

## Dr. Gonzo

What you are reading is actually the second Dr. Gonzo column written this week, because the first one was written on a damp and dismal Monday morning, and I was in a very bad state of mind, humming Carpenters songs and other pathological symptoms. But being as I have an hour to kill, with sub and beer in hand, we'll make another stab at it.

New Brunswick teachers have been complaining of overcrowded classrooms. They came out of here specially trained for one-to-one confrontations, and have special jungle tactics for students in groups up to nine, so they are understandably a bit confused when plopped in a class of 35. So much, in fact, that they themselves admit that they become voluble babysitters and not much more. Well thanks to modern medical science and Dr. Sayo, we have an obvious solution.

Simply pay teachers what they are worth, and make this pay scale retroactive to, say, 1970. Now most babysitters are only too happy to get minimum wage. A fund can then be established from the vast sums of money teachers owe their local school boards. This money, in turn, can now be used to hire this year's crop of graduates [don't kibitz kids, it's the only way you'll get a job] thus resulting in a lower student to teacher ratio. Now this will enable the existing teachers to operate more effectively so to propose an immediate raise to \$3.00 an hour. Perhaps I am overoptimistic in hoping that their performance will improve in these smaller classes, but I see the raise as a goodwill gesture and an incentive for excellence. Next week we'll look at something teachers can do to earn their keep during those long summer months in my article "A NOW LOOK FOR THE ROAD GANG".

While perusing through my calendar, I noticed some courses evidently missing from their respected faculties. So in a new irregular feature, allow me to introduce, mum, ah, well I'll come up with a name next week.

**PHYSICS 1209: Lab Coat & Clipboard.** This course will not only cover the wearing of lab coats, and handling of clipboards at the same time, but the ability to look busy and important under the closest scrutiny while actually doing absolutely nothing. Tutorials will be devoted to meaningless scrawls. Open to all science students.

**ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING 4800: Know Twiddling.** Covers every known knob, rotary switch and slide tuners. Anti-clockwise rotation will also be featured, as well as rotating to a specific number, simultaneous ambidextrous synchronous knob twiddles will be given special consideration. Labs every second week.

**POLI SCI 6002: Advanced Risk.** This course begins with a brief review of the rules, then proceeds quickly with tactics, diplomatic envoys, and dice rolling. Placement shall be given due consideration. If time permits, a special look at the two-man game.

**FORESTRY 1801: Introduction to Toilet Training [1 and 2]** This comprehensive course includes wee wee and poo, with special emphasis on lid lifting, accuracy and flushing. [Prerequisite for Advanced Toilet Paper]

**ARTS 1000: Introduction to Heterosexuality.** Need we say more?

### HOUSEHOLD HINT No. 2

One perceives a particularly malignant looking cockroach in the middle of the floor. As not to arouse it's suspicion, you throw a platter on your gramophone, grab your nearest honey-bunny, and fandango up next to the unsuspecting cockroach. Now admittedly, there is a certain animal satisfaction in giving him the ol' flamenco stomp, but then one is left with a yukky cockroach carcass in the middle of the floor, somewhat more objectionable than the original cockroach. The trick is to lightly tread on the offending insect so as to just mortally wound him. He will then oblige you by crawling off to some crack, and then die.

A friend of mine has been experimenting with bisecting the cockroach, throwing away to first half, and smoking the roach. He has met little success so far, but we'll keep you posted.

## Mermaid Theatre to appear at d'Avray

Mermaid Theatre, Nova Scotia's professional touring company for young audiences, has chosen a reluctant pioneer as the subject of its latest production. "Susanna Moodie" will be performed at Marshall d'Avray Hall on Friday, October 15, 1976 at 11:45.

The play is an impressionistic portrait of an era, as well as the story of an unusual 19th century immigrant. Mrs. Moodie came to Canada in 1832, and her journal accounts of settlement life are of special interest to modern readers in search of self-sufficiency. Her two books, "Roughing It in the Bush" and "Life in the Clearings" were written to discourage potential colonists, but they have become important source material for scholars concerned with Canadian identity. Moodie dies in Canada, where she remained by choice, but her convictions were tested constantly by the ironies of her experience in the bush and the salon.

