

Theatre's success dispels doubt

In absolute simplicity on a stark black stage, the contemporary version of Alice in Wonderland was presented, last Tuesday evening, to an enchanted capacity crowd of adults and children alike on the stage of the Eden Mills Community centre.

It was a great show, discounting the youth of the play's dramatists, playwright and co-ordinators, one of top calibre able to match the excellence of better known productions.

Alice herself was charmingly depicted by Chris Flemming, while all the other actors and actresses acted out several roles during the performance. Lennie Ross, for instance, was a caterpillar, footman, and an amazing griffin. Rhonda Fleming was transformed from the cook with the pepper shaker to the haughty Queen of Hearts.

Diane Clark was the doormouse who also portrayed the amazing Cheshire cat. King John McCreedy doubled as the mad March Hare in the Mad Hatter's scene and Dave Archibald, performed the two-fold role of Knave of Hearts and the Turtle, breaking up his audience with his own rendition of "Beautiful Soup."

Many laughs
Children and adults laughed hilariously and enjoyed watching Jim Gordon make like the baby who turned into a pig grunting off the stage. Particularly, the audience enjoyed the delightful professional clowning of Lisa Guilford, cast in the role of the duchess, using facial contortions and walking gaits to create added appeal for her particular role.

Wes Kail was the director of the modern Alice in Wonderland version and Jane Wilde the costume and set designer. Interesting was the fact that, for the first time in an "Alice" production no children were frightened but rather enthralled with each new character as it became known on the stage. Whimsical fun, and the kids enjoyed every minute of it.

cleverly portrayed, and the adults were amazed at its professionalism.

No question now
If there is any question as to the accomplishment of this particular Opportunity for Youth group it would have to be erased with a first-hand viewing of their scheduled program in actual action.

Ninety children are enrolled and already creations of musical instruments, pantomime play acting, self expression, and improvisation, as well as singing group songs, have taken up their morning weekday training sessions. The children are happy, the teachers devoted, and the parents impressed at the efficiency and enthusiasm which prevails.

Another group
Last Friday afternoon's special presentation was an unusual performance of another government sponsored O. for Y.G. from the University of Guelph, called the Buttercup Revue. They presented to the children their version of a storybook play entitled "The King with the Mended Sock". Once again, those present were treated to another top performance which was absolutely fantastic on the rural scene as well as being of exceptional calibre of advanced theatrics.

Especially geared to children, the five plays directed and conducted by 11 University Dramatic Grads, are taken from place to place, and the "Buttercup Revue Group", costumes, back sets, and play-acts, approximately four times daily at pre-scheduled gatherings. Working from the Guelph Recreation Centre, they can be contacted and, according to their business manager and director, have open bookings for most of August with only the Wellington County invitations scheduled to date.

They are anxious to play wherever requested, to children's centres and, at the completion of

each play, conduct a workshop where their young audience are encouraged to ask questions about any phase of the story, its production, or costuming.

Amusedly, last Friday's play drew rounds of queries and one little girl wondered why all the ladies wore dresses? Good humouredly, the response was that, the ladies in the day of the play had never heard of pant suits and the audience chuckled. One small boy wondered why the cast was allowed to perform in bare feet as it seemed more correct that they should be wearing shoes. A cast member told him that she had left her shoes in the car and that it seemed fairer and in better taste if all the cast members matched each other with everyone in bare feet. That satisfied her young inquisitor and the question period was eventually finalized.

Approve tend
To date, the Eden Mills instruction program is proving to be a tremendous fulfillment. The kids are learning, the instructresses advancing, and the parents recognizing that the new trend of youngsters in advanced-type theatrics is healthy and great. In the afternoon the teachers plan their weekly presentations, gradually absorbing the children in their endeavours, gauging their advancement for their final presentation in August.

This Friday's show scheduled for 3 p.m. will be a variety type called "The Greatest Show on Earth". It will be particularly geared to the children but parents and visitors will be welcomed. Miming, improvisations, skits, and musical creations will depict the daily class learning expectancies and on the following Friday, July 21, two playlets will be presented. At the beginning of the variety program, a "Noah's Ark Symphony" will be introduced with the children participating utilizing the instruments they have made for the tunes as written by the energetic teacher group members.



