

Familiar Faces



"We've got a good thing going in this country," says Pierson Smith, resident bartender, sometime-singer and philosopher at the Shamrock Lounge.

And Pierson—who will step up on the Shamrock stage for an occasional go with "Shout" or "Midnight Hour"—is in a unique position to observe the style of today's young people. In his opinion, they know what's going on.

"Talking about the 'youth of today' sounds so corny and stereotyped," he says, "but they're concerned."

Given the hard-rock, free-wheeling atmosphere of the Shamrock, Pierson says that the young people aren't coming there just to get drunk.

"Sure, they come here to relax," he said, "and apparently they're just standing around watching the world go by."

But they're going back to something," he said. Pierson noted that when he first came to the Shamrock eight years ago, from executive steward at the old Manger-Rowe, the young people were there because "it was

the thing to do." In the last two or three years, he's noticed a difference.

"We get the ones that are afraid," he said, "the ones who want to go back to the status quo. The ones who aren't afraid are looking for a better world and are willing to do something about it."

With the music and hubbub at the Shamrock, it's pretty hard to get a long conversation going. But when he can chat, Pierson said, he finds the younger person, the more tolerant they are.

"The older ones," he said, "they go in more for name-calling and nose-punching."

Practically a lifelong resident of the city, Pierson attended Ottawa, Junior College and Lincoln University in Pennsylvania. He and his wife Ruth have a daughter, Mary Lou and a son, Paul.

"Grand Rapids is my home and I love the people here," he said. "There are very sincere people making an effort to make life good for everyone..."

Revi vote

Attorney General Frank "top to bottom revision" prohibit write-in voting and Michigan electorate.

Kelley said an example "undemocratic" laws was his votes for Sen. Eugene McCarthy.

"As Attorney General, I explained, "not as I might."

He said he expects to p 1969 Legislature to make t

"the most responsive" in the The Attorney General is relating to write-in voting.

choosing delegates to nation. He also criticized laws relating requirements.

"The antique residence impede young people," Kelley colleges and universities.

"If we really believe in believe in the more basic opportunity to express his r

"The time has come to some politician's pre-co vote," he concluded.

Kelley did not detail th propose to the Legislature v

Economy expansion,

Michigan's economy expansion, reports a State economist.

Irene Kievat, writing for said personal income rose the first six months of the per cent national increase.

The gross state product, similar 10 per cent to \$35 billion.

A surprising spurt in the one main reason for the i sales seem to be slowing down quarter auto sales are contr record year for the industry.

Increased payrolls, she s retail sales.

Miss Kievat said employment upswing. Total employment of 1968 averaged 23,600 earlier.

Plant expansion also has the report said, particularly and Kalamazoo-Battle Creek

Cost c Detroit i

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