

## NEW ONE-ACT PLAYS

### BETSY'S FIRST REPORT CARD.

Comedy

PEG LYNCH. 1 m., 2 f. Simple int. Adapted for stage production from the popular radio show *THE COUPLE NEXT DOOR*, starring Peg Lynch and Alan Bunce. This sketch is especially successful at PTA meetings, because it humorously illustrates the shock all parents get when their child brings home the first report card. There is the initial bewilderment of trying to decipher what appears to be a four-page brochure, where Arithmetic is listed as "Ability to Master Fundamental Facts and Processes," where Marks are indicated by such mysterious classifications as "Needs Improvement." Mr. and Mrs. Piper, like all parents, get the astonishing and unbelievable blow of seeing their budding genius labeled "Average." Outraged Mr. Piper demands information about Betsy's teacher and school, which Mrs. Piper reminds him he could learn if just once she could drag him to a PTA meeting. 50c. (Royalty, \$5.00.)

### A SOMETIME THING.

Drama

JAMES LINEBERGER. 2 m., 1 f. Simple Int.-Ext. A winner in the National Collegiate Playwriting contest. Ed Harper encourages the affections of the widow, Emma Morrison, hoping to gain her trust only to steal her savings. He is aided partially in his game by the strong attraction Emma feels for his young son Eddie, lonely child of a former marriage. Eddie is altogether ignorant of the fact that his father is a thief, although he has seen woman after woman fall prey to Ed's charms. When at last Emma discovers Ed attempting to flee with her money, she drives him off and keeps Eddie with her. In the end, however, Eddie too discovers that he must leave: although he cannot bear the thought that his father is bad, he must nevertheless go, for without him his father is absolutely alone and has no one to love him. 50c. (Royalty, \$5.00.)

### THE CHAIRS.

Comedy

EUGENE IONESCO. Translated by DONALD M. ALLEN. 2 m; 1 f. extras. Int. *The Chairs* was greeted with great critical acclaim when it was produced in New York by the Phoenix Theatre. Mr. Ionesco was hailed as a true innovator and one of the important new playwrights of the present-day theatre. An elderly couple have invited several invisible guests to hear an orator tell the old man's message to the world. After the couple's double suicide the orator speaks. He is mute. A challenging play for advanced amateurs. In *Four Plays* by Eugene Ionesco. \$1.75. (Royalty, \$15-\$10.) Slightly restricted.

### THE LESSON.

Comedy

EUGENE IONESCO. Translated by DONALD M. ALLEN. 1 m; 2 f. Int. This play concerns an elderly professor and his young female student. The professor undertakes to give a lesson to his pupil, and this must certainly be the most remarkable and bizarre lesson in the history of pedagogy—it ends with the professor murdering the pupil. Produced in New York by the Phoenix Theatre. In *Four Plays* by Eugene Ionesco. \$1.75. (Slightly restricted. Royalty, \$15-\$10.)

### THE NEW TENANT.

Farce

EUGENE IONESCO. Trans. by Donald Watson. 3 m., 1 f. Int. A new tenant moves into his house, and as in "The Chairs," so does the furniture. More and more furniture comes in. And still more. Finally there is a complete wall of furniture around the tenant, and when the last piece is crammed in, he is happily alone in his new room, and from the depths asks someone to turn out the lights. Another fantastic triumph for M. Ionesco. In *Three Plays*, by Ionesco. \$1.75. (Slightly restricted. Royalty, \$15.00.)

### GRANNY'S LITTLE CHEERY ROOM.

Comedy

E. P. CONKLE. 1 m; 3 f. Int. This is a third Granny Painsberry play in the sequence which begins with the ever-popular *SPARKIN'* and continues into *A BAUBLE FOR THE BABY*. Each of the plays can be done separately, or all three constitute an evening's program about this delightful character and her family of Lessie, Orry, and Susan. In this play Granny gets ready to be taken up to Heaven by her husband, Lute, who has been there for some time. Granny makes her last will, which is a little play room to be added to Orry and Lessie's new house, but Lute fails to come for her. So, she decides to remain here with her kinfolks and enjoy the cheery room herself. 50c. (Royalty, \$5.00.)

### EXPRESS FOR SANTIAGO.

Farce

ISIDORA AGUIRRE. Adapted by Stanley Richards. 3 m., 2 f., extras. Ext. A husband and wife are waiting at a railway junction for a train that will take them to a vacation resort. While the husband goes in search of some cigarettes, a moonstruck Marchbanks rushes up to the wife and confesses his undying love. He has noticed during the first half of the journey that something is troubling the wife. Can he help? Yes; she believes she left the gas burning beneath a pot of boiling water. The swain hops the next train home to remedy the situation. Quite uselessly, as it turns out; for the husband had turned off the main gas line before leaving. One of the first works by the distinguished Chilean playwright to be published in this country. In *"The Best Short Plays of 1959-60,"* \$3.95. (Royalty, \$10.00.)

