Globe's backstage 'Okies' make lots of noise

Herald Special

And "Away We Go" ~ or should one say - Child-HOMA? Did you know that originally, the musical by Richard Rodgers was first called "Green Grow the Lilacs" then changed to "Away We Go" in Boston. and on to New York with "Oklahoma". Just a little history about how it got its name.

Now let's take a walk "behind the scenes" at what makes a successful musical (apart from directors-costumes-props and people). The sets. For instance: there are two 35-foot by 12-foot back. drops. Can you imagine

painting these scenes with precision? One cannut waste 70 feet of canvas. Twelve other sets, each 12 feet high by four feet wide. will be used around the wings of the backdrops.

Backstage, there are different crews of dedicated Globe workers getting set for the Oklahoma show which opens in February. Linda Roe is the show's co-producer (Enid Williams-Nicholas is executive producer) and is specific-

ally responsible for backstage and props arrangements. She has help from Linda McConaghy.

NAIL BOYS Keith Wellstead is the props director and Jack Ferguson heads the construction crew, the hammer and nall boys moving ideas from paper into actual wooden sets.

There are a number of young apprentices backstage learning about what goes into a major musical production. They are Karen Taylor-Harrison props); Jullie Nipper working with her mother, Joan, also on props; Janice Muray (painting) and Darrel Johnson (set build-

Others heavily involved with the set are Hazel Gorin, Bob and Audrey Houston, Phyllis Mercer and Mary Anne McGregor - both newcomers to Globe sets, Gerry Andrew on construction, Harry

Haylock and Marg Swain. Because of the amount of traffic each set is expected to handle during the show's run, they have to be especially sturdy, yet

lightweight and movable. The sets, Laurie's house and the Smokehouse are constructed so that they sit on a box-like cart which moves about on special casters.

RE-USE CARTS While considerably costly to build themselves, the carts can be re-used over and over again and will become part of Globe's inventory of equipment for future productions.

Mr. Andrew is a new-

comer to Globe, having moved to Georgetown last year. But he's had extensive set-building experience with the Pickering-West Hill Musical Theatre, a group which has won several awards in the province for its amateur productions, Mr. Andrew will also appear on stage in the chorus for Oklahoma and is described by his fellow stage workers as "invaluable" to the current pro-

duction. Another construction newcomer is Mr. Haylock. He's worked with Georgetown Little Theatre for 14 years and directed GLT productions of "Barefoot in the Park" and "Brush with a Body". Construct-

son is no stranger to the stage, behind the scenes or on the proscenium itself. Last year he played the slippery gangster Moonface Martin aboard Globe's "Anything Goes".

Local residents have generously donated props for the Oklahoma production, adding authenticity. Main Street's Allison family has loaned such necessary items as a butterchurn, an oxen yoke and even a buffalo robe; Dave Shrubsole has offered to tape the production on video and is teaching one of the Oklahoma characters how to use a lariat (lasso). And Toronto's Jack Pemberton has contributed a surrey complete with fringe on top.

The audience will no doubt be awed by the panoramic backdrops which have been painted by Mrs. Roe and a small crew over the last three months. They capture the alluring, tonely expanses of Oklahoma plains and their gold and brown shades against blue skies make for a very bright

Remember to get your tickets soon. Call 877-6441 for details.



weighs 3,500 pounds and is 14 feet across. Georgetown Arteast owner weeks to assemble and finish the smiling sun which was begun in May. Eric Knoespel told The Herald this two-sided sculpture called Soistice The one-of-a-kind sculpture has a textured finish on one side and a will be hanging eight feet up in the air on the estate of an Ottawa 24-carat gold plated finish on the other, Mr. Knoespel said the sculpture, businessman and art collector. Designed by sculptor Almuth valued at over \$50,000, has a ten-year guarantee that it will withstand Luthenhaus, formerly of Oskville, the round-faced sun sculpture was the ravages of rain and snow. Shipping the unique sculpture posed a hanging with chains from the celling beams, ready for shipping. Mr. weighly problem because of its size. It was wrapped in plastic and foam Knoespel said it was the first time a bronze casting of such magnitude for the six hour trip to Ottawa yesterday (Tuesday). Putting on the had been done in Canada, and a first for his bronze casting comapany as finishing touches was Gayle Skalin while boss Knoespel gave her last well. He said the work was cast in sections. The face itself is ten pieces minute instructions.

