

THE AWARDS

● The Committee's Cup for Stage Presentation was won by Bletchingley Amateur Dramatic Society; The Merstham Cup for the Best Individual Performance by an Actor—Hugh Stamp (Woldingham Players); Best Individual Performance by an Actress—Molly Carthew (Nork Women's Institute); The Oxted Cup for the Runners-up—Betchworth Operatic and Dramatic Society; The Betchworth Cup for the Winning Team; St Paul's Drama Group.

Both winners and runners up go forward to the next round, at the Ashcroft Theatre from 22 to 24 April.

1974.

The opening play, from **Bletchingley Amateur Dramatic Society**, must have been a psychic choice. Act 1 of Oscar Wilde's "A Woman of No Importance" contained many witticisms about Parliament which were doubly appreciated in election week—it is amazing how topical they sounded.

It is an elegant, witty play, entirely dependent on the spoken word, demanding good pace and the right pointing for its success, but the adjudicator found the pace too even, with many laughs lost through lack of pointing, though some of the actors did achieve this at times.