LOUISE ROY fondles "Gabby", the Bonner's 6-month old calf attended by Jean and Robbie Bonner. —Photo by Lorraine

Farm life revelation to holidayer from city

The Bonner Farm at R.R. 3, Rockwood, has proved to be a real boon for one young Guelph girl who, in her week-long farm sojourn, has learned that farming is not just a way of life but also an efficient business operation as well.

Louise Rose is the 12-year-old College Avenue Public School student who lives at 32 Cedar Street in Guelph. Originally a resident from Toronto, Louise applied as one of 20 district applicants to take a week on a local farm under the provincial wide Urban Rule Exchange Plan set up for city and farm children last year by the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food.

With each area divided into districts only 500 farm homes were offered for the week-long hospitality stint but hopefully, by the completion of summer, the program will have hosted all youthful Ontario applicants.

Seefirst hand
Geared to the future potential consumer, the program has been devised to introduce the younger generation to farm efficiency with the tremendous opportunity

of witnessing first hand what life on a week long farm basis is all about.

Louise grins happily as she relates her learning in the Bonner home of agriculture and dairy calf production. Baling hay, unloading, assisting with the milking, she has adapted easily to the way of the farmer with unusual enthusiasm. Daily chores, viewing the intricacies of regular herd inspection by the O.V.C.; she has altered her naive attitudes about farm life.

"Not just one tractor to do all the farm work", said the junior female city slicker, "but numerous machines to handle many other phases of farming" and Louise delights in watching the hay chutes in operation, the milking machines, and the special innovations that farm life requires to keep things running effectively.

The two Bonner children, Jean 12, and Robbie 9, enjoy playing host to the city girl. Jean is happy to share her chores with Louise and also the fun of looking after Gabby, her 6-month 4H calf responsibility which she hopes to train for the Fergus Fall fair.

Louise would like to stay longer at her local farm habitat as she enjoys every phase of its workings, particularly her new appetite and eating.

1,300 applications
Last year the provincial wide farm introductory scheme received only 938 applications but this year 1,300 hopefuls applied. Usually the advertisement is arranged via city schools with only a few farms left in the rural centres. According to officials of the O.M.A.F. it is usually stood that outlying village and town children have an already established an affinity to farm

Eramosa council briefs

At the regular July meeting of Eramosa Council:

—Councillors agreed they would likely have to consider zoning by-law changes when the Rockwood sewer and water by-law passed. Dave Hartman posed the question to council. The by-law has existed since 1958.

—Received notice from the Department of Highways that the rock in the driveway at R. Pearl's home was his responsibility and the dust nuisance complained about on the highway by G. Trimble could not be treated by the Department, although the district maintenance engineer suggested it was a problem. There is no calcium in the Department available, unless dust it causes a safety problem.

—Received notice from Mr. McLaren that he had rented a shop to repair and sell bicycles on Gower St. in Rockwood. Council decided the shop was in a commercial zone and transgressed no by-laws.

—Presented road superintendent Bob Hamilton with a certificate from the C.S. Anderson road school for passing a short course in human relations. Reeve Warren Parkinson quipped, "Hope you get along better with everyone now."

—Decided to defer approval of

No permit

Rockwood resident Harvey Kramp's request for permission to build a second house on his approximately 25,500 square foot property was rejected by Eramosa council last week.

Mr. Kramp pointed to a provision in the township by-laws which allowed a second residence if property was undersized, under certain conditions. He asked why the Board of Health had issued him a permit if the township would not allow him to build.

Council at first decided to get a legal opinion on the matter but later passed a motion that the building inspector was not to issue Mr. Kramp a building permit until such time as he met the requirements of the zoning and building by-laws.

It was council's opinion that Mr. Kramp's interpretation of the laws did not square with the circumstances.



ARTIST YOSEF DRENTERS works on the Rockwood S.S. 9 public school headstone which is composed of stones from dismantled district schools. —Photo by Lorraine

Hydro office moves to phone building

Rockwood hydro history will complete a 59 year cycle this August 1 when the commission which was introduced into the village in 1913 had the Stuart Royce building situated on Guelph and Main Streets as its original headquarters.

As the premier Rockwood hydro chairman, Mr. Royce conducted hydro business in conjunction with his barbering services in the same building. Eventually he took on the responsibility of township clerk, and gradually relinquished his barbering business.

Upon his retirement Mr. Royce was succeeded by Les Ayles who then carried on hydro business from his home store at 286 Alma Street, presently the home of the Dave Hartman family.

Relocated again
Taking up the reins as village hydro manager, after the death of Les Ayles, Charles O'Brien served in that official capacity for eight years with the office once more relocated, this time at the village town hall.

