

# Eight to the Bar captivates

By JOHN KNECHTEL  
Brunswickan Staff

*Eight to the Bar* is a rambunctious, flamboyant musical comedy that entertains and entertains. From an introduction under the spotlight of each of four characters to an ending that swings the audience around from a vaudevillian style repartee which bounces from character to character to audience, one is held in rapturous delight.

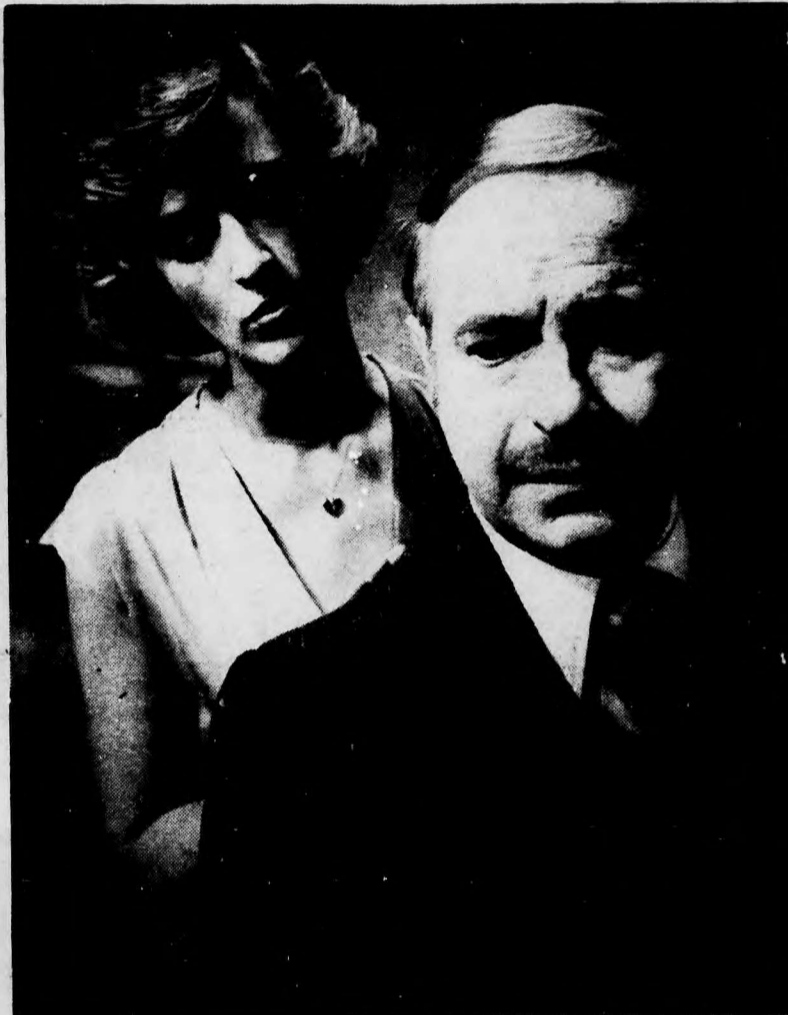
Although the plot is a jaded one of four people stranded in a bus depot diner on New Year's Eve, the show is brought to life by four animated and vivacious actors. At the outset we are given the cardboard caricatures that each character is desperately trying to hold on to and then, through thoughts that slip from their conversation and monologues, are drawn into their reality. Playing any role is difficult, but playing a person preoccupied with their own facade creates a complexity of thoughts and emotions very nearly

impossible to master, and the cast of *Eight to the Bar* does this with solid, balanced performances.

The show has been well directed and moves from scene to song with a liquid flow such as to give it a continuity of style that can be so easily lost in a musical.



"AT MIDNIGHT, I'M GOING TO KILL MYSELF!" Marchall Slack, failed history teacher, prepares his suicide instruments for his "midnight surprise".



"TRY PRETENDING\*" Honey MacNamara, played by Marcia Tratt, tries to convince Ben Henderson, played by Grant Cowan, to pretend he's married to her. (Don Johnson Photo)

## "A Terrible Beauty"

By HELEN BURKE

Last Friday night marked the opening of the historic exhibition "A Terrible Beauty" at the Beaverbrook Art Gallery.

