WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 22, 1945

d *Incorporating* RHYTHM"

EVERY THURSDAY Vol. XXI No. 635

SENSATIONAL LONDON PALAIS SEASON

SIGNIFICANT INDICATION OF THE VITAL PART THAT WILL BE PLAYED BY THE LEADING NAME-BANDS OF THIS COUNTRY IN BRITAIN'S POST-WAR REHABILITATION IS THE BRITAIN'S POST-WAR REHABILITATION IS THE SENSATIONAL NEWS THAT JOE LOSS AND HIS FAMOUS ORCHESTRA HAVE COME TO TERMS WITH THE MECCA ORGANISATION TO CARRY OUT A THREE MONTHS' RESIDENT SEASON IN THE MECCA LONDON BALLROOMS.

The war brought the big bands out into the palais and dancing establishments of this country in a manner unknown before 1939, and it is true to say that the focal point of the dance band entertainment business here has completely shifted from the West End to the super-type of dance-halls.

Whether that policy could sur-

halls.
Whether that policy could survive the end of the war has been a burning question that affects the whole future of British dance bands. The enterprising Meca organisation has lost no time in proving that the better innovations of war time must be continued into the peace.

FINE STAGE RECORD

to dance to the bands he hears on the radio because they have all been hidden away in West End hotels and restaurants. Only since the war have they come out of their shell to play in palais and dancements.

"I am proud to say that I was the first bandleader to start an entirely new name band policy, by giving a new lease of life to Green's Playhouse Ballroom, Glasgow, when I took my band there for a resident season. It was an experiment that clicked right away, and it has been a splendid—and lucrative—shop-window for name bands ever since.

LEGLESS RABIN SAXIST **FIGHTS** BANDSTAND BLAZE

THE herole action of a legless

MHE herole action of a legless musiciam saved hundreds of potinik' worth of instruments belonging to the boys in Oscar Rabin's Band when a fire broke out on the stage of the Winter Gardens, Weston-super-Mare, at I a.m. on Thursday, September 13.

Soon after the dancers and musicians had left the hall, flames flared up on the band dais, which was entirely deserted except for tenor saxist Bert Tobias, who owing to an accident sustained during childhood, wears two artificial legs.

INSTRUMENTS SAVED

All the instruments were still lying around rendy for the following night's dance, and these would have been totally destroyed but for Bert's prompt action.

He dashed among the flames and dragged practically all the equipment to safety. Music that would otherwise have been tharred to ashes was also rescued.

Despite his most valiant efforts on behalf of all the boys—who were quite unaware of the drama that was taking place—he was just unable to save Bobby Kevin's £150 "Slingerland" drum kit. Bob Snilth's boss, too, was destroyed, and the local Corporation are also the poorer for the loss of a Challen grand.

Resident bandleader George Lacke also lost his whole musicilibrary.

Not only has Bert earned the graftude of his fellow-musicians.

Not only has Bert earned the gratitude of his fellow-musicians, but he saved hundreds of pounds worth of instruments, and an Oscar Rabin broadcast scheduled for the following Monday was also made possible.

EDDIE CARROLL COMING OUT: WEST END JOB?

BANDLEADER Eddle Carroll with Group 22—hetween December 3 to 23—and already has an offer to start in the West End as soon as he is free.

His future plans depend upon the release of men from the RAF. Eddle says, "Most of the musicians I want are in R.A.F. release groups 25-30. The sooner they are out the better. They were about twenty when the war started, and are just right now!"

Eddle is a lieutenant in the Ordnance, and has been attached to the C.M.F. Central Pool of 'Artists as a musical chief. Since February he has made several E.N.S.A. tours of C.M.F., with Eve Becke, Hi Huzell and other singers in support.

MOUNCEY BOYS ARE BEING DEMOBBED

GOOD news for fans every-twhere, and for the families of five of the most talented swing musicaus in the R.A.F., is that trumpet-acc Arthur Mouncey and his famous Quintette—who, after entertaining R.A.F. personnel all over Britain, have for a long time been doing a grand job of work making music for the Forces out in India—are being demobbed and will very shortly be coming home.

in India—are being demobbed and will very shortly be coming home.

Mouncey, a king among Britain's swhig trumpet stars, has had his light hidden under the Services bushel for far too long, although he has enjoyed doing his very valuable war service.

Now, however, it is time that Arthur, whose trumpetics, on the all-too-few occasions when he has been heard by the British fans, have been raved about by all competent critics, came home to take up his rightful place in the business.

So far he has made no definite plans, but hopes, first of all, to get some broadcasting and recording with his outfit, which is unique in its way, and so polished and stylish to the rith degree that we strongly feel that here is a little outfit of which some West End restaurant or smart club proprietor should take the fullest advantage when the boys with Arthur Mouncey, all of whom bear names which are too honoured in the profession for them to need any introduction, are Tiny Winters (bass):

Bobby McGhee (plano); Sidney Heiger (drums); and Bill Diekman (clarinet).

DAVE SHAND IN

DAVE SHAND IN CIVY STREET

A FTER he has been Issued with his demob, suit on Monday, noted alto-sax-clarinettist Dave Shand will shake off the dust of six years' soldiering and return to the profession.

Dave played with Jack Hylton, Jack Payne, Ambrose, Maurice Winnick, Carroll Gibbons, etc. etc., before the war, and was one of the West End's best-known and most popular reedists.

Joining the Royal Artillery in 1939, he rose to the rank of Captain, and did a very fine war job. Now he is coming out, and, having kept in good sax trim all these years, is ready to take up his old chair again. He can be contacted at 871, Sidcup Road, London, S.E.9.

They have therefore booked Joe Loss and his full Orchestra and vocalists to start at the Locarno. Streatham, on Monday, October 1, and then continuing on the London circuit to complete a three months' scason at the kind of money that suggests that dance-hall proprietors well realist the terrille drawing value of this type of attraction.

For five and a half years Joe has been touring the country, bringing his fine brand of swing music to give pleasure to thousands of people all over Britain. Enduring the difficulties of touring, plus air-raids, flying-bombs and rockets, he has fulfilled his obligations to the public when a leader not made of such stern stuff might well have thrown in his hand.

But Joe has been passionately devoted to the cause of bringing the best type of dance music to the ordinary people, and he has proved that he intends to pursue this policy by undertaking the Mecca season.

"In the past," Joe told the "Metody Maker" on Tuesday, "the ordinary dancer has not been able of the connect of the ordinary dancer has not been able of the connect of the ordinary dancer has not been able of the connect of the ordinary dancer has not been able of the socialites. With all der respect to the socialites, with all due respect to the socialites, with all due respect to west End to play too the socialites, with all due respect to the west End to play to the socialites, with all due respect to west End to play to the socialites, with all due respect to west End to Mest End dancers, my experience has proved that the online, care the ordinary people who has proved that the outpart the observation of the people all dan

DANCE HALLS' IMPORTANCE

"In fact, it is not too much to say that many well-known dance bands could not have existed throughout the war years without the support of the mammoth dance-halls.

