

Melody Maker

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 DECEMBER 3, 1955 EVERY FRIDAY - 6d.

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STAR NAMES FOR MIDLANDS TV

Romance
 in Rhythm

Stars aid Spastics



A thrilling moment for 11-year-old Joyce Dalton, of Chislehurst, last Monday when she posed for this picture with Vera Lynn and Cyril Stapleton, and other stars, attended a Christmas Ball at the Grosvenor House, Park Lane, in aid of the National Spastics Society.

Gala opening by ATV and ABC

The orchestras of Joe Loss, Mantovani, Billy Cotton and Muir Matheson will be heard and seen by thousands of Midlands viewers when Commercial TV in the Midlands starts up on February 17. There will be a series featuring Liberace, popular singers, and Bob Hope will be amongst top comedians seen on the screen.

The new TV studios will be in Birmingham, and the transmitter in Lichfield. The area covered will range from Matlock and Stoke in the north, to Banbury and Evesham in the south.

Joe Loss every week

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Both companies will join forces for a gala preview on February 15.

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Page 9, Col. 3



A cheek-to-cheek pose by singers Monty Norman and Diana Coupland, who announced their engagement on ITV's "Jack Jackson Show" on Sunday, Dec. 2, who comes from Leeds, is 24. Hackett-born Monty is 26.

BABY FOR MARION

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CY LAURIE AIRING IN 'BRITISH JAZZ'

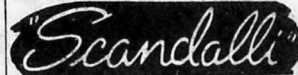
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KLEIN WAXES WITH HIS STARS



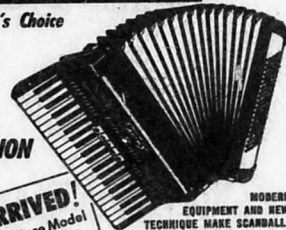
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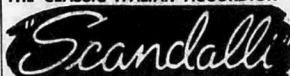


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Call

JAMES P. —they called him 'The Brute'

THEY called him 'The Brute.' And, to be sure, he was no oil-painting, with his sugar-loaf head and massive jaw. Yet in his piano playing, James P. Johnson had scarcely a breathy touch, unless we accept the power drive of that muscular left hand which thrived so well at a stomping up-tempo.

Indeed, the most notable characteristic of his work was its delicate delicacy.

Even when the tempo was most hectic, the left hand most brutal, the right fingers right unerringly were in the patterns of a melodic line, unless we accept the power drive of that muscular left hand which thrived so well at a stomping up-tempo.

It was a question of true tradition, not of academic rigidity.

James P. Johnson was not a pianist, but a composer, and his compositions were first-class. He was a pioneer in the field of stride piano, and his influence on the development of jazz piano is incalculable.

Mailbag

THE Ted Heath fans were quick to take up the cudgels in defense of their idol (MM, 20/11/55), but now, in company with Mike Nevard, I'm going to do my share of iconoclasm.

For me, Ted Heath has never been the best of British orchestras. First and foremost, the band just does not swing because, although Hawksworth tries, the "roxy-roxy" drumming of Ronnie Verrell is the antithesis of all that pertains to the name of swing.

Again, the horns—while playing with commendable precision—have no bite in their feeble attack. And the arrangements are often frankly vulgar (note the atrocities committed by Johnny Keating on some of Jerome Kern's most beautiful cobwebs).

I WONDER how many of Mike Nevard's readers have read his review in the past and murmured to themselves: Sensible fellow.

One word or review, however, has not done justice to his own viewpoints sets of a spate which has been maintained within the fingers of the M.M. Scott does not really believe that he has heard neither Basil Heath or Hankworthy in the past. Mr. Nevard, I have had the pleasure of listening to him on a long session.

I HAVE always felt Mike Nevard to be an honest, fearless champion of musical criticism. He has been the best in Britain, and his opinion of Nevard remains unchanged, my opinion of Scott is equally unaltered.

BATTLE OF THE DRUMS (continued)

THE A. Harrison really thinks that Ronnie Verrell swings the Heath. One can only assume that he has heard neither Basil Heath or Hankworthy in the past. Mr. Nevard, I have had the pleasure of listening to him on a long session.

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by Denis Preston

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15 MINUTES WITH LOUIS

"MELODY MAKER? That's my paper. Come on in, man." That was the encouraging greeting I got from Louis Armstrong last Thursday night at the Olympia in Paris.

The time was 10.30. He was due on stage at 10.45. It had taken me five days to sneak those 15 minutes alone with Louis in his dressing-room.

To speak to him is the easiest thing in the world. His dressing-room door is always open, and he's friendly to everyone. But you just can't get him alone.



JACK HUTTON, one of many Britons in Paris last week, talked shop with Satchmo

I had eaten every concert, surrounded by friends at Leroy's restaurant. I had a good time, but I was a bit tired. I had been in Paris for a week, and I was a bit tired. I had been in Paris for a week, and I was a bit tired.

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JUDGE FOR YOURSELF

After all the conflicting reports on Armstrong's European tour, you can judge for yourself next Tuesday. See JAZZ ON THE AIR—page 2.

looking so much thinner than in recent pictures. Had he been slimming? I was down from 360 pounds to 170—my right weight. I took Swiss Kris, Bisma Rex and The Midro—great stuff. I feel better than I've done for years.

THE COLD WAR

I FEEL I must write to protest about the front-page headline in the MM dated 26/11/55. You must have noticed how, in recent days, the word 'cold' has been heartened by the fact that the cold war has cooled down. It is these days, it is these days, it is these days.

THE AIR

- EVERY NIGHT: 7.0-9.0: This is Music, USA. 11.0-11.57: A. J. Night Beats. Midnight onwards: P.H. 1-4-8: Light and Dance Music.
- KEY TO STATIONS AND WAVELENGTHS: 1-162m, 48.5m, 2-162m.
- MEMBER 8: P. 2: Great Gartner. C: AVRO Jazz Club. D: Baker Quartet. E: The Fat Waller. F: The Fat Waller. G: The Fat Waller. H: The Fat Waller. I: The Fat Waller. J: The Fat Waller. K: The Fat Waller. L: The Fat Waller. M: The Fat Waller. N: The Fat Waller. O: The Fat Waller. P: The Fat Waller. Q: The Fat Waller. R: The Fat Waller. S: The Fat Waller. T: The Fat Waller. U: The Fat Waller. V: The Fat Waller. W: The Fat Waller. X: The Fat Waller. Y: The Fat Waller. Z: The Fat Waller.

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MORE LETTERS—P. 16

WHAT BETTER GIFT for any trumpet player than an instrument from the famous BESSON range. It's a gift that will give pleasure for many years. For BESSON trumpets are world-renowned for their quality of workmanship and unflinching reliability.

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Completely Revised and Newly Edited by DEEMS TAYLOR and RUSSELL KERR

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WORLD FAMOUS FOR ITS TONE AND EXCELLENCE OF CONSTRUCTION



From my own experience of Slavic audiences, Satchmo's crowning would be a woe in Moscow. Judging by the Americans' love of pretty girls, the Berry Gordie dance ensemble would make a hit in New York. And Greece would be strengthened as a result.

But if Satch becomes part of the cold war propaganda machine (obviously in preparation for the war), he'll lose my respect, just as he'll lose his own decency.

Perhaps your readers have been of most for a question of jazz "behind the Iron Curtain" incidentally, isn't it time to drop this Dr. Goebbels phrase? One can do better than to call Hungary, Roumania, Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria, Germany and the USSR through a travel agency.

My own view is that one shouldn't look for sinister reasons if there doesn't seem to be much in the jazz way in the USSR or Eastern Europe—a man who is so suspicious of Slavonic folk-tune isn't played in New Orleans.

If, however, we think jazz is a fine music and want the people in these countries to take to it, let's come up with a funny way to go about it: a threat when with it as a "cold war" weapon—P. Fineberg, London, N.16.

Write for full details of these outstanding instruments and most recent Dealer to Wholesale Distributors: ROSE, MORRIS & CO. LTD. 83/85 Paul Street, London, E.C.2.

Plaintive Savage

LIKE "Auf Wiederseh'n." "Arrivederci Darling" has that direct, sentimental appeal that should make it a certain winner with the "Forces' Favourites" element.

This song, it seems, is a sure contender for Top Ten honours. And the EDNA SARGE recording, in particular, appears likely to hit the best-seller lists.

With the arrangement of a chorus of Service men from the famed Central Postal Directory, the pattern of this recording broadly follows that of "Auf Wiederseh'n." It is a simple, direct, and sincere melody, with a touch of plaintiveness in her interpretation.



EDNA SARGE, THE TEENAGE SINGING STAR FROM GLENSIDE, HAS JUST WON HER SECOND RECORD RELEASE HERE ON PHILIPS. TITLES ARE "AUF WIEDERSEH'N" AND "AU WIEDER SEHEN."

These are "Autumn in New York," "Autumn in Rome," and "Autumn Leaves." This is the first of the "Autumn" series.

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Lita's Song winners

WITH the result now announced of our Lita Rosa Radio Luxembourg Song Competition, we can congratulate Fred Mitchell and Ken Last, who wrote the winning song.

Hubert W. David's SONGSHEET

by Laurie Henshaw

The other songs

TOP TUNES

- 1. BLUE STAR (A) (1/54) Chappell
2. THE YELLOW BIRD (A) (1/54) Chappell
3. MEET ME ON THE CORNER (A) (1/54) Chappell
4. SEVENTEEN (A) World Wide
5. THE MAN FROM THE WEST (A) (1/54) Chappell
6. EVERY DAY OF MY LIFE (A) (1/54) Chappell
7. CLOSE THE DOOR (A) (1/54) Chappell
8. THE SANDO'S BACK IN (A) (1/54) Chappell
9. RELAX-A-WAY (A) (1/54) Chappell
10. EVERMORE (B) (1/54) Chappell
11. THE MAN FROM THE WEST (A) (1/54) Chappell
12. LOVE IS CALLED EVER BEEN (A) (1/54) Chappell
13. DORED THING (A) (1/54) Chappell
14. EVERYWHERE (B) (1/54) Chappell

The FIRST Giant

KING OLIVER by Hugues Panassie

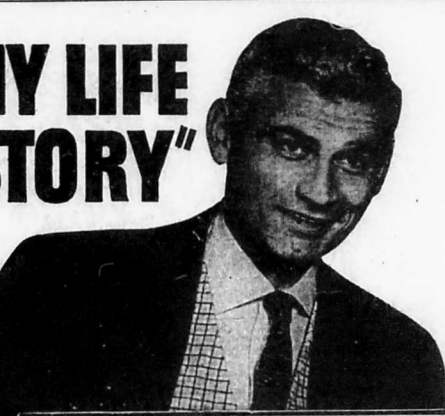


MANY people think that jazz was not a worthwhile music before the mid-twenties, that the first jazz orchestras were playing a crude, naive and swingless music.

It is striking to notice that they all agree about it: Louis Armstrong, Albert Nicholas, Danny Barker, Baby Dodds—in fact, all of them have stated that the bands were really swinging and playing fine music in the old Storyville days.

It is necessary to bear the New Orleans music in mind about King Oliver to realize how much he meant to jazz.

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THE JOE HARRIOTT QUARTET NJE 1003

For the first time Jeff is telling the intimate secrets of his life... How he broke into films... How he saved his marriage... This romantic series

WEEKEND MAIL NOW ON SALE

ve Savage

These are "Autumn in New York," "Autumn Nocturne," "Autumn in Rome" and "Autumn Leaves." This is a beautiful single for the "Music For Lovers Only" brigade.

Dick now reappears with his first single "For Your Sentimental Soul" by composing "The Song Was Followed," "Look For Me," "Remember Me," "If I Had Your Love," "I'll Be Near To You," "I'll Be Near To You," "I'll Be Near To You," "I'll Be Near To You."

TONY BENNETT sounds unhappy with "How Can I Seduce You?" a ballad more suited to his style. The song was written by Laurie Henschaw.

CHARLES SINGERS is a vocal group used on the album "If I Didn't Love You" by a tenor.

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en Blues
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and Fix It: Don't Think You Know It All

riort; also: Max Harris, piano; Lennie Bush, bass; Phil
drums.
strings
goffin: Everything Happens to Me
easons: Joe's Blues

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Lita's Song winners

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Hubert W. David's SONGSHEET

Our competition proved an exciting one. The whole idea, of course, was to write a song for Lita Roza, and there were dozens and dozens of credible entries. Lita Roza has a distinctive style of singing and it is not easy to write for her. She does away with a riddle song the ordinary way, and she has a most way in fact. "I'll Be Near To You" was the prize-winner by unanimous vote.

by Laurie Henschaw

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14. MEET ME ON THE CORNER (A) (2/2) ... Kayser
15. SEVENTEEN (A) World Wide
16. THE DANCEHALL MARCH (B) (2/2) ... Chappell
17. THE NEWLY WEDDING KING (A) (1/64) ... Robert
18. EVERY DAY OF MY LIFE (A) (2/2) ... Robbins
19. GONE WITH THE WIND (A) (2/2) ... Robbins
20. THE BAND'S BARK (A) (2/2) ... Deuch
21. RELAX-AY-VOO (A) (2/2) ... Deuch
22. EVERMORE (B) (2/2) ... Rogers
23. THE VERY FIRST CHORUS (A) (1/64) ... Chappell
24. HAVE YOU EVER BEEN LONELY? (A) (1/64) ... Spelman
25. EVERYWHERE (B) ... Bron



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KING OLIVER by Hugues Panassie

MANY people think that jazz was not a worthwhile music before the mid-twenties, that the first jazz orchestras were playing a crude, naive and swingless music.

Of course, the lack of records during the first 20 years of jazz prevents us from knowing the truth. But there is no reason why we should not accept the opinion of the New Orleans musicians who heard the first jazz orchestras.

It is striking to notice that they all agree about it: Louis Armstrong, Albert Nicholas, Danny Barker, Baby Dodds—in fact, all of them have stated that the bands were really swinging and playing fine music in the old Storyville days.

Born in 1885 and already active in the first years of the century, Joe "King" Oliver was the greatest musician of that era until about 1925, when the most gifted of his numerous pupils, Louis Armstrong, became the master.

It is necessary to hear the New Orleans music to realize how much King Oliver's style was just as good as the music of today. The facts are these: just as every musician has studied Louis Armstrong's phrasing, technique of blowing, etc., before that time most of the jazzmen had been doing the very same things with Joe Oliver.

Read what Louis Armstrong has to say about "Papa Joe." He has sometimes called him "the original" in his book "My Life in New Orleans," as he wrote it himself, not from the much "edited" book given to the public.

Years after his death, many people still think that Joe Oliver is not the featured trumpet soloist on most of these records because of this wrong belief. It is that Joe Oliver sometimes had trouble with his teeth during those years. On a couple of these records he played no solos, letting Luis Metcalf and Henry Allen do the featured trumpet work.



