VOL. 27. No. 914 -MARCH 24, 1951

Registered at the G.P.O.]

EVERY FRIDAY - 4d.

AMBITIOUS TIE-UP WITH STOBART ORK FOL

of South Bank restaurants

BANDLEADER Alan Carr is resigning from his residency at the Café residency at the Café Anglais, where he has played for 18 months, and finishes there on Saturday week

(31st).
This is to enable him to accept a first-class offer to become Musical Adviser and Entertainments Director to the privately run group of restaurants on the main South Bank site of the Festival of Britain.

Stays Cafe MD

Alan Carr remains as MD of the Café Anglais, and will also continue to book the cabaret attractions. At the time of writing, however, the future musical plans there are not decided.

Alan Carr's group—consisting of three tenors, trumpet, and rhythm—may remain, under another batoneer; or he may appoint a completely new outfit to take over until the end of the summer, when he will return to the Café as leader.

ROSE MURPHY COMES BACK

Rose Murphy and her husband-manager, Ed Mathleu, arrived here aboard the s.s. "Queen Mary" on Monday for the "Chee-Chee" girl's second British tour. She opens at Glasgow Empire on Monday (26th). With them was bassist Major Holley, who has been with Rose for two years and is to accompany her on this tour.

Rose's bookings include weeks at Edinburgh (commencing April 2), Newcastle (9th), Birmingham (16th), Liverpool (23rd), Sheffield (30th), Leeds (May 14), Bradford (28th) and Portsmouth (June 4).

Kathleen to return as tenor star in new Lewis band-within-band venture

GIRL tenor-sax modernist and bandleader Kathleen Stobart is about to disband her group. After a year "on the road," during which the outfit has become highly popular with the fans, she and three of her musicians are to join the Vic Lewis organisation in an ambitious "band within a band" venture.

tious "band within a band" venture.

Thus. Kathleen will again become tenor sax soloist in the Lewis Orchestra, whilst Bert Courtley (trumpet) moves into the Lewis brass team, Derek Humble (alto sax and clarinet) joins the Lewis reeds, and Len Harrison takes over as the Lewis bassist.

Kathleen takes the place of Ronnie Scott; Bert Courtley replaces Dave Usden; Derek Humble takes over from Peter Howe, who is leaving the band; and Len Harrison replaces Alan "Weed" Macdonald, who is also leaving.

Discussing the reasons behind her disbandment, Kathleen told the MELODY MAKER: "My band has been formed for just a year.

During this time we have never been offered a broadcast. We have been given, altogether, three BBC auditions. We passed the first one, but were, for some reason, turned down on subsequent occasions.

No BBC 'get-away'

"I feel that it is almost Impossible for a newly formed band to 'get away' altogether without at least some support from the BBC. From the enthusiastic reception which we met everywhere I feel certain my band would have made the grade in every way had we had the benefit of broadcasting."

Vic Lewis explained: "I shall be delighted to have Kathleen back with my band. In addition to her wonderful solos and her singing, she will be joining me in comedy duets. She will also, on occasions, feature and lead a group of her own from within the main band.

(Please turn to page 5)

(Please turn to page 5)

Jack Honeyborne now with Paul Vaughan

Jack Honeyborne, who recently vacated the piano stool with Kenny Graham's Afro-Cubists, is now playing with the Paul Vaughan group at the Empress Club's Stork Room.

Pianist Hamish Menzies with his American fiancee, Miss Leonore Lemmon. They met during his recent stay in Paris and wed today (22nd).



At 11 p.m. Harry Gold and his Pieces of Eight took the stand for their second session. Despite the lateness of the hour the fans still rocked enthusiastically to the group's driving choruses and Harry's terrific work on the bass saxophone.

Squads decide on **Tommy Maxwell**

After hearing nine out of some 60 applicants for the job, the Squadronaires have chosen as their drummer 27-year-old Tommy Maxwell, whose try-out with the orchestra proved outstandingly successful.

Tommy, who complete the standing of the

Tommy, who comes from Dumbarton, served in the RAF, and since returning to civilian life has played for Teddy Foster, Tommy Sampson, Ronnie Munro, Oscar Rabin and Carl Barriteau. For the past six months he has been aboard the "Queen Mary" with pianoleader Ronnie Ball. leader Ronnie Ball.

Leader. Joe Daniels, another smash hit, goes to town.

Another terrific success was scored by the second NFJO Hammersmith Palais Jazz Band Ball last Monday (19th), of which one of the biggest hits was the Randall group. Here is the "MM's" picture of Freddy in inspired form during the show, which was enjoyed by jam-packed crowds while hundreds more clamoured to get in.

Alfie Kahn leaves Roy after 7 years

A VETERAN of Harry Roy's band, tenor-saxist Alfie Kahn is leaving this Saturday (24th) after seven years in order to freelance.

Harry does not propose to re-place Alfie at the Crystal Room of the Empress Club, where he is now playing a resident en-gagement, but he will use an extra tenor on concerts and broadcasts

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BBC dance music 5 nights a week during the Festival

DURING the Festival of Britain period the BBC is putting on an entirely new and unusual series of dance band programmes. This will feature the best orchestras in the country, and be heard every night (week-ends excepted) at the peak time of 6.15-6.45 p.m, in the Light programme.

HAMISH MENZIES' EASTER BRIDE

Bert Weedon pupil ioins Edmundo Ros

The series starts on Monday, May 7, with a "Tuneful Twenties" airing, and from then on for several weeks this programme will be given the Monday evening spot.

Reading in the Melloy Maker With the Tuesday-night that Edmundo Ros would shortly be needing a guitarist, noted freelance plectrist and tutor Bert Weedon applied for the job on behalf of a former pupil.

As a result, Len Argent—a Weedon pupil of three years—started with Edmundo at the Bagatelle on Monday. Len has played with several Latin-American groups of late. He replaces Cliff Devereaux.

day evening spot.

With the Tuesday-night attractions still to be decided. Wednesday evenings will bring the high-spot of the week's dance band listening with "The Revolving Bandstand" in which the country's finest dance bands will feature in turn.

Thursday's half-hour will be given over entirely to a session of novelty and comedy bands,

when such outfits as those of Sid Millward, "Dr. Crock" and Billy Cotton will be heard.

Fridays will be devoted Latin-American music, with two leading Latin-American outfits featured at each session, and the entire programme produced and compèred by Edmundo Ros.

FRANK COOK DOUBLES AT EMBASSY CLUB

Previously on records with Chubby Jackson, Rudy Vallee and Frankle Masters as a guitarist, Variety artist Frank Cook is now doubling his part in the Crazy Gang's Victoria Palace show with cabaret appearances at the Embassy Club.

ONE NIGHT STAND discovers ...

An Easter egg in Composite description of an Easter egg. At long last I found an understanding merchant who gave me a nod and smile and a repetition of my gave me a nod and smile and a repetition of my gesture by way of acknowledgment. I had two years ago, I was lose patience with me and the I followed him through many

ROUND about this time, pretty strange places after a two years ago, I was living in Marrakesh with Orson Welles, working on the script and talking about the music of a film we wanted to make of the two years ago, I was living in Marrakesh with Orson Welles, working on the script and talking about the music of a film we wanted to make of the

In the same hotel there was

In the same hotel there was also staying a group of people from the cast and staff of "The Black Rose," which was in production in the desert nearby.

