

BRITISH COLUMBIA

When my partner, Laurie Postans, and I moved up to Kamloops from Vancouver just last September, we found the information in CFB put us in touch with the music scene here, and in a short time we found a lot of musicians to play and sing with. I believe that my new job as B.C. regional editor, challenging as it is, is going to provide a most useful source for other people in B.C. to use as a communications link. But I need the help of people in the communities out there where folk music is happening. Let me know what is happening where and when, send me reviews of things that have happened, let me know the local Who's Who in your town, or just drop me a line to let me know all is well. Otherwise, I cannot make CFB work in our mountainous, far-flung province. There is an incredible amount of good music out here, so let's support it and watch it grow as we get to know each other.

Sue Unia

ED: See inside front cover for Sue's address.

THE Y-NOT COFFEEHOUSE—KAMLOOPS

The second Y-Not Coffeehouse, sponsored jointly by the YWCA and Cariboo College Student Society, was held on January 17th in the student lounge. The attendance exceeded that of the first Coffeehouse of the season by more than 50%. The next one is on February 22nd, and there is a good chance that if we continue to be this successful, we may go to a bi-weekly Coffeehouse on a regular basis, until summer weather takes our audience away. We have so much local talent here in Kamloops that it sometimes is difficult to crowd everyone into one evening without shortening the acts considerably.

On January 17th, the Y-Not featured the "Scandihoogians" from Vancouver, who present songs about early logging in

B.C. They call their performance "A Haywire Show", and it is an attractive, interesting two-set collection of songs and narration that is anything but haywire. Barry Hall provides first-class banjo, guitar, fiddle, mandolin and harmonica lead work; Sheila Baker strums solid rhythm on banjo and guitar, and Tom Sullivan's bass ties it all together to make thoroughly pleasant music. Dick Clements as narrator has an excellent sense of timing and the perfect voice for the job.

The show was originally conceived and written by Barry, whose father was a "Scandihoogian" (i.e. Scandinavian) logger. Barry researched the life and lore of these times thoroughly before writing the songs, which then evolved into "Highball", a play written by Ron Weihs. "Highball" ran successfully for several weeks in Vancouver, but after it was over, Barry wasn't finished. He and Sheila took some of the "Highball" songs which Barry had written, a few songs from Phil Thomas' collection of B.C. songs and one written by Tom Sullivan, and worked up "A Haywire Show", which is a mini form of "Highball". And it works! The vocals are just right, the timing is split-second, and the material and delivery match beautifully to create an entertaining, well-balanced and unique presentation of Coast logging fifty years ago. Watch for two records coming out soon: "Barry Hall—Solo Banjo", and "A Haywire Show".

Sue Unia

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