

Elser Writes Play to Be Published This Spring



Donald Elser

Donald Elser, 32, teacher of English and Speech here and author of 12 successful plays, will have a new play entitled "No Need to Worry" published early this spring. The play is being published by the Play Club of New York, which has printed plays for such well known writers as Conrad Seiler, Robert Finch, Bernard Reines, Mildred Hark, and Noel McQuinn.

Some of Elser's plays which have been published are: "Balcony Scene," "Never Too Late," "Star Crazy," "Judy Pulls the Curtain," "Grandpa Hangs the Holly," and "Coveralls." Elser's plays have been written for high school and college production.

Top Honors in Festival

"Balcony Scene," a one-act drama first published by Dramatics magazine, won first prize in the state one-act play contests in Idaho and Massachusetts, and went on from Massachusetts to win the top award in the New England Drama festival which includes the two best plays from each of the New England states. It will be published in book form as a royalty play by Row-Peterson & Co. this month.

Several of Elser's plays have been produced by high schools in this vicinity recently. "Never too Late" was produced at Wilson high school, and "Judy Pulls the Curtain" at McDonald high school. The premier of a three-act comedy, "Dress Rehearsal," written by Elser, was produced recently at Mineral Ridge high school.

Mineral Ridge high school received a rating of "superior" in the Ohio State One-Act Play contest with "Balcony Scene" directed by Elser.

Elser received the degree of bachelor of arts from Youngstown College in 1935 and a master's degree in English from the University of Pittsburgh in 1939. He was teaching dramatics and speech at Mineral Ridge high school when he enlisted in the army air corps in 1942. He joined the faculty of Youngstown College in January, 1946.

Mr. Elser lives in North Lima with his wife and two daughters.