

Gala finish for "Miss Phoebe"

With confession from Mr. Smith

IN his speech on Saturday night, following the final curtain of "Dear Miss Phoebe" at the Regent Theatre, Chelmsford Amateur Operatic and Dramatic Society's 1956 production, the President, Mr. David Smith, said he thought it was the Society's most colourful show.

He had an especial affection for "Dear Miss Phoebe," he said, for it contained his favourite song.

To laughter and applause Mr. Smith—who, as he says himself, is "a little sparse on top"—explained that the song was the one that runs "My face is my own, and my hair is my own....." and so on.

In more serious vein, he said he wanted to pay a formal tribute to the many enthusiasts who had worked both "before and behind the scenes" to make the show a success.

He felt the company deserved a great deal of praise.

Before the presentations to the cast, the producer, Phyl Payne, was called on to the stage.

She thanked everybody who in

any way had helped to make the show a success, and the boys who had worked all through Saturday night to set the scenery for the dress rehearsal.

BOUQUETS

Beautiful bouquets and presents were presented to all the members of the cast.

Mr. Wilfrid Cosham, who took the leading part of Valentine, presented the three leading ladies, Vera Evans, Helen Eldridge, and Diane Lawson, with sprays of orchids which he had grown himself.