

FILM SOCIETY

by ROBERT KERR

The U.N.B. Film Society begins its 10th season this Sunday morning. It has progressed from a small group struggling with old equipment in Mem. Hall to an organization with 300 members using the modern facilities of the Chemistry Auditorium.

The growth of Film Societies in recent years signifies the coming of age of motion pictures as an art. Working on a non-profit basis, these groups enable members to see films which local commercial theatres are unlikely to show. In larger cities, art theatres serve this purpose, and the fact that such theatres have become one of the few really profitable operations in the motion picture industry testifies to the growing popularity of these films.

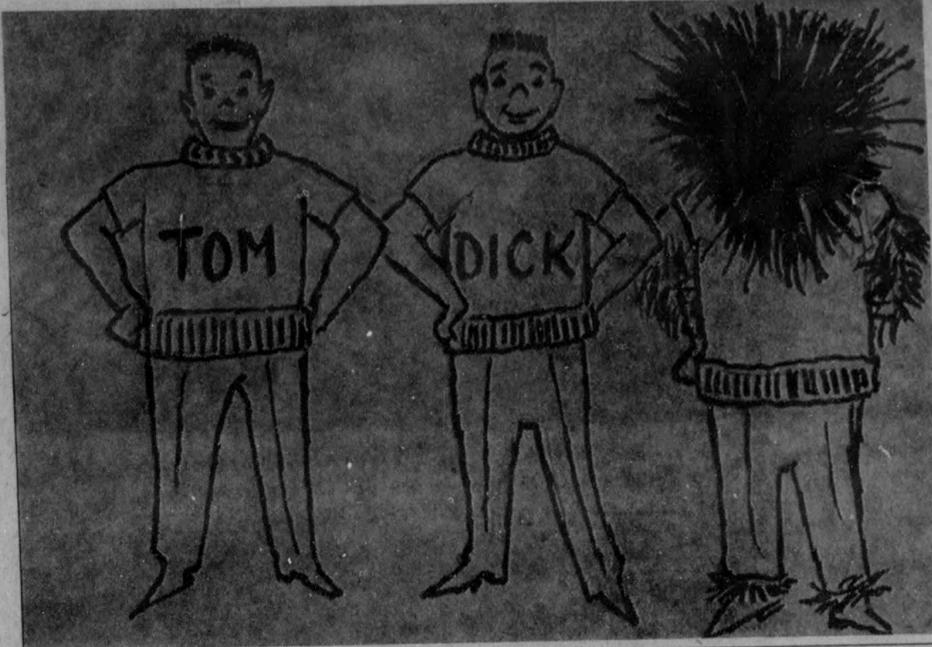
In the midst of this success, film societies and art theatres are facing allied problems. The success of the art theatres is increasing their numbers to the extent where they may soon reach the saturation point. The losses suffered by older theatres since television lowered their saturation point indicate the dangers of this situation. The growing number of art theatres is also diluting the number of really good films available to any one of them. This presents the threat of decline that popularity brings to so many art forms, the mass production of mediocre works to meet popular demand. Film critics have already noticed a trend in this direction among so-called "art films".

For film societies this means the dilemma between growing

popularity and pressure for expanding programs of declining value, or the alternative of a fluctuating membership and program as the output of good films varies from year to year. Both courses have their drawbacks.

The U.N.B. Society may or may not now be facing this dilemma. This year demands for membership is expected to exceed the available number of memberships. The Film Society must decide whether expansion will continue the improvements in program it has experienced in the past or expose it to the dangers of over-extension. In the past the Society's continual growth has enabled it to provide a better program offilms each year. It is quite possible that this could continue. On the other hand, further expansion might bring on the pressures of excessive popularity and a lower calibre of program, while stabilization, although allowing a fairly stable calibre of program, could bring the problems of fluctuating popularity.

This year's Film Society program begins this Sunday, Oct. 21, with Ingmar Bergman's recent satire "The Devil's Eyes". The legendary Don Juan is sent from Hell to seduce a young Swedish virgin whose chastity is "a sty in the Devil's eye". Last year the Society had two Bergman offerings, a fantasy and a comedy, which were respectively the best and the worst films on the year's program. "The Devil's Eyes" promises elements of both, so it will be interesting to see where it



Student Opinion

Stevan D. Karon

What is your opinion of a Student Union Building? Would you be prepared to pay for it?

"In my opinion a Student Union Building would be an excellent plan. It would serve to keep all student affairs in one specific building and would greatly decrease confusion, especially for the freshman. I as a Freshman would be prepared to help pay for it."

J. A. 1st. Phs. Ed. Male.

"The Student Centre is the beginning of a so-called Student Union. In my opinion, if an addition could be somehow added to this building, on top or beside it, this would greatly cut down expenses. I think the campus needs more clubroom and student lounges etc. and most of us would be prepared to pay a nominal fee for this privilege."

S. W. 1st year Arts. Female.

"I agree that in the next few years the existing building for the Students Union will be overcrowded and a new and a bigger place will be needed, but I think

that we should go whole hog and construct a building that will last for a number of years and itself not become too small. I feel that a 10,000 building would surely not fill our needs."

A. C. 1st year Bus. Adm. Male.

"I agree that a more extensive Student Union would be an excellent project. I feel that most of the students would be willing to pay for the privileges and advantages of having clubrooms, offices and lounges all in our building."

S. G. 1st Arts Female

"There are other facilities which are more important to the student body and which must take preference. Even the proposed location of the building does not seem satisfactory when the size is taken into consideration."

3rd year Forestry Male.

"The idea of building a Student's Union is very thoughtful and sooner we are on our move,

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S. R. Bhandany, Arts Post. Grad.

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