

## Two blues nights at SUB



Sonny Terry (right) and Brownie McGhee.

Next week will be a big week for the blues, as the Edmonton Jazz Society presents two nights of the blues at SUB theatre. Roosevelt Sykes and Johnny Shines play Monday.

while Sonny Terry and Brownie McGhee perform Tuesday. There will be two shows each night. Tickets can be found at Mike's and at the HUB Box Office.

## Tube talk today

by Eddie R. (razor) Sharp

Those old summer re-runs that we've been experiencing on WONDERFUL Alberta summer television, are gradually coming to an end! I'm sure those visual pains and mild coronaries that TV viewers have encountered will sadly be missed by all, but the circumstances surrounding our television situation in Alberta will without question make the 'Rare Disease' file on the Marcus Welby series. Chances are that a native Edmontonian suffer from 'Re-Runitis' and compounded by Telephobeum will be a feature episode ... so be watching.

Still with Edmonton TV stations, the boys have suggested that their Fall Programming will without a doubt be the best yet. Take a long and deep breath! Seems that the top-rated show is ... none other than *Kojak*. The high-flying Bald Eagle of the film industry is back again this season, only this time with a bigger lollipop and contract to boot ... If that isn't enough, CHED is spinning the feathers off the new *Kojak* single. Action of this type can only suggest that if the *Kojak* Kick keeps up ... male mops will flop, while shiny heads will bob.

Still with records ... on my recent trek to the west coast "Mecca" of Vancouver a few weeks ago, CFUN was swamped with requests for a hit single entitled - can you believe it! - *Muhammad Ali* by Johnny Wakeland. If that wasn't enough, the Cow Town south of us was also spinning the Shuffle Kings' history. Meanwhile, Edmonton radio stations have not played the Ali effort ... the reason for this (rumor has it) is that Big "E" is waiting for Ali to complete his next task of knocking off another bum ... on the

Million Dollar A Month Campaign.

SCOOP! Calgary promoters are looking at the possibility of staging a prize fight in that city with the Rope-A-Dope King. Who knows, maybe Calgary Mayor Rod the Rifle Sykes may make his debut in the ring ... can't dance, but without a doubt he will confuse the champ ... It's been that way in the city to the south for years ...

Latest news out of Edmonton Newsrooms is! ... that everyone is waiting to see what happens with CITV and their hopeful News package. It was to blossom last year, instead it went over like a lead balloon. To remedy the problem, the CITV administrative branch canned most of the news staff, and former CHQT News Director Peter Tadman is now at the helm. We will all wait ...

If you haven't heard, CHED morning man Wes Montgomery was named CITV's Sports Director ... just don't know how CJCA's Bryan Hall took the blow ... but it's understandable - for years Wes has been the Eskimos announcer at Clarke Stadium, and on those suspense-filled third and short yardage situations - Hall has called them by the inches while Montgomery has called them by the ounce.

Still with Montgomery, I'm sure Food Prices Review Board Chairman Beryl Plumtre is filled with Envy, Spite, Jealousy, etc. for his line on a new food treat. Seems that the morning man found the Food Treat Of The Week. It's called Famine Delight. It's a five-gallon bucket, at five dollars and fifty cents, with a picture of nine pieces of chicken ... nothing new for U of A students but ... this does confirm Beryl's statements that prices are going up!

## Theatre past on computer

An interest in the staging of Shakespeare's works in early Canada took a University of Alberta English professor into the labyrinth of Canadian theatre three years ago.

He has now emerged with strained eyesight, a wealth of anecdotes and a strong desire to factually record that history on computer.

During a sabbatical leave in 1972-73 in Montreal, Professor Gerald McCaughey assiduously studied stacks of withered newspapers, theatre playbills, letters to the editor and assorted documents to construct the foundation of post-Quebec conquest theatre in Canada. His diligence in confronting the small, yellow print weakened his eyes but strengthened his enthusiasm for determining exactly what took place more than two centuries ago.

Timing and flexibility are the reasons the electronic medium was chosen over the print medium. "The computer provides fast, concise information and it's easy to adapt any subsequent findings. It scans and it doesn't make mistakes," he said emphatically. "Also, a book becomes fixed in time and amendments become meaningless."

The project was transferred to the University of Alberta last fall and is now involved in storing the accumulated knowledge in a computer bank, the first undertaking of its kind in Canada.

"We're led to all sorts of speculation. What, for example, was the average cost of a theatre ticket in, say 1786 (the year of the first recorded play in Canada)? What about price trends? Were plays performed regularly on Sundays?"

The computer can answer questions in detail in a matter of seconds. It is also capable of yielding such arcane tidbits as the fact that there were no performances of King Lear in Fredericton during the first 100 years of the study and the fact that there were only two performances of Hamlet during this period.

The history focuses on Eastern Canada because theatre in the West didn't really begin to assert itself until early in the 20th century. Professor McCaughey did some research on theatre in Winnipeg and Edmonton a few years ago and would like to incorporate his findings into the main body of work.

"Our history," Professor

McCaughey stressed, "has been thoroughly underplayed. People now want to know the truth, not some Pollyanna version of what happened. Our goal is to make a portion of the past available to them."

The newspapers of the day, The Gazette and The Herald,

published interesting, well-written criticism and indulged in some stone-throwing at each other in the process. The reviews were, by and large, on a higher level than those of today, according to Professor McCaughey.

## ... HOT FLASHES ...

### MUSIC

"Bee Gees" in concert, Thurs. Sept. 11, Jubilee Auditorium.

"The Dillards" at the Hovel Thurs. Sept. 11. This is the top bluegrass group in the US.

"Rooster Flatfoot" at the Hovel Sept. 12, 13, and 14. Great western Canadian folk group. A flavor of the country and a bit of traditional music.

"Tijuana Brass", Fri. Sept. 12, Jubilee Auditorium.

"The Jazz Concert of the Year", Sat. Sept. 13, featuring The Bill Evans Trio and The Jack DeJohnette Quartet. Jubilee Auditorium.

"Roosevelt Sykes and Johnny Shines" blues music at SUB Theatre. Mon. Sept. 15. Tickets at HUB Box Office.

"Sonny Terry and Brownie McGhee" masters of the blues. SUB Theatre. Tues. Sept. 16th.

"Johnny Mathis," Tues. Sept. 16 at the Jubilee Auditorium.

### THEATRE

*Cecile*, held over until Sept 19. This is Northern Light Theatres' last show of the summer season. Northern Light new performs at the Edmonton Art Gallery.

*Sherlock Holmes*, Sept. 13 - Oct. 18, Citadel Theatre.

### CINEMA

*Of Human Bondage*, an adaptation of the Somerset Maugham novel, Thurs. Sept. 11. At the Edmonton Art Gallery Theatre.

"Jimi Hendrix at Berkeley", also at the Gallery Theatre. Sun. Sept. 14. Also playing: "Reefer Madness".

Students' Union Theatre: *Chinatown* - Sept. 12, 13, and 14.

## Murray McLauchlan

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