

## PRIESTLEY PLAY PRODUCED

One of the most successful presentations by the Brisbane Repertory Theatre Society for some time was its production of J. B. Priestley's satirical study of married life, "Duet in Floodlight," in the Princess Theatre last night.

A smooth tone prevailed throughout, except in the burlesquing of the American journalists. The author did not intend them to be presented as fools and clowns. Apart from this minor defect little fault could be found either with the play, which is entertaining, or with the players, two of whom carry the whole weight of the production.

C. B. Christesen scored the achievement of the evening in his presentation of the difficult part of Keith Flaxman, author, lover, unhappily married man, and finally clandestine lover once again. The producer, Miss Barbara Sisley, made a happy selection, for the player looked the part and spoke the lines effectively.

Dulcie Scott, playing Julia Chertsey, actress, wife, lover, bigamist, shared with Christesen long and diverting dialogues for most of the time in each of the three acts, and infused into the part the requisite degree of animation. The team work of these two was excellent, but it would be in the interests of the players to do a little judicious pruning in the second act for to-night's production. Too much time is devoted to bickering between the entrances of other players in the cabin scene on board ship. It is a scene that would be pruned in most commercial presentations.

D. Kellet Cameron, playing the part of a stuttering publicity man, was diverting and convincing, and Ralph Taylor added realistic touches to the performance. Minor parts were fairly successful, and Peggy Asprey's study of the maid-novellist particularly good.

Exceptional improvement was evident in the playing of the society's orchestra in several bright selections. Overture to "Romany Rose" (Walter) and "Butterfly Dance" (Julia Nixon) were perhaps the best offerings, although the work in other selections was smooth and well balanced.

The play will be repeated to-night.