

"When We Are Married" Was Happy Choice

GETTING together to celebrate their silver wedding three middle-class Yorkshire families discover that the parson who married them failed to observe certain technicalities. Respectability is shattered as those about to celebrate realise that for the past 25 years they have not been husband and wife after all. From such a situation springs J. B. Priestley's farcical comedy, "When We Are Married."

This was a happy choice for Wimborne Drama Club's latest production and by exploiting the situation to the full the talented cast provided a riot of fun in Wimborne W.I. Hall on three nights last week.

Such "regulars" as Paddy Brooman and Ronald Small, who are always the mainstay of the Club's productions were joined this time by several new members and it was obvious the players derived as much fun from the show as the audience. Yet they never failed to convince, and of particular merit was the manner in which they maintained throughout the Yorkshire dialect which formed so essential a part of the play.

Paddy Brooman and Daphne Young portrayed Alderman Joseph Helliwell and Maria Helliwell; Michael Warwick and Elaine King took the parts of Councillor Albert Parker and Annie Parker; and Ronald Small and Megan Leleu were Herbert and Clara Soppitt. Muriel Clark gave a gem of a performance as Mrs. Northrop and Donald Waterfield as the Rev. Clement Mercer. Edward Phelps provided some of the richest comedy as Henry Ormonroyd and his performance as the drunken Press photographer verged on the professional.

Other players were Norman Rowe (as Gerald Forbes), Eirwen Rowe (Nancy Holmes), Hugh Trenchard (Fred Dyson) and Vida Jeffrey (Lottie Grady).

Production was by Leonard H. Mottram, with the assistance of Lilian Hopper and stage managers were J. Williams, D. Ellis and Hilary Boreham. Betty Viader was prompter, Reginald L. Wilkinson was responsible for stage lighting, and interval music was by Charles O. Chaleel. General and business manager was G. R. C. Hawkins.