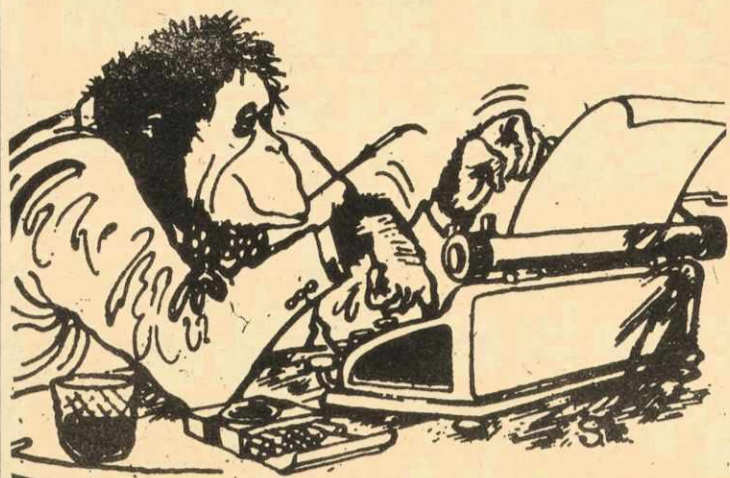


Speaking Of Movies and T.V.



by Peter Cameron

This week I'm going to give you my impressions of the Canadian movie and TV industry. For the past few years the Canadian government has been trying to increase the amount of cinema and TV produced in Canada and featuring Canadian talent. In the volume, increase department they have accomplished what they set out to do but as far as quality goes there ain't that

much.

If you take the recent Canadian movies as an example you will see that most have the same plot (or lack of it?). The most common story line consists of a number of people (usually young) who get bored where they are so they jump in a car and travel around. This story is good enough the first time and still has some interest the second time but after that they get rather boring.

Now I suppose you're all thinking that I'm down on Canadian talent, I'm not, the acting in most of these movies is of high quality as are camera work and setting. The choice of story is my main beef, I'm sure that there is a fair amount of good story matter available by Canadian authors.

One movie that I rate as the best to come out of the Canadian film boom was *The Pyx*. That movie had a good story, decent acting and excellent photography. Unfortunately, this was only one of many movies produced in this country.

The National Film Board in spite of what a lot of people have to say about them have put out a lot of good stuff since they got out of the travelog rut.

Time now to move on to the subject of TV. To start off I'll say that I don't think too much of the Canadian produced shows, or the American ones for that

matter, but in general the American shows stand out in comparison.

One of those shows that was hyped as being a new and great thing along the lines of a successful American show was the *Starlost*. That show suffered quite a few problems, such as story, scenery, acting and filming. The story was the same childish junk used for *Lost in Space* (even the title is somewhat the same). The scenery looked like the leftovers from *Silent Running* and the acting could have been a lot better. Look at *Star Trek* sometime.

For other shows such as *Jalna* there is little that one can say except that they are poor copies of BBC programs that did well over here.

The only bright spots that I see are some of the music shows, *Wayne and Shuster*, and some of the stuff from CBC Montreal.

Hope I haven't too many heroes, see you next week.

U. of Calgary has Radio Problems

The student radio station at the University of Calgary, CJSW, has been negotiating for an FM licence with the Canadian Radio and Television Commission (CRTC) since April and has not succeeded in obtaining it because of what station manager Glen Schey calls "a big fat run-around."

Schey says the CRTC is discriminating against student opinions.

CJSW sent an application for FM licencing in April and received no reply until July. At the time the CRTC charged the application was

incomplete, listing a number of unanswered questions.

Schey insists the form was completed and that questions listed by the CRTC had not been previously asked. As a result of the "omission" in the application CJSW was not included in the Calgary CRTC hearings in June.

After meeting the demands, CJSW received another letter stating that the CRTC required all members of the radio station to be Canadian citizens, that they must have proof of citizenship and assure that no foreigners join the station.

Schey says he will push for an FM licence "as long as I can" but stressed the importance of student radio stations across the country getting together to pressure the CRTC.

At present, student radio stations cannot charge for off-campus advertising. Schey cited the case of the Univer-

Schey was upset with the ruling, questioning the political wisdom of the move and asked the CRTC to reconsider.

sity of Manitoba station which applied for a commercial licence and was granted the right to broadcast paid classified ads only.

Schey recalled receiving a CRTC letter which stated they highly encouraged student radio to go FM. As far as he is concerned the situation is quite the contrary and CJSW is presenting a strong presentation for the Edmonton hearings in late October.

Irish Superstar Visits Halifax

By Tom Clahane

Tommy Makem the great Irish superstar, and the *Bards*, an Irish folk band teamed up to present a "Night of the Irish" at Queen Elizabeth High School, last week. To my mind it was much more successful than the recent "Breath of Scotland", presented at the Cohn. This is perhaps due to a certain extent to my own preference for Irish music and my being of Irish descent, but more so because Tommy Makem is a professional in the finest sense of the word.

Irish folk music also tends to make me sympathize with the fight of the "oppressed" Irish to reunite their homeland.

A great deal of music is based on the history of this struggle, and some of the softest and most melancholy ballads ever written were in this vein.

The *Bards* started the evening off with a long but well done (on the whole) set, featuring the talents of a young lady introduced only as "Ann" and who sang with the voice of an

angel. Her beautiful rendition of the ballad "Only Our Rivers Run Free" was for me the high point of the entire evening.

