

A woman will produce play

A WOMAN will be producing the forthcoming play by the Garrison Players titled "I Have Been Here Before," adapted from J. B. Priestley.

She is a psychologist, but certainly not a stranger to the Players.

ELINOR FIELD has contributed to stage plays before, appearing in roles. But this will be her first taste as a producer and she is undoubtedly quite excited about it.

H. K. Standard

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Miss Field was last seen in the "Doll's House," a play based on Ibsen's novel.

The play centres on a German professor, Dr. Gortler (Geoffrey McEntegart) who arrives at a Yorkshire Inn at the edge of a moor one evening.

He asks the owner (Geoffrey Eden) and his daughter (Gill Manter) if they have a school-teacher staying at the inn.

Martyn Anderson, a newcomer, plays the school-teacher, David Jordan plays Mr. Walter Ormund, and Barbara Snoxall plays his wife, Janet Ormund.

For Gill Manter, this will be her first stage play, and from the rehearsal, she is doing quite well.

Geoffrey McEntegart, a "veteran", is heading the cast. It will be worthwhile to see how he puts over the German accent in his role as the professor.

The play is scheduled for October at the City Hall.

They reply that they are only expecting three ladies.

The professor leaves, mumbling, "Perhaps I've come the wrong year."

Later, the expected guests fail to arrive and instead, a married couple turned up.

The story develops from this point.

ALL ABOUT TIME

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MOST people think of the passage of time only on their birthdays and never think about the nature of time. The Garrison Players tonight stage a play about time with some eerie effects.

It's J.B. Priestley's best known work — "I Have Been Here Before." The six players include some of our most experienced amateur actors, an actress trying to change her image and a newcomer.

Writing in the 1930's, the author believed that time progressed in a spiral, repeating itself, rather than progressing in a straight line from past to future.

Mystic

A slightly mystic German professor arrives at an inn on the edge of a moor in the North of England. In the grip of this spiral concept of time, he expects to find a married couple as guests at the inn.

The couple are not there and the few vacant rooms are booked to spinsters. The professor says, "I guess I came in the wrong year." Suddenly bookings are cancelled and the couple arrive.

The others at the inn begin listening to the professor as he attempts to tell them about their past and their future. The Professor (played by well known Geoffrey McEntegart) has come to prevent a catastrophe. Whether he can is the point of the play.

What would you do if someone said, "You're go-

ing to be killed in a violent accident in the next two days?" That's the type of atmosphere created by this play.

David Jordan (the lead three years ago in "A Man For All Seasons") shares the most strenuous acting labours with Mr. McEntegart.

A pantomime singer and

dancer, Barbara Snoxall, trying to establish herself in a straight dramatic part. The same might be said of Gill Minter, previously with the Hongkong Singers.

Geoffrey Eden plays the innkeeper after being producer last month for "Here We Come Gathering." Martyn Anderson is the newcomer.

Problem

"A big problem with amateur dramatics in Hongkong," said the play's producer, Mrs. Elinor Field, "working with both experienced and inexperienced actors in the same play.

"We've had intensive individual rehearsals with Martyn and I believe performance will be compatible with the others. I cast have had just enough rehearsal. A week more and they'd be worse.

"Although some appalling productions have been presented in Hongkong, I think our best is as good as a repertory company in England," Mrs. Field concludes. "I hope 'I Have Been Here Before' reaches this high standard."

It runs each night Saturday in the City
— HAL HARRISON