



### CHRISTMAS ON THE VILLAGE SQUARE

During the Christmas holidays Father Arsenaault and the Dramatics Society very appropriately decided to produce Henri Gheon's "Christmas on the Village Square." The first performance of the play was given at Notre Dame Academy on the evening of December 25.

The play depicted the Five Joyful Mysteries in the life of our Lord and as might be expected from the title it had its setting in a village square. The five members of the cast portrayed an itinerant band of gypsies who had come to the village square on Christmas Eve and had settled themselves there for Christmas.

The play, one of those wise and refreshing pieces modelled after the medieval pattern opens in a village

square. It is Christmas Eve, and the five gypsies, Old Melchior (Ian MacDonald), his wife Old Columba (Olga Dowling), Joey, their son (Pat McWade), Joey's wife, Mary (Maureen Beagan), and their son Bruno (Eugene Wynne), in an effort to convince the audience that they too are Christians, decide to improvise on their little travelling stage the story of the Annunciation and Birth of Christ. Throughout the resulting three acts the imaginations of the lovable gypsies all the difficulties of space and time. And though some of the actors took as many as seven parts there is nothing incongruous to them in the rapid transformation from role to role.

The actors and actresses delivered tremendous performances in presenting the mysteries of the life of Christ with a jolly piety that is never irreverent. **Christmas on the Village Square** is, indeed an inspiring and beautiful experience.