

The latest issue of Come For to Sing from Chicago has a very useful Guide to Folk Music Resources, as well as Tony Barrand's "Parody in Folk Song" article, featuring words & music for Ian Robb's "Champion at Drivin 'Em Crazy" and Grit Laskin's version of "Pleasant and Delightful," called here "Cosmic and Freaky." It's a pity that Touch the Earth (Feb 6) featured so few western singers and musicians on their coverage of the First Vancouver Folk Music Festival: I didn't hear the whole show, but I did hear Robin Williamson, the Original Sloth Band, Roosevelt Sykes, Claudia Schmidt, Stan Rogers, Valdy, Colleen Peterson, John Hiatt,

Cathy Fink & Duck Donald, Pied Pear (a local group with a large following), John Hammond and Odetta. If we can't hear westerners at eastern festivals (because of the large air fares, we're told) and we can't hear them at western festivals, where can we hear them? The fault doesn't wholly lie with TTE, since the booking was arranged by Mitch Podalak of the Winnipeg Fest-but the least TTE could do is to wander. once in a while, away from the main stage. The TTE crew could also do worse than look at a map when they visit the west: one of them closed the show with a remark about what a beautiful city Vancouver was, with the harbour and the Rocky Mountains just behind. The Rocky mountains are, of course, a little over six hundred miles east of the coast. Enough said. Watch these pages for Alistair Brown's upcoming column (no name as yet). He promises "a bit of several things-record reviews, concerts, clubs, 'think pieces,' etc." Sounds good.