Margaret Atwood, one of Canada's leading poets, was intrigued by Moodie's history and personality, and reports that a dream was the source of her inspiration for "The Journals of Susanna Moodie". The highly-acclaimed collection follows Susanna from her embarkation in cholera-struck Quebec, through the first harsh days of adjustment to rural ways, and documents her private reactions to small-town

hypocrisy. On the surface, Moodie is presented as a proper English-woman who voices all the correct sentiments; her sensitivity and innate intelligence are mirrored in her secret terrors and uneasy resignation to a changed way of life.

MERMAID THEATRE's director, Evelyn Garbary, and writer Donna E. Smyth, of Acadian University's Department of English, have integrated these resources into

their character study of Susanna. They worked together closely during workshop-rehearsal sessions throughout the summer, incorporating designer Tom Miller's unique masks and props, supervising mime and choreography, and consulting Nova Scotia craftsmen familiar with period costumes and furnishings. The company hopes to present "Susanna Moodie" across Canada in the near future.



This photo portrays Mermaid Theatre in performance. The play, "The Trickster" is one of three being presented in the tour of N.B.

## Neptune Theatre appoints new administrator

Grant Morash, President of the Neptune Theatre Foundation, announced today that the Foundation's Board of Directors has appointed Murray Farr Administrator of the Neptune Theatre. Mr. Farr will assume his new post later this month. A veteran of over twelve years as an administrator and producer of the performing arts, Mr. Farr has held previous positions in Vancouver, Toronto and New York, and has been active internationally on the major foreign arts festival circuits.

Born in Regina, Saskatchewan, in 1942, Mr. Farr grew up in Vancouver, B.C. During his elementary school years, he was a child actor for the C.B.C. school broadcasts and took part in some school plays throughout junior high and high school, where a fellow student, Ken Kramer (now Artistic Director of the Globe Theatre in Regina) then directed the high-school productions.

Mr. Farr began his university studies at Bishops University in Lennoxville, Quebec, a year before John Wood graduate from the same institution, and again took part in dramatic productions and hosted a weekly radio programme in Sherbrooke. After two years at Bishops, Mr. Farr transferred to the University of British Columbia in Vancouver where he shortly became Chairman of the Special Events Committee and Co-ordinator of the annual contemporary arts festival, which produced a concert series similar to that offered at the

Dalhousie Arts Centre. Although having planned to pursue an academic career as an English professor, Mr. Farr ultimately realized that the performing arts were in his blood, and in 1965 left Vancouver to become a full-time artists' manager in New York City. There he became Executive Director of the Foundation for Modern Dance, the sponsoring agency for the Erick Hawkins Dance Company, which, along with the New York City Ballet, represented the United States at the world festival at Expo '67 in Montreal.

By 1968, Mr. Farr had established his own management firm and booking agency, New Arts Management of New York, of which he remains President, although no longer directly involved in the daily workings of this foundation. From 1970 to 1972, Mr. Farr was Managing Director of the Nikolais Dance Theatre and the Murray Louis Dance Company, of New York, a post he retained on a consultative basis until this June.

During the 1972-73 and 1973-74 seasons, Mr. Farr received two Senior Arts Awards from the Canada Council, and acted as "consultant-in-residence for management" to the Council. In these two years, Mr. Farr toured Canada annually coast to coast advising Canadian dance companies on managerial problems and reacquainting himself with the Canadian theatre community.

In 1972, Mr. Farr was one of the

founders of the Dance In Canada Association, the national service organization for the Canadian dance, where he has been Chairman of the Board for the last and current year. Last month, Halifax was the site for the Fourth National Dance In Canada Conference, and the Canadian Dance Festival at the Dalhousie Arts Centre. The events were hosted by Dance Nova Scotia.

Mr. Farr has spent his summer vacations in Nova Scotia since 1966, and in 1970 purchased a home in La Have, Lunenburg County, which has been his base of operations since 1972.

Commenting on his appointment as Administrator of the Neptune Theatre, Mr. Farr observed that the Neptune Theatre is one of the major national theatres in Canada, with a specific responsibility to be accessible to all Nova Scotians and other Atlantic Canadians. He finds the productions planned for the coming season most exciting and promising to be of the highest artistic quality. Among the priorities Mr. Farr views as crucial to his new role are an expanded subscription ticket campaign, an active fund-raising drive with a goal to eliminate the Neptune's current operating deficit and increased touring within the province. In addition to the normal winter season, the Neptune in planning a summer festival in 1977 of dance musical and theatrical productions.