

RPM music weekly

U.S. TALENT FOR EXPO '67

Washington: The Office of the United States Commissioner General has announced plans to have outstanding American performers in all categories, professional and amateur, present themselves before large audiences at the U.S. Pavilion during the Canadian World Exhibition in Montreal in 1967.

Since more than 70 countries, including the world's major nations, will be sending top talent to Montreal to represent their respective nations, the office of the U.S. Commissioner General is now receiving applications from performers and performing groups from all parts of the country. A panel of experts has been set up to receive and screen the many applications.

Bands, choirs, glee clubs, dance troupes, gymnasts and orchestras are expected to make up the glittering parade of national talent.

The Canadian World Exhibition, familiarly called EXPO 67 is the first World Exhibition to be held in the western hemisphere with the approval of the International Bureau of Exhibitions. The Canadian Government's investment is expected to exceed 250 million dollars.

Independent surveys by two United States research firms have shown that some 10 million visitors will make more than 30 million visits to EXPO during the six months it will be open.

R. Buckminster Fuller, the famous American architect-inventor-philosopher, has designed an attractive pavilion in the shape of a 3/4 sphere to house the U.S. Exhibits and will serve as a backdrop for the U.S. performers.

Volume 5, No. 14

NEW REPS. SPARTON

Harold E. Pounds, record division manager reports new appointments for Sparton. Keith Olafsen, who will cover Manitoba, Sask. and the Ontario Lakehead from headquarters in Winnipeg. Dave Carruthers will cover Northern Ontario from headquarters in Sudbury. Yvon de B. Chartier will look after Quebec and Eastern Ontario from headquarters in Montreal. Jerry Lazarowich of Wholesale Appliances will cover British Columbia and Alberta from headquarters in Vancouver.



Edmonton's popular King Beez recently made a tour of Upper Canada where they collected a sizeable following of fans. Their Quality recording of "Gloria" is still seeing good action across the country. While in Toronto, the boys were joined by their producer/manager Bob Stagg, who arranged for a recording session at Hallmark. The result of this session, "I Can't Explain", has just been released and initial reaction has it as a strong contender for the charts.

Ballad of the Truck Drivin' Man

The decline and final fall of the singing cowboy from the country music scene a few years ago, created the need for a new, all American hero. The position was quickly filled by the truck driver, seated in the cab of his shiny Diesel rig.

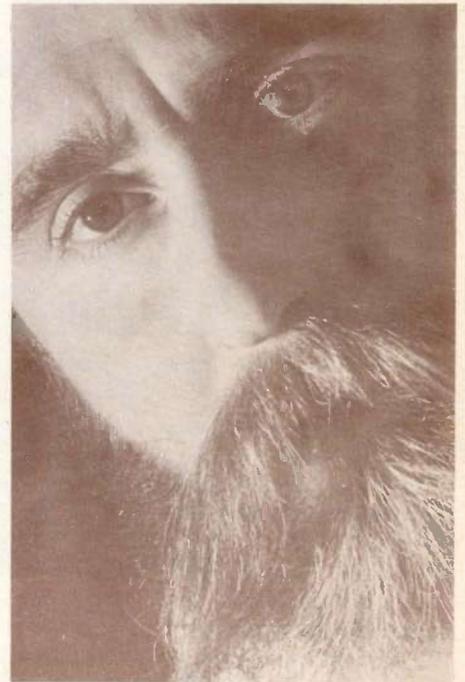
If the names Mack, Reo, White, Kenworth and Hendrickson were somewhat obscure two years ago, today they are virtually synonymous with the new trend in country music. The songs have moved from the farms to the



highways, elevating the truck to the lofty pinnacle of fame once held by the horse.

Many truck driving songs terminate in a spectacular death sequence - a subject con-

Continued on Page 6



With Capitol expanding their operations in the French Canadian market, they were indeed fortunate in signing Alexandre Zelkine, who was born in Lyons France and arrived in Canada in January of this year. -Mr. Zelkine accompanies himself on guitar. His magnificent mellow bass voice is already well known throughout La Belle Province where he has been playing to enthusiastic audiences. Capitol has arranged an album release for the first of June, and because of the versatility of this artist, will make the album available for the complete Canadian market.