A day or so before I had to go back to Paris, I asked a young lady on the 20th Century-Fox payroll what I might send her back from Paris—and she said: "Well, if you feel like it, you can send me an Easter egg."

"But Easter is the day after tomorrow," I said. "How in the world, air age and all, can I get it back to you in time?"
"Well, send it back from Casablanca with the car."
But that was more easily said than done. The car was a beautiful new Nash that beat everything on the road between Marrakesh and the coast—but it etill cidn't get me into Casablanca before dusk, and by then most of the French shops were closed.

Man of Action

I asked the driver if he knew any place in the Arab quarter where we might get Easter eggs, and he just laughed at me—the way only French Moroccans can laugh, for their hearts are full of sorrow.

laugh, for their hearts are full of sorrow.

But being a man of action as long as someone else acts on my behalf, I said: "Let's try, anyway." And off we rolled into the maze of the souks and bazaars.

Now North Africa, as everyone knows who moved around with the 8th Army or anything else that saved him from temptation, is a wonderful place; one of the few places in this world that is the way you imagine it, and more so—in every sense of the word. the 8th Army or anything else that saved him from temptation, is a wonderful place; one of the few places in this world, that is the way you imagine it, and more so—in every sense of the word.

So we found ourselves in some originality. To illustrate his point, he has sent me a list of no fewer than 40 special arrangements which he is unable to use—not jazz arrangements, but non-vocal orchestrations of evergreen ballads and originals.

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by ERNEST BORNEMAN

restricted to gestures and odd sounds that gave me a perfect feeling of speaking onomato-pozic Arabic, but didn't seem to convince the Arabs of the same

convince the Arabs of the same thing.

But being a great one with describing an oval in the air, I smacked my lips to indicate the fine taste of chocolate—a fine,

way of acknowledgment. I had arrived!

I followed him through many dark recesses of a dark store full of mystery, threatening eyes in the dark, strange sounds and stranger smells, till at last we found ourselves in a big room that held three layers of carpets, carved benches around the walls, a big nargileh and, so help me, an old-fashioned gramophone of the type that still graces the trade-mark of the HMV Company in Hayes, Middlesex.

From the turntable of this machine he lifted an old bent record, described its shape with a sweeping gesture that resembled my own, placed the record back on the turntable, allowed it to click in a broken crack for a few turns, turned to

Zaran karan ka Pardon my left hand...



I SEE that the Poll winners are to be rewarded with trophies for their achievements in the dance music field; a robbe idea but not a new one.

achievements in the dance music field: a noble idea, but not a new one.

Hundreds of years ago, at the court of King Arthur (no, not Arthur Golding), a most wonderful lumber took place (lumber being the musicians' slang for a prank).

A consensus of opinion was held among the court musicians to decide who was the best among them. Finally, a young Scots guitarist named Davey O'Goldberg was voted tops.

On stepping up to the rostrum to receive his award he was greeted by Merlin, the court magician, who announced with a sly grin. "Good luck, son, you've won the poll"—and he handed the dismayed geezer a parrot in a cage!

This was the first-time-ever that a poll-winner got the bird!

THE BITER BIT

A couple of years ago I had a well-known guitarist working for me. I used to bully him, call him a poor sap, shout at him, threaten to humiliate him when ever possible. After all, wasn't I the guy'nor?

Eventually this guy leaves the business, gets married, settles down, and goes into the hotel business.

16 Bars Rest, for Dramatic effect

on April 9 I commence a two-week engagement with my group at the West End Cafe, Edinburgh. The manager there is a real so-and-so, they tell me. They don't have to tell me, I know. He used to play guitar for me. Pete Chilver's the name. May heaven have mercy on me in the dark and gloomy days ahead.

WAS MY FACE YOU-KNOW-WHAT?
DEPARTMENT

It happened last week at a mustc biz. function. A very well-known canary (girl singer to you, chum) turned up resplendent in what she thought was an exclusive model hat.

Charmania or che alone can

chum) turned up resplendent in what she thought was an exclusive model hat.

Charmingly, as she alone can, she fitted from musician to publisher, from publisher to bandleader, from bandleader to nonentities—she even spoke to me.

Suddenly, a look of horror came over her well painted chops (face to you, chum).

Would you believe it, but there was that shocking vocaliste from that awful little palais band wearing the self-same titter, feathers an' all.

Which only goes to show you that utility hats are selling awfully well these days.

After reading this back, with my knowledge of canaries (trouble to you, chum), I've just had my 'phone disconnected.

**CHARACTER OF THE YEAR

Johnny Dankworth has been voted musician of the year, and very deservedly so.

But what about the character of the year? My vote goes to that cynical guy with the mad sense of humour, Tenorist Billy Amstell.

Billy is always ready for a joke, always in good spirits, plays Dixieland but loves the modern stuff, pays his income tax and national insurance with a smile, and never complains about anything.

Yes, definitely the character of the year—either that or the guy's plumb crazyl

"JAZZ CLUB." 8 p.m. 17/3/51.

BURMAN'S BAUBLE
goes to pianist Johnny Pearson
for his brilliant and original
playing on "Jazz for Moderns."

NEXT WEEK.

"In the Blue of the Evening."
6.20 p.m. 22/3/51.

"Let's Walk Together, Chillun."
8.45 p.m. 23/3/51.

Geraldo and his Orchestra.
1.15 p.m. 23/3/51.

Maurice Burman's RADIO

L AST week, I quoted a programme that Ambrose had played in 1932 in order to show what the public is missing on account of the BBC's 60 per cent. plug ruling. The quotation interested Ted Heath—for it so happens that he was on that 1932 broadcast; but the real point of his interest lies in his agreement with the thesis that the restrictions imposed by the 60 per cent. plug rule cripple the bandleader in his endeavour to compile an all-round interesting programme, and stifle originality.*

To illustrate his point, he has

As they are predominantly slow numbers, they are squeezed out by the plug tunes, most of which are slow also.

To let you see what you're missing, here are ten of them: Fats Waller's "London Suite"; "East Of The Sun"; "Harlem Nocturne"; "I'm In The Mood For Love"; "Sophisticated Lady"; "Blue Prelude"; "The Touch of Your Lips "; "Nearness Of You"; "Stratford Water," and "London Fog."

The reason for the 60 per cent. ruling is philanthropic. The music industry is huge—and must evidently have plugs to exist. I see that point quite clearly, and 'Ill even go so far as to sympathise with it. But we must ask ourselves what is the prime function of the BBC?

Is it to give the public the best in popular music, or is its function to act as a clearing house for publishers' plugs? If it is the former, then bandleaders must have the right to compile their programmes free from the restrictions of percentages.

But I know quite positively what the answer is, and so do the BBC and the publishers. The public and the profession are not getting a fair deal; something must be done about it. personality that Jolson possessed ever come through. Recordings of the great man would have made all the difference. "JAZZ CLUB."

6 p.m. 17/3/51.

MICK MULLIGAN'S band was saved, on this show, by his own promising cornet playing. The rest of the players were plain bad: They played the way good jazzmen played when they wanted to be funny 20 years ago—especially the clarinet player.

It is ironic that Billy Amstell played more jazz in "Jolson Sings On" than all the clarinet players I have heard on "J. C." in the last six months put together.

We have got to face up to the fact that "J. C." has become a farce.

