



OUR GAL SAL AS she pretends to be; still the same old gangly farm girl society flake Glen Van Dyne knew. Thys Splinter played the part of Glen while Willy de Jong played Sally Skinner.

Our Gal Sal

Packed house enjoys comedy production

A packed house greeted The Pretenders, a local drama group, when they put on their performance of Our Gal Sal at the Acton High School Saturday, and the cast responded well, drawing many laughs from the light-hearted comedy with well-timed one-liners.

The plot of the play, was fairly standard comedy: Our Gal Sal (played by Willy de Jong) returns to her old haunts a changed woman. No longer an uneducated hick, she has been to Europe and grown as sophisticated as anyone could want. She overhears the man she had loved (Glen Van Dyne, played by Thys Splinter) downgrading her to his sister, (Allison, played by Thea Krul), and decides to get revenge on him. Much of the play is then taken up with her pranks. Needless to say, because this is a comedy, everything works out right in the end. A subplot involving the building of a hospital and other characters' romances keep things nicely complicated, as they should be in comedy. One extra laugh came when one of

the characters lost his false beard during the action.

The cast, while admitting to being amateurs, did not let that admission get in the way of a spirited and very enjoyable performance. When a cast is enjoying their work, the enthusiasm rubs off on the audience, and the result is that people watching the play enjoy it.

Set professional One thing that was definitely not amateur was the set. It was as well made and arranged as many professional stages, and helped make the play the success it was.

And it was a success. People during intermission remarked on their pleasant surprise at how well the production was working out.

The group is composed mainly of members of the Christian Reformed Church, and numbered ten. Willy de Jong was energetic in the title role, and Thea Krul, as Allison Van Dyne, was very good. Ali Kroezen played an old society matron, Mrs. Ceelia Van Dyne, who was easily

flattered by Henry Venema as Dexter Westbrook, a devoted good citizen in the eyes of the town but a man with more show than action in reality.

Thys Splinter played Glen Van Dyne and was faced with the difficult acting requirement of having to do a reversal in his opinion of Sal, a task he handled well.

Alice Scriber was perfect as a bloodless but conceited society's child, and Wilma Barends, Henry Venema and Jerry Kroezen were all good in their roles. Cathy Kremer kept things going by acting as prompter for the actors.

The play was an excellent one to choose, as it is simple in characterization, relying on tangled plot for its humorous impact. A more difficult play would have been beyond the scope of the actors, anything less would have cheated them and the audience of a lot of fun.

The play is being presented this weekend in Georgetown and the cast will have had a chance to get over their opening night jitters.



OUR GAL SAL AS she really is: a good looking sophisticated young woman back from Europe. Willy De Jong is Sally Skinner, left, and Thea Krul is Allison Van Dyne.

Local performance



DEXTER WESTBROOK, "upstanding citizen", is caught in the act. He was telling a mistress in another city that he would soon be able to buy her all the furs she wanted because his scheme to defraud Mrs. Van Dyne was working.

Morrow will dangle carrot for council

Halton Regional Chairman Ric Morrow will ask council to deal once again with the highly contentious issue of equalized assessment next month.

The issue has been dealt with several times before at the region but this time Morrow will dangle a \$2,000,000

carrot in front of the council. Unless council goes with the equalized assessment this year it will lose grants reported to be worth \$2,000,000 from the province.

Morrow says the grants are used as an incentive by the province and would be applied to ease the impact on

certain municipalities who would end up paying a greater share of the cost of water and sewers. The funds would offset costs of switching to equalized water and sewer rates as well.

In an interview last week Morrow said he wanted council to know just how much

money is at stake. "In my four and a half years here I've never had the full impact of that decision presented."

"All people in the region should be able to receive services at an identical cost. We must do this so all citizens can have a basic level of essential government ser-

vices. To a large extent the region is responsible for those services."

"We do this now for everything except water and sewer charges and council will have an opportunity to change that policy in February when material is presented," the chairman explained.

The idea of equalized assessment is nothing new for councillors serving the second time at the region. Time and time again during the first term of council the matter came up and invariably was rejected.