July 1, 1972, marked yet another era in local hydro history when Len Hockey was appointed hydro chairman following the death of Charles O'Brien, and, on date of August 1, the official hydro office will, once again, wind its way back to its original

home grounds. This time, however, instead of the office nearest the corner of Main Street, it will be in the annexed building addition built in the thirties for, and formerly used by, the Bell Telephone Company.

The same telephone number will be retained for the convenience of village customers and the trustee board and chairman Len Hockey are in agreement that the Guelph Street location, with its close proximity to the new post office, will be more advantageous for resident customers.

It is expected that future trustee meetings will be conducted in the Guelph Street location and also bookings for the town hall. Caretaking for that building will continue to be main-

tained by the village foreman.

Interesting note is that Rockwood residents of the 1913 original hydro installation, recall a marvellous street dance which was held on that portion of the roadway above Saunders Bakery which had not been made into a highway.

Also recalled by Rockwood hydro residents was the endless cleaning of coal oil lamp chimneys which, according to those who were there then, was really something to celebrate "the end of."

NO CHOICE
"Stretch pants are descriptively named—they have no other choice."

Jesus is coming!
Where do you stand?
Brethren of Messiah
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NOTICE!
The Eramosa Township Office will be closed for **HOLIDAYS** FROM July 17 to July 30

1972, Excepting Friday, July 21, and Friday, July 28, when the building inspector will be present.

The township road superintendent's holidays will be from July 24 to Aug. 8, 1972.

L. T. Hindley, Clerk

Grant Kennel license on one acre property

Eramosa Council decided that Mr. and Mrs. Bloomfield of R.R. 3, Rockwood, would be granted a kennel license for 1972 providing they harbored no more than four dogs on their one acre property on the Fourth Line, Lots 22 and 23.

The couple appeared before council requesting a kennel licence purely for the purpose of advertising their Golden Retrievers in the dog journals. They said they have neighbors' consent to have the dogs and would have no more than four at one time—a male, female and two puppies. Mr. Bloomfield said he must have a township registration before he could advertise in the journals.

Sanitary runs have already been built on the property.

Grant license
Although the by-law said kennel licenses could only be

granted on 10 acres, council decided that under the circumstances they would grant a license for 1972.

It was noted Mr. Bloomfield, a member of the faculty at Chedoke Hospital, Hamilton, could have as many dogs on the property as he wanted under the present arrangement but granting of the conditional kennel license would restrict them to four.

Reeve Warren Parkinson, a perennial foe of dogs who bother and kill his sheep, said he was impressed by Mr. Bloomfield's presentation but he wondered why council would want to encourage more dogs in the township.

Councillor Dick Strong felt it was "one more little erosion" of the by-law but the resolution passed with no objectors.

News and views

By Lorraine

As the great new Rockwood Post Office gradually reaches its completion, concerned neighbor residents worry about future parking problems.

At a recent village trustee meeting a suggestion was raised by Town Foreman, Murray McLaren, that "no parking" signs be placed on the boulevard in front of the post office prohibiting front Guelph Street parking and encouraging residents to utilize the large asphalt surfaced parking facilities at the rear of the building.

Stan Harris, village trustee, said that residents will be allowed to park in front of the post office on Guelph Street just as on the Main Street in the past. Residents on that street, however, have long contended that it has always been a nuisance and of great inconvenience to them.

"Such problems," they say, "should be alleviated with the parking facilities at the back of the new post office and, besides illuminating residential streets, keep the village boulevard a better aesthetic repair."

Residents on the opposite side of Guelph Street feel that, if parkers are allowed on one side of the road, drivers coming from the other direction will use their street fronts for parking, thus causing unnecessary inconvenience in a residential area.

Winter snow problem
"Snow in the winter time will also provide more difficulty if cars are allowed Guelph Street parking", said one long-thinking resident who feels strongly that, if the government has used tax dollars to provide proper parking facilities than they should be used.

Trustee Harris contended that the parking area in the back of the building was for mail carrier vehicles only. However, postal officials and residents who have examined the size of the parking lot contended that many more cars than those used by the mail carriers could fit in easily and that if stipulations aren't made at the beginning the public will never be educated to park there.

Want signs soon
Guelph Street residents agree that the signs should be put up immediately before the post office is ready for use. According to township clerk Lloyd Hindley (Continued on Page B5)

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