"MY LIFE STORY"



By JEFF CHANDLER

and RINGSIDE RACKETS TRUE STORIES OF BOXING SWINDLES
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FOR the first time Jeff is telling the intimate secrets of his life. How he broke into films... His heartbreaking honeymoon... How he saved his marriage... This romantic series



Night Out for the Stars and their Fans!

THE MELODY MAKER "Night Out with the Stars" Ball at the Albert Hall on January 27 has already captured the imagination of Britain's hand-picked stars... almost all of whom are looking to the Finals of the Vocalists of the Year Contest as a possible answer to their quest for new dance band singing talent.

Star-studded night For this will be a veritable night out with the stars when every singing star in Town that night is being invited to this five-and-a-half hours of dancing and entertainment.

Write now! Tickets are now available from the Box Office, Royal Albert Hall, Kensington Gore, London, S.W.7. They are priced 12s. (Grand Tier Box Seats), 12s. 6d. (Second Tier Box Seats), 8s. 6d. (Stalls) and 4s. (Galley Seats for onlookers only).

Every application will be dealt with in strict rotation. If you don't want to miss this unique opportunity to dance and mingle with the biggest stars in show business—get your application in at once!

LAURIE LAWRENCE 3 OPEN AT CASANOVA

A trio fronted by drummer Laurie Lawrence has replaced Martin Moreno's Latin-American Group at the Casanova Club, W. as already reported. Martin left the Casanova to open at the Albany Club in Savile Row.

NEW ACCORDIONIST FOR TOMMY WOLF

Accordianist Jack Embrow leaves Tommy Wolf's Orchestra, resident at the Berkeley Hotel, W. today (Friday) to concentrate on sessions, broadcasts and recordings.

NEVA TO TELEVISION IN GERMANY

Blues singer Neva Rappachello has been invited to perform on Sunday for an appearance on TV with the "Two Beat Strippers".

Beckett takes six into Club Tabu

Noel Brown and his Cuban Caballeros leave the Club Tabu, Greek Street, tomorrow (Saturday). Noel has been resident at the club since it opened in September.

CLUB TO MOVE

The Alex Welsh Dilettanders play the last week of the Watford Jazz Club at the Trade Union Hall on Monday. The organisers, George Peacey and Ken Lindsay, consider the present premises unsuitable and are looking for a new venue.

Harry Roy opens at Gargoyle



DAVISON IN U.S TO ARRANGE 3 MORE EXCHANGES

A GENT Harold Davison flew to America last Monday to finalise details of a concert at the Heath-Kenton band exchange and to try for further exchange.

NEW DANIELS MAN

Clarinetist Johnny Barnes has joined the Mike Daniels Band in place of Teddy Layton.

MUSCLE MEN MOVE IN ON HOOLIGANS

FIVE professional "muscle men" some below 6ft. 2in. and 15 stone, have announced that they are banding together to protect people from attacks by Teddy Boys in Northampton.

No admittance The five men, led by 6ft. 7in. 15 stone Noel Rayson of Kettering, have formed this company of "floor stewards" who for a "reasonable fee" will make sure dancers enjoy themselves.

Bands co-operate Arthur Howes, the promoter of the dances at the Regent Ballroom, Driff Hall, who expected to lose heavily because of the closure, is not quite such a worried man.

JOE SAYE SELLS UP AND SAILS FOR U.S

JOE SAYE, the blind Scottish pianist whose modernistic work has placed him in the forefront of British jazzmen, leaves for the States tomorrow (Saturday).

Now Joe has sold up his home and will settle his family in the Schuyler Hotel (where George Shearing first stayed) in New York. A famous American surgeon has volunteered to take his son under his care until such time as Joe can join the American Federation of Musicians and begin working.

PLAN TO FILM SUNDAY SHOWS FOR ITV JOHN SHARMAN WALKER, an entertainments organiser and producer, is planning to film names bands and top singers in Sunday afternoon and Saturday shows and to sell the films to commercial TV programme contractors and cinema.

Reece for Klein in New Jazz Group Trumpeter Dizzy Reece is taking Harrison-Smith to America to take the place in the New Jazz Group.

Clarinet Op. Al Gay, clarinetist with the Freddy Randall Band, goes into hospital on Monday for a terminal operation.

Crackerjacks start tour of U.S bases The newly formed Crackerjacks instrumental and vocal trio last Monday began a two-week tour of U.S. bases in Britain and Germany.

Stabbed At Bradford (York) last Monday, after a fight outside the Regent Ballroom in which three young girls were stabbed, three Teddy Boys were sentenced to terms of imprisonment, 14 were fined, while three were remanded pending further investigation.

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QUARTET AT THE ALBANY



Martin Moreno's Latin-American Quartet swines into action on its opening night at the Albany Club, Savile Row, W. last Monday. From left the Casanova Club, Grosvenor Street, last week, replaced the Sonnell Orchestra, which had been resident at the Albany for eight months. L-r: Jimmy Wright (dr.), Johnny Pearson (pno.), Martin (coll., dr.) and Bob Howard (bass).

Record, publication for Lita Roza song

A NEWS flash inserted into the MELODY MAKER's Radio Luxembourg programme on Tuesday last announced that the song "I'll Be Near To You" had been accepted for publication by Berry Music Ltd. and would be recorded by Decca early in 1956.

Split-second week for Maple Leaf 4 THE Maple Leaf Four, Canadian vocal group, have had a split-second schedule this week.

High standard Frank Lee expressed surprise at the very high standard of the songs selected by Lita Roza to feature on these programmes.

Jackson's pen rests after 30 years EDMOND JACKSON, the MM's senior reporter, has been laid up for a long time.

LITA PROGRESSING Lita Roza, who undergoes observation in King's College Hospital, Denmark Hill, is stated to be making progress.

CHRIS DOWN SOUTH MM reporter Chris Hayes has been compelled to leave the paper's London office owing to health reasons.

'Princess' song to be plugged in States DESPITE protests from Britain and public apologies from the music publishers concerned, Stateside reports indicate that "I Don't Want to Ever Be a Princess" will be broadcast and televised in America.

No bans And, last week, the song was recorded on radio records at a station or network has banned the tune, and plugs had already been set for Peter Potter's CBS radio show, "Juke Box Party" in addition to several TV spots.

MIDLANDS TV From Page 1 Orchestra and popular singers are likely to be featured. Other Sunday shows will include Sunday Night at the Palladium and "I Love Lucy".

Autocrat 13 x 3 THE NARROW DRUM YOU'VE BEEN WAITING FOR

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 - Spinning wheel; Spanish lady MU 13*
- EILEEN AROON
 - Cool an Phibhrugh MU 14*
- THE FOUR ACES
 - Jingle bells; Christmas song 05504
- LOUIS ARMSTRONG
 - Christmas night in Harlem; Christmas in New Orleans 05505
- ZIGGY TALENT
 - Check to check; Boozooki blues 05506
- THE FONTANE SISTERS
 - Rolling stone; Daddy-O HLD 8211
- THE DE CASTRO SISTERS
 - Christmas is a-comin'; Snowbound for Christmas HLU 8212
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COLLECTORS' CORNER IN PARIS

The man at the Mallets

by MAX JONES

BILL COLEMAN is practically the doyen of Americans in Paris. One or two jazzmen who got there before him are still about; but they cannot be found as readily as Coleman, who, since September 15, has been doing the roue Saint-guest spot at Aux Trois Mallets, near to the rue Saint-pierre (his second time there).

Coleman speaks French, of course, though with the accent (he says) of Paris, Kentucky, where he was born. He was married in 1953 to a Swiss girl, Lily, and she is as good an interpreter as Bill.

He knows everybody that has played jazz, and the length of time, and everybody knows him. Some of the jazz visitors from America—and most of them from Britain—make their way to the 'Mallets' to hear Coleman to reinforce with him or just ask his advice.

Albert Nicholas, working from the corner at St. Myrve, is another unofficial helper and guide. So, says Nicholas, in 1954 or so, he will take you over to catch Coleman—who begins about 1 a.m.—so you, meet Bill anyway.

Return to Paris

I first heard Coleman in person about his post-war return to Paris. There is no doubt that he plays better and hotter trumpet now than in his 40s, and that's true today you hear excellent, thoughtful music on both sides of the record, and he plays to the numbers, a lot of attack and an extension of notes, and he plays to the "Isham".

It is his custom to present to include "Confession", "I Surrender, Dear", or "Just A Closer" in his act, and all of these, as you expect if you know his style, bear strong Armstrong influences in the singing and playing. But he

complimenting rather than copying Louis. On the night of Armstrong's visit to the club, Coleman understandably threw extra Louis variations into his performance, aiming them at the table where Louis sat with Max, Panama, Madeline Gautier and some of the All-Stars.

This, in conjunction with the scribes, verbal and musical, paid by Trummy Young, when presently he looks over the microphone, seemed a pleasant and spontaneous way of honouring Armstrong's influence in the singing and playing. But he



Louis. Mezz. Bill Coleman.

"Two months in Monte Carlo, then to the Rex Theatre in Paris. A few months later we went home—all except Pittman and Pratt, who joined Home Sweet Home for a South American tour." Back in the States, Coleman says he worked for Carter and then Teddy Bill. If his date for the Mallets spot is correct, the Carter job must have preceded it for Bill remembers that he should have played on the records Spike Hughes made with Carter's band (in April and May, 1955).

They had a ball!

Apparently, Coleman went on a visit across town the night before the session, stayed out 'balling', and couldn't make it back in time. "So I missed out on those," he told me. "A pity," said several gold-eyed spectators as he smiles as recollections of 'day' are rehearsed.

"Afterwards I went on to Carter's at the Empire Ballroom, then over to Teddy Bill's orchestra. We made some records for Teddy, with Bill Dillard and Louie Wells in the brass section. Not long after this came an offer from Freddy Taylor to go back to France Taylor was a first-rate dancer who had made the previous trip with Millinder, and stayed on over there. Now he had returned to New York looking for men to do his favourite music. He played a little horn, you see, and, of course, I admired Louis, as everyone did.



Dicky Wells.

Dicky Wells in Paris

WHEN a man plays the blues he tells the truth about himself. Simplicity reveals the poverty as well as the richness of an artist's imagination. Dicky Wells' "Blues in Paris" (HMV CLP 1054) has seven trombone choruses in a row, more than enough to illuminate the rare quality of this musician.

Every phrase Dicky Wells blows seems exactly poised; the unexpected suddenly becomes transformed into the inevitable. Tender and dramatic, his solo develops in power as it nears the climax, his vigour and audacity thrown into bolder contrast by the underlying sweetness of mood and pattern.

Dicky Wells is probably the finest jazz trombonist alive today. His style is based on this record.

Violent stabbing phrases or a low, husky whisper—Wells seems able to play anything and like. Part of his strength comes from an unusually expressive tone, as well as the ability to imply more than he states. No other musician is so expert at taking the listener into his confidence.

Cotton Club

It was 1937 when Teddy Hill's orchestra came to Europe with the Cotton Club Revue. Dicky Wells, a member of that band mentioned to Hughes Panastate that he would like to record with Django Reinhardt. Out of that desire came this music.

"Between The Devil and the Deep Blue Sea" and "I Got Rhythm"—all jazz, exciting, and exciting in show off the three trumpet soloists. Bill Dillard and Shad Collins were both in the band. Bill Coleman—at that time resident in Paris—took the place of Dizzy Gillespie, then very young and completely unused. These men make up a brass team which attacks with ferocity and swings with abandon.

base and drums. Reinhardt, a stimulating rhythm section in himself, takes on his "blue" solo in "Japanese Sandman" with Coleman's style. As a fountain gitters in sunlight, Coleman's trumpet moves effortlessly in an aerial dance. Lyrical rather than dramatic, he playing has the freshness, if not the manner, of early Armstrong. With this approach gave a tone more remarkable for purity than fullness. Lightness and elegance are the virtues of Coleman's music; often sensitive, it is rarely intense. Django, Antonin, and Boudon, blues of unusual beauty, shows him at his best. Dicky Wells takes two songs, "Solemn" and "Open", the other two as well as playing a hoarse obbligato to Coleman's great vocal. "Sandman" and "Sweet Sue" and both musicians improvising just as superbly.

continued on page 15

guest record review by CHARLES FOX

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Mr. W. SHUNS THE SPOTLIGHT

REGRETTABLE or not, it is a fact that, without push and publicity in the entertainment business, you're a dead duck. Never mind how retiring you are by nature: it's a luxury you cannot afford in public.

Successful artists do not suffer from the retiring modesty of, say, the Egyptian fresco painter who spent his entire life producing unsigned masterpieces on the inner walls of tombs, where no living eye was ever intended to see them.

Pen Portrait



ERNIE WILKINS

THE 'PEACE PIPE' MAN

ONE of the best and busiest arrangers in New York at the moment is a friendly, mild-mannered gentleman named Ernest Wilkins, who left his job with the Count Basie saxophone section a few months ago to settle in the city as a free-lance writer.

Born in St. Louis on July 20, 1922, Ernie studied piano with his mother and later attended Wilberforce University.

A Must for all PIANISTS!!
Album of JAZZ CLASSICS No. 2
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TOMMY WHITTLE

MAURICE BURMAN'S COMMENTARY
On top of that, the band spent all modern on the other side of the record—and did a remarkably successful job of that.

By comparison with this century's jazz, the music of the 1920s and 1930s is old car-horse. True, it had a background of burning axes; the music of today, however, is the TASTE of frightful BBO content.

Of that wartime band, only one ancient and honourable member is left—trumpeter, vocalist, Leslie Hutchinson.

The present group lacks the polish and musicianship of the original. It is a composition of very, very much by the fresh, modern, driving sound it now has.

It is interesting to note that Geraldo has finally discovered that playing alternate vocal and instrumental numbers is, perhaps, a little more entertaining than playing four vocals in a row.

BURMAN'S DAUBLE is awarded to Thomas Whittle—the Jazzman's Gent.



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Carved Cello top, super orchestral model, with 17" cut-away body. 52 gns.
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Acoustic or electric model, with dual pick-ups, four controls and on/off switches. Specification as acoustic. President. 48 gns.
SENATOR
Acoustic or electric, 16½" body as acoustic. Senator. 28 gns.
CLUB 40
Small body, thin neck for modern electric style. One unit, two controls. 32 gns.
CLUB 50
As above, with two units and control switches. 38 gns.
HAWAIIAN ELECTRIC
Solid wood body. Sensitive pick-up. Inlaid frets. Tone and volume controls. 21 gns.
CONTROL PANELS
Illustrated below is the control panel fitted to President Electric and Club 50. Similar panels are fitted to Senator Electric and Club 40.
Send for 12-page art "Catalogue H.C.14" or see your dealer.
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SHIRLEY SINGS ON NEW YEAR'S EVE



Shirley Wilson, singer with Don Smith, at Wimbledon Palais, makes her broadcasting debut on December 31 in an evening with Don. Seen here presenting her with a box of chocolates for her 21st birthday are (l-r) drummer Jackie Dawson, trumpeter Stan Peacock, Don Smith, saxophonist Ken Rendell and bassist Freddie Hooper.

