

Theatre Figure To Leave North

Newcastle will lose one of its foremost amateur theatrical personalities this week, with the departure of Mrs. Cherry Anderson to live in Sydney.

Mrs. Anderson, who has produced six Shakespearean plays in her seven years in the North, led the Theatre Arts Guild since its formation in 1958.

A New Zealander, Mrs. Anderson gained her early dramatic experience at Canterbury University College, Christchurch, where as a "fresher" she joined the Little Theatre, a society with a tradition in acting, especially in the Shakespearean field.

The year she joined, authoress Ngaio Marsh had just taken a group of the players to Australia. New members had a chance to come into their own.

Mrs. Anderson played Katharina in "The Taming of the Shrew."

With W.E.A.

When she came to Newcastle in 1954 she was asked to produce "A Midsummer Night's Dream" with the W.E.A. drama group. This was her first Shakespearean production. The group continued under her direction for "Macbeth," in the courtyard of the John Darling Engineering building at Newcastle University College (1956), and "The Merchant of Venice" in conjunction with Newcastle Dramatic Art Club (1957).

The following year the W.E.A. was preparing for "Hamlet" when a breakaway group, the T.A.G., was formed. T.A.G. then worked for the production "My Three Angels," which Mrs. Anderson advocates as one of its best.

The guild played "A Midsummer Night's Dream" at the Roxy Theatre in 1959. At the Roxy last year it combined with the N.D.A.C. in "Twelfth Night."

This year the guild collaborated with the dramatic society at the University to produce "Macbeth" in the new Union Theatre.

Other productions of Mrs. Anderson's include "The Lady's Not For Burning," by Christopher Fry, "The Heiress," by R. and A. Goetz, the revue "Heavenly Bodies",

which was mainly written by herself, and what she calls the "romantic circus melodrama" of Andreyev, "He Who Gets Slapped", with Sydney W.E.A. in 1958.

Acting Roles

She produced "He Who Gets Slapped" with Paul Herlinger, who played the leading role.

In addition to producing and writing, Mrs. Anderson



MRS. ANDERSON

has acted before Newcastle audiences in "Separate Tables" and in Colin Anderson's guild production, "Garden District", by Tennessee Williams.

Till recently she taught English and history at Newcastle Church of England Grammar School for Girls.

Mrs. Anderson has said she has no immediate plans, but may teach later.

WEST Wallsend Presbyterian Women's Guild will hold its annual fair in the School of Arts Hall to-morrow. It will be officially opened at 2.30 p.m. by Mrs. A. S. Barratt

To-day On The Air