STARTING TO MOVE UP THE CHARTS

"JUST FOR YOU"

BOBBY BRITTAN

REM
RECORDS

"WHERE THE ACTION IS" IN VANCOUVER

Vancouver: The Grooveyard opened last Fall at 759 Carnarvon St and has grown in popularity to the point where it's now considered "in" with the "in" crowd which, of course, makes it one of the busiest spots in the city. Manager Doug Miller has spent much time, effort, and money to keep his club well stocked with the best local entertainment available including The Nocturnals, Epics, Shantelles, and The Night Train Revue. As well, Miller has also grabbed some of the out of town chart toppers like The Guess Who from Winnipeg, with Wes Dakus and The Rebels and Barry Allen booked for later in the summer. Doug has also been successful in supplying his patrons with top names from stateside includ-



ing Paul Revere and The Raiders, Viceroy's, Marvin Gaye and Etta James.

Both Vancouver Top Forty stations have lent their support to The Grooveyard and personalities from C-FUN and CKLG occasionally host an evening at this made to order exposure outlet.

The Grooveyard management would like to see more of the prominent Canadian groups take the plunge and get a little exposure on the West Coast where they would be most welcome at The Grooveyard. Arrangements can be made through Jaguar Enterprises at Box 53 Burnaby 1, B.C.

BIGLAND'S SCRIBNER GASSED WITH WESTERN TALENT

Ron Scribner, president of The Bigland Agency, has just returned from a get acquainted tour of Canada's Western provinces, where he met top radio personalities and promoters. He also met and heard many of the top Canadian groups and was apparently knocked out with what he heard. Says Scribner, "I've never been so impressed with Canadian talent as I was on the completion of this trip. From Vancouver eastward to The Lakehead there is a Canadian talent explosion just waiting for someone to light the fuse". The Bigland Agency is now setting up

the necessities to bring some of this talent into Upper Canada and at the same time will arrange for the western appearances of top acts from Bigland's roster.

PLATTERS RETURN TO CHARTS WITH MUSICOR OUTING

New York: Ren Grevatt is confident that the new Musicor release by The Platters, "I Love You 1000 Times", will return these hitmakers of the late 50's and 60's to the top side of the charts. Luther Dixon produced this single in Detroit, making a happy reunion for the group with Art Talmadge, head of Musicor, who had a close association with The Platters in his

days as an A & R exec at Mercury Records. An album is now in the works for the group to be produced by Garry Sherman and will include Platter hits "Only You" and "Harbour Lights" as well as their latest single.

Other Gravatt news from Musicor has it that the latest Pitney tour has been his biggest to date, grossing more than \$100,000 the first week. His Canadian appearances were also to capacity houses. Next for Pitney is his own TV show "An Evening With Gene Pitney", a 30 minute segment in which he performs many of his most requested numbers. The show will be aired on WABC-TV out of New York, May 23 and will be seen via syndication on ABC outlets throughout the country.

*Guaranteed
To be a 100% Canadian
and we think...
international*

SMASH

**"I'M NOT RUNNING
AFTER YOU (Anymore)"**

**JACK HARDIN
& THE SILHOUETTES**



Sounding Board

RON WADDELL—CKDM—Dauphin

Toodle Oo Kangaroo—Larry Lee

"Kangaroo is Kute, Katchy, and Kookie. It has a 'bouncing beat'. A couple of plays, and you are 'bound' to like it. Try it, I think you'll like the response you'll get."

SANDY GARDINER—Ottawa Journal

Girl Girl Girl—Danny Harrison

"Basically this is a good record but it's not the type of song that stays in your mind. Danny does a good vocal job but the melody needs a little more strength than it has."

DON HAMILTON—CKYL—Peace River

She Belongs To Me—Bobby Kris

"A good rendition of overused material. If any version of this song is going to make it this is the one. This boy has the voice and talent to go all the way. Watch out somewhere someplace. There's a hit song waiting for this guy."

RICHARD ADAMS—CFCH—North Bay

Toodle Oo Kangaroo—Larry Lee

"This one may take a little time to catch on but we feel that it should. It's an unusual dance sound for sure."

DAVE CHARLES—CJBQ—Belleville

Girl Girl Girl—Danny Harrison

"Not a bad song, but something is missing. The sound has lost presence somewhere along the line. Danny is another talent that will develop in time. This song could be big if the right people play it."

