IIIi PLAY

IIIi presented *Androcles and the Lion* by Bernard Shaw in the School theatre on the afternoon of Tuesday, July 17th. With a fairly well-filled house they provided an hour's entertainment which was not marred by any of the strange "incidents" which have attended certain similar productions in the past. The cast knew their parts well and, although the opening music was prolonged and rather painful, the play got moving fairly quickly and livened up greatly in the last act. The off-stage noises in the second act were magnificent.

I. G. Duncalf, as Androcles, spoke in quiet, modest tones, as befits the part, and was particularly effective when controlling the lion. P. R. Donkin, complete with C.C.F. uniform, made an excellent Centurion; he had all the qualities of a sergeant-major and this contrasted well with the quiet, superior tones of T. R. Straker, who played the Captain. Although G. A. Harding was a rather masculine woman—being one of the few members of the cast with a bass voice—he spoke clearly and acted well. R. S. G. Chester, as Caesar, lacked imperial majesty but was very effective when pursued by the lion towards the end of the play. S. E. Boody, as Ferrovius, looked the part but spoke at breakneck speed and was often inaudible. N. Shield, as Metellus, and R. A. Elliot, as the editor, were both good and spoke clearly. Last—but by no means least—M. E. Stanley did very well as the lion. Although his growl was not very fierce, he embraced Androcles with every sign of affection and a twinkle was clearly visible in his right eye towards the end of the second act.

IIIi and Mr Lovitt are to be congratulated on a successful performance and a very pleasant hour's entertainment.

G. L. Pallister