"Jazz for Moderns" is spoiled for me nearly every week by musician-announcers who insist on trying to be comedians. If we must have comics in this show, let's get professional ones.

The music, played by the Malcolm Mitchell Trio with Keith Bird, Mickey Binelli and Martin Aston, was good, but fussy.

"JOLSON SINGS ON." 8 p.m. 16/3/51,

"JOU'LL oblige me mightily if you'll refer to last week's "MM" for the cast of this enormous production. Maybe I'm lazy, maybe I'm not—nevertheless I'll mention the people that interest us most.

P. Carpenter was good as the narrator, so was the music of S. Black's band and C. Adam's quartet, with appropriate arrangements by W. Stott. Producer P. Dixon did a slick job.

But M. Bygraves, who sang as A. J., merely gave a very good imitation of someone imitating the great Al.

The chap who took Al's speaking voice made him sound like a rather kindly gangster.

At no time did the tremendous

ELEVISION by 'SCANNER'

WHEN TV presented the Geraldo Orchestra in "Geraldo Showcase," towards the end of January, it took the first step to implement its promise to give us more dance hand programmes.

inst step to implement its promise to give us more dance band programmes.

By Monday, April 9—after an interval of ten weeks—it will have managed to take the second step. For on that date we are to have the Squadronaires, with vocalists Roy Edwards, Linda Russell and the Quads, blus dancers Irving Davies and Eunice Crowther.

Exactly what form the Squad's show will assume has not yet been finally decided. But it could do much worse than follow the lines of last Friday's "Calypso Quarter."

This was an all-West Indian production. There were singers Mona Baptiste, Lord Beginner and John Anderson and a Caribbean instrumental quartet led by pianist Erroll Barrow. With the interpolated film scenes of the West Indies, they made the programme excellent entertainment.

But what must have impressed many viewers most was the absorbing interest of it all. The script, brilliantly written by Trinidadians Ken Ablack and Willy Richardson (a student of English literature at the London University), and excellently narrated by Richardson, gave us just about as complete and authentic an insight into the history and make-up of Calypso as could possibly have been crammed into an all-too-short 15 minutes; and the dignity and sincerity with which the whole programme was conceived and presented made it a valuable documentary as well as good entertainment.

THE CONTEST

* Ted Heath writes a special article on how to put British dance music back on the map, on page 4 of this issue.

LEEDS.—Tuesday, April 3, at the Locarno.—The 1951 West Riding District Championship.
Organiser: Mr. H. Wood, The Locarno, County Acrade, Briggate, Leeds. ('Phone: Leeds 28874.)'
LEIGESTER.—Sunday, April 8, at the De Montfort Hall.—The 1951 Heart of the Midlands District Championship. Supporting attraction: The Johnny Dankworth Seven. Organisers: The Wilcox Organiserston, Ltd., 4, Earlham-street, London, W.O.2. ('Phone: Temple Bar 1762.)
LIVERPOOL.—Thursday, April 12 (7 pm.—11.30 p.m.), at the Locarno Ballroom.—The 1951 Merseyside District Championship.
Organiser: Mr. W. Roberts, The Locarno Ballroom, West Derby-road, Liverpool, 6. ('Phone: Anfield 5397.)
BIRMINGHAM.—Thursday, April 19 (7.30 p.m.—11.45 p.m.), at the Grand Casino.—The 1951 Warwickshire District Championship.
Organiser: Mr. G. M. Andersen, Grand Casino, Corporation-street, Birmingham, 4. ('Phone: Colmore 4384.)
GLASGOW.—Monday, April 23 (7.30 p.m.—I a.m.), at the Locarno, Sauchiehall-street.—The 1951 Glasgow and West Scotland District Champion.

p.m.—I a.m.), at the Locarno, Sauchiehall-street.—The 1951 Glasgow and West Scotland District Championship.

and West Scotland District Championship.
Organiser: Mr. E. H. Benwell, The Locarno. Sauchiehall-street, Glasgow, C.2. (Phone: Douglas 0992-3.)
WISBECH.—Wednesday, April 25 (8 p.m. — midnight), at the Corn Exchange.—The 1951 Isle of Ely District Championship.
Organiser: Mr. Norman G. Jacobs, 4a, South Brink, Wisbech, Cambs. (Phone: Wisbech 147.)
BELFAST.—Thursday, April 26 (7.30 p.m.—11.45 p.m.), at the Plaza Ballroom.—The 1951 Northern Ireland Championship.
Organiser: Mr. S. Williamson, Plaza Ballroom.—Mecca Dancing, 35, Chiches-

FIXTURE LIST ter-street, Belfast. ('Phone: Belfast 25294.)

25294.)

DONCASTER.—Sunday, April 29 (7.30 p.m.), at the Ritz Cinema.—
The 1951 South Yorkshire District Championship, Supporting attraction: The Johnny Dankworth Seven.

Organisers: The Wilcox Organisation, Ltd., 4, Earlham-street, London, W.O.2. ('Phone: Temple Bar 1762.)

Rules and entry forms for the above Contests are available from the re-spective Organisers. Early applica-tion in each case is advised.

Contests are also fixed for Wimble-don, Lincoln, Swindon, Tottenham, High Wycombe, Nottingham, Chatham, Colchester, Spalding, Weston-super-Mare and Newcastle. Full details will be given in later issues of "Melody Maker."

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Laurie Henshaw's 'Popular' Reviews

O'DAY—

Tennessee Waltz Yea Boo

Tennessee Waltz
Yea Boo
(London L867)

R EAD the label, spin the disc, then read the label again.
Your eyes are not deceiving you. This is the same Anita O'Day who recorded the groovy "Hop. Skip and Jump" and "Boogle Blues"/" Opus No. 1" with Gene Krupa and his Orchestra only a few years ago.
When reviewing the last two sides in the Meloby Maker and the ensemble trombone Edgar Jackson wrote: "I rate Anita as easily the greatest of all the American girl vocalists working regularly with bands, white or coloured."

Readers who might then have agreed with this somewhat lyrical statement will be sadly shattered at Anita's current effort. Even the accompaniment by a group besprinkled

with several jazz stars (among them Charlie Shavers) adds no lustre to these dull sides, which were obviously made with an eye on the cash registers.

RALPH FLANAGAN AND HIS ORCHESTRA Nevertheless Oh, Babel (HMV B10024)

These records don't need 'progress'.. HILL-BILLY HAMP

IF one may judge from the records recently received for review from Jazz Collector, it would appear that, although jazz altered somewhat in what was to all intents and purposes the first ten years of its life, it progressed not at all.

The records under review were all made between 1917 and 1926. Musically speaking, progress could do little to improve any of them, except from a recording standagint.

Significant records received for review and between 1917 and 1926. This is not too bad, however, and does not dim

recording standpoint.

ORIGINAL DIXIELAND JAZZ BAND Look At 'Em Doing It Now/Ostrich Walk

(Jazz Collector L72-7s. 6d.) Nick LaRocca (cornet); Eddie Edwards (tmb.); Larry Shields (clt.); Henry Ragas (pnc.); Tony Sbarbaro (drs.). Recorded New York, 3/2/17.

