

FINE ACTING IN "PYGMALION"

A sage remarked once that to turn to a George Bernard Shaw play for entertainment only was like going to church just to hear the music of a grand organ and a choir. This opinion must have been expressed before "Pygmalion" was written. Although it differs little from Mr. Shaw's other pieces in length of speeches, discursiveness, and variety of subjects for satire, it is certainly entertaining in the best theatrical sense.

The play was given good production by Barbara Sisley in the Princess Theatre last night. Such a small cast of principals called for acting out of the ordinary, and the players of Brisbane Repertory Theatre Society rose to the occasion in grand style.

Beryl Rickard presented a pleasant study as Eliza Doolittle, the Cockney girl fashioned into a lady by the eminent Professor of Phonetics. She spoke her lines splendidly, emphasizing dialect and cultured tones with equal facility, and gave added strength to her portrayal by beautifully quiet underplaying. As Professor Higgins Clem Christesen acted with professional ease and polish, giving an impressively sensitive performance. His sympathy and understanding for the character showed all the marks of careful study. W. A. Blake was excellent as Doolittle, and his character sketch endeared him to the audience. Dave Doyle acted throughout in his usual forthright manner.

Good settings were an asset, but overlong intervals tended to emphasise the slow tempo of the production. "Pygmalion" will be repeated to-night.
—Te Pana.
