

NEWSDESK

sounds

EDITOR
Alan Lewis

DEPUTY EDITOR
Barbara Charone

CHIEF SUB-EDITOR
Dave Fudger

NEWS EDITOR
Hugh Fielder

TECHNICAL EDITOR
Tony Mitchell

REVIEWS EDITOR
Geoff Barton

EDITORIAL
Giovanni Dadomo
Susanne Garrett
Vivien Goldman
Jonh Ingham
David Lewis
Tim Lott

CONTRIBUTORS
Mick Brown

Conspiracy to silence Punk

HAVE the Sex Pistols' antics succeeded in making punk rock an outlawed culture? Or are they the victims of a conspiracy by the Rock Establishment to ensure that new young bands are stifled through having nowhere to play?

As *SOUNDS* goes to press, there is not one major concert venue in the country that will have the Pistols/Clash punk package. The shattered remains of their British tour are taking place in small independent halls and clubs.

In London the situation has reached crisis point. Already cast

out by the Hammersmith Odeon, Rainbow and New Victoria and getting blank responses from every other place they'd tried, they thought they'd found sanctuary at the new Roxy Theatre in Harlesden.

However last week Roxy manager Terry Collins banned the group from appearing at the theatre. They had used it for rehearsals before their 'tour' and had, according to Collins, left the lavatory in a dreadful state with a broken mirror and graffiti all over the walls (most of it referring to some gentleman called Bill Grundy) alleging that he indulges in certain solitary practices).

The Pistols themselves, while not denying that damage had been caused in the toilet, said

that there were no lights and 'they couldn't even see where to piss'. They were also highly suspicious of Mr Collins' motives for cancelling the gig.

'Whoever cancelled a gig because of a broken mirror' said their tour manager last week.

Certainly there did seem to be a delay between the gig being announced and its cancellation but Mr Collins told *SOUNDS* that the date was announced without his knowledge. Now, further attempts are being made to find a place in London that will have the band.

After the Derby debacle reported in last week's news pages the Pistols tour finally opened at Leeds University. A review appears on page 10.

BUT ALREADY there had been signs of a split in the hitherto uniform front that the bands on the tour had hitherto been showing. And so it came to pass that after the Leeds gig the Damned quit the tour, or were fired depending on whose account you believe.

The trouble had started at Derby when the Damned suggested that they and the other bands might play at Derby Kings Hall even though the Pistols had been banned. "We made the suggestion because 1,000 tickets had been bought for the concert and it seemed a pity to disappoint them punters," said a spokesman for the Damned. "But when the others said no we went along with the majority," he added.

Matters were not helped because the Damned were staying at different hotels from the other bands on the tour — "we couldn't afford to stay in the places the Pistols were staying at."

"The Damned claim they were fired from the tour by Pistols' manager Malcolm McLaren but the first they heard of it was when

continued page 10

New punk club

A NEW CLUB specially aimed at catering for 'new Wave' bands will open in London tonight (Tuesday).

Run by ex-Damned manager Andrew Czezowski, The Roxy (not to be confused with the Roxy Theatre, Harlesden, which recently banned punk

'World War' on stage

A SPECIAL one-off live performance of 'All This And World War Two' which featured Rod Stewart, Elton John, Leo Sayer, Peter Gabriel, Status Quo, Franki Valli, The Four Seasons, Bryan Ferry, the

Bee Gees, Frankie Laine, Roy Wood, Lynsey de Paul and Keith Moon on the album released recently by Riva, could take place in London early next year.

SOUNDS understands that plans

are underway to stage the show at London's Olympia on January 17, shortly after Rod Stewart's additional London concerts there. However, details of which artists will be appearing and confirmation

of the concert have not yet been fixed.

Director Lou Reizner, who presented a stage performance of 'Tommy' at the Rainbow Theatre at the end of 1972 is in London

TOUR NEWS

from page 2

they picked up the music papers on Wednesday and found that McLaren had called their behaviour at Derby 'disgusting' and added 'we feel the Damned have no place on this tour'.

"We had no real disagreement with the Pistols," emphasised the spokesman who added that he found McLaren's remarks mystifying.

So the Damned returned to London where they played a special benefit concert at Islington's Hope And Anchor which was filmed for transmission on the continent.

The Damned have no more concerts fixed because they blew out their projected gigs to appear on the pistols' 'tour'. They are going back into the studio to complete their debut album.

"Then we'll see what happens. We want to play and if somebody wants us then we'll be along," said the spokesman.

Were they worried about the punk backlash that might leave them out in the cold as well as far as finding venues is concerned? "No. We're hopeful about getting gigs and the fact that we've been kicked off the tour will probably help us."

Meanwhile the Pistols and their entourage — the Clash and Thunderbirds — moved on to Manchester leaving behind them another front page story after a few potted plants became dislodged from their moorings at their Leeds hotel and a warning from the EMI big brass who had been encountering heavy flak from shareholders, that unless the Pistols improved their behaviour EMI might rescind their contract.

At Manchester's Electric Circus on Thursday night local group Buzzcocks replaced the Damned.

MANCHESTER was hardly welcoming either. They were asked to leave the four star Midland Hotel after one night and were left without after-gig accommodation. There were also refused a booking at the Belgrade Hotel, Stockport. Former Yugoslav freedom fighter manager, Mr. Dragan Lukic commenting: "I don't want this sort of rubbish in my place when there are so many nice people in the world."

The Pistols eventually did find refuge in the decidedly down-market Arosa Hotel, Withington. They went off to the gig and the national press reporters moved in, asking the manager such delicate questions as "What are you going to do if the Pistols do start causing trouble?"

And so when the band retrued from the gig, very delayed by the fact that the police had forced them to move the tour bus a mile away, and discovered that a policeman had been sitting waiting for them and the prospective trouble to arrive, the inevitable happened. By mutual agreement, they checked out of the hotel at three o'clock Friday morning and made the trip back to London on the coach, arriving six hours later "cheerful but sleepy and tired."

A Luxembourg Radio interview with Rotten was taped in London over the weekend, the original plans to do the interview live in the Royal Duchy being scrapped and DJ Tony Prince being suspended for merely suggesting the idea.

Tour dates have been rearranged and as SOUNDS goes to press they are: this week — Tuesday, Caerphilly Castle Cinema; Wednesday, Lafayette's, Wolverhampton; Friday, Market Hall, Carlisle; Saturday, Electric Circus, Manchester. Next week: 20th, Bingley Hall, Birmingham; 21st Plymouth, Wood Centre; 22nd Penelope's, Paignton; 23rd Plymouth, Wood Centre. For all the gigs, except Manchester where the Buzzcocks are again supporting, the bands playing are the Pistols, The Clash and the Heartbreakers.

en
ng
iee
ed
ng
to
tar
ip.
in
ng

ght
all
bid
ng
our
fr.
st)
oft
'ed
it's
rep

vas
zen
No
a
ed
tic,

vn,
ms'
ne.
ore
vas

gig
the
set.
of
tion
ure

ing
ssic
sort
nd-
ere
the
lash