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FROM THE CENTRE

At the time of writing these notes, the weather does not look very promising. We hope that, when you read them, you have not had to travel through fog or worse to reach the theatre. If there is fog, we hope that the cast has reached the theatre before you.

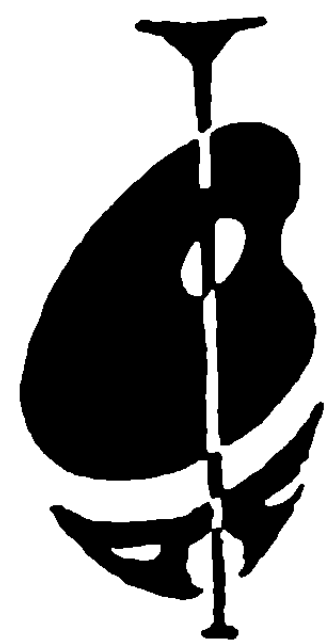
Christopher Fry, the author of *THE LADY'S NOT FOR BURNING*, was born in 1907. He has many theatrical successes to his credit, including *A SLEEP OF PRISONERS*, *THE FIRSTBORN* and *A PHOENIX TOO FREQUENT*. This evening's play was first performed at the Arts Theatre in March, 1948, directed by Jack Hawkins and with Alec Clunes playing the part of Mendip. It was repeated in May 1949 with John Gielgud, Pamela Brown, Claire Bloom and Richard Burton amongst the cast. It was received with high praise by the critics. *PUNCH* said 'The play has phrases Ben Johnson would have nobbled gratefully and as many ripe images as would last most modern dramatists a lifetime'. *NEW STATESMAN* said 'From the moment the curtain rises, we are launched into a sea of dazzling verbal invention'. Fry's latest play, *CURTMANTLE*, was performed in Leeds last year. He now spends much of his time script-writing for American films.

THE LADY'S NOT FOR BURNING is probably Fry's best (and certainly his best known) play. In it, he uses the technique of placing a historical situation in a contemporary idiom—a technique he has used in several other plays. He creates humour through many devices—aliteration, paradox, bathos, epigram and metaphor.

Two features of this evening's production are worthy of mention—the costumes and the music. The costumes are completely new and have been made in our own wardrobe to the designs of Elaine Cooper. Miss Cooper has made a special study of the period. The incidental music is provided by the Leeds Music Centre Recorder Group and the Chaplain's viola music has been recorded by Rachel Hoare.

This evening's cast includes one newcomer to the Civic Stage—Betty Triggs. Josephine Ward, Gerald Armytage, Sydney Irving and Ray Spurgeon are making their first appearance this season, though all will be familiar to our regular patrons. The rest of the cast were all seen in *DINNER WITH THE FAMILY* last month. The name of the producer, Margaret Rhodes, may not be immediately familiar. This is because, until June, she was Margaret Shackleton. The change of name, since her marriage, has made it a good deal easier to place in the programme.

Incidentally, you may be interested to note that the Centre Literary Group meets on the Tuesday following each play to discuss the play and the production. The next meeting will be on Tuesday, November 26th at 7.30 p.m. and the producer will talk about the play before the general discussion. The Group meets at 43 Cookridge Street (directly opposite the theatre) and any interested members of the audience will be welcome to attend.



November 19th—23rd, 1963

THE LADY'S NOT FOR BURNING

A COMEDY by CHRISTOPHER FRY

CHARACTERS

In the order of their appearance

RICHARD, An orphaned Clerk BARRY STANHOPE
THOMAS MENDIP, A discharged Soldier ...	GERALD ARMYTAGE
ALIZON ELIOT ...	BETTY TRIGGS
NICHOLAS DEVIZE	ROBIN SPENCER
MARGARET DEVIZE, Mother of Nicholas	JANET HANSON
HUMPHREY DEVIZE, Brother of Nicholas	SYDNEY IRVING
HEBBLE TYSON, The Mayor	RAY SPURGEON
JENNET JOURDEMAYNE	... JOSEPHINE WARD
THE CHAPLAIN	NORMAN THACKWRAY
EDWARD TAPPERCOOM, A Justice	... FRANK O'DONNELL
MATTHEW SKIPPS ...	ARTHUR RIDLEY

SCENE

A room in the house of Hebble Tyson, Mayor of the small market-town of
Cool Clary

TIME

1400 either more or less or exactly

DIRECTED by MARGARET RHODES
SETTINGS designed by HAZEL IRVING
COSTUMES designed by ELAINE COOPER

Coffee will be served in the Refectory during the Interval between Acts I and II

Scenic Artist	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Fred Mower
Lighting	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Stanley Smith
Stage Managers	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Patrick Hutton George Westmoreland Michael Aston
Music	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Wendy Heaton
Effects	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Stuart Bennett
Property Mistress	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Sybil Jenkinson
Wardrobe	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Elaine Cooper Betty Triggs Doreen Parker Nora Knapton
Prompters	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Doreen Parker Nettie Ross Val Tyson
Violinist	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Rachel Hoare
Incidental Music	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Music Centre Recorder Group
Auditorium Manager	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Eric Parker
Theatre Manager	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	John Holmes Tel.: Civic Theatre Leeds 26343

CIVIC THEATRE, Cookridge Street, Leeds
Manager: J. W. Holmes. 12 Lanshaw Close, Leeds 10
In accordance with the requirements of the Watch Committee of the
Leeds City Council:—

- (a) The public may leave at the end of the performance by all exit and entrance doors and such doors must at that time be open.
- (b) All gangways, passages, and staircases must be kept entirely free from chairs or any obstruction.
- (c) The safety curtain must be lowered and raised once immediately before the commencement of each performance so as to ensure its being in proper working order.

