

BELGRADE THEATRE
COVENTRY'S CIVIC THEATRE
 In Association with The Arts Council of Great Britain
 Lessees ... BELGRADE THEATRE TRUST (COVENTRY) LTD.
 Chairman: Alderman S. Strasser Vice-Chairman: Alderman A. J. Watcut

MONDAY, 27th FEB., 1961 For One Week

By arrangement with
 The Belgrade Theatre Trust (Coventry) Limited
THE COVENTRY SAVOY OPERA SOCIETY
 presents
 (By permission of Miss Bridget D'Oyly Carte)

RUDDIGORE
 OR
The Witch's Curse
 A Comic Opera in Two Acts
 By **W. S. GILBERT** and **ARTHUR SULLIVAN**
 AN AMATEUR PRODUCTION

Director **ANTHONY RICHARDSON**
 Associate to the Director **DEREK NEWTON**
 Assistant to the Director **DAVID FORDER**

Manager and Licensee **WILLIAM LOGAN**
 Catering Manageress **MARY CLINKER**

THE COVENTRY SAVOY OPERA SOCIETY
 presents
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RUDDIGORE
 or THE WITCH'S CURSE
 Written by W. S. Gilbert Composed by Arthur Sullivan
 Dramatis Personae:

Morals:
 Sir Ruthven Murgatroyd, disguised as Robin Oakapple, a young farmer **Peter McAdams**
 Richard Dauntless, his brother, a Man o' War's man **Donald Austin**
 Sir Despard Murgatroyd, of Ruddigore, a Wicked Baronet Eric Whyte **Ron Owen**
 Old Adam Goodheart, Robin's Faithful Servant **Ron Owen**
 Rose Maybud, a Village Maiden **Sylvia Freedy**
 Mad Margaret **Kathleen Griffiths**
 Dame Hannah, Rose's Aunt **Audrey Bishop**
 Zora and Ruth, Professional Bridesmaids **Patricia Jenkins, Gwendolyn Waddington**

Ladies:
 Sir Rupert Murgatroyd, the First Baronet **John Fenner**
 Sir Jasper Murgatroyd, the Third Baronet **Rex Satchwell**
 Sir Desmond Murgatroyd, the Sixteenth Baronet **David Summers**
 Sir Mervyn Murgatroyd, the Twentieth Baronet **George Suddens**
 Sir Roderic Murgatroyd, the Twenty-first Baronet **Ernest Charlton**
 Chorus of Officers, Ancestors, Villagers and Professional Bridesmaids:

Gentlemen:
 J. Ariss, E. Aves, S. Aves, V. Baker, A. Bennett, W. Billington, V. Bruton, M. Bullock, L. Mascord, J. Priest, A. Russell, I. Sheppard, H. Swindle, A. Tilley, F. Tilley, M. Walling

ACT I
 The Fishing Village of Rederring, in Cornwall
 Picture Gallery in Ruddigore Castle
 Time: Early in the 19th Century

ACT II
 Picture Gallery in Ruddigore Castle
 Time: Early in the 19th Century

Producer **R. Rowberry**
 Costumes and Wigs **Chas. Fox, London**
 Scenery **Stage Scenery, London**
 Peraquers **Gardner's Theatrical Stores, Coventry**
 Choreography **Miss Mary Wilson, M.R.A.D., A.I.S.T.D., F.D.T.A., M.I.D.M.A.**

THERE WILL BE ONE INTERVAL

SAVOY OPERATIC SOCIETY'S SUCCESS AT THE BELGRADE

Morals: Robin Oakapple, a young farmer, Peter McAdams, Richard Dauntless, his brother, Donald Austin; Sir Despard Murgatroyd, Eric Whyte; Old Adam Goodheart, Robin's servant; Ron Owen, Rose Maybud, a village maiden, Sylvia Freedy; Mad Margaret, Kathleen Griffiths; Dame Hannah, Rose's aunt; Audrey Bishop; Zora and Ruth, professional bridesmaids; Patricia Jenkins, Gwendolyn Waddington.

Ghosts: Sir Rupert Murgatroyd, John Fenner; Sir Jasper Murgatroyd, Rex Satchwell; Sir Desmond Murgatroyd, David Summers; Sir Mervyn Murgatroyd, George Suddens; Sir Roderic Murgatroyd, Ernest Charlton.

Ladies: J. Ariss, E. Aves, S. Aves, V. Baker, A. Bennett, W. Billington, V. Bruton, M. Bullock, L. Mascord, J. Priest, A. Russell, I. Sheppard, H. Swindle, A. Tilley, F. Tilley, M. Walling.

Gentlemen: J. Ariss, E. Aves, S. Aves, V. Baker, A. Bennett, W. Billington, V. Bruton, M. Bullock, L. Mascord, J. Priest, A. Russell, I. Sheppard, H. Swindle, A. Tilley, F. Tilley, M. Walling.

IN these days when television takes such a toll of people's spare time, it is rather wonderful that a large group of singers can be brought together to practice assiduously night after night their parts for a Gilbert and Sullivan opera. The rehearsals seem endless, and when the great night of the first performance arrives, all the players, and the conductor wonder what the audience will make of it all.

Such was the atmosphere at the Belgrade on Monday night when the Coventry Savoy Opera Society presented "Ruddigore." Twice before, since the society's productions started in 1928, have the society done this less distinguished Sullivan composition, but it is doubtful if they have ever achieved more success than they did on Monday. The voices were sweet and well-modulated; the singing, if not robust, was gentle and natural, and the conductor, W. J. Aves, did a really fine job.

He kept strictly to time, never allowing any looseness, and though his instrumentalists were very few and hardly adequate he had them under perfect control and directed the score with the utmost sympathy.

Several others in the lead, namely, **Peter McAdams** as **Robin Oakapple**, **Donald Austin** as **Richard Dauntless**, **Ron Owen** as **Old Adam Goodheart**, **Sylvia Freedy** as **Rose Maybud**, **Kathleen Griffiths** as **Mad Margaret**, **Audrey Bishop** as **Dame Hannah**, **John Fenner** as **Sir Rupert Murgatroyd** and **Rex Satchwell** as **Sir Jasper Murgatroyd** possessed good pleasant voices, and tackled their parts with gusto.

Settings of the fishing village and picture gallery in Ruddigore Castle were good, although the latter required better lighting—the sombre gloom became thin after a time.

But altogether this was a thoroughly competent performance by a painstaking group.

J.G.

