NAKED CAME POLONSKY

The colostomy of a chipmunk

I have not been feeling well lately, and it is because of this physical state of affairs that I have found myself watching an inordinate amount of television. When one is under the weather, one usually turns to TIME Magazines and/or the CBC for one's daily quotient of fun.

But, what with the strong academic background I have developed through my three years of intellectual training at York University, it is only natural that I could not be satisfied watching TV for mere pleasure, alone. So, in pursuit of a more rational methodology to facilitate my handling of all this teley watching, I have drawn up extensive charts of how the Canadian Content rulings are in practice working out.

I think I can best inform you of the repercussions of the new rulings by the results of my analysis of a CBC production which was aired live right here in Toronto, the Wayne and Shuster give Ann Murray a Hickey Hour.

The show attempted to bring you only the best in Canadian culture and hence borrowed its style from Laugh-In. The first item on the programme was crassly a straight pitch for the

counter culture market, that is the Canadian culture counter culture. This spot consisted of two numbers by that well known rock band — Lighthouse. One of the numbers was cleverly choreographed with the last movement ending in a collage of Pierre Trudeau's face and hands, with Pierre giving the proverbial finger to Robert Stanfield who himself was giving the proverbial finger to Tommy Douglas. I later found out that 10 angry viewers phoned in immediately after the show extremely upset with the CBC for not being fair to all parties. The management apparently duely apologized and promised that the situation would be rectified by a special bit on the next Hockey Night In Canada.

Anyways, further on into the Wayne and Shuster Give Ann Murray a Hickey Hour it was time for some colonial quickies. First we had a look-a-like of Nelson Eddy resplendent in his dashing RCMP uniform busting a bunch of kids at Rochdale, with the strains of Marg Osborne singing Rosemarie in the background. Next was a dramatic reading of the Lord's

Prayer by Gordon Sinclair as he pushed his grocery cart by the It's Mainly Because of The Meat counter at a Downsview Dominion Store. And the final quickie had a Cinderella quality to it, where in the final scene, the fairy godmother, most graciously played by Toby Lark, crowns Melville Watkins as our Prime Minister.

Now that the quickies were over, the producer felt obligated to give us some humour.

Irving Layton followed reciting some of his fornication oriented poetry with a recording murmuring from the dead bear's mouth "My name is Irving Layton and I am the greatest poet in the Western Hemisphere. Make no mistake about that, I am the greatest poet in the Western Hemisphere." Apparently Mr. Layton is a continentalist when it comes to poetry. And what else could follow such a subtle performance but a playing of Leonard Cohen's first album, but at the 45 speed instead of the 33. This had amazingly hilarious effects, especially if you get off on Leonard Cohen sounding like Alvin the Chipmunk.

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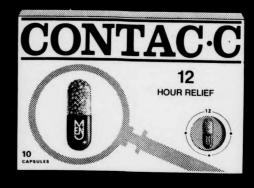
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