

School's stage gave players more scope

ONLY those who have spent years planning and executing movements on "pocket handkerchief size" stages can fully appreciate what the resources of the spacious stage at Wimborne County Modern School meant to members of Wimborne Drama Club, when they presented Charlotte Hastings' play "Bonaventure" last week.

There was a production in which the players were able to move about freely and without the danger of "masking," and the resulting gain in confidence was very noticeable.

The penalty for the facility was, of course, the demand for "outsize" settings; but these were splendidly contrived by combining curtains and flats.

The overall effectiveness remarkably convincing, reflecting great credit on scene-painter Richard Drewett.

FINE STUDY

The general level of Douglas Treharne's production was extremely high, and his interpretation of the part of Willy Pentridge was "dead in character." Thelma Dryden's "Sarat Carn" was a fine study of a sensitive artist.

Hazel Drewett combined gentleness and shrewdness in the role of Sister Mary Bonaventure; and Daphne Young made something very big of the comparatively small part of Sister Josephine.

Vida Jeffrey was an understanding Mother Superior, though her voice lacked the tone of calm authority usually associated with the character. Frank Burley's Doctor Jeffreys was well restrained.

A "NATURAL"

Harold Midmore and Elaine King, both made the most of the rather unrewarding parts of Melling and Miss Pierce. Betty Viader and Pam Mottram were well contrasted as Nurses Brent and Phillips; and Ethel Cornish was a "natural" in the role of Martha Pentridge.

Theodore Kendrick was responsible for stage management and Nicol Rowan prompted. Jack Drewett and Norman Rowe were general and business managers, and Leslie Young acted as chief steward.

At the end of Friday's performance, the Club's president, Mr. G. H. Watson, congratulated the producer and cast and appealed for new members to join in either an acting or a non-acting capacity.

Mr. L. H. Mottram, chairman, also congratulated all concerned and expressed thanks to the governors, headmaster and staff of the school for the use of the premises. A.A.