

Alan Freed Hosts Moondog Affair Tonight in Newark

By Tom O'Connell

WJW's Alan Freed appears on the verge of adding another plume to the cap he wears as chief of the Moondoggers.

That latest decoration could be forthcoming as early as this evening when he stages the Eastern Moondog Coronation Ball at Sussex Avenue Armory in Newark, N.J.



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Freed first made his presence felt in this community about two years ago, when, after only four months on the air, he attracted 25,000 to the Cleveland Arena to attend the Western Coronation Ball.

His stature in the field of rhythm and blues continued to grow until a couple of weeks ago Billboard magazine named him the top R&B disk jockey in the country.

Although tapes of Freed's WJW programs are carried over Newark's WNJR, this will be his first personal appearance in the New York area. Success is assured by the fact that advance sale of tickets has already exceeded 6,000. The Sussex Armory will hold 13,000.

Among the rhythms and blues artists slated to appear tonight are Buddy Johnson and his orchestra and Vocalist Ella Johnson; The Clovers, a vocal quartet; Roost Bonnemera and his Mambo Band; Nolan Lewis, Mercury recording star; Sam Butera, jazz, saxophonist; Muddy Waters, blues guitar player; the Harptones and Charles Brown.

A special train carrying Clevelanders to the event had to be canceled because of all things

-there were too many rather than not enough requests for accommodations.

Disappointed local fans will find partial coverage of the affair available at a later date, however. R. C. A. Victor plans to record the entire show for a special Moondog LP Album and Our World magazine is covering the event for an eventual pictorial story.

the mayor himself on a program entitled "Tell It to the Mayor," which gets under way May 11.

The public is invited to write to Mayor Anthony Celebrezze specifying topics for discussion. * * *

John Lund's most prized fan letter came from a young lady who wrote: "I listen to your radio show, Yours Truly, Johnny Dollar, every Tuesday night. It's my favorite show. Please clear your throat." * *

George Hancin, WEWS film man and early morning director, and his wife, Maxine, WEWS traffic manager, whose marriage about 18 months ago culminated the station's first office romance, move into their new six-room house in Cleveland Heights this weekend.

Likewise, Tommy Edwards, WERE dee jay, and his wife, Anne, become mortgage holders for the first time when they move into their new Parma home.



ALAN FREED