

DIRECTING FOR LITTLE THEATRE

While Mrs. James Pattee was directing for Little Theatre, it was her often expressed wish that the Board appoint a Directing Staff to encourage the development of other directors so that we might have a trained reserve. Such a committee is now permanent on the Board, with the responsibility of securing directors for our productions.

In 1949, Mrs. Burley Johnston, Jr., directed KIND LADY. After the Pattees' departure, Mrs. Payne Morrow directed AFFAIRS OF STATE, December, 1952. In February this year, Miss Margaret Montague gave her professional services to the direction of A BILL OF DIVORCEMENT.

Tonight our director is Miss Ann Sims, whose actual theatrical training has come directly from her work onstage and backstage with Fort Smith Little Theatre. We're proud of her—and proud of us!

Our next production, scheduled for October 12, will be directed by Mrs. Johnston.

PRODUCTION AND BUSINESS STAFF For THERE'S ALWAYS A MURDER

Production Manager.....Payne Morrow
Stage Manager.....Ben Pollock
Lights.....Happ Schultz
Sound.....Tom Ross
Properties.....Mrs. James Fleming, Wanda Price,
Mrs. Ralph Hetherington
Costumes.....Kathryn Gamble
Prompter.....Reba Raney
Program.....Mrs. Burley C. Johnston, Jr.
House.....Jesse Winner
Coffee Service.....Mrs. Lawrence Tennant
Reservations.....Ruth May Morton

THANK YOU!
for AFFAIRS OF STATE:

Paige Mulhollan
Calvert-McBride



The Fort Smith Little Theatre, Inc.

presents

There's Always A Murder

A MYSTERY COMEDY

by

KEN PARKER

directed by

ANN SIMS

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May 11, 12, 13, 14, 15

Little Theatre Playhouse

8:15 P. M.

3800 North O Street

Sixth Season 1953



Who's A-round . . .

J. P. MEADORS (Haywood), last seen as the ingeniously charming Senator in *AFFAIRS OF STATE*, tonight exhibits charm of the snake-like variety. Little Theatre will miss J. P. when he returns East this summer to continue his career as a pianist. He has presented recitals in Chicago and New York. On concert tours he has accompanied Blanche Thebom, Ann Ayars, Nicola Moscona, and Winifred Heckman. We wish him well as he again offers his talents to the Muse of Music.

PAT ENGLAND (Rosalind) also won laurels in *AFFAIRS OF STATE* as the sophisticated Constance. Her artistic training, too, has been chiefly musical. She toots a flute for the Fort Smith Symphony. Pat and husband John carry a full share of civic responsibilities. Pat recently co-chaired the Mothers' March on Polio. John is Jaycee president. There are two England daughters.

TONY MORROW (Drucilla) is Little Theatre's special sprite. Indefatigable and unfailingly good-humoured, Tony has served L. T. in innumerable capacities—ranging from scrub-woman to director. Her warmth and generosity have endeared her to her co-workers, and her theatrical talent has made her an audience favorite. The Morrow family (Payne is Production Manager for this show) is a whizz-bang team. Jimmy and Lynn think Little Theatre is part of the family!

KATHRYN GAMBLE (Mrs. Biddle) carried her interest in things theatrical from coast-to-coast (D. C. and Calif.) and brought it back again to work for us—onstage, backstage, and in the preparation of many and many a script. Kathryn works for Corn Products Sales Co. With Reba Raney, she co-chaired B. & P. W.'s recent highly successful Dog Show. She has been active in Red Cross Motor Corps, and is hostess for U.S.O.

BETTY HINTON (Katherine) is speech-and-drama instructor at Fort Smith Junior College and captivated her audience as Vesta Louise in J. C.'s recent production of *HARVEY*. Betty studied at the U. of A. where she acted in *PHILADELPHIA STORY*, *BORN YESTERDAY*, and *FATAL WEAKNESS*. She served as student assistant to technical director Preston Magruder for University Theatre's world premiere of *ACRES OF SKY*.

WILLIAM M. WEAVER (Merrygold) is on leave of absence from U. of Wis. Dept. of English, where he is completing work on a Ph.D. in American Lit. and Drama. Billy Mack has travelled around: He was active in Cornell U. Theatre while stationed there in the Navy; conducted the Bluejackets' Choir in Asbury Park; taught English and dramatics in Texas; picked up a B.A. at the U. of Okla.; and took graduate studies at Yale. All that—and he can still play "Oscar P." with conviction!

IRMA DORIS THOMSON (Henrietta) "just loves" murder mysteries—having starred in her senior class play, *THE NIGHT OF JANUARY 16th*. She studied with Margaret Montague, followed thru in J.C., did radio work at U. of A., taught some private speech pupils before becoming associated with advertising and real estate. Son Jimmy's in kindergarten; Patricia's in first grade.

MIKE MALONEY (Mulligan) swears by the "small world" theory. He met wife Dee (likewise from Brooklyn) when both were stationed in the Army at Chaffee. Mike is a member of L.T.'s Board of Directors, played the professor in *GOODBYE, MY FANCY*, and has engineered lights and sound on several shows. Daytimes you'll find him at United Bldg. & Loan. There are two little Maloneys.

JERRY KERWIN (Inspector) is an "Optimist," JayCee, and co-chairman of the Arkansas Golden Gloves tournament. Jerry studied in Los Angeles, St. Louis, and the U. of A. He worked on production for our *SEE HOW THEY RUN* and played the fascinating villain in *KIND LADY*.

THE Fort Smith Little Theatre, Inc.

presents

There's Always A Murder

By Special Arrangement with Samuel French

directed by
ANN SIMS

THE CAST

Steve Haywood.....	J. P. MEADORS
Rosalind.....	PAT ENGLAND
Drucilla Taylor.....	TONY MORROW
Mrs. Biddle.....	KATHRYN GAMBLE
Katherine Horton.....	BETTY HINTON
Oscar P. Merrygold.....	WILLIAM M. WEAVER
Mrs. Henrietta Jordan-Smythe.....	IRMA DORIS THOMSON
Mulligan.....	MIKE MALONEY
Inspector O'Reilly.....	JERRY KERWIN

THE SCENE

A furnished apartment in Boston, Mass.

ACT ONE

Scene 1 — 2 o'clock on a sunny June afternoon

Scene 2 — Evening the same day

ACT TWO

One week later

ACT THREE

One second later!

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— Smoking in the foyer only, please —