

AUSTIN GILBERT AND SULLIVAN SOCIETY INC.

JULY 1977 NEWSLETTER

The July meeting was held in Kleberg Hall on Tuesday July 5th. Because of holidays and rehearsals for "Pirates" attendance was very sparse, there were two visitors however. Phil suggested that we have a recess for August and meet again in September, this was received with enthusiasm so, the next meeting will be on SEPTEMBER 12th (the second Monday owing to Labour day being on the 5th) at 7.30 pm in Kleberg Hall St. Georges Church.

Rehearsals for "Pirates" are going along very well. We do have a full chorus of men now. It promises to be a delightful show, with many interesting and special touches by director Mavourneen Dwyer. (of course I, m predjudiced being in the chorus !!) We will certainly need the support of all the members of the G and S Society, so do plan to come and bring friends "sisters, cousins and aunts" etc, also volunteer to help usher, work box office, call Zach. Scott 476-0594.

A group of us managed to make the trip to Houston to see "The Mikado" a production put on by the Houston Gilbert and Sullivan Society. It was a well done show with a cast of 50 and a 26 piece orchestra, well worth the trip down. How they manage to put on a production of this caliber with just a six week rehearsal period is really something to consider. Jones Hall is a magnificent place to perform. We went backstage to congratulate Roger Brunyate the director (who also directed "Pinafore" for Zach. Scott theatre, the show that basically started a new awareness of Gilbert and Sullivan in Austin.) Roger hopes to be in Austin in August and to attend a performance of "Pirates".

The Gilbert and Sullivan Society of Houston started in 1952 with six members. Their first production "The Gondoliers " was performed in Cullen Auditorium with two pianos as the accompaniment. Now they have over 100 members with at least 60 taking part in this production, they are able to rent their costumes for the vast sum of \$2,400 and also rent the scenery. This certainly goes to show how from a small beginning great things can be attained . I am sure our society will continue to grow also. Have a pleasant August, see everyone in September.

ROSEMARY VINES.

(for Sec. Ann Coltman on
Holiday)