



Deborah Meader Papers

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UL PIONEER PRESS.

Sorority to Be Alumnae Guests At Puppet Show



MRS. A. K. MEADER.

Delta Delta Delta Member Will Give Plays With Own Handiwork.

Delta Delta Delta members and their friends have been invited by the St. Paul alumnae group to a puppet show to be given at 4 P. M. Saturday at Macalester College Presbyterian church, Macalester and Lincoln avenues.

Mrs. A. K. Meader, a Delta Delta Delta alumna of the chapter of Coe college at Cedar Rapids, will produce the show with puppets of her own making. The program will consist of a series of playlets including "Snow White" and "The Little Rabbit Who Wanted Red Wings," a Christmas number and an animal orchestra with music and dances.

Mrs. David C. Morris, 1963 Sargeant avenue, and Mrs. M. D. McLean, 1713 Lincoln avenue, are co-chairman in charge of arrangements.

The project is being undertaken to aid in the Tri-Delta scholarship fund.

THURSDAY, MAY 25, 1939.

Importance of Puppetry In Education Stressed

Puppetry plays an important part in education, Mrs. Deborah Meader, a member of the Northwest Puppetry guild, said Wednesday in discussing the spring festival which the guild, an affiliate of the Puppeteers of America, will hold Friday and Saturday in the Commodore hotel with guild members from Minnesota, Iowa, Wisconsin, North and South Dakota and Canada in attendance.

"Recreation leaders," she said, "teachers, social workers, occupational directors and librarians are coming to recognize puppetry as a useful tool, almost necessary as a visual means of presenting the study hour, as a special impetus to research in the library and to those interested in advertising.

"Puppets have caught and held the attention of all classes of people at all age levels from the learned to the illiterate down through the ages. Advertising agencies are recognizing their appeal and are turning to puppets as

models in photography and as a means of presenting their story in an amusing way.

"The National Dairy Council was one of the first to recognize the adaptability of puppets to propaganda. Reports from New York say that experienced puppeteers find ready employment in commercial companies. In addition, puppetry is accepted as a delightful and satisfying hobby.

"Puppetry has a very old and honorable history, not only as a means of entertainment but as an art and as an aid to teaching. It has been used to teach religion and for adult education in the misuse of government since history began. Even the tragical comedy of Mr. Punch and his wife Judy carried its message of successful revolt of the common man against authority, even against the Devil himself.

"At last the church authorities introduced the crocodile to destroy Punch in the end, feeling they must demonstrate that his wild, unmoral actions could but result in disaster to him.

"The ancient art of puppetry is now recognized as a form of visual education that has peculiar advantages. It is creative, not mechanical. There is need for stimulating creative effort in mechanized America. The appeal of puppets to the imagination as well as the unique linking of the arts and handicraft with the drama is of great value.

"Even the actors themselves may be created by the participants. People whose innate dramatic urge has been so inhibited through shyness that they have denied its very existence, find an opportunity for self-expression. While protected by the screen, they gain confidence to demonstrate their dramatic ability and success gives them courage to face an audience later.

"Those who seek the spotlight are benefited by being forced into the shadow where the emphasis is on achievement, not on personality and appearance."

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