

**Extract from THE HIGHWAYMAN,
February, 1971
MEMORIES OF 1948!**

CONCERT REPORT

The Concert held in the Recreation Room on 12th November, 1948, was a credit to the organisers and the artists. The audience, which completely filled the hall, was genuine in its applause and appreciation of the varied programme which was so pleasingly presented.

It was interesting to compare the performance with concerts which have been presented prior to the advent of World War 2. Ten years had nearly elapsed and old stagers were able to see the young talent come forth and provide dramatic and musical entertainment as in the "old days". The talent is still the same and this younger generation deserves high praise for recommencing so ably an artistic performance, which will be the forerunner, we hope, of many more.

The programme opened with a pianoforte solo of "The Warsaw Concerto" by Bill Marshall.

The curtain then rose on E. P. Condry's play, "Och! The Dear Little Girl", and your reporter wishes to state that the participants left nothing to be desired both for dramatic effect and humorous interlude. It is considered that Samuel Goldwyn's "Best Years of Our Lives", on which no less than nine Academy Awards were showered, would look commonplace compared with the effect created by the Main Roads Troupers. The cast headed by *Barbara Smith, Shirley Staples* and *Lesley Gray* and ably supported by *Roy Dunstan, Jim Tarleton, Alf Jones* and *Kevin Hadley*, held the audience until the final curtain. Kevin Hadley's handling of the part of the butler, together with demure *Lesley Gray's* portrayal of the maid, is still being spoken of when discussion on the play is in order.

The Mannequin Parade, which followed Roy Dunstan's delightful singing, was remarkable for the cleverness of the script, and had a touch of the University Commem about it. The actors of all shapes and sizes, with dresses, or lack of them, to match, paraded as if they'd been doing it for years. The Lovely Motherhood Contest, whilst not producing a Mrs. Brindley, captured the imagination.

Miss Dawn Roberts added to the enjoyment of the evening with her renditions of "One Kiss" and "When We Were Seventeen" and presented a pretty and graceful picture on the stage.

The finale, a musical comedy entitled "Four Dead Beats to the Bar", cleverly combined the young talent which is abundant in the Department. The songs selected were popular with young and old alike and adequately wrote "finis" to a very enjoyable evening.

At the conclusion the Commissioner thanked all responsible for the production and expressed, on behalf of the audience, appreciation and pleasure for a night's entertainment.

WEDDING BELLS

Poppy Mullin, formerly a tracer in the Metropolitan Division, was married on 20th November, 1948, at St. Giles', Greenwich, to Jack McCathie. The groom arrived a little earlier than traditionally necessary, but that was balanced by the bride arriving much later than traditionally necessary.

Poppy chose white for her dress and carried a delicately tinted bouquet. She was not in anyway flurried, even though running late. The giver-away, brother Frank* of Head Office looked charming in grey, including tie

and gloves, and wore white in his buttonhole. He entered the church through an arch of jacaranda, holding the bride fiercely and prepared to challenge the world if stopped in his act of giving her away.

The bride was attended by her sister, Una, in blue, and the groom's sister, Nancy, in gold. Nancy did a double job-bridesmaid during the ceremony and soloist during the signing of the register.

Later a reception was held at the bride's home before the couple departed in Jack's car, amid a chorus of good wishes, with tins tied to the car .

**Now Chief Engineer (Urban).*