

This year we are doing an excerpt from Dorothy Sayer's Nativity Play, "He That Shall Come," and an adapted version of "The Gondoliers." We are feeling quite professional as we are presenting these plays on two nights, and from the proceeds we hope to be able to make a substantial contribution to the Building Fund of Park Presbyterian Church.

During the first term, we had our usual tennis party, followed by a buffet tea in the dining room and an informal dance in the Assembly Hall. A group of older girls went to the Boys' College dance and others to the Church of England Grammar School dance at Riverside, while all the boarders—from IVA up—were delighted to receive an invitation from "Churchie" boarders to an informal dance at the school. We all thoroughly enjoyed the evening in spite of the fact that it had to be cut short to conform to the dictates of the Brisbane City Council bus that was to bring us home!

Just before Easter, Miss Craig told us that a Chinese girl from Singapore was to be a boarder, and we looked forward with great interest to her coming.

Eleanor Ngo Puay Chin quickly made a place for herself in both House and School, and settled down to our Australian ways remarkably well, though we fear that at first she found our foods rather hard to get used to.

Eleanor had passed the Cambridge Senior at Singapore, and hoped to be able to do the Queensland Matriculation this year to qualify for entrance to the Women's College. She worked hard and took a keen interest in all school activities, especially in sport, but unfortunately in September, after a fall, an infection of the spine developed. As the doctor said that she must be on her back for some time, her parents wished her to return home. We were all very sad to see her go and wish for her a speedy recovery, so that she may soon be back with us again, to renew many friendships and to finish her course.

Miss Sutherland went with Eleanor to see her safely home to Singapore, and she spent a delightful ten days or so with her family. As a gift to the House Eleanor sent back a beautiful new brass gong, whose sonorous tones now wake us from sleep and call us to meals. We send her our thanks for her kind thought.

The old gong, by the way, whose voice is now cracked, has gone into honourable retirement after more than forty years of distinguished service (as many boarders will remember) in the cause of early rising!

Finally, we hope that the Juniors and Seniors will crown a happy year by success in their examinations; to those who are leaving us we wish happiness and good fortune in their future lives. We hope, too, that Mrs. Stewart will be restored to health after her serious illness and that staff and girls will have a Merry Christmas and happy holidays.

BOARDERS' "THEATRE"

I think that most of us have in us some desire to act, to lose ourselves and our problems for a time and become the people of our imagination. When we were small children, we played the drama of grown-up life, without costume, direction, stage or scenery. Now, to our great pleasure, we have these, and the expert direction of Miss Sawtell and Mrs. Mackenzie.

At our first "gathering" Mrs. Mackenzie reads to us plays she thinks that we may like to do, and we make our choice. This year we are presenting excerpts from Gilbert and Sullivan's light opera, "The Gondoliers," and a nativity play, "He That Shall Come," by Dorothy Sayers.

Most of the girls are a little self-conscious when they are first called upon to read parts, but soon their enthusiasm overcomes their shyness. It is often very hard to decide just which girl is most suited to a particular part.