

### THE QUESTORS STUDENT GROUP

Our Student Group was first started in a rather informal way in 1946, in which year the course consisted simply of a weekly class taken by more experienced members of the theatre. This first beginning was so promising that in 1947 we approached the Middlesex County Council Education Committee, and with their backing, and under their auspices, we organised and ran a rather more extensive course; still only for a single year, but with three classes a week instead of one, and with a staff largely recruited from the professional field. This one-year course was in turn so successful, that in 1950 the County Council agreed to its being extended into a two-year course; a step which increased several-fold the value of what we could give the students.

At any time, therefore, there are now two Groups operating—a First Year Group, of some twenty students, attending three classes each week; and a Second Year Group, of about twelve students selected from the previous year's First Year Group. The Second Year Group, whose production you are seeing to-night, has four classes a week from September to July—one movement class, one for speech, and two rehearsal classes. They also have to attend additional rehearsals as their show approaches. To meet these demands calls for a serious approach and a high degree of enthusiasm.

The cast of *The Old Man of the Mountains* consists of the Second Year Group, most if not all of whom will shortly be taking auditions with a view to becoming full Acting Members of the theatre. A new Second Year Group will shortly be formed out of the current First Year Group, seen recently in the programme "Students at Work."

A new First Year Group is also now being formed, and applications for membership of this are invited. A prospectus giving full particulars may be obtained from the Theatre Manager, or from one of the Stewards or programme sellers.

A. E.

### A SHORT NOTE ON THE AUTHOR

Norman Nicholson is widely known as a poet. As a dramatist he was first discovered by Mr. E. Martin Browne, who produced *The Old Man of the Mountains* during his famous season of poetic drama at the Mercury Theatre in 1946. Later, Mr. Nicholson had a play commissioned by the Little Theatre Guild of Great Britain, for which he wrote *Prophesy to the Wind*. This was first played by the People's Theatre, Newcastle; and it was later produced by the Questors in April, 1949.

Norman Nicholson's latest poem, *The Pot Geranium*, published by Faber earlier this year, gained the distinction of being the first recommendation of the Poetry Book Society. In all his work he is deeply engrossed with his native Cumberland, the geology, history and architecture of which he has never ceased from describing.

B. H.

### OUR SILVER JUBILEE SEASON

We shall be celebrating our Silver Jubilee with a season of new plays, the first of which will be given in September, opening on the 25th. On Friday, September 10th, however, there is to be a Jubilee Dinner and Dance at the Red Lion Hotel, Hounslow. Full particulars and application forms for tickets may be obtained from the Theatre Manager or one of the Stewards or programme sellers.

### STUDENT GROUP STAFF

Alfred Emmet, Director of Studies. (Acting—First Year Group).

Anny Boalth (Movement). Geraldine Alford (Speech).

Francis W. Smith (Make-up).

Pamela Richards (Acting—Second Year Group).



present

THE SECOND YEAR STUDENT GROUP

in

THE OLD MAN OF THE MOUNTAINS

by

NORMAN NICHOLSON

AT THE QUESTORS THEATRE

MATTOCK LANE, EALING, W.5

JULY 17TH TO 24TH 1954

SEVENTH PRODUCTION

TWENTY-FIFTH SEASON

1953-54

PROGRAMME

SIXPENCE



# THE OLD MAN OF THE MOUNTAINS

BY

NORMAN NICHOLSON

Cast:—

Ahab, a landowner	... ..	EDWARD PITT
Obadiah, a tenant of Ahab's	... ..	JOHN FLINT
Rebecca, Obadiah's wife	... ..	DIANA DENNING
Martha, a neighbour	... ..	CATHERINE SCRIVENER (and SYLVIA POTHAN)
Ruth, a widow	... ..	DENYS MORAN (and JANE WOOD)
Ben, Ruth's son	... ..	JOSE ROWDON
Elijah, a statesman farmer	... ..	ROGER FLEMING
David, a labourer	... ..	GEOFFREY DYE
The Raven	... ..	ZOE BAILEY
The Beck	{ JUNE POND SYLVIA POTHAN and JANE WOOD	{ JUNE POND CATHERINE SCRIVENER DENYS MORAN

The play produced by ... .. PAMELA RICHARDS  
The sets designed by ... .. HONOR O'NIANS

The action of the play is set in Cumberland.

PART ONE: Ruth's Cottage and Garden.

PART TWO: The same. Half an hour later.

PART THREE: Carmel Fell. The following morning.

There will be a five-minute interval between Parts One and Two, and a fifteen-minute interval between Parts Two and Three.

*During the second interval you may remain in your seats and be served with tea and biscuits, or cross to the Lounge, where coffees and light snacks may also be obtained.*



Stage Manager	... ..	MURRAY LOWRY
Assistant Stage Managers	... ..	ELISABETH WELLMAN STELLA BIRKETT and PHILIP GREEN
Sets constructed in The Questors workshops by	RON HOLMAN and PETER TALBOT under the direction of	JOHN GOLDRICK
Wardrobe Mistress	... ..	ELISABETH WELLMAN
Lighting	... ..	STUART SANSOM
Sound	... ..	MICHAEL GAMBLE
Properties	... ..	BERYL OWEN
Production Secretary	... ..	MADELINE FORESTER



Theatre Manager	... ..	RENA RICE
House Manager	... ..	ARCHIE COWAN
Press Representative	... ..	BASIL HULL

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BOX OFFICE (6.30—7.30 p.m.) ... .. EALing 5184

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MEMBERS ARE RESPECTFULLY REMINDED THAT SMOKING IS NOT PERMITTED IN THE THEATRE WHILE THE PLAY IS IN PROGRESS.