

WEDDING VISITORS

Mrs. Robert Turgeon of Amarilla, Texas, is visiting here with her two children, Debbie, 6, and Robbie, 4. Mrs. Turgeon is spending a few weeks with her parents, Mr.

and Mrs. Frank Steffen, 1022 Faysmith Ave., Torrance. She traveled here to attend the open house held for her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Claude Martin

Poignant Scenes; Good Cast Make Hampton Production Successful Run

Sitting in the audience at the Hampton Playhouse recently, I felt transported back in time to the "good old days" and a feeling of nostalgia flooded through me. The house was packed and the audience evidently was feeling somewhat the same way that I did. For they laughed with amusement and yet lived the sadness of the episodes that seemed so real.

The play is "Dark at the Top of the Stairs," which deals with Ruben Flood, traveling salesman, and his family. He sells harnesses, but would rather be riding the horses and roaming the range. Ruben, a simple man, rough-spoken, who lives with his wife, Cora, who is ignorant of their financial troubles. She is an overprotective mother who buys an expensive party dress for their daughter, Reenie, who is shy to the point of physical illness.

The dress, calculated to give her poise and confidence, becomes the bone of contention which sets off a major battle between husband and wife, resulting in Ruben's departure under orders never to return.

Cora, left with her daughter and a 10-year-old son to support, turns to her sister,

Lottie, for help. Lottie, a buxom, happy-appearing girl, almost steals the show. Her lines as a frustrated, unhappy woman, are real. Deep inside many a gal sitting in the audience watching the scene between the sisters felt "how true."

Lottie's husband is withdrawn from her and the realization that maybe she caused it, hits her hard.

Meanwhile, Reenie's friend, Flirt, calls at the house with her date, Punky, and a blind date for Reenie, Sammy Goldenbaum. This gentle, half-Jewish lad almost puts Reenie at ease and the young people go off happily to the party.

Next day a horrified Flirt tells the Floods of the tragedy of the night before—something terrible has happened to Sammy after a cruel display of prejudice at the party. Reenie realizes that if she had not been intent on her own unhappiness, she

would have been able to help him.

In the lead roles of Ruben, Cora and Lottie are Bill Burroughs, Betsy Mackenzie and Cleo Weinstein. Sonny, the son, and Reenie are portrayed by Michael Bernard and Sue Wood. Vicki Volante does a cute, perky job of making Flirt live. Morris, Lottie's husband, is played by Jake Jones. Michael McKinney portrays the tragic Sammy Goldenbaum.

Ed Long, director of the Dark, does a magnificent job with the limited stage of the Hampton Playhouse which is styled to make the audience part of the play.

All in all, "Dark at the Top of the Stairs" should be a must on the list for a good evening of entertainment.

—Lavinia Nugen
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Appointment of Field Managers Told by Vernitron

Vernitron Corporation of Torrance, Calif., and Carle Place, L.I., N.Y. today announced the appointment of field engineering representatives for four major industrial markets. The company is a multi-million dollar producer of electromagnetic servo components, including synchros, resolvers, servo motors, gyro components, motor tachometer generators, and other precision components for industry and the military.

New areas to be serviced directly in the new Vernitron sales and engineering representation program include Michigan, the New England states, Texas, Louisiana, and Oklahoma, and four other southwestern states.



A NICE MAN—"I'm glad I'm married to a nice man I can trust."—Lottie (Cleo Weinstein) tries to break down the barriers between herself and Morris (Jake Jones) in a scene from Hampton Players' "The Dark at the Top of the Stairs." —Photo by Ed Elledge

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