

THREE 'IN CAMERA'



Constance Cummings, Jill Bennett and David Knight in "In Camera", by Jean-Paul Sartre, at Oxford Playhouse. See review on opposite page.

Michael Langdon

SINCE singing Baron Ochs in "Rosenkavalier" at Covent Garden last season for the first time, Michael Langdon has received an ever-increasing number of offers to sing this and other parts abroad. He has become yet another British singer to make an international career. It began with some performances of Ochs last summer at the Hamburg Opera. In December he sang two highly successful performances of Ochs at the Deutsche Oper in West Berlin, and was promptly invited to sing four more performances in January and March. He has just returned from making his debut at Ochs in Paris with Elizabeth Schwarzkopf, where he had a first-night triumph. He has three more performances between now and February 12th. In the summer he will sing Ochs in "Seraglio" at the Aix Festival.

DEATHS

In Ever Abiding Memory of **PATRICK WALCOTT** (Ola Kosen) WALCOTT'S MARIONETTES who passed peacefully away on Jan. 30th, 1962, after a long illness bravely borne. From his sorrowing friend and partner for 30 years. —TUG WILSON. 11 Quarry Rise, Chesham, Surrey. Vigilant 3084

In Memory and Appreciation of **RON SWAYNE** who passed away Feb. 4, 1962 "A good friend and great worker" —Teddy Carlton

In Ever Loving Memory of **JOHN LODGE PERCY** who passed peacefully away, Feb. 1st. Thank you darling for all your love. You will always be in my heart. —Your Dorothy.

IN MEMORIAM

PADDY ALBERT—In ever loving memory of my dear Dad, February 17, 1953. Always in my thoughts.—Mabel.

PADDY ALBERT—In ever loving memory of my only beloved brother. Rest in peace, dear one.—Rube.

Loving Memory of W. G. (WATTY) RAWLINGS Died February 16th 1956. Always in our thoughts.—His wife Polly and family.

KEEN, PETER (KEESIE & PIERRE) In remembrance, Thinking of you on your birthday, Feb. 21st. "Die when I may, I want it said of me, by those who knew me best, that I always planted a thistle and planted a flower when I thought a flower would grow." —Love, AUNTIE NIN.

In Loving Memory of my Darling Daughter, **LUCY LOUPE** who fell asleep Feb. 12, 1957 Always in my thoughts —MUMMY

To the Ever Loving Memory of Jim **JIMMY MORRIS** Died Feb. 14, 1957 Ever in my thoughts.—BELLA Also Isa and Jim

NEW YORK THEATRE

Off-Broadway Saves a Bad Situation

by Randal Savery

ADVENT of the New Year was anything but happy on Broadway. Three of the four attractions opening immediately after the turn of the calendar were quick failures. The fourth kept on, but was doing low calibre business at the box-office.

The ironic fact about the failures was that none were bad plays receiving outright condemnation from the critics, although what praise they elicited contained considerable qualifications. Each had something of interest for the theatre-goer which, unfortunately, was not sustained.

I thought that "The Egg" (Cort, January 8) deserved more encouragement than it received. The off-beat comedy by Felicien Marceau was translated by Robert Schilt, and starred Dick Shawn, best known for his work in night clubs, television and films, making his Broadway debut. Perhaps this production really belonged off-Broadway.

ARMY MISFIT

The other failures were "The Captains and the Kings" (Playhouse January 2), and "Something About a Soldier" (Ambassador, January 4). "The Captains and the Kings", by Leo Lieberman, told the story of a United States Naval officer obstructed in his efforts to develop an atomic-powered submarine by the reactionary attitudes of tradition-minded "brass" in the service. It paralleled a true historic record. In his zeal to present a dramatized documentary, the playwright neglected the important element of genuine human interest.

"Something About a Soldier" was adapted by Ernest Kinoy from

a novel by Mark Harris. Dealing with the familiar situation of a draftee "misfit" in the Army, it fell short of pulling together contents of a book into the sharper focus required for stage effectiveness. It had some good actors in a cast headed by Sal Mineo, Kevin McCarthy, and Ralph Meeker.

QUICK LAUGHS

"Romulus" (Music Box, January 10), which at this writing was continuing its run, is a comedy adapted by Gore Vidal from the original of Friedrich Duerrenmatt. It starred Cyril Richard and Cathleen Nesbitt in the roles respectively, of a fictitious "last of the Roman emperors" and his wife, a daughter of an emperor. Set in Rome in the year 476 A.D., it concerns the determination of the emperor—a combination of a dilettante and intellectual sadist—to turn the empire over to the invading barbarian "Goths". He feels the empire has lost its usefulness and purpose.

There was room here for some satiric comedy with obvious pertinence to our present era. From time to time it succeeds in this direction, but more often Mr. Vidal falls back on the device of gaining quick laughs with contemporary allusions such as social security. Mr. Richard proved his adeptness with the sly turn-of-phrase, and Miss Nesbitt demonstrated again that she has few peers in the authority of her stage presence.

