

THEATRE
Briefs

...another busy...
...visitors to...
...including a few...
...the CPR boat, on...
...highway.

...Lady Butter...
...most interesting...
...traveled extens...
...as she has a col...
...curious at her...
...All our ex...
...great interest...
...the Indian bas...
...history of how...
...got its name and...
...was named. It was...
...type this history...
...to her at An-

...Chamber of Com...
...Tuesday night...
...of paint inside...
...will be busy, tak...
...the walls, cover...
...resources, so our...
...open until Wed...
...Wednesday...
...having the place...
...and so from...
...be shining for

...exhibit is...
...Mr. Scott has been...
...of the new display...
...and that should...
...interest to everyone...
...The display will be...
...each tree and ex...
...We are indebted to...
...his interest, also...
...present organiza...
...such interest in

...Bureau is also...
...interest and many...
...received from people...
...during the...
...hope our Bureau...
...benefit to our m...
...have so kindly don...
...venture as it is...
...help and pledges...
...is now a fact...
...all to visit.

...Staged...
...Sather...
...Sather, whose mar...
...Munro of Win...
...place this week, was...
...an enjoyable shower...
...at the home of...
...Weise.

...and her moth...
...Sather, were pre...
...corages of pink...
...and the nonoree was...
...decorated chair...
...beautiful gifts were...
...a gaily decked...
...in by Miss Gall...
...which refreshments...
...to the hostess...
...ists included Gall...
...Weise, Jill Weise...
...gan, Elizabeth An...
...Payne, Joan...
...Tomlinson, Betty...
...Edith Hadden, Pat...
...Cole, Marge Long...
...and Peggy Pullen...
...berg.

...Pupil...
...Treatment...
...been received her...
...illness of little...
...Carrie, formerly of...
...port, who has been...
...General Hospital...
...undergoing treat...
...ment.



GARRY ESSENDINE, famous British actor played by Ian Dobbie, left, is shown being slapped by Joanne Lyppiatt, portrayed by Pat Hickson after she has accused him of being the lowest of cad in Prince Rupert Little Theatre's presentation of "Present Laughter." Two gentlemen on right indignantly berate the erstwhile Essendine of having an affair with Joanne, the woman they both love. Joanne happens to be the wife of Hugo Lyppiatt, Essendine's backer, played by Bob Chidwick, far right, and mistress of Morris Dixon, the actor's producer, played by Ed Harrington, third from left.

Spicy Repartee Wows First Nighters At Presentation of Fast-Paced Comedy

By DICK AYRES

A small but appreciative audience was given an authentic, intimate glimpse of London's theatrical world and the fabulous characters that inhabit it last night, when the Prince Rupert Little Theatre presented Noel Coward's laugh-packed "Present Laughter" at the Civic Centre.

In true Coward tradition the laughs came one-a-minute, sometimes oftener, as the life and loves of Garry Essendine, famous British actor and playwright were unfolded.

Prince Rupert is indeed indebted to Ian Dobbie, star of the comedy, its director and also as director of the Prince Rupert Little Theatre.

If for nothing else, apart from his sparkling performance last night, Mr. Dobbie has given those Prince Rupert residents who haven't had the opportunity of wide travel, a sample of the legitimate stage.

POLISHED PERFORMANCE
Mr. Dobbie, in portraying the egotistical Essendine, who in turn was Noel Coward's take-off of himself, gave a polished performance. He had the exact amount of superiority for the genius that Coward is, the sameness of stars who try to avoid having to think for themselves off-stage, and the amoral breeziness accepted in the world of Coward, Bea Lillie, Gertrude Lawrence, Tallulah Bankhead and Jack Buchanan.

In the first place Mr. Dobbie knows Coward, has seen him act in his own plays a score of times and knows the world and era the comedy depicts. In the second place, Mr. Dobbie, with his receding hairline, perpetually clad in lounging robe and idling expertly at the piano, almost looked like Noel Coward.

All Mr. Dobbie had to do was to learn his lines and put them over to the Civic Centre audience. That he did, without a doubt.

LIVED IN DREAM WORLD
Strutting about, posturing and quoting from bygone plays in which Essendine had acted, he was the veteran actor afraid of growing old. He lived in a dream world where the only relaxations were wine and women (there was no singing to complicate matters). The only consolation Essendine received from life were the plaudits of the paying customers who ensured him a play a "long run" thereby paying tribute to his never-waning ability as an actor.

All this was depicted perfectly by Mr. Dobbie. From the opening scene where the idealistic Daphne Stillington, played wilyly by Gayle Leeman, is given overnight shelter in the Essendine "spare room" to the final scene when he is confronted by two cuckolded friends, only his patient secretary Monica Reed, portrayed by Nina Youngman and his ex-wife Liz, acted by Carol Brentzen know when the equivocal Garry is acting and when he is not.

Whether Monica experienced the same "spare room" dilemma 15 years before is not stated but the audience gathers from the fact that she has no illusions about her employer, that she must have done.

WITHERING LOOK
One of the best bits of acting turned in was by Miss Youngman, when in the final scene she is leaving the disconsolate Essendine prior to his departure for Africa on tour. Having refused a drink and a cigarette from the suddenly lonely actor, she answers his offer of "some sort of a game" with a look that is priceless.

Also well-acted was the scene between Mr. Dobbie and Pat Hickson, playing the role of Essendine's backer's wife Joanne Lyppiatt in the second act. Miss Hickson turned in a magnificent piece of acting as the seductive interloper into the happy-go-lucky ensemble of Essendine, his ex-wife, his producer Morris Dixon and backer Hugo.

