

46 THE TELEGRAM, Toronto, Mon., July 7, 1969

Du BARRY CAMPAU TV

ARE your wits a lot sharper on Sunday? Are you suddenly very interested in very serious things on the Sabbath? Is there something about that day that turns on your brain?

Well, your intelligence may be taking a well-earned weekend rest — but the networks will never believe it.

Sunday, for them, is the time to pile on all the culture and information they've been saving up for six days — and they really sock it to you between noon and six.

During these hours clergyman discuss philosophy, scientists talk about theology, politicians parry reporters and folk singers sing about social problems.

Calvin himself couldn't consider this kind of TV fare frivolous — he might even concede that it isn't as gripping as most readings from the Bible.

It's not that many of these programs aren't good in themselves — they are. It's just that they are all bundled together so relentlessly with little to relieve them but the odd old movie.

Question Period at 1:30 on Channel 9, for instance, wouldn't suitly prime time any evening. Fraser Kelly at last, assisted by Max Keeping and Bruce Phillips, of CTV news, and Douglas Fisher, Telegram columnist, interviewed the new Minister of Transport, Donald Jamieson, yesterday and elicited from him comments on the many aspects of his job.

Jamieson outlined the efforts being made to help our airports keep pace with the ever-increasing amount of traffic — and getting the passengers to and from the airports seems to be almost more difficult than keeping the planes coming in and out. Now, it seems that after having all but given up on railroads, they may have to be re-activated to take people back and forth over the 30 and 40 miles between the cities and the new, "way out airports."

About another of his many responsibilities, Jamieson said he feared the Canadian Radio and Television Commission may, for all its good intentions, find it more difficult than it thinks to inject more culture and information into programming right away. "When a more electronically educated generation has been produced," he said, "this may be possible — but right now most audiences really want to be entertained."

Ballads et Chansons, a music program from Ottawa via CBC, was a pleasant, if rather self-consciously bilingual half-hour. Jean Price was the star of the show, not necessarily by billing but by the charm of her voice. The sights and sounds of Ottawa made a surprisingly photogenic background to the show — especially in the song superimposed over shots of the March for Millions.

The happiest one on last night's Ed Sullivan show turned up courtesy his (and our) old friends, Johnny Wayne and Frank Sinatra. It was the song that he gave The Sugar Shoppe a spot — and how grateful he should be.

This fresh young local group, who first turned up, as I recall it, at Grammy's sing as if they enjoyed it — and, miraculously, they also sing so that we can understand the lyrics — most amazing and most gratifying.

If the Sullivan program really provides the exposure it's supposed to (although I have the feeling that nobody is looking but me and some kids under 20), last night's show should be a boon to the group — they really were good!

One Canadian singer whose talent eludes me is Jo Mitchell, who appears on the Ontario Cash Show (Channel 9). She's a pretty young thing and her compositions, when arranged and sung by other vocalists, have quite a bit of appeal — but when she does them herself, they lose their quality. I know she has scars of ecstatic fans and doesn't need me among them, but I find her very self-consciously folksy and am vastly put off by that sort of falsetto she affects. Best she should stay home and tend to her writing — and let others take it from there.

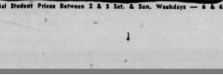
The plugs that the CBC is using for its coverage of the upcoming moon landing are just a dash excessive, I find. The line is: "Man is about to create a new Adam, by putting the first man on a new planet." But what's an Adam without an Eve or a Eden in which to romp with her?

Theatres duck seized film

The seizing of a Toronto film for public viewing by the Metro police has Ontario Censorship Board, discouraged other Ontario theatres from showing the film.

A spokesman for Odessa theatres said Saturday the film was not being shown anywhere in Ontario and "I doubt if anyone will try to pick it up for a public theatre, at least until the obscenity charge is cleared up."

Two members of the Metro police commission have protected the police action.



DAVID HEMMING and ALEXANDRA STEWART... she transfers her allegiance.

2 men and a girl in a fancy con game

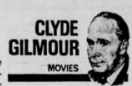
ONLY WHEN I LARF

LONG WAITS before the unfolding of the cast-and-credits roll will be becoming commonplace in the movies, but Only When I Larf (at the Barenco) probably has established a world record in this highly specialized phase of film-making.

A pre-credits sequence lasting a bit more than 20 minutes takes place before the title appears and we are told that this British picture was directed by Basil Dearden, with a screenplay by John Salma based on a novel by Len Deighton, who also co-produced.

It's a bit much, but at least the extended prologue does succeed in introducing Richard Attenborough, David Hemmings and Alexandra Stewart as a trio of international confidence tricksters and in showing as an entertaining example of their activities.

In a fairly plausible manner, though I'd have difficulty in summarizing it in basic English, they swindle a pair of New York busi-



CLYDE GILMOUR MOVIES

nessmen out of \$200,000 and get clean away by jet to London, evidently without leaving any traces for the police to work on.

Gradually we learn that the fiftyish Attenborough (actually he is 45, but he looks older in this role) is the boss of the trio but is having a Generations Gap trouble with his assistant, Hemmings, who is in his twenties.

Miss Stewart, a glamorous Canadian actress from Montreal who has been living in France since her mid-20s, is Attenborough's mistress at first but soon transfers her allegiance — and her abundant favors — to their younger colleague.

The plotters' various disguises are more beguiling than their incredibly complicated con-games during the main portion of the film. Miss Stewart, cool but sexy, is always a pleasure

to look at but remains a puzzle from start to finish, as anonymous as a finance-company receptionist. Hemmings, too, fails to develop into a three-dimensional figure, though he has a couple of fine scenes posing as a youthful tycoon with a computerized mind.

