

IRIDESCENCES IN "THE BUBBLE"



CREATING REAL CHARACTERS MAKES SUCCESS IN STORY, STAGE OR ART

At Least Such Is the Opinion of One Who Has Had Ample Experience to Judge In and Out of "A Full House"

By MAY VOKES

THE face of a man with a crossed eye or a broken nose will linger longer in the memory of his friends than that of another man equipped with the average regular features, even though they may be pleasing. This is due to the fact that the features of man No. 1 are out of the ordinary. Ergo: it is far easier to caricature the face with a prominent nose, an abnormal forehead or a bulldog chin than the countenance of a so-called "good-looking" person who lacks any marked facial characteristics. And characterization and caricature are in a measure blood relations.

The rule obtains in story writing, play writing and acting as well as to the human units who walk our streets, ride in our cars and pass and repass us every minute of the day.

In the short story, for example, it is the "out-of-the-ordinary" happening that makes it stand out above other short stories and claims a place in our memories when hundreds of other exquisitely written tales fade into obscurity by reason of the fact that they lack that subtle appeal to the human memory. Once in a decade there appears a short story that stands out by reason of its power of language, its simple, perfect English and its grasp of ordinary human emotion, but this is a rara avis and is seldom caught in our time or clime.

The lasting quality of a novel, in a lesser degree, depends upon the same oddity of theme or its unusual atmosphere, but generally it makes its successful bid by reason of the strongly marked traits of one or more of its characters—usually one.

"David Harum" is a case in point, and was far more widely read and longer remembered than thousands of other novels of infinitely higher literary merit. Ask any of your friends who read this book years ago and they will remember little or nothing of the story itself, but will surely recall the pleasing peculiarities of old David. And why? Because he was what is known as a "character." Those of us who were fortunate enough to see Dentman Thompson in "The Old Homestead" will remember him to their dying days. The character he portrayed was so genuinely sweet and homely, so appealing to the sentimental beat in us, that somehow he sticks in the mind and outlives other similar characters, whose motives and qualities were just as pure. And yet he was a "character," odd,

whimsical and good, helped along by a simple story, understood from orchestra to top gallery, and he holds a niche in our memory because he was a "character."



ADELE RITCHIE

The one-time star of musical comedy is playing Shaw and playing him skillfully for the Stage Society of the Little Theatre.

LUBIN

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WEEK OF DECEMBER 20

<p>June Daye in HEARTACHES 4-Act Drama</p>	<p>"Otto's Cabaret" Dave Don Comedy</p>
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December 23

Beyond All Is Love
3-Act Drama

December 25

No Smoking
Billie Reeves Comedy