

Connection's style warms audience

by Anne Keefer
Brunswickan Staff

The Carnival Connection put in a surprise appearance at the Memorial Hall Coffee House last Friday.

The group also played at the Lady Beaverbrook Rink on Saturday night.

When asked about the difference in audience and response, Al Nicholls, the singer of the group said it was easier to play to a small group such as the Memorial Hall coffee house, where audiences tend to be more attentive and responsive.

Bill Hill, lead guitar and songwriter, said he thought the Maritimes were very pro-Canadian. This apparently pleased him, as well as the rest of the group. They like to play in Canada and wish Canadian talent would be more readily accepted in Canada.

"The Connection" is three musicians and one singer. They are Al Nicholls - singer; Bill Hill - lead guitar; Les Leroux - base guitar and Nick Kastos on drums.

The Connection is trying to start playing a college circuit now. But they are finding this difficult: "Canadian colleges always want American groups - they are not willing to buy Canadian acts."

The show itself at the Rink on the whole was very good. Singer Nicholls, although quite humorous, spent too much time telling jokes. The highlight of the show was the fifteen minute drum solo of Nick Kastos.

Nick was asked about the public's views on groups like themselves. "Musicians are looked down on because they are related to booze and drugs," he said. In his opinion, this situation 'is getting better; he



The carnival connection's free and easy style made them a success at the Get-Acquainted dance last Saturday. After the performance, they continued with their light humor in recounting past experiences.

Brunswickan photos by Gary Robins

believes the Beatles are responsible for this.

Though the group has never played before, Nick said he thought "the kids in Fredericton were great."

The group has cut one record, "Poster Man" which is in the 'Top 20' on three Montreal radio stations and also on one French station (which, they said, is a first in Montreal).

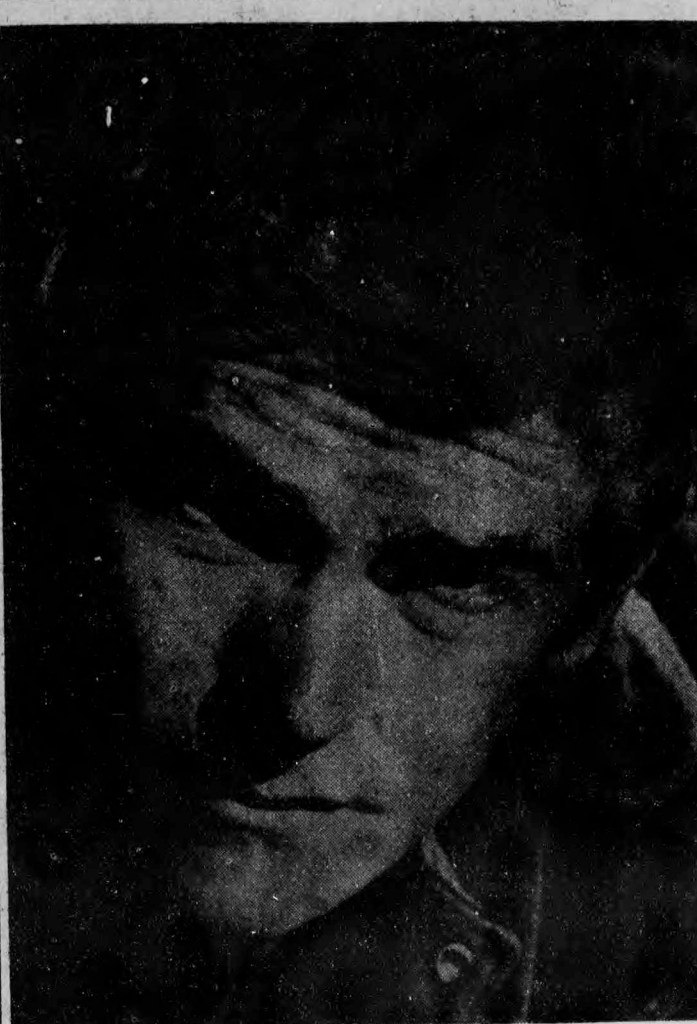
In the U.S. "Poster Man" is listed as the pickhit in the magazine "Cashbox" which, as Les Leroux states, is "the bible of rock and roll."

The Carnival Connection would like to play in different towns each night but find this difficult because they have only one record out.

But an album is hopefully forthcoming in the near future. Nick Kastos, the drummer says they will make the album as a book - the story of their lives. It will be made up of all the little things that have happened

to them - happy things, sad things. When the album is completed they hope to play at all colleges, and then hopefully Europe.

On the whole the Connection were four extremely humorous and good musicians; and they presented an excellent stage show. Perhaps they should have received a little more response and participation from our audiences.



Lightfoot tomorrow

by Lynnda McDougall
Brunswickan staff

Lightfoot is coming!

Gordon Lightfoot, Canadian composer and folksinger, is appearing at the Lady Beaverbrook rink tomorrow at 8:30 p.m.

This will mark Lightfoot's second appearance before a Fredericton audience; his first came in the winter of 1966.

The Orientation Committee has brought Lightfoot to Fredericton this time, as part of the orientation programme. Said Allan Stuart: "We are expecting a very good response." A capacity audience of 3,000 doesn't seem out of reach.

Gordon Lightfoot was born in Orillia, Ont. 29 years ago. During the early part of his career, he wrote songs recorded by other artists. Except for Bob Dylan, he has had more songs recorded by other artists in the past five years than any

song-writer in North America. "For Lovin' Me" has been recorded by more than 100 artists.

Since he began recording and performing his own songs, his album "The Way I Feel" and "Lightfoot" have won him two gold records.

Many of his works are essentially Canadian.

Lightfoot has explained how he writes a song. "It starts with a line of melody that should immediately suggest a line of thought - to match the mood of it. The best way for me is to write the words and the music together and to find a point of view while I'm writing it." A song has to have a point of view, a philosophy to hold it together. "I've got to feel it first, then I know what to write."

Lightfoot will be accompanied by his guitarist, Red Shea and bass player, John Stockfish.



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