

THE EASTER CONCERT
SUPPLEMENT

SATURDAY MARCH 7th & SUNDAY MARCH 8th.

KINGS IN NOMANIA

The concert began with Songs sung by a choir of boys from forms one and two. Mr. Taylor, who had trained these boys was giving us the same programme that he will present at the Aldershot Music festival later in the year;

From a Railway Carriage	- A. Rowley
Rufty and Tufty	- P. Wilkinson
The Friendly Cow	- A. Rowley
London River	- M. Lee

The children sang nicely on both nights, but perhaps better on the Saturday.

Then came the moment that so many have waited for; the curtains are drawn back and there stands the HERALD, E. O'REILLY, complete with bright yellow beret and a black Plume, to tell us that... "It's a medium sized play, not very long and not very short, and its all about a miser and the great cabochon of the King, and Christmas and lots of other interesting things." At the extreme left of the stage are two very funny characters with moustaches; these are the STAGE HANDS, B. EVANS & A. O'SULLIVAN who do all the alterations to the scenery.

YANCU the bootblack, R. COOPER, is busily polishing the boots of an exceedingly pompous GENDARME, C. BAYNHAM, while he sits twirling the ends of his very, very long moustache. The gendarme is particularly proud of the war medals he wears across his chest; they are in fact medals he won at a high jump contest when only a school-boy!

The gendarme rises, enquiring about his neatly polished shoes. Yancu assures him that they are well polished, but when it comes to paying his debts the gendarme takes out his purse, which is crammed with notes and announces that he has no small change & that it will have to be put on the account. Yancu is crestfallen and goes after him imploring him to let him have just a little

on account as it is Christmas time, but to no avail. The law of Nomania requires that the gendarme has his shoes polished, even when it is snowing, but says nothing about paying a few neroli on account. At the mention of the word 'snowing', one of the Stage hands throws snow all over the gendarme, who struts off muttering to himself about everyone needing money.

The sad Yancu is left alone, but not for long. A ragged little urchin, OSMI, J.GIBSON, dressed in an outlandishly large jacket, and red trousers comes in. "Cap'n" he says hoarsely; "Ah! Lieutenant, what have you to report." And the captain's right hand man replies, "Cap'n, the Gang." In marches the roughest, blackest gangsters one could imagine, some armed with swords. They stand in line until given the order to fall out. Yancu now sits in judgment on the disputes of the gang; BORLU, M.GIBSON and URRIDU, J.DERRICK, have a case about a no-bladed knife & a one-eyed kitten settled. Then private VAVNA, G.LACEY, who stutters terribly, puts in her request for promotion. "What do you think?" asks Yancu to the Lieutenant. "If we were attacked by the enemy, and the gang had to wait for private Vavna to get the words of command out, we should all be prisoners of war before she was finished," replies the realist Osmi.

Lance-corporal TOMI, N.WEIBEL, is called on to pay the judge's fee for a case settled yesterday. He produces a shining object from his pocket. He says he found it in the street. He says that if you hold it up to the light you can see green fires init. Yancu agrees to take it, and dismisses the Gang except for TLANA, G.JOHNSON, the gang leader's sweetheart. They are just talking about their undying love, when in comes the Gendarme reading a Proclamation: "Be it known to all and sundry that His Majesty has lost the great cabochon emerald from his ring, and offers 10,000 neroli to the finder if it is returned, and death to the finder who does not return it.

The stage hands now jump into action and change the scene into the House of SNIGRAN the miser, P.AYLETT. He is a very harsh cruel man and when Yancu and his mother MARFA, C.THORNE, come to say that they cannot pay all the rent that they owe, he flies into a rage & threatens to take Marfa's wedding ring as payment; Yancu remembers the jewel that he was given and offers it instead to Snigran.

Snigran looks at the jewel in complete astonishment; "Where did you get this?" he asks, "its worth a hundred thousand neroli. Then he shouts for the police. In next to no time Yancu and his mother are carried off to prison for having offered the King's emerald in payment of their rent.

