



Visitors for opening night of the Oregon Shakespearean festival Monday night in Ashland included Leighton Rollins, Santa Barbara, director of the Pacific Coast Music festival, held annually in that city, and Mrs. Ronald Scofield, on the staff of the News-Press in Santa Barbara. Pictured (left to right) are Mrs. Angus Bowmer, Mrs. Scofield, Mr. Rollins and Mr. Bowmer, founder and producing director of the Oregon festival. Mr. Rollins praised the Oregon festival, and invited the Bowmers to attend the California event, set for September 10 through the 18th.

Also present for the opening night party and play of the Oregon Shakespearean festival were Dr. John Richard, chancellor of the Oregon state system of higher education, and Mrs. Richards. The Richards (at left) are pictured with Dr. and Mrs. Beverly A. Cope, Ashland. Dr. Cope is president of the festival association, and Mrs. Cope is an active member of Tudor guild, festival auxiliary group which sponsors the annual Bard's Heyday, raises funds for actors' scholarships and operates a souvenir booth at the theater.



Second opening play of the 1955 Shakespearean festival season was "Macbeth" and pictured here are four members of the cast in the "Greenroom," as players call the area just outside the stage door, as they awaited company call Tuesday night. Seated are Jack Swanson and Marjorie Schaffer, and standing are Richard Graham (at left) and Don Soule. Miss Schaffer plays Lady Macbeth.

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE
SUNDAY, AUGUST 7, 1955

Festival and Weddings In Recent News

By Olive Starcher

August in the Rogue valley means the annual Oregon Shakespearean festival, now counted one of the most important cultural activities of the state, as well as a major tourist attraction. Since this is the festival's 20th anniversary, the opening night Monday was of special importance and many visitors were in Ashland to see "A Midsummer Night's Dream" and to attend the dinner which preceded the play.

This season's four plays, "A Midsummer Night's Dream," "Macbeth," "All's Well that Ends Well" and "The Third Part of Henry the Sixth" will be given in rotation throughout the month, with "The Life of Timon of Athens" to be given twice as a special attraction. In addition, concerts of Elizabethan music are to be given each Sunday afternoon at 5 p.m. under the direction of Bernard Windt, music director for the festival, with the first to be this afternoon.

Mid-summer weddings are also an important part of the social scene, and a number of parties for pioneer residents have been given recently. (Festival photos by Anita Fowler)



Mr. and Mrs. Robert Swindler were married July 23 at St. Mark's Episcopal church with a large reception following at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Homer A. Marx, uncle and aunt of the bride. Mrs. Swindler is the former Sonja Kristine Jorgensen. (Landis-Shangle photo)



These three musicians sing each night as the audience assembles for the festival play, provide music needed for the action of the plays and will appear in the Sunday afternoon concerts which are an added attraction of the 1955 festival season. Pictured (left to right) are Martin Bliefertich, Newberg, Ore.; James Baker, Medford and Clarissa Berning, Redmond, Ore.



F. S. Brandon, 211 North Ivy street, Medford, was honored July 31 at a party which observed his 90th birthday anniversary. Mr. Brandon, retired merchant who has lived in southern Oregon since 1878, is an amateur historian and writer. He is shown here with Mrs. Brandon during the party. (Brainerd photo)



Mr. and Mrs. Edward Wayne Demmer (Nancy Lee Greaves) were married July 30 at First Methodist church and will live at Twentynine Palms, Calif., where the bridegroom, a corporal, is assigned to duty with the United States Marine corps. (Brainerd photo)