

"SHORT STORY"

Another Repertory Success

The philandering of a husband who nevertheless is genuinely in love with his wife has formed the theme of many comedies, and it has been used with consummate skill by Robert Morley, in the three-act play, "Short Story," produced by the Brisbane Repertory Theatre Society in the Princess Theatre last evening. The play is full of diverting comedy, and has many hilarious situations; but it also has quite a few truly dramatic scenes, and some touches of deep pathos.

The players, speaking generally, rose fully to the demands made upon their artistic faculties, and the performance as a whole ran smoothly and well. Miss Dulcie Scott, who filled the role of the wife of the erring husband, was outstanding in artistic merit. The wife's suspicions are aroused when hints are given that a young woman visitor, who poses as a stranger, has flirted with her husband during a holiday cruise, and the astuteness with which the wife seeks to draw admissions from the young woman was shown most artistically. In the more dramatic scenes Miss Scott was equally convincing.

DIFFICULT ROLE

Mr. Ludovick Gordon, as the husband, had a part which called for a many-sided interpretation, but in which he acquitted himself with much credit. While at his best in the non-chalant scenes before the husband is threatened with any discovery of his foibles, Mr. Gordon made quite a praiseworthy showing in the later developments, in which the husband makes a pathetic effort to regain his wife's belief in his love.

The honours, so far as the leading characters were concerned, were shared in full measure by Ailsa Krimmer, as the sentimental and thoroughly egotistic Penelope Marsh. The extent to which a Minister of the State Cabinet, in the person of Mr. Cooper, is identifying himself with the work of the Repertory Society, is quite interesting. Mr. Cooper already has achieved dramatic success in other roles, and the manner in which he played the part of Lord Henry Bucktrout gave further evidence of his skill as a comedian. Olga Moore, as Peacock, Babette Fergusson as Lady Bucktrout, and Mavis Busch as Miss Flower, also gave excellent renderings. Tom Stephens was a satisfactory Mark Kurt.