The gaol scene consists of just a chair, "Rough-hewn oak, and terribly uncomfortable" and some bread and water. The morbid silence

of the gaol is suddenly broken as the gendarmes harsh voice cries out, "I always knew you were a bad lot," and he throws Yancu into the gaol. Yancu, raising himself painfully onto an elbow asks what is to happen to him. "tomorrow you will be taken into the public square and executed as an example to theives and evil-doers.

Poor Yancu sits on the chair and nibbles the bread. He can hear the gentle voices of the carol singers from the near-by church; he listens, but suddenly the singing is interrupted by a voice calling from a window high up in the prison. It is Tiana. Yancu tells her that he is going to be taken into the market-place and then - set free, this is not true but he does not want Tiana & his mother to be worried.

Yancu now tries to get out, but cannot and then a grubby face appears at the window, it is the Lieutenant asking what the password is going to be for the night. "Peace on earth, goodwill to men." replies Yancu. The sound of the carol singers is clear and strong on this sad Christmas night.

Stage hands at the ready: the scene changes to the Palace of the King of Nomania. The band strikes up and the Lords & Ladies, S. McEwan and M. WITKOWSKI, A. HARDING & F. DONALDSON, the King's ministers, the MARQUIS OF ETTARI, A. CROFT, and the COUNT LUZ, J. ISHERWOOD, enter in a slow stately fashion, talking to one another and making a splendid spectacle. Then the trumpets sound & the King enters dressed in blue and red velvet. All bow, and express their Christmas wishes.

Now the king is only a young boy and apt to be most forgetful of his duties as king. All he wants to do is to see his Christmas tree; however the Marquis of Ettari finally manages to get him to make the customary speech. He gets ready, clears his throat and begins. After two attempts which were interrupted by applause which made the King forget what comes next, the Marquis orders silence. The king continues, prompted by the Marquis, and eventually he gets through to the part in the ceremony where he has to greet the greatest and the humblest in the realm. The Marquis is obviously the greatest and he comes forward and is embraced by the king. Then they bring in Yancu, the prisoner, who must be the humblest. The king greets him & asks him why he is in prison.

The Marquis declares that this is most irregular, but the king now thoroughly interested, insists, and goes off chatting to Yancu.

In the next scene we are back again in the street. Marfa and Tiana are weeping because they have just heard that Yancu is to die.

"Cap'n," cries the lieutenant saluting as Yancu suddenly appears. His mother rushes to him and embraces him; Tiana is overwhelmed with joy. The lieutenant rushes round in excitement, but the Captain remains quite calm as he announces that he has just left his good friend the King! All present are sure that his sufferings have crazed his brain. Yancu tells how the King asked for his advice and how he, Yancu, ordered the reward for finding the emerald to be paid to Snigran, as it was he who found it after all. He then accused Snigran of charging too much rent and fined him 10,000 neroli, the exact amount of the reward. They don't believe any of this and are just about to carry off the what they think is a half-crazed Yancu when the Gendarme enters. The Lieutenant goes for him in an effort to save Yancu, but stops when he sees The Gendarme salute Yancu. In fact he practically turns head over heels with astonishment. The Gendarme claims that he considers himself honoured to owe Yancu 20 neroli and insists on paying in full. He bows low and walks on.

The others group round Yancu as he sits in his boot-blacks chair and says, "It isn't what you wear here that makes you a king," touching his forehead; "It isn't what you wear here" (he passes his hand over his ragged boot-black's clothing), "that makes you a king. It's what you have here - (he touches his heart) - that makes you a king, and if only we knew it we should all of us be kings indeed."

There the curtain falls, and everyone steps forward to take their bow.

We must thank forms one and two for their good singing, and Mr. Whooley and the actors for giving us such an enjoyable evening's entertainment. We must also thank Fr. Dunstan for the encouragement he has given to all. (Report by J.M. Bennett)

We would like to thank Miss Bennett for her interesting report of the play and also for all the help she gave in preparing the costumes. She also put on all the make up for the two performances.

Mr Rochier had decorated the front of the stage with a fine selection of plants, to which Mr. & Mrs Pennock had added a gift of pots of Cineraria, and the flowers there and in the corridor made a beautiful setting for the Concert.

