

Tompkin's Hired Man

Four-Act Drama by Binford Talent Is Ready for Production---Will Show in Jessie Wednesday, May 26, Sutton 28th, Binford 29th.

The new home talent play, "Tompkin's Hired Man," will make its first public appearance in Jessie next Wednesday evening, May 26. On Friday evening, the 28th, it will be given in Sutton. It was not the intention to put on the play in Binford until Market Day, June 12, but in order to give many, who will be otherwise occupied on that day, an opportunity to witness the production, it has been decided to put it on here on Saturday evening, May 29th. Arrangements have also been completed for its appearance in Pekin on June 7th. Pekin will celebrate Norway's Independence day on that date.

The characters have put in a month of studious work in mastering their parts and its perfect rendition is a certainty. The plot is a good one and there is also enough comedy to make it an interesting play. Specialties between acts will be put on, so there will not be a dull moment during the entire performance. The cast of characters and synopsis is given below:

CAST OF CHARACTERS

Mr. Asa Tompkins—A prosperous farmer who cannot tolerate deceit.....Oscar Greenland
Ole—The hired man. One of nature's noblemen.....John Norman
John Remington—A fine young man in love with Louise... Francis Ringlee
Jerry—A half-grown, awkward country lad.....Oscar Alm
Louise—The daughter whom Mr. Tompkins believes to be his ownMiss Cora Paul
Julia—The only child born to Mr. and Mrs. Tompkins.. Mrs. Elmer Krogfoss
Ruth—A niece of Mr. Tompkins, boarding at the Tompkins' homestead..... Miss Nora Greenland
Mrs. Sarah Tompkins—A woman with a secret that embitters her.....Mrs. C. E. Peterson

SYNOPSIS

Despairing of ever having a child of her own, Mrs. Asa Tompkins conceives the idea of adopting a child and presenting it to her husband as his own. She is obliged to promise the father of the child that it shall be the heir to Tompkins' property, and a contract is drawn to that effect. The father, in turn, agrees never to disclose his identity. Before the adopted child is two years old a daughter is born to Mrs. Tompkins. She then has a mother's natural desire that this child should stand first in her husband's affections; but he loves the adopted daughter the best. The mother broods over the thought that she has robbed her own child, not only of a father's love, but of the property which rightfully belongs to it, and which has been willed to the adopted daughter. Continued brooding on this one topic leads her to dislike the elder child, and to show great partiality between the two. It results in the father clinging still more closely to the adopted daughter, and the disposition of his own daughter is spoiled by the mother's attempt to make up to her for having deprived her of so much. The father of the adopted daughter comes to the farm, where he is not recognized, and secures an opportunity to work for his board and clothes. How he finally regains his own daughter, and is discovered to be a wealthy man, is plainly told.