

*The tartans are flown up and a painting of a jar of Nescafé is flown in*

*Ladies appear in Latin American frills, shaking maracas. They are joined by others in a confused amalgam of all four nationalities. As the music builds to a crescendo, black travellers open to reveal the Vicar on a pedestal, dressed as Carmen Miranda. A spot comes up on him*

All Here's a pretty mess!

*Black-out. The black travellers close. The Lights come up*

*The Chorus and Yum-Yum dance off*

Nanki-Poo I can't live without Yum-Yum. This afternoon I perform the Happy Despatch.

Ko-Ko But if you kill yourself, I shall have to be executed in your place! Oh, here comes Pooh-Bah. I wonder what he wants?

*Pooh-Bah enters, still dressed as a can-can dancer*

*(Uncertainly) Pooh-Bah?*

Pooh-Bah Didn't have time to change. Ooh-la-la, ze Mikado and 'is suite are approaching ze city, and will be 'ere in ten minutes. Sacre-bleu!

Ko-Ko He's coming to see if his whatsits have been done. You're not dead and you should be.

Nanki-Poo Very well, then — behead me.

Ko-Ko I can't kill you. I can't kill anybody! Weeps.

Nanki-Poo It must be done.

Ko-Ko Must it? Why should I kill you when making an affidavit that you've been executed will do just as well? Here are plenty of witnesses — the Lord Chief Justice, Lord High Admiral, er ...

Pooh-Bah Prima ballerina at ze Moulin Rouge.

Ko-Ko They'll all swear to it — won't you?

Pooh-Bah Mais oui.

Nanki-Poo But I tell you that life without Yum-Yum —

Ko-Ko Marry Yum-Yum. And hurry up because somebody's coming. It's somebody important, isn't it?

Pooh-Bah Je ne sais pas, monsieur.

Producer *(off)* It's the bloody Mikado!

All Oh, yes; silly me; should have known; *(etc.)*