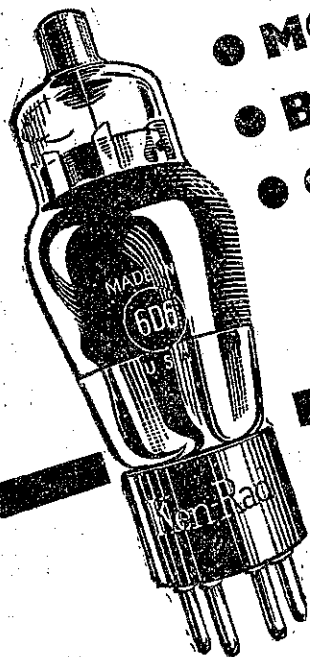


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DUNEDIN REPERTORY.

(Continued from page 12.)

was an abridged version of "Cavalcade" presented by the Social Plays Committee. This was given during Coronation week, when an audience of over 900 people filled the concert chamber.

ANOTHER branch of the society is the Drama Class, held weekly. At this class, conducted usually by the producer, younger members are given tuition in acting and are groomed for parts in the major productions.

At the Dunedin Drama League Festival in July the society entered two teams. The A team, playing "Bamboo," produced by Mr. Ernest Griffin, won first place and a B certificate; the B team, playing "Dante and Beatrice," produced by Mr. Desmond Greenslade, gained third place and a B certificate. The "Bamboo" team subsequently won the South Island Elimination Festival at Timaru, and travelled to Rotorua for the New Zealand final festival, gaining second place. The trophy given by Lady Sargood for the best acting performance in the Dunedin festival was won by Mr. Alex McDowell, now of 4ZB, for his portrayal of Dante in "Dante and Beatrice."

UNFORTUNATELY the society is today suffering from a lack of male members capable of taking middle-aged parts. Many a play has had to be rejected for this reason.

However, Mr. Russell-Wood, who is producing in the absence of Miss Thomson, is endeavouring to develop new talent, and in "The Show," his first production, he proved his capabilities. Several new faces made an appearance in major roles. "Spring Tide" was also the debut of several new players.

FOR all its successes, however, the Dunedin society has been very unlucky in one respect. It has lost several of its most promising members just as they were approaching dramatic maturity.

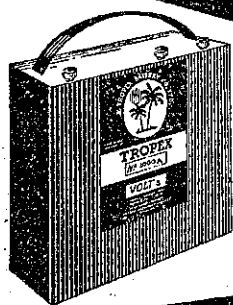
Russell Napier was one loss. He went to England to try his luck on the English stage, playing second lead in T. S. Eliot's "Murder in the Cathedral." He went with the company to New York, but the essentially English play failed to "catch on" in Broadway and it had to be withdrawn. So far, Mr. Napier has not found another role, such is the luck of the stage game.

Lester Moller was proving his worth when he won a Rhodes Scholarship, and went off to Oxford. There he is president of the Brasenose Players, and recently played lead in "Libel" and "Outward Bound," produced by the Oxford University Dramatic Society.

Jessie McLennan, brightest star in the repertory firmament, went to Australia for a holiday and became a radio star in Brisbane. Now she is back at home for a time; there are hopes she may be seen again in a repertory production.

Among other notables who left Dunedin was Mary Jolly, who went to London, but is to return shortly. Les Pithie, delightful in character roles, has gone to Sydney. Dick Nancarrow is on the staff of 2YC Wellington, and Doug Dall is in Christchurch, still figuring in repertory. He is on the committee (Continued on next page).

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