Basie tops Down Beat Readers' Poll: Ousts Kenton

NEW YORK, Wednesday.—Count Basie has ousted Stan Kenton from his position in the annual Down Beat Readers' Popularity Poll. Although his band was a winner in the Down Beat Critics' Poll, this was the first time in the 19 years of the Readers' Poll that Basie has had this particular honour. In doing so he unseated Stan Kenton from a position he had held since 1949.

LEADER SEKENS BRID. RESIDENCY

HARRY LEADER has beaten over 50 bands to secure the summer residency at the Spa, Royal Brighton. Harry and his 16-piece orchestra will play Sunday concerts and night dancing until the end of September.

FELLOWSHIP AMONG THE SEMI-PROS

SEMI-PROFESSOR of Britain's jazz bands will be heard in the BBC Light and Home Service programmes during the 12 days commencing December 18, taking in the Christmas and New Year Bank Days.

Sudden death of Roy Bowles

ROY BOWLES, known to thousands of musicians as a London Branch organist of the Musicians' Union, died in St. James' Hospital, Balham, on Sunday morning after a heart attack.

The Secret Weapon

NEW YORK, Wednesday.—The news that the State Department will send jazz orchestra overseas has already inspired a song.

ANOTHER THREAT TO MM REPORTER

STANLEY PEARSON, MM West Riding correspondent, was threatened with violence last Saturday at the Ideal Ballroom, Bradford.

In a manner similar to that adopted when our Kent correspondent, R. E. Randall, was warned by a gang and told: "If a white man like you is not wanted here."

Later that evening as the dance was ending, Bradford Police again appeared on the scene and arrested more than 200 boys were arrested.

Dancers at Nottingham's Victoria Ballroom have been told: "Don't come in wearing dress if you want to dance here."

Harry Lewis Trio off to Continent. The Harry Lewis Trio commences a 10-week tour of continental Europe in France and Germany (Friday).

Dickie among the 'Shoppers'



Producer Dickie Leeman (centre) holds conference before last Saturday's 'Music Shop' programme. Appearing in the programme were (l) cabaret singer June Powell, Frankie Vaughan, and (r) vocalist Joan Anderson and pianist-songwriter Harry Jacobson.

BBC BOOKS 24 STAR BANDS FOR CHRISTMAS

SEVENTY-FOUR of Britain's jazz bands will be heard in the BBC Light and Home Service programmes during the 12 days commencing December 18, taking in the Christmas and New Year Bank Days.

AVAKIAN IN ALMOND PASTE

George Avakian, A and R man of American Columbia Records, last week visited Holland as a guest of the Philips Records. He is, in tradition, Dutch style, he is being presented with the first letter of his family name in almond paste.

Marion sings on with Delaney

Vocalist Marion Williams will appear with the Eric Delaney Band this Sunday (11th) at Ipswich, Suffolk, and will broadcast with the band on December 19, 20 and 21.

COW COW DAVENPORT MOVES TO CLEVELAND

NEW YORK, Wednesday.—Charles (Cow Cow) Davenport, one of the boogie woogie pioneers and the man who claims to have named the style, died on December 2 in Cleveland, where he had lived for the past 18 years. He was 61.

Ex-Parnell man to lead for Herman

BOBBY LAMB, lead trombonist with Jack Parnell for two years until he emigrated to America two months ago, has been picked to lead the trombone section of Woody Herman's band when it re-forms in New York on December 27.

Woody Herman is currently touring a sextet in Las Vegas, where he auditioned Bobby last month and immediately signed him. When the MM told Jack Parnell about Bobby's success, he said: "It's great news. Bobby is a very hard worker and deserves the break."

Successful operation on publisher's wife

Mildred, wife of Cyril Shane, of Grosvenor Music, underwent a successful operation at St. George's Hospital, on Monday, Cyril and the children were with her for the first time on Wednesday when the report was as comfortable as could be expected.

VOCAL WINNERS

Area final winners in the Melody Maker Vocalists of the Year Contest at the Empress Ballroom, Wigan, last week were Jean Taylor, of Oldham, and John Armitage, of Southport.

KEEPING IT CLEAN AT ILFORD



Derek Sinclair (l) and Harold Palais (r) clean-up before Derek's opening last Monday's Dramatic Reg. Clamtree (r) leads the group which plays opposite the Sinclair band.

LUXEMBOURG

From Page 1. With the opening of the new transmitters next autumn, but experiments will be carried out next spring and summer. The idea is to record the broad skeleton of the non-stop programme which has general novelty value, from towns in Britain.

JOE SAYE SAYS FAREWELL



Blind pianist Joe Saye and his family—wife Joan and baby David—say their goodbyes at Waterloo Station last Saturday. Joe says he has received encouraging offers from major American corporations.

Snags develop in Heath U.S. tour

NEW YORK, Tuesday.—Stan Kenton and impresario Harold D. Davison have finalised arrangements for Stan and his orchestra to visit Britain next May. Kenton's European tour is scheduled to start on April 14.

THREE BRITISH STARS FOR DANISH CONCERT

DONALD CALVERT, Norrie Partridge and singer Billie Anthony fly from London Airport to Copenhagen today (Friday) to appear on Sunday in a charity concert at Aalborg.

Housewives Choice forms new policy

The MM understands that on January 2, George Erick will take over as "Housewives Choice" editor for a period of three weeks. Henceforth each D-J will undertake a similar period with a smaller number of personalities will be used.

KEALONA LIFE HOME

Kealona Life, famous guitar expert, is back in this country after three years in South Africa. He has recorded 15 titles on Associated label with his own Hawaiian group.

GENERATION MUSIC STANDS

Full-score Stand No. 2000. This two-colour illustrated booklet FREE ON REQUEST. Send for details of this and the full range of GENERATION MUSIC STANDS.

Ella and Oscar for one London concert

AMERICAN poll-toppers Oscar Peterson and Ella Fitzgerald will return to London next February for one concert—probably at the Royal Festival Hall.

Rudy Rome adds Bernie Taylor

Violinist leader Rudy Rome has augmented his Hungarian Restaurant band with guitarist Bernie Taylor, who was recently with Woolf Phillips at the Pigalle Restaurant.

WHITTE GIRL



The new JATP itinerary is being twice the length of the last one. It starts in Oslo on February 18 and finishes in Italy on March 21.

The unit will comprise: Diz-Cullisley, Roy Edmonds, Oscar Jacques, Flip Phillips, Oscar Peterson, Ray Brown, Herb Ellis, Gene Krupa, Ella Fitzgerald and Don Abney.

Russo and Leslie talk on WoJ

MELODY MAKER Features Editor Peter Leslie interviews ex-Kenton trombonist, Bill Russo, in the BBC's World Of Jazz programme next Tuesday (15th) at 10.20 p.m.

Crawford 3 doubling Verrey's & Mayfair

THE Crawford Trio Regent Street, last week, is doubling Verrey's with the Mayfair Club, Berkeley Square, where the group went with his trio for six months.

Orchestrations Now Ready GO ON BY and Watch Out for a Smash!! AN OLD BEER BOTTLE BLUEBIRD MUSIC CO. 23 Denmark Street, London, W.C.2

THE HITS FROM THE U.S. ON LONDON RECORDS. BILLY VAUGHN The shifting, whispering sands; (2 sides) HLD 8205. THE SUNNYSIDERS Fair dinkum; Stay on the sunny side HLU 8202. BILL DARNEL and FRANK WEIR My little mother; Bring me a bluebird HLU 8204. ROGER WILLIAMS Autumn leaves; Take care HLU 8214. JOHNNY MADDOX Do, do, do; When you wore a tulip HLD 8203. ARCHIE BLEYER Bernardo's hideaway; S'il vous plait HLA 8176. THE FONTANE SISTERS Seventeen; If I could be with you one hour tonight HLD 8177. Rolling stone; Daddy-O HLD 8211. MITCHELL TOROK Caribbean; Weep away HL 8204. JULIUS LAROSA Suddenly there's a valley; Every time that I kiss Carrie HLA 8193. JINNY WRIGHT & TOM TALL Are you mine? Boom, boom, boomerang HL 8150. GOGI GRANT Suddenly there's a valley; Lovis HLB 8192. PAT BOONE Ain't that a shame; Tennessee Saturday night HLD 8174. No arms can ever hold you; At my front door HLD 8197. SLIM WHITMAN You have my heart; Song of the wild HLU 8196.

Basie tops Down Beat Readers' Poll: ousts Kenton

NEW YORK, Wednesday.—Count Basie has ousted Stan Kenton from his position in the annual Down Beat Readers' Popularity Poll. Although his band was a winner in the Down Beat Critics' Poll, this was the first time in the 19 years of the Readers' Poll that Basie has had this particular honour. In doing so he unseated Stan Kenton from a position he had held since 1942.

Another surprise was the defeat of Chet Baker by Miles Davis in the trumpet division in a very closely fought contest. Top trombone was J. J. Johnson, who was seventh last year. Desmond, who had 801 votes last year while Charlie Parker had 512, was again easily in the first place made vacant by Parker's death. The other rock winners, as before, were Gene Krupa, Gerry Mulligan and Buddy DeFranco.

LEADER SECURES BRID. RESIDENCY
HARRY LEADER has beaten 107 other bands to secure the summer residency at the Spa, Royal Hall, Bridlington. Harry and his 15-piece orchestra open at the Spa on June 10, and will play Sunday concerts and night dancing until the end of September.

Sudden death of Roy Bowles
Roy Bowles, known to thousands of musicians as London Branch Organizer of the Musicians' Union, died in St. James' Hospital, Balham, on Monday morning after a heart attack. He was 42 and leaves a widow and 10-year-old son. He had been an official of the Union since 1940. Prior to this he had been a well-known freelance pianist and cellist. He was cremated at Streatham Crematorium yesterday (Thursday).

The Secret Weapon
New York, Wednesday.—The news that the State Department will send jazz orchestras overseas has already inspired young veteran tunesmith Walter Bishop who has collaborated with former Johnny Bothwell trumpeter Ted "Jazz Is Our Secret Weapon."

Wagner Threat to MM Reporter
STANLEY PEARSON, MM West Riding correspondent, was threatened with violence last Saturday at the Ideal Ballroom, Bradford. A week before the ballroom and later fined for disorderliness. In which three girls were stabbed. In manner similar to that adopted when our Kent correspondent, R. E. Huddell, was threatened. Pearson was cornered by a gang and told: "Clear off—your people are not wanted here." Later the same evening as the dance was ending, Bradford Police appeared on the scene and several more Teddy Boys were arrested. The price of admission to the ballroom on Saturdays has been raised by 1s. and dancers told Stan Pearson that there appeared to be a bigger staff on duty.

Harry Lewis Trio off to Continent
The Harry Lewis Trio commences a 10-week tour of American Basie in France and Germany today (Friday). Harry, on drums, will front Lenzie Felix (piano) and Duke Aron (alto, etc.).

Dickie among the 'Shoppers'



Producer Dickie Leeman (centre) holds a conference before last Saturday's 'Music Shop' programme. Appearing in the programme were (l) cabaret singer June Powell, Frankie Vaughan, and (r) vocalist Joan Anderson and pianist-songwriter Harry Jacobson.

BBC BOOKS 24 STAR BANDS FOR CHRISTMAS
TWENTY-FOUR of Britain's star bands will be heard in the BBC Light and Home Service programmes during the 24 days commencing December 10, taking in the Christmas and New Year periods. At 9.10 p.m., on Christmas Eve, "Dancing Round the World" will feature the bands of Joe Loss and Gerda in a programme of international requests. Two hours later (11.15 p.m.), the Squadrons will be featured. Frankie Howard and Co. join the band show, and on Boxing Day, Gerda and his Orchestra will be followed by BBC Ballroom with the bands of Teddy Foster, Santiago and Alex Welsh and vocalist Patti Lewis.

AVAKIAN IN ALMOND PASTE
George Avakian, A and R man of American Columbia Records, last week visited Holland as a guest of Philips Records. Here, in traditional Dutch style, he is being presented with the first letter of his family name in almond paste.



George Avakian, A and R man of American Columbia Records, last week visited Holland as a guest of Philips Records. Here, in traditional Dutch style, he is being presented with the first letter of his family name in almond paste.

COW COW DAVENPORT DIES IN CLEVELAND

NEW YORK, Wednesday.—Charles (Cow Cow) Davenport, one of the boogie woogie pioneers and the man who claims to have named the style, died on December 2 in Cleveland, where he had lived for the past 18 years. He was 61.

Cow Cow, whose name was kept alive by recordings of his "Cow Cow Blues" long after he had ceased regular musical activity, was born in Anliston, Alabama, in April, 1894. In the twenties he became famous as a vaudeville artist, pianist and songwriter. He made more than two dozen sides under his own name for Paramount, Gennett, Vocalion and Brunswick as well as numerous accompaniments. Since the early thirties, he made very few records, but a recent session (on which Sam Price played piano) boosted his stock in 1954. Two of these, "That'll Get It" and "Don't You Loud-Mouth Me" (Bruno 03509) were released in Britain.

Ex-Parnell man to lead for Herman
BOBBY LAMB lead trombonist with Jack Parnell for two years until he emigrated to America two months ago, has been pleased to lead the trombone section of Woody Herman's big band when it re-forms in New York on December 27. Bobby will also be spotlighted in jazz features with Herman's bass trumpet man, Cy Touss.

Successful operation on publisher's wife
Mildred, wife of Cyril Shane, of Grosvenor Music, underwent a successful operation at Guy's Hospital, on Monday. Cyril and the children were able to visit her for the first time on Wednesday, when the report was "as comfortable as could be expected."

VOCAL WINNERS
Area final winners in the Melcor Makra Vocalists of the Year Contest at the Empress Ballroom, Wigan, last week were Joe Taylor, of Oldham, and John Armitage, of Southampton.

KEEPING IT CLEAN AT ILFORD
The second BBC Festival of Dance Music is to be held again at the Royal Albert Hall in the spring—but there is a possibility that the BBC Show Band will not be in the line-up of bands which will be spotlighted.

This surprise was reached the MM late on Wednesday, and it was impossible to get confirmation from the BBC before printing. Plans for the Festival and the choice of artists and orchestras are currently being discussed. It is understood that the bands of Ted Heath, Eric Delaney, Johnny Dankworth, the Kirshins and Tommy Whittle will take part. Humphrey Lyttelton's band may also be featured.

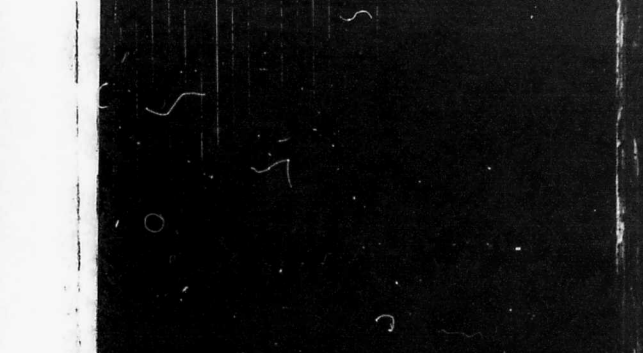
Marion sings on with Delaney
Vocalist Marion Williams will appear with the Eric Delaney Band this Sunday (11th) at Ipswich Gaumont, and will broadcast with the band on December 13, 20 and 27. She is expecting a baby in the New Year, but will remain with Eric until a replacement is fixed.