Tommy Makem was, of course, the real show. The man has a magic about him that takes over an audience the second he walks out on the stage. His music is the music of the land and the people, rich in tradition, steeped in mythology, and written from deep within. Again he draws a vast majority of his material from the struggle of the Irish people. His versatility on the banjo and the pipes goes without saying. This is the man who was recorded live at Carnegie and who has become a legend in his own time, doing his own music, and playing to an audience that were in the same space.

To sum up the concert, I loved it, the audience loved it, and Tommy Makem seemed as if there was no place he'd rather be. Thanks to Brookes Diamond and Radius Three Thousand for bringing in a fine quality show, of a type rarely seen in this city.

Newspaper Flick

WHY ROCK THE BOAT?, the National Film Board's new feature-length comedy about the newspaper business, will begin its Halifax engagement at the Casino Theatre on Friday, November 1.

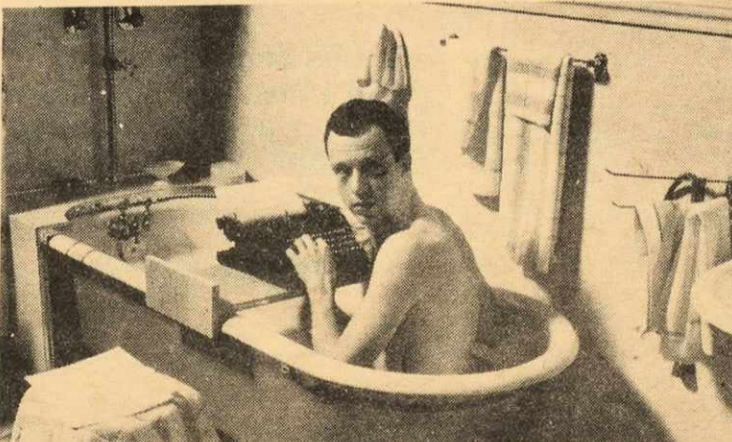
WHY ROCK THE BOAT?, has an all-Canadian cast, starring Stuart Gillard, Tiju Leek, Ken James and Halifax-born wellknown actor Henry Beckman. It was directed by John Howe, from a screenplay by William Weintraub, based on his novel of the same name.

Filming was done on location in Montreal and the Laurentian Mountains, as well as on the NFB's big sound stage in Montreal, where a full scale newspaper city room was built.

The scene is Montreal and the time is 1947. Harry Barnes (Stuart Gillard) is a shy, awkward young man who has recently graduated from McGill University. His burning ambition is to be a newspaperman and he is agreeably surprised when he manages to land a job as a junior reporter on *The Daily Witness*.

As he settles into the job, with wide-eyed innocence, Harry feels himself surrounded by the excitement and glamor of big-time journalism. He doesn't seem to notice that *The Witness* is possibly the worst news-

paper in the whole Dominion of Canada -- monumentally mismanaged, reactionary, corrupt, and boring. The *Witness*, for instance, still covers funerals in great detail, running long lists of names of the people who attend. One of Harry's typical assignments is to stand on the church steps and take down the mourners' names as they enter.



As Harry's newspaper career progresses, he becomes involved in one comic misadventure after another. And, at the same time, he's torn by a number of conflicts, both interior and exterior. There's the conflict between Harry's youthful idealism and the fashionable cynicism of the older reporters, and there's the conflict between the beliefs he cherishes about pure, romantic love and sharp pangs of sexual

CINEMA SHOWCASE

OUR TIME
1,3,5,7, & 9 P.M.
SUNDAY STARTS AT
3:00

Adult Entertainment
429-3432 or 429-3433

SCOTIA SQUARE
CINEMA

BARRINGTON & DUKE ST.

STREETS OF HONG
KONG

1,3:05,5:05,7:00 & 9:15

Restricted to
18 Yrs. & Over

423-6054

PARAMOUNT
Cinema 1

1577 BARRINGTON ST.

Bruce Lee
RETURN OF THE
DRAGON

1,3,5,6:50 & 9:00

Adult Entertainment

423-6054

PARAMOUNT
Cinema 2

1577 BARRINGTON ST.

Held Over 4th Week
THE LONGEST YARD

1,3:05,5:10,7:15 & 9:20

Adult Entertainment

429-5214

COVE CINEMA

2112 GOTTINGEN ST.

2001Space Odyssey
SUN-FRI - 8:00 P.M.
General Entertainment

penhorn mall
CINEMA 1

463-2597

HELD OVER
4TH WEEK
"The Longest Yard"

7:00 & 9:00

Adult Entertainment

penhorn mall
CINEMA 2

463-2597

"UPTOWN SATURDAY
NIGHT"

7:15 & 9:15

General Entertainment

penhorn mall
CINEMA 3

463-2597

hunger that are constantly gnawing at him. But, above all, there's the conflict between conformity and rebellion -- and this is perhaps the film's principal theme.

Many films portray the young hero as a rebel. But *WHY ROCK THE BOAT?* tries to present a sympathetic picture of the hero as a conformist -- which is what most people are.

Like all conformists, Harry Barnes is very interested in survival, and right at the outset he is advised that if he wants to survive on *The Witness* he should avoid rocking the boat. But as the story unfolds he finds himself doing quite a lot of boat-rocking, and by the time the film ends he's far less sure that the status quo is the best of all possible worlds.