

January 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 at 7.30 p.m.
Matinees at 2.30 p.m. on January 6th and 13th.

"TREASURE ISLAND"

by ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON

(adapted by Bernard Miles, Josephine Wilson and Peter Coe)

CAST

JIM HAWKINS	...	...	...	TIMOTHY STEPHENS
BLACK DOG	...	...	...	RICHARD BAKER
BILLY BONES	...	...	...	JOHN DILLAM
BLIND PEW	...	...	...	BRYAN FERRIMAN
ANDERSON	...	...	...	JEREMY BLUNDELL
HARRY	...	...	...	JONATHAN HARGREAVES
DR. LIVESY	...	...	...	PETER RIMAN
SQUIRE TRELAWNEY	...	...	...	PETER OXFORD
REDRUTH	...	...	...	PHILIP PRYCE-JONES
LONG JOHN SILVER	...	...	...	ROBERT SNELSON
MORGAN	...	...	...	JOHN FENNER
CAPTAIN SMOLLETT	...	...	...	JOHN MOSELEY
MERRY	...	...	...	STAN PAGE
DICK	...	...	...	RODNEY CHAMBERS
ISRAEL HANDS	...	...	...	GUY BARTLETT
TON	...	...	...	GEORGE HOWELL
GRAY	...	...	...	DAVID CHANDLER
O'BRIEN	...	...	...	PETER WALTERS
BEN GUNN	...	...	...	ERIC TAYLOR
CAPTAIN FLINT	...	...	...	POLLY

Director: BILL HAMILTON

Set Design	...	...	...	Ronald Welch
Stage Manager	...	...	...	Robin Pette
Assistant Stage Managers	...	...	...	Jenny Walters, Jo Lord, Avril Chater
Lighting	...	...	...	Peter Bestley
Lighting Assistants	...	...	...	Robert Watts, Ian Voo, Keith Postlethwaite
Sound	...	...	...	Sue Hamley
Photographs	...	...	...	Phil Harvey

Polly appears by courtesy of Elizabeth and Helen Young

Curtain: 9.50 p.m. approximately.

Back to island —but treasure had gone

TREASURE ISLAND—Loft Theatre, Leamington, until January 13.

THIS was my second trip to the island in a fortnight. The first was a good professional excursion. I wish I could say this was a good amateur one.

It is a show which offers almost limitless opportunities for characterisation; yet there is an almost total absence of acting flair in a rather dull production by Bill Hamilton.

There are important exceptions. Bob Snelson's Long John Silver is born out of a cun-

By DAVID ISAACS

ning mixture of bold-faced wickedness and bare-faced charm. It's a good piece of acting which stands out strikingly against most of that which surrounds it.

Bryan Ferriman is prepared to make a good deal of Blind Pew within the limited opportunities he has and one could not quarrel with Eric Taylor's Ben Gunn. But apart from young Timothy Stephens (who really does very well as Jim Hawkins), there is little else to commend.

Peter Oxford's Squire Trelawney is a miming, immature fop; Richard Baker's Black Dog looks as though he ought to team up with him to form a pair of ugly sisters; John Fenner's Morgan

Treasure for the old and young

Deliberate over-acting is the order of the day as picture book characters burst into life during Leamington's Loft Theatre production "Treasure Island."

Robert Louis Stevenson's story not only triggers the imagination of the young, but succeeds in drawing a surprisingly pleasing response from the older members of the audience.

Who can fail to be impressed by the sleazy, two-faced star of the show — Long John himself — played magnificently by Bob Snelson. Young Timothy Stevens does himself proud as the undoubted hero of the piece — Jim Hawkins — who manages to defeat the pirates almost single-handed.

Peter Oxford also excels as Squire Trelawney, the pompous buffoon whose blunderings provide a perfect foil to Silver's biting tongue.

Set designer Ronald Welch and a whole host of back stage assistants deserve un-compromising praise. The quick set changes are executed smoothly, and together with some imaginative lighting, create an atmosphere of realism with an economic use of props.

The Loft will have happier productions in 1972. There can be little doubt of that.

THEATRE