Jeanne decides to crash the charmed circle. Clad in a sheath-like evening gown designed to sway the determination of a stronger-willed man than Essendine, she turns up at his studio after "losing" her front door key to her home and wants to use the "spare room." The scene where Essendine realizes why she is there and feebly fights a losing battle was masterfully played.

SHOW DOWN
Another high point came in the complicated climax, when with the adoring Daphne hidden in the spare room, and a mad student playwright lodged in his office Essendine is faced by an outraged Hugo as the man who seduced his wife and by Morris as the man who had stolen his mistress.

Joanne, the common denominator in the love-making quadrangle, denies "all," only to have Essendine, a cad to the end, admit the accusations are true. Joanne then tells Essendine just how low a person he is, slaps him across the face and stalks out. She misses the fact that the actor hasn't heard a word she has said, but has been concentrating on the fact that his backer and producer, who both still depend on him, have booked him into a theatre not to his liking.

Both Mr. Dobbie's and Miss Hickson's performances were outstanding and their clipped English accents were sufficient to give the comedy the necessary British touch. Lack of English pronunciations in the remainder of the cast was noticeable but didn't detract too much.

PERCEPTIVE WIFE
Carol Brentzen as Liz, Essendine's wife turned in a creditable job of acting, being sufficiently blasé about his entanglements but worried about the effect on his career. Eighteen-year-old Shirley Haugan, as the Swedish maid, somewhat of a nonentity in the first two acts came into her own in the third act and received a well-earned ovation for her conversation, in lyrical Scandinavian, with Essendine concerning her spiritualistic tendencies.

Robin Bird as the man-servant played his part well as did Don Fraser as the crank student playwright Roland Maule, who wanted to share "the Essendine atmosphere" so that he could write about it.

Bob Chidwick, as Hugo Lyppiatt the actor's backer, and Ed Harrington as Morris the backer were convincing in their roles although the former could do to relax a little. Elizabeth Mortimer, as Lady Saltburn was adequate.

The set and props were well done and established the correct atmosphere of affluency for a successful actor's studio.

Highly Successful Conventions Reported By Elks Lodge, Royal Purple Delegates

Prince Rupert delegates, returning home today from the convention at Smithers of Districts 6 and 7, Order of the Royal Purple and Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks respectively report a highly successful session.

More than 200 attended the banquet winding up the convention which attracted delegates of both lodges from Williams Lake, Quesnel, McBride, Prince George, Burns Lake, Smithers and Prince Rupert.

At business sessions of both Elks and Royal Purple ladies, much progress was noted in the reports of delegates on the activities of their respective lodges.

The Ladies of the Royal Purple created an impressive effect as they performed ritualistic work in their long white dresses. The initiation was exemplified by Prince Rupert delegates while

Smithers members performed the floor work. Loyal Lady Mrs. Garnet Hull of Prince Rupert was appointed district historian and Prince Rupert Honored Lady Mrs. Nicholas Gurvich filled the associate royal lady's chair for some of the ritualistic work.

The convention was honored by the presence of Lady Elizabeth Deane of Vancouver, supreme life member. The Elks' meetings also heard reports from the various lodges on their past year's activities. Tony Woodland of Williams Lake was named district deputy grand exalted ruler, replacing Len Evans of Smithers.

The Smithers lodges played host at the Saturday night banquet, followed by a social evening and dance in the Elks Hall to complete the successful convention.

Prince Rupert lodges will play host for next year's joint convention, to be held on the second Saturday in May.

Delicious refreshments were served by the bride's mother and grandmother, assisted by the groom's aunt, Mrs. R. Weik, and Mrs. Fred Willson.

The bride's mother wore a rustling full-skirted mauve print afternoon dress with hat and gloves in delightful contrast in a soft daffodil shade. Her corsage was of white carnations.

Following the reception the newly married couple boarded the train for Vancouver and lower mainland points for a three-week honeymoon, before returning to take up residence at Miller Bay Hospital, where both are employed.

The bride's "going-away" costume featured a smoky blue gabardine tailored suit with scarlet accessories.

New Canadian Couple United At German Baptist Nuptials

A beautiful wedding ceremony in the Bethel German Baptist church at 5 p.m. Saturday united in marriage two popular young "new Canadians," Ingrid Patzold, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gerhard Patzold, 1041 Eleventh Avenue East, and Egon Weik, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Weik, Schwaigern, Germany.

The young couple walked up the aisle to wedding music rendered by the church choir to be joined in wedlock by the Rev. A. Hart before an altar decked with pastel snapdragons and tulips.

The bride's frothy white ankle-length gown was of delicate French filigree lace, daintily embroidered on the bodice with tiny seed pearls. The skirt featured yards of blue-white nylon net over rustling satin taffeta and lily point sleeves and a high neckline of nylon net were additional fashion highlights. The young bride's flowing chapel veil was secured by a shimmering tiara of seed pearls. Her bouquet was of fragrant American Beauty roses, and her only jewellery was a triple strand of pearls, gift of the groom.

Mrs. J. F. Denning, cousin of the bride, was matron of honor, in a floor-length gown of soft nylon marquisette, featuring a full skirt and low ruffled neckline. A tiny pink veil was caught in the hair with a garland of pink roses and long pink gloves completed the ensemble. Her bouquet was fashioned in the Colonial style of pink carnations, white mums and blue iris.

Harry Weik, brother of the groom, was best man. Following the ceremony a quiet reception was held at the home of the bride's parents.

The bride's table was covered with an exquisite white cutwork linen cloth, the work of the bride's grandmother, Mrs. A. Raudsepp. The table was centered with a daintily dressed bride doll and long white tapers. The toast to the bride was proposed by Mr. Hart.

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