

## Productions working for recognition

Since its inception in 1970, U.N.B. Workshop Productions has consistently produced plays of high caliber which have been very well received by several hundred of the group's patrons. With the emergence of several new theatrical groups in Fredericton of late, U.N.B. Workshop Productions has undertaken the task of distinguishing itself from the rest. The time has come when the Fredericton public should be made aware of one of the finest amateur theatrical groups that the city has to offer.

The name, "U.N.B. Workshop Productions", is simply a fancy title for two drama classes at U.N.B. which collaborate each spring to stage a full scale production. U.N.B. Workshop Productions was founded by Professor Ed Mullaly in 1970 and the drama courses (English 2140 and English 3150) have been under his instruction since that time.

Professor Mullaly is a founding member of the Fredericton Gilbert and Sullivan Society and his directing credits include *Pirates of Penzance*, *Pa-*

*tiense*, and *Yeoman of The Guard*. He has also directed for U.N.B. Workshop Productions although, in recent years, he has confined himself to the technical aspects of the group's production (ie: lighting, sound, and set construction). Mullaly has adjudicated for the N.B. Senior High School Drama Festival and has critiqued Maritime theatrical productions for C.B.C. radio. He is currently designing the lighting for this spring's Gilbert and Sullivan production.

Another driving force behind the success of U.N.B. Workshop Productions is Professor Alvin Shaw, who has to his credit more drama awards for his university productions than anyone else in Canada. Between 1952 and 1971, Professor Shaw secured a total

of forty-two provincial awards for his work with the U.N.B. Drama Society (an extra-curricular club—not to be confused with U.N.B. Workshop Productions). On four separate occasions, Professor Shaw was invited to enter his productions in the Dominion Drama Festival—an honour extended to very few directors. Professor Shaw has since joined the ranks of U.N.B. Workshop Productions and his directing successes include *Harvey*, *Juno and The Paycock*, *Our Town*, and *West Moon*. He has acted and directed for Theatre New Brunswick and he is a co-founder and current Artistic Director of Theatre Fredericton, another of the city's fine amateur theatre groups.

This year, U.N.B. Workshop Productions has

prepared William Inge's *BUS STOP* under the direction of Alice Luther. While attending U.N.B. Mrs. Luther performed with the U.N.B. Drama Society, U.N.B. Workshop Productions, Theatre New Brunswick's young company and mainstage, and the Calithumpian Theatre Company. She has since acted and directed for the University of Idaho Theatre and is currently a doctoral candidate at the University of Minnesota.

*Bus Stop* will be presented at Memorial Hall (U.N.B. campus) on March 29th, 30th, and 31st beginning at 8 p.m. Tickets will be available at the door and are \$4 for adults, \$3 for students, and \$2 for children and senior citizens. Profits from *Bus Stop* will go to the U.N.B. Third Century Fund.

### Ron Butlin here Monday

Scottish writer Ron Butlin will give a poetry and short story reading on Monday at 8 p.m., in the Art Centre of Memorial Hall at the University of New Brunswick. The public is invited to attend.

For the past three months, Mr. Butlin, the Scottish exchange writer-in-residence, has been touring Canada as part of his exchange program. For several years the Canada Council and the Scottish Arts Council have sponsored this annual exchange of writers. This year Fred Cogswell, retired English professor at UNB, is the exchange writer at the University of Edinburgh,

while Mr. Butlin is residing at UNB.

Mr. Butlin can also be heard on radio tomorrow at 7 p.m., reading poetry on CBC's "Anthology" program.

His newest book, a collection of short stories called *The Tilting Room* has just been released. He has published five others including a volume of poetry

entitled *Descriptions of Falling Snow and The Imaginary Horse and Others Stories*.

He began writing as a child because he liked music and could not play an instrument. He substituted the sounds of poetry for the sounds of music and as his career developed he became more interested in creating sound patterns in his writing. His book of poetry called *The Exquisite Instrument* imitates the sounds and reflections of Chinese.

Mr. Butlin grew up near Edinburgh. Before enrolling in university he travelled to London to work in a succession of jobs as a footman, translator, artist model, factory worker and computer operator. These experiences are reflected in many of his short stories.

He graduated from the University of Edinburgh in 1977 with a MA and a post-graduate diploma in adult education and community development. He has held a number of positions as writer-in-residence at Scottish institutions, including his alma mater.

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