RICHARD ADAMS—CFCH—North Bay

She Belongs To Me—Bobby Kris

"This is not spectacular at all but is a nice soft dance sound. It should be popular in that field and for that purpose."

BARRY THE SARAZIN—CJET—Smith Falls

Toodle Oo Kangaroo—Larry Lee

"When I first saw the title I thought...What kind of a song is this...and then I auditioned it and got my answer....An instant hit."

RON WADDELL—CKDM—Dauphin

I Wondered Why—Eric Mercury

"A sleeper about to awaken. I suggest you start playing it right now, before it does hit the other charts. A good recording of a good voice."

DENIS MENARD—CKBC—Bathurst

Toodle Oo Kangaroo—Larry Lee

"As far as I know Larry Lee & The Leesures are newcomers to the Canadian recording industry. The struggle to get a hit record might be hard, but they certainly have a distinctive sound."

GEORGE GRANT—VOCM—St. John's

She Belongs To Me—Bobby Kris

"A good version. We had an excellent reaction to the same sound by Jimmy Gilmer awhile back. Could be big."

GRAHAM WYLLIE—CKCL—Truro

She Belongs To Me—Bobby Kris

"Great Dylan material done well. A fine back-up job by The Imperials. Feel Bobby's vocal is just a bit weak, which tends to make the record boring and dull. Deserves airplay and could break big."

BILL JAMES—CKLN—Nelson

I Wondered Why—Eric Mercury

"A very good debut. Beginning is great and backing is well done all the way throughout record. The disc has a haunting effect which should mean success."

GRAHAM WYLLIE—CKCL—Truro

Toodle Oo Kangaroo—Larry Lee

"Hard driving novelty number along 'Woolly Bully' lines, that should break through. Although most novelty numbers bite the dust, this one should do well IF exposed."

GARY HART—CJOC—Lethbridge

Girl Girl Girl—Danny Harrison

"I like the tune. Good commercial sound. Should go."

GEORGE GRANT—VOCM—St. John's

Toodle Oo Kangaroo—Larry Lee

"Good beat. Catchy sound. Could go. Will give it air play."

THE DRUM SOUND OF THE SMASH HIT "LOVE DROPS"

STU MITCHELL

(of the Wes Dakus' Rebels)

— DUO DRUMMERS —

DOUG ROBERTS

"WHAT AM I"

on Capitol

**BIG SOUND!
BIG GROUP!
BIG HIT!**



The STACCATOS
"C'MON EVERYBODY"

THEIR GREATEST YET

From



DIRECTORY '66 SMASHING SUCCESS.....BUT LATER!!

Directory '66, the current edition of the RPM Canadian Music Industry Directory, has been such a success, in both listings and advertisers, that we have had to advance the edition date to June 6th. The great number of new firms and people who have entered the music industry in the past year as well as the excellent response from radio stations have made the listings far more extensive this year. Many last minute advertisers had to be turned down after the Directory had grown from 36 pages (last years size) to 60 pages.

The success of the Directory should be an indication of the great growth of the music industry in Canada in the last 12 months. The new Directory will be a useful and handy desk-side companion for the rec-exec, rad-exec, and the ad-exec as well as others who are either hiring or are hired by the music industry.

Many companies and individuals have already placed large initial orders for this edition, and requests are piling up from all over the world. This years edition will be a limited run, and copies will not last.

To assure yourself of a copy.....why not subscribe to RPM and receive a copy of Directory '66 immediately? An order form will be found on page 6 of this edition.

**SUBSCRIBE TO
RPM Music Weekly
NOW....and receive
a copy of the**

**CANADIAN MUSIC INDUSTRY
DIRECTORY 1966**
-----FREE-----
Subscription blank on page 6

KOSTYRA'S PEG NOTES

Winnipeg: Eugene Kostyra puts the Guess Who's latest Quality outing, "Clock On The Wall", in the category of being another international contender. Burton Cummings, newest member of the group, does the lead singing on this disc and is considered one of the best organists in the pop business. Another international contender is "Love Drops" by Barry Allen which is apparently getting good airplay in Winnipeg and should be charted soon.