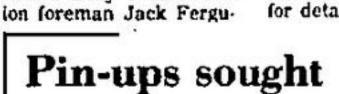
You need a pretty big backyard to hang a bronze sculpture that put together and the rays were each done separately. It took seven

3 colour groups

By REVLON

Colour Dynasty III:





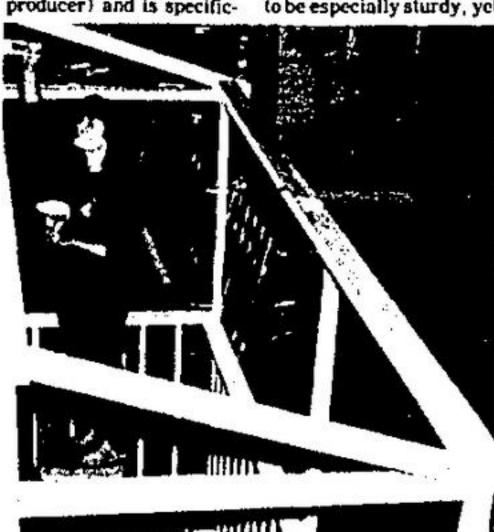
Got some old latex paint in the basement you want to get rid of? Oklahoma's production personnel can use it and just about any color will do. While you're poking around, keep in mind that one scene could use an old "girlie" calendar, circa 1900-1910. If you can contribute any of these items, call Linda Roe at 877-2824.

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CHRISTMAS

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Jean Murray and her daughter Janice (rear) were among members of Globe Productions' backstage crew taking part in a special construction bilts over the weekend. Globe is preparing its Oklahoma production for a February debut and thanks to a crew of dedicated helpers, many of whom wil be appearing onstage as well, things are coming together smoothly and on schedule.



The next person who smiles sweetly and says, "Oh I'm all finished my Christmas shopping," will receive from me a reply not at all in keeping with the theme of Peace on Earth.

Needless to say, I am not finished. It's panic time again. Every year about this time, I suddenly realize that I won't make it. Nothing is baked, no cards are sent, the few presents I've bought are all wrong. There will be no Christmas at our houe.

Guess what: there always is one and everything that has to be done somehow gets done. I expect this year will be no different.

So if you are at the point of moaning softly, "I'll

never make it," relax. You'll get everything done

and still have time to enjoy some of the special delights of the holiday season.

Among those delights is the Georgetown Little Theatre and Peel Panto Players production of "Hickory Dickory Dock", a Christmas, children's presentation. It will be presented at the John Elliott Theatre Dec. 10 to 12. Call 877-3700 for ticket information.

Another Christmas treat for the children is the Dec. 22 production of "Curious George" featuring members of the Erewhon Theatre. Tickets are \$1.50

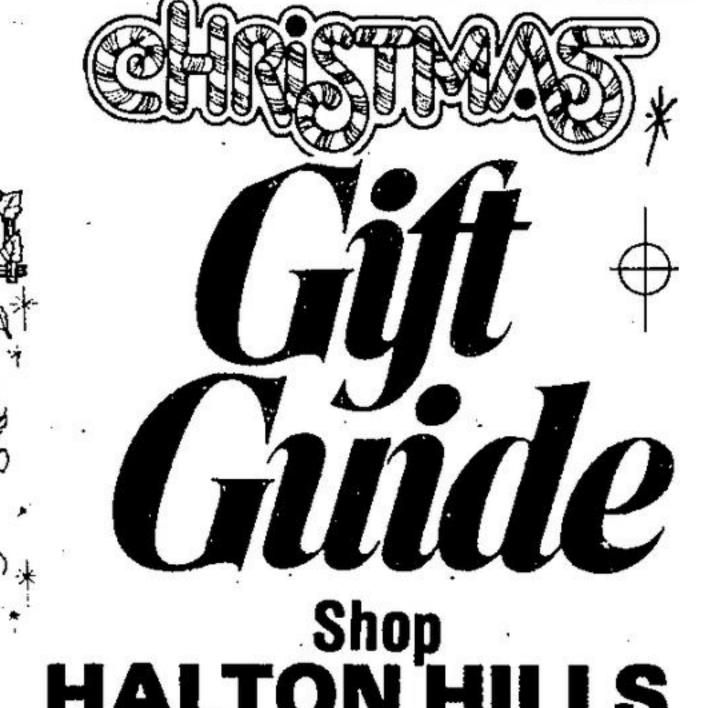
for more information call 877-2681. Something for the grown-ups, but still in the spirit of the season, is presented tonight at Oxbow Books on Main Street. Nornic Studio Productions has prepared a program of readings entitled "The Warmth of Christmas." That's tonight (Wednesday) at 7:30.

If after partaking of these holiday happenings, you still want more: Peter Pan flies again at the O'Keefe Centre, after which "The Nutcracker" makes its annual appearance. Meanwhile at the Royal Alex, Karen Kain graces the stage in

"Aladdin." Obviously there is no shortage of things to do, which tie in with the holiday season. Don't let yourself become so involved with the rush and bustle that you have no time left to enjoy.

'A Time for Joy'

It's a one-night affair. The Cantante Singers will be presenting their annual Christmas concert Dec. 17 in the John Elliott Theatre. "A Time for Joy" starts at \$ p.m. and tickets can be bought at Col-Craft or the theatre box office from 4 to 8 p.m. Tuesday to Friday. Avoid disappointment and get your tickets early.





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