

Dickens centenary dinner is delicious

By MARGERY FEE

Tureens of soup are emptied with awful rapidity, waiters take plates of turbot away to get lobster sauce and bring back plates of lobster sauce without turbot. The substantial disappear, moulds of jelly vanish like lightning, hearty eaters wipe their foreheads and appear rather overcome by their recent exertions... (from Sketches by Boz, "The Public Dinner")

The Victorian feast served at the York Dickens Festival probably would have evoked Dickens' scorn with its mere five courses and stingy two wines. No one fell off his chair, too stuffed to move, no one had to leave the room, belching feebly, no one was overcome by the pangs of dyspepsia.

Nonetheless, the food was plentiful by today's standards — and good. In fact some

people refused to believe that Versafood had a hand in it at all.

Groaning boards abound in Dickens, and in those times corpulence was often equated with distinction. For example, Lord Palmerston was reported by a companion at a dinner party in 1865 to have consumed "two plates of turtle soup; he was then served very amply to a plate of cod and oyster sauce; he then took a pate; afterwards he was helped to two very greasy looking entrees; he then dispatched a plate of roast mutton; there then appeared before him the largest, and to my mind the hardest, slice of ham that ever figured at the table of a nobleman; yet it disappeared, just in time to answer the inquiry of his butler, "Snipe, my Lord, or pheasant." He instantly replied, "Pheasant," thus completing his ninth dish of meat at that meal. The Prime

Minister was then 81 and in thriving health.

The Prince Regent, Edward, got so fat he had to wear corsets, (along with all the ladies and not a few of the gentlemen) and people called him "the Prince of Whales" behind his back.

Perhaps part of the problem was that the Victorians did not have sex to occupy their minds.

Anyway, we can thank the Victorians for the more essential rules of etiquette. Here are a few whose application might improve the now somewhat limited aura of gentility in the cafeterias.

— No polite guest will ever fastidiously smell or examine any article of food before tasting it;

— Never allow butter, soup or other food to remain on your whiskers. Use the napkin frequently;

— Never make a display when removing hair, insects or other disagreeable things from your food. Place them quietly under your plate.

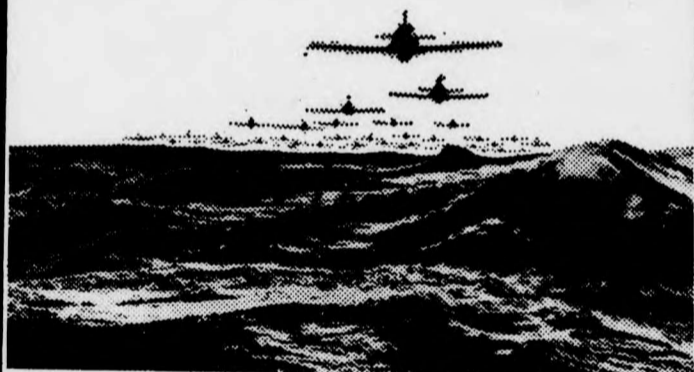
After the meal, The Finches of the Grove supplied an "evening of harmonious entertainment." It began, of course, with God Save the Queen. The stars of the evening were Tillie and Jeannette Raine. Their biography revealed that "while still tender in years they won an audition for Wigmore Hall. Horrified parents retrieved them from temptations of life on the wicked stage."

Certainly this was a suitable way to end a celebration of the 100th anniversary of Dickens' death. Like the medieval celebration last year, the addition of the sensuous joys of food and music to the more intellectual one of films and papers makes the spirit of the period come alive.

TORATORATOR!

The incredible attack on Pearl Harbor as told from both the American and Japanese sides.

Why was Admiral Yamamoto marked for assassination by the Japanese war lords?



20th Century-Fox

NOW PLAYING

UNIVERSITY RESERVE SEATS BY PHONE 924-2581
100 BLOOR STREET WEST

EVENINGS AT 8:00 MATINEES AT 2:00 WED. SAT. SUN. & HOLS. BOX-OFFICE OPEN 1:30 P.M. TO 7 P.M. DAILY

"If you see nothing else this year, you must see FIVE EASY PIECES. It will not, I think, ever fade from memory!"