A few of the local groups have been bugging the local rock station about not getting more chart action on their records. Now the station is reported to be taking a longer and more cautious look at local talent.

The Deverons have been getting good action on their latest Reo release of "She is My Life" which features their new lead singer Wayne Arnold, who also plays organ. Both sides were written by lead guitarist Derek Blake

Eugene also advises that two members of The Shondels have left the group to form their own band.

Terry Campbell is the new summer replacement at CKRC.

RPM MUSIC WEEKLY

Editor and Publisher
WALT GREALIS

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Sure!!

A 1000 Miles Away—Caesar & Consuls—Red Leaf

Should!

The Real Thing—Bobby Curtola—Tartan
My World—Arnie Corrado—Columbia

Could

Think Of Me—Buck Owens—Capitol
She Belongs To Me—Bobby Kris—Columbia

Maybe?

The Boat Of Noah—Christopher Cerf—Amy



SARNIA—Frank McBride—CHOK
I Love You Drops—Vic Dana—Doulton
Backstage—Gene Pitney—Columbia
VERNON—Jim Yount—CJIB
Break Out—Mitch Ryder—New Voice
Street That Rhymes—Norma Tanega—New Voice
CALGARY—Marion Lawrence—CFAC
Mama—B.J. Thomas—Scepter
When I Stop Dreaming—Lucille Starr—Barry
BATHURST—Denis Menard—CKBC
Green Grass—Gary Lewis
Don't Have To Say—Dusty Springfield—Phillips
BELLEVILLE—Dave Charles—CJBO
Romeo & Juliet—Caesar/Consuls—Red Leaf
I Am A Rock—Simon & Garfunkle—Columbia
LETHBRIDGE—Gary Hart—CJOC
Make Up Your Mind—Lavin Spoonful—Kama Sutra
What I Am—Stu Mitchell—Capitol
CALGARY—Dave Lyman—CKXL
Green Grass—Gary Lewis—Liberty
Strangers—Frank Sinatra—Reprise
PENTICTON—Wayne Barry—CKOK
Street That Rhymes—Norma Tanega—New Voice
Green Grass—Gary Lewis—Liberty
NORTH BAY—Richard Adams—CFCH
Paint It Black—Rolling Stones—London
Green Grass—Gary Lewis—Liberty
ST. JOHN'S—George Grant—VOCM
Strangers—Frank Sinatra—Reprise
Twinkle Toes—Ray Orbison—MGM
NELSON—Bill James—CKLN
Ain't Gonna Shine—Walker Bros—Smash
Girl Girl Girl—Danny Harrison—Coral

CROSS CANADA CHART ACTION

lw tw Δ-BMI ▲-CAPAC ■-DOMESTIC

U.S. Release

Copyright

Production

VOCM

St. John's

CHNS

Halifax

CKBW

Bridgewater

CHSJ

Saint John

CKBC

Barhurst

CJMS

Montreal

CKWS

Kingston

CHOW

Welland

CFPL

London

CFRS

Simcoe

CKPR

Lakehead

CKCY

The Soo

CKDM

Dauphin

CKCK

Saskatoon

CKEK

Cranbrook

lw	tw	Δ-BMI	▲-CAPAC	■-DOMESTIC	U.S. Release	Copyright	Production	VOCM	St. John's	CHNS	Halifax	CKBW	Bridgewater	CHSJ	Saint John	CKBC	Barhurst	CJMS	Montreal	CKWS	Kingston	CHOW	Welland	CFPL	London	CFRS	Simcoe	CKPR	Lakehead	CKCY	The Soo	CKDM	Dauphin	CKCK	Saskatoon	CKEK	Cranbrook	
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RPM 100

