

'Enemy of the People' Opens at Rep Theater

By BETTYE ANDING

A new English version of Henrik Ibsen's "An Enemy of the People" opened last night at the Civic Theatre as the third production of the New Orleans repertory group's current season.

Authored by David Scanlan, assistant director of the resident company, the play also is being presented under his direction.

Social conflict and the people who are involved in it are the framework of the play, which presents some ideas which are

from the flame of social protest.

Barbara McMahon, as his wife Katrina, is again outstanding among the members of the cast.

SETS BY LLOYD Burlingame again threaten to steal the show. Uniformly excellent, Burlingame's scenic designs have never failed to bring appreciative comment from those attending repertory productions.

Costumes by Matthew Ryan, relatively simple this time, were entirely in keeping with the setting of the drama.

"An Enemy of the People" will be presented through March 29 at 8:30 p. m. on Fridays and Saturdays. Matinees are at 2 p. m. on Saturdays.

CAST OF CHARACTERS

(In the order in which they speak)

Mrs. Katrina Stockmann Barbara McMahon
 Billing Richard Larson
 Martha Lucy Sweeney
 Mayor Peter Stockmann Herbert Nelson
 Hovstad David Byrd
 Dr. Thomas Stockmann Stuart Vaughan
 Captain Horster Robert Benson
 Petra Stockmann Jenneth Webster
 Morten Stockmann James Hunter
 Ellif Stockmann Mark Darby
 Marlen Kill Frank Bergan
 Aslakson Don Perkins
 The Drunk Ed Kearney
 Townspeople: Anne Thompson, Nina Polan, John Floyd Lane, Bjorn Pernvik, Gerald McRaney, Margaret Gilbert.

as interesting now as they were in 1882, when "An Enemy of the People" was written.

STUART VAUGHAN, producing director of Repertory Theater, becomes a member of the cast in this production, as Dr. Thomas Stockmann, crusader and defender of the public good.

The idealistic "man of science" discovers the springs from which his hometown derives its income as a health spa are polluted.

Naively supposing that public officials will set everything right once the facts are known, Stockmann sees himself as the hero of his fellow men.

WHEN HE discovers that the processes of governments are not quite that simple, the doctor-reformer relies on "the solid majority" to stand with him, only to find that it is as adverse to a shakeup as its officials.

Vaughan gives a flamboyant portrayal of Stockmann, who begins his crusade because he believes it is the right thing to do and winds up catching fire