

GREAT MUSIC FOR FREE THE EXCHANGE

by JOHN MOORE

The Exchange is a coffee-house held in the UPEI Chaplaincy Center from 8:30 to 11:30 every Wednesday night. The entertainment is provided by local performers. The atmosphere is quiet and relaxed with candlelit tables. For refreshment there is coffee, tea, and cookies. Following is a review of the last two coffee-houses held on Nov. 16th and Nov. 23rd.

Nov. 16

The evening started off with a couple of short films. Then the music began. The first group was composed of Frank Strain, who played guitar, Colin Campbell, who shared the lead vocals and played the harmonica, and Paul Broadbent, who performed the rest of the leads and played guitar.

These three musicians got the evening going in fine style, playing such songs as Simon and Garfunkel's "America", and a number "Jesus Gonna Make It All Right."

Next there were two readings, one by Joan MacFarlane and one by Debby MacDonald. They were well received by the warm audience.

Following these readings there was another musical group, this one composed of Steve Love, who played guitar and handled some of the lead vocals and John (Tex) MacMillan who handled most of the leads and played the harmonica. These two entertained the audience with adeptness, doing such songs as Gordon Lightfoot's "Beautiful" and a number called "Don't think Twice It's All Right".

To end this enjoyable evening, Frank Strain, Colin Campbell and Paul Broadbent played a few more songs. Among others they did "Moondance", "Place in the World for A Gambler", and a blues medley.

There was a good size crowd at the coffee-house and everybody had a good time.

Nov. 23

The coffee-house of the

night of Nov. 23 began with a surprise. Instead of the usual musical group or reader, the audience was treated to a reading by the well-known Caribbean writer Austin Clarke. Mr. Clarke is on P.E.I. because of a Canada Council grant. He did a reading from a selection of short stories of his called When He Was Free and Young and He Used To Wear Silks.

The short story he read was called "An Easter Carol." It was an interesting story and was well received by the attentive audience.

Following this reading there was a musical group composed of Sean Mooney and John (Tex) MacMillan. Sean Mooney played guitar and did the back-up vocals while John (Tex) MacMillan did the lead vocals and played the harmonica. Some of the songs they did were Elton John's "Your Song", John Prines "Hello In There", and Bob Dylan's "Good Song", and a masterful rendition of Kris Kristofferson's "Silver Tongued Devil".

Next there was another reading by Austin Clarke, this time from his book The Prime Minister. After this entertaining reading Mr. Clarke stayed and listened to some of the music.

The next performer was Mike Doyle, who sang and accompanied himself on the guitar. A couple of the songs he did were "Annie's Song" by John Denver and a song called "Hold On To Your Dreams". He was given warm applause.

Bill Power and Len Michalik were the last performers to share their music with the audience. Two of the songs they did were

"Feeling All Right" and "Are You Ready For the Country". By this time it was late and the audience was thin, but those who stayed were generous in their expression of appreciation for the group.

Right now while I'm sitting here in the Chaplaincy Center, the tablecloths are being ripped off the tables and the noise is not as melodic

as a few minutes ago. The quality of music has been high and because of this the audience has been increasing in size. The performers are not paid, but nevertheless they have been generous with their time and talents. If you haven't been to The Exchange come by next Wednesday. Really it will be worth your while.

Thanks are due to many people for the success of

the past three coffee-houses. Special thanks to Kevin, Joe, Pete, Elliot, Dawn, Debby, Steve, Al, and Mary Katherine.

Despite the help of these people, extra hands are always helpful for the setting up of tables, cleaning up, and other miscellaneous work. If you want to help, contact Steve Skutt at Blanchard 117. If you want to perform, contact the same man.

THE END

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