

Brisk Moments In Smart Repertory Play

Choice of Mark Reed's play, "Yes, My Darling Daughter," by Brisbane Repertory Theatre Society for its first production in 1941 was a happy one.

Good lines, brisk situations, comedy, and drama, are its components, and, in general, these were conveyed aptly by the cast in last night's performance at the Princess Theatre.

The author's purpose is to hold a balance, occasionally a very precarious one, between a less sophisticated period and the present. He is in quizzical, rather than dogmatic mood. So Mr. Reed, poising between "now" and "then," and under a non-committal title, leaves the answer to individual reaction. Thorough understanding of the theme by the producer, Barbara Sisley, and interpreters alike, brought the performance into line with what the author intended, although blemishes were apparent here and there, and the tempo faulty in some situations.

Audrey Court was assured and effective as the mother, and brought subtlety, and artifice to the role. She conveyed mixed moods well, and in that dramatic scene with her daughter, her "bitter-sweetness" was delightful. Miss Court has a flair for assuming the characteristics of middle-age, but, at the same time, she inspires the wish that she could be cast in a cheer-up part more in keeping with her youth.

Joan Goadby's portrait of the would-be wayward daughter, up in arms against the admonitions of her once wayward mother, was drawn skilfully. Howard Steyning-Brown, as her misunderstood young lover, had his moments, especially the ones when he triumphed over paternal hypocrisy. As the father, Edward Ditton always was in step, even if his histrionics were too placid in the circumstances. Peter Buchanan dithered delightfully in a

placid in the circumstances. Peter Buchanan dithered delightfully in a congenial role, and gave an object lesson on the value of restraint in acting; Beryl Peake talked stridently and bluntly as an intrusive aunt—twice, or thrice, Reno divorcee. Marie Dickin filled a minor part capably. An enjoyable show, it will be presented again to-night.—TE PANA.