As you will see, the first record was recorded as long ago as 1917. It was one of the first records these harbingers of Dixteland made when they arrived in New York from New Orleans to play at Reisenweber's Cafe. The sides were originally recorded for the Aeollan-Vocalion company by the then prevalent "hill and dale" method (i.e., the sound was produced from the bottom of the groove instead of from the sides as in present-day recording), which has resulted in a

RALPH SHARON SEXTET

**Stalking The Stork (Sharon) (Melodisc 68). **Two Steepy People (Hoagy Car-michael, Loesser) (Melodisc 66)

(Melodisc 1156-6s.)

Sharon (pno.); with Jimmy Skid-more (tenr.); Victor Feldman (vib.); Alan Metcalf (gtr.); Bert Howard (bass); Martin Aston (drs.). Re-corded 9/1/1951.

RED ONION JAZZ BABIES

Terrible Blues/Santa Claus Blues
(Jazz Collector L62—7s. 6d.)
Louis Armstrong (cornet); Aaron
Thompson (tmb.); Buster Bailey
(clt.); Lil Armstrong (pno.); Buddy
Christian (bjo.). Recorded New York,
26/11/24.

THIS is the first coupling the "Babies" recorded for Gennett at their New York studios. The session was organised by Clarence Williams, but he didn't play piano on these recordings; presumably Louis requested his wife for the session.

"Santa Claus" is mainly a vehicle for the clarinet of Buster Bailey, who at this time was very strongly under the influence of Sidney Bechet. It is a pity that on this side Armstrong is very under-recorded.

On the reverse, he plays a wonderful solo. Sober and simple, it bears the mark of the master; and who else but Armstrong could contribute the slashing breaks he plays during the last chorus?

The two-man (?) rhythm section manages to sound very full,



Recorded Chicago, May, 1924.

N EITHER of these two 1924
Chicago recordings is very inspired, although there are good bits of Ladnier cornet to be heard on both sides.

"Mojo" is a boring little riff which becomes monotonous and is not made any better by some frightful flutter-tongued clarinet by O'Bryant.

The reverse, another original by Ladnier, is not much better. It degenerates into untidy, uninteresting riffing. Very tedious.

JELLY ROLL MORTON Wolverine Blues/My Gal (Jazz Collector L65-7s, 6d.)

(Jazz Collector L65—7s, 6d.)

THE first of these sides is a duet by Jelly Roll and clarinettist Volly De Faut, and while Morton's plano playing will always hold a fascination for me. I could have done without the dreary doodlings of Mr. De Faut. The backing has the very doubtful advantage of having an unknown kazoo player added, but it doesn't matter very much as the recording is so muffled that it is difficult to hear anything very clearly.

. and these don't do much with it!

***Jumpin' For Jane (Leonard Peather) (Am. Atlantic A94). ***Turmoil (Pete Rugolo) (Am Atlantic A93). (Esquire 10-113-6s. 6d.)

STAN KENTON'S POLL CATS

Art Pepper (alto); Bob Cooper (tnr.); Ray Wetzel (tpt.); Eddie Bert (tmb.); Pete Rugolo (pno.); Eddie Safranski (bass); "Shelly" Manne (drs.). Recorded February, 1949.

IN 1948 the Kenton orchestra achieved for the second year in succession the distinction of being voted in both the "Downbeat" and "Metronome" polls America's foremost swing band, and this presentation of seven of its luminaries seems to have been American Atlantic Records' way of cashing in on the success of a band which in its entirety was under exclusive contract to another company.

TUNE IN to ...

kion—a Pete Rugolo original, which introduces such devices as movements with unorthodox numbers of bars; and bars in unconventional measure, not to mention changes of tempo.

Now, all this sort of thing may be very clever, especially when done with the ingenuity with which our Mr. Rugolo does it. But the more I hear of it, the more I am forced to the conclusion that far from helping to develop jazz it is fast getting it to the stage where it can no longer

THE "Stork" has no changes of tempo. But keeping track of what happens during the first 46 bars is quite a problem. Edgar Jackson's Record Reviews

be called jazz. It is tending to destroy the one feature which we have always looked upon as the very essence of jazz—rhythm.

company.

The records are both bop propositions.

"Jumpin' For Jane," named after Leonard Feather's wife, was previously recorded by Coleman Hawkins, and issued here in June, 1949. The Poll Cats' version of it is for the most part the usual sequence of improvised solos, and no one produces anything we haven't heard from him before, though all play up to their usual form.

Pete Rugolo, making one of his rare record appearances as a planist, does not solo in "Jane," but shows up as a first-rate instrumentalist in the reverse, "Turmoil."

And the point about this side that is likely to give you most cause for thought is the composi-

what happens during the first
46 bars is quite a problem.

It is due to the insertion of
extraneous two-bar piano
phrases into a conventional 32bar chorus opus. These phrases
stick out like sore thumbs and
are just about as awkward. And
by the time one gets to the
middle eight one is so confused
that one hardly knows what part
they are meant to play in the
proceedings.

I can only suggest that these
"odd" plano bars were added at
the last minute purely out of a
desire to do something different.
Anyway, they show how much
better it is to avoid tricks unless
there is good reason for them.
However, apart from this misplaced "cleverness," "Stalking
The Stork" is another nice example of the music of Raiph
Sharon and his Sextet. So, too,
is "Sleepy People"—and none the
less so because, except for Raiph's
more personal and in every way
delightful plano solo, it is about
as near a straight melody performance
as anyone could
imagine.
But don't let that mislead you

imagine. But don't let that mislead you into thinking this is a dull record, for, despite its adherence to the tune, it has the Sharon sound, and that's worth anybody's money any time. Nat Temple

and listen to the wonderful tone

You can hear him next on Friday, March 30th, in the Home Service, playing with his orchestra in the "Bedtime with Braden" programme. Make a point of Dr. GROCK and Crackpots Greens Playhouse. listening to this Master of the Clarinet playing the truly remarkable "Regent"-the Clarinet that has earned amazing popularity all over the world.

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WHO'S WHERE (Week commencing March 26) Graeme BELL'S Australian Band

Monday: Athlone Tuesday: Dungannon Wednesday: Ballyshannon Thursday: Portadown Thursday: Portadown Friday: Bangor Saturday: Cork Sunday: Ennis, Co. Clare

Sunday: And Sextet

Monday: Ludlow
Tuesday: Loughborough
Wednesday: Wisbech
Thursday: Warrington Thursday: Warrington Friday: Hornsey Saturday: Darlington Sunday: Newcastle.

Hoagy CARMICHAEL
Season: Palladium, London.
Billy COTTON and Band
Week: Prince of Wales Theatre, London

Johnny DANKWORTH Seven Monday: Crewe Tuesday: Liverpool Thursday: Stockton Saturday: Morley Alan DEAN Week: Palace Theatre, Halifax

Marry GOLD and Pieces of Eight
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday
Ambassadors Ballroom, Birming
ham,
Thursday: Goventry,
Friday: Rawtenstall
Saturday: Rushden

Nat GONELLA and Georgians
Two Weeks: West End Restauran Edinburgh

Red INGLE and Frantic Four Week: Empire, Finsbury Park

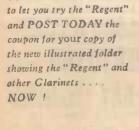
Week: Mording States Week: Palace, Grimsby
Vio LEWIS and Orchestra
Monday: Oxford
Monday: Oxford Monday: Oxford Friday: Birmingham Saturday: Kidderminster Sunday: Cardiff

Joe LOSS and Band Week: Empire, Nottingham Sid MILLWARD and Nitwits Week: Regent. Rotherham.

