TEMPER TANTRUM—"You mustn't ever act like that," cautions Sammy, portrayed by Michael McKinney, tries to make Sonny, who is Michael Bernard, see that life is not all parties and fun. Scene is from the Hampton Players' production of "Dark at the Top of the Stairs," now playing Friday and Saturday nights at 100 Wall St., Redondo. Many local residents have parts in this production. —Photo by Ed Elledge

Many Jobs Keep Hampton Players Busy and Active

In Hampton Players every member wears at least two hats. Being able to "double in brass" is de rigueur, and this again is true in "The Dark at the Top of the Stairs," now entering its fourth weekend at the Players' theatre, 100 Wall Street, Redondo Beach.

Take the production staff, for instance. Director Ed Long is equally at home as an actor, as witness his memorable performance as "Biff" in "Death of a Salesman." Long, who comes from Pennsylvania, did three years of summer stock there and received awards for his roles of the Witch Boy in "Dark of the Moon" and Iago in "Othello." Then followed two years with the Armed Forces Radio Service in Korea. He has also worked as an announcer in Pennsylvania and on KBIG in Hollywood.

NUMEROUS AWARDS

In 1956 Long took his master's degree in theatre arts at UCLA, and is now working toward his doctorate. He has won numerous awards at UCLA for acting, directing, writing and producing all types of shows. He also appeared on the Shirley Temple Storybook production of "Hiawatha," and toured Los Angeles churches with the professional company of Christopher Fry's "A Sleep of Prisoners."

Locally his plays have been "Stalag 17, which he has both directed and acted in; "Time Limit," "The Crucible," "Rashoman," "The Joyous Season" and "The Great Sebastians." He is now employed as a film writer and audio-visual consultant at Northrop, and teaches a night - school course of radio and TV acting and announcing at Los Angeles City College.

Christine Bernard, assistant director of "Dark," has appeared in three Hampton shows, including the hilarious secretary -on-a-spree in "20th Century." She is also the proud "co-producer" of eleven year old Michael Bernard, who plays "Sonny Flood" in the current production.

Producer Jake Jones is definitely wearing two fedoras on this show, by playing the part of the beaten down husband, Morris Lacey. This is his second appearance with Hampton.

John Brady, who is responsible for the set design and construction, is Hampton's technical director. He also acted in "Death of a Salesman" and is now in rehearsal for the forthcoming "Born Yesterday." His crew on this show included Bill Le Blanc, Pete Devaney, Denny Haas, John Metzler and MacPerdue.

LOCAL SHOW

Tomye Black, Stage Manager, was in "Orpheus Descending" ando "Separate Tables" for Hampton and has done a host of other local shows.

George Bingham and Dan Wilgus, who work lights and sound respectively, are newcomers to Hampton and have not yet been fitted for their secondary chapeaus.

Marie Denn has been costume consultant on this and many shows, while her roles as an actress have included "Lady" in "Orpheus Descendingo" and countless others with local groups. Marie Tankersley, who did much of the sewing, appeared in "The Velvet Glove" and has designed costumes and worked props on many shows.

Hazel Elliott has just finished a year as refreshment chairman for Hampton meetings. She has dressed the set of "Dark" and many another play, and appeared in "Desk Set" and "A View from the Bridge."

Mary Starrett, who handles props, is a fine dancer, and added much to the unique entr'actes in "Holiday for Lovers" with her flamenco artistry.

MAKEUP

Pat Goates, makeup consultant on the show, has done just about everything there is to go theatrically, both in professional and little theatre, and her excellence as a teacher has helped many a Hampton actor over the hurdles.

Ed and Helen Elledge, who between them have been handling window display, programs and photography for all the recent shows, have also worked as co-producers on two shows—and all this without succumbing to the lure of the footlights!

Marc La Rocque, who is responsible for the refurbished lobby of the theatre, has decorated several sets for Hampton, and made his first appearance on stage in "20th Century.

Jack Drake, who with Marti Elliotot and Al Mauser, did the posters, has acted in many Hampton plays and directed "Inherit the Wind." He is now the group's Second Vice President, in charge of Playreading.

Hal Lepper, house manager, has done everything possible backstage in the way of construction, and appeared in "Billion Dollar Sainto" and "The Velvet Glove."

Mr. and Mrs. Edgar C. Robinson, parents of Edna Perdue, took over the big job of mailing flyers on this show. Mrs. Robinson is putting in her second year as the group's historian.

PAST PRESIDENTS—Loren Paulsohn, president of the South Bay Orchid Society, and past presidents of the four-year-old organization display types of orchids that will be shown at the society' first "Orchids at Eastertime" show in Alondra Park, March 18 and 19. Past presidents (left to right) from Paulsohn are Louis Rahr, Henry Ross of Torrance, and W. C. Williams, organization's first president, of Hollywood Riviera.

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