—RICHARD SCHICKEL, LIE

"A TESTAMENT TO THE THRILLING DANGER OF JUST LIVING! It looked very classy in the competition at the New York Film Festival!"

—Andrew Sarris, THE VILLAGE VOICE



COLUMBIA PICTURES Presents • BBS Production

JACK NICHOLSON

FIVE EASY PIECES COLOR

KAREN BLACK • SUSAN ANSPACH

RESTRICTED TO 17 YEARS OF AGE OR OVER

STARTS FRIDAY OCTOBER 9

YORK II

EGLINTON E. OF YONGE • 486-5600

RECORDS AT LOW PRICES

If you want your favourite LP's at extremely cheap prices — Now is your chance. "HERE AND NOW RECORDS" sells any record, any label, any artist. We are student operated. Check our prices — Call Danny Panzer at 481-0737.

THE WAR GAME AN ADULT GAME

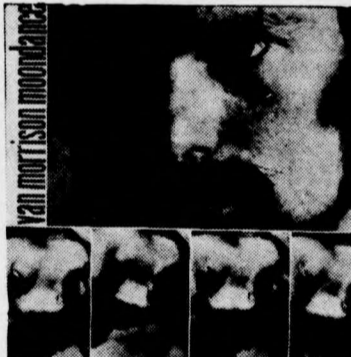
The War Game is a newly developed campus game. It is a game of fascinating strategies; a game of skill. The War Game demands the cold calculation of the mathematician and the cunning of a politician. Tax your intellectual powers on the battlefields of Europe!

Available only from

R.G. Lindsell
1720 Brock St. South
Whitby, Ont.

Send cheque or money order for \$6.00 plus 50c postage.

CKFH AND 'THE OPEN LID' PRESENT



WARNER BROTHERS RECORDING ARTIST

VAN MORRISON and CROWBAR

OCTOBER 15 8:30 P.M.

MASSEY HALL

TICKETS: \$5.00, \$4.50, \$3.50
AVAILABLE: A & A RECORDS
YORK UNIVERSITY BOOKSTORE
FROM SEPTEMBER 28
MASSEY HALL BOX OFFICE
FROM OCTOBER 9

radicalism

IN THE ARTS

TOM WOLFE

NOVEMBER 18th (WED.)

The author of *Kandy*, *Kolored*, *Streamline*, *Baby*, *The Pumphouse Gang*, and other collections of social and cultural commentaries, Mr. Wolfe will speak on the subject of "The Nature of Radicalism in the Arts".

ERIC BENTLEY

DECEMBER 2nd (WED.)

One of the world's leading theatre critics and scholars and translator of the plays of Bertolt Brecht into English, Professor Bentley will analyze current theatrical trends as he speaks on the subject of "Radicalism in the Contemporary Theatre".

RONALD BLOORE

JANUARY 13th (WED.)

Canada's foremost exponent of "white on white" in the visual arts, this eloquent and exciting Canadian artist will examine recent art events in his lecture, "Radicalism in the Visual Arts".

JOHN BECKWITH

FEBRUARY 10th (WED.)

The new Dean of the University of Toronto's Faculty of Music and a respected scholar in the area of twentieth century music, Dean Beckwith will examine recent movements in his lecture, "Radicalism in Modern Music".

STANLEY KAUFFMANN

MARCH 8th (MON.)

Film critic and Associate Literary Editor of the *New Republic* and visiting professor of Film at Yale University, Mr. Kauffmann, formerly drama critic of the *New York Times*, will offer cinematic insights in his lecture, "Radicalism in Film".

Subscription to all five:

\$6.00 (\$5.50 York staff);

\$2.75 students)

only six weeks to subscribe

BURTON AUDITORIUM
BOX OFFICE
635-2370



Green Bush Inn

in the Buttery (First College Complex)

Thursdays 8 pm - 12 pm
Fridays 4 pm - 12 pm
Proof of Age Required

Annual Membership fee 25c on sale at the door. Covercharge for both Members and Guests 25c.

Entertainment

Thursday: Cedric D'Croix (now at the Red Lion)

Friday: Records & Amateur Night

Join us.