

Melody Maker

3d INCORPORATING "RHYTHM"

EVERY THURSDAY Vol. XX No. 580

HE'S HERE!

Bing Crosby Arrives

BING CROSBY IS HERE! THE WORLD'S GREATEST POPULAR SINGER—STATED TO PULL DOWN £225,000 A YEAR—HAS ARRIVED IN THIS COUNTRY TO ENTERTAIN THE TROOPS, AND THE "MELODY MAKER" TAKES A MODEST BOW FOR BEING THE VERY FIRST PAPER TO REPORT THAT HE WAS COMING.

In last week's issue we told you he would be arriving any day now, and that he would broadcast to Home listeners.

Our information was pretty good. He arrived a day after the "M.M." was issued, and he duly sang to Home listeners in "Variety Band Box" last Tuesday.

A full report of the broadcast by our Editor, who watched it being recorded, is on page 3 of this issue.



Bing arrived in Glasgow last Friday night (25th), and after being mobbed on the railway station by a crowd of women porters, who induced him to sing "Blue Of The Night" and "Glasgow Belongs To Me," climbed into a sleeper, and knew no more till he told us, "They hit me with a pot of tea around 7.30 in the morning."

Bronzed, blue-eyed, 40-year-old Bing has with him a company of six—comedian Joe de Rita, guitarist Buck Harris, accordionist Earl Baxter, and two glamour girls to provide the feminine song and dance attraction.

He has a great admiration for Dinah Shore, who he claims is the top in her line of business, and from English artists selected Ambrose and his Orchestra and the late Al Bowlly as his favourites. Bob Hope also urged him to listen to Tommy Handley's "Itma" programme.

Europe is to have the benefit of the Crosby pipes till November, when his contract requires him to return to California.

He still can't read music, and does not have a piano in his suite, as he claims there is no one to play it.

Golf is his favourite sport, and Bing hopes to play on St. Andrews and other famous courses, if he has time.

Bing Crosby claims he's never really made a song popular except some of those he sings in movies. He said: "I just wait around till I see one beginning to climb, then I hop on the band-waggon."

Present favourite, by the way, is "Long Ago And Far Away." Bing has a great and sincere admiration for the people of Southern England who have endured the flying-bomb attacks with such equanimity. His younger brother, Bob, ex-band-leader, is now a second lieutenant in the U.S. Marines, serving in the Pacific.

Bing is over here completely under the control of U.S.O.

His "Variety Band Box" recording is being repeated this Sunday (Sept. 3), and Bing also broadcast with R.S.M. George Melachrino and the British Band of the A.E.F. on the A.E.F. programme on Wednesday.

To-night (Thursday), at 8.30 p.m., he is again on the A.E.F. wavelength, with Major Glenn Miller's Band.

IVY AUGMENTS

IVY BENSON and her Ladies' Band are going great guns all over the Provinces.

Recently they travelled 420 miles in a week, entertaining over 6,000 troops in camps and hospitals. Ivy has been busily augmenting her band, and has just engaged Elsie Rogers as fourth trombone and cellist.

She is anxious to contact another trumpet player to bring her total brass section up to eight, and will be interested to hear from any young girl player with enthusiasm. Write to her, c/o Empire, Oldham, this week, or next week (Monday, Sept. 4) on at the Palace, Blackpool.

AMBROSE TO ENTERTAIN TROOPS IN FRANCE

THE "MELODY MAKER" LEARNS OFFICIALLY THAT AMBROSE AND HIS ORCHESTRA ARE SCHEDULED TO UNDERTAKE AN E.N.S.A. TOUR AMONG OUR FRONT-LINE TROOPS IN FRANCE AT AN EARLY DATE.

The brilliant aggregation which Ambrose will take with him will include a Band of over twenty of the finest musicians in the country, plus a company of brilliant singers and entertainers, headed by popular favourites Anne Shelton and Evelyn Dall.