The exhibition was opened by Brigadier General G.R. Cheriton from Base Gagetown. It consisted of a combination of water colors and sketches totalling 150 by various artists during both world wars. There were basically two

types of pictures displayed.

One type, done by Commissioned artists consisted essentially of propaganda, emphasizing "The Glory of War". The other type depicted vividly the harsh reality of war in tragedies like Elson and Dieppe.

The exhibition holds a general interest to everyone, since it portrays well the effects of both wars on the world.



Lawren P. Harris, 1944

Coward, there are some immensely enjoyable lyrics that seem to draw out one's attention and feelings. The jazz mood of the music, along with some enchanting melodies, combine with the lyrics to create a warmth and style

at its strongest in songs like "Hello", "Outside My Window", and "Next Year".

The choreography is not imposed on the music or plot; it blends well in an exciting and energetic movement of dance, becoming a relevant part of a cohesive whole.

*Eight to the Bar* is not a dramatic masterpiece, what it is is a thoroughly enjoyable and entertaining musical that leaves one not thinking about the meaning of life, but with perhaps a touch of sensitivity to those around us.

## Stephen Leacock coming to UNB-STU

Stephen Leacock, Canada's greatest humourist, is coming to Fredericton on October 29, reincarnated in Canadian actor John Stark.

An offering in the UNB-STU Creative Arts series, the performance by Mr. Stark uncannily embodies the personality and unique wit of the Orilla professor. Focussing on the aspect of Leacock as international traveller, Mr. Stark's painstakingly researched reading draws anecdotal and 'philosophical' materials from Leacock's lectures, after-dinner speeches, essays and novels. The result is a hilarious two hours of audience participation in the open eyed discoveries of a somewhat bumbling (yet ironic) Canadian caught up in unexpected circumstances of life in the USA and Europe. Particularly brilliant are the episodes involving the cons-

truction of a summer bungalow in northern Ontario and the discoveries in the haunted Bugham Grange in England.

Vancouver-born Mr. Stark has studied drama in Canada, USA and in England. In 1965 he formed his own Canadian theatre company which performed highly successful productions of Shaw's, O'Neill's and Chekhov's plays among others. A student of theatre design, Mr. Stark created the decor for such current films as *Five Easy Pieces*, *Carnal Knowledge*, *Food for the Gods* and *Journey into Fear*. For the past seven years he has been researching and performing his one-man retrospective of Stephen Leacock with whose biography Mr. Stark's own life bears a striking correspondence in event, experience and character.

Performance is at the Playhouse at 8 p.m. Single tickets are



available at the box office. UNB and STU students are admitted free on submission of an ID card.

Che  
and  
Old

A couple  
Jerry Hopk  
No one Get  
book was  
interesting  
Blondie bo  
short caree  
this point,  
lucrative.

But the un  
sordid life  
Sid Vicious  
semi-compe  
all, includi  
himself wit  
could nam  
chances an  
wierdest t  
always beh  
Vicious alw  
with his lif  
when he w  
fact, she c  
killed her s  
died. Tha  
mothers ha  
bleed.

Major Rel  
awaited do  
his fifth, an  
quality of h  
very encou  
impressive;  
still has it.

Nova Scotia  
Co-op Theatre  
road again wi  
"Bring Back D  
comes to The  
icton, on Oct  
8:00 p.m.

Appropriate  
Road Co-op T  
schedule remi  
once conduct  
himself. Fr  
circuit' of the  
Backwoods  
strained unde  
community ha  
Centennial T  
when the Isla  
theatres, are  
coast to coast,  
move.

The Play fol  
rural family in  
and their frien  
the kitchen for  
the rhythms o  
and the pulse

Mixing old-ti  
music with s  
scenes, "Bring  
ponders cultur  
age, when t  
entertainment  
by the world  
"Hawaii Five-O  
"We hope to  
each commun  
excitement an