From The Centre—continued

Our next production will be *INHERIT THE WIND* by Jerome Lawrence and Robert E. Lee. This will be presented at this theatre from January 14th to 18th inclusive and the producer will be Philip Weston. The play is a powerful drama based on the famous 'Monkey Trial' held in Dayton, Tennessee in 1925. The trial took place because a local schoolteacher taught Darwin's Theory of Evolution and this was held to be blasphemous and against the interest of the state. A film of *INHERIT THE WIND* was released a short time ago, with Spencer Tracy and Frederick March. Advance bookings for our production may be made at the box-office during the intervals.

The Leeds Triennial Music Festival will next be held in April 1964. As usual, Leeds Civic Arts Guild (of which the Centre is an affiliated society) will be presenting a play at this theatre during the festival. The choice this time is *THE COUNTRY WIFE*, a little seen restoration comedy by Wycherley. The cast of the play, which will be presented during the week of 20th April, will be drawn from all the major groups in the city. Further details will be announced later.

Although the 1963/64 season has only just started (this is only the second production so far), our play selection committee has already started reading plays to make a choice for the season of 1964/65. It will, of course, be several months before we finally select our next list of plays but before then the committee will read and consider a great number of scripts. It helps the committee if it has some idea of the preferences of our audiences and we will be grateful if you will complete the form enclosed in this programme. You can hand the completed form to any member of the front-of-house staff or, if you prefer to think about it later, it can be posted to the address on the form.

FUTURE PROGRAMMES AT THE CIVIC THEATRE

November 26th—December 7th

RUMPELSTILTSKIN by Charlotte B. Chopenning
Presented by Leeds Children's Theatre

December 12th—14th

ROAR LIKE A DOVE by Lesley Storm
Presented by The Cosmopolitan Players

January 7th—11th

TOAD OF TOAD HALL by A. A. Milne
Presented by Leeds Art Theatre

January 14th—18th

INHERIT THE WIND by Jerome Lawrence and Robert E. Lee
Presented by Leeds Arts Centre

WHY NOT JOIN THE CENTRE FILM GROUP?

The Group meets regularly at 43 Cookridge Street and presents a wide range of films. Below is the programme for the 1963/64 season.

1963		1964	
Sept. 26	ALL QUIET ON THE WESTERN FRONT	Jan. 9	An evening of HORROR FILMS
Oct. 10	'M' (Fritz Lang)	23	SKY WITHOUT STARS
17	THE SPESSART INN	Feb. 6	THE STARS LOOK DOWN
Nov. 7	THE COUNT OF MONTE CRISTO	13	RAICES and UN CHIEN ANDALOU
14	CHRONIQUE D'UN ETE	Mar. 5	THE NIGHT OF THE HUNTER
21	GRAPES OF WRATH		
Dec. 5	BATTLESHIP POTEMKIN	12	MR. WONDERBIRD
12	HELLZAPOPPIN'	19	LE MILLION (Rene Clair)

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THE LEEDS ARTS CENTRE

★ The Centre was founded in 1945, and is established for the purpose of encouraging the appreciation and creation of the Arts by presentation and discussion. Groups may be formed to cover any branch of the Arts, and at present the following Groups are constituted:—

FINE ARTS

★ This Group meets every Monday for Life classes, painting and sketching, with talks and criticism of members' work. In the summer sketching outings are arranged.

DRAMA

★ Public productions of plays covering a wide range of choice are presented at the Civic Theatre, and weekly meetings on Fridays provide readings, and instruction in the various aspects of stagecraft. The Green Room presents private productions of a training and experimental nature.

LITERARY

★ For those with literary interests this newly formed group offers a varied programme of lectures, discussions, readings, etc., and scope for original work.

FILM

★ By the presentation of a programme of historical and recent films, appreciation of the technique of acting and directing is fostered, and discussions leading to the practical making of films are held. See special Bills for the programme. An Associate Membership is available for this Group only at 16s. per season.

MUSIC

★ Meetings are held every Wednesday, to hear recitals of recorded and "live" music to suit a wide range of taste.

The annual subscription is one guinea, giving membership of all Groups. For further details and application forms, please apply to the Hon. Secretary:—

<u>Mr. Sydney Irving,</u>	Mrs. Margaret Rhodes
<u>3, Alderhill Cottage,</u>	25 Becketts Park Drive
<u>Stannegate Road,</u>	Leeds 6
<u>Leeds, 7.</u>	