

'Seven Year Itch' Gets Enthusiastic Reception

By BETTY SCHROEDER
Opening night's performance of "The Seven Year Itch" by George Axelrod at Chapel Theatre in Torrance was as expected — a riot of fun! Huge congratulations are in order to Larry G. Boyd of Redondo Beach for casting and directing one of the most delightful comedies to be shown in the area.

From opening to closing, there was never a dull moment, and hardly pause enough for breath between laughter. When the curtains parted, there was a generous burst of applause for the magnificent set created by Steve Sands, co-producer with Don Gish of Chapel Theatre.

FRANK HERMAN, who stars as Richard in this comedy, and is also the star of KTLA's Cartoon Carousel show on TV, has captured the hearts of his adult audience at Chapel Theatre as he has his children audience on TV. If one is doubtful as to what a magician-ventriloquist might be capable of in an acting role before he sees Herman perform, all such doubts are erased by the enthusiastic, energetic, and most charming characterization of Richard and his wild daydreams, even before the first scene ends.

Herman is so natural in his performance, plus the fact that he cannot resist ad-libbing occasionally, which makes his role even more realistic. His is a very difficult role as he must assume the same position at the end of each dream sequence as he has before it starts, and the timing for easing in and out of these imaginings went off like clockwork. The kiddies better watch watch out, or they will lose their "Skipper Frank" to the adult world, if this is any indication of what Frank Herman can do on a theater stage! All in all, if the first-nighter audience was any barometer, there will be steady laughter in Chapel Theatre for the next three weekends at least!

JEANNE APPEL of Torrance is perfectly cast in the role of The Girl Upstairs, the role made famous by Marilyn Monroe. Jeanne portrays her own version and is "as cute as a button" with her gestures, movements, and seemingly sweet innocence. Pleasing to note is the fact that none of her actions is overdone.

As always, Denton Wable of Redondo Beach is fabulous in his characterization of Dr. Brubaker the psychiatrist, even when he first enters the stage.

Kyna E. Stephens of Palos Verdes portrays Richard's wife in a most typical and believable fashion. Her speaking voice is quite enchanting, and she carries her role in a most pleasing manner. Jim Easton of Hawthorne is well cast in the suave, sophisticated rival in Richard's dream. The boy of beautiful girls in Richard's dreams were very well cast with Susan Parks of Manhattan Beach as Miss Morris; Naomi Moore of Redondo Beach as Elaine; Sally Slatter of Torrance as Marie-Whatever-Her Name-Was; and Jean Russi of Torrance as Pat.

This group goes through one of the funniest sequences in the show when they relate to Richard's wife what her husband has been doing while she was away on vacation, although each event they relate only what occurred in his dream, which is actually what this particular scene is — Richard's day dream. Complicated, but very funny.

TO ROUND out the cast: Jimmy Russi of Torrance is a regular little trooper as Richard's son, this being 6-year-old Jimmy's first acting role; Mark Palmer of Redondo Beach and Susan Parks do splendid jobs as the voices of Richard's and The Girl's consciences. It should be mentioned that the production crew did a magnificent job with backstage work — Phyllis Palmer of Redondo Beach is producer; Rudy Medina of Palos Verdes is stage manager; Jim Meyers, Barbara Wilkins and Mark Palmer work lighting and sound; Naomi Moore is in charge of props; with Grover Palmer in charge of electrical work.

When you enter Chapel Theatre, you aren't entering a dream world yet — those are the hostesses you see in gorgeous turquoise sheath dresses, with glittering necklaces and earrings, and matching shoes, whose kowns were made by hostess chairman Phyllis Foss of Torrance.

TO ADD to the excitement of opening night, celebrities among the first-nighters were

Mayor and Mrs. Al Isen of Torrance, and Mr. and Mrs. Dale Harrison, creator of the exciting paintings which adorn the auditorium walls of the theater. During intermissions it was amusing and gratifying to the artist, to see clusters of people around each of his paintings, admiring and commenting on their impressions of what each painting represents. Since Mr. Harrison created his paintings in the abstract expressionist vein in vivid and startling colors, which evokes mood or emotion, each one visualized different representations, which made for many amusing and varied opinions.

Reservations for any of the next three weekend performances may be made by contacting Marion and Max Wilmarth of Hermosa Beach who handle Chapel Theatre Box

Check on Voting Status Advised

Supervisor Burton W. Chace yesterday urged residents who have not already done so to make certain they are registered

and eligible to vote at the November General Elections. Field deputies from the County Registrar of Voters De-

partment have been assigned to temporary posts throughout the County to assist persons in completing their registration.

There are six classes of persons who should register or re-register for the election, Supervisor Chace said. They are:

1. Those who have changed their addresses since previous registration.
2. Those who have changed their names.
3. Those who desire to change political affiliation.
4. Those who have become

of age, and have not registered.

5. New residents of Los Angeles County who have the proper residence requirements and meet other regulations concerning voting.

6. Those whose registrations were cancelled because they did not vote at the 1960 General Election and have not since re-registered. (However, those who still reside at the same address and who sent in the return postcard mailed to the Registrar of Voters after the 1960 General Election cancellation, need not re-register.)

JULY 26, 1952
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Directors of Broadway-Hale Stores, Inc. at a meeting held July 19 declared a quarterly dividend of 25 cents a share on the outstanding Common Stock of the corporation, payable Aug. 31, 1952 to stockholders of record Aug. 15, without closing the stock transfer books.

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