So far in the French campaign, E.N.S.A. have only been able to send out small parties, which can work in the prevailing extremely mobile and constantly changing conditions.

As soon as a more settled state of affairs in France allows a company of the size of Ambrose's to be accommodated in suitable halls, theatres, etc., this venture will be ready to commence.

When the date can ultimately be announced, we know that it will cause great excitement among the troops, because—although he has been hiding his light under a recording bushel lately—there is still magic in the name of Ambrose.

LITTLE'S BIG BAND DATE

MAURICE LITTLE, drummer and manager with Howard Baker for the past 18 months, and before that with Henry Hall's Orchestra, has left Howard's Murray's Club outfit, and next Saturday week (September 9) opens as leader and director of his own nine-piece combination at the Royal Dance Hall, Tottenham (London).

Maurice Little has had extensive dance-hall experience to fit him for the new post.

Apart from his long spell with Howard Baker at Hammersmith Palais, he was, before he toured with Henry Hall, at the Astoria (London) with Sid Dean's combination, and previously had played with Peter Fielding and Billy Merrin's outfits.

Maurice remains on the best of terms with Howard Baker, and continues both to play and to act in a managerial capacity on Howard's broadcasts. His successor with Howard Baker's Band at Murray's Club is the well-known percussionist, Frank Sherry.

Marjorie Kingsley Leaves Harry Roy

AFTER nearly four years of strenuous touring, broadcasting, recording, and niterie work, famous vocalist Marjorie Kingsley has left Harry Roy's Band.

At the moment Marjorie is in London concentrating on various sessions and different activities, and taking the opportunity of having a "breather" and the look round the Metropolis for which four years of high-speed work have scarcely given her any opportunity.

Besides all her touring in Variety all over the country with the Roy Band, and her recording and broadcasting work, Marjorie also accompanied Harry, and the boys on their exhausting Middle East tour of a few months ago.

She sang with Harry Roy's Band at the London Embassy Club for a very long spell, and was until lately with Harry at his new Milroy Club in Mayfair.

JIVER GETS ANOTHER AIRING

THE B.B.C. has not been long in fulfilling the promise it made to give Leslie ("Jiver") Hutchinson and his Orchestra an early broadcast to make up for the one which they recently lost through a technical hitch.

This band will be heard on the air on Thursday, September 14, from 9.15 to 9.45 p.m., and, as this will be the first Home broadcast of the bunch, fans will need no bidding to make a note of the date in their diaries.

Incidentally, Leslie has made a new capture for the band in the person of trombone-player Jack Phillips, a young up-and-coming slip-horn man who will undoubtedly go places, and is settling down with the band most happily.

ROY FOX ON THE AIR

THE many fans who still remember band-leader Roy Fox with great affection will be interested to know that they can hear him on the air this coming Saturday (September 2).

He is to be featured in the "Atlantic Spotlight" programme (General Forces, 6.30 p.m.), and is providing eight minutes of music from New York.

On this side, Major Glenn Miller and his A.E.F. Band will be playing, and the programme will be heard simultaneously on both sides of the Atlantic.

PETER MAURICE MUSIC CLUB

TWO NEW SENSATIONAL 6/8's

ALL'S WELL MADEMOISELLE

AND

ROLL ME OVER

LILLI MARLENE

24 Nos. S.O. 24/-, F.O. 32/-, Trio 16/-, P.C. 13/6, Other Extras 4/-

OTHER GRAND NOVELTIES PRICE 3/6 Per Set

<p>STEAMBOAT RAG MINOR MOOD • FAN IT OCTOBER MOOD SATURDAY NIGHT JUMP</p>	<p>COMMANDO PATROL PROMENADE IN PINETOP'S FOOTSTEPS</p>
---	---

THE PETER MAURICE MUSIC Co. Ltd., 21, Denmark St., W.C.2. TEL. 3856
In conjunction with the (World Wide Music Co. Ltd. & MacMelodies, Ltd.)

