

Enthusiastic Audiences Again Watch Youngsters at Festival

By RITA ROGERSON

Enthusiastic audiences once again greeted young performers in the Music and Drama Festival at morning and afternoon sessions yesterday in King Edward School auditorium and the Capitol Theatre.

First item on the forenoon program was a pianoforte solo (under 11) "Toys on Parade." There were 12 contestants in this selection.

Judy Fossum led the group with a mark of 83. Mrs. Wood remarked that the most important thing in music is the pulse. In this piece it was necessary to keep notes on the move, neat and crisp.

Mrs. Becker then introduced Mrs. Verlie Cooter, the choral speaking and drama adjudicator. Mrs. Cooter plays in the Totem Theatre in Vancouver.

Conrad Street School, Grade 2, presented "Mice," in choral speaking. Mrs. Cooter thought this was delightful to listen to, the pace was good, no ragged lines.

On Thursday afternoon, a piano accordion ensemble, 12 children and 12 accordions, started the session of the festival in a novel way. They played "Whispering Hope" and "A Frangosa," for which they won praise from the adjudicator and acclaim from the audience.

Mrs. Wood complimented Mike Colussi, leader of the accordion band, on his skillful work. She said the piano accordion is a very good means of musical expression, when in the hands of the right person, and in this case, it is in the capable hands of a leader who knows what he is doing and is doing it with discretion. The effect of this band was soothing and artistic. She advised them to dig a bit deeper into the better music.

There were a series of piano solos by Russian composers. Mrs. Wood said Russian music is different than our music, because it is in a minor key. "When we are sad we are in a minor key, but when the Russians are happy they are in a minor key. That is why their music always sounds a little dark and sad to us." Highest mark in this group was obtained by Roberta Reid with 84.

Another very bright and colorful item on the program was solo dancing by five dainty little girls. All were gaily costumed for their particular dance. Mary Wood and Verlie Cooter joined forces to adjudicate this number, the results are: The tap dancing team had good foot work, grace and charm; when dancing to remember that every part of one dances.

The Highland Fling had toes well pointed, dancing had charm, turns had grace. The command of the feet were better than that of the arms, in this dance. Another dancing group, the First Prince Rupert Girl Guide Group, received praise for their rhythm and grace, although they needed more sweep of gesture. She advised them to study more folk dances, for their own pleasure.

The pianoforte Bach section (open) charmed Mary Wood. Her first love is "Bach." She said in order to play Bach, one should have a sense of the spiritual and a very delicate touch, sensitive to the feeling of the composer. She felt Olive Strand possessed these rare gifts.

The afternoon closed with a piano solo by Ellen Roper in the Sonata section. Mrs. Wood said Ellen played with good understanding and fluency.

Marks obtained by competitors:

PIANOFORTE SOLO
(Under 11)
Gail Davidson 75, Lois Antrobus 74, Sandra Currie 79, Judy Fossum 83, Nora Low Mah 76, Donald Macdonald 79, Jill Weise 76, Laurie Faught 81, Joanne Murray 77, Wanda Haddale 78, Kathleen Saunders 76, Ronnie Roberts 82.
CHORAL SPEAKING
Conrad Street School (Grade 2), 87; Borden Street School (Grade 2), 86; King Edward School (Grade 1), 85.

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Oriental Costumes At Bazaar

The Ladies' Orange Benevolent Association held their spring bazaar in the Civic Centre Wednesday. The hall was decorated with Chinese lanterns and flowers.

Those serving in the tearoom were in Oriental costumes.

Mrs. V. Morrison received the guests. Mrs. H. Killin was cashier.

Mrs. A. S. Hamilton convened the tearoom, assisted by Mrs. Mrs. B. J. Bacon and Mrs. A. Lein.

Mrs. H. Paulson had charge of the kitchen, assisted by Mrs. P. N. Gladdish, Mrs. H. Guyatt and Miss L. Evans.

Sewing stall: Mrs. J. Flewin and Mrs. H. E. Blackburn. Home cooking: Mrs. M. Heise and Mrs. R. B. Skinner.

Candy: Mrs. J. McRae, Mrs. J. S. Carr and Mrs. A. Robertson. Plant stall: Mrs. S. Traquair and Mrs. E. Carlson.

Past Mistress stall: Mrs. Verlie Cooter and Mrs. Guyan. Mrs. E. A. Evans was convenor for the bazaar.

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