

NOVEMBER 1968

# DRAMA CLUB PRESENT EVER POPULAR PLAY

VIMBORNE Drama Club chose Edward Percy's "The Shop at Sly Corner" for their latest production on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday last week.

Unfortunately, the audiences—particularly on the first night—were small. The fact that the weather made turning out in the evenings an unattractive prospect, and that there were only two small fires in the Church Room, did not help.

"Sly Corner" is a relatively simple play, with the action all taking place in one room. An elderly jeweller and antique dealer is blackmailed by a former employee, who finds out that the old man is a "fence"—taking stolen goods from London criminals.

Donald Waterfield played the old man, Descius Heiss. Not an easy part, since it required a considerable amount of senile pondering and it was long.

## ATTRACTIVE TOUCHES

On the first night, Mr. Waterfield had some difficulty with his lines, but Descius still emerged as a "real" character and Mr. Waterfield put some attractive touches into the portrayal.

The blackmailer Archie Fellowes—played by Christopher Hughes—was a typical villain's part, bursting with melodramatic lines and a gun which was whipped on the slightest pretext. Mr. Hughes took the part confidently and knew his lines well—he even had the audience whispering nervously when he made his stealthy entrances onto the darkened stage.

The old man's sister, Mathilde Heiss was played by Daphne Young, who put over just the right amount of sisterly affection and concern for the plight of her brother. Her accent was superb.

The remaining larger roles were the daughter (played by Janine Brockes) and her fiance (Nicholas Carter). Both dealt competently with their parts.

## EXCELLENT PORTRAYAL

The housekeeper Mrs. Catt (Elizabeth Anthony) got the laughs with her small but excellent portrayal of a complaining, fond-of-the-bottle hypochondriac.

The smaller parts were taken by Christine Spink, Arthur Brooks, Robert Tomlinson and John Anthony.

The set and the props were excellent, and even ran to a most realistic hidden partition.

The play was produced by Thelma Dryden and Muriel Brooks.

An enjoyable evening's entertainment, but one left with the feeling that just a few more rehearsals would have been well worthwhile.

P.A.