

On Television Show

"Clare and Oscar" a WJBK, Channel 2, television show has been originated by and stars a local man, Clare R. Cummings, Jr., of Ruffner street, known throughout this area for his adeptness in the art of magic. The fifteen minute performance given every Thursday evening at 8:15

is a magic and comedy puppet act dedicated to the small fry.

Have You Met?

The new family from Lansing, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Rominski and daughters, Lynn and Mary who are now making their home at 550 West Lincoln? Mr. Rominski is a research engineer with General Motors.

A Real Switch in Roles



Those attending the second show of the season, "Here Today" at Will-O-Way playhouse this week and next will see local history in the making as Bill Merrill, producer and director of the straw-hat theatre oversees his mother, Treessa Way Merrill, perform the role of a Back Bay society matron. It was Mrs. Merrill, known throughout this area for her dramatic readings, who coached her son during his first years in the theatre business and now he, in turn, is directing her in her first appearance at the playhouse.

Mrs. Merrill, Bill and Gerald Harrington are pictured above on the Will-O-Way stage during a rehearsal of the satiric comedy which also features the apple barn favorite, Minnie Jo Curtis and Robert Maxwell.

Mrs. Merrill was formerly associated with Jessie Bonstelle. Her dramatic work also included heading her own stock company and, most recently working with Theatre Arts; directing local groups and presenting character sketches and scenes from plays throughout the state. Active in club work, Mrs. Merrill is currently first vice-president of the Michigan Federation of Women's Clubs; a past president of the Birmingham Woman's Club and is now head of the drama department of the Detroit Federation of Woman's Clubs. Treessa Way Merrill has worked with the DFWC for the past 15 years. (A Joe Wheeler Photo).

By Doris E. Kus

Following a rollicking "Milky Way", Will-O-Way's second show of the current season is a romping comedy sparkling with gay repartee. The plot concerns itself with a delightfully daffy writer, her boy friend, her ex-husband, his girl friend and her mother. The final zest is added by the appearance of her fiance and the opening night audience Tuesday was enthusiastic in their response.

Treessa Way Merrill, as Mrs. Windrew, was a welcome sight on the playhouse stage and performed her role of a stuffy Back Bay society matron convincingly and satirically. In the guise of the performance, she managed to expel from her summer home in Nausau just about every member of the east in the hide-bound, conventional and unbending manner which her part required.

Minnie Jo Curtis who came back to Bloomfield Hills from New York and in radio and television work, did justice to her "favorite" standing in this area. She's as clever, as bubbling as ever and as Mary Hilliard, the writer who manages to mix up everybody's

lives as well as her own, does a subtle switch from the "here to day and gone tomorrow" philosophy into a woman who is suddenly and pathetically still in love with her ex-husband.

Gerald Harrington, as Philip Graves, the ex-husband who thinks he saves Boston-bred Claire Windrew, played ably and intelligently by Elizabeth Gould, has a skill in characterization and

a wry delivery of lines which was very refreshing and Bob Maxwell who took the part of Stanley Dale, comedy-partner for Minnie Jo, works smoothly in his part of the easy-going and zany sophisticated friend. His poker-face, casual performance brought many a chuckle and his naturalness behind the footlights was relaxing and pleasant to see. Spencer Grant, played by Ross

Callaway undertook his role as a Boston resident, unimaginative and sorrowfully conventional, did a magnificent job. Following his drunk scene he won the approval and applause of his audience.

Fred Taylor who portrays Jeffrey Windrew manages to combine just enough Bostonian prudishness with humanness, fear of his mother and convention and desire to be just a little more "free" and Mary Hanes, a Will-O-Way apprentice student, round out the cast with well-timed and delivered lines.

All in all, the entire cast blended their talents and their parts to make another Will-O-Way success story, and the obvious enjoyment they take in being on the stage, makes it a worthwhile drive to the apple barn theatre.

Have You Met?

Former Detroiters, Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Edwards and their children, Linda Joy and Merry who are now making their home at 129 Colonial Court? Mr. Edwards is an assistant attorney general.

Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Page, formerly of Jackson, Mich., and now residing at 767 Colonial Court? Mr. Page is district manager of the Steel Products Engineering Company.

The family from Larchmont, N. Y.? They're Mr. and Mrs. R. F. Manney and children, Karen and Russell, Jr., who are making their

home at 17833 Dunblaine. Mr. Manney is with the advertising firm of Geyer, Newell and Gagner, Inc.

Mr. and Mrs. James Heinonen who have come from Lincoln Park, Mich., to make their home at 1641 Stanley? Mr. Heinonen is a merchandise specialist with the Fort Motor Company.

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