

'Anne' Has Earmarks Of Miracle For Writer-Actor Donald Harron

By MARIAN BRUCE
To writer-actor Donald Harron, the "Anne of Green Gables" musical has the earmarks of a miracle.

He's amazed not only at the show's success here after being put together in just three weeks; he also considers it slightly miraculous the play even reached the stage.

Because Harron, who did the stage adaptation and song lyrics from L.M. Montgomery's novel, and Norman Campbell, who composed the music, did most of their collaboration by telephone.

"The whole thing I wanted to show — that 'Anne' is not a dated piece, but a story about a spirited, young, contemporary girl — has been realized completely," Harron said in an interview here.

He had just come from viewing the second time at Confederation Centre theatre the play which has been the object of countless superlatives of praise.

He flew in from Hollywood Friday night, and saw the show for the first time, Saturday afternoon.



DONALD HARRON

STARTED ON TV SCRIPT
The creation of present-day "Anne" goes back to 1954 when composer Norman Campbell suggested he write the script for a television show.

Harron scanned his daughter's bookshelf, picked up "Anne of Green Gables" and started leafing through it.

"I stayed up all night reading it," he says.

By morning, he was hooked on "Anne." His daughters were growing up then, and he admits he was probably oriented to what he thought they would like; besides, the script was excellent, the characters well-defined.

"It's a masterpiece of a book," Song-writing difficulties were compounded by the geographical distance between Harron and Campbell.

Harron was working in New York, and Campbell was in Toronto.

"Norman Campbell would hum a tune over the phone, and I'd try to remember it and start writing the words."

For the sake of speed, he would send the completed lyrics even CBC teletypes in the United Nations building in New York.

FAITHFUL TO ORIGINAL
Harron has done neither, because the play is almost entirely faithful to the original. He feels it's important to remain true to an author's conception, and besides, the original material was so good, "there was no need to depart from the script."

He admitted, however, that one of the most laugh-provoking lines in the musical did come from a source other than L.M. Montgomery. It's in the school-room scene, when the schoolmaster asks Moodie MacPherson why he's chewing spruce gum.

"I'm soaking a prune for recess," Moodie replies.

Harron got his inspiration for that one from one of his father's favorite expressions.

"Anne of Green Gables" is not Donald Harron's first play, although it has so far been the most successful.

The Toronto-born writer has written stage adaptations of two other books — "Broken Jug," played by the Stratford Festival Company at the Royal Alexandra in Toronto in 1958, and "Earle Birney's 'Turvey' which he adapted for Mavor Moore in 1957, when it had a six-weeks run in Toronto.

Harron will again team with Norman Campbell for a musical

adaptation of "Turvey" on which he begins work next week.

ACTOR OF NOTE
He's also going to be kept busy with the other half of his professional life: acting.

Just before he came to the Island, he was working in the television show, "The Fugitive," along with the film version of "Hawaii," in which he plays the role of a minister. He'll be going to Hawaii in September for shots on location.

Harron has lived in Los Angeles, (to where he returned by air yesterday) for the past year, and also lived there in 1953.

His immediate plans involve remaining in the States — "that's where the work is" — but he returns to Canada each year. His voice can be heard each afternoon on CBC radio's "Side By Side" with Pat Patterson, and will be doing another radio show here at Christmas.

A well-established actor, he has had leading roles in plays in London, England — ("Mary, Mary") and on Broadway, including "Paddy Chayefsky's 'Hawaii,'" directed by Tyrone Guthrie.

He's also landed some meaty television roles in such productions as "Dr. Kildare," "Mr. Novak" and "Man from U.N.C.L.E."

His first professional writing consisted of sketches for "Spring Thaw," and among early acting experiences were roles in the first Stratford, Ont., Shakespearean productions.

MAYBE BROADWAY
Harron has enjoyed the taste of success in both writing and acting fields since then.

"Anne," his first triumph, is considered by many Canada's first successful musical comedy.

Islanders who've doted on the musical, however, still have a recurring question: Will the play travel?

A resounding "Yes!" comes from at least one theatre expert from foreign soil.

Japnet Roberts of Ashley-Farnous Agency, New York, saw the play Tuesday night, and says it would, in her opinion, need only slight modification (orchestration, chorus, for example) before competing on the Broadway circuit.