"With the end of the war, the signs afready sugest that, once again, the name bands will be drawn back into the West End to play tor the socialites. With all due respect to West End dancers, my experience has proved that the only people who really understand and appreciate dance missic are the ordinary people throughout the country. Those are the people I am happy to play tor. This Mecca season gives me the opportunity of continuing to do so." The engagement was necoliated for

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Chinatown, My Chinatown
Two O'Clock Jump

Posted 3'11

Posted 3/11
Dark Yown Strutters Dall
My Blue Heaven
My Mclancholy Baby
Remember
Yau Made Ma Lo You
Stempin' at the Savey
Some of These Days
Someody Stole My Cal

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"JIVER" FOR **JAMBOREE**

THERE is some exciting last-minute news regarding next Sunday's (September 23) Jazz Jamboree at the Stoll Theatre, London (2.16). In the first place. Leslie "Jiver" Hutchinson and his Band have definitely accepted to appear, and this jive-happy outfit will now be stepping into the place left in the programme through the last-minute cancellation of the George Evuns Band's appearance, caused through George's sudden illness. Secondly, a splendid gesture by famous theatre and broadcasting leader John Blore means that John, with his full band, in which are a number of very notable names, will now be playing in the pit from 2.15 to 2.30 p.m. All fans should be in their seats ready to hear him.

A wonderful response has been forthcoming from the principal musicians in the Melody Maker Dance Band Poll.

"M.M." ALL-STAR BAND

"M.M." ALL-STAR BAND

There are no fewer than five famous bandleaders among those who have accepted to appear with the "M.M." Star Band—including Geraldo Leslie Hutchinson, Harry Hayes, Buddy Featherstonhaugh, and Carl Barriteau.

In addition, there will be such a remarkable "rank and file" as George Chisholm, Jock Bain, Aubrey Franks, Tonimy Bromley, Bertie King, Don Macaffer, Tonimy McQuater, Jack Parnell, Duggde Robinson, Dave Wilkins, Beryl Davis and Denny Dennis.

The final selection of numbers for the Jazz Jamboree Award has been made. The winning numbers have been chosen, and will be played next Sunday by the popular "Skyrockets," under the direction of Sergt, Paul Fenoulhet.

One final point in regard to next Sunday's "Command Performance" of Swing Music—everybody should be in their seats not later than 2.15 (owing to a mistake, the tickets unfortunately say 2.30). The programme will start promptly, and as the doors open at 1.30, there should be no difficulty in everybody being seated in good time by 2.15 p.m.

ARTHUR Rowberry has cancelled his plans for a series of one-night stands in the Midlands. Instead, next week (commencing September 24) he is billed as the star attraction at the Empress Ballroom, North End, Portsmouth.

CALL SHEET

(Week commencing September 24)

Carl BARRITEAU and Band.
One-night Stands, Leeds area.

Billy COTTON and Band.
Empire, Finsbury Park,
Gloria GAYE and Band.
City of Varieties, Leeds.
Carroll GIBBONS.
Shakespeare Theatre, Liverpool,
Adelaids HALL,
Empire, Hackney.
Henry HALL and Band.
Alhambra, Bradford.
Leslie ("Jiver") HUTCHINSON and
Band.
One-night Stands, Eastern
Counties.

Vera LYNN.
Empire, Chiswick.
Felix MENDELSSOHN and Hawaiian
Serenaders.
Green's Playhouse Ballroom.
Oscar Babin, and Band.

Green's Playhouse Ballroom.
Glasgow.
Oscar RABIN and Band.
Dome. Brighton.
Monte REY.
Empire. New Cross.
Billy TERNENT and Orchestra.
Band of the Week. B.B.C.
TROISE and his Mandoliers.
Empire. Notlingham.
Eric WINSTONE and Orchestra.
Court Royal Hotel. Southampton.

STRAIGHT GUESTS AT SWING SHOP

Some of the most famous classical musicians in the country will be present as guests at the first of the Jack Hylton-Sid Gross." Swing Shop" concerts, to be held at the Adelphi Theatre on September 30.

Special invitations were sent out by Sid Gross to these famous concert-platform artists. and among those who have accepted are Arthur Bliss, the famous contemporary composer, who scored the music for the H. G. Wells film "Shape of Things to Come." and the great tenor Richard Tauher. Some of these musicians will be experiencing their first "jam session." and their reactions will be sought at a reception to be held during the interval. If printable, their comments will be given in a subsequent issue of the "M.M."]

As advertised, there will be another "Swing Shop" concert on Sunday, October 14, but the one scheduled for the 28th has generously been postponed by the organisers to the following Sunday, November 4, owing to the fact that the Music Corporation (Great Britain), Ltd., is holding a very special London Collseum concert on October 28.

As reported in a recent issue, Arthur is still in urgent need of a first-class trombone player who would be willing to go with the band on its six months' E.N.S.A. tour of Italy, commencing on Monday, October 1. Contact him at the Empress Ballroom.

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HARTLEY'S 79, Vicar Lana, Loeds

PRISONERS OF WAR JOIN NAT ALLEN'S BAND

NAT ALLEN commenced his thirteenth week on the Variety stage with an appearance at the Metropolitan. Edgware Road, last Monday (17th), but the proverbial bad luck of 13 hasn't dogged this or any other week's presentation.

Since he took the initial plunge into stagework. Nat and the boys have rapidly climbed into a premier position on the halls, and the public has not been slow to record its appreciation of their musical efforts.

Monday's show followed a similar pattern to his previous ones, but Nat has augmented the band personnel with two musicians, behind whose engagement there is an interesting story.

The new members are Douglas Tanguy (alto, clar, and acc.) and Buster St. George (dancer and guitarist).

Douglas used to be a full-time pro. in Jersey until the German occupation, when, together with many other civilians, he was deported to the Reich. Buster was also captured soon after the Germans overran Holland, and it was during their joint internment in Stalag 334 that they met and found they had kindred musical tastes.

Eventually they were released, and arrived in this country bereft.

Stalag 334 that they met and found they had kindred musical tastes.

Eventually they were released, and arrived in this country bereft of all their meagre possessions.

It was at this stage that Nat Allen came on the scene. He gave them their first chance of a job with the band, and they have since proved a valuable asset to the act. These two boys are deeply grateful to Nat for giving them practical help when others merely tendered sympathy or completely ignored them.

Nat has augmented his sax section to four with the addition of Douglas Tanguy, and two other new replacement members are Brian Williams (tenor) and Miss

U.S. HIT PARADE

HERE is the latest available list of the nine most popular songs in America, as assessed by the weekly nation-wide ballot conducted by the American Tobacco Co., and broadcast in their "Your Hit Parade" programme over the C.B.S. network:—1. TILL THE END OF TIME (Chopin's "Polonaise") (1-2-3), 2. IF I LOVED YOU (5-1-1-3-7), 3. GOTTA BE THIS OR THAT (3-4-0-6-5), I WISH I KNEW (6-5-2-4-0-0-6), 6. DREAM (7-8-8-1-2-1-3-3-2-2-3-2-1-8-7-3), 7. I'M GONNA LOVE THAT GUY 8. THERE'S NO YOU, 9. THE MORE I SEE YOU (4-7-8-7-1-3-5-7-8-9-9-0-0-0-0-7).

ROYLE MOVES

LIVE-WIRE personality of the musical world Dick Royle started last Monday (17th) with the Peter Maurice Company, Fully recovered from his recent filmess, Dick is already flinging himself whole-heartedly into the exploitation of all the latest P.M.

exploitation of all the latest P.M. hits.

