

Artistic Spice

By K. C. Harvey

Theatre Workshop

FIRST production of the Garrison Players for the 1960-61 season will be "Bad Seed", by Maxwell Anderson, to be produced by Loren Lawrence on Oct. 6, 7, 8, at the Foreign Correspondents' Club, using outdoor arena staging.

This play is a tense, modern drama, with a cast of seven men, four women — and one young girl.

A Casting Meeting will be held on Tuesday at 7 p.m. at the Missions to Seamen, Gloucester Road, to select the child character.

Girls aged between ten and 18 years were asked to read the part at this casting meeting.

A second casting meeting will be held tomorrow at 8 p.m., at the Missions to Seamen, for the adult characters.

The problem, as I see it, is finding a young girl who — with her parents' consent — has the flair for this very responsible part. My hunch is that a senior teenager will be the most suitable candidate.

FROM the Garrison Players I hear that the ambitious and commendable Theatre Workshop project, launched on July 21, is creating a favourable impression.

This workshop consists of a series of regular weekly meetings — every Thursday night at

8 p.m. at the Missions to Seamen — and will enable members to discuss and participate in the various aspects of theatre.

Taking place in "a friendly and relaxed atmosphere", these gatherings are not, I am assured, just a series of "learned lectures", but lively group sessions, involving discussions, practical work, demonstrations and active participation by all who attend.

THE opening session of the Workshop project consisted of an introduction to the venture and its aims, a talk about the history of the theatre, the theatre club, the non-professional theatre and the Garrison Players as a producing Society.

Today, the focus will be upon Basic Acting Training. The subjects under discussion will be an analysis; understanding your "type" and other types; development and training of the five senses; association, concentration, senses and motion. response; exercises using these lessons; group discussion.

For August 4, the subject will be The Body. This will include — practice in the basic of movement, standing, sitting, walking... using lessons of the previous week; the body as a means of expression, emotion, response... mime exercises, group discussion.

ON August 11, The Voice will be the theme of discussion. This session will take in posture, breathing, the voice as an acting medium; interpretation; group and phrasing; quality, projection; variety and contrast; rate, rhythm, pitch; reaction to various things and situations; exercises, group discussion.

August 18, is concerned with Scenery. Items for discussion will include familiarity with terms, with tools and equipment, general construction.

For August 25, Lighting is the focus. This will take in familiarity with terms and equipment, lighting plans, instruments, colour.

FOR Sept. 1, Acting Techniques will be reviewed. The subject material will include stage "rules"; cutting, topping; laughing and laugh holding asides, stage whispers; calling off; ad libbing; falling, embracing; slapping... Small scenes with two or three people, using all previous lessons; group discussion.

Sept. 8, will be devoted to Scenery and Lighting — more detailed discussion of previous sessions on these subjects.

For Sept. 15, Production will be discussed. This will include selection of scenes; appointing a producer, enacting scenes; group criticism and discussion of good and bad points.

Sept. 22 has the terse heading — Work! By this date, the first production of the Garrison Players will be under way. This Workshop meeting will take the form of assisting in any possible way with the production.

STANDARD ALMANAC

Information at a Glance

EVENTS AND FUNCTIONS

TODAY

Street Sleepers Shelter Society annual meeting, at Bruton & Co., Windsor House, 5.30 p.m.

Chinese Manufacturers' Association directors' meeting, association's Social Hall, 5 p.m.

Parkway Art Studio exhibition of watercolour paintings, St. John's Cathedral Hall, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Crown Land sale at District Office, Tsun Wan, 10.30 a.m.

Canadian night at Indonesian Club, Duddell Street, 7.30 p.m.

Rotary Club of Kowloon weekly luncheon meeting, Peninsula Hotel, 1 p.m.

Hongkong Y's Men's Club weekly luncheon meeting, Gloucester Hotel, 12.45 p.m.

Garrison Players' Comprehensive Stage Workshop, Missions to Seamen, Gloucester Road, 8 p.m.

TOMORROW

Rotary Club of Hongkong Island West weekly luncheon meeting, Golden Dragon Restaurant, 1 p.m.

Hongkong Lions Club luncheon meeting, Gloucester

Hotel, 12.30 p.m., The R. L. Stumpf on "The Creative Power of Goodwill"

Hongkong Intercession Fellowship weekly prayer meeting, Peninsula Hotel, first floor, 4.30 p.m.

Garrison Players Turn To Radio

The Garrison Players Workshop will turn its attention to radio production, acting technique, sound effects, and such matters at its next three sessions, to be held in the Concert Hall of Radio Hongkong.

The first will be held today at 8 p.m. and the other sessions on the next two successive Thursdays at the same time and place. Timothy Birch of Radio Hongkong will lead the discussions.

All persons interested are invited to attend.

When I came to the Colony in 1951, no firm liaison existed between the Players and the Stage Club. Since then, that has changed. Today, relations between the two drama groups are most cordial, yet friendly rivalry continues in relation to each group's productions.

There are limited resources in regard to performers and producers within the non-professional Stage in Hongkong. And because of this, both the Players and the Stage Club get along smoothly by assisting one another wherever possible.

There is scope for the continuance of both drama groups in this Colony: the past season has confirmed that each is performing a sterling service to the theatre-minded community. May it long continue thus.

Scmp
October 20
1960

HK Standard
October 20
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HK Standard August 4, 1960

Hongkong Standard July 28, 1960

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