She feels no basic changes would be necessary. "The show is emphatically not indigenous to Charlottetown... its sentimentality is recognizable anywhere. It comes from the best musical form."

A miracle? Maybe.

Island News Page

Western and Central Districts

The Guardian, Charlottetown, Thurs., Aug. 12, 1965 3

Sturgeon Man Fined \$100 On Impaired Driving Charge

GEORGETOWN — David Wallace Jenkins of Sturgeon pleaded guilty to impaired driving and was fined \$100 and costs when he appeared here Wednesday before Kings County Stipendiary Magistrate James B. Johnston, QC.

Deputy Attorney-General J. Arthur McGuigan, QC, represented the crown in all cases.

Gerald Clive MacIntyre of Victoria Cross pleaded not guilty to a charge of having care and control of a motor vehicle while impaired. He was represented by J.P. Nicholson. The case was adjourned for trial on Sept. 22 at 1 p.m.

Ernest Owen Roache of Georgetown changed an earlier not guilty plea to one of guilty on a charge of fishing lobsters without a license under the lobster fisheries regulations. He was fined \$25 and costs.

A Melville resident was fined \$25 and costs for being in possession of liquor not purchased from a vendor.

Alonso John Acorn of Peters Road pleaded not guilty to a charge of using marked gasoline and his case was adjourned to Aug. 18 to fix a date for trial.

Vincent Daley of St. Mary's Road, charged with causing a disturbance by fighting, had the charge against him withdrawn by the crown.

Two persons were each fined \$20 and costs for being intoxicated in a public place and five persons were each fined \$20 and costs for illegal possession of liquor.

Blast Shorts Power Line

Many places on the Island were without power late yesterday morning and part of the afternoon when an explosion caused a short circuit on one of the Maritime Electric Company's main transmission lines.

A construction crew was blasting a hole to a water line near the Mt. Edward Road in Parkdale and a rope mat used to cover the blast area was blown into the air and landed on three 66,000 volt transmission lines.

The power failure occurred at 10:30 yesterday morning.

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2,200 ATTEND

(Continued from page 1)

prizes for Plymouth Rocks were carried off by Royden and Ewen Steison. Roger and Paula Dunn and Mrs. Waldron Barbour were winners in the Leghorn classes;

Royden Steison and Ronnie Rennie in the New Hampshire class; Mrs. Lloyd Barwise, Donna and David Clark in the cross breeds. Colbourne Clow and Linda J. Sharpe were first prize winners in the Bantam class. Claire Dunbar was first prize winner for best pair of geese and best pair of ducks, both over one year old. The best pair of geese under one year was shown by Roy Dunn.

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POTATO CHAMPIONSHIP

Arthur Cornish of Woodstock won the potato championship with an entry of Kennebecs. This is the first time Mr. Cornish has won this honor. The reserve championship went to Mrs. Beecher Smallman of O'Leary.

In the class for grains Mrs. Glorice Cormier won first for spring wheat, barley and timothy seed.

Mrs. Keir Ramsay had firsts for seed oats, best sheaf of oats and best sheaf of barley.

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GARDEN VEGETABLES

Garden vegetables were surprisingly good for a growing season that has been unusually dry.

The best collection, which includes some 40 articles, was shown by Mrs. Robert Oulton. Other exhibitors in this section were Mrs. John Barbour, Earle Jelley, Mrs. Erison MacLeod, Mrs. Beecher Smallman, Mrs. Ralph McLellan, Myrtle Carruthers and Mrs. Robert Woodside.

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WESTERN BRIEFS

IN HALIFAX HOSP.
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IN P.E.I. HOSPITAL
Mrs. Herbert Matthews, Alberton, is a patient in the Prince Edward Island Hospital.

UNDER TREATMENT
Vernon England, Alberton, is receiving medical treatment in Charlottetown.

DAUGHTER IN HOSP.
Penny MacLeod, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Roy MacLeod, Tignish, is a patient at Prince County Hospital, Summerside, where she underwent a tonsillectomy Tuesday.

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CITY AREA FUNERALS

DOYLE FUNERAL — The funeral for Mrs. Philip J. Doyle took place Wednesday morning from the Hennessey Funeral Home to St. Dunstan's Basilica where Requiem High Mass was celebrated by R. Rev. William Simpson. Representatives of the department of fisheries and Michael Bros. attended the funeral. The pall bearers were Grandsons, Kelvin Fraser, John McLaine, Donald McLaine, Barry Doyle, Douglas Doyle and son-in-law Dalton Kiea. Interment took place in the Catholic cemetery, service being conducted by Rev. Gerald Tingley.

