

We mentioned Committees a while ago. With his usual perspicacity, president Caughron selected willing and efficient workers to head them this season. Many things had to be provided, so the responsibility was divided among Katie Robison for Costumes; Helen Jurczak for Properties; Mrs. Bud Lewis for Stage Furnishings and Matt Jurczak for Scenery. Honore Ronan was given Play Selection; Bob Wright, Publicity; Stuart Stevens, Make-up, and Charlie Henson followed through on Membership. Preparation and distribution of Programs was assigned to Lew Selby. Each of the above had the invaluable assistance of many hard-working assistants.

IT'S TIME AGAIN

Christmas Browsing Season is here—only about 30 days from now is Christmas. Woodbury's Christmas Store is ready and waiting for you. 125-127 North Vermilion.

The next Red Mask production will be "OUR TOWN" probably early in March, 1950. Watch your favorite newspaper for later details.



RED MASK PLAYERS
 THIRTEENTH SEASON
 PRESENTING
"LIFE WITH FATHER"
 NOVEMBER 16-17, 1949
 PALACE THEATRE
 DANVILLE, ILLINOIS

RING AROUND ELIZABETH
 GHOST FLIES SOUTH
 NO TIME FOR COMEDY
 YOU CAN'T TAKE IT WITH YOU
 THE PHILADELPHIA STORY
 THE LATE CHRISTOPHER BEAN
 OUT OF THE FRYING PAN
 GUEST IN THE HOUSE
 CLAUDIA
 BLITHE SPIRIT
 FIRST LADY
 LAURA
 TO THE LADIES
 YES AND NO
 SUSPECT
 REBECCA
 JUNIOR MISS
 THE DOVER ROAD
 FRESH FIELDS
 THREE'S A FAMILY
 THE MALE ANIMAL
 GEO. WASHINGTON SLEPT HERE
 PERSONAL APPEARANCE
 PETTICOAT FEVER
 DANGEROUS CORNER
 THE NIGHT OF JAN. SIXTEENTH
 THERE'S ALWAYS JULIET
 THE MAN WHO CAME TO DINNER
 NIGHT MUST FALL
 MY SISTER EILEEN

While the Red Mask Players' organization embraces nearly fourteen hundred theatre-conscious individuals, play participation requires only a very small part of this membership.

Those of us who have been chosen to entertain you tonight sincerely hope that our weeks of preparation may enable us to present the selected comedy to your complete enjoyment-satisfaction.

Our thanks to the Casting committee for this honor and our compliments to the committees on Scenery, Wardrobe, Properties and Staging, whose valiant labors have so adequately provided the "locale" and accoutrements for our performance.

For the invaluable assistance given each of us and those in previous plays, our thanks and gratitude to our Director, Kathryn Randolph.

THE CAST

LET'S BE FAIR ABOUT THIS

Your program chairman was instructed to give you more of a souvenir than just a program tonight; that is, make it something more worth-while. 'Twas a good idea, but most worth-while things are expensive—too much so for Red Mask's budget without the support of some of Danville's many public spirited and generous citizens.

So please treat our "commercials" kindly. Even though this is one of the best advertising media in Danville, *we* asked the advertisers; *they* didn't ask us.

Here is a good spot to express to the many Danville firms and individuals, the deep feeling of gratitude held by the entire Red Mask organization for their gracious assistance in staging tonight's show. Thank you very much.

LIFE WITH FATHER, as Howard Lindsay and Russell Crouse have dramatized Clarence Day's book, is presented in Three Acts, each with Two Scenes. The entire action takes place in the morning room of the Day house on Madison Avenue in New York City during a Spring some twelve years prior to the turn of the present Century.

It is gift giving time again shop in comfort and confidence at Snider's, 101 North Vermilion.

The first Scene of Act One is breakfast time on an early summer morning, and the second Scene is at tea-time the same day.

Act Two opens on a Sunday, right after Church, a week later, while the second Scene is at breakfast time the following Tuesday. During this scene the curtain is lowered to indicate a lapse of three hours.

Scene One of the final Act is during mid-afternoon a month later. As the play opened at breakfast time, so does it close, purportedly the morning after the first Scene of Act Three.

Probably many of you do not know all of the Red Mask Players who constitute our Cast tonight. Eventually all sixteen of them appear from time to time, so here are their names, in the order of their appearance:

FRANK SOUTH takes the part of *Father*, while *Vinnie*, his very feminine wife, is portrayed by HONORE RONAN. The Days have four sons, "all boy" every one of them. BOB SMITH is Clarence, FRITZ ROBISON represents *John*, next is BARTY WOLGAMOT as *Whitney*, who often chaperones *Harlan*, portrayed by BOBBY RANDALL. The visiting cousin *Cora* is EMILY DICKERSON and her young friend *Mary Skinner* is DOROTHEA WOODS in real life. The spiritual guide of the family, *Rev. Dr. Lloyd*, is PETE WOLGAMOT. During *Vinnie's* illness, the doctor is called—two of them in fact—JAMES CRILL as *Dr. Humphreys* and BUELL RANDALL as *Dr. Somers*. Keeping a maid in this hectic household is truly a problem, as the successive presence of *Annie* (NORMA SMITH), *Delia* (EDNA RUTH MARTIN), *Nora* (MARY EAGAN) and *Maggie* (BETTY THOMAS) impressively remind us. *Margaret*, played by FLORENCE HANDLEY, has been cook in the Day household for thirteen years.

