



Anne Deplaund, Eleanor Fishel and Emily Stone practicing with their puppets.

Child Lit. Students Produce Puppet, Chinese Shadowgraph, And Marionette Shows April 12

By Susan Hughes

The elementary education students who are members of the class in Children's Literature will present a puppet show, a Chinese shadowgraph, and a marionette show Tuesday, April 12. These plays have been adapted from children's books by the students themselves.

Emily Stone, Suzannah Parker, Linda Lee Rich, Anne DePlaund, and Eleanor Fischel have prepared a puppet show centered around the character "Nothing-at-All." "Nothing-at-All" is a little dog who has two perfectly normal brothers, but "Nothing" is completely unseeable.

The dogs live in houses that match their names so that the children will be able to keep the characters straight. Pointy has pointed ears and lives in a house with a pointed roof; Curly has curly ears and a curly-roofed house. "Nothing" has a house with a rounded roof, but of course, no one knows whether or not he has rounded ears, since no one can see them.

Regardless of his unsee-ability Nothing-at-All is very happy. His philosophy is summed up in his little song:

I'm not very tall
Nor yet very small;
I look like nothing
Nothing at all.
But I don't really mind
Cause it takes all kind
Both see-able and
Unsee-able you'll find.

One day a little girl comes to the forgotten corner of the farm where the three little dogs live. She decides to take the two dogs that she can see home with her, and Nothing-at-All is left behind. He starts to follow them, and runs and runs until his legs get very tired and he falls asleep under a big tree. When he wakes up, he can't find his brothers. As he searches for the way they went he meets a bird

who says "I can't see you. Are you that empty space beside the tree?" Nothing-at-All is very happy when he finds that the bird has a book of magic which contains a chapter called **Nothingness and Somethingness**. The secret of becoming something is to whirl and whirl until you get dizzy and dizzy. So Nothing-at-All starts to whirl and sing "I'm busy getting dizzy . . ."

All of a sudden he cries "I'm a shape!" And pretty soon he has acquired some black spots, a black-tipped tail and-at last-some rounded ears. He has become "Something-After-All." He trots down the road to the farm and when the little girl sees him she decides to keep him, too, and they all live together happily ever after.

The puppets that the girls made themselves are paper mache with painted faces and cloth bodies.

The Chinese Shadowgraph **If I Ran the Zoo**, by Dr. Suess, is all about what a little boy named McGrew would do if he ran the Zoo. There would be quite a few changes made. Instead of a four-legged lion, there would be a pink elephant with red ears, a red trunk, and a red tail, and some "pea-shooters." One of the most entertaining aspects of the story are the names that the characters and animals have. (I won't give them away.)

Chinese shadowgraphs are different from the regular shadowgraphs in several ways. They still use the sheet stretched across a frame with a bright light behind it. But instead of using the solid

paper figures which cast a silhouette on the screen, the girls are using plastic figures which are colored the colors of the characters. The light shines through the colors and makes a picture on the sheet. The story of the zoo includes some very colorful characters and should create an interesting effect.

Cynthia Hyatt, Jane Howie, Betty McGowan, Vickie Van Liere, and Mary Ann Floyd are in charge of this story.

The other story concerns "The Pig That Danced a Jig." This is an Irish folk story about a pig named Patrick and his owner—a little girl—who taught him how to dance. One day her aunt gave the little girl a new doll and as she played with it she forgot about Patrick. His feelings were hurt, so he ran away. All of a sudden, he realized that a man was trying to catch him. The man had decided that it would be nice to have the plump little pig to eat, so he put him in a pen. Somehow Patrick escapes and runs home. His little mistress is so happy to see him that she forgets her doll.

Alta Lu Townes, Churchill Jenkins, Carolyn McCloud, Kay Cundiff, and Lucy Parker are making their own marionettes for this program, and they have written their own script.

The girls have said that even though the show is for faculty children they would like to invite all of you to come to see their plays Tuesday night. It would be interesting to see what the girls are doing. After all, they might be teaching our children some day.

Pierrette's THE FIRSTBORN Reviewed As Moving Drama

By Grace Walker

On Wednesday and Thursday night in Old Chapel the Pierrette Players, under the direction of Miss Barbara Battle, presented a moving drama of Christopher Fry's **The Firstborn**. Using the first twelve chapters of Exodus as his source, Fry goes beyond the familiar Biblical story to portray the conflicts in Moses' personal life and in the lives of his Egyptian and Hebrew families. The members of the cast are to be congratulated for their vivid dramatizations of these varied personalities.

Nan Williams was successful in portraying Moses as a man dedicated to God yet torn between affection for his Egyptian family and the demand of his destiny to revolt

against Pharaoh. Seti the II, the Pharaoh, played by Fran Bell was a worthy opponent for Moses. In his dedication to what he believed was right he replaced his personal feelings for the welfare of his empire. At times Fran spoke too loudly, making her lines less effective, but on most occasions she was powerful and vehement.

Perhaps the most stirring performance was given by Crockett Rader in her portrayal of Shendi, Miriam's son. The play seemed to come to life with her big entrance in Scene II of Act I.

Anath Bethiah, and Rameses, the Pharaoh's sister and son were effectively played by Felicity Craig, and Nina Ann Stokes.

As the play progressed their performance improved. They were somewhat stiff and uninvolved at first but by the end of Act I their performances were vivid and strong.

The sound and the lighting were particularly impressive in setting the atmosphere of Egypt in 1200 B. C. and the sets complimented the movements of the action.

The presentation of **The Firstborn**, although of an entirely different pace and time from that of **The Boy Friend**, was just as effective in its own way. The Pierrettes are to be commended for attempting two plays of such different natures and of being successful in their dramatizations of each type.

Theatre Students Prepare For Their Spring Productions

By Sue Froneberger

This warm Spring weather seems to stimulate the theatrical blood in the veins of many Salemites. The Pierrette Players have been busily preparing for their spring production; also, the members of the "Introduction to the Theatre" class under the direction of Miss Battle have been very much at work.

This course is designed to interest students in the theatre by instructing in the techniques involved in all phases of a production. The class spent the first part of the semester taking notes on acting and directing, thereby obtaining a foundation for their work this spring. In their two hour lab each week, the girls acted out pantomimes, portrayed emotional incidents such as the loss of a dear friend, and presented skits.

All of this work and study has led up to the workshop plays to be presented by the class April 26 and 27. In preparation for her play, each girl has read several one act plays and has chosen one of them to produce. Each girl is responsible for her own blocking or stage movements, her set design, her costume designs, her lighting, make-up, and all the other aspects of her production. The girls cast their own plays, choosing Salemites to act the parts. The direction of the entire play is the responsibility of each member of the class. Also, the girls must set up rehearsal schedules, ending with a dress rehearsal.

Five plays will be presented on each of the two nights. The student body is invited to attend these plays. Already much work has gone into these workshop plays, and there is still much to come.

Dawes Presents Recital Sunday

Evelyn Dawes, from Anderson, S. C., will present her sophomore recital this Sunday, April 10, at 3:30 in the afternoon.

An organ student of Mrs. Muelle Evelyn will play "Toccata and Fugue in D Minor" by Bach, Mendelssohn's "Sonata No. 2", and three selections from Jean Langlais's "Suite Medieval".

Alumnae Plan Senior Picnic

Salem College Alumnae will entertain the present senior class at an informal supper April 21 from 5:00 to 8:00 o'clock at Tanglewood Park.

All of the group plan to wear bermudas for the event.

Two of the more recent Salem alumnae, Mary Curtis Gramley and Judy Graham Davis are in charge of entertainment.

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