

Eramosa drama club wins Wellington festival Friday

Squeals of delighted exuberance rang out in the auditorium of the Fergus High School last Friday night when the adjudicator announced that the winner of the Wellington County Junior Farmers' Drama Festival was the club from Eramosa.

Commending the directress, Mrs. Edith McLean of Hav Sum Fun Park for her excellent group situations, Verne Shaw, the director of the Guelph Little Theatre productions, said that throughout the play, when the girls congregated together, the grouping designs were executed with perfection. He said that, although it is a tremendous challenge for any director to handle such a large cast the Eramosa club had managed extremely well.

Excellent performance
June Thomson of the local group excelled in her performance as the community do-good wife of Albert, who required more of her time working on some of his own domestic requirements than spending too much effort on outside activities.

The entire play revolved around a group of young women whose husbands, in defense of their marital status, leagued

together to form a "Neglected husbands sewing club" which, of course, presented many humorous situations. It took an

educated eye to detect the top acting ability as the entire cast was worthy of adjudicator's consideration.



VERNE SHAW, the adjudicator for Friday night's performances congratulates Miss June Thomson, for her best actress award winning portrayal of Ethel in the Eramosa's production of "Neglected Husbands' Sewing Club," as directed by Mrs. Edith McLean. —(Photo by Lorraine)

Fine cast
Carol Thomson as Grace was diminutive and sharp; Yvonne Noble as Edith portrayed her role well as a young socially minded wife; Albert, played by Bruce Miller, was applauded by Mr. Shaw, as having extremely resonant and pleasant stage voice projection. Others in the fine casting were: Glen Gray as George, Harvey Allan as Joe, Carolyn Law as Dottie, Craig Switzer as Fred, Stuart Gregson as Mr. Brown, Jim Reid as Mr. Smith, and, portraying well the difficult role of another woman, in the play, was Bob Kent who was Mrs. Brown for the occasion.

Delightful evening
As the adjudicator reviewed the three plays of the night giving his overall assessment he said that the entire program of performances had contrived a delightful evening and that, from the audience's reactions he could see it had been well received and enjoyable to all present.

Mr. Shaw felt that, with 200 people all viewing the plays, each one would have their own individual reactions which, in many cases would not agree with his own but, that he had judged the performances from the viewpoints of general overall

features and that, as an adjudicator, it was important to look at a full show and then to zero in with a positive attitude. Pleading settings, play groupings, and voice inflections were all part of the important factors in play judging as well as stage presence and self confidence, he told the audience.

First play
The Lower Wellington Club's play "Forever Judy" was the first one up for consideration with directors Judy Hasson and assistant Bob Hodgson. Mr. Shaw was pleased with casting contrasts and was very high in his praise of Susan Whittaker's ability to cry spontaneously.

He thought that father Hubert Jackson portrayed by George Nap showed excellent casting as well as being adroitly acted with forceful denials as a father who is concerned about his daughter's welfare.

Secret intent
The situation which depicted a young girl who had divulged to her mother her secret intent to marry a young theatre usher was one of comical intent in which Susan Whittaker, as Judy Jackson, gave vent to her emotion of great love for her future husband by running around with bare feet which were prone to being continually itchy. The maid Amanda, cunningly portrayed by Sharon Currie, overheard Judy trying out a new part in a dramatic production which producer Barry Moore, played by Grant Mitchell was trying to convince Judy that she should take, as the original actress in the lead role, had lost her voice.

Tells of calamity
In trying out for the part, the young actress rehearsing lines of the production, said that she was going to run away. The scene climaxed in a stage kiss into which situation the maid Amanda arrived and thought that the whole thing was for real. As the girl Judy and the director left, the maid phones parents Hubert and Mary Jackson who were portrayed by Beth Hasson, and told them of the calamity.

Regarding this play the director gave setting approval, tremendous praise for father Hubert Jackson, and particular acclaim for the stage kiss between director Barry Moore and daughter Judy Jackson. He said that the most difficult act on any stage was that of the stage kiss and that to execute one properly and naturally was a feat of art.

Verne Shaw humorously said that he hesitated to draw attention to the "stage kiss" as, on one occasion when he had referred to its portrayal difficulties, the next day a local newspaper had made black headline references which had promoted only minor embarrassment.

Involved play
The Junior Farmers' Organization from Mount Forest, Ontario, were the final contributors to the evening's performance when they presented the "Man in the Bowler Hat", an intricate and involved play which, according to Mr. Shaw, demanded fast moving action throughout or the audience would lose track of the play. He commended John, the leading man portrayed by Arnold Small for his acting abilities saying that he liked his witticisms and projections.

He approved of the cast's voice changes on a darkened stage but suggested that they should have used more mood preparatory so that the audience would be ready for the adventurous follow-up as the play progressed.

