

Music Mania '78

London will never be same

(Continued from page one) everybody knew it was going to work. "Geez", commented

male chorus member Jim Rehill, "After Sunday I never thought it would work, but it all came

together — the tempo, the Dance numbers were very imaginative this

year, the most dramatic being With 'er 'ead Tucked. It is performed in the dark with the dancers wearing fluorescent white robes and with their lime-green da-glo heads tucked

literally under their arms — except when they bounced them off the floor basketball style. The headless effect is heightened as the performers wear black hoods over their heads. It all sounds rather weird but it worked and was a real treat to watch — especially from the back of the hall.

The women's costumes for Lovely Rita, danced during a portion of the show devoted to Beatlemania, drew a chorus of appreciative catcalls from a certain rowdier element of the audience. A routine near the end of the show, All That Jazz, was also quite memorable, but more for the dancing than the costumes.

In a serious moment Edna Luther shuffled on stage, giving a poignant performance of a lonely old woman come down to the park by herself to feed the birds. The choral backup was haunting.

As usual humour was a prime ingredient and there were some sterling performances. Seeing Bill Kamps recite, and very prettily at that, I'm a Little Teapot (short and stout), alone was worth the price of admission.

The humour went both ways, though and it

has been reported that during one performance Mr. Kamps was doing his pot-boiler when someone yelled from the crowd, "And to think I voted for you."

Daphne Goldman, long renowned for her high energy comedy virtuosos, played a very droll Maid Marian in the Sherwood Forest segment. Jim Brazier was wearing the most amazing black mesh stockings I have ever seen.

Some segments excellently combined humour with music. Lorne Boadway (Fagan) did a great job in the song from Oliver (You've got to pick a pocket or two) and the pick-pocketing skit worked around the music was hilarious.

Also from the theatre section of the show the rendition of With a Little Bit of Luck, by Charlie Shipp and "the guys" was much appreciated.

All in all a well balanced show and one that was obviously much enjoyed by the crowd — although there was a minor stampede to catch the score of the hockey game during intermission.



Pirkko Eager, Music Mania dance choreographer demonstrates that the show was not all skits and laughs but also contained some intricate and well-timed dance numbers.

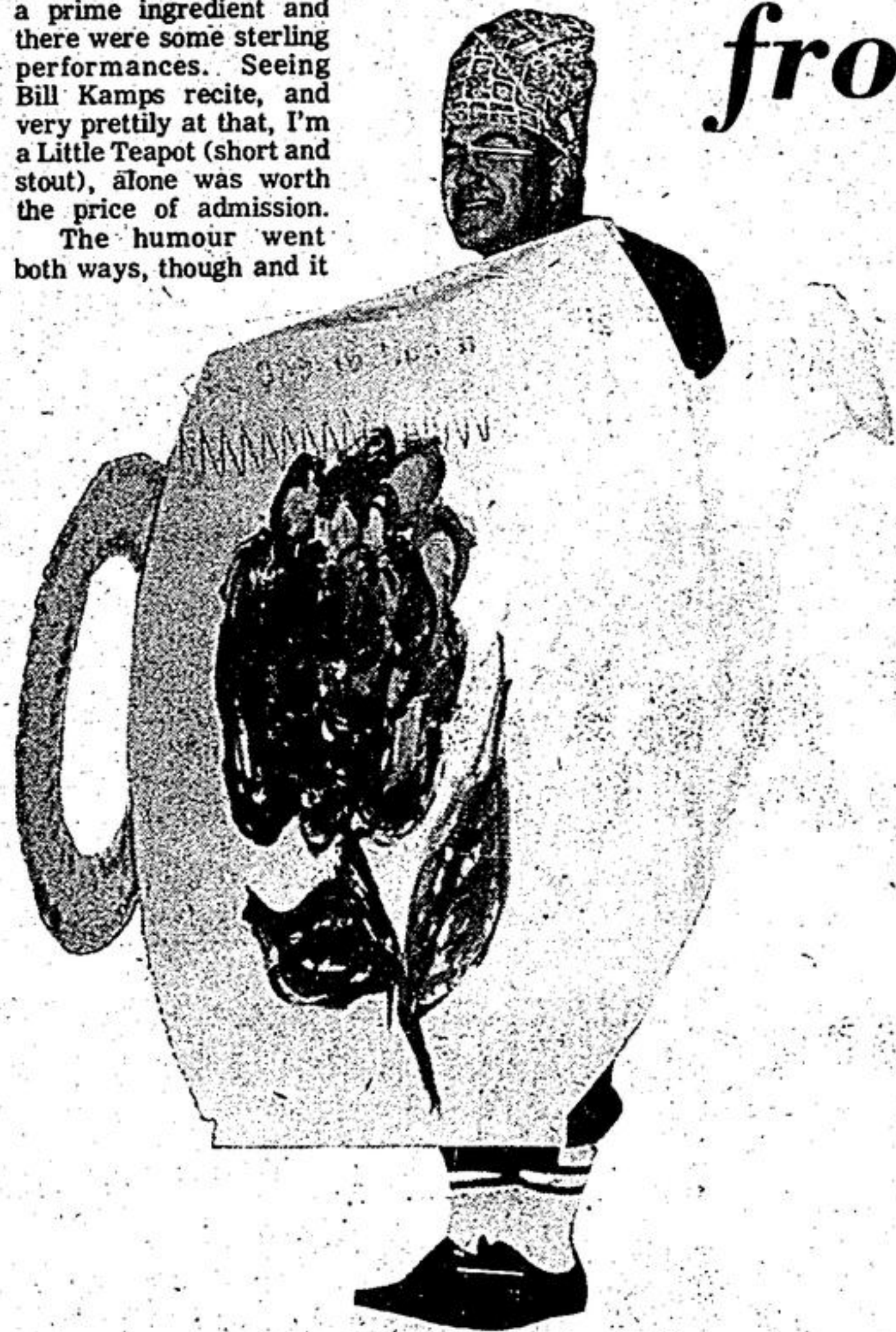


Charlie Shipp, portraying a bored theatre goer, goes on stage and sings and dances through a rousing version of With a Little Bit of Luck — with ample assistance from the male chorus.

from Andy Capp to Fagan



"You've got to pick a pocket or two," sings Fagan (Lorne Boadway). In back is Mary Grant who played Nancy from the musical Oliver.



"And to think I voted for you," jibed a member of the audience as (Councillor) Bill Kamps came on stage to recite "I'm a little teapot. Short and stout." The audience was delighted with Bill's dramatic performance — especially Saturday night when his teapot slipped while he was exiting.



Gord Joice and partner Deborah Rowan-Legg during one of the show's more sedate dance numbers. The evening featured many such changes of pace.



Innocent passer-by Ken Gamble's belt is stolen and his trousers plummet to the floor — much to the amusement of the audience. Nancy (Mary Grant), at right, demonstrates the art of picking pockets to the Artful Dodger (Don Huxtable) who proves rather an inept thief. Nancy also effortlessly plucked a brassiere (not a training bra either) from a



Jean O'Neill (left) played Flo, the long-suffering wife of Andy Capp (Ivan Harris) and here she is shown with two cheeky Cockney birds. Cathy Job (centre) comments on the dress she is wearing which she says was made for her 30th birthday. Its really lasted well retorts Peg Kirby. That portion of the show took place at the Red Lion pub.