LUXEMBOURG
From Page 1
With the opening of the new transmitter next autumn, but experiments will be carried out next spring and summer. Under the new system, 1955 a statement issued by radio Luxembourg which has never known what is coming next and so he feels compelled to keep listening. In America, NBC has drawn back a considerable length which deserts to television, and this new radio technique is being explored in various ways by other networks with marked success. The idea is to record the broad skeleton of the non-stop programme and to feed in up-to-the-minute material from Britain.

New aerial
Half-hourly news flashes will be incorporated as well as announcements, which have general novelty value, from towns in Britain. The new morning transmissions are scheduled to start next autumn. They will be directed at the housewife who has her morning chores to perform. A list of prospective sponsors for the airtime will be opened in January. The three new transmitters will have a combined output of 300 kilowatts and they will be used in a completely new aerial system. This month that present "black spots," such as the South of England, will then get perfect reception.

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JOE SAYE SAYS FAREWELL



Blind pianist Joe Saye and his family—wife Joan and baby David—say their goodbyes at Waterloo Station last Saturday before leaving for the States. Joe describes his visit as "exploratory," but says he has received encouraging offers from major American corporations.

Snags develop in Heath U.S. tour
NEW YORK, Tuesday.—Stan Kenton and impresario Harold Davison have finalised arrangements for Stan and his Orchestra to visit Britain next May. Kenton's European tour starts at Oslo on April 14. Meanwhile, snags have developed in the arrangements for Ted Heath's U.S. visit, which is scheduled to start on April 14. It is now improbable that Ted will be able to appear on TV in America. Also, he may play his concerts alone and not with Nat "King" Cole, June Christy and the Four Freshmen as expected.

Duke for Dankworth
Duke Ellington and Johnny Dankworth may be the subjects of the next international band "swap." Harold Davison has conferred with Joe Glaser and would like to bring Duke to England in August. Glaser thinks there would be no difficulty in arranging work for Dankworth here.

Housewives Choice forms new policy
The MM understands that on January 2, George Erick will take over as Housewives Choice, disc-jockey for a period of three weeks. Henceforth, each D-J will undertake a similar period, and a smaller number of personalities will be used.

KEALOHA LIFE HOME
Kealoha Life, famous guitar expert, is back in this country after three years in South Africa. Over the past 18 months he has recorded 150 titles on Associated Artists with his own Hawaiian group.

Dave Davani to wed singer Beryl Wayne
Dave Davani, accordionist with the Norman Burns Band, was due to marry vocalist Beryl Wayne at the Hall yesterday (Thursday). Beryl has sung with Vic Lewis, Norman Burns and Peter Leeh.

THE HITS FROM THE U.S. ON

- BILLY VAUGHN**
The shifting, whispering sands; (2 sides) HLD 8205
- THE SUNNYSIDERS**
Fair dinkum; Stay on the sunny side HLU 8202
- BILL DARNEL and FRANK WEIR**
My little mother; Bring me a bluebird HLU 8204
- ROGER WILLIAMS**
Autumn leaves; Take care HLU 8214
- JOHNNY MADDOX**
Do, do, do; When you wore a tulip HLD 8203
- ARCHIE BLEYER**
Hernando's hideaway; S'il vous plait HLA 8176
- THE FONTANE SISTERS**
Seventeen; If I could be with you one hour tonight HLD 8177
- Rolling stones; Daddy-O HLD 8211
- MITCHELL TOROK**
Caribbean; Weep away HLD 8204
- JULIUS La ROSA**
Suddenly there's a valley; Every time that I kiss Carrie HLA 8193
- JINNY WRIGHT & TOM TALL**
Are you mine? Boom, boom, boomcareng HLD 8150
- GOGI GRANT**
Suddenly there's a valley; Love is HLB 8192
- PAT BOONE**
Ain't that a shame; Tennessee Saturday night HLD 8172
- No arms can ever hold you; At my front door HLD 8197
- SLIM WHITMAN**
You have my heart; Song of the wild HLD 8196

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REVIEWS * * * REVIEWS * * * REVIEWS * * * REVIEWS * * * REVIEWS



Wally Peterson at the Cote d'Azur

THE generally high standard of cabaret at the Club de la Cote d'Azur continues this week and next with ITV director Wally Peterson holding the stage as well as the audience for the full half-hour of his "Rendezvous at Eleven" presentation.

For Wally, star of such West End musicals as *Oklahoma* and *South Pacific*, is a performer in his own right, and brought pace, personality and a slick choice of songs to this specialised audience.

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TERRY SCOTT · BILL MCGUFFIE · RAY BURNS
with THE RONNIE SCOTT BAND SHOW
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ROSE BRENNAN · Larry Gutton · Ross McManus
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STARGAZERS · BETTY MILLER · WALLY DUNN
with THE JACK PARNELL BAND SHOW
3/- to 6/- —

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3 P.M. — SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11 — 7 P.M.
HARROGATE ROYAL HALL | YORK HIALTO
BRADFORD, St. George's — SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11, at 7.30
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TONY KINSEY
Sunday, Dec. 18th—TOMMY WHITTLE

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ALMA COGAN · DAVE KING
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A LADY FOR THE CANNON

HOW many girls have escaped being fired from a cannon as they stalked fame? What else can happen when a brunette has, in the course of her career, tamed Spanish must-hall audiences, fresh from the nearest bull-fight, all baying for artists' blood?

Singer Judy Layne encountered a fresh hazard before appearing at Hackney Empire this week. "I auditioned for this first Variety date," she said, "but when Max Miller heard I'd been booked for this show he objected at first. 'Who's she?' he said. 'Never heard of her.' Judy paused. 'Now he knows...'

And? says this girl in her teens. This week too, the Club has installed stage lighting under the direction of Howard Baker, of the Arts Theatre, and this added something to the success of Wally's act.

Another life story
PEARL BAILEY (Mrs. Louis Brillon) will sing the Gerah... Doris Day Story
WE are certainly faced with a spate of screen biographies. Latest is the life story of Doris Day, now in the initial planning stage.

GLORIA GAYE comeback
GLORIA GAYE—leader of Britain's first glamour girls' band in 1938—is back again. It is her first venture with her new band last week, and is at Dudley Hippodrome this week.

ODEON · ALFRETON
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11th, at 5.30 & 8 p.m.
THE KIRCHIN BAND
Vicky Lane · Clyde Ray
2/6 to 4/6 — Allreton 44

REGAL · COLCHESTER
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TED HEATH & HIS MUSIC
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BACKSTAGE Ted's Great Life...

1956 LOOKS like being a particularly busy year for the Ted Heath Band. As is now widely known, Ted will start his tour of the States in April. But there is an earlier—and perhaps as important a job to be tackled. In January the Heath band starts work on the George Minter film production, *It's A Great Life*.

This is no small-budget enterprise. Minter has financial backing to the tune of £1,000,000—and that's big money in the British film world nowadays. It's *A Great Life*, therefore, gets the expensive treatment—colour and panoramic screen. It crash-lands into the big time.

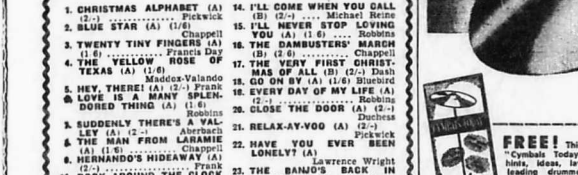
Doris Day Story
WE are certainly faced with a spate of screen biographies. Latest is the life story of Doris Day, now in the initial planning stage.

Tony Brown's FILM & TV column
Do you recall, while watching those Show Band shows on TV, scarily how much paraphernalia you DIDN'T see? This picture, taken at one of the Show Band relays, shows what goes on "behind" the scenes.

Seen on TV—
ATV's Music Shop seems to be a settling in what could well be a hit. I suspect that I am not alone in feeling that ringing the changes between the two programmes, each interviewed as a routine by company Gerry Wilton, doesn't really constitute variety.

Waterfront music
MURIEL SMITH, famous for her work in the Drury Lane production of *The King and I*, has recorded three songs for the Michael Powell-Bertie Phillips film, *The Battle of Britain*.

TOP TUNES
1. CHRISTMAS ALPHABET (A) (2-3) ... Pickwick
2. BLUE STAR (A) (1-2) ... Chappell
3. TWENTY TINY FINGERS (A) (1-2) ... Francis Day
4. THE YELLOW ROSE OF TEXAS (A) (1-2) ... Madrox-Valando
5. HEY, THERE! (A) (2-3) ... France
6. LOVE IS A SMALL SPLENDED THING (A) (1-2) ... Robbins
7. SUDDENLY THERE'S A VALLEY (A) (2-3) ... Pickwick
8. THE MAN FROM LARAMIE (A) (1-2) ... Chappell
9. BERNARD'S HIDEAWAY (A) (1-2) ... Lawrence Wright
10. ROCK AROUND THE CLOCK (A) (2-3) ... Chappell
11. MEET ME ON THE CORNER (B) (2-3) ... Robbins
12. THE SWANSONS (B) (1-2) ... Robbins
13. SEVENTEEN (A) World Wide
14. I'LL COME WHEN YOU CALL (B) (2-3) ... Michael Reine
15. I'LL NEVER STOP LOVING YOU (A) (1-2) ... Robbins
16. THE DANDYBUSTERS MARCH (A) (1-2) ... Francis Day
17. THE VERY FIRST CHRISTMAS (A) (1-2) ... East
18. GO ON EVERY DAY (1-2) Bluebird
19. ON BEYOND MY LIFE (A) (1-2) ... East
20. CLOSE THE DOOR (A) (2-3) ... Pickwick
21. RELAX-AY-VOO (A) (2-3) ... Pickwick
22. HAVE YOU EVER BEEN LOVELY (A) ... Pickwick
23. THE BANJO'S BACK IN LONDON (A) (1-2) ... East
24. NEVER DO A TANGO WITH AN ENEMY (B) (1-2) ... Michael Reine
A—American; B—British



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Who's Where

(Week commencing December 11.)
Ronnie ALDRICH and Band...
Eric DELANEY and Band...
Johnnie GRAY and Band of Day...
The KIRCHIN Band...
Freddy RANDALL and Band...
Dave SHAW and Band...
Tony WHITTLE's Orchestra...
The Jack Kinsey Quartet...



production would seem to share the common view that one has to cram such a programme with singers—the more, the merrier.
Not so. Repetition means boredom. Better use could be made of the resident Maxwell-Brennan Group.
Have n't we been rather led to expect ideas and enterprise from independent TV?

Kinsey, Josh
THE Jack Kinsey Quartet, popularly bristling with gimmicks, has clearly taken the lead in this respect. No longer is Jackson content to rely on star guests miming to their latest recordings.
Last Sunday, for example, we were treated to an interesting and restrained number from the Tony Kinsey Quartet and a couple of songs from Josh White—both live performances.
With Jackson, one never knows what to expect—and this is bound to stimulate interest.
Really? The Jackson program has now been promoted to a more important viewing-time—commencing on December 16, 10 p.m., instead of 2 p.m.

NICE to hear Lee Lawrence come back to the form that won him such acclaim a few years ago. Lee sang "Suddenly There's A Valley" and "Granada" in ATV's *On The Town* with great power, control and dramatic sense—and got much more than polite applause.
A word for the competence of Geoff Love's accompanying group in this exacting job. Heard but, unfortunately, never seen, the band still pulls its weight.

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A LADY FOR THE CANNON

HOW many girls have escaped being fired from a cannon as they stalked fame? What else can happen when a brunette has, in the course of her career, tamed Spanish music-hall audiences, fresh from the nearest bull-fight, all baying for artists' blood?

Singer Judy Payne encountered a fresh hazard before appearing at Hackney Empire this week. "I auditioned for this first variety date," she said, "but when Mac Miller heard I'd been booked for his show he objected at first. 'Who's she?' he said. 'Never heard of her.' Now he knows..."

She precedes Mac Miller's pure gold of the music-hall. Her performance, not with a 22-carat she has the girl an acute perception of rhythm and phrasing; she has also a sense of fun. In the higher registers, though she sounds disappointingly metallic in tone—but she sings such vocal impetuosity with enough theatrical presence to make old-timers purr.

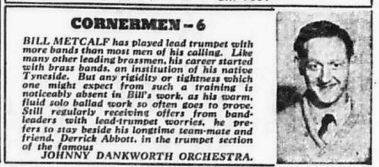
Monday last was also the opening night of the Derek Spenswick Band, which not only capably handled the fast-moving concert spots, (with pianist Eddie Palmer on-stage with Wally) but also bit the right note for its political dancing public.—Pat Brand.

Our PICTURE, taken at the Empire, shows the band. Right: Lorna Godfrey, Johnny Godfrey, Derek Spenswick and Wally Peterson.

Gloria Gaye—leader of Britain's first glamour girls' band in 1938—back again. She started a tour with her new band last week, and is at Dudley Hippodrome this week. It is her first venture with a band since 1938. Miss Gaye fronts 12 musicians, comprising (this week) five saxes, two trumpets, trombone, flute, piano, drums, guitar, and a bass player and a saxophonist being missing through illness. There is every sign that this band will bring colour and life into our variety halls, but at present there is a lot to be done. Presentation tends to be slow, and all the numbers have a "summers" about them. The whole show is just not slick enough. Although Gloria Gaye has gone to a lot of expense to dress the girls in gowns of new material, with different and contrasting coloured bouffants, it is not so sure that uniformity would not have had a better effect. But no doubt all this will be changed by the time the band reaches Hackney Empire on December 13, prior to visits to a number of cinemas in the London area. Gloria Gaye should be admired for staging this concert and once the band has settled down, I think she will be amply rewarded for her endeavours.—George Bartram.

ODEON - ALFRETON
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18th, at 5.30 & 8 p.m.
Arthur Howes presents
THE KIRCHIN BAND
Vicky Lane · Clyde Ray
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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 16th, at 7.30 p.m.
Arthur Howes presents
JACK PARNELL & HIS ORCHESTRA
GENE WILLIAMS · IRENE MILLER
2/6 to 6/- Civic Radio Services, Paradise St. Tel. MID 1728
EMPIRE · CHISWICK
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18th, at 7.30 p.m.
Arthur Howes presents
THE ERIC DELANEY BAND SHOW
Marion Williams · Derrick Francis
2/6 to 6/- - CHI 7651
CORNERMEN - 6
BILL METCALF has played lead trumpet with more bands than most men of his calling. Like many other leading brassmen, his career started with brass bands, an institution of his native Tyneside. But any rigidity of his native one might expect from such a training is noticeably absent in Bill's work, as his modern fluid solo ballad work so often goes to prove. As a regular, receptive offerer of some band leaders with lead-trumpet surprises, he presides to jazz beside his longtime team-mate and friend, Derrick Abbott, in the trumpet section of the famous JOHNNY DANKWORTH ORCHESTRA.

