



PACT asks:

Live theatre dying?

Theatre New Brunswick, as the Maritime regional representative for the Professional Association of Canadian Theatres (PACT), has been asked to issue the following statement on behalf of PACT:

Professional theatres across Canada met today and criticized the Secretary of State for not recognizing their needs and inadequately representing them to the Government of Canada.

At a press conference held in Ottawa, the 62 member-theatres of the Professional Association of Canadian Theatres - PACT - made known its dissatisfaction with the Secretary of State's policies to date.

Live professional theatre in Canada has grown tremendously in the past 20 years. The Federal Government, through the Secretary of State's office and the Canada Council has been responsible for funding a major part of this expansion.

PACT chairman, Dr. Gregory Paggi, stated: "We need funds to keep theatre alive, but in the last three years, funds have been reduced or frozen with the following disastrous results. In spite of our ticket price increases 67 percent of our members have had to cut back the number of their productions, 55 percent have had to lay off staff, 74 percent have had to reduce the number of actors employed and 55 percent have incurred a greatly increased deficit.

This situation is intolerable, and in February, 1977, members of PACT met with Secretary of State John Roberts, and apprised him of the critical needs of the theatre profession. Yet in September, 1977, Mr. Roberts announced that \$13.6 million would be given to new and ongoing cultural programs. PACT is angered that none of this money will go towards the crucial operating needs of the

overwhelming majority of Canadian professional theatres.

And further, PACT is distressed that this money was not channelled through the existing autonomous agency for such activity in this country - The Canada Council.

The response of the Secretary of State in recognizing the needs of Canadian theatre is clearly inadequate. Public support for ongoing operating grants is strong, as displayed by the recent successful AWARENESS CAMPAIGN, which has brought in close to 100,000 signatures in support of PACT's aim.

PACT now demands that the Secretary of State represent the case of his constituents to the Government of Canada and deliver to the theatre profession an immediate response which "fairly and squarely" presents a possible solution.

Vladimir at AUC



Vladimir Kovalev, the brilliant young athlete from the Soviet Union, is the reigning Men's World Figure Skating Champion. It was a hard-won title.

In 1976 after Kovalev won three coveted silver second place medals at the Olympics, the Worlds and the Europeans, he approached the 1977 European competitions with high hopes, only to have them dashed by Jan Hoffmann of East Germany, who came ahead to win.

Daunted, but not down, Kovalev a month later again faced Hoffmann, this time at the all-important World Championships. Kovalev dramatically out-skated Hoffmann to win the gold medal. Kovalev again faces Hoffmann in Ottawa in March, 1978, when Kovalev defends his World title.

Kovalev and other champion figure skaters will be appearing in the 1978 World Figure Skating Tour, for one performance only at the Aitken University Centre, March 17, 8 p.m. Tickets are on sale at the Aitken University Centre — only.

'Yes, You're Wrong'

CBC Radio's successful quiz show Yes, You're Wrong welcomes comedian Gay Claitman and writer Kildare Dobbs as regular panelists beginning Feb. 28. Yes, You're Wrong is heard every Tuesday night on CBC Radio at 8:04 p.m. (8:34 Nfld.) and on CBC Stereo, Tuesdays at 3:34 p.m. (4:04 Nfld.).

Gay Claitman is a highly accomplished comedy writer-performer and has made regular contributions over the year to CBC's Royal Canadian Air Farce. This is the Law, the Leacock Festival of Humour and Funny Farm. Gay helped to found the

highly successful Jest Society show in Montreal and has performed for the last two seasons in Toronto with La Troupe Grotesque on CBC Radio's Pulp and Paper comedy revue show. In addition, Gay recently produced the Toronto stage hit "Hey Sister, You Want My Sailor" and a comedy radio special about women to be aired later this season on CBC Radio. Gay's bright wit and good humor are certain to make her a valuable new member of the Yes, You're Wrong team.

Kildare Dobbs is a seasoned newspaper columnist, broadcaster, freelance writer, teacher,

publisher and magazine editor. He was born in India, brought up in Ireland, has lived in Spain, Mexico and France and has worked in England, Africa and Canada. Kildare returns to Yes, You're Wrong this year after completing a number of writing and editorial assignments.

Other regular members of Yes, You're Wrong include musician Ted Roberts, writer-critic DuBarry Campeau, producer-author Murray Soupcoff, actor Don Ryan and broadcaster Bob Oxley (who acts as host-moderator).

Yes, You're Wrong is produced in Toronto by Keith Duncan.

A.J. Smith All his best

By JAMES BURNES

A.J.M. Smith's "The Classic Shade, Selected Poems", is the end product of a life-time of work dedicated to the production of consistently good poetry. This book is a selection of all the poems he felt are his best.

Included in the book are such poems as "Like an Old King in a Parable," "News of the Phoenix,"

and "Two Sides of a Drum.

The Classic Shade, reaffirms Smith's position as Canada's major poet, not because he has been around for a long time, nor because he is a Canadian but because he is a careful, and meticulous craftsman. Each poem has been worked and reworked till it flows with the smoothness and consistency of honey.

Smith is a writer that has learned his craft with care. His poems reflect an ear for the internal and external rhythm of words. His images are fresh and new, but in a tradition that is classic, and unchangeable by time.

The beauty of his poems is an outgrowth of his passion for the traditional structure of a poem, and a keen awareness of the complex world today. His blending of these two factors is reflected by poems such as "News of the Phoenix."

They say the phoenix is dying, some say dead. Dead without issue is what one message said. But that has been suppressed, officially denied.

Smith is such a good writer, that there are times that he can weave a beautiful poem around a simple theme, and distract the reader to the fact that the poem is trite.

When his poems are read aloud they have a rhythm and tone that is so pleasing to the ear that the listener is held spellbound.

The "Classic Shade", will prove to be a classic. The form and style of Smith's poetry stands alone in Canadian literature.

Trivia Answers

1. Bluesology
2. Scotland
3. Bill Lear (as in Lear Jet)
4. Buffalo Springfield.
5. Dominic Triano.
6. Beck, Clapton, and Page.
7. Waylon Jennings, Wille Nelson, Jerry Jeff Walker, and Bob Willis.
8. Donald Roser.
9. Ralph J. Gleason and Jan Wenner.
10. Cold Turkey, Tennessee.

Going nuts?

If you think your job is driving you crazy, you may be eligible for the same workmen's compensation benefits that go to workers who are physically injured on the job.

Playboy magazine reports that an increasing number of mentally-based workmen's compensation claims are being filed in this country. "The idea that you have to be physically hurt has gone in

the trash, can," according to Thomas Lambert, an attorney who specializes in workmen's comp.

One judge reports that 10 percent of the compensation cases he hears involve mental illness, and that schoolteachers and air-traffic controllers make up a large number of those who receive benefits, because of the stress of their jobs. (Newscrip)

Attention Students! Tax Deductions!

For the tax year 1977, Revenue Canada requires that any claim for the \$50 per month education deduction be supported by a special form.

These forms are now available at the Business Office and the Registrar's Office counters.

For 1977 only the forms need not be signed by the university.

S.S. Mullin
Comptroller