Week of May 30th, 1966

CANADA'S ONLY OFFICIAL
100 SINGLE SURVEY

Compiled from Record Company and Disc Jockey reports

- 1 1 2 **MONDAY MONDAY**
Mama's & Papa's—Rca Victor (RCA)
- 2 21 35 **HOW DOES THAT GRAB YOU**
Nancy Sinatra—Reprise (Com)
- 3 11 35 **BACKSTAGE**
Gene Pitney—Columbia (Col)
- 4 8 14 **GROOVY KIND OF LOVE**
Mindbenders—Fontana (Lon)
- 5 3 6 **RAINY DAY WOMEN**
Bob Dylan—Columbia (Col)
- 6 6 11 **MESSAGE TO MICHAEL**
Dionne Warwick—Scepter (Qua)
- 7 7 7 **SHAPES OF THINGS**
Yardbirds—Capitol (Cap)
- 8 12 45 **SUN AIN'T GONNA SHINE**
Walker Bros.—Smash (Lon)
- 9 9 8 **GLORIA**
Shadows Of Night—London (Lon)
- 10 20 42 **WHEN A MAN LOVES A WOMAN**
Percy Sledge—Atlantic (Qua)
- 11 22 47 **LOVE IS LIKE AN ITCHING**
Supremes—Motown (Pho)
- 12 13 15 **LOVEDROPS**
Barry Allen—Capitol (Cap)
- 13 23 38 **LET'S START ALL OVER AGAIN**
Ronnie Dove—Apex (Com)
- 14 4 2 **SLOOP JOHN B**
Beach Boys—Capitol (Cap)
- 15 10 9 **EIGHT MILES HIGH**
Byrds—Columbia (Col)
- 16 15 12 **SOUL AND INSPIRATION**
Righteous Bros.—Verve (Qua)
- 17 5 3 **GOOD LOVIN'**
Young Rascals—Atlantic (Qua)
- 18 16 18 **TIME WON'T LET ME**
Outsiders—Capitol (Cap)
- 19 27 30 **LA LA LA**
Gerry & Pacemakers—Capitol (Cap)
- 20 17 19 **TOGETHER AGAIN**
Ray Charles—ABC (Spa)
- 21 33 73 **WHAT AM I GONNA DO**
Robbie Lane—Capitol (Cap)
- 22 34 65 **I'M A ROCK**
Simon & Garfunkle—Columbia (Col)
- 23 26 28 **COMING HOME CINDY**
Trini Lopez—Reprise—Com
- 24 45 58 **THE MORE I SEE YOU**
Chris Montez—Quality (Qua)
- 25 29 26 **LOVE'S MADE A FOOL OF YOU**
Bobby Fuller—Regency (Pho)
- 26 31 53 **TWINKLE TOES**
Roy Orbison—MGM (Qua)
- 27 28 40 **ELVIRA**
Dallas Frazier—Sparton (Spa)
- 28 14 4 **LEANING ON THE LAMP POST**
Hermin's Hermits—MGM (Qua)
- 29 35 68 **MY KINDA GUY**
The Willows—MGM (Qua)
- 30 18 10 **RHAPSODY IN THE RAIN**
Lou Christie—MGM (Qua)
- 31 40 55 **DISTANT DRUMS**
Jim Reeves—Rca Victor (RCA)
- 32 41 54 **BIG HURT**
Del Shannon—Liberty (Lon)
- 33 51 60 **DUM DE DA**
Bobby Vinton—Epic (Col)
- 34 39 76 **DREAM BOY**
Allan Sisters—Quality (Qua)