It's the veteran Attenborough, however, who single-handedly makes Only When I Larf a passable diversion. (The silly title refers to the old joke about the stork Brion, with a spear in him, who tells a questioner that the only time it hurts is when he laughs.)

Whether as a knighted industrialist, a convincing brigadier or an oddy simpering psychiatrist who detects Freudian coils in the most casual conversation, Attenborough shifts from one pose to the next with professional aplomb.

Director Dearden's earlier films included several about smooth thieves, such as League of Gentlemen and Gambal. There is nothing very distinctive about his work in Larf, but he keeps things moving and the decor and color photography are consistently easy on the eye.

Tyree Glenn formed band for city engagement

"LOUIS' BLOWING again," said Tyree Glenn, "but the doctor won't let him go back to work just yet."



HELEN McNAMARA JAZZ

Glenn, star trombonist-vibist with the Louis Armstrong ensemble, was talking about his boss. In Toronto for a two-week engagement at the Colonial, Tyree speaks fondly of Louis, as he does of Duke Ellington, another well-known employer.

Tyree Glenn spent five years in the Ellington orchestra and another five with the Armstrong All-Stars, until that is, Louis suddenly collapsed a few months ago, suffering from the effects of drastic dieting.

"Louis would just die if he couldn't go back to work," said Tyree, "but he'll soon be O.K. Last Friday he celebrated his 69th birthday and he was having a big party."

Glenn added that Armstrong had been very upset by the death of Joe Glaser, the show business agent, who had been Louis' manager since the 20s. "They were very close," said Tyree. "Glaser's death probably set him back a bit."

When Armstrong does fully recover it is quite possible he went on, that the trumpeter would front Tyree Glenn's present band, which features such notables as pianist Wynton Kelly, bassist Buddy Hancock, drummer Jimmy Crawford, and Roger Glenn.

the leader's 24-year-old son who plays vibes, flute and saxophone.

"I put the band together for this engagement, when it looked as though Louis wouldn't be playing for a while yet. We were supposed to be out in Las Vegas on July 11. Instead, I'll take this band into the Round Table in New York for three months and we'll see what happens after that."

Glenn doesn't attempt to hide his pride in his son's musical achievements, nor does the young Glenn hide his admiration for his father. Out of the U.S. Army two months ago, after two years stationed in Honolulu, Roger grew up surrounded by music and musicians.

"I was playing the vibes when I was still in the crib," he said with a grin. "I was playing clarinet in the fourth grade, and then I went on the saxophone and flute."

"I like all kinds of music, classical, Latin, jazz. I live in a musical atmosphere but meeting all the famous musicians that used to come to our house never meant anything to me. I'd say 'Hiya Duke, I'm going out to play.' Only later did I realize who he was... and

all the others who dropped by."

Glenn added that Roger and his older son, Tyree Glenn, Jr., 28, who now lives in Rome where he is conductor of an orchestra for a rock 'n' roll group, never had to be told to practise. Tyree chuckled.

"The other night Roger said to me 'you know I was practising until five in the morning.' I said to him 'You don't have to tell me!'"

Glenn, who came out of Texas (he was born in Corsicana in 1921) played with top bands led by Benny Carter, Cab Calloway, Eddie Barclay and Don Redman, until he joined Ellington in 1946. After that he spent nearly 15 years in CBS studio orchestras ("in order to put the boys through college") then suddenly he made up his mind to get out.

"I took six months leave of absence and I've been away for five years. That's when I joined Louis."

First with outside drinking

The Four Seasons, favorite watering hole of CBC performers and personnel and visiting actors is the first in Metro to serve wine, beer and liquor outdoors legally.

Owners of the motor hotel and Inn On The Park have received licenses from the Liquor License Board to serve alcoholic beverages in an outdoor cafe setting. The new regulation recently was instituted by the Ontario government.

Applications have been received by the LLB for similar licenses from the Beverly Hills Seaway Towers, Constellation Hotel, Vahalla Inn, Guild Inn and Sherway Inn. These establishments have been approved subject to conditions such as increase of wash-room facilities.

Before they can serve outdoors, though, they must receive a license without conditions attached. Also approved with conditions are the Island Yacht Club and the Port Credit Yacht Club.

Dragnet's Ben Alexander

HOLLYWOOD — (UPI) — Private Christian Science funeral services will be conducted Wednesday for actor Ben Alexander, the cop-star of the television series Dragnet.

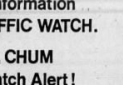
He was found dead in his Westchester area home Saturday by his wife, Lesley, and their two children when they returned from a camping trip.

Alexander, 58, died from natural causes. His latest role was on the Foley Squad television series but he was best

known as Sgt. Joe Friday's buddy, Frank Smith, of Dragnet.

Although he grew up on the stage, Alexander was a shrewd businessman. He was a licensed embalmer and president of Alexander & Murphy Mortuaries of San Francisco and owned car dealerships, motels, gasoline stations and a brewery.

He began his film career as a child actor at the age of three. One of his roles included All Quiet On The Western Front.



BEN ALEXANDER Jack Webb's sidekick

Join us for a fun cool one.



HE'S DAVID FROST, ENTERTAINER, CONVERSATIONALIST, INTERVIEWER. DAVID'S GUESTS THIS WEEK INCLUDE: PRINCE CHARLES, ED SULLIVAN, ADAM CLAYTON POWELL, REX HARRISON, MOSHE DAYAN, CHARLETON HESTON, TOMMY STEELE, AND THE ROLLING STONES. JOIN US FOR THE DAVID FROST SHOW MONDAY THRU FRIDAY NIGHTS AT 10.

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