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REGISTRATION

Alberton Regional High School

All grades including commercial

TUESDAY, AUGUST 17

9:30 - 11:30 a.m. — 1:30 to 4:30 p.m.

and first in oils to Pamela J. Easter.

Heber Profitit was awarded first in lathe work for a pair of small stands.

Short courses in various handicrafts have resulted in a wider variety of articles in this class. Prizes were awarded to Mrs. Blair Barbour for copper tooling; to Mrs. Jean Wilkie for copper enamelling; to Mrs. Ernest Tounsend for pottery; and to Mrs. Alvin Webb for weaving.

Mrs. Leonard Barnett received first prize for a novelty which was a table centre of artificial flowers and a tall white taper.

In the section for novelties by a school girl, the first place was won by Marilyn Culbert with a display of soap sachets.

Of special interest is the work of Desmond Chobosy who is a student at the school for the deaf. He received first prize for a beautifully made lamp with wooden base. On display was a pencil drawing of a moving train which he had done from memory.

Encouragement of entries by senior ladies has been a feature of the exhibition for several years. Mrs. Lucy Bulger received an award for a crocheted centerpiece entered in the section for any article made by a person over 75 years of age.

In the section for work by ladies over 70 years, Mrs. Frank Fraser received first for an afghan and Mrs. Oliver Gorrell received first for her quilt.

Two special prizes donated by Hastings Beauty Salon were won by Mrs. Joan P. Arsenault for a child's knitted dress and the other for a set of knitted baby's bonnet, booties and sweater.

During the day the rides in Holmes Midway were a popular attraction for the younger folk.

The more mature enjoyed viewing the exhibits, the displays of paintings by Mrs. Helen Smithman, of jewellery from the handcraft studio, and of farm machinery.

Excellent food was available in the dining hall and booths and all were well patronized.

O'Leary Boy Scouts were in charge of parking. The day concluded with a program presented in the Jacques Cartier Arena by local talent.

Today judging of livestock will continue and in the evening there will be the traditional exhibition dances.

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7.50/14 (7.75/14)	31.90	35.05
8.00/14 (8.25/14)	35.75	39.35
8.50/14 (8.55/14)	38.90	42.80
9.00/14 (8.85/14)	47.60	47.60
5.60/15	27.90	30.70
6.40-6.50/15	29.60	32.60
6.70/15 (7.75/15)	31.90	35.05
7.10/15 (8.15/15)	35.75	39.35
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520-550/12	37.95	36.45
500-520/13	34.20	32.70
560-590-600/13	25.80	13.67	38.35	15.06
640-650/13	27.45	14.70	39.25	16.32
700/13	.....	.....	36.35	34.85
500-520/14	.....	.....	32.45	31.95
560-590-650/14-695/14	39.80	15.74	38.90	17.01
700/14 (7.35/14)	.....	.....	31.90	16.91
750-14 (7.75/14)	.....	.....	35.75	18.57
800/14 (8.25/14)	.....	.....	39.90	20.06
850/14 (8.55/14)	.....	.....	47.60	22.39
900/14 (8.85/14)	.....	.....	.....	.....
5.0-5.5/15 (Tube Type)	.....	.....	19.90	10.16
560/15	37.90	14.21	38.70	15.83
590-600/15 (6.85/15)	.....	.....	46.95	13.35
640-650/15 (7.35/15)	39.80	15.74	32.60	17.09
670/15 (7.75/15)	31.90	16.91
710/15 (8.15/15)	35.75	18.57
760/15 (8.45/15)	47.60	22.94
800-820/15 (8.85/15)	47.60	22.94

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EASY TERMS

CANADIAN TIRE CORP.

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Blood Response Exceeds Quota

Yesterday's Red Cross blood donor clinics exceeded the day's objective for the first time this week when the Souris attendance reached 191 on its objective of 150, and Morell had 82 registered at the afternoon clinic.

James Blandford again headed the committee for the Legion sponsored clinic held at the Morell Legion home, while members of the Legion ladies' auxiliary and the local Women's Institute assisted the mobile Red Cross team and provided refreshments for the donors.