At the conclusion of the performance The HEADMASTER spoke a few words of welcome and thanks, and then invited the guests to come to the Library for some refreshment.

The evening finished with Benediction at which Mr. Taylor played the organ

THE McMILLAN ACTING CUP

Last year as many people will know, Mr. & Mrs. McMillan, the parents of Andrew McMillan, one of the most promising actors we have had at Barrow Hills, presented a Silver Cup to be awarded annually to the best actor. Last year they had the pleasure of seeing their son win it.

Three judges awarded points for Acting, Expression, Memory, and Audibility for each of the two performances. The boy who gained the highest average on the two performances has been awarded the Cup. This year it has been won by RICHARD COOPER;

POINTS

	1st Perform.				2nd Perform				Aver.	Place		
Maximum	40	40	10	10	40	40	10	10				
R. COOPER	32	35 $\frac{1}{2}$	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	=86 $\frac{1}{2}$	34	35	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	10	=88 $\frac{1}{2}$	87 $\frac{1}{2}$	1
E. O'REILLY	31	34	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	9	=83 $\frac{1}{2}$	32	32 $\frac{1}{2}$	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	=83 $\frac{1}{2}$	83 $\frac{1}{2}$	2
P. AYLETT	30 $\frac{1}{2}$	30 $\frac{1}{2}$	9	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	=79 $\frac{1}{2}$	32	30 $\frac{1}{2}$	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	=82 $\frac{1}{2}$	81	3
P. DUNNE	28	30	9	9	=76	31	32	10	9	=82	79	4
C. BAYNHAM	27 $\frac{1}{2}$	28	9	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	=74	30	28 $\frac{1}{2}$	10	10	=78 $\frac{1}{2}$	76 $\frac{1}{2}$	5

(The order of points in each performance is:
1st Column Acting; 2nd. Expression; 3rd, Memory; 4th Audibility.)

JUDGES' COMMENTS

ACTING 1) The manner in which the actors reacted to one another was very good.

2) Except for Lacey, those taking the part of a lady were not true to life.

Expression Apart from Cooper & O'Reilly the main characters did not sufficiently vary their tone of voice, rate of speaking and facial expressions.

Memory Very Good; not a single prompt had to be given.

Audibility Very Good. (One of the Judges spent the whole of both performances at the back of the Hall, and was able to hear very well.)

The Judges this year were Frs George, James and Jude.

BARROW HILLS CUP - ACTING POINTS

Only eleven marks, in a total of 100 separated the first from the fifth in the competition for the McMillan Cup. The Judges therefore decided to increase the points to be awarded in this competition.

The winner of the McMillan Cup will be awarded	8	points
The Runner Up	6	
All who score a minimum of 75,	4	
To others whom the Judges consider worthy, but not to more than would bring the total of point winners to 10,	2	

POINT WINNERS

R. COOPER	8	C. BAYNHAM	4
E. O'REILLY	6	J. GIBSON	2
P. AYLETT	4	A. CROFT	2
P. DUNNE	4	J. ISHERWOOD	2
G. LACEY	2		

PREPARING FOR THE PLAY by some of the actors.

I thought the rehearsals were great fun. There were many funny mistakes that had to be ruled out. J. Gibson would always say 'emeny' for 'enemy'; Baynham, instead of saying, 'it would not be possible', kept saying, 'it would not be impossible'.

Crane and Dunne had quite difficult parts to learn. Crane having to learn when to stutter and Dunne when to forget his part.

(J. DERRICK)

There was a bit of difficulty about the Chicken-pox infection that was going round the school. Joyce, who had a part, got Chicken-pox and he hadn't an understudy. Eventually Isherwood took over and was quite good, but not as good as Joyce.

(C. BAYNHAM)

As usual the 1st & 2nd forms tried to find out the name of the play beforehand, but their efforts were in vain. Although at times they were close, they never managed to discover the real title, and to tell you the truth I think that some of them still don't know it.

