

three opening nights only. Thereafter the evening performances will begin at 8:30 p.m., as in other years.

GUTHRIE AWARD PERFORMANCE

The annual Tyrone Guthrie Award Performance will be a matinee presentation of "Romeo and Juliet" on Friday, July 29. Following the policy of the original Festival Company, the actors will volunteer their services for the performance and the proceeds will be awarded, in varying amounts, to theatrically-talented young Canadians. Seventeen people have to date received grants for further study, and, of that number, eight at least will return to Stratford for the summer to fill positions ranging from wig-making to theatrical photography.

A special matinee performance of "A Midsummer Night's Dream" on Friday, August 19, will be the fourth annual benefit presentation for the Actors' Fund of Canada. This fund was instituted to take care of the aged, sick and needy members of the theatrical profession.

A new departure this year will be a special performance in which the understudies will replace the regular leading actors in the Labor Day evening, September 5, presentation of "A Midsummer Night's Dream". Artistic Director Michael Langham feels that these young actors should be given an opportunity to play before an audience, the roles they rehearse daily during the season.

SCHOOL MATINEES

As in the past, the annual student performances will run for the last week of the season. Because of the great response (over 15,000 Secondary School students attended last year), the number has been increased to eight. "Romeo and Juliet" will be presented each afternoon from Monday through Saturday at 2:00 p.m. In addition there will be student performances at 7:30 p.m. on Monday and Thursday, September 12 and 15

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CINEMAS IN 1958

Expenditures on motion-picture theatre entertainment continued to drop in 1958, the year's total (including taxes) falling 2 per cent to \$88,848,000 from \$90,547,000 in the preceding year and more than one-quarter from the 1953 all-time peak of \$120,198,000. The *per capita* figure dropped to \$5.21 from \$5.48 in 1957 and the record \$8.30 in 1953.

The drop in expenditures was accompanied by an even larger fall in the number of paid admissions, which at 146,484,000 reached the lowest level since the 1930's. Admissions were down 6.5 per cent from 156,701,000 in 1957 and more than two-fifths below the 1952 record of 256,112,000. The next lowest attendance, which included patrons of community enterprises, not

covered since 1956, was 137,899,000 in 1939.

The number of regular cinema theatres declined in 1958 to 1,622 from 1,716 in the preceding year, receipts from admissions to \$75,139,000 from \$76,486,000, amusement taxes to \$6,951,000 from \$7,815,000, and the number of paid admissions to 136,335,000 from 146,756,000. The highest recorded total for admissions was 247,733,000 in 1952.

Except for 1954, when a peak of \$6,317,000 was reached, receipts of drive-in theatres at \$6,254,000 in 1958 were the highest on record. In 1957 the total was \$5,725,000. Amusement taxes were \$504,000 in 1958, \$520,000 in 1957 and \$722,000 in 1954. The number of paid admissions increased to 10,149,000 in 1958 from 9,946,000 in 1957 and compared with a peak total of 12,380,000 in 1954. Number of drive-in theatres in 1958 was 232, against 299 in 1957.

Revenue from sources other than sales of admission tickets to regular motion picture theatres in 1958 amounted to \$11,954,000 (\$12,097,000 in 1957), and included \$11,121,000 from sales of candy, drinks, cigarettes, etc. (\$11,315,000), \$377,000 from the rental of concessions and vending machines (\$367,000), \$76,600 from exhibiting commercial films (\$73,600), and \$380,000 from other sources (\$342,000). Similar receipts for drive-in theatres in 1958 totalled \$2,784,000 (\$2,496,000 in 1957), of which \$2,640,000 was derived from sales of candy, drinks, cigarettes, etc. (\$2,496,000 in 1957).

Total receipts of film exchanges from film rentals in 1958 fell to \$33,747,000 from \$34,154,000 the preceding year. New film releases for theatrical booking covered 1,432 titles, of which 831 were features, 149 cartoons, 246 newsreels, and 206 other short subjects. Of the feature films, 436 originated in the United States, 100 in France, 123 in the United Kingdom, 102 in Italy, and 70 in other countries.

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HOSPITALS IN CANADA

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics has released the 1959 edition of the report "List of Hospitals", which shows that only six of Canada's public general hospitals have more than 1,000 beds, including bassinets, and that none has more than 1,911. On the other hand, 24 of the 74 public mental hospitals have more than 1,000 beds -- the largest, in Camelin, Quebec, having 5,500.

Up-to-date as at January 1, 1959, the list contains information on every individual hospital in the country -- over 1,400 institutions. The name and location is shown for each hospital, with information on type of service, ownership, number of beds and number of bassinets, together with data on certain special facilities.