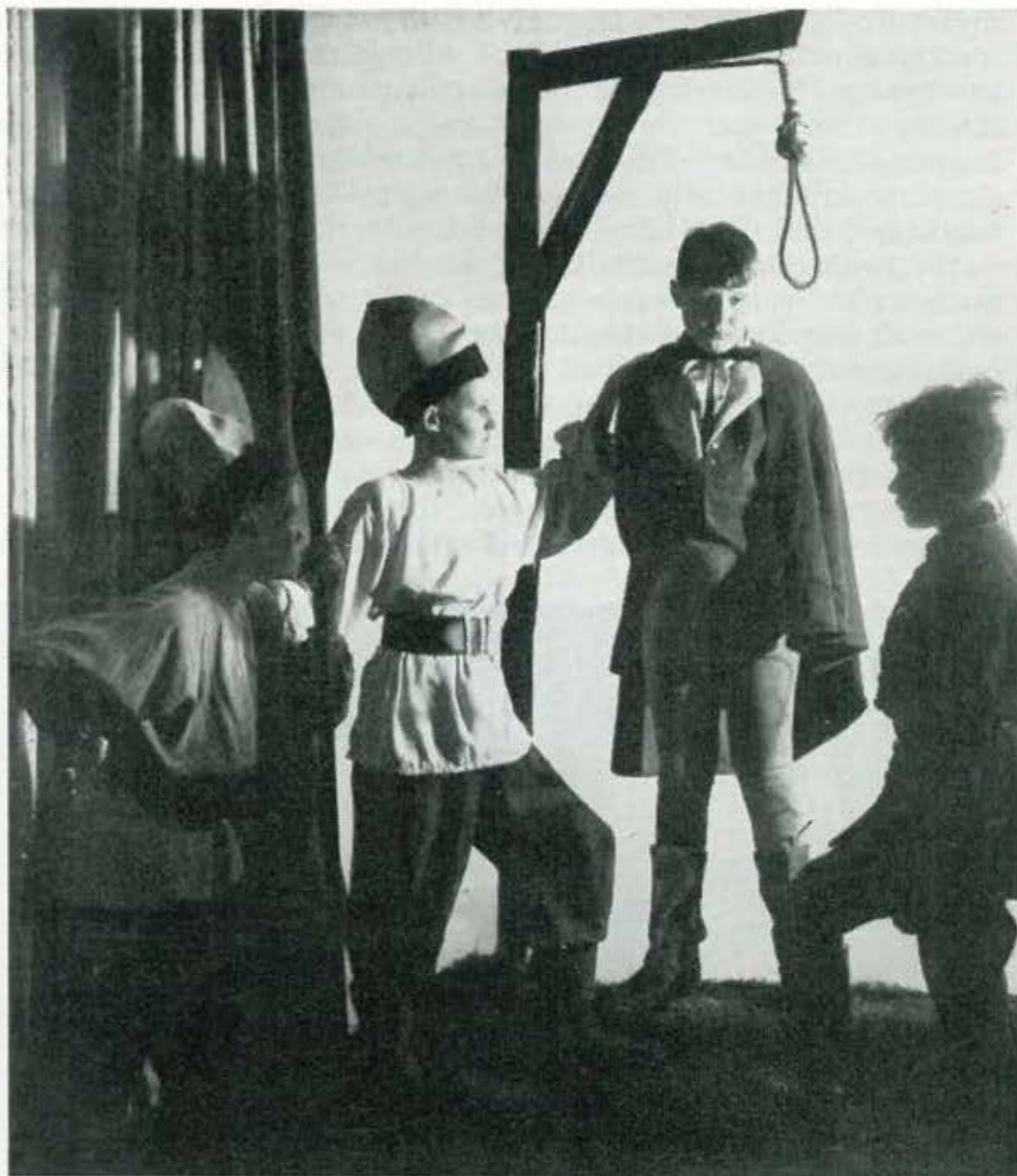


children participating in items of great diversity; a guest commentator was invited to write confidential criticism to the responsible teachers and to speak encouragingly to the children. It was clear during the period of a Festival that there was much talent in acting and mime among the children, and it was resolved to select a small group of these children who showed talent and with them to rehearse and present dramatic material which would be suitable for the 8-12 age group. This step was taken in 1953. The children attended at the Children's Theatre on Saturday mornings. Instruction was given in mime and acting; rehearsals of plays were undertaken by specialist teachers from the Department of Speech and Drama, who worked



*A scene from "The Tinder Box", by Nicholas Stuart Gray, produced by the Aberdeen Children's Theatre in December, 1958. (Photo by courtesy Aberdeen Journals Ltd.)*