- 35 37 43 **BALLAD OF IRVING**
Grank Gallop—Kapp (Pho)
- 36 56 87 **GREEN GRASS**
Gary Lewis—Liberty (Lon)
- 37 43 46 **A BIT OF LOVE**
Jimmy Dybold—Red Leaf (Car)
- 38 36 38 **OH GEE GIRL**
Liverpool Set—Columbia (Col)
- 39 42 52 **SHE BLEW A GOOD THING**
The Poets—Symbol
- 40 59 89 **PAINT IT BLACK**
Rolling Stones—London (Lon)
- 41 48 62 **FALLING SUGAR**
Kelly & Gail—Colpix (Com)
- 42 52 56 **BAND OF GOLD**
Mel Carter—Imperial (Lon)
- 43 54 63 **EVOL - NOT LOVE**
Five Americans—HBR (Arc)
- 44 55 67 **IT'S A MAN'S MAN'S WORLD**
James Brown—King (Lon)
- 45 53 57 **HE CRIED**
Shangri Las—Red Bird (Qua)
- 46 57 71 **COME ON LET'S GO**
McCoys—Bang (All)
- 47 49 52 **LOVE ME WITH ALL YOUR...**
Bachelors—London (Lon)
- 48 62 75 **JUG BAND MUSIC**
Lovin' Spoonful—Kama Sutra (Qua)
- 49 60 69 **REMEMBER THE RAIN**
Bob Lind—World Pacific (Lon)
- 50 50 27 **THAT'S WHY I LOVE YOU**
Joey Hollingsworth—Apex (Com)
- 51 47 24 **UNTIL IT'S TIME FOR YOU TO GO**
Catherine McKinnon—Arc (Arc)
- 52 68 --- **GIRL IN LOVE**
Outsiders—Capitol (Cap)
- 53 61 74 **FRIENDS & MIRRORS**
Bobby Russel—Monument (Lon)
- 54 58 66 **YOU'RE THE ONE**
Marvelettes—Tamlia (Pho)
- 55 74 --- **SWEET TALKING GUY**
Chiffons—Laurie (Qua)
- 56 80 99 **MAMA**
B.J. Thomas—Scepter (Qua)
- 57 70 91 **BAREFOOTIN'**
Robert Parker—Nola (Qua)
- 58 64 78 **YOU DON'T HAVE TO SAY**
Dusty Springfield—Philips (Lon)
- 59 65 80 **THERE'S NO LIVING...**
Peter & Gordon—Capitol (Cap)
- 60 71 81 **I LOVE YOU 1000 TIMES**
Platters—Columbia (Col)
- 61 63 64 **LOVER'S CONCERTO**
Mrs. Miller—Capitol (Cap)
- 62 69 88 **MAME**
Bobby Darin—Atco (Qua)
- 63 67 85 **MARBLE BREAKS & IRON BENDS**
Drafi—London (Lon)
- 64 82 98 **DEDICATED FOLLOWERS OF....**
Kinks—Pye (All)
- 65 66 70 **THE TEASER**
Bob Kuban—Barry (Qua)
- 66 73 94 **I LOVE YOU DROPS**
Vic Dana—Doulton (Lon)
- 67 72 72 **THE "A" TEAM**
Barry Sadler—Rca Victor (RCA)

- 68 77 77 **HE'LL HAVE TO GO**
Barry Young—Columbia (Col)
- 69 76 97 **DID YOU EVER HAVE TO....**
Lovin' Spoonful—Kama Sutra (Qua)
- 70 87 --- **BETTER USE YOUR HEAD**
Anthony & Imperials—Apex (Com)
- 71 75 84 **NOTHING'S TOO GOOD....**
Stevie Wonder—Tamlia (Pho)
- 72 81 83 **DIRTY WATER**
Standells—Sparton (Spa)
- 73 92 --- **THE LAST WORD IN LONESOME...**
Eddy Arnold—Rca Victor (RCA)
- 74 --- --- **RED RUBBER BALL**
Cyrkle—Columbia (Col)
- 75 89 --- **TOODLE OO KANGAROO**
Larry Lee—Columbia (Col)
- 76 85 90 **GLORIA**
King Beezz—Quality (Qua)
- 77 94 96 **DOUBLE SHOT**
Swingin' Medallions—Smash (Lon)
- 78 84 93 **HEART'S DESIRE**
Billy Joe Royal—Columbia (Col)
- 79 --- --- **YOUNGER GIRL**
Hondells—Mercury (Lon)
- 80 86 --- **I KNOW YOU BETTER THAN THAT**
Bobby Goldsboro—UA (Com)
- 81 98 --- **IT'S OVER**
Jimmie Rodgers—Dot (Qua)
- 82 95 100 **PETER RABBIT**
Dee Jay/Runaways—Smash (Lon)
- 83 83 86 **LOVE TAKES A LONG TIME**
Deon Jackson—Carla (Qua)
- 84 96 --- **GIRL GIRL GIRL**
Danny Harrison—Coral (Com)
- 85 --- --- **STAGE COACH TO CHEYENNE**
Wayne Newton—Capitol (Cap)
- 86 91 92 **I HEAR TRUMPETS BLOW**
Tokens—Quality (Qua)
- 87 --- --- **OH HOW HAPPY**
Shades Of Blue—Barry (Qua)
- 88 88 --- **SO MUCH LOVE**
Steve Alaimo—ABC (Pho)
- 89 97 --- **S.Y.S.L.J.F.M. (Letter Song)**
Joe Tex—Dial (Lon)
- 90 --- --- **I'LL LOVE YOU FOREVER**
Holidays—Quality (Qua)
- 91 --- --- **DON'T BRING ME DOWN**
Animals—MGM (Qua)
- 92 --- --- **CLOUDY SUMMER AFTERNOON**
Barry McGuire—Dunhill (RCA)
- 93 --- --- **HOW COULD I FALL IN LOVE**
Spiders—Philips (Lon)
- 94 --- --- **OPUS 17**
Four Seasons—Philips (Lon)
- 95 --- --- **FUNNY HOW LOVE CAN BE**
Danny Hutton—MGM (Qua)
- 96 --- --- **REAL THING**
Bobby Curtola—Tartan (All)
- 97 --- --- **WIEDERSEHN**
Al Martino—Capitol (Cap)
- 98 --- --- **STRANGERS IN THE NIGHT**
Frank Sinatra—Reprise (Com)
- 99 --- --- **PIED PIPER**
Crispian St. Peters—Jamie (Lon)
- 100 --- --- **ROAD RUNNER**
Jr. Walker—Motown (Pho)