The Deepes off home
THE Deep River Boys this week conclude their present six-and-a-half month tour of Britain and the Continent, their seventh since the war!
The Deepes, whose disc of "Rock Around The Clock" was, according to manager Ed Kinsey, "one of HMV's best sellers this year," recorded two more discs this week. The numbers, with Sid Phillips' band accompanying, were "I'm a Little Bit Different" and "Just Rock A Beatin' Boogie" and "Just Rock A Beatin' Boogie."
The act is finishing up its tour at the Embassy, Park Empire, having been held over for a second week at the North London Theatre.



BACKSTAGE

Ted's Great Life...

1956 LOOKS like being a particularly busy year for the Ted Heath Band. As is now widely known, Ted will start his tour of the States in April. But there is an earlier—and perhaps as important a job to be tackled. In January the Heath band starts work on the George Minter film production, It's A Great Life.

This is no small-budget enterprise. Minter has financial backing to the tune of £1,000,000—and that's big money in the British film world nowadays. It's A Great Life, therefore, gets the expensive treatment—colour and panoramic screen. It crash into Tin Pan Alley and the Big Time furnish the story material and make room for the Heath boys to play five specially written songs.

All of these, and the Heath band sets—including a Royal Command performance at the London Palladium—have to be in the can before Ted starts that American trip.

PEARL RILEY (Mrs. Louis Bellson) will sing the Geraint title song in Paramount's "The Certain Footing and Ziegfeld Went The Strings Of My Heart." She will also feature in Paramount's "Hit The Road To Dreamland."

Doris Day Story

WE are certainly faced with a spate of screen biographies. Latest is the life story of Doris Day, now in the initial planning stage. First comes publication in book form, then a film which the scenario will be drawn. What weakens most screens "life" of course, is the omission of the tales that can be told. But the Day story could be worth the telling. An accident put paid to dancing ambitions and she turned to singing as an outlet from brooding.

This led to her touring days with Les Brown's band and marriage to one of the trombonists. Later, this marriage was dissolved and she married another musician. Again, this didn't work out. Last year, Doris married lawyer Marty Melcher.

Over her life it was accompanied by a 20-year-old son from an earlier marriage. The Day story obviously has the ingredients of romance and suspense. Doris is believed to have a few dollars and a baby has enough drama to be a musical. The producers intend on cropping the Brown band for those pre-film-fame songs.

As Doris remarked to the MM at Caridge Hotel: "Working in the music business was hard, but I learned a lot."



Tony Brown's FILM & TV column

Did you realize, while watching those Show Band shows on TV, exactly how much parasha there was? This picture, taken at one of the Show Band relays, shows what goes on "behind" the scenes. Marden sings; Stapleton, with carphones, conducts the orchestra. production would seem to share the common view that one only has to cram such a programme with singers—the more, the merrier. Not so. Repetition means boredom. Better use could be made of the resident Maxwell-Brennan group. Haven't we been rather led to expect ideas and enterprise from independent TV?

Kinsey, Josh
THE Jack Jackson Show, notwithstanding its negative, has clearly taken the lead in this respect. No longer is Jackson content to rely on star guests coming to their latest records. Last Sunday, for example, we were treated to an interesting and restrained number from the Tony Kinsey Quartet and a

Seen on TV—
A TV's Music Shop seems to be settling in what could well be a rut. I suspect that I am not alone in feeling that ringing the changes between a series of pop singers, each interviewed as a routine by comers Gerry Wilmot, doesn't really constitute variety. Not that I am in any way grudging of the amount of grandiose presentation. But surely there can be some originality in the approach to such artists?

And, incidentally, the title Music Shop itself is certainly comprehensive enough to embrace other important personalities in the record business. Those responsible for this ATV

Who's Where

(Week commencing December 11)
Ronnie ALDRICH and Squadron.
Friday: Windsor Hall, Bradford
Saturday: Bedworth
Gracie COLE and All-Girl
Saturday: Windmill Club.
Jerry COLONNA
Week: Hippodrome, Brighton
Ken COLVER and Band
Sunday: Mac's Oxford Street
Monday: Stouk
Thursday: Goldsmith's College, New Cross
Saturday: Mac's, Oxford Street
Eric DELANEY and Band
Sunday: Gaumont Theatre, Ipswich
Monday: Casino Ballroom, Aldershot
Friday: Grimby
Saturday: Falak, Lowestoft
Johnnie GRAY and Band of Day
Sunday: Hippodrome, Dudley
Thursday: Central Ballroom, Aldershot
Saturday: Bath Hall, Chroom
Sunday: Harry James and Orchestra
Sunday: Redcar
Thursday: Harrogate
Saturday: Harrogate
Sunday: Harrogate
The MICHIGN Band
Sunday: Windmiller Theatre, Buxton
Thursday: Corn Exchange, Buxton
Friday: Public Hall, Barrow
Saturday: Firr, Barrow
Sunday: Firr, Barrow
Las LAWRENCE
Monday: Leeds
Harry LEADER and Orchestra
Sunday: Harrogate
Tuesday: V.A. Ballroom
Wednesday: V.A. Ballroom
Thursday: New Rink Ballroom, Scarborough
Friday: Astoria Ballroom, Scarborough
Saturday: Firr, Felkstone
Sunday: MIDDLEBURGH and Band
Monday: Newark
Tuesday: Newcastle
Wednesday: Newcastle
Saturday: Upper Hexford
Malesia MITCHELL and Orchestra
Sunday: Weston-super-Mare
Friday: Southsea
Saturday: Hammersmith
Sid PHILLIPS and Band
Sunday: Pavilion, Bath
Saturday: Plaza Ballroom, Bath
Danny PUNDRES
Week: Palace, Newcastle
Freddie RANDALL and Band
Sunday: Hippodrome, Dudley
Thursday: Sadgate
Friday: Drill Hall, Woking
Saturday: Sadgate
Sunday: Sadgate
Ronnie RANDALL and Orchestra
Friday: Royal Edmonstone
Friday: Royal Edmonstone
Saturday: Baths Hall, Brighton
Dave SHAND and Band
Sunday: Harrogate
Wednesday: Pocklington
Saturday: Northsea
Saturday: Northsea
Neil TAYLOR and Orchestra
Wednesday: Royal Festival Hall, London
Friday: Royal Festival Hall, London
Monday: Perth
Tuesday: Greenock
Friday: Edinburgh
Saturday: Kirkcaldy
Alex WELSH and Divalanders
Sunday: Harrogate
Tuesday: Harrogate
Wednesday: Harrogate
Friday: Weymouth
Saturday: Weymouth
Tommy WHITTLE Orchestra
Sunday: Upper Hexford
Tuesday: Orford Ballroom, Suffolk
Thursday: Cresta Ballroom, London
Saturday: Technical College, London

Wally Peterson at d'Azur
at the Club de la Cote d'Azur continues this Peterson holding the stage as well as nervous at Eleven" presentation.

Gloria Gaye comeback
GLORIA GAYE—leader of Britain's first glamour girls' band in 1938—back again. She started a tour with her new band last week, and is at Dudley Hippodrome this week. It is her first venture with a band since 1938.

THE DEEPS off home
THE Deep River Boys this week conclude their present six-and-a-half month tour of Britain and the Continent, their seventh since the war!
The Deepes, whose disc of "Rock Around The Clock" was, according to manager Ed Kinsey, "one of HMV's best sellers this year," recorded two more discs this week. The numbers, with Sid Phillips' band accompanying, were "I'm a Little Bit Different" and "Just Rock A Beatin' Boogie" and "Just Rock A Beatin' Boogie."
The act is finishing up its tour at the Embassy, Park Empire, having been held over for a second week at the North London Theatre.



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TOP TUNES
1. CHRISTMAS ALPHABET (A) (2-)
2. BLUE STAR (A) (1-6)
3. TWENTY TINY FINGERS (A) (1-6)
4. YELLOW (B) (1-6)
5. HEY, THERE! (A) (2-)
6. LOVE IS A MANY SPLENDOR (A) (1-6)
7. SUDDENLY THERE'S A LAY (A) (2-)
8. MERRAND'S HIDEAWAY (A) (1-6)
9. ROCK AROUND THE CLOCK (A) (2-)
10. MEET ME ON THE CORNER (A) (1-6)
11. EVERYWHERE (B) (1-6)
12. SEVENTEEN (A) World Wide
14. I'LL COME WHEN YOU CALL (B) (2-)
15. I'LL NEVER STOP LOVING YOU (A) (1-6)
16. THE DAMBUZZER (A) (1-6)
17. THE VERY FIRST CHRISTMAS OF ALL (B) (2-)
18. GO ON BY (A) (1-6)
19. EVERY DAY OF MY LIFE (A) (2-)
20. CLOSE THE DOOR (A) (2-)
21. RELAX-AT-VOO (A) (2-)
22. HAVE YOU EVER BEEN LONELY (A) (1-6)
23. LAWRENCE WRIGHT TOWN (A) (2-)
24. NEVER DO IT AGAIN (A) AN EXHIMD (B) (2-)
25. MICHAEL WELNE
A-American; B-British

Television Tanners



THE Tanser Sisters (Frances and Marie, above), who end their six week season at the Broadway Show at the Coventry Theatre on Saturday, return to the West Coast...

STAR NIGHT: RUBY MURRAY TO PRESENT SINGERS' AWARDS

STAR names continue to be added to those who will throng the MELODY MAKER'S great Night Out With The Stars' Ball at the Royal Albert Hall on Friday, January 27. Latest to be announced is that of Palladium and Columbia Records star Ruby Murray.

There will be dancing to Joe Loss and his Orchestra. Howard Baker's Embassy Quartet will act as accompanying band to the vocal contestants. The stars in Town that evening will be interviewed on stage by Franklin Evans.

AL GOODHART DIES AT 50

AL GOODHART, composer of "Auf Wiedersehen, My Dear," "I Apologise," and many other songs, died last Friday in New York at the age of 50.

JOSH MAKES HIS TV DEBUT

Comic singer Josh White (L) rehearses for his commercial TV debut in Sunday's "Jack Jackson Show" with (L-R) his band's accompanist Jack Fallon, singer Glen Mason and studio manager Bob Reed.

Don't miss!

These are some of the attractions that will make this a night not to be missed. Tickets are now available from the Box Office, Royal Albert Hall, Kensington Gore, London, S.W.7.

Three stars for London Press Ball

Frank Baron and his Orchestra, Hermanos Denis Cuban Rhythms, and TV personality Wally Peterson will appear at the ball organized by the National Union of Journalists on Tuesday at the Empire Rooms, Tottenham Court Road.

CLAV. CONTEST JUDGES MEET

THE nationwide search for a new Clavinette star launched by Messrs. Selmer and Co. who are also awarding a £100 prize, will end this Monday when the three judges—Ted Heath, Harold Smart and Editor Pat Brand—meet to hear the Grand Jury recordings submitted by entrants.

BBC DISC SERIES FOR LEN MARTEN

On January 4, comedian Len Marten will present the first of eight "Spinners" Top 10 record programmes at 12 noon (B.S.).

Modern Jazz Four Postpone Tour

New York, Wednesday.—The Modern Jazz Quartet has cancelled its 10-country European tour which was due to start in Paris this week.

Laurie pianist to form own group

Pianist-vocalist Ted Hamm, of the Cy Laurie Jazz Band, leaves the end of this month to form his own professional group, which will be known as Ted Hamm and his All-Stars.

Dollimore to stay with Geraldo

Pianist Ralph Dollimore has decided to stay with the Geraldo Orchestra.

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DUFFLE COATS

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MALTA TO LONDON

Drummer Sunny Loftus, well known in Malta's dance band world over the past few years, has arrived in London.

Piano change due at Cote d'Azur

Pianist Eddie Palmer leaves Derek Spanawick's Band, resident at the Cote d'Azur, shortly to freelance. His successor will be Arnold Main.

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Annette goes solo



Glamorous Annette Kluuger, who has sung with the Teddy Foster Orchestra for the past four and a half years, will in future appear as a solo artist—but still under Teddy's direction.

'House' orchestras get ultimatum GET MODERN, OR GET OUT!—BBC

THE MELODY MAKER understands from authoritative sources that the BBC has presented a bald ultimatum to several principals and many rank-and-file members of the Variety and Revue Orchestras.

Pulling up the Xmas Cheer



It was drinks on the house when former Carl Barricello pianist-arranger Bert Arnabile (second left) became a solo host... Denise Attable and Bill McGuire.

Scott-for-Armstrong may be next swap

It is now definite that Ted Heath's American tour will be with a package show including Nat King Cole, June Christy and the Four Freshmen.

almost 12,000 miles by air, arranging last-minute details for the Heath tour. The contract was finally signed late on Wednesday of last week.

BRITISH STARS FOR DENMARK



Four 'Royal' stars Anna Cohan, Ronnie Hilton and comedian Jimmy Edwards are among stars who will appear on party tonight (Friday) at Windsor Castle for the staff.

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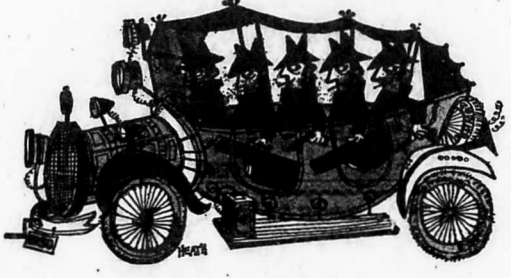
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GEORGE MITCHELL
The CHOIR
The GLEE CLUB

A Merry Christmas to All
from
NAT TEMPLE



This Jazz business is getting TOUGH!

I WONDER if you remember: "Drummer hit in face by beer glass during solo"? It was the startling headline which I reproduced recently from the *Barnsley Chronicle* of 9/3/55.

Blow me down, they've done it again! The muscular music men of Barnsley are once more in the news.

"Trouble between a singer and a drummer at a Barnsley public-house," I read in the *Yorkshire Evening News* for 24/11/55. "I led to the drummer having three stitches in a split lip and his upper teeth broken after the singer had butted him. It was stated at Barnsley today."

The report is rather rather startling, but with a little imagination one can fill in the dialogue.

"You will observe that last time it was beer glasses, this time, music. They take their music with great seriousness in the West Riding."

A dispute about who was to sing

But back to the *Yorkshire Evening News*...



says **STEVE RACE**

Do-as-you-would-be-done-by Corner

FROM the song copy of "He," with acknowledgments to Messrs. Feldman—"Though it makes him and to see the way we live. He'll always say 'I FORGIVE'... 'I FORGIVE'."

Chimney Corner

IN the true spirit of Christmas, the readers who decided that perhaps they'd write after all.

terested me... but then you have not a normal hand. As Turner spoke, his hand shot out, grabbed the little finger of Hissell's right hand, and bent it back at an angle of 45 degrees. "Aha," he laughed oddly, "that's how he managed to play... those diminished elevenths."

