

300 £1.18.6 ?

“THE CIRCLE.”

In attempting to put on this play, we are again conscious of aiming rather higher than we can reach. Indeed, it should be frankly admitted that no amateur company can have the technical accomplishments, necessary for an entirely satisfactory performance of a Comedy of Manners. But, if this is true, it is equally true that one can learn a great deal from such an attempt coupled with a realisation of the difficulties. One of our aims is always to improve our work, and thus our ability to entertain you.

“The Circle” is generally held to be W. Somerset Maugham’s masterpiece. His later, more serious-minded works, do not seem to bear quite the same stamp of superb craftsmanship. “The Circle” is as flawless and brilliant as an artificial gem. We use the word “artificial” advisedly, because high comedy is written in an essentially artificial convention, a convention of which Mr. Maugham is a past master.

This artificiality is the keynote to Miss Audrey Perkins’ setting, which, with its unrealistic use of screens, attempts to catch both the style and the convention of Mr. Maugham’s Play.

A.E.J.E.

300 £1.18.6 34

“The Circle”

By W. SOMERSET MAUGHAM.

The Questors’ Theatre,
Mattock Lane,
Ealing.



PROGRAMME.

FRIDAY, MARCH 23rd and
SATURDAY, MARCH 24th, 1934,

PRICE 3d.

"The Circle"

A COMEDY BY W. SOMERSET MAUGHAM.

CHARACTERS (In Order of Appearance):—

ARNOLD CHAMPION-CHENEY, M.P.	....	Philip Matthews
MASON	....	Clifford Foreman
MRS. SHENSTONE	....	Mildred Hackett
ELIZABETH	....	Marjorie Lees
TEDDIE LUTON	....	Fred Greenfield
CLIVE CHAMPION-CHENEY	....	Leonard Hackett
LADY CATHERINE CHAMPION-CHENEY	....	Betty Gray
LORD PORTEOUS	....	Christopher Spurrer

The Scene is in the Drawing Room at Aston-Adey,
Arnold's House in Dorset.

ACT I	....	Morning.
ACT II	....	Afternoon—Three days later.
ACT III	....	The Same Evening.

The Play Produced by ALFRED EMMET.

Setting and Lady Kitty's Costumes designed by AUDREY PERKINS.

Furniture by J. S LYON LTD., 112, High Holborn, W.C. Wigs by BERT.

Stage Manager	...	KEITH HALL
Scenery Manager	...	EWART SHELLSHEAR
Lighting Manager	...	WILLIAM CHAMBRÉ
Box Office Manager	...	MABEL FRERE

Coffee will be served in the intervals. To prevent confusion, members of the audience are respectfully requested to order it, if required, from one of the programme sellers, and to remain in their seats, where it will be brought to them.

The first DRAMA FESTIVAL to be held in Ealing was that arranged by "The Questors" for their own members a year ago. The event proved so popular, with audience and competitors alike, that it is now to be made an annual affair, and this year's Festival will be held here on SATURDAY, 28th APRIL. Further details will be announced later, but book the date now!

If you are interested in our work, we invite you to **BECOME A MEMBER**. The subscription for non-acting membership is low, and carries with it, in addition to many other advantages, the right to a free seat for each production. We have a regular programme of activities during the season of play readings, lectures, etc. Particulars of membership will be gladly supplied by the Hon. Secretary, Mr. Alfred E. J. Emmet, 11, Kenilworth Road, Ealing, W. 5.