Rose MURPHY Week: Empire, Glasgow. Freddy RANDALL and Band Saturday: Boston TANNER SISTERS
Week: Empire, Sheffield



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with MIKE NEVARD

and photographer George Harrison



Britain's Top Tunes

THIS list of the 20 best-selling songs for the week ended March 17 is supplied by the Popular Publishers' Committee of the Music Publishers' Association, Ltd. THE TENNESSEE WALTZ (A)

THE PETITE WALTZ (Bel) Le

C'N I CANOE YOU UP THE RIVER (A) Leeds BELOVED BE FAITHFUL (A)

8. C'N I
RIVER (A)
9. BELOVED BE FAITHFUL (A)
10. GOOD LUCK, GOOD HEALTH,
GOD BLESS YOU (B) ... Unit
11. FERRY BOAT INN (B)
Campbell Connelly
12. NEVERTHELESS (A) ... Chappell
13. PATRICIA (A) ... New World
14. ALL MY LOVE (F)
Peter Maurice
Peter Maurice
10 YE (A) ... Francis Day
1N AN

14. ALL MY LOVE (A) ... Prancis Day
16. I LEAVE MY HEART IN AN
ENGLISH GARDEN (B) .. Sun
17. TIPPERARY SAMBA (B)
Michael Reine
18. A PENNY A KISS—A PENNY A
HUG (A) ... Leeds
19. AUTUMN LEAVES (F)
Peter Maurice
20. TEASIN' (A) ... Pickwick
A—American; B—British;
Bel—Belgian; F—French.

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"M AN, it was a great night," said Tony Hall, interrupting me as I chuckled over a local newspaper advert referring to "Kenny Graham and his Aero-Cubists."

The night was Saturday—the one before last—and it is not surprising that compère Tony Hall's environment on that particular night was his regular habitat, the Dankworth Club.

Reason for the enthusiasm was the Rita Reys Sextet, making the first—and last—London appearance of its recent tour. And, of course, the resident Joe Muddel group.

These four pictures show









and, of course Rita ys herself, who will back in this country th her Sextet later

How to get dance music out

by TED HEATH

BANDS on the air "all sound the same." "The standard of musician-ship is poor"... "Why aren't there more sparkling soloists?"... "Why must we have the same tunes dished up in the same old way?"

These are just a few of the criticisms levelled at broadcasting dance bands today. I think they are justified; the Beveridge Report proves that dance music is in the doldrums. Reviewing the Report in the MELODY MAKER dated January 27 columnist Ernest Borneman.

27, columnist Ernest Borneman wrote: it is sad to note that the

prospects of any immediate improvement of dance music on the air are negligible."
And he added: "The Report's direct references to dance music

can be numbered on the fingers of one hand, and the general references which are likely to influence the quantity and quality of dance music are neither novel nor fraught with hope."

No desire

But why exactly is it that the radio public apparently has no burning desire to hear more dante music broadcasts? What has happened to the vast radio audiences that eagerly tuned in to the Ambroses, Lew Stones. Roy Foxes and Harry Roys before the war?

Make no mistake—that public is still with us. The reason why it does not make its demand for dance music more vocal can be laid at the door of the bandeader himself.

himself.
Primarily, it is his failure to

of the doldrums.

raise the present deplorably low standards of dance band broadcasts that has brought about this apathy of the radio public towards dance music.

However, in fairness. I must toss a brickbat at the BBC. They should establish far more rigorous audition tests than those now in force. This would drastically thin out the present plethora of broadcasting bands, and automatically result in a vast improvement of existing standards. I know that the constant claim that "the Golden Age of British dance music went out with the thirties" evokes tolerant smiles in most "progressive" quarters. Nevertheless, bands were better then—better because they were fewer.

There are many more bands in

cannot build up great bands or great players. This is one of the main reasons have lost much of their "glamour." The solo personalities that are an invaluable asset when it comes to winning the public's favour are no longer in evidence in today's programmes.

In fact, with the exception of Johnny Dankworth, hardly any solvists of consequence have emerged in the past two or three years. The various Melody Maker Polls prove my point.

Decreasing

that "the Golden Age of British dance music went out with the Sthirttes" evokes tolerant smiles in most." Progressive "quarters. It was proved the street fewer better because they were fewer better because they were fewer better because they were fewer better better because they were fewer better better because they were fewer better better because they were fewer better because they were fewer better better a "satisfaction" standard, "they maturally compers—the quality of the Kenny Bakers, Jackle Armstrongs Ralph Sharons, Ronnie Scotts—all peremail "MM" Pollified in compensation and tend to builted on the fewer for radio auditions, and tend to built it so throadcast.

A higher standard for the devoking howls of protest from many quarters, I do not end that the find public.

At the risk of evoking howls of protest from many quarters, I do not end the most under the find public.

At the risk of evoking howls of protest from many quarters, I do not end the most case, the most under the find public in the protest form the find public in the protest form the find public in the protest form the find public in the find public in the protest form the find public in the find public

presentation seems to be running parallel with the enforcement of the present plug system, under which a leader is compelled to play sixty per cent. of the tunes listed on the current plug list. How can a bandleader compile a programme of his own free choice under such an unfair handicap?

However, even under existing

However, even under existing conditions, it is possible to display some originality of presentation.

In all modesty, I feel justified in saying that I came nearest to carrying out my idea of good presentation in the "Down Beat" series of programmes, which ran for about 20 weeks in

Admittedly, this series exceeded the financial quota generally allocated by the BBC to dance music programmes. But it was money well spent: we can claim that the band was presented in a manner guaranteed to keep the radio switched on.

Highlights

Our programmes incorporated what the Americans call "gimmicks." For instance, if we intended playing a tune published, say, in 1929, then the script would stimulate listeners' interest by referring to news highlights of that year—the Wallstreet crash, the "Bremen's" record crossing of the Atlantic, and so on.

street crash, the "Bremen's record crossing of the Atlantic, and so on.

All this added up to a type of first-class dance band presentation which I feel has been missing since then.

To those who think I have overlooked Billy Cotton's current broadcasts, I must point out that Bill is a law unto himself. I doubt whether there ever will, or could, be another Billy Cotton; but I think he would be the first to admit that, without his regular series of Sunday lunchtime airings, he might have experienced difficulty in consolidating his music policy.

However, Bill hardly falls into the dance music category, for in the main he uses his musicians as a background for his vocal artistes.

Essential

Nevertheless, Bill Cotton does fulfil the essential requirement of catering specifically for a radio audience.

The obvious fact that the radio public is a race apart from the general public was hammered home to me in an interview I had with BBC dance band chief Jim Davidson some time ago.

"The radio listener," he said, "is a person to be specially catered for. His tastes must be considered quite distinctly from those of the man in the street, who regards dance music only as a means for recreation,"

That puts the whole matter in a nutshell. Broadcasting bandleaders should bear this in mind if they want to halt the further decline of dance music airings.

Plain talking about the page 17 of the Dance

Music Annual, 1951, Len ey writes: "If a player Conley writes: "If a player gets above Union scale he's lucky, and Union scale [remains] the same as prewar with the pound now worth only 8s. 6d. No wonder managements have no quarrel with the MU."