During his eighteen years in the publishing business, the last twelve of which were served at Chappells, Dick has made innumerable friends who we know will wish him all the luck he deserves in his new appointment.

Dick is greatly looking forward to meeting all his old and new friends at 21, Denmark Street. He joins the firm at a very happy time, as P.M.'s have two big-successes just now—"The Gipsy" and "Coming Home." It is especially gratifying to know that both these songs are 100 per cent. British.

Melody Maker

Incorporating RIIYTHM
WEEK ENDINGSEPTEMBER22,1945 93. LONG ACRE. W.C.2

Editor: RAY SONIN
Telephone: TEMplo Bar 1525
Advertisement Manager: F. S. PALMER
(TEMplo Bar 2468)

KEN CROSSLEY is safe

"SAFE in Allied hands Melbourne, Austra Australia.

Melbourne, Australia, Writing."

This cryptic, dramatic message from the other side of the world brought to his harassed father in Nottingham the first definite news as to the fate of famous ex-Henry Hall, etc., guitarist-vocalist Ken Crussley.

Joining the Royal Corps of Signals in 1939. Ken went out to Singapore—had been there for just one day when his capture by the Japs cut off all news of him from those anxiously waiting at home.

After a long period of surmise and anxiety and deferred hopes, one standard P.O.W. post card arrived, to indicate that he was a prisoner at Osaka, Japan.

Since then, complete silence has shrouded Ken Crossley's fate; his relatives and friends, waiting at home, felt an almost unbearable tension as the end of the Far-Eastern war arrived with still no word of him—until the day recently when the glad tidings were fiashed across that at least Ken was safe and well.

We join with all his friends and fans all over the country in expressing our relief and satisfaction that this very well-known member of the profession—he was with Henry Hall, Mantovani, Billy Thorburn, Oscar Grasso, etc., before the war—will be returning some day to sing and play again with a top-line band.

ROME IS HOME

A MONG the well-known musiclans recently demobilised
from the Services is included
Rudy Rome, the well-known
saxist-clarinettist-violinist, who
before the war played at Romano's, Quaglino's, and other resorts in the West End.
Rudy has just scen 5½ years'
service in the Rifle Brigade, playing both in the R.B. Symphony
Orchestra on violin, the Military
Band on clarinet, and the Dance
Band on all three of his instruments. Now that he is back
home, Rudy is anxious to "get
cracking" again in the business.
His old friends and associates
may contact him at Stamford Hill
5951.
Rudy comes from a family

may contact him at Stamford Hill 5951.

Rudy comes from a family almost every member of which is a musician who has served in the war. Brother "Butch" Rome, discharged a few months ago from the Dorset Regiment, is now playing trumpet with Jerry Hoey's Band; brother Micky Rome, the well-known bassist, late of the Café Anglais, etc., has served six years in the R.A.F. and expects to be "out" in 1946; whilst brother Dave Rome (drums) and sister Betty Rome (vocalist) are at the present moment in Germany with the E.N.S.A. "Romance in Rhythm" show.

WELL-KNOWN fiddlist Al Feld, who leads the Swingtette at Sherry's, Brighton, is scheduled to broadcast in the late-night programme of dance music on September 29 at 11.25 p.m. (Light).

Listeners will hear Al on violin, backed by a trumpet, four saxes, and a four-piece rhythm section.

EDGAR JACKSON'S Becord Beviews

HARRY JAMES AND HIS ORCHESTRA

**Blues In The Night (Mercer, Arlen) (Am. Columbia CO32072).

**Crazy Rhythm (Cesar, Meyer, Kahn) (Am. Columbia CO32475).

(Parlophone R2977-5s. 44d.)

(Parlophone R2977—5s. 44d.)
32072. — James (tpt.), with
Claude Lakey, George Clinton
Davis, Sam Morowitz, Gene Corcoran (reeds); Claude Bowen,
Dominick Buono, Alex Cuozzo
(tpts.); Dalton Rizzotto, Hoyt
Bohanon, Harry Rodgers (tmbs.);
Leo Zorn Alex Pevenser, Samuel
Caplan, John Peter de Voogt
(vijs.); William Spear (viola);
Elias Al Friede ('cello); Al Lerner
(pno.); Ben Heller (g'tar); Vernon Payne Teague (bass); Michael
V. Serima (dins.). Recorded
December 30, 1941.
32475.—As above, but minus all
strings. Recorded February 24,
1942.

strings. 1942.

I UST why Parlophone have I troubled to put out these two three-years-and-more-old recordings is a question they may be able to answer, but I can't.

As regards the tunes, "Blues In The Night" means nothing today. It had its moment of popularity, and those who didn't hope at any rate almost certainly thought that it had been decently burled once and for all.

THIS SWING THING

"Crazy Rhythm" is a somewhat different proposition. Hailing from, if not rightly belonging to, the so-called true jazz erait is still looked upon as one of the "good ole good 'uns."

But revivals of even the better of these evergreeus need a performance that has something worth calling worth-while if they are to mean anything, and there is little. If anything, that can be described as worth-while in either of these performances.

Both sides are modern swing presentations.

I make no apologies for pausing to explain yet again that I have nothing against swing per sc.

I have certainly never attempted to pose as one of those diebards who refusing to move

I have certainly never at-tempted to pose as one of those diebards who, refusing to move (or should I have said being in-

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capable of moving?) with the times, still protest that modern swing is a phony and that the only thing worth bothering about is the old-time jazz.

To my mind such a contention is simply ridiculous.

Swing, which anyway is no more than one of the developments which one must accept as inevitable in any new musical thought, is, for those who are not too slow on the uptake to appreciate the fact, a worthy enough outcome of jazz... at its best.

But how often do we hear it at its best?

Too often all we get, especially from the American bands and soloists who have the biggest reputations over there, is a parade of extravagancies which, technically brilliant as they may be, leave one disastisfied if not actually nauscated.

Maybe it would be going too far to say that these two Harry James sides are likely to nauseate you. But they have certainly not satisfied me, and I doubt if they will satisfy you.

Hear them and then ask yourself this: What has it all amounted to?

"CATCH-PENNY STUFF"

Can you say that you have heard a good tune—that anybody has played a single bar that has really moved you—that anybody... the composer, the arranger, or any one of the players... had anything worth-while to say—that anything new happened—that there was any sincerity anywhere—that you heard anything to intrigue or charm you?

If you can answer "Yes" to any one of those questions you will have discovered something. I have missed.

The most I have found is an admittedly good, sometimes even startling, display of instrumental ability used—or rather should I say misused—to do no more than provide catch-penny stuff for a public that has yet to learn that technique means nothing by itself and still thinks that swing is just a form, of rhythm that has only to be loud and exuberant enough to justify its existence.

Now, of course, I'm for it again, especially from those who worship at the feet of Harry James as the greatest trumpet virtuoso swing has unearthed.

But for the life of me I can't see what all the shouting is about.

They tell me Mr. James has a control of dis instrument that is second to none. We tout in the second to none.

about.

They tell me Mr. James has a control of his instrument that is second to none. His tone is magnificent. The ease with which he performs incredible feats is breath-taking. His high notes are amazing. There is nothing he can't do on a trumpet.

