

125 actors for "Old Home Week"

"C'est de la misère," That's how Jacques Desogers described the lot of an actress or actor when it comes to money. "As far as money goes, we don't have any," explained Nicole Doucet in a loose translation of Jacques' comment. Jacques Desogers and Nicole Doucet visited Penetanguishene last

Wednesday to look over sites for plays and accommodations for the estimated 125 Franco-Ontarian actors and actresses who will converge on Penetanguishene for the second annual Franco-Ontarian theatre festival during Penetanguishene's "Old Home Week" (June 28 to July 5).

Jacques and Nicole are representatives of Theatre Action, an organization set up to promote the interests of French Theatre in Ontario. In addition to examining the stages at a number of Penetanguishene's schools to see what kind of technical equipment and props can be used in the schools, Nicole and Jacques talked about the

life of Franco-Ontarian theatre performers and the purpose of their work.

Jacques did most of the talking, but because he finds trouble expressing himself in English, Nicole translated.

One thing was established. Theatre is not a money-making business in Ontario, at least French theatre isn't. Writers, actors and actresses in Franco-Ontarian theatre are in it because they enjoy theatre and it is an important cultural part of life in Ontario.

"We're more community theatre," explained Nicole Doucet, adding that it "gives people a chance to get together."

Nicole and Jacques agreed with French Centre director Rolland Desroches that French people living in Ontario live with a sense of being a minority.

The minority situation makes French theatre in Ontario different than Quebec's theatre. "We've got to work to make our language and culture survive," Desroches said. "In Quebec they don't have to fight for their language and culture. It's already there."

Among the people coming to the second annual Franco-Ontarian theatre festival this summer will be Andre Paiment, a 23-year-old from Sudbury, who Jacques Desogers considers the top French writer-producer in Ontario. "He (his plays) gives Franco-Ontarians their strongest sense of identity," translated Nicole.

Theatre Action was set up in 1972 to promote French theatre in Ontario. The organization offers drama workshops in French to cities and towns throughout Ontario.

In addition, it will supply professional assistance, for example, a producer, for local plays. The organization receives grants from the Arts Council of Ontario and the federal government.



Ballad of the Shoe

Jacques Desogers plays the romantic love song, "Ballad of the Shoe" to Nicole Doucet, in front of the Centre D'Activités Françaises. The two are representatives of Theatre Action, an organization formed to promote the interests of French Theatre in Ontario.

An estimated 125 Franco-Ontarian performers will converge on Penetanguishene during "Old Home Week" (June 28 to July 5) celebrations to hold their second annual theatre festival.

Photo by Tom Grand

Task Force

Midland council objects to report

by Sue de Stein In gentle, but highly critical terms, Midland council has voiced its objections to the second interim report of the Simcoe-Georgian Task Force in a brief to the consultants. Council's brief, compiled independently of the Tiny-Tay Peninsula Planning Board's position paper, arrives at a similar conclusion — that the Barrie/Midland option, one of three growth strategies considered but rejected by the task force, represents the best approach to area growth.

The population level of 500,000 on which the strategy is proposed, is termed "realistic" in the brief, and the goal structure outlined by the consultants is "valid." However, there was "no apparent attempt to weigh the relative priority of the individual goals", in the interim report, the brief states. And when the goals specified are evaluated in relation to each other, the brief maintains that the final conclusion should favour the Barrie/Midland approach.

The task force concedes that the loss of agricultural land would be minimized in the Barrie/Midland option. Midland council stresses in its brief that if the multi-centred approach were accepted, the loss of agricultural land would be increased beyond the level of 7,000 acres suggested in the task force report.

The task force also fails to provide an indication of a proposed method of controlling the increased pressure for rural development or how this type of development affects or relates to the other objectives of life style, commuting patterns, and servicing costs, according to the Midland brief.

In terms of environmental considerations, "it has been shown that the 'Midland' area has a high capability for development

and that with discharge to Georgian Bay, would be the least hazardous environmentally," the brief states.

Dangers to the environment exist, however, in the Orillia area, considering the delicate nature of both Lakes Simcoe and Couchiching, and in the Collingwood area with the Niagara Escarpment and associated recreational lands. Therefore council contends that the Barrie/Midland approach is the most acceptable in environmental terms.

It is council's feeling that "the advantages of the Barrie/Midland option in respect to all other goals, outweighs the potential detrimental effect to life style in the Midland area, when it is recognized that this approach increases population by only 20,000."

The brief also contends that the Barrie/Midland approach is the most acceptable in terms of commuting patterns, changes in community hierarchy and local government structures, and utility costs.

Transportation and communication systems remain a major concern for area politicians and planners. In order to encourage growth in centres other than Barrie, Midland's brief stresses that "arterial roadways will have to be projected at an early date, so that industry may be encouraged to those centres now and not when Barrie has

reached its projected growth potential."

A good arterial roadway from the projected Highway 400 to Midland is essential in order to meet the aims and objectives which were detailed in a 1970 provincial government report on the Toronto-centred Region, the brief contends. The TCR report states that "direct and improved services will be necessary to stimulate and serve the growth of populations along the (Midland-Barrie) alignment".

The 1968 MTC highway plan for Barrie and Simcoe County, used by the task force consultants, is "outdated" and should be revised, council states.

The brief will be presented to task force consultants later this month. According to Midland reeve Moreland Lynn, the task force will listen to the brief, "but we must bear in mind that other areas are saying the same thing in their briefs."

At a meeting last week, he pointed out that Orillia officials voiced similar objections to the task force report, feeling that Orillia had a larger growth potential than was indicated in the report.

"What we are (essentially) saying is that Midland be put on the same competitive basis as other centres, so we have an equally likely chance for growth," he said.

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EXPENDITURES

Business administration	\$ 8,078
Instruction	79,044
Educational services	1,223
Attendance	196
Plant operation and maintenance	13,753
Transportation	2,298
Debt charges on capital borrowing	16,540
Provision for Working funds	—
Other capital expenditure	2,200
Non-operating expenditure — municipal charge backs	46
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	\$123,378

Recoveries of Expenditure	
Other	652
NET EXPENDITURE	\$122,726

FINANCED BY:

Government of Ontario — General legislative grant	90,632
Increase (decrease) in prior years grant	(1,890)
Local taxation — 1973 over requisition	7,101
local taxation raised in 1974	28,382
	<u>35,483</u>
	<u>\$124,225</u>

NET OVER REQUISITION REQUIRED TO BE APPLIED TO 1975 TAXATION \$ 1,499

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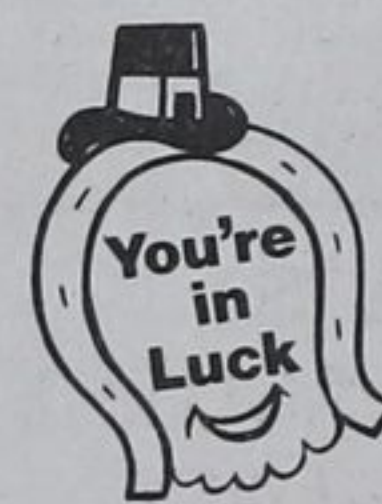
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