Most of the opposition to the scheme comes from the small northern communities and Oakville representatives. Northern representatives traditionally argue that they'll have difficulty in having necessary projects approved if the cost is shared across the region. Now it is charged back to the area where the work is being done.

They've continually argued that as long as they are paying for the services required in their communities they'll have a better chance of having the work approved.

Oakville representatives led by Mayor Harry Barrett remain leary about sharing costs of sewer and water services on the proposed basis.

Because of the excellent industrial tax base Oakville enjoys it pays a higher rate of taxes under equalized assessment than it would otherwise. Barrett also contends that Oakville would pay a much

greater share under that system than it does now because of Oakville's slow growth attitude. Burlington accepts a much more rapid rate of growth and as a result requires a much greater investment in services under the ground. He contends that any community requiring the service should pay for it.

Barrett threatened Treasurer Don Farmer and other staffers that he'd call for their resignations if they ever introduced the issue again.

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Region pushing towards resource recovery — Morrow

Halton Regional Chairman Ric Morrow hopes he'll be authorized to sign an agreement with the Ministry of the Environment setting out funding of a resource recovery plant for Halton within the next six weeks.

In a recent interview Morrow explained that the agreement would deal with funding for the plant but no time for the start of construction had been set.

Negotiations with the province have centred around a 'front-end' plant which will produce RDF (Resource Derived Fuel).

Morrow said cost estimates for the plant are very preliminary but the plant is estimated to cost six or seven million dollars, half of which the province will pay for.

Wes Williamson, Director of the Resource Recovery Branch for the Ministry of the Environment said there were 13 or 14 municipalities at various stages of negotiations for plants and Halton and Peel are the most advanced.

"We've completed a mar-

ket analysis and now we are working on a financial analysis that will provide some of the information the region will want to know before it makes a final commitment," Williamson explained.

Resource derived fuel can be burned as a replacement for coal.

The region has been criticized by members of the Tremaine-Britannia Citizens Group for considering that type of a plant over one that will gobble up more of the garbage—leaving little to be buried in landfill sites. Some believe that the 'back-end' plants would get rid of everything except some refuse that could be easily buried in abandoned quarries.

If the region goes ahead with the type of plant it is now having studied, landfill sites will continue to be a necessity.

Regional Councillors will be apprised of the status of current negotiations with the ministry on the agreement, the region's current position with regard to resource recovery and what Morrow calls all of the pertinent facts concerning waste management at a meeting Feb. 1.

"The Feb. 1 meeting will demonstrate an honest commitment on behalf of the region to proceed with resource recovery," Morrow said.

He indicated that some day the region would move towards a full resource recovery system but added that even that wouldn't eliminate the need for landfill.

"My understanding of the cost and reliability of systems like the Dominion Bridge plants leads me to believe it will be some time before we

approach that."

"Even the step towards a new landfill site is a step forward because of the research, engineering and berming which will give us a much cleaner site than we've ever had."

"You might indicate to some of the opponents of regional government that if it wasn't for the region, we wouldn't even be talking about resource recovery. We've come a long way and we have a long way to go."

"Any delay of the new site will perpetuate the use of the old sites which are not nearly as environmentally sound as what we'll have," he said.

Morrow said he had asked councillors to submit questions in advance of the Feb. 1 meeting. "The onus is on the council to submit questions but truthfully, the response hasn't been very good."

"I don't think anyone can fault my efforts to keep this in

the forefront. I felt that it had to be handled that way. It won't go away if you ignore it."

"There's no doubt the landfill issue has caused me more personal concern than any other issue. The emotional aspect of it has been hard to cope with."

"But there is no practical alternative that will allow us to go without landfilling. We need a new site and we need it soon."

"No matter where we go it will engender opposition. Nobody wants it near them but council has recognized the need and has proceeded on it. This has troubled me more than anything else. No one likes to make a decision that will hurt someone else."

"We've made decisions based on the best information we have. Not everyone will support you but a lot of important decisions have been made."

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