Youthful dreams
The play was based around the lives of two people in a living room rehabbing the day's newspaper events and both the husband and wife mused about their past uneventful years but vocalized on some of their youthful dreams of mythical adventure.

Into this quiet scene the hero of the play burst into the room and the play developed into a supposedly exciting plot of intrigue with villains Robin Gardner and Allen Kirkpatrick chasing hero Ron McQueen in an attempt to procure the jewels which belong to heroine Marion Small.

Surprise ending
A scuffle on a darkened stage is enacted with John and Mary, played by Marie Skerritt, screaming out and, after the lights have been restored, and the



ERAMOSIA junior farmer's cast of the Neglected Husband's Sewing Club stands together after their winning portrayal which won the coveted Best Play award Friday night at the Fergus High School. They are: front row: Bruce Miller, Bellwood; Craig Switzer, Hillsburg. Second row: June Thomson, Yvonne Noble, Carol Thomson, Edith McLean, directress; and Glen Gray. Back row: Bob Kent, Ross Gregson, Carol Law, Stewart Gregson, Jim Reid, and Harvey Allen. —(Photo by Lorraine)

Free Press Rockwood



DELIGHTED AT the outcome of Friday night's results are the winners of the Wellington County Junior Farmer drama festival. From left to right they are, Bruce Miller, R.R. 5, Bellwood, honourable mention; June Thomson, R.R. 1, Rockwood, best actress; Mrs. A. McLean, director of

best play won by the Eramosa Club; Susan Whittaker, Moorefield, honorable mention; George Nap, R.R. Guelph, best actor award; and Grant Mitchell, R.R. Guelph, who also took an honourable mention. —(Photo by Lorraine)

everyone's view of the activities, stands up, and, with his script in hand, says "Okay, that's fine folks, we'll start production tomorrow."

Awards made
Adjudicator Shaw gave his sketchy but uncontented viewing assessments of each play and its actors. He judged: best actor, George Nap of Guelph; best

actress, June Thomson of R. R. 1, Rockwood; best play: Eramosa Club with directress Mrs. Edith McLean for The Neglected Husband's Sewing Club; Susan Whittaker of Moorefield took an honorable mention along with Bruce Miller of R. R. 5, Bellwood and Grant Mitchell of R. R. Guelph.

Stone - Ellis wedding in St. John's church

St. John's Anglican Church was the scene of February nuptials in which a popular Rockwood girl took her vows last Friday evening at 7.30 p.m.

Suzanne Barbara Ellis, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ray Ellis of Jackson Street, became the bride of Ian Vincent Stone,

son of Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Stone of R. R. 2, Rockwood.

Crocheted gown
Lovely in the simplicity of her crocheted wool street length bridal gown, Suzanne wore pale blue accessories with a blue choker and a simple hair clip in her coiffure.

Carrying white and yellow mums, Deborah Gray of Toronto, was the maid of honor and she was gowned in a medium blue french taffeta street length dress.

Reception at home
The groom's brother, David Stone, was the groomsmen and Mr. Ken Cardwell of Erin officiated at the wedding after which a reception was held at the home of the bride's parents on Jackson Street.

Guests attending came from Acton, Clarkson, Milton, Toronto, Georgetown, Campbellville, and Rockwood.

Miss Susan Height had feted the bride with a miscellaneous shower and Suzanne's wedding gown had been specially created by Mrs. Sy DeVries of Rockwood.

The couple will reside in the village and are planning their honeymoon trip sometime during the summer months. The groom is an employee of the Ford Motor Company in Oakville.

Trail Riders new directors

Three important decisions were dealt with at last Saturday evening's meeting of the Rockwood Trail Riders when three new directors had to be chosen to replace the retiring Di Duncan, Al Fox, and Don Leader.

Mary Hatch of R. R. 5 Rockwood was voted in along with Tom Smith of Guelph and Bill Nofal of R. R. Rockwood.

Euchre set
With Morris (Mo) McGinnis in the driver's seat as club president and vice-president Gord Cox assisting, the club business was completed with gusto. It was decided that March 20 would be the date set for a repeat Trail Rider's Open Euchre which will be held at 8 p.m. at the St. John's Parish Hall. Saturday's program had

Harvey Pettitt of R. R. 1, Rockwood, on hand to talk on horse shoeing and the science of horse chiropody. It was an interesting as well as timely topic for the 60 members who were present, after which coffee and donuts were served to satisfy whetted appetites and top off the friendly meeting held in the St. John's Parish Hall.



NOT FOR SALE

Enquiries to the Wellington County School Board regarding the public school building at Eden Mills are being discouraged and the Board is officially advised that the school is not for sale.