At one moment I thought that the play would be a failure, as so many people didn't know their parts and were not really trying.

After a stirring speech by the Headmaster everybody did their best.

I think we should thank Mr. Whooley, Miss Bennett and Fr. Dunstan for doing a wonderful job and making the play as good as it was. (E.O'REILLY)

We have worked hard to make the play a success. Many Rests and three evening studies were taken up with play practices. Miss Bennett has worked and worked to get the costumes right, and she also does the make-up. The two stage hands, Evans and O'Sullivan, clear the stage quickly and quietly between the scenes. Pini was going to be a stage hand but has just gone to bed. We were glad that the Chicken-pox didn't spoil the play as we thought it might. Joyce got Chicken-pox, which is a pity, for he is a very good actor. O'Reilly is good as the Herald, the longest part, which must have taken a lot of learning.

We hope the audience will like the play on Saturday and Sunday; if they do then it will have been worth it. (G. JOHNSON)

The real beginning of the play was when most of the fourth form lined up outside the Headmaster's office, waiting to read a short part of the play to Mr. Whooley and the Headmaster.

The costumes of the play were all seen to by Miss Bennett. When we had done the play for the 1st and 2nd forms on Thursday, I asked some of them what they thought about it. Most said it was jolly good, but too short; (M.GIBSON)

POSTSCRIPT by E.O'REILLY

On the 12th of March all the actors in the play, including those who had fallen ill and could not take part on the day, were given a special tea and free study.

We had tea later than the others when they had left the refectory. It turned out to be a wonderful tea and everyone thoroughly enjoyed it. There were jelly and peaches, cakes and bananas and to put the finishing touches to it, soem Quality Street.

After this spread all the actors went down into the Recreation Block and played 'Risk' or Table-Tennis or some other game, whilst outside, boys played cricket or hockey.

This was a very pleasant surprise that we had not expected, and we must thank the Headmaster and the Bursar and Cook.

This is the sort of postscript I like.

P A D A W A X

by R. COOPER
(Yancu the boot-
black.)

You may have seen that my Boot-black stand in a street in Nomania was a PADAWAX stand. Now I will tell you why;

Padawax is a new revolution in shoe polishes. It is the first quick polisher with REAL WAX shoe polish. Padawax cuts shoe cleaning time in half. It is simple and very clean to use. The cover of the container slips onto the base to form a convenient handle. Now rub the shoe lightly all over. Lastly polish with a soft cloth or brush.

Padawax has other advantages too. If the lid of a polish tin is left off, the polish goes hard. A Padawax top cannot fall off, & even if it is left off it takes a very long time for the sponge to go hard. Padawax avoids waste and also dirt and mess. It costs 2/3 and is sold in the following colours: Black, Dark tan, Light tan, Tonette (deep maroon), and Transparent.

You may wonder how I got to know about this product and moreover why I support it so much. Well a friend of my father works for the famous shoe-polish company, Cherry Blossom. He is a designer. He was asked to invent an economical shoe polish design. By 1962 he had perfected it and it went into production. One day in 1963 he visited us and told us all about PADAWAX. Each sponge is intricately tested to see if it has the right size holes. I think it is a very useful invention. I hope you will think so too. I can tell you about someone who did.

Fr. James is always interested in the new ideas boys have to show; do you remember Fleximent?; well one day after class I went up to his desk and asked him if I could clean his shoes. He said 'Yes' & I did so with PADAWAX. He was intrigued and asked me all about it. I told him what it was and all the details concerning it.

Later he went out to Godalming to try and buy some, but being a new product it was not yet stocked in many shops. Two weeks later he was looking through Woolworths when he saw the familiar container. He bought a pack and is now an enthusiastic admirer of PADAWAX.

So now you can see why in a progressive country like Nomania even the Boot-blacks use PADAWAX.

RICHARD COOPER the author of the above article played the part of a bootblack in the play so well that Fr. Peter, Headmaster of St. George's College, awarded him the special prize of a ROMAN MISSAL. This award showed Fr. Peter's personal choice, but Cooper went on to win the McMillan Cup by obtaining highest points in the competition.