It must have been an "X" Certificate scene, the maddened D backing away to the far door, and charging at J across the length of the room. (Trump) Back again between the lines of cheering men and fainting women. (Trump) It makes one wonder what poor old J... was doing to protect himself, but the *Yorkshire Evening News* is unaccountably silent on that point. Perhaps he was trying to pack away his sin.

The news report takes up the story a few minutes later:—"Mr. Green said that later the pair shook hands and J... at D's suggestion, and had the police about the matter after the teeth."

Technical Corner

FROM a short story in a Dublin evening newspaper. "You did your best to make the murder look like the work of a rumpster. But you got by chance I arrived. I, too, am a musician and I did like composers who write diminished elevenths in great profusion. In fact, I may say you write Mr. Hissell could not be played by anyone with normal hands."

Automation is the big problem of the moment. But what will happen when it comes to musicians...?

DAN MORGAN and JOHN HYNAM
hazard a guess in—



SOLO ON THE MOON

DEAR Sir,—I know that it will come as a complete surprise to you to learn that there are people in the Union who would skin their grandmothers for half a credit.

I have been done, and I will tell the full story so that the Union can do something about it.

As you know, my china, John Hynam, and I are resident at Lunar Hotel, on Moon. You know the Moon—that dirty big thing in the sky which looks as though it ought to advertise something.

Don't get me wrong—I am not complaining about the rate for this job, even though it was probably worked out on the basis that, as Moon gravity was lower, we wouldn't need to eat so much. But we struggle along, what with the odd gig and tips from rich old buffers who ask for old-time tunes like "Mars Says, Pluto Says," or "Somebody Saturn The Doorstep."

It started when I got a video call from Frankie Ghoul on Earth. Frankie is a boy with connections through the known universe and he'd picked up a wedding date on Mars for the following Wednesday.



What! Two of them?



Wedding

Duplicator

I walked into John's room to tell him about it. He was sitting on the bed, trying over a few licks on his clarinet. He had him was the daddy of all black boxes, covered with dials, knobs and meters.

"Man! I groaned, 'you still smellin' happy? Bought another? Remember, we are still being docked for that crockery you broke in the Palm Court with that last six-dimensional sound!'"

"Listen to this one," he replied, and the tortured steel of the string gave out in agony. But I was listening to something else. There was the sound of running water from the bathroom. The Moon authorities are very touchy about water, as every drop has to be ferried from Earth. You've left the tap running. I yelled, "I yell, 'besides, 'No I haven't," said John's voice from the bathroom. "I'm gulped, and dashed over. I shut my head inside and there was John, shoving. I did a

John. Anyhow, I left the money on the top of your dressing-table in the hotel bedroom. I thought that this was a bit queer from you. And I wonder if he had run into the duplicate John back there at the hotel. But no—he couldn't have. I realized that he would have been bowled over to find that, well as being at the hotel, John was here in the sup.

We were off...

John looked at me pityingly. "There aren't any Union rules to cover this one," he replied. "But, in any case, you've still got it wrong. The Matter Duplicator just makes a 'carbon copy' out of artificially created a tom's, held together by a Googenberg's force field."

"In about 12 hours—more—the acid reaches a state of entropy in the second law of thermodynamics, and a negative field reaches a critical—and nuclear disintegration takes place."



quick double-take. The character on the bed was still tearing phrases out of his instrument. "Shading," I lowered myself into a chair. No more Venusian music for me. John walked to the bathroom door wiping lather from his face, and grinned down at me.

"Simmer down, son," he said. "You haven't overloaded your jets. This box is no more than a matter duplicator. Haven't you heard of the Matter Duplicator? I picked this one up cheap."

"He means I can't create, you see," said John. "A short life and a gay one, eh?"

"You don't have to keep on reminding me," said Dupe John moodily.

"So," I said, now really beginning to get the drift. "He can do anything his original can do, but only for a short space of time."

"Precisely," said John (the Matter Duplicator). "That's the idea. 'Think of a dup, you put in a Dupe—and you don't have to pay him either.'"

"Never mind. Dupe," said John. "The first. 'A short life and a gay one, eh?'"

"You don't have to keep on reminding me," said Dupe John moodily.

"So," I said, now really beginning to get the drift. "He can do anything his original can do, but only for a short space of time."

"This is the greatest thing since canned music—some 'cello got covered musicians! Look—I just stand on this plate in front of the Duplicator, turn these knobs here—and here—and switch on the power. And on the plate on the other side, there forms a perfect duplicate, right down to the last atom."

"Don't you see? If there are two of me, I can do twice as many jobs."

"The Union will never wear it," he cavilled, "and, besides, where's he going to eat and sleep? Somebody's bound to find out."

The ferry

BEFORE Frankie Ghoul and the rest of the boys came off the faster-than-light Moon ferry, the real John had got himself all ready to go. He and I checked through the airlock of the Mars ship and found our seats. Frankie Ghoul wasn't there, but he arrived a few minutes later, and he spoke to the real John.

"Man, those Martians really know how to put on a big-time wedding. On account of there being six different families involved, a variety of tastes have to be catered for, and there were three bands—two a local outfit, a small group from Venus, and ourselves—playing in three different halls."

Moreover, the set-up of Martian love-life makes for them to like music which allows them group activity, such as the Hickey Cokey and variations on the Falala Club.

"Boring? No—they also know all about hospitality. That local hooch, Shago, is the real gear, and within an hour John and I had worked ourselves into our Hot-Club-de-France mood, with all the good old good ones."

Continued on page 24

Wishing You All the Luck in the World—



JACK PAYNE

1951 16 bands
 1952 15 bands
 1953 14 bands
 1954 13 bands
 1955 12 bands
 1967 ?

WILL RADIO DANCE BANDS VANISH IN 1967?

There is a species of insect which, when attacked, turns on its back, throws up its legs and meekly allows itself to be devoured.

I am not going to say that this is how the present attitude of the BBC (Sound) appears to me. But—two weeks ago, the MM told us that the Midland commercial TV station opens up on Friday night, February 17, with the first of a weekly series from Joe Losa; and last week you read of Radio Luxembourg's brilliant and audacious plans. Right?

asks **Maurice Burman**

Well, apart from urging listeners to tune in to BBC TV, I can tell you, for a start, that it has done nothing so far about booking bands to combat Joe Losa on February 17. Why? Because the BBC still plans to book bands about a month in advance.

And there's the first big weakness. Top broadcasters are complaining to me that they have to turn down broadcasts because they are not informed to early enough and have had to accept other engagements to safeguard themselves financially.

The position, then, is that, as the best bands are booked up at least four or five months in advance, the BBC will not be able to get them—unless it changes its planning. Otherwise it will be forced to book

another good show dropped

But this need not happen. The Corporation should:

1. ENGAGE BANDS SIX MONTHS IN ADVANCE.
2. ENGAGE ALWAYS THE BEST BANDS.
3. INCREASE GREATLY THE ALLOCATION OF AIR-TIME.
4. BUILD UP EXISTING TALENT AND DISCOVER NEW BANDS.

BBC (Sound) is still in a very strong position, particularly the Light Programme. It can meet competition and fight back with ease—if only it goes about it the right way.

BRITISH JAZZ THE ZENITH SIX 1945-55. THIS band hailed from Manchester, and the broadcast came from there. I think it is a very good thing for producer Jimmy Grant and composer Bill Jones to get out into the provinces to seek out new talent. It's a great encouragement to local bands, and a healthy thing for the jazz movement generally.

The band's tentative must be up to a standard worthy of broadcasting. The Zenith Six did have a wonderful spirit, very hard and had elements of a good beat, but, unfortunately, the jazzing up the jazz, as it were, in a modern manner.

But three things held them back: technical limitations, particularly the trumpet, incorrect in solo.

maintain, however, that since the boys have got so far, then they can get a great deal further. The formula is personal practice, combined practice, and a good mixing up of the soul of all the best jazz records.

Other Provincial bands should take heart, improve and vie with one another to obtain the ability to broadcast. Jimmy Grant will be looking for them.

another good show dropped

Let's not be misled. The Zenith Six's performance in the present form, has been a great success. Not only that, it is proved by the fantastic fan mail received by the artists taking part: the BBC has said so officially.

Therefore, the programme sees the same treatment as previous BBC successes—it is dropped.

The BBC Festival of Dance Music was an unqualified success. What happened? The BBC cut the air-time allocated to dance music.

The Song's The Thing is, we know, due to return to the air in January. But there will be no bands in the studio this time. Though the singers will be present, they will not be performing, as in the past. Instead they will be playing a few of their own records. Discontinue the program.

Unfortunately, however, the BBC will not be offering serious competition to Radio Luxembourg—for, at the very same time (8 p.m.), the commercial station will also be putting out a programme of popular records.

There is ample evidence that The Song's The Thing in its present form, is winning listeners for the BBC. Why on earth drop it?

—Bill Badley

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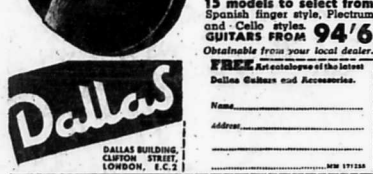
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CIGAR FOR THE GIANT THE PLAYED

GIANTS are like mountains—the nearer the bigger. When we are very close to them, we tend to over-estimate them. This is especially the case with pseudo-giants, artificially inflated and mounted on thick crepe soles. For the true assessment of giantry, it is necessary to break free from their immediate encirclement and enchantment and to survey the panorama beyond.

Not that Earl Hines belongs to the past. Merely, he is still with us and very much a part of the jazz scene, but the impact and powerful influence of the piano style he created were of an importance hardly to be appreciated by the new audience jazz has attracted during the past few years.



Fatha Christmas

The music Earl recorded in the late twenties is artistically durable and therefore still valid and potent today. For originality, swing, continuity, tension and the communicative excellence of his playing, he has done better since, and only those who hold an ax to grind in automatic progress will find anything extraordinary in that.

The greatest achievements in art are not necessarily being made here and now.

Born near Pittsburgh in 1905, Earl's ambition at the age of nine was to be a trumpeter, which his father played, but his mother, a pianist, switched him over for several years of private tuition on her instrument. His proficiency was such that he was invited to play concerts at small halls and schools, his reward often consisting of ten dollars and a box of handkerchiefs.

"It didn't look like a hell of a career," he recalls, and so at 16 he cut out. He entered the more remunerative field of jazz, and around Pittsburgh, where he is now, he made his name.

Four years of professional activity followed.

TRUMPET THE PIANO

The magnificent Columbia LP issued earlier this year was from 40 weeks on the Hit Parade circuit with the Carroll Dickerson band. It was the first time that this album had been the only one made by the "Fatha," while lesser pianists appear to have been permanently encamped in the recording studios.

Any musician who worked through the production in Chicago was thoroughly conditioned to the vicissitudes of life. It is reflected in the tough, direct, unemotional, firm-fingered drive of Earl's piano, which, with Armstrong's horn, provides the very quintessence of hot jazz.

Seated at the piano, inevitable clear in mouth, broad-shouldered, confident, quietly dressed, the composer of "Rosetta." "You Can Depend On A Monday Date." "When I Dream Of You" and "Blues In Third," is indisputably a Giant of Jazz.

dedicated jazzman. It is the fact that his professed ambitions so often run in a contrary direction. He owned the El Grotto Club for a time, organised an orchestra with strings and jazz musicians, and expressed interest in presentations of the Waring and Whiteman variety.

But music, after all, is his means of livelihood, and there have been several periods in his career when the public would listening to the kind for which he has so great a gift.

Since 1948, when he dissolved his last big band, Earl has played as a soloist or with small groups, including Armstrong's All Stars. His many pre-1948 recordings are going as has not been so good. A new 10" LP set is issued in the New Year features him in an almost B-and-B setting, his playing with his customary drive and vitality.

EARL HINES LP AND EP RECORDINGS:
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The Hines flair

Hines began his career as a band leader in 1928, when he opened an engagement at the Grand Terrace, Chicago, which lasted a dozen years. An extraordinary flair for talent resulted in his group always containing great musicians who had potential stars. Among those he employed, usually before they became famous, were Jimmy Young, Orm Simon, Darnell Howard, Alvin Burroughs, Wally Carter, Budd Johnson, Wiley Gillespie, Charlie Parker, Benny Green and Wardell Gray.

He had an uncanny ear for vocalists, too. His discoveries included Herb Jeffries, Valaida Snow, Herb Anderson, Sarah Vaughan, Billy Eckstine, the Palmer Brothers and Johnny Hartman—and Helen Merrill made her first records with him.

It was at the Grand Terrace that he announced the formation of "Fatha's" tag. It was so fitting. His fame had spread and, since 1928, the whole development of piano jazz had come under his influence.

Perhaps, because the Chicago scene receives so much less attention than that of New York, the importance of the Grand Terrace phase has always been underestimated outside America.

A challenge

The records of 1930-41 particularly too few of which have been issued in Europe, show a band that included those of the Big Four—Duke, Fletcher, Lunceford and Basie. The group had become even more audacious and fantastic. He played with a brilliantly conceived trumpet line in the right hand and their effect, sparkling against his own section work, was very attractive. The superbly constructed solos were increasingly complex and rich; the full ensemble charts showed undiminished imagination and the runs and riffs were in their accuracy. The famous record from this period is his "Boogie Woogie in C, G and Blues," but others—like "Piano Man," "Tantalus and a Cuban" and the unusual "Child of A Discorder Blues"—are no less notable performances.

What is held in one whose music cannot invariably suggest

The Best records



edited by MAX JONES
and
BILL TRAILL

IT is once more time to convey our best wishes for the coming holiday, and to thank readers who have sent letters, articles, photographs and so on during the past year.

As usual, in this Christmas number, we want to indicate some outstanding releases of the previous 12 months. They have been so numerous that the best we can do is list as many personal choices as space allows. We apologise in advance for the omissions, and to

those still resisting slow-play, for the absence of standard-play discs. But a good big record does seem more attractive than a good little one; and I make a better present. Here are some 1955 highlights in varied styles—but excluding the very modern.

Count Basie and Bill Coleman

(Concluded)

The outbreak of war found Bill Coleman away from home—home by this time having switched from Paris, Kentucky, to Paris, France.



BILL COLEMAN—of the "Mallets"

Bill Coleman, already well-travelled, had seen a lot of Europe in the past seven years. He'd played in Switzerland, Holland, Germany, and Denmark, made two tours of France and a short one in North Africa.

money than could be earned in America. But he felt contented. And when you consider your health improves, you lose some easier and you play well. If you have a choice, you take it.

In America, Coleman had gone to Egypt in 1938. He intended returning to Paris when the Egyptian job—or his enthusiasm for it—ran out.

But Paris is once more his home (he lives in the rue de Seine). Asked when he was thinking of going back to the States, his reply was: "I'm not thinking about it right now, unless I do like last year, when I took my wife over for a couple of months—it was her first visit."

Why does Coleman prefer playing in France? His principal reason was that existence "is sort of easygoing; it's not always necessary to rush around like in Europe. Take Louis; this is the third time I've heard of him in mean separate trips—since I've been back in France."

