

DAVID.

"There across the way!
All, all in light they move, a countless host."

TOBIAS.

"My lad, I can see nothing . . . that's the byre—
Where be the cattle."

DAVID.

"See! all, all afire
With glory!"

In the next scene, on the hills outside Bethlehem, Zachary once more appears, and tells his tale to his fellow shepherds. The curtain rises next on the interior of the stable, while the invisible choir sings—

"Like silver lamps in a distant shrine,
The stars are sparkling bright;
The bells of the city of God ring out,
For the son of Mary was born to-night;
The gloom is past, and the morn at last
Is coming with orient light."

And, as Joseph and Mary are revealed kneeling motionless by the Crib, with the ox and the ass near by, the music modulates into the carol—

"Lullay, Thou little tiny Child,
By, by, lully, lullay;
Lullay, Thou little tiny Child,
By, by, lully, lullay."

First to adore the Holy Child are the children blessed by Mary on the road, and then comes the most beautiful scene of all, when the Blessed Virgin appears with the Child in her arms (an infant of but fourteen days' old from the wards). Grouped about her are Joseph and the angels in white and gold, one some three years old, as we count years on earth, personated by a child who, absolutely still, seemed thoroughly to enter into the spirit of the play.

Then enter the Magi—

"We come from far,
Led by the shining of a splendid star,
Our names are Gaspas, Melchior, Balthasar."

They seek a new-born King, to bring Him gold, and every precious thing that kings should have, and myrrh and frankincense. And when Joseph has taken the gifts and laid them at Mary's feet, the children, who have kept close to her all along, say to the wise men—

"Will you not speak for us? Some words to tell
To Jesus, for to show we love Him well?
We—and the people here. Who have no gold
Nor myrrh, nor frankincense; Yet young and old
Alike desire to show that for their parts
They love their Infant King with all their hearts."
"So we entreat
To offer here before His holy feet
That which alone He asks of us—the love
For whose poor sake He came here from above."

So ended a Pageant most beautiful, the memory of which must have abided with all who saw it through Christmas-tide. For simple people, teaching by the eye is much more impressive and lasting than the spoken word, and the scene when the Blessed Virgin was turned away from the Inn, carried a warning, lest amid all the duties and distractions and legitimate joys of Christmas, we might fail to hold fast the teaching of the Manger Throne without which Christmas were meaningless.

It were well if, throughout our land, Mystery Plays were multiplied indefinitely, or at least, that at Christmas-tide every church had a Crib before which symbol the faithful could for a few minutes kneel and ponder on the mystery of the Incarnation.

M. B.

COW & GATE, LTD.

The Annual Meeting.

A very satisfactory Report was presented to the shareholders at the twenty-second Annual Meeting of Cow & Gate, Ltd., held on December 21st at the Lion Hotel, Guildford, and presided over by the Chairman of the Company, Major A. J. Suenson-Taylor.

In the course of his address the Chairman said:—

"For many years we have been building up a widespread sales organisation. The Company is bearing the whole cost of opening up new markets which through the sales of Cow & Gate products provide an outlet overseas for English milk. Expenditure on Cow & Gate publicity is of direct benefit not only to the Company but also to the English farmers whose milk is utilised. The more Cow & Gate products are used at home the more rapidly should their sale increase abroad. By those resident in Great Britain Cow & Gate deserves to be given first place as an important home industry whose shareholders are all resident in the home country (with one exception, I believe, who is resident temporarily in India) so that the fullest benefit is reaped here of any success the Company may achieve."

A Cow & Gate Film.

The afternoon of December 14th was very pleasantly spent by guests of Messrs. Cow & Gate, Ltd., of Guildford, Surrey, at the Hotel Victoria, Northumberland Avenue, W.C.

After the host and hostess, Major A. J. Suenson-Taylor, O.B.E., M.A., F.C.I.I., Chairman of Cow & Gate, Ltd., and Mrs. Suenson-Taylor had received their guests, a delightful tea was served to the accompaniment of the String Band of H.M. Grenadier Guards by permission of Colonel the Viscount Gort, V.C., D.S.O.

In an opening speech, Major Suenson-Taylor thanked the distinguished audience for coming to see the film, and reminded those present of the real advance that had taken place in matters affecting child welfare, which progress was largely due to the interest shown in the matter by members of the medical and nursing professions.

The chairman went on to emphasise the fact that Cow & Gate, Ltd., are an out-and-out English company, employing English staff, and in which only English capital is invested and by which seven-and-a-half million gallons of milk are used each year for the preparation of their specialities.

One film showed the different stages the milk passes through from the time it leaves the cow until it is in dried milk form, packed ready for distribution.

We saw on the screen happy "Cow & Gate" children at play, also one little girl enjoying her bath, the preparation of her "Cow & Gate" food, and her very evident pleasure at the sight of this food contained in her bottle. This little lady was later introduced to the audience as Sally Mason, a bonny little child.

The audience were all given the unique opportunity of "seeing" sounds on the screen.

The chairman, in conclusion, made the suggestion that in all cinemas some time might be devoted to showing films, which should be approved by the Ministry of Health, and which would help very much to educate our people on matters of infant welfare.

He appealed to someone influential to try to obtain a place for this kind of film in our cinemas.

The "Smiler" film is being produced in the language of many countries where "Cow & Gate" food is consumed by the children.

Judging by the number of people present, this firm must have made a place for itself in the life of the people. On leaving, each member of the audience was presented with a tin of Chocolate Milk and another of Cow & Gate Rusks.

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