All right, for the sake of argument I'll admit it all, because it is not the way Mr. James does it that gets me down: it is what he does.

that gets me down: it is what he does.

And it's none the less of a tragedy because at his best he can—or at any rate could—play swell lazz. He proved it in those "Blue Mood" sides with Teddy Wilson's Quartet (Parlophone R2741).

But at his worst . . . well, one does not have to go so far as such atrocities as his "Flight of the Bumble Bec."

These records of "Blues In The Night" and "Crazy Rhythm" take one just about as far as one need go.

At the best they say nothing, because neither Mr. James nor anyone else concerned, except, perhaps, the tenor player, seems to have anything worth-while to say, and consequently can do no more than rely on the more or less brilliant enunciation of a string of would-be grandlose but actually boringly arriless sentences.



Harry Gold and his "Pieces of Eight," whose recent broadcasts have reached a new high standard in small-band swing. Modern, lively and very versatile, the band features some grand arrangements. With Harry Gold and Laurie Gold on tenors and clarries, there are Harry Conn (alto, claury): George Fierstone (drums); Harry Benson (bass); Fred Phillips (guitar); Jack Coles (trumpet); and Laurie Clark (trombone).

"M.M." ALL-STAR BAND AT LONDON

RHYTHM DANCE

THANKS to the enterprise of the Music Corporation (Great Britain), latd. London (ans are to have another early opportunity of hearing the "Melody Maker" All-Star Band (the outfit comprising all the winning instrumentalists from the recent "M.M." Polly which, it is confidently anticipated, will be one of the biggest sensations of this Sunday's Jazz Jamboree.

At the second of the biggest sensations of this Sunday's Jazz Jamboree.

At the second of the big monthly Rhythm Dances, to take place at the Seymour Hall. Marylebone, London, on Wednesday, October 3, the big attraction will be nothing less than a full "Melody Maker" All-Star Rand, All the famous corner-men and sololsts will be present, notable songsters Beryl Davis and Denny Dennis will look after the vocal side; and in addition to playing as a complete unit, the Band, will also break up into several all-star jam combinations, each under a famous leader-instrumentalist.

Apart from the terrific attraction with its glittering army of cornermen, and famous vocalists, a second smaller but almost equally. Scintillating combination has been planned.

This takes the exciting form of Maurice Burman's "Stars of the Corporation. The baddy needs several lady musicians and solo-steep planned.

This takes the exciting form of Maurice Burman's "Stars of the Go.P.O., Bournemouth.

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OF late we have been receiving a remarkably high percentage of replies to the various queries posed in the Corner each week or so. This testifies to the knowledge and enthuslasm of local collectors, the extent of which, by the way, never falls to amaze visiting Americains. And we need hardly stress that without this pooling of information, the Corner cannot achieve what it sets out to do.

So that when we quote from a letter of George Hoefer ("Down Beat's" "Hot Box" man), received last week, we're not patting our own backs, but mcrely passing on an acknowledgement of the useful work being done by such researchers as Venables, McCarthy, Tonks, Dutton, Collins, Evans, Dance, and the dozens of others who contribute information regularly to these columns.

Says Hoefer: "Thanks for the "M.M.s." You boys certainly are getting a lot of record data of importance printed. I'm always glad to get copies of 'Collectors' Corner' and hope you'll continue sending them.

And while we're trumpet-blowing we may as well quote the U.S. mag "Jazz Session," May-June, 1945, in which Robert Reynolds (Editor of "The Needle") writes: "The Melody Maker' (English equivalent of our 'Metronome') features a column called 'C.C., which is a credit to England and English taste in Negro music."

TROMBONE RED

On the subject of readers' queries answered, Sinclair Traill is still stabbing at a solution to the Trombone Red puzzle, apparently not convinced by Hulsizer's identification of the group as a Charlie Johnson contingent. Sinclair writes as follows:—

"Have received an interesting slant on the group from John Fryer, who is certain thoy were a contingent from the Red Caps Ork under the direction of Russell Wooding.

lingent from the Red Caps Ork under the direction of Russell Wooding.

"This group, as you know, was composed of porters (thus the 'Red Cap' pseudonym) and waiters from Grand Central Station, New York. The trombonist-leader would be Herb Fleming but the rest of the bunch are not definitely known.

"John gives no proof of his statement, but I fancy that he has hit the nail on the head, if only for the fact that 'Greasy Plate Stomp' would seem to be a waiters' theme song."

CANDY AND COCO

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COLLECTORS'

by REX HARRIS and MAX JONES

"I'm afraid I have no details of these productions. Incidentally, they also featured a piece of pulchritude by the name of Grable!"
Did anyone catch these pictures?

INDEX TO JAZZ

We have just received the second part of Orin Blackstone's monumental discographical work—"Index to Jazz." It is as good as part one led us to expect. By the time this book is finished corrected, and published in one volume with new material incorporated, there will be available to collectors the most complete record reference book ever compiled. In fact, it looks as if Blackstone will be putting discographers out of work unless they know something really hot.
Already the Corner has been well stung by the appearance of part two, for we had listings of Sam Theard discs, Charlle Jacksons, Harlem Hamiats, and some Did anyone catch these pictures?

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Already the Corner has been well stung by the appearance of part two, for we had listings of Sam Theard discs. Charlie Jacksons, Harlem Hamfats, and some others, which are given almost complete by Blackstone. However, it seems there are odd sides to be added here and there, especially among the race lists, and soon it will become a babit among jazz writers to publish sections of "Index to Jazz up to Date."

At a first glance we noticed gaps in the Huddie Ledbetters, Sam Theards, Charlie Jacksons, and omissions from Gene Gilmore. Peg Leg Howell, Clarence Jones, Roosevelt Sykes, Rosa Henderson, Fokum Trio, Lonnie Johnson, Little Hat Jones, Charley Jordan, and one or two more.

Certain artists like Eddle Lang have not had their full discography attempted, Blackstone preferring to give an approximation of their recorded work. It is to be presumed that the final edition will have these sections amended.

In future Corners we will attempt to deal with the omissions mentioned above.

LEMON JEFFERSON

While on the subject of Blackstone, "Index" it is of interest

LEMON JEFFERSON

Herb Fleming, but the rest of the bunch are not definitely known.

"John gives no proof of his statement, but I fancy that he has hit the nail on the head, if only for the fact that 'Greasy Plate Stomp' would seem to be a waiters' theme song."

CANDY AND COCO

We have not yet received any further light on "Candy and Coco" as far as record data is concerned. However, one reader is able to supplement our scanty knowledge of this team's activities. L.A.C. Arthur Grant writes:

"Re your recent paragraph on the Gene Austin, Candy and Coco partnership, perhaps the following may be of some interest. About eight or nine years ago the trio appeared in a series of short musical films, the locale of which was invariably the New York waterfront.

LEMON JEFFERSON

While on the subject of Black-stone's "Index." it is of interest to note that he lists 47 sides (on Paramount) of Blind Lemon Jefferson, whereas our recent listing comprised 62 sides plus three sent in by readers. The latter are given by Blackstone, who also supplies titles for No. 12347. Those who are filling this information can therefore fill in the Paramount of the myson opposite that number with Dry Southern Blues" "Booster Blues" or of Sorte in a series of short musical films, the locale of which was invariably the New York waterfront.