That's the kind of plain talking you get in this 112-page pocket-size booklet. Plenty of it, too. One page earlier, Ted Heath says:

One page earlier, Ted Heath says:

"The convergence of jazz and serious music is logical. Bebop has contributed nothing to this progression." Or maybe you would prefer his views on Kenton—"a modern equivalent of Raymond Scott"—and his music—"nearer to novelty music than to serious jazz."

Humphrey Lyttelton says:
"Real jazz and the entertainment business parted company 30 years ago," and Ernest Borneman states: "New Orleans jazz is an approach to music and not a jacsimile of it."

Crammed into the first 75 pages

facsimile of it."

Crammed into the first 75 pages of this John Dilworth publication are criticisms of "progressives," traditionalists, the back-to-Glenn Miller boys, the musical Press; bands, bandleadlers, publishers and recording companies. Fellow-

"MM" critics Borneman, Laurie Henshaw, Maurice Burman and Tony Brown respectively, write on the British scene, records, radio, and technical develop-ments. Steve Race writes on

ments. Steve Race writes on critics.

Lou Preager sticks up for the publishers. Geraldo contributes a foreword and Hardie Ratcliffe writes about the MU. "MM" Editor Pat Brand writes on "Dance Music for Dancers."

The book's final 36 pages make it well worth 2s. 6d. This reference section lists 53 song publishers, 26 record labels, 16 agencies, the year's top tunes, 119 instrument dealers and repairers in London and the provinces, correct tempos. for. 56 different dances, and other useful data.

A last word. Humphrey Lyttelton, in his article, states that the Revival was not an effort to put the clock back, but "an attempt to wind up a clock which had stopped." Some revivalist leaders (Humph excepted) might have put the clock right before they rewound it.

MIKE NEVARD

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Josh White makes 7 more Decca sides

Thursday (15th) Josh White recorded seven more

titles for the London label at Decca's studio.

He was accompanied by Jack Fallon (bass) and Chick Laval (guitar). The numbers cut included "Barbara Allen," "Waltzing Matilda," "Lonesome Road," "Call Me Darling" and "Crucifixion."

Last Tuesday (20th) he followed up with another Decca session, this time accompanied by the Stargazers and orchestra.

Josh White was fully occupied last week-end, with his solo recital at Kingsway Hall on Saturday evening followed by cabaret appearances at the Colony Restaurant and Astor Club.

On Sunday he took part in a big charity concert at the London Palladium. The bill included Garland Wilson and Mae Barnes, the Tanner Sisters, Jack Jackson, the Radio Revellers and Harry Dawson.

Saturday's regital given to some

Dawson. Saturday's recital, given to some 1,500 enthusiasts, was an outstanding success. Josh entertained the crowd single-handed for nearly two hours, and at the end was allowed to go only because the Hall had to be cleared. Promoter Alan Fletcher announces that Josh is to give a similar two-hour concert at the Kingsway Hall on April 7.

All-Scots winners 3-star programme

With Henri Morrison and his Swing Stars, winners last year of the Melody Maker All-Scottish dance band contest, versatility is

an essential.

This summer, the boys play in the pit each night for a first-class Variety show, before transferring their talents to please the dancers at the Cragburn Pavillon, Gourock, where they will be playing their third year. And on Sundays, the band plays for the Firth of Forth Rhythm Club at Greenock.

At dances. Henri feetures

Greenock.

At dances, Henri features vocalist Bessie Morrison and the Starlites, in addition to the regular pit group: Hugh Adair, Jack Dunlop (altos); Jack Whitford, Bill Canning (tnrs.); Archie McVev (tmb.); Jim White (pno.); Roy Whiteford (tpt.); Bob Houston (bass), and Henri himself on drums.

Violins have still to be fixed for the Variety season Henri Morrison runs "Bradleys," a well-known Glasgow musical business, with Cyril Livingston. He sells 80 "MMs" a week and says "If only I could get more."

Three men wanted for Margate (S.A.)

Drummer Sandy Beverley, who came to England seven months ago, is returning on April 5 to South Africa, where he has a year's contract to lead a quartet at a Margate (Natal) hotel.

To complete his outfit, Sandy would like to take back with him three British musicians—a planist, violinist doubling sax, and a trumpeter. Applicants can contact the drummer at 181, Gloucester-place, N.W.1.

Sandy's stay here included a spell with Cyril Grantham at the Dorchester, and he has just returned from a trip to Australia on the s.s. "Stratheden."

HEATH IN SCOTLAND

Immediately following their Easter Monday appearance at Wimbledon Town Hall, Ted Heath and his Music travel to Scotland. Opening at Leith on Tuesday (27th) they then appear at Aberdeen (28th), Inverness (29th), Dundee (30th), and Leith again (31st)

On Sunday the band is at Man-chester for a Hippodrome concert

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Woolf Phillips cuts album of Ellington

for the U.S.

rockets—long acclaimed by American stars appearing at the London Palladium—has now been further honoured by being selected by Coral Records to wax an album of Duke Ellington standards specially for the American market.

The records have just been completed, with the Palladium batoneer conducting a 45-piece orchestra.

Eight sides in all, they feature

Eight sides in all, they feature some of Britain's top-name instrumentalists, and were recorded under the supervision of Salvador "Toots "Camarata, who played a major part in Britain's big post-war entry into the American record field via London Records.

Records.

Like London, Coral is a subsidiary of Decca, and Woolf Phillips and his Orchestra join the Les Brown Orchestra and Herb Jeffries as recently netted attractions for the label. The company also records former Geraldo stalwart Denny Vaughan.

Titles recorded by the mammoth Phillips aggregation are "Caravan," "In A Sentimental Mood," "Mood Indigo," "Sophisticated Lady." "Creole Love Call," "I Got It Bad And That Ain't Good," "I Let The Sun Go Out Of My Heart" and "Solitude."

Linda ioins Baker at Southsea Easter Band Parade



Linda Ellington

Johnny Dankworth's vocalist Linda Ellington is leaving the Seven to join Kenny Baker's new all-star group. She makes her first appearance with Kenny this Saturday. (24th) at the South Parade Pier, Southsea.

It was from Southsea that Linda came six months ago to join the Dankworth Seven and thus to fulfil her first professional engagement as a singer.

In all, three star guest bands in one week will be the Easter holiday attraction for dancers at the South Parade Pier, Southsea.

On Easter Monday, Cab Kaye and his Cabinettes will be on the stand.

Ball pens for tenor men

Tristano pupil Ronnie Ball makes his début in London's clubland this week-end with a new group featuring a front-line of four tenors.

Other commitments allowing, the tenormen will be Ronnie Scott, Tommy Whittle, Aubrey Frank and Gray Allard.

The group appears on Satur-

Frank and Gray Allard.

The group appears on Saturday at the Dankworth Club and on Easter Monday at the Downheat Club. Completing the outlift are Pete Blanning (bass) and Kenny Harris (drs.), who were with Ronnie Ball on the s.s.

"Queen Mary."

"Queen Mary."

"Ronnie has scored all the arrangements for the new group.

"Groups featured will be respectively those of Joe Muddel and Tommy Pollard.

Stobart Orchestra records for Manchester label

ON the eve of the group's disbandment, Kathleen Stobart and her Orchestra have recorded four sides for the Decibel label, headquarters of which are in Manchester. The two records are to be issued immediately. to be issued immediately.

Decibel is the trade mark of the Dixon-Roadhouse Record Co., Ltd., which first came into being in 1942 when two Manchester saxists, Frank Dixon and Johnny Roadhouse, started to make records for private use.

