

Boychoir sings for concert members

By EDIE PEARSON

There was no monotony in the program when the Columbus Boychoir appeared in concert at Mount Vernon High School auditorium this week.

The young lads, age 10 to 14, were serious when they were expected to be, were active when the number allowed a little frivolity, and were dramatic in the operatic scenes.

Closing with folk songs, they followed with encores which seemed to reach right into the hearts of their listeners, especially when one of the smallest of the group, a blonde, sang the solo part of "My Lord What a Morning."

The talented youths represented their school, Columbus Boy School of Princeton, N.J. They were on a tour which began Jan. 2 and will end March 9. Traveling the southern route, by bus, they came to Mount Vernon after a gala sojourn in California. They vied for attention in Coronado where the Pueblo trials were in session. In Los Angeles, an uncle of one of the singers gave them a tour which included Disneyland. Whenever possible, side trips and sight-seeing are included in the schedule.

A recent tour took them to South America, earning rave reviews equal to those gleaned on their first tour of Europe in 1965.

Adults accompanying the group, other than the director, Donald Bryant, are: a governess, Elva Kelsall; collegians, Kennedy O'Brien and Thomas Magil; and bus driver for 18 years, Harold Jones. The latter has taken the boys into every state of this country and every province of Canada. He does not travel overseas.

While on concert tour, the selected singers from the student body, have a nearly normal school routine. Their specially outfitted bus, the "Schoolhouse on Wheels," besides a five octave piano and a kitchenette, contains desks at the seats and a public address system so that regular school classes can be conducted while under way. The bus is parked at stopover hotels and serves as a classroom annex.

The choir appeared in Mount Vernon as one of the Community Concert series of this season.



TALENTED LADS . . . David McKenas, 13, displayed outstanding talent as accompanist for the dramatic opera, "The Golden Vanity," as presented by the Columbus Boychoir. David Hunt, center, and Glenn Dunback, both 13, sang solos and duets throughout the evening's performance. The boys are from Columbus School for boys in Princeton, N.J. The choir travels extensively in this country, Canada and abroad.

(Staff photos by Edie Pearson)