

# Entertainment

## CALENDAR

### Comedy script

Faculty of Fine Arts, and is edited by Don Rubin of Thornhill.

The playscript of a new comedy by Vancouver's Eric Nicol, entitled *The Citizens of Calais*, will be among the features in the summer issue of *Canadian Theatre Review*, Canada's national theatre quarterly.

Now appearing in bookstores across the country, the issue is built around "A Quest for a Permanent Theatre in Toronto". Contributing articles to the latter theme are Herbert Whittaker, Toronto Globe and Mail theatre critic; Ross Stuart, associate editor of CTR, with an interview with Donald Davis, who along with his brother, operated the Toronto Crest Theatre for years.

Canadian Theatre Review is published by York University's



Tom Thomson

More than 60 works by Tom Thomson, often described as Canada's most important artist, are part of the McMichael Canadian Collection at Kleinburg. This portrait of Thomson is by Arthur Lismer, one of the famed Group of Seven, which came into being three years after Thomson's mysterious death 58 years ago this month.

Red Barn Theatre — Jackson's Point — Pool's Paradise, with Jeannie Walker, Richard Davidson, Paddy Campanero, Nancy Kerr, Tom Celli and Sam Donaldson; to August 2. With all the various lotteries about, a most timely offering. "Brings back to life all the people you love to laugh at..."

Gryphon College Theatre — Barrie — Sleuth, directed by Sean Mulcahy. Ivor Barry stars as Andrew Wyke, with John Gardiner, Seumas O'Rourke, Blair Farquhar and Whittaker Barnes; August 4 to 9; matinee 2 o'clock, August 7. A first-class thriller. Readings from Stephen Leacock — St. George's Anglican Church, Jackson's Point, every Saturday afternoon through July and August; with Tom Celli. No charge. Huron County Playhouse

Grand Bend — The Importance of Being Earnest, with Richmond Hill's Gerry Crack as the Reverend Canon Chasuble; to August 2.  
Queen's Park — Toronto — free concerts every Wednesday night during summer on the front lawn, starting at 5 o'clock.  
Stratford Theatre — Brecht's *Malice*, August 1.  
The Trumpets and Drums, July 30, August 2, 5; Measure for Measure, July 31, August 6; St. Joan, August 1, 6; Twelfth Night, August 2, 4.  
Shaw Festival — Niagara-on-the-Lake — Pygmalion, July 30, August 3, 6; Caesar and Cleopatra, July 31, August 2, 5; Leaven of Night, August 1.



(Photo by Hogg)

Thursday evenings bring summer concerts in the park at the Mill Pond, Trench and Mill Streets, to lovers of music of all kinds. Pictured above at Thursday's concert is the Richmond Hill Youth Concert Band under the direction of Robert Thiel in their second appearance. They will be back again August 7

at 7:30 pm. Tomorrow night the music will be supplied by the Paul Grosney Dixieland Band, August 14 by Pat Brady and the Playboys (country and western), and August 28 by Nicol Brown (variety). These three concerts start at 7 pm.

## Mill Pond interlude offers note of hope

By Kathy Wynne

If ours is a generation of cynicism and disillusionment it seems imperative that somewhere a note of hope or escapism, call it what you will, be injected.

The Richmond Hill Youth Concert Band would be happy to be a part of one of these necessary boosters to the flagging spirits of the '70s.

In their second summer of full time operation, supported by a federal government Opportunities for Youth grant, the band presents free concerts almost daily throughout the summer at institutions, parks and day camps in the Richmond Hill area.

On alternate Thursdays at the Mill Pond an open air concert happens for babies, ducks, old men, young women and 13-year old terrors on souped-up bicycles.

A three-ring circus could barely compete with the mayhem by the water Thursday night; still those who wished to

concentrate on the popular show tunes and golden hits seemed oblivious to the rest of the scene.

My bench partner for instance serenaded the immediate crowd with every lyric of "Give My Regards to Broadway" and an accompaniment to "Amazing Grace".

A fat Dachshund kept trundling under my legs — no harm done except I feared for the safety of the babe dozing peacefully a few yards away.

No pretense was made that everyone ought to be sitting attentively, eyes front. The band succeeded in creating an atmosphere of life for an interlude.

### High quality

The significant factors in their success, are of course, the high quality of their musicianship and the leadership of conductor Robert Thiel.

A tight core has been playing together now for three years all year round and can boast a reputation of excellence.

Because the band is not affiliated with one particular school the field is open and the members have been drawn from the whole town based simply on desire and willingness to work.

The group, then, is happy and presents itself as a vessel of good cheer for those willing to partake.

Criticism of government overspending and futile projects comes easily and may often be based on fact, but it is gratifying to see people truly taking advantage of a golden opportunity.

In the process the townspeople will profit from the experience gained by their young people and the pleasure created.

Rough spots and misplaced notes are easily overlooked while music very much our own and worthy of pride is blended with our trees and our ducks and our swing sets.

Note: Last concert of the summer to be held Thursday, August 7, at 7:00 pm at the Mill Pond.

## Stratford director has say

"A national theatre will not be created in any one location, to serve one city or one province. It will emerge from a theatre climate that engulfs the entire country..."

Those are just some of the comments on actors, acting, audiences and theatre in general made in an article in *FanFares*, the Stratford Festival's monthly publication, by artistic director Robin Phillips.

In speaking of a national theatre, he said when it emerged it would be one "enabling writers, directors and actors to make a statement truly Canadian, transcending differences of geography and economics to find the underlying pulse of the country, and give it voice."

Mr. Phillips said theatre could also be a unifying voice, providing a "common touchstone where, through the medium of language, we can take a closer look at

the values we consider important."

He said there was a legitimate challenge to theatre in Canada today, although not really a new one.

It was instead, a challenge "to act as a conscious and willing connector between past and future."

### Old and new

They must build on past experiences, "while embracing the thoughts of the young and recognizing that to embrace does not necessarily mean to surrender."

Phillips also had some very definite thoughts on the importance of physical training for actors.

Some people in various parts of the world could sing and dance for the sheer joy of it all, never once indulging in extra physical exercises.

"Would it not be enough then to trust to nature and act by instinct?" he asked.

Phillips then answered his own question by stating people's natural instincts are crippled from birth by many processes, "by the conditioning in fact of a warped society."

"So an actor needs precise exercises and clear understanding to liberate his hidden possibilities and to learn the hard task of being true to the instinct of the moment...to set the talent free"

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