In 1947 the limited company was formed and in August, 1950, the first commercial disc came on to the market. This was a double-sided recording of "Streets of the City" and "Saints Blues" by the Saints Jazz Band.

It was on the strength of this record that John Hooper gave the band its Jazz Club airing with Josh White.

New Dutch Quintet makes Scots debut

Ellington and
"Woolfie"
snapped on
the Palladium
stage during
Duke's last
visit here.

In succession to the Pia Beck Trio, the Flamingo Quintet and the Rita Reys Sextet, yet another Dutch combination, the Aart Zegveld Quintet, is now occupying the stand at the West End Restaurant. Edinburgh.

The band's 29-year-old leader who doubles tenor sax and accordion, opened at the Hollywood Club, Amsterdam, last December and is now making his first British tour.

The Quintet's 20-year-old vocalist, Joukje Riemersma, made her professional debut two years ago with the Skymasters vocal group on Radio Hilversum. She toured England with this group and joined Aart on his opening at the Hollywood.

The other members of the outfit are Charles Neiderpelt (pno.), Nicolaas Prins (drs.) and Carel Alberts (bass).

Nat Gonella and his Georgians and the Ralph Sharon Septet are booked to follow the Quintet at the West End Restaurant.

CONTRACT FOR GUEST NIGHT' GATE-CRASHER

_Two months ago a young singer gate-crashed one of Henry Hall's auditions. Henry let him sing, and on Wednesday

let him sing, and on Wednesday (21st) the young singer from Birmingham entered Henry Hall's Radio Guest Night as resident singer.

His name is David Hughes. Already he has a radio series of his own in the offing, and is also to appear in Henry Hall's summer show at Blackpool.

Branching out

Two weeks ago, young G.I. singer Jimmy Branch branched out from the London club world, where he has already made a name for himself, to fulfil his first provincial dates.

Appearing at Hinckley on his twenty-second birthday, he made a big hit; the following day he appeared in a concert that included George Formby and Alan Clive.

As a result of these successes, and with MU and Ministry of Labour sanction, he has been booked for other provincial dates. The next is this Saturday (24th) at the Drill Hall, Coventry,

Cotton burns 'em up!

BILLY COTTON and his Boys gave the lie to the saying that "bands are bad box-office" when they turned their blow-torch of comedy on the first-house audience at the Prince of Wales Theatre, London, last Monday night (19th).

Billy so "burned 'em up" that the stalls whole-heartedly joined in the free-for-all frolics of the pay-off presentation, Twe Got A Lovely Bunch of Coconuts." The musicians shied "balls" over the orchestra pit which were hurled back with un-British abandon.

STORART-IEWIS

STOBART-LEWIS

(Continued from page 1)

"Kathleen and her three musicians will strengthen the band in many ways, both instrumentally and vocally, and also in the realms of comedy and showmanship. I feel that this amalgamation will also add greatly to the visual appeal of my orchestra."

"Kathleen and the other musicians join Vic Lewis next week, and make their first appearance with the band at Birmingham Town Hall on March 30.

Frequently, Billy dropped his mantle of studied solemnity to take part in the fun. The effect was rather like watching Winston Churchill break into a cancan.

(And while we're on that subject, why didn't Bill do his famous impersonation of the great Tory leader?)

great Tory leader?

For a comedy band, the music was of a high standard. Kabalevsky's difficult "Galloping Comedians," which spotlighted drummer Reg Bryant, was played with verve and skill.—Laurie Hensham.



"YOU just can't get in the broadcasting field over here," is the opinion of Sid Millward "Nitwit" Monty Warlock, who leaves Britain next week to open a Continental tour with a newly formed comedy act.
"The BBC know my plane

"The BBC know my piano work," said Monty. "But in the last four years I've only had an average of two solo broadcasts a year. I feel there is much more chance of getting work on the Continent, and that one's talents are much better appreciated there."

Monty will be musical director and pianist for the new act—
"The Three Black Diamonds"—which includes fellow "Nitwit" Cyril Lagey. As announced last week, Monty and Cyril leave Sid Millward on Saturday.

Completing the "Diamonds" are Norris Smith, former conductor of the London Negro Choir, and Bill Lincoln. Opening night is March 31, when the act makes its debut at the Palace of Varieties, Brussels. Further "calls" include Paris, Blankenburg and Milan.

George Richards moves to Cavez

Vocalist George Richards, who has completed a year's contract with bandleader Benny Baker at the "21" Room, W., makes a change of environment on Easter Monday (26th), when he joins Francisco Cavez at Ciro's Club.

Francisco cavez at ciro's Club.
Francisco is strengthening his outfit, due not only to his success at Ciro's but also to his new contract to make a series of records for the French Nixa label. For this, George is a useful acquisition, as he sings in English, Spanish and Portuguese.

A frequent, broadcaster with

A frequent broadcaster with Stanley Black and his Orchestra under the name of Martin Moreno, George now has a regular featured spot in Stanley's Saturday evening "Top Score" programme, singing a Latin-American number.

WARD TRIO x 8

In the coming four weeks the Hedley Ward Trio has eight broadcasts; five of these are within two weeks; two on the same day.

The airings (including two repeats) are in "West of England Music Hall" (today, 22nd), "Workers' Playtime" (March 29 and April 13), "Variety Fanfare" (April 2 and 4), a dance music session with Ted Heath (April 4) and "Variety Bandbox" (April 15 and 21.)

This Sunday (25th) the Trio.

This Sunday (25th) the Trio, with Hedley Ward and his Band, appears at the Capitol, Cardiff.

Olde Tyme Dances

Boston Two Step (Original) Carnival Square Dance Choristers' Waltz **Dutch Foursome** Esperano Barn Dance Eton Boating Song (Waltz) Evergreen Quadrilles Festival of Britain Waltz Florodora Lancers Fylde Waltz ★ GAINSBOROUGH GLIDE ★ Galloping Major

Guitar sides

Kathie's four sides are "Idaho" / "That Old Black Magic" and "Lover Come Back To Me "/" He Was A Good Man As Good Men Go."

Already "in the can" to be issued shortly are four sides by guitarist Jack Duarte and Terry Usher, who as reported in the Meloov Maker (27/1/51) are editors of the Academy Section of the American publication, "Guitar Review." Four more sides by the Saints will be issued next month.

month.
London distributors for Decibel records are Farley Radio Service, Ltd., with Owen Bryce at the helm. Johnny Roadhouse was for long the lead alto with Teddy Foster and is at present leading the sax section in the Ray Martin Caphetra.

the sax seconds.

Harry Davidson's Selection of Waltzes Harry Davidson's Paul Jones Her Golden Hair Barn Dance Hop Scotch Schottische Hurndilla Imperial Waltz Inspiration Veleta Latchford Schottische Lola Tango

Maxina (Original) Poor John Barn Dance Prince Charming (Valse Cotillon) Saunter Serenade Skirl O' The Pipes (Gay Gordons)

Songe D'Automne (Waltz) Sydney Thompson's Barn Dance Medley No. 1

Barn Dance Medley No. 2 March Medley Stroll Along Saunter Take Your Partners

(Waltz Cotillon) Truro Gavotte Underneath the Stars (Saunter) Veleta (Original) Victoria Cross (Mil. Two Step) Valse Superbe Vision of Salome (Waltz) White Heather (Caledonians) Yearning Saunter

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Lost Week End
Love Everlasting (W)
Love Walked In
Making Whoopee
Mean To Me
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DRESSING ahead in its drive against the BBC's policy of no dance band broadcasts in the North of England Region, the Northern Bandleaders' Joint Committee announces encouraging reports from Parliamentary sources.