Which appears to tie up with a tale we printed last Christmas about a fabulous horde of Para-mounts in South Africal

BOB CROSBY DISCOGRAPHY PART 2 THE FULL BAND

With grateful acknowledgments to r. Harry G. Sarton for much of the information contained herein.)

(With grateful acknowledgments to Mr. Harry G. Sarton for much of the information contained herein.)

Andy Ferrettl, Yank Lawson (tpts.); Ward Silloway, Artle Foster (tmbs.); Matty Matlock (clar. and alto.); Gil Rodin (alto); Dean Kincaid (alto and tenor); Eddie Miller (tenor and clar); Cil Bowers (pno.); Ray Bauduc (dms.); Bob Haggart (bftss); Hilton (Nappy Lamare (gtr.); Bob Crosby (vocals.) June 1, 1935.

"Flowers for Madame" (39562), De. 478.

"The Dixieland Band" (39563), De. 479, 3335, Br. E. 02041.

"In A Little Gypsy Tea Room" (39564), De. 478, Br. E. 20241.

"Benle Street Blues" (39565), De. 479, De. E. F5896.

Same Personnel: July 5, 1935:—

"I'm In The Mood For Love" (39679), De. 508, De. E. F5672.

"East Of The Sun" (39680), De. 508, De. E. F5768.

Same Personnel: August 19, 1935:—

"I'm Sittin' Righ On A Hilltop" (39865). Unissued.

"Tender Is The Night" (39867), De. 544.

Same Personnel: November 8, 1935:—

"On Treasure Island" (60133), De. 614.

"At Your Service, Madame" (60134), De. 615.

Same Personnel: November 8, 1935:—

"On Treasure Island" (60133), De. 615.

Same Personnel: November 27, 1935:—

"A Little Bit Independent" (60169), De. 629, De. E. F5887.

"A Little Bit Independent" (60169), De. 629, De. E. F5897.

"Dixieland Shuffle" (61037), De. 825, \$333, Do. E. P6067.
Zoko Zarohy (tpt.), Warren Smith (tmb.) and Bob Zurke (Dnc.) replace Hart, Foster and Bowers.
June 12, 1830:

"Pagan Love Song" (61162), De. 896, De. E. F6083.

"Come Back, Sweet Papa" (61163), De. 896, 3336, De. E. F6083.

"Bugar Poot Strut" (61164), De. 1094, 3337, De. E. F6300.

Same Personnel: June 18, 1936:

"Guess Who" (61180), De. 836, De. E. F6255.

"Oross Patch" (61181), Dc. 841, De. E. F6041.

"Big Chief De Sota" (61182), De. 841, De. E. F6041.

"Mary Had A Little Lamb" (61183), De. 836, De. E. F6255.

"Savoy Blues" (61184), De. 1094, De. E. F6300.

Same Personnel: August 19, 1936:

"My Kingdom For A Kiss" (61213), De. 903.

"Through The Courtesy Of Love" (61214), De. 903.

"Peter Piper" (01215), De. 930, De. E. F6229.
"Woman On My Weary Mind" (61216), De. 930, De. E. F6229.
"Royal Garden Bires" (61217), De. 1850, 3339, De. E. F6262.

Same Personnel: February 8, 1937:

"Old Spinning Wheel" (61589),

De. 1850, 3339, De. E. F6622.

Same Personnel: February 8, 1937:—
"Old Spinning Wheel" (61589), De. 1196, De. E. F6416.
"Gin Mill Blues" (61590), De. 1170, De. E. F6463.
"If I Had You" (61591), De. 1170, De. E. F6416.
"Between Devil And Deep Blue Sea" (61592), De. 1196, 3335, De. E. F6463.

(To be continued)

* *

SWAP AND BUY

With grateful acknowledgments to Mr. Harry G Sarton for much of the information contained herein. And Ferretti, Yank Lawson (Inba.) in Matty Matlock (clar and alto.) in Matty Matlock (clar and alto.) in Rodin (alto.) Dean Kincald (alto and clar); Gli Bowers (pno.) : Ray Bundoo (1986), Wang Manare (grt.): Bob Grosby (vocals). June 1, 1935.

"Plowers for Madome" (19852). De. 478. Divisional Band" (19852). De. 478. Divisional Band" (19852). De. 478. Divisional Band" (19852). De. 478. De. E. 1988.

"De 2 De. 2 FS968.

San The Divisional Band" (19863). De. 479. De. E. FS962.

"Beale Street Blues" (19868). De. 479. De. E. FS962.

"Bast Of The Sun" (19868). De. 502. Torotether" (19868). De. 504. Torotether" (19868). Unissued. "Thanks A Million" (19868). De. E. FS768.

"Treature of The Sun" (19868). Unissued. "Treature Island" (19868). De. 614. Along. Prairie Moon" (19868). De. 504. Contender Is The Night" (19867). De. 614. Along. Prairie Moon" (19868). De. 505. Torosubre (1986). De. 614. Along. Prairie Moon" (19868). De. 506. Contender (1986). De. 507. Treasure Island" (60131). De. 614. Same Personnel: November 8, 1935:—"On Treasure Island" (60131). De. 614. Same Personnel: November 8, 1935:—"On Treasure Island" (60131). De. 614. Same Personnel: November 8, 1935:—"On Treasure Island" (60131). De. 614. Service, Madame" (60144). De. 614. De. E. FS967.

"Here's To Romance" (60136). De. 502. "One Night In Monte Carlot (1986). De. 503. De. E. FS967.

"One Night In Monte Carlot (1986). De. 633. De. E. FS967.

"One Night In Monte Carlot (1986). De. 634. De. E. FS967.

"One Spander (6014). De. 615. De. E. FS967.

"One Looka There, Ain't She Freedy." (60181). De. 753. De. E. FS962.

"One Looka There, Ain't She Freedy." (60124). De. 759. De. E. FS967.

"One Looka There, Ain't She Freedy." (60124). De. 759. De. E. FS967.

"One Toronnel: Agree (60151). De. 759. De. E. FS967.

"One Toronnel: Agree (60152). De. 759. De. E. FS967.

"One Toronnel: Agree (60153). De. 7596.

"One Control of the Control of the Control of the Control of

F5982
Same Personnel: March 19. 1936:—

"Christopher Columbus" (60911),
De. 753, Dc. E. F5962.
"Ooh Looka There. Ain't She
Pretty?" (60912), Dc. 758, Dc. E.
F5997.
"You're Toots To Me" (60013),
Dc. 759.
"It's A Treat To Be In Love
Again" (60914), Dc. 753, Dc. E.
F6897.
Same Personnel: April 13. 1936:—
"Muskrat Ramble" (61036), De.
"Muskrat Ramble" (61036), De.
"Bassen Personnel: April 13. 1936:—
"Muskrat Ramble" (61036), De.

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MILLER'S HAVE ARRIVED H

SCOTTISH NOTES

by Hugh Hinshelwood

by Hugh Hinshelwood

TOLLOWING on the news that
Benny Loban is opening a
musical agency in Glasgow comes
the information that he will terminate his contract at the Plaza
on Saturday, September 29.
He has been at this hall for five
years, and, despite war-time personnel difficulties, has managed to
keep well to the fore, and has
brondcast frequently. Future
plans, with the exception of his
musical agency, are uncertain
His business address, when activities commence, will be at 95. Renfield Street.

