

(continued from previous page)

dition in which most of the world's greatest dramas have been written; the point can become a little academic. At any rate, he has a fine sense of what constitutes the dramatic, and his audience is not left hanging around while the playwright moralises on the evils of, say, the welfare state. The words themselves are enthralling enough, too, to make it possible for them to stand almost alone. Twice now I have heard The Emperor Jones, once acted out on a bare stage, and now over 3YC, and each time I have found it a moving experience. Remembering the beat of the tom-tom as it introduced a BBC documentary, I could have wished for a more booming resonance in the background beat. On the ether hand, nothing could have been more wonderful than the release of tension conveyed by the change in tempo after the "emperor" had shot himself with the silver bullet. Having imagined, with my usual cursory glance at the programmes, that I was listening to a BBC session, I uttered sounds of appreciation on finding that the cast, led by Selwyn Toogood, was a New Zealand one. -Westcliff

Not for Children

THE unprecedented 1YA announcement: "The following play is unsuitable for children," caused a flurry the other night as the living-room was cleared of dawdling offspring, and I speculated as to what nameless horror staid 1YA had to offer that her Commercial sister had not already exploited without a single cave. But as Pussy Cat, Pussy Cat, unfolded, it became obvious that the warning was intended for those

parents who had taken the title to indicate that here was something; specially for the young idea. Children reared on Green Hornet and Superman must have wondered what all the fuss For adults, it was sound drama, a Machen-Blackwood type of supernatural story, about an obsessed woman, a conscientious doctor, a motoraccident and an ominous white cat, which sustained interest throughout and called excellent performances from Norman Griffiths as the doctor and Ria Sohier as his disturbing visitor. There was point in 1YA's meticulous introduction; but extension of the principle has intriguing possibilities. Will we ever, I wonder, hear "This programme is unsuitable for musicians," or "The following review is unsuitable for poets'; or even "This programme is unsuitable for

"Requests" With a Difference

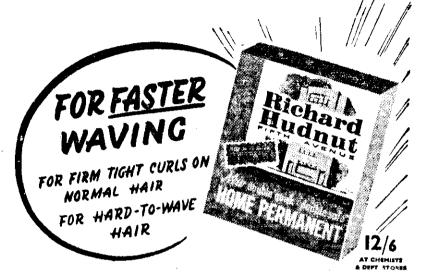
A BRIGHT new Sunday afternoon feature from 12B. Information Please, deserves attention. Misled by the title into thinking that it was the celebrated American quiz-programme on which Oscar Levant and F. P. Adams performed with such verbal and mental agility, I was at first rather resentful when it turned out to be the answering of music queries from listeners, and the playing of illustrative recordings. But this request session with a difference stands on its own feet. There is enough variety of musical types in the feature to give a broad appeal; the information is often unusual, and Glen Menzies makes an agreeable and not too "knowing" compère. A pity the title is so uninspired, for the programme has a vivacity which 1YA might borrow to enliven its rather solemn Sunday after-

SCHOOLS' MATINEE-"A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM"

() SWEET bully Bottom! is never a stop to the laughter? What manner of man your master, hone troubled to tell; But here in a city unheard of, the young voices vell Delight to the resonant dome, four centuries after.

Look you, fine players who strut and declaim to the rafter Solemnity swearing, lest Pyramus bring you to ground. O sweet bully Bottom, our thanks to your master who found A seedbed to nourish world-over the tendrils of laughter. --Elsie Locke RICHARD HUDNUT announces the all-new Double Quick home permanent

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