

is a long waiting list. Parents and teachers have come to recognise the value that lies in this work from the point of view of the development of the child's personality and self-confidence. Three programmes are performed during the school year, each one running for approximately six performances. The audience consists of children from schools all over the town and the demand for tickets is so great that it can never be satisfied. Audience training is an important feature of this work and much could be said about this. In addition to this theatre there is now a second Children's Theatre Group working in one of the newly-developed housing areas; again the direction is in the hands of members of the staff of the Speech Training Department, although in this case there is a Parents' Committee who help with costumes and scenery.

With a staff of thirteen, each having had training in Drama and some of whom have been professional actors, it seemed logical to use this talent for the further advancement of the theatre; therefore in 1952 a semi-professional Mobile Children's Theatre was inaugurated. This meant that the teachers in the Department of Speech and Drama met together in school hours once a week and under the direction of the Superintendent of the Department they prepared a programme for presentation in schools. This proved most acceptable to head teachers, teachers and children until now it has become an established part of the work of the Department. Each year a programme is prepared for a different age group. Last year the audiences were in the Infant Departments; this year it is the turn of the Primary Schools. Children are invited to paint or draw their impressions of what they have seen or to write any comments about the programme. All performances are given in school hours and all children attend; there is no payment for admission. This work is part of the school day.

To sum this up: there is a Department of Speech and Drama in Aberdeen. All schools administered by the Education Committee are visited regularly and lessons are given in the technique of Speech and the Speech arts, including Drama. On this Department rests the responsibility for two Children's Theatre Groups, one of which has its own little theatre with suitable equipment. In addition to the performances that are given by the children to the children there is the Mobile Theatre which visits schools on Wednesday afternoons and which presents suitable programmes for infants and primary schools or for the older age groups. From all this it is obvious that much is being done by the Education Committee of the City of Aberdeen to introduce the children in the schools to one of the greatest heritages which we as a nation possess—the Theatre. It is hoped that these children will be audiences of tomorrow and that they will make their voices heard in order that municipal authorities will supply the entertainment and the intellectual stimulus that only the "live" theatre can completely provide.