

TV ROW GROUP BOOKED FOR CITY

Two Liverpool promoters are preparing to gross £1,250 after hurriedly switching venues to insure the arrival of punk rock's latest horror show, the Sex Pistols, in Liverpool, on Saturday night.

Unruffled by a sudden Stadium ban on the Pistols, promoters Ken Testi and Roger Eagle made sure the show would go on by booking the group into their own Matthew Street club — Eric's.

By filling the club with 1,000 fans paying £1.25 a time the two promoters look set to gross £1,250 for a forty minute performance from the Pistols. There are three supporting groups on the bill.

OUTCRY

In the wake of the public outcry which followed the group's foul-mouthed appearance on a television chat show Testi denied he was cashing in on publicity.

He admitted it might have had some effects on ticket sales which were going well, but said: "We booked the Sex Pistols before they became well known."

Testi said he would sell 700 advance tickets and

"after seeing how things go" would allow up to 1,000 fans into the club.

"The boys have played Liverpool before, about six weeks ago, and they have quite a sizeable local following," said Testi. "There was no trouble at all at their last concert though we will be taking one or two extra precautions this time."

There was a strong local reaction to the Pistol's visit from both the Catholic Church and the Church of England.

The Director of the Catholic Youth Services, Father Patrick Harnett, said: "It is sad that we have commercial interests using this sensationalism for their own interests for financial gain."

A spokesman for the Church of England said the whole thing was a pure publicity stunt. "I am a keen rock fan but the more we talk about it the more we are just playing into their hands," said the spokesman.

Ironically the birth of the latest teenage craze could arise from the grave of the Beatles stomping ground the Cavern Club.

CLOSED

Closed down this year the Cavern is now christened the Revolution and on one or two nights a week it comes under the control of Testi and Eagle who have re-christened the club as Eric's.

But despite Testi's claims of a sizeable Merseyside following for the group their new record Anarchy in the U.K. has not sold many extra copies according to a spokesman for a leading Liverpool record shop.

In their first appearance following their T.V. row — a venue in the Students Hall in Leeds, the group found themselves playing to a half filled house. Many of the audience walked out half way through the "concert" stating that the group were just "plain bad" and not at all musical.

One student described the group as "absolutely nothing."