

## Choir of 150

The Royal Tunbridge Wells Choral Society, with a 150-strong choir and supported by a full orchestra, performed Bach's "St. Matthew Passion" at the Assembly Hall on Maundy Thursday evening.

The large Assembly Hall was more than two-parts full, and the gallery was completely sold out. It was, perhaps, a little disappointing for the organisers, who had taken so much trouble and gone to so much expense, that the hall was not packed.

First-class London soloists had been brought down, and the performance was well above the standard normally found in the provinces. The choir, which was singing at its best, was augmented by a section of the choir of the Tunbridge Wells Grammar School for Girls.

The soloists were: Olive Kerol (soprano), Lily Kettlewell (contralto), David Galliver (tenor—the Evangelist), John Wakefield (tenor), Hervey Alan (bass—Jesus); Laurence Neeley (bass).

First maid, and Pilate's wife, Patricia Parker; second maid, Stella Ellis; Pilate, Francis Shorter; Judas, John Saunders; High Priest, Sydney Lawrence; and Peter, Clifford Smith.