With Broadway temporarily in the doldrums, it remained for off-Broadway to keep the season going with some very worthwhile offerings. Deserving top ranking by any

standards was a production of "Moon on a Rainbow Shawl" (East Eleventh Street Theatre, January 13), in which Broadway producer, Kermit Bloomgarden teamed up with off-Broadway impresario Harry Joe Brown, Jr. for a fine presentation under direction of George Roy Hill. Vinnette Carroll repeated her London rôle of Sophia, and others in the cast were all equally excellent.

The off-Broadway Phoenix scored with a strong, compelling modern tragedy, "Who'll Save the Plow-boy?" (January 9), by Frank D. Gilroy. Personal story of an aftermath of soldier experiences in World War II, it was written and played with honest insight which moved along to a shattering climax.

PAST SINS

Circle in the Square, another leading off-Broadway organization, presented three new short works by Thornton Wilder under the title "Plays for Beecher Street" (January 11). Two of the plays are concerned with relationships between infants and children and adults. The third is a morality drama emphasising the difficulty of atonement for past sins.

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GLAMOUR-GIRLS, suitable to Complete Star Shows and stage for comedians, one-night engagements, London and Home Counties (transport provided); are unimportant, must have good figure and good speaking voice.—Photo, s.a.e. and full details: Box A1193, c/o "The Stage."

CABARET ARTISTS REQUIRED, all lines.—Tip-Top Entertainments, 10a Charlotte Street, Portsmouth, Hants. Portsmouth 27560.

YOUNG artists, all lines, required for cold days and weeks. Rehearse now. Good amateur invited.—Photo if possible and s.a.e., Box A1823, c/o "The Stage."

WANTED cabaret acts all lines. Terms and full particulars. No callers.—The Byron Agency, 20 Orchard Road, Kingston-on-Thames.

FEMALE Tap Dancer required for dancing instrumental act. Send photos, etc.—Box C4562, c/o "The Stage."

THE FREDA HALL SHOWS WANTED: Artists (all lines) including pianists.—Auditions, Dingles Studio, 2 p.m.-4 p.m., February 16, or details to Park Lane, Richmond, Yorks, P.O. 2163.

GIRLS with dancing knowledge wanted to train for stage engagements. Contracts available.—Call Monday, Tuesday, 6-7, Wynette Dancers, Max Rivers Studio, C.

A GRAND TALENT COMPETITION owing to the success of our previous competition, open to all amateurs and semi-pros, vocal or instrumental. Every Wednesday at 8.45 p.m. First prize £10, second £5, third £2. All competitors must appear on stage. The contest will be held on April 4th, 1962, at 8.45 p.m.—The Dorset Arms (Jimmy Vaughan), 124 Clapham Road (off Oval Underground), S.W.4. REL 3427.

WANTED, attractive all-round dancers and point dancers, also acrobatic girls. Immediate and future engagements. France, Brussels, Holland, Scandinavia, also summer seasons, 16 years and over. Top salaries. Excellent contracts. Auditions Max Rivers, 10/11 Great Newport Street, London, W.C.2. Friday and Saturday, 2 to 4 p.m., or write, s.a.e., particularly, Millie Jackson, c/o Flat 8, 29 Foley Street, London, W.1. Convenient auditions arranged. C.

ESTABLISHED Vocal Group requires girl with low range voice.—Photo, details, particulars, etc., s.a.e. Box A1833, c/o "The Stage." C.

WANTED, Repertory Artists for immediate and future season vacancies. Please write only with s.a.e. to T.A.B.S. Agency, 21/24 Great Street, W.1. C.

ATTRACTIVE athletic girls wanted by producer making 35-min. film.—Telephone Waterloo 2668. C.

FOR Club Acts, Television and Stage. Your costumes created for sale or hire.—Trevor Cresswell Studios, Facing Drill Hall, York 3227. C.

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WELL-ESTABLISHED London C.P. performing parks and shows. (April to September) require young male artist. Would consider light comedian, pop vocal or quartet specialists. Must be able to feed and compete, and willing to rehearse.—Box A1847, c/o "The Stage." C.

GLAMOROUS (but intelligent and experienced) young brunettes actress required for stage advertising magazine participations during period April-August, 1962.—Photographs only in first instance to Gordon Duffin, Nevill D. Hirst (Advertising Ltd.), 41 Buckingham Palace Road, London, S.W.1. C.

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THE NEW PICKERING



Zena Dare with John Huxon, who has taken over the part of Colonel Pickering in "My Fair Lady" at Drury Lane.

State of Ireland

MICHAEL MACLIAMMOIR expressed the view that the actor is really up against it in Ireland, when addressing a meeting of the New Ireland Society in Belfast. "We have the best audience in the world and some of the best plays in the world," he stated, "but we are still up against it." The problem lay in the matter of population, since a large population is essential to a mature and flourishing theatre and so Irish actors are driven abroad to make money. He would like to see more artistic rapport between Dublin and Belfast.

