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SYNOPSIS OF CHRISTMAS OPERETTA FOR NEWSPAPER

On Tuesday, December 16th the children of the Minnesota School and Colony presented their annual Christmas operetta before a group of Custodial Children in the afternoon and a group of School Children in the evening. This evening they will present it to a group of working boys and girls. Approximately seventy-five children are in the Christmas play.

THE MAGI'S GIFT

TIME ---- Medieval England
PLACE --- In front of the Inn

PROLOGUE ACT 1 Christmas Eve
 ACT 11 Christmas Day

THE STORY

The scene of the story is laid in Medieval England on Christmas Eve. Tradition says that Caspar, one of the Three Wise Men, returned to earth each Christmas Eve giving gifts of gold and a heavenly blessing to all who meet him. Elspeth, the little girl who lives at the inn, believes whole-heartedly in this legend. Her life is not a happy one as she is living with the inn-keeper, old Thomas Moreley, whom she calls Uncle.

At the manor house nearby, the rich people are entertaining Sir Arthur Hertford, a crusader late returned from Palestine where he has been for five years during which time he has learned of the death of his father, mother and sister. Moreley, frightened by Sir Arthur's arrival, plans to send Elspeth to another part of England. Sir Arthur recognizes Moreley as a former family coachman and subsequently discovers that Elspeth is his sister, whom Moreley had reported as dead so that he might keep her gold.

Thus Elspeth suddenly learns, on Christmas Day, that she has both a brother and gold, and feels that she has truly received the Magi's Gift.

Mummers and dancers entertain the street crowds while Strolling Players enact the Nativity Play, an old Mystery Play of the Middle Ages.

Mrs. Anna Stepan, Principal
Minnesota School and Colony

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