



(Photo by Ramon Stringer)

Did You Hear The One About The ...?

Louise Queen finds that a little wine helps to make tongues lively as these inhabitants at an inn prepare to unravel some such tales from their memories. All told, there are six such tales told and performed by these and

other travellers in the Curtain Club's current production of the early English classic, *Six Tales of Canterbury*. Others in the picture are (left to right) Dick Rayfield, Brian Stainer, Wayne Watts and Michael Howe.

Six Earthy Tales Hilariously Done

BY TOM DAVEY
Liberal's Drama Critic
 A serious student of the theatre once noted that invariably it was the ladies who laughed loudest at bawdy jokes in the theatre. The credits on the program of Richmond Hill Curtain Club's latest show might emphasize his point of view. Granted, Chaucer, the author of "Six Tales of Canterbury" was a man, but just take a look at the program line-up of this play which provides some of the earthiest dialogue ever heard outside a massage parlor.

The play is an adaptation by Donna Jean Arnold, directed by Cicely Thomson and produced by Iris Stringer and Beth Jones. All ladies you will note. What they tackled was a formidable theatrical task. Set in Medieval England, the play concerns several travellers who meet in an inn and regale themselves with tales to while away the evening.

What the director faces is not one play but six mini-plays inside an overall framework which call for considerable acting and direction skills to give credence to the plots. But succeed it does — magnificently!

There is one absolutely hilarious scene when beds, wives and daughters are swapped with gay abandon until the audience is utterly convulsed.

It's difficult to name outstanding actors in this scene when everyone is so very good, but Adrian Truss's clowning mime is particularly noteworthy. David Smith, his fellow "student" in the play, matches his mime in a scene where they both mount an imaginary horse and gallop off-stage. What so easily could have been ridiculous was carried off brilliantly — no pun intended.

Architects Could Have Designs But York Board Keeps Own

Other architects may have designs on their future buildings, but York County Board of Education will stick with its present company, a meeting of the board decided Monday night.

The board made its decision after Trustee Douglas Allen of Richmond Hill spoke against a staff recommendation calling for "D. Ross King to provide architectural services for the following building projects: Sutton Public School addition, Huron Heights Secondary School alterations, Nobleton Jr. Public School addition, and Stuart Scott Public School alterations and addition.

Mr. Allen said it would be an opportunity to give work to some other architect without entering into an agreement with Mr. King. He suggested the Sutton addition be given to the board's second choice, Bolton and Armstrong.

Trustee Trustee Doreen Quirk of Markham disagreed. She said she had taught in schools designed by King and had found them both attractive and functional.

Many architects didn't recognize the problems in building schools. "We should use his experience," she said. Trustee Robert Houghton of Richmond Hill said he would like to try other architects, but would need more to go on.

Trustee Ross Jolliffe of Vaughan said that all the firms suggested did good work, but the board had a contract with King. If it hired other firms, it would cost double because the King contract had to be honored.

Trustee Craig Cribar of Newmarket said the point was well taken. It was in contravention of board policy, however, which called for other names to be submitted. The staff recommendation was approved.

"If council passes this motion and acknowledges that this is a public street for the purpose of the bylaws, this will have to be considered by the OMB and Mr. Hill will have to show he is entitled to the consent which would authorize severance of an-

other lot," continued Mr. Fraser. "You are only expressing an opinion, the OMB will decide."

"As a council we have to decide whether we will uphold the Committee of Adjustment's decision or support Mr. Hill's appeal before the OMB by removing the third reason," stated Mayor Lazenby.

Councillor Andy Chateauvert expressed concern about council's decision on other applications on other unassumed roads in the municipality. Mr. Fraser noted that it would depend on the governing bylaw.

"All the evidence points to private use of the road allowance but the town owns the land," said Regional Councillor Lois Hancey.

TOWN OWNS LAND
 Wentworth Dowell and Mrs. John Graham, other owners of land located on the private (public?) road expressed their concern at any decision before the whole area is covered by an overall plan.

Council defeated the motion to adopt the recommendation, proposed by Works Committee Chairman Lou Wainwright.

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May Provide French Immersion Program In York County Area

The feasibility of a feasibility study will be considered by York County Board of Education.

Last week the board agreed to a recommendation by Trustee Ross Jolliffe of Markham that the staff report on an outline of the scope and cost of a feasibility study to implement a French immersion program, which could see the study of the language introduced in kindergarten.

The recommendation was presented by a lengthy report from the committee on French immersion, which was presented to the board for its perusal.

The report covered four categories: an optional French immersion program, an optional expanded French program, a country-wide French program through grades 4 to 7, and general recommendations to ensure the success of the three suggested programs.

Members of the committee were: Stephen Bacsalmasi, superintendent of planning and development; Trustees Margaret Coburn of King and Doreen Quirk of Markham; Mrs. Alma France and Mrs. Josette Neely, teachers; David Shapiro, master teacher; Norman LeMaire, teacher and chairman.

A LA FRANCAISE

In its report, the committee said the French immersion program at the elementary school level referred to a program which incorporated the Ontario elementary school curriculum taught in French only in the first years of elementary school, and in both French and English in more advanced grades. Students are encouraged to express themselves in French as soon as possible.

The committee said there was a need to establish the program in the county because of the "increasing requirement in Canadian society for people who can function successfully in both French and English."

It felt the program should be started in kindergarten, and cited such authorities as former Neuro-Surgeon Dr. Wilder Penfield of Montreal, who said that a young child learns a second language more easily than an adult.

The committee cited numerous other authorities and experiments, and said also that a visit to the Allenby School in Toronto, which is now in its third year of such a program at the kindergarten to grade 3 levels,

had impressed them with the positive results achieved.

Under the program, the board would eventually create a French school from K to 8, with attendance voluntary.

The grade 4 to 7 program would call for French instruction 20 minutes a day in grades 4, 5 and 7, and 40 minutes daily in grade 7.

Trustee Douglas Allen of Richmond Hill expressed concern over too many children wanting the French program in kindergarten, thus closing down the regular kindergarten class and sending the students to another school.

However, it was pointed out that one of the committee's recommendations called for two kindergartens to handle just such a possibility.

The report on whether a feasibility study is feasible will be presented at the December 10 meeting.

The board also received a letter from John Kean, president of the Kleinburg Home and School Association, enclosing a motion from the group, "encouraging the board to introduce teaching of French at the earliest possible levels in public schools."

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