Coming Home

WILLIAM JEFFERIES is returning to England after some 14 years in Australia. He recently understood Higgins and Pickering in the "My Fair Lady" company now playing in New Zealand and created the uncles in the Australian production of "Salad Days," and was director and juvenile lead in the Australian musical, "The Ballad of Angel's Alley." He has also played in a great many Gilbert and Sullivan productions and straight plays.

JACK CLIFTON, referred to in last week's issue as a Norwich theatre manager, has no connection with the Royal. Stanley Fuller is the active manager there.

LILIAN HARVEY, British-born star of the German screen, has returned to the stage in Heidelberg.

CALLS—Continued From Page 2

TIVOLI CIRCUIT AUSTRALIA PTY. LTD. (continued)

MELBOURNE: TIVOLI.—"Yellow" of 1962.—Les Odette, Shermer, Les Howe and Audrey May Francis Van Dyk, Nicole Browne, Big George, Moscone, Dana Marou, Solar, Rita Moreno, Margaret and Maurice, The Flat Tops, Barney Grant, Keith Peterson, Terry Scollon.

SYDNEY: TIVOLI.—"The Golden Days." Hilda, Freda, Morgan, Alec Finlay, Adeline McHarg, Roy and Thelma, Kenet and Jani, Greco, Jandy, Anne Lee, Pearl Gavin, Vincent Grant, Beverly Thomas, Monica Shearlock.

CABARET ALLIANCE.—Chester Harriott, CHURCHILLS.—"Exotic." Barry Kent, Paty Porter, Jackie Dalton, Roy May.

COLONY.—Shani Wallis. EMBASSY CLUB.—Jean Turner, Davy Kaye, Princess Yamille, Embassy Lovelies, Bill Stroud and his Orchestra, Denis Lopez and his Orchestra.

LATIN QUARTER.—"Folie Fantastique." Monsieur Choppy, Pat and Neil Belinda, Ken Jonart, Healy's Twenty Glamorous Showgirls and Dancers, Ronnie Fiedell and his Orchestra. QUAGLIANO.—Cher Harriott. SAVOY HOTEL RESTAURANT.—

'THE WHITE STEED'

THE first London performance of "The White Steed" was produced by Rex Walters at the Guildhall School on Tuesday.

The play was originally presented in New York in 1939 and may well have seemed the height of modernity at a time when the theme of clerical versus secular authority had been less widely explored by dramatists.

Michael James succeeded in giving a polished and convincing interpretation of the elderly, crippled priest of an Irish village, powerless until the very predictable ending—to prevent his zealous young assistant from imposing vigilante ruling on the villagers.

As the younger priest, Roy Mann, lacked the necessary authority but expressed the character's unlovable integrity well.

Elizabeth Fox as the local firebrand, Terry Collins as her tradition-bound father, Robert Armstrong as a cowardly schoolmaster and Lynn Farleigh as a shrew acquainted themselves creditably. L.G.S.

OLD VIC DILEMMA

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The Sarah-Bernhardt programmes remain provisional, but will probably include the troupe from the Permanent Theatre of Genoa with a play called "Glasgow a suo modo" by Pirandello, the Pantomime Theatre from Wrocław, the Inbal Company from Tel Aviv, and the Sultani Opera who are to present a programme of Karl Orff operas. The Maly Theatre, it is hoped, will be coming with Gogol's "The Revizor" and Tolstoy's "The Power of Darkness" with the great Soviet actor Ilinskiy leading the company; the Théâtre Royal de la Monnaie of Brussels are to give Alban Berg's "Wozzeck".

From Lisbon the Teatro Moderno will bring a play by a young Portuguese author Carlos Moniz and from Zagreb, comes "The Sand and the Foam," by Jure Kazian. The Athenian Theatre of Warsaw will present Shakespeare's "Richard III" and a musical play by a Polish author.

LEAVING SHEFFIELD

FROM the critical standpoint it is perhaps a pity that Sheila Hammond is shortly to leave Sheffield Playhouse. In the past ten months or so she has been one of the most appealing young actresses on the Sheffield stage. Prior to Sheffield she was with BBC-TV as an assistant floor manager and also at Colchester.

Another player to leave the company is Peter Tory, who has many sound performances to his credit. For the forthcoming production of "Henry IV, Part I" there will be six newcomers in the company. They are Anthony Hill, who joins his wife, Mary Fournaces; John Bancroft, previously in television and films, following R.A.D.A. and the Old Vic; Martin Cookson and Mark Moss, from Chesterfield; John Noakes, from Manchester Library; and Graham d'Albert, from Bristol.

GAYE FULTON and Barry McGrath of London's Festival Ballet were secretly married while on holiday last week and will be dancing with the company at Streatham Hill next week.

THE GUILD Theatre Group of the University of Birmingham are to present "The Beaux' Stratagem" throughout the week of March 5.