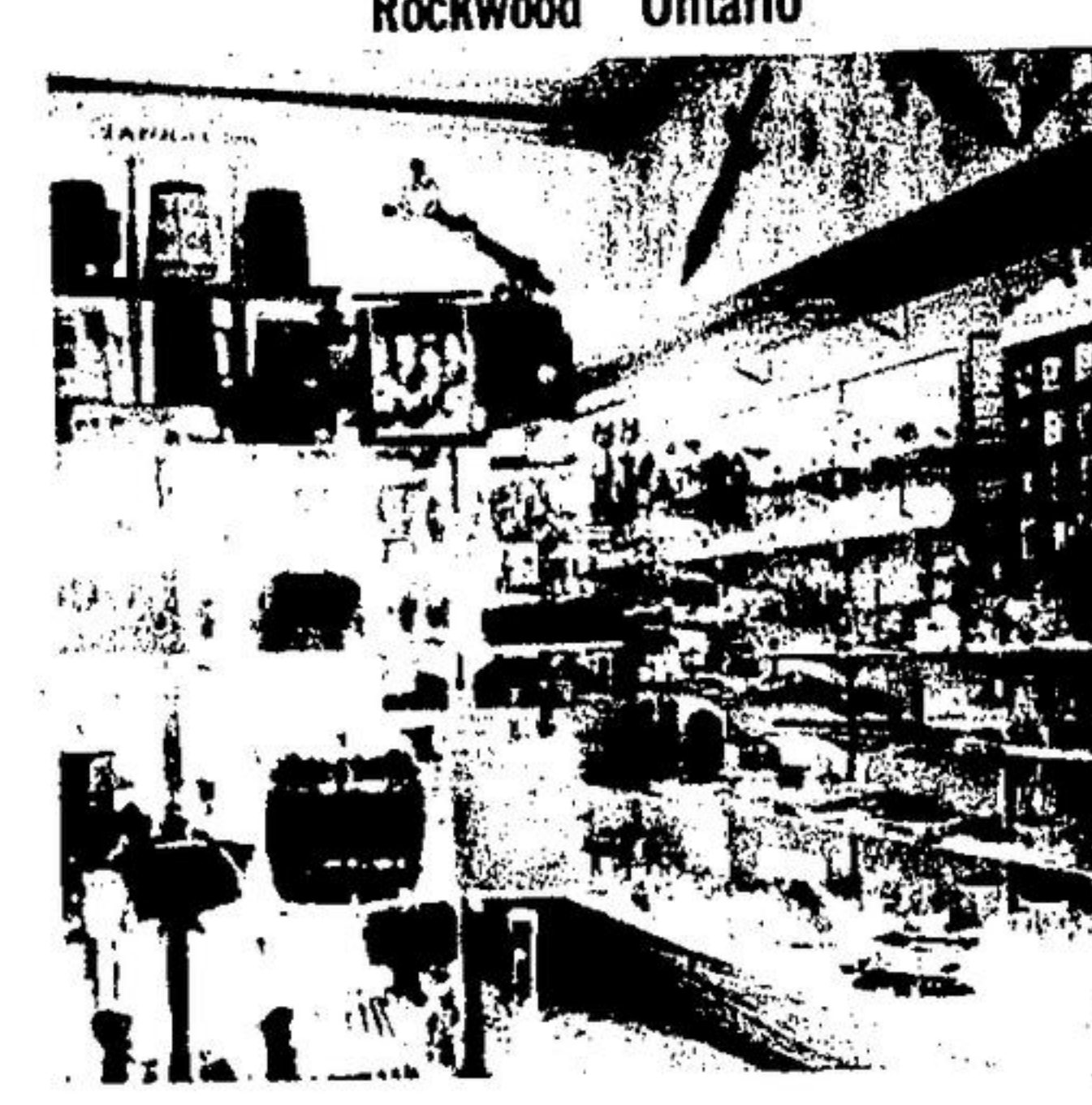
An article in the newsletter of the Wellington County Board of Education, the Courier, stipulates that possible future of

the school is for outdoor education purposes or for re-activation in the event of residential growth.

Several schools in the area have been procured by private ownership; the authorized statement should quell continuous curious suppositions.

The Village Gift Shoppe

Rockwood Ontario



The home of The Village Gift Shoppe was built when men were hewers of wood and drawers of water.

With its high ceilings, plaster and wood mouldings, stained glass window, the quality of this old building lends itself to a gift shop atmosphere.

Into the mould of this old building has been poured the warm and pleasing decor of The Village Gift Shoppe

While the emphasis has been on Canadian merchandise, craftsmen from many nations share in the bounty that lines the shelves.

The fine craftsmanship of Indian Brass, the beauty and flare of Italian Glass, the true quality of the English artisan, to name but a few.

The Village Gift Shoppe was established with you in mind. Bringing comfort, convenience and quality at moderate prices.