammering, sawing and painting, and a set was found. It wasn't a good set, but usable under the circumstances. Platforms were needed—and built. Junior High School owned two baby spotlights and two clusters which were pressed into use. This was the beginning.

Each production has presented new problems in set decoration, lighting, makeup, properties and the other behind-the-scenes techniques. With the new problems appeared new faces, volunteers with and without prior experience, among the few whose names you will have seen on program after program. Every issue was met and conquered. You, our patrons, are the judges of the results.

Ben Pollock and Payne Morrow

About the Cast

Mrs. Harry B. Sher (ROSE) came from Oklahoma to Fort Smith with her husband in January of this year. She has been an active participant in community theatre work in her native Florida. Mr. Sher heads the Sher Development Co., exploring a new gas and oil field in Crawford county.

★

Jerry Kerwin, (HENRY), who has previously worked backstage, comes before the footlights with talent well-trained under the direction of Margaret Montague in local productions of **Our Town**, **You Can't Take It With You**, **The Moon Is Down**, and **George Washington Slept Here**. His role is a demanding one and he handles it with skill and insight.

★

Marian Embrey (PHYLLIS), is type-cast in the role of an engaged miss, because that's just what she is! Marian, too, comes to us with high school and junior college experience in **The Little Foxes**, **Guest in the House**, **The Importance of Being Earnest**, and **Outward Bound**.

★

Steve Creekmore, Jr. (PETER), has heretofore turned in his best performances on the golf links. He's our nomination for the All American Guy. His is another case of making Little Theatre a "family affair." Wife Jane starred in **John Loves Mary**.

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Little Theatre

●

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to the cast of*

"KIND LADY"

★

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About the Cast

Col. Hudson B. Phillips and Mrs. Phillips (MRS. EDWARDS) began rehearsals in the conjugal roles of Mr. and Mrs. Edwards. But the army, with first call on his services, sent Chaplain Phillips to Carlyle, Penn. "Dot" specialized in Shakespearian roles in college and has continued her interest in the stage throughout her career as an army wife.

★

When the switch in roles was necessary, Burley Johnston, Jr., stepped into the role of Mr. Edwards. Burley, who claims "no experience," has found himself remarkably at home on the stage.

★

Paschal Porta, during the last week of rehearsal, accepted the role of Mr. Foster, previously played by Burley. Pat was active in Junior College Sock and Buskin and is now the very popular radio announcer of KFSA.

★

Mrs. Henry C. Read, Jr. (ADA), with "no previous experience in dramatics," manages to infuse her role with a delicate, eerie quality which will make you remember it.

★

Jimmy Hauser (ROSENBERG) comes to Fort Smith from Kansas City, where he last year studied interior design at the Kansas City Art Institute. We welcome him, with our other newcomers, to the community in which they are rapidly making a place for themselves.

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FORT SMITH,
ARKANSAS

About the Cast

Kind Lady might be sub-titled "New Faces." With the exception of two people, our cast is making its debut on the Little Theatre stage.

★

Clare Jones (AGGIE), who scored a lively hit as the Cockney war-bride, Lily, in *John Loves Mary*, and Larry Tennant, (the DOCTOR), who gave an equally memorable performance as the Italian junk dealer in *What A Life*, are once more contributing excellent character portraits.

★

The other actors appear here for the first time. We are proud of their performances, particularly since several of them have had little or no theatrical experience. Which only goes to prove what we have said before—that you can do it, too.

★

Mrs. Irvin M. Sternberg (MARY) is well-known to Fort Smith audiences as an accomplished pianist, gracious and generous with her talent. While she has performed in various musical skits, *Kind Lady* is her first major role as an actress.

★

Mrs. Henderson Speer (LUCY) admits having played the lead in one play at Rogers School some time ago. She's showing son Dave (*John Loves Mary* and *What A Life*) he's not the only one in the family who can turn a pretty speech.

GRIFFIN GROCERY

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ARKANSAS

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THE FORT SMITH LITTLE THEATRE, INC.

presents

"Kind Lady"

By

Edward Chodorov

Directed by

Marjorie Allen Johnston

THE CAST

MR. FOSTER	PASCHAL PORTA
MARY HERRIES	BERTHA STERNBERG
LUCY WESTON	ALYNE SPEER
ROSE	RUBY SHER
PHYLLIS GLENNING	MARIAN EMBREY
PETER SANTARD	STEVE CREEKMORE, JR.
HENRY ABBOTT	W. G. KERWIN, JR.
ADA	MARTHA PRESTON READ
DOCTOR	LAWRENCE TENNANT
MR. EDWARDS	BURLEY JOHNSTON, JR.
MRS. EDWARDS	DOROTHY V. PHILLIPS
AGGIE	CLARE JONES
GUSTAV ROSENBERG	JAMES H. HAUSER

SCENES

The action of the play takes place in the living room of Mary Herries' home in Montague Square, London.

PROLOGUE

An afternoon in spring.

ACT ONE

Scene 1—Late Christmas Eve, several years before.

Scene 2—After dinner, the following January.

Intermission

ACT TWO

An afternoon later in January.

Intermission

ACT THREE

An afternoon the following summer.

EPILOGUE

Refreshments will be served in the foyer during intermissions.

Dial 5123

★

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