Hope you like them all!

Responsibility means everything. . . . When buying diamonds, watches or fine jewelry, one must have confidence in the jeweler. Choose your Christmas gifts now from Spritz's with confidence. As usual, we welcome your charge account.

Red Mask Players wasn't always 1,400 strong. It is said that the nucleus of the organization evolved from the Fellowship Club of St. James Church. About 1936 a group of individuals with one idea in mind met at the YWCA and studied ways and means of creating a Little Theatre in Danville. Later the Danville Recreation Department gave definite impetus to the movement and Red Mask Players was born, equipped with officers and endowed with a constitution that was involved but comprehensive.

The initial activities consisted mainly of just reading plays, studying and discussing technique—and trying to enlarge the membership.

Finally sufficient courage was attained to present a play to the public. Much of the scenery was made by the members; beauty operators provided and applied the make-up; costumes came from attics and old trunks, or were borrowed "somewhere."

How were the profits distributed? What profits? During those first years five dollars net at the end of a season called for much exuberance and thankfulness!

But the idea of a Little Theatre Group was good, so it grew. The first plays were presented in the YWCA auditorium, then in 1944, through the good offices of the late Tom Ronan, the Palace Theatre was made available. People learned that acting was only a part of the fun of active membership, and that work on any of the several committees brought a great deal of satisfaction. Actors must have costumes and props; stage settings require many, many pieces of furniture; memberships must be sold to meet the costs of productions. Ticket handling, ushers, stage settings and publicity all require individual effort. Gradually the active members found the niche that interested them and now serve year after year. Many, of course, just want to attend the plays. Their importance is great, for a "good house" always is an inspiration to the players, compensating them for the long hours of rehearsals and memorizing.

Paris says so and an inch less skirt is good for the foot that's wearing Frank P. Meyer's shoes. Your stylishly-clad foot will get that second look more frequently.

Mentioning these activities brings to mind some of the trials experienced by committee chairmen in the earlier days. For instance, taking all the stage furnishings—including a

large radiator—to Rantoul for presenting a play there; Chanute Field had all they needed. Once the printed tickets failed to arrive in time so the committee MADE tickets and sent them to members, only to have the regular printed tickets come the very next day. When plays were presented at the YWCA, the entire cast had to use the one dressing room, rehearsing to the echo of hammer and saw while Bill Almy was making most of the scenery.

While this is the first appearance in a Red Mask play for some of the cast tonight, some of the old timers have quite a histrionic background.

Frank South has appeared in "RING AROUND ELIZABETH," "LAURA," "THE MAN WHO CAME TO DINNER" and "YOU CAN'T TAKE IT WITH YOU."

Honore Ronan had parts of varied importance in "OUT OF THE FRYING PAN," "NO TIME FOR COMEDY," "GHOST FLIES SOUTH," "PERSONAL APPEARANCE," "GUEST IN THE HOUSE," "CLAUDIA," "LAURA," "MY SISTER EILEEN" and "THREE'S A FAMILY."

There's a unique air of friendliness about Wire's drug store—just across the street—that everyone enjoys. Headquarters for pure drugs, properly filled prescriptions, excellent food, and right now many fine Christmas items. Join your friends there for a snack after the show tonight.

Emily Dickerson's specialty is character parts, appearing in "RING AROUND ELIZABETH," "SUSPECT," "LAURA," "THE MAN WHO CAME TO DINNER" and "YOU CAN'T TAKE IT WITH YOU."

E. K. "Pete" Wolgamot, Jr. was in "THE DOVER ROAD," "JUNIOR MISS," "FIRST LADY," "PETTICOAT FEVER," "NO TIME FOR COMEDY" and "YOU CAN'T TAKE IT WITH YOU."

James Crill made his debut in "THE NIGHT OF JANUARY SIXTEENTH" as the private investigator.

This season, Red Mask Players' affairs are under the guidance of president Frank Caughron and vice-president Honore Ronan. Charlotte Ellis was selected for the duties of secretary-treasurer. Red Mask policies are molded by the directors, Ray Foreman, C. H. Scholey, Don Wilson, Elma Theurer, Charlie Henson, Ernie Paxton and Dr. Harlan English.

Incidentally, Christmas is just around the corner and if you have a knight in your life do your Christmas shopping for him at Stott's, the Store for Men, 115 North Vermilion. They carry the finest in men's wear, so a gift package from Stott's means you've given the best.

The successes of Red Mask Players, the high quality of performances given and the continued avid interest of our membership, all are attributable to the untiring efforts, endless patience and superior qualifications of our director, Kathryn Randolph, whose able assistant this year is Ruth Tuggle.

Just as Danville is *your* town—and it's a good town—so is Red Mask Players *your* organization. Tomorrow, talk to some of your friends, tell them of the outstanding work your organization is doing, and get them to join.

HILL LUMBER COMPANY

Don H. Wilson

616 North Walnut Street

Phone 7