The bandleader to take over, on
October 1, is Matt Moore, from
Streatham Locarno, but as this
news comes late in the week,
further details will be given in a
future issue.

Adding to the noteworthy news
irems which have come from the
Locarno recently, we have word
from Eddie Shaw that he has been
booked for a "Music While You
Work "programme from the
studio on October 11, between
3,30 and 4 p.m.

This is indeed a signal honour
which has been paid to Eddie, as
it is probably the first time a
palals band from Scotland has
been chosen as a unit for this
kind of airing.

The Locarno boys will provide
good entertalinment, as the recent
addition of the four-piece string
section has certainly given the
band a chance to sound different
from the usual dance-band
"tone colouring."

JAZZ TALENT SEARCH

THE "Young Austria." organiation is hoping to arrange a dance-band festival in an endeavour to raise funds.

The festival will be in the form of a "Jazz Talent Jamboree," and participating bands will play in a series of "knock-out" competitive events. The winners will be engaged to appear on the same programme as star artists, whose names will be announced later.

Those interested should contact Bernard Weber, c/o "Young Austria," 132, Westbourne Terrace, W.2.

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the Company of

New York News from LEONARD FEATHER

THE Glenn Miller AEF band, back in the United States after 14 months overseas, of which six were spent in England, is now on a 30-day furlough before reassembling for duties in this country.

mon a 30-day furlough before reassembling for duties in this country.

Mel Powell described with great enthusiasm his experiences in England. He talked of the interest of young victor Feldman, of the genuine natural ability of trumpeter Kenny Baker, and. of course, of the great impression made on him by George Chisholm and George Shearing.

Mel. whose composition "Clarinade" is Benny Goodman's latest hit record, is now visiting Goodhit record, is now visiting for duties in

SENSATIONAL augmentations are getting to be more and more the feature with Francisco Conde, whose excellent and pepular Rumba Band is having a constantly increasing degree of the spotlight focussed on it at the present moment.

For some time past Francisco has been using a greatly enlarged outfit for his B.B.C. series. Now, on September 26, comes his most interesting and ambitious venture to date, when he is featuring a star 20-piece rumba outfit at the mammoth ball which is to take place at Grosyenor House in aid of the Jewish Dominion Palestine League, where he is sharing the honours with Maurice Winnick, Eric Winstone, and Johnny Denis, whose bands will also appear.

Conde's outfit for this date will

nick. Eric Winstone, and Johnny Denis, whose bands will also appear.

Conde's outfit for this date will consist of three trumpets, three flutes, one clarinet, three accordions, three guitars, bass, drums, four rhythm men (i.e., maraccas, etc.), one vocalist, and Conde himself, as ever, leading from the plano.

Having, by his constant and unremitting hard work, carved himself out a very worthy niche in the London musical world. Conde, by his long contract at the Potomac Restaurant—he is naw in his third year there—his Sunday concerts, and particularly his many broadcasts, is making his name felt in almost every branch of the business.

CONTEST FIXTURES

CONTEST FIXTURES

AREA FINALS

Greater London.—Tuesday next,
Soptember 25 (7 to 11 p.m.) at the
Hammersmith Palais do Danse,
London, W.6, for the Hammersmith
Palais Silver Challenge Cup.
Organisers: The Metbory Maker.
Non-stop dancling to Lou Preager
and his Orchestra, Jack Amlot and
his Band and the Competing Bands.
Tickets: 25. 6d. at doors, or in
advance from the Hammersmith
Palais. Postul applications must
include full remittance and s.a.e.
North Britain (Eastern Section).—
Sunday week, September 30, at 2 p.m.,
at the City Hall (Oval Hall), Sheffield. Before a scated audience.
Organiser: Mr. Lewis Buckley,
Special stage presentation by the
R.A.F. Skyrockets" Dance Orchestra, directed by Sxt. Paul Fenouthet.
Seats: Numbered and reserved,
7s. 5d., 5s. 3d., 3s. 6d.; upreserved,
7s. 5d., 5s. 3d., 3s. 6d.; upreserved,
2s. 6d.; all including Tax and now
obtainable from Messrs. Wilson Peck,
Ltd.. Fargate, Shellied, Postal
applications must include full
remittance and s.a.e.

1045 VIETORY "ALL-BRITAIN"
Sunday, October 14, at 2 p.m., at the
King's Hall, Belle Vuo, Manchester,
Before a seated audience, Organiser.
Mr. Lewis Buckley.
Special stage presentation by the
famous R.A.F. "Squaddonaires,"
directed by Jimmy Miller.
Seats: All numbered and reserved,
10s. 6d., 7s. 6d., 5s. 3d., 3s. 6d. (all
including tax), now obtainable from
the Box Office Nanager. Belle Vue,
Manchester, 11, Postal applications
must include full remittance and s.a.e.

AMAZING JAM SESSION

Johnny Hartzileld (tenor), and a good rhythm section.

AMAZING JAM SESSION

The Spotlite Club threw a big farewell party for Timme Rosenkrantz prior to his departure for Denmark. Dinke Ellington, who has been sitting in every-Monday night there, took part in an amazing jam session which seemed to feature every great tenor man in town, including Dexter Gordon, Ben Webster, Don Byas, Paul Bascomble, as well, as clarinettists Buster Balley and Tony Sciacca, the latter a new star now in the Army; Stuff Smith, Junior Raglin, Sonny Berman, the great young trumpeter from Woody Herman's band, and several others.

A new theatre opened in New York last week, featuring Negro stage shows in competition with the long-established Apollo. For the opening show Billie Holiday was starred, and Don Redman, veteran arranger made another of his occasional temporary excursions into bandleading with a group put together for the week only, with such stars as life Lips Page and Frank Humphreys, both singing and playing trumpet, helping him out.

Woody Herman is making one of the relatively rare changes in his personnel, putting Irr Lewis in the trumpet section, replacing Ray Linn. Roy Ediridge, whom Woody Would like to have strengthen his brass team, has an iron-clad contract with Artie Shaw, and, though admitting himself very unhappy in the Shaw band, is unable to get out of it. Charile Barnet Just blew into town on one of his too few visits to New York. Kay Sturr, who has been making a big name for herself and recording her own sessions for Ben Polluck's new Jewel label, is back with Charile for the

nonce, and so is Al Killian, cofeatured with the perennial Peanuts Holland.

Sam Donahue and his Navy
orchestra, now in Washington,
have been cutting some sensational V-Discs for the Army.
Woody Herman also made a VDisc date this week, including a
six-minute version of his latest
head arrangement, "Father's
Moustache." This band gets
greater every week, and is the
object of raves by everyone from
Duke Ellington down.
Honce Henderson, who has
been forming bands and dropping
them intermittently for many
years, is in the running again
with a new crew at the Plantation Club in Los Angeles, including a white drummer and several
former Benny Carter men.

Three men currently with Gene
Krupa's Band may stay behind
and form big bands of their own
when Gene and his unit leave on
their now definitely planned USO
trip (probably to Europe) in midOctober.

