



STANLEY WAXMAN  
F A C I L E



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C O M P E T E N T



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S P A R K L I N G

## Outguessing the Adding Machine

As the "Adding Machine" slowly grinds into motion the First-Nighter hears the presses yelping their jittery souls out for copy, and he finds that he has nothing more than a few preliminary rehearsals upon which to draw to appease them.

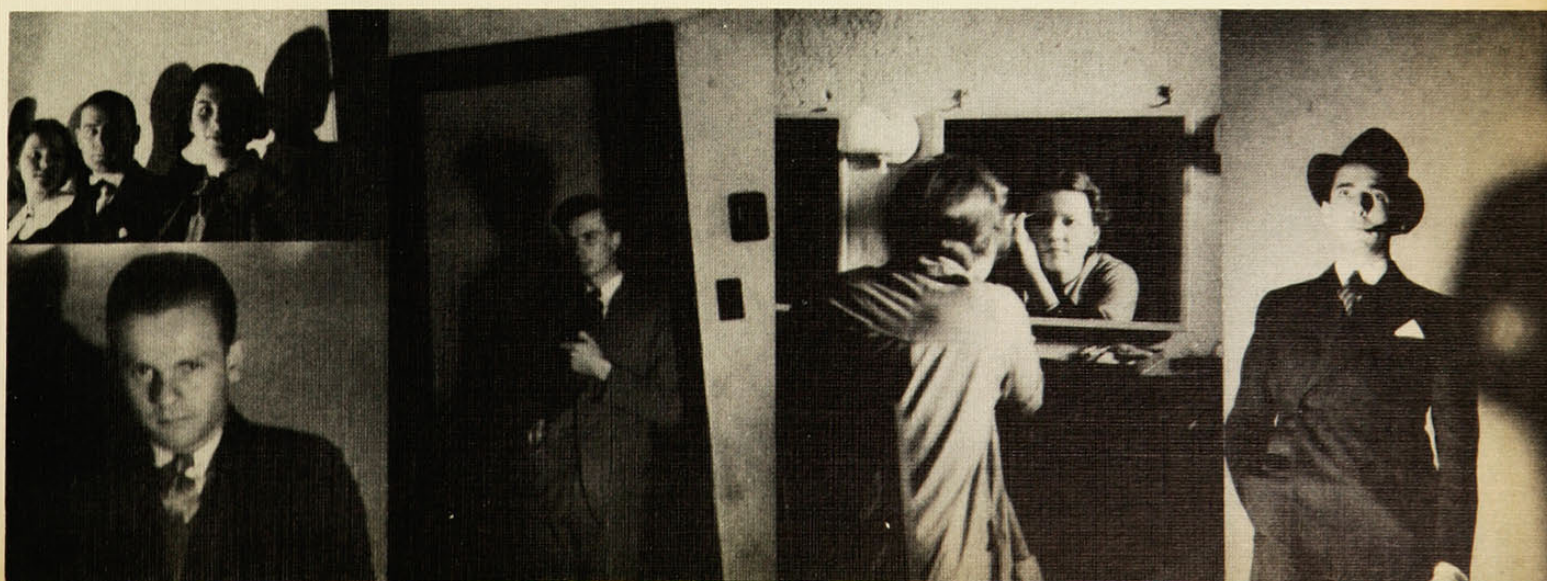
The first rehearsal found Edward Keuhner reading the lines of the sorely beaten and ill adjusted Mr. Zero, Laurette Fillebrandt whining in apt assistant bookkeeper fashion in the role of the alliterated and illiterate Daisy Diana Dortha De Vore, Dolly Britten already petulant in the character of Mrs. Zero, scads of people filling the lesser roles and Director Rose's red pencil working overtime purging the script of author Rice.

Mummers, for the second successive year have selected an acrid piece of expressionism for their final splurge of the

season, and, incidentally, the First-Nighter feels that the play's great resemblance in form to "Beggars On Horseback" will be a definite weakness of the production. The play in the course of its seven scenes stalks sneeringly from the figure splattered apartment of the Zero family, through the shadowy office in which battered chunks of nothingness slave, and ends in the Elmer Rice version of heaven. The whole, we are told, is to be done on three stage levels and this arrangement coupled with Mr. Rose's skill in lighting promises to be a most striking presentation.

Predictions as to the final worth of the play at this point are beyond the ken of the First-Nighter, what with changes in cast, more purging and stagefright looming upon the horizon. We always, however, have implicit faith in Mummers—until the curtain rises—and look forward, ever hoping, to the First Night.

R. G. E.



Color... Glamor... People... Poses... Excitement