COMING SOON A BIG SPECIAL EDITION DEDICATED TO EDMONTON (CANADA'S MUSIC CITY IN THE WEST). Watch for more BIG THINGS from RPM Music Weekly.

Continued from Page 1

demned as being grossly sick by many disc critics. It is interesting to note that a traditional ballad based on a particularly bloody murder is totally acceptable. The line, "Billy Mack lay buried under twenty tons of steel", from the song "Widow Maker", circa 1963, is considered to be in very bad taste, whereas no condemnation is aimed at this equally "sick" stanza from a traditional American ballad "The Knoxville Girl" - "the ground around me was running with her gore".

According to the song "Widow Maker", the American Diesel driver's code is "one life for ten". Country composers are exploiting this grisly motto to the full. Tex Williams' hero "Big Tennessee" gives his life saving a crowded school bus stalled across the railroad track. You can be sure that many more truck driving martyrs will follow suit.

To the country music enthusiasts of the 1960s, the yodelling songs of the prairies and the big round-ups are strictly for the birds. The cowboy, together with the Model "T" Ford and the silent movie, has faded into history. Tex Ritter and Gene Autry have been superceded by Dave Dudley and Red Sovine. The tough, leather clad truck driver is the James Bond of the country music world.

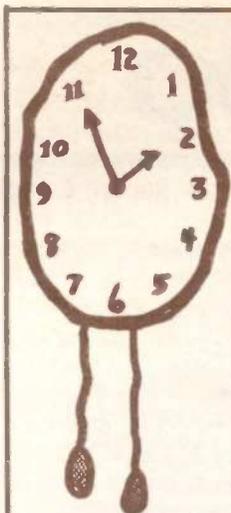
In recent months, there have been but three songs in the cowboy idiom that have attained hit parade status, "Big Red", "The Streets of Laredo", and "The Sons of Katie Elder", by Marty Robbins and Johnny Cash, respectively. But, the truck and various other modes of mechanical transport are much in evidence as the following list will show; "Six Days On The Road", "Wreck On The Highway" "Big Tennessee", "Giddyup Go", "The Great Figure Of 8 Race" and many more.

However much the diehard purists despise these modern songs with their electrically amplified backing instruments, country music must continue to progress. Whereas the horse and wagon proved to be a worthy standby until the invention of the mechanical truck, the machine age is here to stay, and country music to ensure its survival, must advance with it.

Despite the prostituting of authentic country music for the sounds of the hit parade cash registers, we owe the survival of Bluegrass and Mountain music to such advancements. For example, the successes of Johnny Cash, Ray Price, Lefty Frizzell and Stonewall Jackson enables Columbia Records to continue the releases of such groups as Lester Flatt and Earl Scruggs and The Foggy Mountain Boys, who cater for an obviously limited field.

Country music fans of Canada and the United States, we must forever say farewell to the dusty Spanish trails and drifting tumbleweed, and say "welcome" to the asphalt highways and the steel crash barriers - the truck drivers are with us forever!

by Brian Chalker



THE GUESS WHO!

HAVE ANOTHER SMASH!!!

"CLOCK ON THE WALL"

Quality 1815

**DESTINED FOR ALL CHARTS
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