

"A STORM IN A TEACUP"

Repertory Comedy

Comedy relating to municipal raising provoked pointed laughter during the Brisbane Repertory Theatre Society's performance of "A Storm in a Teacup," at the Princess Theatre last night.

The play as presented is an Anglo-Scottish version by James Bridie of "Sturm im Wasserglas," by Bruno Frank. With quaint humour, in which Bridie's deft touches are well distinguishable, it moulds a series of portraits of life. In weaving these into a pattern of reality the casting strength of the society withstood a strong test convincingly. Seventeen players accommodated themselves to as many character studies. Some, of course, had major responsibilities, with which only major experience could deal.

Miss Rhoda Feigate stood out among these, as the garrulous Mrs. Flanagan, with an ungoverned propensity for "blathering on," and no discretion in her verbal choice. Her persuasive playing brought sympathy with the overwrought victim of by-play in politics, of which her impounded dog, "Patsy," was the innocent subject. Patsy, by the way, was an eighteenth character, described in a court scene as of "47 different varieties, the epitome of all dogs," and comported itself with self-possession in its first appearance on any stage.

WELL CONCEIVED PLAYING

Mr. Roy Black gave rein to a gamut of the dramatic instinct in progress from the self-satisfied, intolerant Provost, aspiring to politics, to the crushed victim of his own unyielding standards of public life, and of deviation from the strait and narrow path of domestic life. Mr. W. Binning Wilson struck the right note of whimsicality, and nonchalant assurance, in contrast with a quiet strength in adherence to a code, and in withstanding the tilting against him of powerful antagonism.

Misses Vivienne Taylor and Gwen Clarke put adequate lights and shades into well-conceived playing. There was an entertaining court scene, with Mr. Ludovick Gordon as an inimitable Sheriff, and Miss Gwen Clarke as a charmingly irresponsible witness. Miss Clare Clarke produced with fine general effect, and a fine sense of detail. The society's orchestra, under Mr. Erich John, entertained acceptably in the intervals.

The performance will be repeated tonight.