

'A PLACE TO STAND'

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Oscar Winner Produced By Lorne Park Man

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LORNE PARK — One Lorne Park resident has been receiving "no end of congratulations" since Academy Awards night last week — but as executive producer of the best short subject, he did not receive an Oscar.

David Mackay explained that he was officially the executive producer of the film "A Place To Stand" which was shown to millions at Expo's Ontario Pavilion. But Chris Chapman who did about half of the actual filming, received the gold statue.

Originally commissioned by the Ontario Government to make the film, Mackay and the staff he hired, spent almost a full year making the visual-audio mosaic which has been acclaimed as the

decade's most spectacular advance in graphic communications techniques.

18-MINUTE SHOWING

In the short space of 18 months, the multi-imaged film succeeded in leaving the watcher with a total environmental picture of the province of Ontario.

"The concept seems complicated," said Mackay, "but it's really nothing more than a picture story that a magazine or newspaper would do.

"What we have done is shoot the pictures, crop them, and lay them out on the page. The only difference is that the layout is constantly moving and changing."

SOUND TRACK BATTLE

But the film would not have been able to stand on its own without the sound track, said Mackay.

"The music, composed by Dolores Claman, lifted the whole film up," he said. "But we had a fair battle getting the sound track through.

"Ontario didn't like the sound of Ontari-ari-ario in the lyrics so I had to push it through."

"Pushing it through" meant making a \$4,000 recording of the music to show the provincial officials what it sounded like.

"I think the sound track took the sting of pomposity out of the film," said Mackay.

Mackay is quick to point out that the individual techniques — a combination of the animation and optical techniques of the television commercial and the cinematography of the documentary — are not new.

"It is really the creation of something new out of a collection of things old."

PSYCHEDELIC EFFECT

One might use the wide angle lens for use in the cramped quarters of a car, he explained. But when it is used in wide open spaces, the effect takes on a weird, almost psychedelic, nature.

Mackay is currently working on a film for the government of British Columbia to be shown at the 1970 world fair in Japan. To be used at the B.C. Pavilion, the film will be "a whole new thing."

"Right now I'm devising a new technique that will make the multi-imaged technique out of date by 1970," he said.

The B.C. film will deal with the people and places of the mountainous western province.