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NAKED CAME POLONSKY: *Wine in pills*

How do intellectuals relax? How is a man who spends his days in dutiful contemplation on the nature of man, and a man who panics over Metaphysical-Epistemological dichotomies he can not find, going to pass away those soft Saturday evenings devoted to relaxation from his daily cerebral routine? Surely, for purpose of sanity, we do not expect such a man to make the leap from Hobbes to hockey in a single bound. So the great dilemma for the Twentieth Century thinker became "What shall we do tonight, dear?"

Well, I am the bearer of good tidings, not terribly profound tidings, yet very pleasant ones. Intellectuals, next Saturday night, hit some of Toronto's underground theatres. At prices cheaper than your local neighbourhood movie house, and without the extra inconvenience of a half hour wait in a 20 m.p.h. line-up, you may be surprised to find some great theatre out there in the once Anglo-Saxon wasteland of Hogtown. And theatre is a terribly pleasant, candy coated way of swallowing up a bit of philosophy. As the old joke goes "Hey man, you want some grapes?" "No thanks, I don't like my wine in pills." One might consider theatre just the inverse of that classic.

Scattered throughout our metropolis are several small, intimate theatres which often come up with the most original, and exciting theatre in town. You can usually tell these places by their singular lack of chandeliers in the lobbies. Some of the more active of these homes for avant garde dramatic delights are: Theatre Passe Muraille around Yonge and Dundas, the Factory Lab Theatre which is in the back of an old garage at Dupont and Brunswick, The Global Village just off Yonge and Wellesley, Studio Lab near Yonge and Queen (although I believe the company is going to have to find a new home), and the Poor Alex, between Spadina and Bathurst. And these, offered along with the more standard productions at O'Keefe (\$2 student tickets), the Royal Alex, the St. Lawrence Centre (\$1.50), and the Playhouse (\$3) provide enough theatre to keep one active for at least a few rainy nights.

I think that of all the arts, theatre perhaps succeeds best in being fun to attend. And it

often gives someone something to think about to boot. Two such productions are those now playing at Theatre Passe Muraille and the Factory Lab.

Through the courtesy of the York Theatre Department and a healthy contribution from one's own pocket, 50 eager theatre goers last Saturday were bused to see Vampyr at Passe Muraille and Creeps and Snails at Factory Lab. An extra bonus was thrown in, The Heart's A Wonder at The Playhouse which is one of the best musical productions I have ever seen performed in Toronto and which had the added attraction of starring Michael Burgess, an ex-theatre student at York.

Vampyr is a gentle little diddy which portrays the fight between good and evil, religious spirituality versus the "Devil made me do it". Contrary to public opinion the play is not really a reenactment of Frankenstein Eats the Son of Tarzan, yet the production does indeed have its tense moments, and is not the kind of thing to which you would take your grandmother with the weak heart and bad kidney condition.

The Vampyr production on the whole was extremely well done, especially when one compares it with some of the efforts being strung out at the St. Lawrence Centre, on a much healthier budget. And for the really strong at heart and weak on soul, there is a special midnight performance Saturdays.

Creeps, at Factory Lab is about spasms in a men's room. And you will see no better acting anywhere in the city. The production has some great moments in it, and includes some beautifully insulting barbs against those altruist service groups such as the Kiwanis. One would probably think that a play about victims of cerebral palsy would not possess great opportunities for entertainment purposes, but Creeps is a terribly fun play, and an incredible eyeopener into the world of the real freaks.

The Off-Broadway type theatre in Toronto is obviously in a boom period. Do take part in the boom.

"Excuse me buddy, but do you think you could spare a grape."

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Picabia and Dada in Paris
a lecture by William Camfield, Associate Professor of Art History, Rice University, Houston and organizer of the Francis Picabia exhibition currently on view.
The lecture will be held at the Ontario College of Art,
100 McCaul Street.
Admission: Students \$1.25

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The Toronto Men's and Women's Branches extend an invitation
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**SUBJECT: THE COMMONWEALTH AND
AFRICA - TODAY AND TOMORROW**

PANEL: Chairman: Douglas Tyndall WRIGHT, Chairman, Committee on University Affairs, Province of Ontario; and Chairman, Commission on Post-Secondary Education in Ontario.

Panelists: George Victor DOXEY, Professor of Economics, York University. Gerald K. HELLEINER, Associate Professor, Department of Political Economy, University of Toronto. Robert O. MATTHEWS, Assistant Professor, Department of Political Economy, University of Toronto.

All the panelists have had considerable personal experience in various countries of Africa and continue to take an active interest in developments in African states and their relations collectively and individually with the Commonwealth and the world.

TIME: TUESDAY, March 16, 1971 at 8:15 p.m.

PLACE: The Ontario Institute for Studies in Education,
252 Bloor Street West (West entrance) —
ROOM 201

TONIGHT IN PERSON

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