

inter-national

By MARIA WAWER

A "Governor's Ball" in the SUB—a rather stuffy affair, right? Wrong. When the International Variety Show of Friday, October 9, closed with a number so named, exuberance was the keynote.

The Variety Show, organized to highlight the opening of the International Student Lounge in room 109 of the SUB, was, judging by audience response, a great success. The show consisted of a series of colorful and well produced presentations from various countries, with the final number being an invitation for the audience to join in a dance with the cast members—the Governor's Ball. Response to this was typical of the enthusiasm which attended the entire program.

Comments after the show included:

"It was very interesting." —President Dineen.

"Really good! I enjoyed it immensely." Mike Richard, vice president of the SRC.

"I thought it was wonderful. Everyone worked together extraordinarily

well." —Mrs. E. Joyce Stocker, Overseas Student Advisor.

Due to the number of guests expected, the show was not held in the lounge itself, but rather in the special dining hall of the SUB. Even this room proved to be too small for the numbers attending, and a second section of the cafeteria had to be opened.

Ngo Ngolayefa, chairman of opening night events, acted as master of ceremonies. In his opening remarks, he stressed that the variety show was not an end in itself. Rather, it should act as the beginning of a spirit of cooperation and friendliness, with the International Student Lounge acting as a focal point.

Entertainment, organized and produced by students was varied.

The Caribbean Circle put on an excellent showing with several spirited song numbers. A great favorite with the audience was an energetically rendered Calypso composed specifically for the occasion:

"Do not think about nationality. Take a person as a person and you will see;

You'll make many friends at UNB."

The song also contained the hopeful message that "What we aspire to we will achieve."

As well, the Caribbean group demonstrated a three-man Reggae dance, light-hearted and rhythmic.

The Indian community presented various facets of its culture. Included on the program were national songs, accompanied, among various other instruments, on the Tabla: a drum made of metal and bamboo, with a softer, more muffled sound than the types with which Canadians are more closely acquainted.

A solo dance was elegantly executed by Mrs. Ratna Mitra. The traditional sari she wore emphasized the flowing movement of the number. This dance style differed from western modes mainly because of extensive and expressive use of hand gestures, resulting in an effect more graceful in many respects from occidental styles of dancing.

As well, there was a display of Indian women's national costumes. Several fine saris were modelled, but the diversity of the culture and fashions was emphasized by the inclusion of several other modes of apparel: from the Vale of Cashmir, a tunic worn over a type of straight legged pants; a simple but elegant cotton sari of white and red described as being a housewife's dress; and a modern variation of Indian fashion: a loose tunic-like blouse, highly embroidered, worn over a floor-length straight skirt.

The Chinese community on campus chose to give a glimpse of its culture through two dances.

The first was presented by an all male group of six. Dressed in identical costumes of black and red tunics over matching sarongs, they executed a dance which although an ancient art form, bore a striking resemblance to many figures of modernistic ballet. It emphasized



Photo by Ken De Freitas

lounge