Louis has been the greatest single influence in jazz on any instrument. He's more than a trumpet player; he's a feeling. When I was a boy in Cincinnati, I moved there as a kid, and I had to buy his records (and some of Bill's) and study them.



... to the aid of the party

Every day of the year there are good reasons for owning a Grundig, and the Christmas Party is one of the best of good reasons.

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It's a good thing to have a Grundig in on a session. But we were talking about parties; Christmas parties. You might like to know that a Grundig plays "Charades" like a professional. Turns "Consequences" into top-line entertainment. Plus music for singing, music for dancing and music for listening.

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Profitable

Led from the piano, and including John-Pierre Besson (electric guitar) and Michel (electric piano) a powerful player, Coleman's music and provides the like of which would be hard to find in Britain.



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—Max Jones



THE star lay in bed, hardly able to move, suffering intense pain. Family Favourites was being relayed over the hospital P-A system—and somebody had asked for Tchaikovsky's "Romeo and Juliet" Overture (Decma LP LXT2531), by the London Philharmonic Orchestra.

The star had been seriously ill for some weeks. She had been in the London Clinic with an obscure complaint; she improved; she was discharged; she fell ill once more—and now she was in King's College Hospital.



Lita Ross

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Highbrows

David Whitfield, too, went all highbrow on me when I continued my search for the records the stars themselves most wanted to possess this Christmas. "If I really had the time," he said, "I'd sit back and listen. I would buy every record available by Richard Tauber. I think he's great."

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- ★ EDDIE THOMPSON
- ★ BRUCE TURNER
- ★ JIMMY SKIDMORE
- ★ MARTIN SLAVIN

On the AS

Speaking from Edinburgh, Dickie Valentine told me, "I already have most of the records I like. But wait—I did hear one last week in May's transport cafe on the AS road, when I was driving back to London for a Luxembourg session. It was a brand new Sinatra record for 'Same Old Saturday Night' (Capitol LSC107), and number one in that category, for me, would be 'Sinatra Sings In The Wee Small Hours' (LPs from CLP1067) and Krimmer (Philips BBL1023) will be next and—oh, yes—I would have to buy a Nat King Cole LP (Capitol LSC107) with my wife Anne. Why? The fellow is her favourite singer or unwise to say."

But if I had to choose one record—would it be 'Billie Holiday Sings' (Brunswick 0284). He's still my favourite singer and the song is so absorbing, isn't it?"

"Records that will last for a long time would be my choice," said Dickie. "I'd like to see the complete 'Sinatra Sings In The Wee Small Hours' LPs from CLP1067 and Krimmer (Philips BBL1023) will be next and—oh, yes—I would have to buy a Nat King Cole LP (Capitol LSC107) with my wife Anne. Why? The fellow is her favourite singer or unwise to say."

Ever Howell's choice was again somewhat unusual. "I'd like to see 'Back Home in South Africa' she said. "Billie Holiday's 'I'm a Fool to Think of a Kiss Again' is obviously the classic on this, I obviously

Continued on page 8

Alma's choice

Those big, dark eyes flashed, that warm, friendly smile spread over Alma Cozart's face as she promptly answered: "My Christmas records? Well, I've got 'Yellow Rose of Texas.' I've never listened so much for years as I did when I first heard this. (To be issued here in January.)"

These modern girls do know their minds. More flashing eyes, another warm reception—and Barbara Lyon talking. "I must have Lita's 'I'm a Fool to Think of a Kiss Again' LP (Philips BBL1023)."

What else would he like? As many Tatum and Goodman records as he can lay his hands on.

Frankie Vaughan, and I would be more than happy with a roaring fire.

When I asked the 66-dollar question, Sally answered for him. "He's had it already," she said. "He was pretty poorly yesterday, so I went straight out and bought him the latest LP by Art Tatum: 'The Genius of Art Tatum' (Columbia-CL 343C1029). Now he's driving me mad. He just plays it over and over again."

When I contacted Jimmy Young, he, too, was sick. He should have been enjoying a brief holiday at Madrid and Malaga. Instead, his wife, Sally Douglas, was nursing him through a bad dose of flu, which had almost been pneumonia.

When I contacted Jimmy Young, he, too, was sick. He should have been enjoying a brief holiday at Madrid and Malaga. Instead, his wife, Sally Douglas, was nursing him through a bad dose of flu, which had almost been pneumonia.

COLLECTORS' CORNER

The Best Records



edited by MAX JONES
SINGLAIN TRAILL

convey our best holiday, and letters, articles, the past year. number, we want release of the have been so and is list as allows, and to

Some still resisting slow-play, for the absence of standard-play discs. But a good high record does seem more attractive than a good low one; and it makes a better present. Here are some 1955 highlights in varied styles—but excluding the very modern.

LPs:—Count Basie band, "Dance Session" (Col. 332X10007); "Louis Armstrong Plays W. C. Handy" (Philips BBL7032); "Dicky Wells In Paris" (HMV CLP1954); Earl Hines, "Piano Moods" (Col. 3331083); "Kid Ory's Creole Jazz Band, 1934" (Good King Jazz LA C12004); King Oliver band, "King Joe" (Col. 3331085).

78s:—Louis Armstrong Hot Five, "Rendezvous At The Sunset Café" (Col. 3331058); Johnny Dodds, wash-board band and trio (HMV DLP1971); Duke Ellington Sextet, "New Orleans Jazz" (HMV DLP1972); Duke Ellington Sextet, "Duke Ellington Sextet" (HMV DLP1973); Duke Ellington Sextet, "New Orleans Jazz" (HMV DLP1974); Duke Ellington Sextet, "New Orleans Jazz" (HMV DLP1975); Duke Ellington Sextet, "New Orleans Jazz" (HMV DLP1976); Duke Ellington Sextet, "New Orleans Jazz" (HMV DLP1977); Duke Ellington Sextet, "New Orleans Jazz" (HMV DLP1978); Duke Ellington Sextet, "New Orleans Jazz" (HMV DLP1979); Duke Ellington Sextet, "New Orleans Jazz" (HMV DLP1980); Duke Ellington Sextet, "New Orleans Jazz" (HMV DLP1981); Duke Ellington Sextet, "New Orleans Jazz" (HMV DLP1982); Duke Ellington Sextet, "New Orleans Jazz" (HMV DLP1983); Duke Ellington Sextet, "New Orleans Jazz" (HMV DLP1984); Duke Ellington Sextet, "New Orleans Jazz" (HMV DLP1985); Duke Ellington Sextet, "New Orleans Jazz" (HMV DLP1986); Duke Ellington Sextet, "New Orleans Jazz" (HMV DLP1987); Duke Ellington Sextet, "New Orleans Jazz" (HMV DLP1988); Duke Ellington Sextet, "New Orleans Jazz" (HMV DLP1989); Duke Ellington Sextet, "New Orleans Jazz" (HMV DLP1990); Duke Ellington Sextet, "New Orleans Jazz" (HMV DLP1991); Duke Ellington Sextet, "New Orleans Jazz" (HMV DLP1992); Duke Ellington Sextet, "New Orleans Jazz" (HMV DLP1993); Duke Ellington Sextet, "New Orleans Jazz" (HMV DLP1994); Duke Ellington Sextet, "New Orleans Jazz" (HMV DLP1995); Duke Ellington Sextet, "New Orleans Jazz" (HMV DLP1996); Duke Ellington Sextet, "New Orleans Jazz" (HMV DLP1997); Duke Ellington Sextet, "New Orleans Jazz" (HMV DLP1998); Duke Ellington Sextet, "New Orleans Jazz" (HMV DLP1999); Duke Ellington Sextet, "New Orleans Jazz" (HMV DLP2000).

Bill Coleman (Concluded)

money than could be earned in America. But he felt contented. "And when you content your health improves. Ideas come easier and your work goes better. You don't get any more worried, you don't get any more excited." He said that Coleman believed his playing was appreciated more in France than in America. He said that Coleman had an appreciative feeling among the fans here which encouraged the musician to play. Jazz is highly regarded; you find people who are very interested in it. He has experience to reinforce this conclusion, for it was the Paris-made recordings of the 1930s which were his recordings in Europe.

In France

But Paris is once more his home (he lives in the rue de Seine). Asked when he was thinking of going back to the States, his reply was: "I'm not thinking about it right now. I look my wife over for a couple of months—it was her first visit. I expect to settle here in Paris when she comes back. I don't think I'd go home at all." He said that Coleman preferred living in Paris because of the climate, the life, the music, and the people. He said that Coleman was a very happy man and that he was very contented with his life in Paris.

About Louis

"I don't know, of course," he said. "Louis is a great musician and a great man. I studied Louis to learn technique and construction, to try and pick up that feeling. You know just to hear that tone gives you something. His tone, it's not just volume, it's bigness and depth." He said that Coleman was a very happy man and that he was very contented with his life in Paris.

Profitable

Led from the piano, and including Jean-Pierre Sasson (electric guitar) and Michel de Villiers (fluent bassoon player), it plays a powerful jumping kind of music and provides Coleman with powerful support. He said that Coleman was a very happy man and that he was very contented with his life in Paris.

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Platter Chatter

THE star lay in bed, hardly able to move, suffering intense pain. **Family Paourities** was being relayed over the hospital P-A system—and somebody had asked for Tchaikovsky's "Romeo and Juliet"—Overture (Decca LP LXT72531), by the London Philharmonic Orchestra.

The star had been seriously ill for some weeks. She had been in the London Clinic with an obscure complaint; she improved; she was discharged; she fell ill once more—and now she was in King's College Hospital.

by the Stars themselves

The star—her name is Lita Roza—was telling me, in answer to a question, what records she would like for Christmas. "Romeo and Juliet" was her first choice. I asked for another, and she said: "I'd like 'The Star-Spangled Banner'." When I told you a secret, I've actually ordered each of these discs.

Highbrows

David Whitfield, too, went all highbrow on me when I continued my search for the records the stars themselves most wanted to possess this Christmas. If I really had the time, he said, to sit back and listen, I would buy every record available by Richard Tauber. I think he's great.

Alma's choice

Those big, dark eyes flashed, that warm, friendly smile spread over Alma Lopez's face as she promptly answered "Mr. Christmas record?" Stan Freberg's "Yellow Rose of Texas." I've never laughed so much for years as I did when I first heard this. (To be issued here in January.) "But I've already bought one over and over again at Christmas. It's 'The Blue Bird'—Alma Lopez (Brunswick LAR798). It's so easy to listen to and so very wonderful—and several have bought it as a simple piano accompaniment. It's just wonderful." These modern girls do know their music. More flashes, more smiles. Another warm reception—and it's Barbara Lyon talking, "I must be that girl." "I'm going to play anything else, and for Christmas I simply must buy the Pete Kelly's Blues LP (Philips BBL7050)." I love the numbers from this great film, and this recording has the best of both worlds, in the music of Ray Heindorf's big orchestra and Lita Stetter's small group. If I could also have Ray Martin's "Let's Somersault," LP (Columbia 3331072) recorded by the original New York Company, I'd just die!

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- ★ CHRIS BARBER
- ★ CONN BERNARD
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Continued on page 8

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Dickie Valentine
Lita Roza

Merry Christmas

I hope you enjoy your PARTY with

CHERIE-LAMOUR



KITZA KAZACOS

22 singing stars for Christmas

IF you're interested in finding out exactly how many records of "That's My Desire" Frankie Laine finally did sell, how Alma Cogan got her first name, who put Frankie Vaughan on the road to fame, why fans seldom recognise Max Bygraves in the street, or where there was a lawsuit over "Nature Boy," there's a book published this week which is tailored for your needs.

Stars Of The Record, by Rutherford Rau (Edon Press, 5s.), contains facts, figures and biographies of 22 of the most popular stars on record today, coupled with stories and anecdotes—and a wealth of illustration.



GUY MITCHELL BELIEVES IN TAKING IT EASY OFF-STAGE. THIS TIME THE MAN GAMERMAN CAUGHT HIM. GUY IS ONE OF THE 22 STARS PROFILED IN "STARS OF THE RECORD," A NEW BOOK REVIEWED BY PETER LESLIE.

One of two inaccuracies obtrude. The voice of that "three-quarters Blackfoot" Indian, Johnnie Ray, may be "raucous"—but it is very seldom "gravelly" as the author states. Ray is especially esteemed in the profession for his musicianship. Again, I would hardly describe "Come On-A My Home" as an "American-American calypso."

The writing is gingerly skirts two pitfalls awaiting the authors of articles on family favourites: the breathless "I'm so wonderful!" and the over-enthusiasm of the fan, and the slicker panegyric of the pressman. At times, it approaches trifles too near one or the other, there is always the saving grace that Rutherford Rau is not afraid to say when his stars are "cold" or temperamental. And he gives credit to jazz where it is due.

PLATTER CHATTER from page 7

couldn't bring them all to England—they would be far too heavy. But now that so many are available on LP, I would like to rectify that.

Like Liza Ross, her first choice for "over the top" was "The Christmas Dinner" by Sinatra's "We Small Hours" and "Jackie Gleason's "Music, Martins and Memories" (Columbia LCT6007).

—Jerry Dawson

MANTOVANI String along with me and Enjoy A Happy Christmas

Christmas Greetings to All my Friends Thank you for all your support. See you in 1956! RONNIE HARRIS

Christmas Greetings and Best Wishes MARIE BENSON

Sincere Greetings from GEORGE BIRCH AND HIS RHYTHM with JOAN ANDERSON

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year TITO BURNS AGENCY

PANTO TIME

BACK-STAGE



Left: BILLY COTTON. Right: VIOLET FLOWMAN.



JOAN REGAN—in Cinderella at Liverpool

FROM Belfast to Brighton, from Edinburgh to Worthing, singing stars, musical acts and others closely associated with the world of popular song are this week in the middle of intensive rehearsal for that (to the foreigner) least understandable of Britain's pleasures, Pantomime.

Whittington on ice

A CHRISTMAS "must" for children—adults, too, for that matter—is Claude Langdon's Dick Whittington

On ice at London's Empress Hall.

For colourful and extravagant costumes, costly production numbers and scintillating skating

On the North-East coast, at Newcastle, there will be intense competition between the Beverley Sisters at the Empire, and Dickie Valentine at the Theatre Royal.

The Bees are in Cinderella, while Dickie, in addition to singing, will play White-Washie in yet another version of Auldin.

For colourful and extravagant costumes, costly production numbers and scintillating skating

Adelaide Hall (Bournemouth Pavilion) will appear in other Productions of the same panto. Jack and Jill, at Bath Theatre Royal, will have Violet Flowman, and the other Jack, with his fabulous Bearskin, will be supported by Sunny Farrar and Barbara Sumner at Croydon Grand.

David Whitefield at Wolverhampton Grand in Auldin. This year, he is back in the Midlands to play Dandin in Cinderella, at the Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham.

Alma Cogan will appear at Chiswick Empire, where she will share the bill with Dave King. She will present her solo act only. She will not take part in the panto.



