

# Virginia Safford

**DEPARTMENTAL DITTIES.** Drama: Not often enough does something come along that would be a treat for children as well as grownups. But this week the University theater is giving us Maurice Maeterlinck's "Bluebird," and nothing could be more delightful than this classic of the Christmas season. It's the story of two children who, on Christmas eve, set out on a search for the bluebird, a symbol of happiness.

*Their search takes them through many fantastic lands where they meet weird people such as Bread, Sugar, Fire, Water, Trees, Night and Light. This means, of course, that University theater is producing a real spectacle. Six different settings portray the various places in the children's travels. These were designed by J. Morton Walker, technical director of the theater.*

Robert Moulton, whose talent has been observed especially in his dancing with Gertrude Lippincott and his designing of the decor and costumes for their duet, "Just We Two," is responsible for 46 imaginative costumes of the large cast of weird Blue Bird characters.

But let's not overlook one of the most unusual things about this University theater production—the musical score that backgrounds the play. It was composed by Lothar Klein, a sophomore in the department of music. Lothar worked on it three months during the summer, arranging it for a 25-piece symphony orchestra. The music was recorded on tape by members of the University symphony orchestra under the direction of Gerard Samuel, who's also assistant director of the Minneapolis symphony. This is the second such project by Lothar at the university. He did the same thing for the production of "Twelfth Night" last year. "The Bluebird" is given every night this week through Saturday at 8:30 p.m. in Scott Hall auditorium. Saturday there's a matinee at 1:15 p.m. and another matinee Sunday at 4 p.m.