Recently, 150 MPs representing constituencies in the Region, each received a letter signed by twenty-five Northern leaders asking for their support in bringing about the reinstatement of Northern bands in the BBC programmes.

Mr. F. J. Erroll, the member for Altrincham and Sale, writes:
"Dance band leaders in the North have my full support.

I have written to Sir William Haley asking that the Region's policy should be changed so as to benefit bands in the Region after the end of this month."

Mr. Leslie Lever (Ardwick, Manchester) has approached Mr. Donald Stephenson, Controller, North Region, who has replied to the effect that he is awaiting approval by the BBC Board of Management of a draff statement on the subject, which will presumably be issued shortly.

Mr. Roland Jennings (Hallam) and Mr. Hendrie D. Oakshott (Bebington) have both promised to bear the subject in mind when the Beveridge Report comes up for discussion in the House, Mrs. Bessle Braddock (Exchange, Liverpool) has put a question down on the order paper; whilst several other MPs have taken it up with the Postmaster-General and Lord Simon of Wythenshawe, Chairman of the BBC.

CHANGES IN OSRORNE

CHANGES IN OSBORNE **ROYAL STAR ORK**

Bassist-pianist Frank Ashenden, who halls from Hastings and whose last date was with Charles Wall at Aberdeen Palais, has joined Stanley Osborne's Orchestra at the Royal Star Hotel, Maidstone, taking the place of Lionel Humphries.

PROVINCIAL PARS

RUNNER-UP in last year's All-Britain Championship, the George Thomas Quintet is scheduled to be auditioned by the BBC at Midland Regional headquarters with a view to future broadcasts. The Quintet has recently had to turn down an offer for a summer season contract on the coast.

**

KEN MORRIS and his Band—until
last September at the Mirabelle Ballroom, Blackburn—are now featured
every Saturday at the Assembly Hall,
Whalley.

CHARLES ROWLAND, after a spell on lead trumpet with Charles Amer at the Coatham Hotel, Redcar, is now with the Blue Rockets at Seaburn Hall, Sunderland.

VIC LEWIS and his Orchestra are to appear for a concert at the Alma Theatre, Luton, this Sunday (25th).

CHARLES WALL presented a charity Variety show at the Tivoli Theatre, Aberdeen, on Sunday, March II, which featured his band plus the Logan Family and other guest artists.

ARTHUR TAYLOR, tenor saxist with Freddy Webb at the Embassy Ballroom, Cambridge, is now a proud father. His wife presented him with a daughter on February 28.

RALPH SILVESTER (former Jack Payne vocalist and saxist) and his Orchestra are booked for the leading Northern Ireland seaside resort. Bundoran, Co. Donegal, where they will be playing seven nights weekly for some fourteen weeks as from June next. The venue is Carroll's Palais de Danse, West End, Bundoran.

NEW BLUE RAMBLERS, of Nottingham, who have enjoyed a successful season at Loughborough Town Hall, are to appear at the New Festival Hall, East Kirby, on Easter Monday (March 26). Appearing at this hall each Saturday is trumpetleader Johnny Clay and his Band.

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Following recommendation by the Finance Committee to the Entertainments and Marine Spa Committees, A. F. (Bob) Roberts is to be Entertainments Manager (pro tem.) for Torquay in succession to Roy W. Pannell, who is to take up new duties as Entertainments Manager for Scarborough at Easter.

Bob is still to have control over the Marine Spa, where he will continue as house-manager.

His new position completes a marked crescendo in his career, first noticeable when he handed over the baton of his dance orchestra to his sax-lead, Art Jennings, and became house-manager of the Marine Spa just over a year ago.

Osear Rabin and his Band with Harry Davis and vocalists Marion Davies, Marjorie Daw and Dennis Hale, are booked to appear at Bally-mena Town Hall, Northern Ireland, on April 9.

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The Tobias airing will be the band's second within three months, its last broadcast being on Christmas Eve.

Bert's wife Lilian presented him with a daughter on Wednesday of last week. Baby Linda came as a birthday present for their other daughter, Louise, who was five years old on Monday.

LINCOLN

MORE NAME BANDS AT THE DRILL HALL-

New policy inaugurated by Mrs. Len Marshall is the presentation at the Drill Hall, Lincoln, of name bands for Saturday night dances. Previously, bands have appeared there on Fridays only.

Teddy Foster's was the first band to appear, followed by Tito Burns and his Sextet. Future bookings include George Evans on March 31, and Harry Gold and his Pieces of Eight on April 14.

Next big event at the Drill Hall is the Melody Maker Lincolnshire Championship on Friday, May 4. The Len Marshall Dance Orchestra will act as house band at all these events.

-AND THE CITY HALL

Future Sunday night concerts at the City Hall, Hull, will take in Ivy Benson and her Giris' Band (April 1); Ted Heath and his Music (April 8); and another name band, yet to be decided, on April 15.

Harry Gold and his Pieces of

Harry Gold and his Pieces of Eight have been booked to play for dancing there on Tuesday, April 17.

MIDLANDS

BRIAN AT THE BATHS

Making their radio debut in the Midland Home Service on March 27. Brian Pearsall and his Band are featured every Saturday night at Stourbridge Baths, Line-up, with Brian fronting. is Byron Taylor, Tom Price, Eddie Payne, Graham Bloxham and Billy Holloway (saxes); Bert Pearson, Bob Mole and Harry Thomas (tpts.); Jack Thomas (pno.); Stan Baker (bass); Ken Turner (drs.). Vocalists are Beryl Austin and Dennis Dunn.

RUSH OF BANDS TO EIRE

RISH dance promoters appear to be cashing-in before the Irish Federation of Musicians takes steps to control the influx of British bands into Ireland. Newest bookings of top namebands are Oscar Rabin for the Four Provinces Ballroom, Dublin, on April 2; Felix Mendelssohn and his Hawaiian Seremaders for the Stella Ballroom, Limerick, on May 12; and Freddy Randall for Limerick on April 14. Oscar Rabin also has a date in Limerick at the Rink Ballroom on April 8.

In Donegal, the Abbey Ballroom in Ballyshannon will feature Eddie Mendoza and his Spivs on April 25. Graeme Bell, Freddy Randall and Felix Mendelssohn will also bring their outfits to Ballyshannon in the near future. Peggy Dell and her Band are also to visit this hive of musical industry.

Ireland has temporarily lent Mick Delahunty and his Band to England, however. Mick is dividing his appearances in London between the Queen's and Buffalo Clubs.

CHESTER

ERIC LAWE LEADS AT RIVERPARKBALLROOM

Eric Lawe and his Orchestra, from Northampton, are now resident at the River Park Ballroom, Chester, where they opened on February 26. Apart from playing for dancing at this venue, the orchestra will be playing Sunday and lunchtime concerts in this area.

With Eric fronting on trumpet the line-up is Billy Smith, Kenny Lack, Freddy Jago and Ray Robinson (saxes), Eric Peace (pno.), Bob Snowdon (bass), and Derek Beck (drs.).

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