### THE INVISIBLE LINE.

Drama

VIVIENNE CHARLTON CHADWICK. 2 m., 3 f. Int. Mona Law, recuperating from illness and a broken romance, in which her fiancé has abruptly disappeared without explanation, is spending the summer alone in a cottage on the east coast of Vancouver Island,

unbearably touching—in its earthiness, its candor, and its unflinching tragic sense." In manuscript. (Royalty, \$35-\$25.)

### THE FLYING PRINCE.

**Adventure**

AURAND HARRIS. Based on stories told about Vikramaditya of Ujjain, a Hero of India. 7m., 8 f., extras. This is an enchanting children's play set in ancient India. The adventures of a legendary Prince are dramatized with action and poetic beauty. The story tells of an Indian Princess who is kidnapped by a bandit as she journeys to marry her Prince. To rescue her, the Prince petitions the Gods to let him become a bird. His wish is granted. Leaving his Prince's body, he flies over the mountain, saves the Princess, and carries her back to his Golden Palace. In his absence, however, a crafty servant has taken possession of the royal body and acts as the Prince. How the true Prince outwits the villain and marries the Princess provides the play with a dramatic climax. Easy to stage, the play is mounted in the traditional manner of the East, including simplified sets, Oriental music, and a helpful Property Man. *The Flying Prince* is Children's Theatre at its best, pictorial, poetic, and exciting. \$1.00. (Royalty, \$15.00.)

### THE CLOWN PRINCE OF WANDERLUST.

**Fantasy**

DOUGLASS PARKHIRST. 13 m., 12 f. Unlimited extras. Simple, fanciful exterior set. In the candy-cane, peppermint-stick kingdom of Wanderlust a terrible crisis is approaching. Princess Rose Violet has not been able to laugh for fifteen years and before this monstrous day ends, unless someone can break this spell of sadness, her bumbling father, King Absolute, will be forced to give her in marriage to a boorish boob, the evil Grand Bunkleman. The frantic antics of her devoted subjects make everyone (including the audience) laugh, except the poor Princess. Helped by Nurse Funjollity, two local scamps Perk and Smack almost-but-not-quite succeed and all seems lost. A handsome youth appears, Juan of Evergreen, a commoner, but uncommon his trick of turning tears to laughter in the Princess he loves at first sight. "A Children's Play as Children's Plays should be written—and almost never are."—Mario Siletti, Director, *The Merry Mimes*, New York City. \$1.00. (Royalty, \$15.00.)

### CIRCUS IN THE WIND.

**Comedy**

AURAND HARRIS. 5 m.; 2 f. Circus tent. Circus costumes. "The circus is coming. Clowns, elephants, pink lemonade! A summer Christmas stocking filled with fun and thrills." Like every boy who can hear the circus in the wind, Johnnie is overjoyed when he's accidentally carried away in a clown's box. Grandpa comes after him, then he also hears the call of the circus. And the fun mounts when Grandma arrives, looking for both her boys. *Circus in the Wind* is a revision of Aurand Harris' prize winning *Circus Day*. Mr. Harris has devised a new plot which incorporates audience participation and provides an active dramatic experience for the audience as well as the actors. As a result, every child's wish comes true when for one happy hour he feels he is in the center ring performing with the clowns, the bareback rider, the ring-master, and all the colorful people of the big top! A tested and proven hit with children. 75c. (Royalty, \$15.00.)

### COUNTED AS MINE.

**Miracle play**

SISTER MARY FRANCIS, P. C. 10 m., 2 f. Int., 2 ext. Particularly appropriate for Catholic schools is this story of Our Lady of Guadalupe, by one of the most revered of modern religious playwrights. Told with tableaux, scenes, and choruses, it recounts the story of the appearance of Our Lady to a South American peasant in the 16th century, and the miracle of the roses that bloomed in the snow. 75c. (Royalty, \$10.00.)

### SIMPLE SIMON.

**Fantasy. 3 acts**

PATRICK BRUMBAUGH. 9 m., 4 f., extras. Int. Prince Simon is the heir-apparent to the kingdom ruled by his father, King Simon, who feels it is time his son proved his worthiness to inherit the crown. But young Simon, no matter what responsibilities he is given, always seems to be a disappointment, for his gentle nature is not easily adapted to the trying work of running a kingdom. His father, threatened by a secret revolution planned by his Chief Advisor, Gilbert, and an invasion by his arch-enemy King Jubert, is ready to give up and disinherit Simon, while the Queen tries to help both her husband and her son, continually getting herself involved in the King's political problems. When King Simon, in one last attempt to give his son a chance, commissions Simon to stop the invasion, the Prince finds himself caught in a web of political intrigue. King Hubert tries to cheat him out of a huge portion of the kingdom, Gilbert persuades him to unwittingly lend his aid to the revolt, and King Hubert's wife resolves to marry him off to her daughter Suzanne. In the midst of the chaos Simon is more alone than ever, and must decide for himself what it means to be a king—and a man. \$1.00. (Royalty, \$15.00.)

When ordering copies of plays for production please state:  
Number of performances intended .....  
Approximate dates .....