



With the Shakespearean Festival at Stratford, several professional drama groups, and enthusiastic amateur organizations in all provinces, Canadians have many opportunities to enjoy good theatre

Monde, was the first Canadian group invited to participate in the Paris Drama Festival.

These enterprises have been fed by a large number of amateur groups, which compete annually at the Dominion Drama Festival, and a host of semi-professional theatres, such as Vancouver's Theatre Under the Stars and the Montreal Repertory Theatre.

But the most venturesome theatrical development has been the Shakespearean Festival at Stratford, Ontario. The Festival began in 1953 and in a single summer season established itself and won an enviable international reputation. Under the direction first of Tyrone Guthrie, of London's Old Vic Theatre, and later of Michael Langham, the Stratford



company is now considered one of the best classical companies in the English-speaking world. Its production of *Henry V*, which combined the talents of French and English-



speaking actors, gained plaudits at the Edinburgh festival in 1956 as did its stylized version of *Oedipus Rex*, later filmed and shown at the Cannes Festival.



Tom Patterson, left, founder of the Stratford Festival, chats with Gratien Gelinas, prominent Montreal actor and producer