

"BLITHE SPIRIT" AT CHELMSFORD

Another Success for Operatic Society

Chelmsford Amateur Operatic and Dramatic Society are fortunate in having on their list of playing members one so accomplished in the art of light comedy as Roger Massey.

He has proved his ability in previous presentations of the Society, but he has done nothing better than his performance in Noel Coward's "Blithe Spirit" which is on show at the Regent Theatre all this week.

"Blithe Spirit" pokes hilarious fun at spiritualism, and Mr. Massey (as Charles Condomine) makes full use of the many diverting complications that arise when the spirit of his first wife, Elvira, seven years deceased, materialises at a seance. Scared by the apparition of his late wife, distracted by her continued presence in the house, he gives a remarkably effective performance.

Josephine Maisey plays the part of Ruth, his present wife, with considerable ability; not less so Madge Taylor as the ethereal but seductive Elvira. Their respective reactions to the embarrassing situation created by Elvira's return are exceedingly well brought out.

Amy Unstead gives an exceptional performance as Madame Arcati, the eccentric and ebullient medium. Her comedy is boisterous, but not overdone, and she has a very big share in the success of the production.

With less to do, but doing it equally well, are William Broadley and Sue Rebec as Dr. and Mrs. Bradman, and Jane Andrews as the maid.

It is a case all through of good team work; and credit goes, too, to the producer, Robert Vernon.