Man Appears On 2nd Offense

ALBERTON — For a second offense of driving without a license Clifford Joseph Perry, Tignish Run, was fined \$25 and costs by Magistrate W. Chester S. MacDonald at Alberton yesterday afternoon.

Francis Remy Maillet, Tignish, was fined \$75 and costs for having care and control of a motor vehicle while impaired.

Choir Francis Bryan, Casampec, was fined \$20 and costs for speeding and Clair Alvin MacDougall, O'Leary, was fined \$10 and costs for driving without a license.

Stephen Joseph Gallant-Ebbel, and Joseph Peter McCarthy, Campbellton, were each fined \$10 and costs for operating insufficiently equipped vehicles.

Residents of Alberton, St. Louis, Toronto, Weston, Ont., and Alberton South received fines of \$20 and costs for illegal possession of liquor.

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Members of the Legion ladies' auxiliary, nurses from the hospital, and representatives of the Souris high school Red Cross were the voluntary assistants at the clinic. Refreshments for the donors were solicited by the Legion ladies' auxiliary who met with a generous response from members of various women's organizations in the town.

At least 270 donors are urgently required at today's concluding clinics for the week to be held at Cardigan Legion home this afternoon between 2 and 4, and at Montague Legion tonight between 8 and 10.

CNR Ferries Set All-Time Record Total

Canadian National carried 163,499 people to and from Prince Edward Island during July on its Northumberland Strait ferry service — 50 per cent more than the province's population and the highest monthly total ever. July's total was even greater than for August, 1964, when previous record monthly figures were set.

The increased traffic was announced by J.G. Davis, CN's Maritime area manager. Increases of 22,198 passengers and 8,722 vehicles were handled as compared to July 1964.

Rail passenger handlings, including those carried on CN's charter bus service, increased 1,751. The ferries, operating between Cape Tormentine, N.B., and Borden, P.E.I., carried 163,499 passengers and a total of 57,402 vehicles during July 1965.

CN's charter bus service handled 4,019 passengers. The MV Abegweit made a total of 305 crossings during the month, the SS Prince Edward Island, 413 and the MV Confederation, 448 crossings.

Together, in addition to the cars and passengers, they carried 2,756 trucks, 1,092 tractor trailers, 382 buses, 44 motorcycles and 3,686 car trailers.

Figures for the first six months of 1965 show increases of 25-434 passengers and 8,274 vehicles over the same period last year.

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DEATH NOTICES

BERNARD — At the Princess Margaret Hospital, Toronto, Aug. 10, 1965, Margaret Coughlin, beloved wife of the late David Bernard, formerly of North Granville, aged 72 years. Remains resting at the Davison Funeral Home until Friday noon, then to North Granville United Church where funeral service will be held at 2 p.m. Interment in the church cemetery.

TOWNSEND — At Hadfield, New Jersey, U.S.A., Saturday, Aug. 7, 1965, James L. Townsend, aged 30 years son of Mrs. and the late James C. Townsend.

SCHURMAN — At her home, 130 Spring Street, Summerside, P.E.I., Aug. 11, 1965, Mrs. Yvonne E. Schurman, wife of William Schurman, in her 82nd year. Resting at the Compton Funeral Home until noon Saturday, Aug. 14, then to Trinity United Church for service at 2:30 p.m. Interment in People's cemetery.

WESTERN FUNERALS

HARRISON FUNERAL — The funeral for Mrs. G.R. Harrison was held from St. Mary's Church, Summerside, Wednesday morning with Rev. Robert Tuck officiating. Organist was Everett Penwarden. Pallbearers were George T. Clarke, Ross MacKenzie, Richard Hawthorne, James MacLean, Ralph Owsen and James Connell. Interment was in St. John's Church cemetery, St. Eleanor's.

CLOUGH FUNERAL — The funeral of Mrs. Angelina (Lena) Clough, wife of Joseph Clough, Summerside, was held Tuesday morning from the Bonness Funeral Home to St. Paul's Church for Requiem High Mass at 9 a.m. celebrated by her nephew, Rev. Frank Cameron. Seated in the sanctuary were Mrs. J.P.E. O'Hanley and Rev. Austin Bradley. Interment took place in the church cemetery with Father Cameron officiating. Pallbearers were four grandsons, Elmer and Denis Clough, Reed and Gary Cudmore and two nephews, Alan and Urban Cameron.

Amateur Night Tonight 9:30 p.m. Commodore Room

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