

Police Control Mob

Rock 'n' Roll Orgy Surges, Theater Grosses \$29,000

NEW YORK, Feb. 23 (AP)—Rock 'n' roll invaded Times Square again today and the Great White Way hasn't seen such squealing and carrying on by teen-agers since Frank Sinatra packed them in some years ago.

The mecca of the younger generation was the Paramount, a movie and stage palace that has played host to the top acts in show business for 31 years.

What drew them was a movie, "Don't Knock the Rock," and a stage show presided over by Alan Freed, disk jockey and high priest of the rock 'n' roll cult.

The show opened yesterday and stampeding thousands of youngsters besieged the theater. After a full day of rocking, the Paramount has racked up \$29,000 in the cash register, a new record.

Today's invasion was just as enthusiastic, but perhaps a little more restrained. The overflow didn't appear until mid-morning, when police carefully supervised 1,500 to 2,000 waiting to get in.

On the first day, the fervent two-beat rhythm set the devotees to dancing in the aisles, standing on the seats, and pounding with hands and feet in time to the music. Today policemen, policewomen and firemen, patrolling the

aisles, kept the youngsters in their seats.

Said the 35-year-old Freed,

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 6A)

Rock 'n' Roll Orgy Surges, Theater Grosses \$29,000

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)

beaming at the show's huge success:

"They are not bad kids. They are just enthusiastic. If the kids let off steam here, they won't be doing it somewhere else."

Some local newspapers consulted psychologists and came up with comparisons of the craze to the dancing frenzy of the Middle Ages, St. Vitus' dance and the like.

When crooner Frank Sinatra set the kids afire a dozen years ago

at this very theater, there were similar indications of dismay and amazement among the elders.