

# Turntable Drugs

by Andrew Gillis

The turntable druggist received no amazingly good or bad new albums during the week. Consequently a history lesson seems like a good idea; the record companies who deliver the product do not seem too interested in the present right now. I can't say it is easy to examine the entire history of turntable drugs in the space of this column, so I will simply check one year's classic 'boppers and show-stoppers' from the Collection of Musical Perfection.

First off, let me say I think the recording industry should have considered a world-wide shutdown after the release of Aretha Franklin's "Chain Of Fools" in March, 1968. The immediate, raucous Memphis production on that single was incredibly tight. When the recording industry did not give up following Aretha's unmatchable "Since You've Been Gone" two months later, I was sure some mistake had been made. "Since You've Been Gone", featuring heavy Ray Charles-like piano throughout the two minutes 18 seconds, should have discouraged other recording artists and crippled the industry. I thought so, anyway. (I was eleven years old.)

Jerry Jeff Walker began his legendary solo career in 1968, and wrote "Mr. Bojangles" that year. The J. Geils Blues Band was formed in Boston and destroyed headliners at the Boston Tea Party throughout 1968. Anne Murray made her break on CBHT's "Singalong Jubilee" and "Let's Go" sometime during that year. The Beatles released "Hey Jude" (which at the age of eleven, and even now, I still regard as absolute garbage). This record sold eleven million copies, taking third or fourth place in the all time sales list for rock singles. (Number one - with 22 million sold - is still Chubby Checker's "The Twist", written by Hank Ballard, which Chubby performed with blinding speed at the Moncton Coliseum in the last week of July, 1976.)

For classic turntable drugs, 1968 is the best year in living memory. The Allman Brothers Band (save for Gregg) was ready to go in Macon, Georgia. Wilson Pickett, often with Duane Allman on guitar, released "Funky Broadway", "Midnight Mover" and "Man And A Half". These songs are in the 'hamburger' category, one of several categorical shrines within the Collection Of Musical Perfection. Those 'hamburger' singles, are what Junior Walker would call "whopper-bopper show-stoppers." (That is the title of Walker's new album on Motown, by the way.)

Otis Redding released "Sittin' On The Dock Of The Bay" in 1968. Need one say more in praise of that year? Well, I think Jeannie C. Riley cut "Harper Valley P.T.A." that year. Janis recorded "Piece Of My Heart" late that year, although it became a hit here in 1969. Joe Tex may have recorded "Skinny Legs" in '68, and "Ode To Billie Joe" by Bobby Gentry came out as one of the biggest hits of the decade.

In 1968 Sam Moon got together a crazy band of James Brown freaks in Sydney, Nova Scotia, and was soon joined by organist Matt Minglewood. Moon-Minglewood and the Universal Power later terrorized Halifax's Waegwoltic and St. Mary's Boat Clubs. It is amazing

that the first band I ever saw—Moon-Minglewood—played "Hip Bag '67" by James Brown in the ten-minute version, and the lead singer (Sam Moon) danced through the crowd, out the main door, down the dock, hopped into the North West Arm, climbed out and re-entered the boathouse - all of it on the beat, all of it. That was at the

Waegwoltic Club. At St. Mary's Boat Club, Moon leapt off the ten-foot Arm diving board as Matt and the boys went to the bridge.

At eleven years old, 1968 was hard to take. As a history lesson, it is just enough and too much.

Coming next week: Melissa Manchester, Bob Marley, and more.

## Athlete's Foot

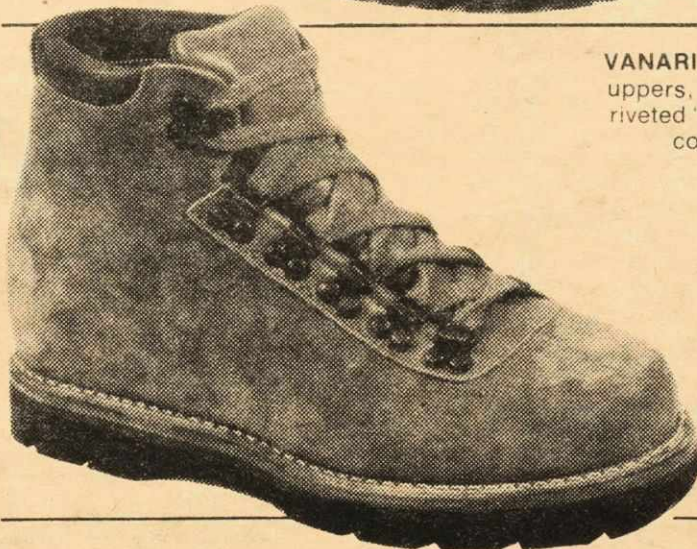
# Hiking boot sale



VANARI light weight hiking boot. Tough smooth leather upper with leather lining and foam padded collar. Goodyear welt construction with vibram outsole. Size 7 to 12.

Regular Price \$39.95  
Today till Saturday only  
While quantities last.

# 29<sup>95</sup>



VANARI medium weight hiker with premium grade rough-out uppers, leather lined throughout. Thick foam insulation, double riveted "d" ring lacing and interior scree guard. Goodyear welt construction with two midsoles and rubber lug outsole.

Regular Price \$49.95  
Today till Saturday only  
Size 7 to 12, 13  
While quantities last.

# 39<sup>99</sup>

Athlete's Foot carries Canada's largest selection of quality hiking boots — light, medium and heavy weight styles in both men's and women's sizes. The people at the Athlete's Foot are fully trained in the fitting and uses of hiking boots. Whether you're dreaming of scaling the Eiger or just looking for a great winter boot, drop into the Athlete's Foot and take advantage of our hiking boot sale — it only happens once a year.

## Athlete's Foot

Mon. to Sat.  
9:30-6:00 p.m.

Thurs. & Fri.  
'til 9:00 p.m.

6036 QUINPOOL ROAD  
HALIFAX 429-4386

WESTPHAL SHOPPING PLAZA  
DARTMOUTH 434-9464