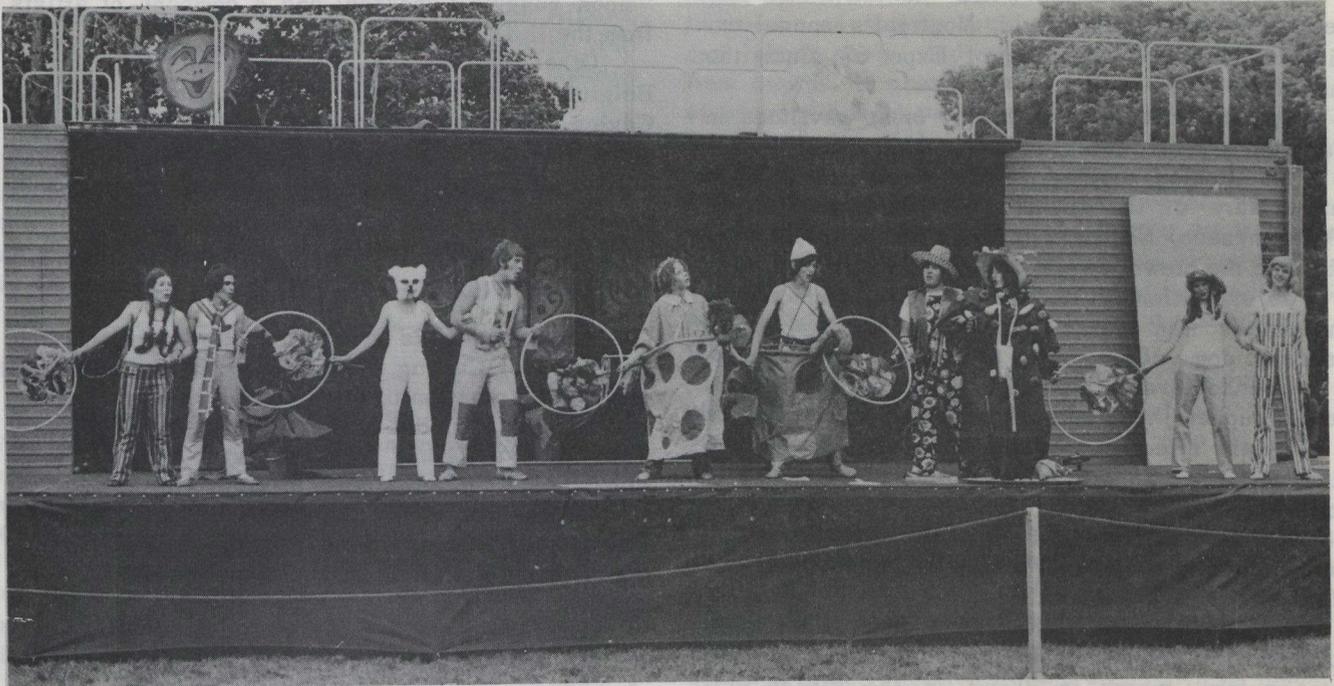


THEATRE ON WHEELS



Les Jeunes Théâtres perform la Sabotière on the stage of Portage, the National Arts Centre's mobile theatre.

"Portage", the National Arts Centre's theatre-on-wheels, has been on the parks circuit for the month of July with a program of performances for children. The 20-ton purple Portage van unfolds into a complete theatre with a stage area 24 feet by 58 feet, dressing room, technical booth, balcony, and bright red curtain. All it needs is a field, and an audience.

Two companies of students used Portage this summer: the English-language troupe, The Student Young Company, presented *Story Theatre*, a *pot-pourri* of children's stories (*Billy Goats Gruff*, *Three Pigs*, *Bremontown Musicians*) under the direction of Ron Singer; and Les Jeunes Théâtres, directed by Gilles Provost, played, for French-speaking children, a

colourful fairy tale, *la Sabotière*, by Gaby Déziel-Hupé.

Each company was made up of 20 students from local high schools who performed the acting, musical and technical duties. The troupes are an extension of the winter project of student theatre companies initiated during the past season by the Youth Division of the National Arts Centre and area school boards to complement school theatre courses.

Performances by the Portage companies were booked through the Youth Division by parks commissions, recreation associations and camps. They took place at various locations in the Ottawa area, and in communities within a 100-mile radius of the city.

PREPARATIONS FOR TEACHING ABROAD

Some 70 English-speaking secondary post-secondary trade and vocational teachers, accompanied by their wives, gathered at Carleton University in Ottawa from July 12 to 21 to prepare for assignments in developing countries.

The educators, who will work to strengthen school systems in the Caribbean, Asia and Africa, came from communities across Canada and were chosen on the basis of competence and experience by the Canadian International Development Agency, with the co-operation of provincial departments of education. Courses given during the briefing sessions were designed to help them clarify specific goals

they will pursue during their assignments and to give them background information on the objectives of CIDA programs.

The volunteers and members of their families also learned about the special problems faced by people moving to countries with different social patterns, climates and living conditions. In addition to staff members of CIDA, representatives of various developing countries and Canadians who have returned recently from CIDA assignments were present to impart first-hand knowledge. Briefings included such specialized subjects as preventive tropical hygiene and medicine, living conditions and care of children.

A similar conference for French-speaking educators met late in June at Cap Rouge, Quebec.