They are Johnny Bothwell,
whose alto work was the big feature of Boyd Rueburn's Band
until recently: Charlie Venitura,
whose tenor work is the talk of
the town; and trombonist Tommy
Pederson. Anita O'Day is expected to pass the necessary physical and go overseas.

1:1 AURICE TORKE

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BRAND'S ESSENCE

DJANGO REINHARDT has gone "all commercial"! The latest news of the famous French guitarist, and almost legendary figure of dance music, is that since the end of the war he has since the end of the well state of the held of the well state of the held of the well remembered from "le lazz hot."

This information comes to the Microry Maker via the reliable testimony of another guitar notability, Jean Sasson, who will be well remembered in the old days with Lew Stone, Stephane Grappelly and Johnny Claes.

For some time now Jean has served in the R.A.F., and it was during a recent leave, when he during a recent leave, when he returned to his own people in Parls, that he enjoyed a hurried meeting with Django, as the French jazz king was dashing back to Cannes after a short visit to his former Parislan surroundings.

Unfortunately, Jean Sasson did not have time or opportunity to travel to Cannes to experience at first hand the amazing spectacle of Reinhardt dispensing "corn"; but the testimony of several extremely reliable authorities places it beyond dispute that at least some portion of Django's music nowadays is, swingistically speaking, of a very unsophisticated type. There is still no definite news of Django's projected visit to Britain, although many attempts are still being made to get him here.

Jazz in the French capital is





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JERRY DAWSON'S NORTHER

HAD a good day last Sunday weck—along with many hundreds more people—at the North Britain (Western Section) "do "at Blackpool.

As usual, there were lots of the "old" faces there, and again lots of arguments as to whether the bands competing were up to the standard of those which graced the same stand in pre-war days.

One thing, however, I don't think anyone could quibble about—except very strong partisans—and that was the adjudicators' choice of winners. The Summit Quartet put over a grand show, and, as Edgar Jackson pointed out when making the announcement, the band could hardly be faulted except perhaps by the most carping of critics. S'C

I wasn't able to listen carefully to all of the bands—I spent a lot of time running around doing nothing in particular—but I felt inclined to agree with those who expressed general disappointment at the standard of the bands as compared with the past.

I feel sure that bands like those of Eddie McGarry and Billy Lawrence, the Cavendish Bund, and others that I could mention, even playing just as they did in the old days (and I'm allowing that style has advanced a lot in the intervening years), would more than have held their own.

I felt strongly that most of the bands this year played far too studiedly and without any depth of tone.

One thing, however, did stand out like the proverbini sore thumb, and that is the tremendous difference in class between even the best of semi-pros and a first-class professional outfit, as demonstrated by the "Sky-rockets."

even the best of semi-pros and a first-class professional outfit, as demonstrated by the "Sky-rockets."

Following right after the competing bands, the boys (possibly even they feit that they had a hypercritical a udience outfront) opened a little shakily, but after a couple of numbers really warmed up and gave an absolutely sparkling display.

"Despatch From Dogpatch — which Paul Fenoulliet described as a new American number—was a killer, and gave the three trumpets—Chick Smith, Les Lambert and Ted Allaby—a chance really to show their musicianship in a difficult unison passage that had class stamped all over it.

They also put over a superb performance of Mel Powell's "My Guy's Come Back"—yes, the same printed arrangement that we all know, but played in such a manner that I do hope the contestants present noted It was in itself a treatise on how to win a contest, again proving what has always been stressed upon contesting bands—"Tain't What You Do It."

This was modern swing at its best, with all the life and beat in the world, yet tasteful and not in the least overpowering, with the accent on the one thing that so many semi-pros either overlook or else exaggerate beyond all bounds—dynamics.

**

Saw Will Johnson (Warrington)

in the world, yet tasteful and not in the least overpowering, with the accent on the one thing that so many semi-pros either overlook or else exaggerate beyond all bounds—dynamics.

Saw Wilf Johnson (Warrington maestro) and family, also Reg Wilson, drummer at the Casino Ballroom in the same town, whilst looking for some bands for his association's winter season dances was energetic Oldham N.A.L.G.O, secretary Ernest Lees. Rochdale was represented by Freddle Platf, keenly interested in the chances of the "Blue Rhythm Swingtette"—local boys in whom Freddle takes a keen and practical interest, whilst the usual East Lancashire contingent

was there in force, including Eddle McGarry, Harry Nowell, and ex-McGarry drummer of his championship days, Fred Tillottson, now at the Empress Ballroom (Tony's) at Blackburn.

Spotted the smilling face of an old friend upon whom the years seem to sit very lightly, in Charlie Mursh, who is currently leading the saxes and acting as deputy leader to Jim Nowell at Bolton Palais.

Suent a pleasant fifteen

leading the sixes and acting as deputy leader to Jim Nowell at Bolton Palais.

Spent a pleasant fifteen minutes reminiscing with a jerk when we both realised that I first knew him as long ago as 1929, when as a cillow youth he played at the old Rivoli Palais (now a cinema) in Manchester in a band which was led by Bob Dryden on drums, and included a very youthful trumpet-player who has since made a bob or two "—Nat Gonella.

Charlie's next boss was another rising stylist, a planist, by name Arthur Roseberry; after which he played a season on the South Coast, then returned to Manchester to Sharrocks Palais Royale—in which band was another star of the (then) future, a trombonist fresh from school, whose name was Eric Breeze.

Charlie next appeared playing LMS. hotels for Henry Hall, then joined the Lew Stone organisation to play in Lewis's Liverpool Restaurant under the leadership of Ronnie O'Dell after which he made his initial appearance at Bolton with Tommy Arnold, stayed on under Johnny Healey, then a couple of seasons with Joe Kirkham at Douglas, on to the Johnny Rosen Band, then on the outbreak of war back to Bolton, where he took on a war job, playing the took on a war job, playing the palais at nights.

Charlie is now released from his war dutles, and is just as keen on the business as he was fifteen years ago, and if I know him aright there is pienty of stellar attractions, the Riverside Restaurant at New Brighton lest

Carrying out their policy of stellar attractions, the Riverside Restaurant at New Brighton last week presented in cabaret Adelaide Hall.

Arile Williams is still charming the diners and dancers with his "sweet society" combination of three tenors and a rhythm section.

* *

Writing of Artie Williams reminds me that an old colleague of his Tommy Arnold days is at present home on a month's leave from South Africa — planist Mervyn Frazer.

I have often written of Mervyn's activities in the Union, and he seems to have things pretty well stitched up out there. Once he is demobilised from the RAF. he has contracts already fixed—no snags—to keep him busy for a year or two, in a land where he is already an established broadcasting name.

