

OPERATIC AND DRAMATIC CHANGE OF PLANS

'BRIGADOON' NOT 'PAJAMA GAME'

CHELMSFORD Amateur Operatic and Dramatic Society are to follow up the success of "Annie Get Your Gun" and "Oklahoma" with "BRIGADOON." Announcing the Executive Committee's choice for next year's show on Monday, chairman, Mr. A. R. Barneveld, released the Society's best-kept secret ever—and shattered the hopes of members who had expected "The Pajama Game."

Referring to the almost accepted "The Pajama Game," Mr. Barneveld told nearly 100 members at an extraordinary general meeting at the Drill Hall, London Road, that the Executive Committee had made a "rather hasty decision" in announcing "The Pajama Game" as their next production in the "Oklahoma" programmes.

"We have changed our minds about presenting it," he said, "for one or two good reasons. The primary reason is that public reaction was very much against our doing it. Last year, after 'Annie,' 'Oklahoma' was received with acclamation on all sides. We couldn't say the same about 'The Pajama Game.'

"Our producer, Phyl Payne, says that to produce it we would have to make some very drastic changes in the make-up of the Society. This we are not prepared to do. We want to have a show which gives you all something to do and something which you will enjoy doing.

"Our first function is to give you an interesting show with something in it for all of you. We have discussed this show, with all its implications, and decided it isn't one for us after all."

"Brigadoon." Mr. Barneveld said, was a mixture of everything with opportunities galore. "It has a host of small parts," he explained. He reminded members that the producer wanted to get to work on the new show on Wednesday, June 18—next week.

President, Mr. Jack Linn, said: "I'm absolutely sure we are going to have a rip-roaring success—so get your tickets early."

Continuing the meeting, Mr. Barneveld said that the Executive

Committee had decided to produce three one-act plays in the Autumn. The idea was to give as many members who were interested in straight plays the opportunity of appearing. Those nominated for the straight plays sub-committee were: David Flatt, Helen Eldridge, Frank Page, and Sid Jackman.

Before the meeting broke up, members had a preview of

"Brigadoon." Recordings of the film sound-track were played back to them.

FOOTNOTE: "Brigadoon" has music and lyrics by Frederick Loewe and Alan Jay Lerner, of "My Fair Lady" fame. A mixture of everything from comedy to pathos, it has a fairytale story in which two American tourists lose themselves in the Scottish Highlands.

In the all-enveloping mist, they stumble upon "Brigadoon," a village of fantasy which comes alive for a day, only once in a hundred years. The Americans arrive at the right time. They get to know the people—and a love interest develops.

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