Who's Albert Ross?

THE ENGLISH SOCIETY SALUTES

Albert Ross (Who?) by David W. M. CraigÇ English Society G. Division

Albert Ross, a well known figure in history, literature, and drama, is the figurehead of the Albert Ross Memorial (English) Society. It is important to remember this man's vital role in shaping our lifestyles, morals, and artistic values.

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Shrouded in mystery, and frequently overlooked by scholars, Albert Ross provided the basis for uncounted literary works since Beowulf, in fact, was Mr. Ross's first published masterpiece; one which generally not credited to him, but instead, wrongfully credited to his wife and faithful companion til death, Mrs. Anonymous Ross. Albert and Anonymous dutifully named their firstborn son 'Albert' and thus set off a tradition which would provide mankind with 256 generations of literary genius bearing the same name.

But Albert Ross (the First) didn't hold a family monopoly on notoriety. One of Chaucer's earliest translations, a French poem, 'Roman de la Ross', outlines a later Albert Ross's dallies in love and politics. This translation was to effect all of Chaucer's subsequent poetic flounderings, including the lost manuscript of the 'Canterbury Tales', 'The Ross's Pro-

logue and Tail', which dealt with Albert (the 18th's) feathered nether region.

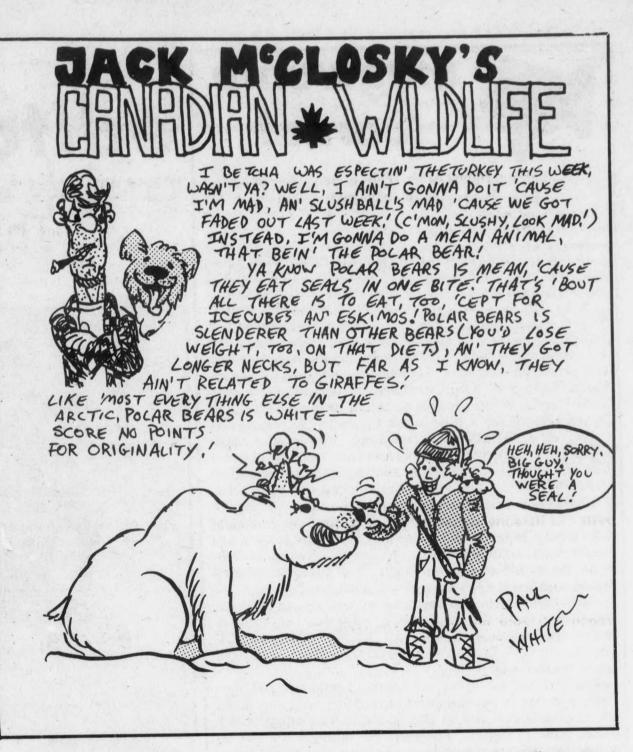
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Further generations of Albert Ross had close relations with poets the likes of Edmund Spenser, Christopher Marlow, Francis Bacon, and of course, Wialliam A. R. Shakespeare's fondness of

Albert Ross's genius shines out from many of the draft copies of his greatest plays: witness how 'Albert Ross' was the name Shakespeare had intended for those which were later changed to 'Romeo', 'Rosencrantz', and even 'Othello'. The play 'Albert: Prince of Denmark' was unscroupulously altered by a mischievious printsetter moments before the presses creaked into motion. And once the damage had been done, there was no changing 'that' particular indiscretion. Further on in history was the immortal trio; Addison, Steele, and Ross; a team known for their scathing satires and social commentaries. Later still, Samuel

Taylor Coleridge satirized Albert Ross directly in his 'Rime of the ancient Mariner', in which he portrays the virile and exuberant young man as a half-hearted seagull.

Not to be overlooked either are the second and third children of Albert Ross (the 129th), William W. and



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Percy Byssche, who despite being born years after their father had died, attained a

degree of poetical and lyrical genius strikingly similar to that of their late

father. A generation later Lord Alfred Tennyson would again draw Albert Ross into the literary limelight via his poem 'In Memoriam A.H.H. Ross'. Since Tennyson's time the allusions to Ross, as well as his own frequent literary contributions, have become too numerous to mention in great detail, but fleeting

notice must be given to three of the most often read pieces. Arthur Miller's

'Death Of Al Ross', T.S. Eliot's 'Love Song Of J. Albert Ross', and D. H. Lawrence's 'Albert Ross's

Lover' have all become landmarks of twentieth century literature.

Albert Ross's influence extended far beyond the confines of literature, prime examples being found in

musical spheres: 'Jumpin' Al Ross' by the Rolling Stones, 'For the Benefit of Albert Ross' by the Beatles, and 'Albert: A Rock Opera' by the Who all remain as 60's musical memorandoms of a larger than life literary legend. But all legends end, as did this one.



Planning for Business Week '84 is now underway. All Business Students interested in participating are urged to contact us at the Business Society Office, 3rd floor Tilley Hall.

Business Week Committee

Gospel Night at the Woodshed October 12, 8 p.m.-12

Contemporary Music Featuring Trios - Solos All Welcome

Sponsored by Searchlite

The 256th generation of the family, Albert Ross and his wife Miranda, named their only children 'Ernest and Ezra', effectively terminating literatures most famous line of wits of the same name.

However, all is not gone and forgotten, even if it isn't altogether verifiable. The Albert Ross Memorial (English) Society will hold it's first meeting of the year Wednesday, October 5, at 8:00 PM in room 26 of the SUB. (It's free and all are welcome...)