** **

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MID-BRITAIN AREA FINAL Friday, Sentamber 14, 1945. The De Montfort Hall, Leleester

Winnors: DENNIS HINTON AND
HIS BAND (alto, tenor, trumpet,
plano, bass, drums). 77, Rookery,
Road, Handsworth, Birmingham, 21.
Individualists' awards for Alto
(Dennis R. Hinton), Tenor (Robert
N. H. Gardner), Trumpet (Charles
Williams), Plano (Ronald S. Hardy),
Bass (Kenneth W. Jones). Hon.
mention for Drums (Brian Austin).
Second: BILLY
Second: BILLY
Diano, guitar, bass, drums). All
coms.: John E. Wright, 3, Broadway
Mansions, Earlsdon, Coventry.
Individualists' awards for Trombone (Eric Clarko), Drums (Gordon
Griffiths). Hon. mention for Tenor
(fan Walker, Arthur Dawson), Trumpet (Len Bradbury), Bass (John E.
Wright).
Third: STYX WILKINSON AND
HIS BAND (alto/clarinet, tenor,
plano, guitar, bass, drums). All
conis.: Lesile Pugh, 5, Greenway
(Pinone: Sedgley, 2310,)
Individualists' awards for Clarinet
(Frank Beech), Guitar (Peter Stoan),
Hon. mention for Bass (Sidney J.
Carrier), Drums (Charles H. Wilkinson).
Fourth: Reg Bartlam's "Windsor"
Band of Wolverbarnetes.

Carrier), Drums (contains "Windsor" son).

Fourth: Reg Bartlam's "Windsor" Band, of Wolverhampton.

Tied Fifth: Joe Key and his Arcadians, of Bridgnorth (Salop), and Len Reynolds "Metro" Danca Orchestra, of Burton-on-Trent.

* ×

TO ensure that every part of Great Britain should have its chance of being represented at next month's Grand Victory "All-Britain" Final, the following procedure has been adopted this year for the Area Finals, which act as semi-finals for the "All-Britain"—

The country has been divided up into seven areas, and each is given a separate Area Final to cater exclusively for bands in the area.

Under this arrangement, nine of the fifty-three bands which this season have qualified for an Area Final became eligible for the 1945 Mid-Britain Area Final, presented last Friday (14th) by Arthur Kimbrell at the de Montfort Hall, Leicester.

But with Stan Fielding's band having turned professional and thus become ineligible. Bunny Carless having a long-standing engagement, to get released from which all his efforts were unavailing, and Cyril Cox failing to reach the hall although the rest of his band were there desperately hopping he would put in an appearance, the number of competitors was reduced to six.

But happliy this did nothing to detract from the success of the event.

the event.

EXCITEMENT

The largest gathering ever seen at any "M.M." contest at the de Montfort Hall thronged both the huge dance floor and large spectators' gallery to witness as exciting a contest as any held this season.

All the bands had improved anything from noticeably to startlingly since they won their respective County or District Championships which entitled them to take part in this Area Final, and the three which eventually secured the first three places not only put up such a fierce fight but were obviously so close that they could hardly have falled to arouse the enthuslasm of the crowd.

In fact, by the time the moment came for the results to be given out, the excitement was about at fever pitch, and a veritable tumult of cheering broke forth when it was announced that Denuis Hinton's six-plece band, from Birmingham, had just managed to beat the much larger and believed invincible Billy Monk Band, of Coventry, with Styx Wilkinson's boys, from Dudley, an almost equally close third.

MID-BRITAIN AREA FINAL "M.M." Contests

Usually finals are so tight for time that any such "additional attractions" as Jam sessions are out of the question. But with fewer bands competing than had been expected, there was time for one on this occasion.

It was provided by Vic Lewis and Ronnie Chamberlain who, after having judged with Edgar Jackson, joined up with the winning band and gave a really sensational show.

winning band and gave a really sensational show.

** * *

The "M.M.'s" roting critic writes regarding the performances by the bands:

Dennis Ilinton's Band, which won, comes in the category of small swing bands, but it certainly didn't rely entirely on improvised solos.

Much of its music was prescored, and the excellent writing (showing considerable imagination and ingenuity in the way the ensemble gave way to solos and vice-versa in the most unexpected places) was as much a feature of the performance as the way the band played.

Although both the alto and tenor solos could have been melodically better constructed, all three front-line soloists showed up well enough as such, and even better as a team; and with an excellent bass as the point of interest in an all-round good rhythm section, the band cortainly put up a fine show. It did what so few small swing bands can do—played a really good waltz.

LIGHT AND SHADE

de containly put up a fine show. It did what so few small swing bands can do—played a really good waitz.

LIGHT AND SHADE

Bill Monk's Band has always been noted for the effective way it plays the arrangements Bill himself writes for it. Its sense of a gripping as is the lucidity with you will have been and colour is as gripping as is the lucidity with you will have been and the smoothness with which one section will finish its phrase to allow another section or some soliois to take over are worthy of any first-class pro. band. Added to this, the band had corrected most of the faults for which it was criticised at the Warwickshire Championiship iast field for this Area Final Formistance, the sax tenhe style-of phristin the band just failed to the fact that the saxes did not expect that the swaltz, which the band played fact that the saxes did not expect that the band just failed to the fact that the saxes did not expect that the band just failed to the fact that the saxes did not expect into tune until after the swaltz, which the band played fact that, for all its general proficiency, neither its orchestrations nor its style are quite sone of the little Hinton combo. In Clidentally, the band still has a chance to get into the "All-Britain" through the special heat for Area. Final runners-up on the morning of the "All-Britain" and I, for one, hope it will take advantage of it.

If it does, I suggest that it substitutes a more modern tune and arrangement for its fox-troit blank the band could be contained to the fact that the band could be contained to the fact that the substitutes a more modern tune and arrangement for its fox-troit blank the fact that the substitutes a more modern tune and arrangement for its fox-troit blank the fact that the substitutes a more modern tune and arrangement for its fox-troit blank the fact that the substitutes a more modern tune and arrangement for its fox-troit blank the fact that the substitutes a more modern tune and arrangement for its fox-troit blank the fact that the substi

1945 SOUTH BRITAIN (WESTERN SECTION) AREA FINAL, Tucsday, September 18, at the Hammersmith Palais, London

Hammersmith Palais, London
RESULTS
Winners: CAPITOL SEXTET
(Cardiff).
Seconds: JOHNNY STILES and
his Band (Swindon).
Third: BILL COLE and his Clubmen (Portsmouth).
(Full report next week)

obvious shortcomings were consistently slightly sharp playing by the alto and a slight tendency to "slap" by the otherwise most unusually facile and good bass. But in addition to this, it must be admitted that the band falled to produce quite the brilliance of the Hinton band or the sense of colour and expression of Bill Monk's outfit.

1945 SOUTH-EAST YORKSHIRE CHAMPIONSHIP

Thursday, September 13, 1945, Corn Exchange, Doncaster.

Winners: FRED MANDERS'S
SWING FETTE talto clarinet, piano,
ruitar, bass, drums). 120, Woodscats
Road, Shefileid.
Individualists' awards for Clarinet
(Stan Vickers). Piano (Fred Manders),
Gultar (Ted Needham. Bass idoe
Quinian), Drums (Haydn Gook). Hon.
mention for Alto IStan' Vickers).
Special cup for best "small" band.
Second: DEREK DUNNING QUINTETTE (alto/clar., trumpet, plano,
bass, drums). 31, Murray Street,
York.
Individualists' awards for Alto
(Derek Dunning), Trumpet (Bill Steel).
Hon, mention for Drums (Ken
Kenyon).
The R.E.M.E. Dance Band, of Chilwell, were placed third. They won
the Individualist's award for Tenor
iKonneth Rimmer) and an hon. mention for Trumpet (Ted Brigss).
William Shaw, of Hon Belk's Band
from Barnsley, won the Trombone
prize.

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