THE BEVERLY SISTERS—JOY AND THE TWINS.—in Cinderella at Newcastle Empire



TEDDY JOHNSON AND PEARL CARR.—more Cinderella stars—this time at Birmingham

JERRY DAWSON



Popular songs Popular songs featured in the panto include "Every Day Of My Life," "I Saw A Pudding Tree," "Having A Wonderful Time" and "The Laughing Samba."

A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to Everyone DAVID WHITEFIELD

22 singing stars for Christmas

IF you're interested in finding out exactly how many records of "That's My Desire" Frankie Laine finally did sell, how Alma Cogan got her first name, who put Frankie Vaughan on the road to fame, why fans seldom recognise Max Bygraves in the street, or where there was a lawsuit over "Nature Boy," there's a book published this week which is tailored for your needs.

Stars Of The Record, by Rutherford Rau (Eldon Press, 5s.), contains facts, figures and biographies of 22 of the most popular stars on record today, coupled with stories and anecdotes—and a wealth of illustration.

Counting the covers of a number of end-papers (as the publisher does), there are 96 pages in *Stars Of The Record*, and on them are 131 black and white photographs and 10 are whole-page colour pictures. The standard of illustration is high, many of the pictures being "made in the camera" and personal album stuff out of the normal run of publications.

There are a number of public domain chestnuts in the text, the drunk in the club who insisted on playing "Sweet Lorraine" and turned him into a singing star. The one about Dennis Lotis, having to get out of a room from a local magistrate before he could kiss any of his fans in his act, the one about the ranch Johnnie Ray bought for his parents.

But there is a deal of less well-known material, some amusing stories and some interesting figures on performing fees and record sales saluted through Mr. Rau's informative book.

The writing itself gingerly brushes two vital areas: the authors of articles on family favourites are breathing "Isn't she wonderful?" enthusiasm of the fan, and the handout, parody of the Press handout, at times, it approaches a trifle too near one of the other, there is always the saving grace that Rutherford Rau is not afraid to say when his stars are "sullen" or "temperamental." And it gives credit to jazz where it is due.

PLATTER CHATTER from page 7 couldn't bring them all to England—they would be far too heavy. But now that so many are available on LP, it would be a waste to restrict.

Julia Ross, her first choice is "Chalkovskiy's" "Romero and Incidence," a remarkable orchestral piece. Also, want the Sibelius No. 2 Symphony by the London Symphony Orchestra (Decca LX12915), Bartok's "Concerto for Orchestra" by the Philadelphia Orchestra (Columbia 3851105), and Rimsky-Korsakov's Scheherazade (Decca LX12916).

But these aren't my choices for cosy listening after a big Christmas dinner. Sinatra's "Wee Wee" (Capitol), and Decca's "Music, Martini and Memories" (Capitol, LX12907) are my final contact was with Bonnie Hilton.

My own choice? he said, "Dorothy Perry" (HMV DL1026) and any LP by Eddie Fane (Decca). For purely Christmas listening with atmosphere, give Ruby Murray's "Very First Christmas" (Columbia DB368) and Doris Day's "Old St. Nicholas" (Phillips PB52).

For my six-year-old daughter would buy sound-track recordings from Lady's Record (Brunswick LA871).

—Jerry Dawson
*Laurie Meehan, who normally reviews our "pop" records, is unfortunately indisposed.

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All my Friends

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MARRIS

1956!

Greetings

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PANTO TIME

BACK-STAGE



Left: BILLY COTTON. Right: VIOLET PLOWMAN.



JOAN REGAN — in Cinderella at Liverpool

Whittington on ice

A CHRISTMAS "must" for children—adults, too, for that matter—is Claude Langdon's *Dick Whittington On Ice at London's Empress*.

For colourful and extravagant costumes, costly production numbers and scintillating skating, it is a gem. The *Beaver* are in *Cinderella*, while *Pickie*, in addition to singing, will play *Violet PLOWMAN*, and the other Jack, with his *Joan Regan* and the *Radio* *Joan Regan* and *Sonnie Hale*, *Barbara Sumner* at *Croydon* *Hall*.

Dick Whittington has everything a good ice panto should have—and more. For over two hours spectators are treated to wonderful displays of precision skating, acrobatics, leger ball and comedy.

American James Blair and Katy Steel, cast respectively *Whittington* and *Alice Fitzwarren*, are as perfect a pair of skaters as one could wish to see.

Special mention must be made of the musical accompaniment by Bobby Howell and his Empress Hall Orchestra and Choir. The band is called upon to play swing, dance, Latin-American, classical and ballet music, which at all times sounds excellent.

A high-spot of the evening is the way the *Howell* Orchestra plays part of "Swan Lake," as accompaniment to the Corps de Ballet.

Popular songs featured in the panto include "Every Day of My Life," "I Taut I Taw Pudding," "Having A Wonderful Time" and "The Laughing Samba."

This show, with perhaps fewer star names than is usual with ice pantos, should prove every bit as successful as its more star-studded contemporaries.—Dick Hall.



Adelaide Hall (Boarncmouth Pavilion) will appear in other productions of the same panto.

Patrons at Liverpool Empire, while *Jeannette Landis* *Monica* *Verlhampton* *Grand*, *Jimmy*



THE BEVERLEY SISTERS—JOY AND THE TWINS — in Cinderella at Newcastle Empire.



TEDDY JOHNSON AND PEARL CARR. — in Cinderella stars—this time at Birmingham.

A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to Everyone

DAVID WHITEFIELD



Young will not be called upon to play a part, but will offer an *Isouline* singing act in *Robinson Crusoe*.

Eve Howell, who made her panto debut at Dudley last year, will play *Colin* in *Mother Goose*, at the Coventry Theatre, where *Sally Barnes* will also appear. This year, *Good* *Hippodrome*, *Beryl Reid* is the chief attraction in *Goods Two Shoes*.

Last year, *Teddy Johnson* deputised for four weeks for *David Whitefield* at *Wolverhampton* *Grand* in *Aladdin*. This year, he is back in the Midlands to play "Dandini" in *Cinderella*, at the *Alexandra Theatre*, Birmingham.

Alma Cogan will appear at *Chiswick* *Empire*, where *André* *David King* will be the Yuletide feature, but will present her solo act, only. She will not take part in the panto.

Finsbury *Park* *Empire*, pantomime in the strict sense will not be on offer until after Christmas, but when *Billy Cotton's* *Christmas* opens there on December 28 there will most certainly be no shortage of laughs.

—JERRY DAWSON

Christmas Greetings and A Happy New Year

- Humphrey LYTTTELTON and his Band
- VIC ASH
- Ken COLYER'S Jazzmen
- Kenny GRAHAM & his Afro-Cubists
- Chris BARBER'S Jazz Band
- DILL JONES
- Sandy BROWN'S Jazz Band
- The MERSESSIPPI Jazz Band
- MIKE MCKENZIE and the
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ED. W. JONES
Forthcoming Sunday Concert presentations

ODEON - ROMFORD
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18th, 5.30 & 8 p.m.
STARGAZERS - BETTY MILLER - WALLY DUNN
with the **JACK PARNELL BAND SHOW**
3/- to 6/- — NOM 300

DAVIS THEATRE - CROYDON
SUNDAY, JANUARY 1st, 6 & 8.30 p.m.
THE TED HEATH BAND SHOW
with the **STARGAZERS - EDDIE ARNOLD**
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TROCADERO - ELEPHANT & CASTLE
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MAX WALL - RONNIE HILTON - BETTY MILLER
RON PARRY with the **SID PHILLIPS BAND SHOW**
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GAUMONT STATE - KILBURN
SUNDAY, JANUARY 1st, 6 & 8.30 p.m.
FRANKIE VAUGHAN - TERRY SCOTT
BILL MAYNARD - HEDLEY WARD TRIO
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3/- to 6/- — MAI 6081

ODEON - BARKING
SUNDAY, JANUARY 1st, 5.30 & 8 p.m.
JIMMY YOUNG - DAVE KING
with the
KEN MACKINTOSH BAND SHOW
3/- to 6/- — RIP 2900

ATTENTION ALL JAZZ FANS
Every Sunday is Jazz Night for the
LYCEUM SUNDAY CLUB MEMBERS with
OSCAR RABIN & HIS BAND
and weekly Guest Artists


This Sunday, December 18th, the Guest is
Famous Tenor Saxophone Player
TOMMY WHITTLE

JEFF KRUGER presents
ALL-NITE XMAS JAZZ PARTY
at the **FLORIDA CLUB**
(Cafe Anglia, Leicester Square, W.1)
XMAS NIGHT (Sunday) NON-STOP DANCING
8.30 - DAWN MEMBERS 10/- GUESTS 12/-
TICKETS AVAILABLE AT FLAMINGO & FRIDA CLUBS
BUFFET REFRESHMENTS ALL NIGHT
★ CROMBIE ★ SCOTT ★ DEUCHAR ★ HAYES
★ BUSH ★ REECE ★ SEAMAN ★ WRAY ★ ETC.

JOHNNY DANKWORTH CLUB
presents a
GREAT ALL-STAR CHRISTMAS SESSION
with THE HALL
JOHNNY DANKWORTH ORCHESTRA
(17 Musicians plus ALL-STAR RESIDENT GROUP)
SPECIAL PRICES: Members 4/-, Non-Members 5/-
MONDAY NEXT, DECEMBER 19, 7.30 to 11 p.m.
● Smoother MAPLETON RESTAURANT, 39 Coventry Street, Piccadilly ●

WIMBLEDON PALAIS
S.W.19 Presents Liberty 8242/3
London's Finest Holiday Entertainment
SAT. 24th DECEMBER SAT. 31st DECEMBER
XMAS EVE GALA NEW YEAR'S EVE
CARNIVAL BALL
7.15 in advance 6/6 7.30-11.45 8/6 in advance 7/6 7.30-11 midnt.
DON SMITH & HIS ORCHESTRA
BOXING DAY, MONDAY, 26th DECEMBER
TED HEATH & HIS MUSIC
TICKETS 6/- AVAILABLE NOW 7.30-11.45 p.m.

CORNERMEN - 7
DAVE LEE, 19th his formative years as a jazz pianist in South Africa, where he received nationwide recognition for his work in the jazz field. Upon returning to his native South Africa, he evolved an original, personal style which allowed him to play the shortening of his fingers. Following a period of natural desire to go where the standard is higher, he abandoned a lucrative living playing commercial in the USA and came to England early this year with little to show but the will to play jazz. His talents were soon acquired by a handiwork with a constant eye for the best jazz talent, and he is now a much respected member of the winning **JOHNNY DANKWORTH ORCHESTRA**.



Show Talk

THERE have been harsh words spoken in recent issues of the MM on the subject of British drummers. Without submerging myself in the controversy about the presence—or absence—of beat among these jazzmen, may I respectfully implore them to visit *High Life To Alto* Pen in London's tiny Irving Theatre, to learn something about syncope? For, on the microscopic stage there, they will hear (as the saying is) something greatly to their advantage: groups of both African and West Indian percussionists—p f l n g superbly complicated beats on hand drums.

Oil Drums
High Life To Alto Pen is the first of the sub-coloured reviews to be put on at the Irving by our editor, Eric Combs. "High Life" in question is performed by Ambrose, the well-known West African Rhythm Brothers; the *Alto* Pen played in the Savoy Gardens steel band. The review as a whole lacks pace, and its humorous recitations are somewhat amateurish in conception. But the music is a most enjoyable accompaniment to the review. The review is by the "Sisters"—Dessie Afrigue, the percussionist; and the review is by the "Brothers"; two excellent cymbalists. The review is by the "Prescotts"; singing of "Call Up the Band"—all these are first class. When the Caribbeans turn to their oil-drums, however, the steel band overtones and harmonies prove too much for the acoustics of such a pitifully small auditorium. Edward Armstrong walks forward modestly to sing—and, surprisingly, one of the most beautiful tenor voices I have heard for years soars from his mouth in pure Bel Canto. A well-known jazz pianist, Freddie Marshall and Lucie Greenall (both of jazz jazz fame, who were sitting behind me, on their feet shouting for more.

Stick fight
The revue also includes a "Shango" that does not come off as a neat stick fight, but a type indulged in by the natives of the Trinidad bands; and more stimulating African and West Indian music. Before the revue, Connor is presenting about the play *Junction Village*, a novel West Indian comedy which brings into focus the changing process of modern and traditional ways of life in an island rural community. Some of the cast are genuine; few of them can hide their non-professional status. But there is a gem of a performance from actor John Harrison (who bears a strong resemblance to Edmond Hall), as an elderly idiot who cannot forget the rick-belly days of his youth. *Junction Village* moves terribly slowly, and the direction needs tightening a lot. But it is an authentic folk comedy, and in parts, very funny.

—Peter Leslie
Season's Greetings from the **CHRIS BARBER JAZZ BAND** WITH **OTILLIE PATTERSON** Watch for details of the **CHRIS BARBER CLUB** Announcement Soon!
★ JAZZ TODAY RECORDS & LYN DUTTON AGENCY
SEASON'S GREETINGS to all his Friends in the Business from **PHIL MOSS** 80a, Balfour, Manchester



Happy Holidays from
The DEEP RIVER BOYS
Direction: ED. KIRKEBY-FOSTER'S AGENCY

Wishing You All
A Very Merry Christmas
RON GOODWIN

Season's Greetings from the
WINSTON LEE QUINTET
REX DENBY - KEN BILLAM - JACK WARD - LEN HARMSTON
Grand Hotel, Sheffield

A Happy Christmas and
A Prosperous New Year to Everyone
GARY MILLER

NATIONAL JAZZ FEDERATION
The National Jazz Federation extends the Compliments of the Season to its Members and to all Jazz lovers, and wishes everyone
A Merry Christmas
from Harold Pendleton - Desmond Kayton - John DeCourcey - Barbara Coombs - Jennifer Sharpley - Anne Kennedy-Wilson
ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL
MAIN AUDITORIUM
This Saturday, 17th December at 7.30 p.m.

HUMPHREY LYTTLETON JAZZ SHOW
All Tickets sold. Standing available on the day of the Concert only 3/6
Saturday, 18th February
"JAZZ SCENE - 1956"
5.30 p.m. 'TRADITIONAL JAZZ'
6.30 p.m. 'MODERN JAZZ'
Watch for further announcements!
RECITAL ROOM
"JAZZ TODAY - No. 5"
Tuesday, 20th December at 7.45 p.m.
KEITH CHRISTIE • DILL JONES • BRUCE TURNER
JIMMY SKIDMORE • JOE TEMPERLEY • COLERIDGE GOODE • KEN SYKORA • EDDIE TAYLOR
TICKETS: 4/-, 5/-, 6/-, 7/-, 2/6 (reserved) now available from BFM Box Office (Unit 293), 411 Central Office (The Royal Courts), 100 Chancery Lane, W.C.2 (FEN 861), and usual agents. S.A.L. with postal applications, please.

He hung-up on Sinatra



SINATRA —he phoned twice.

CHRISTMAS VISITOR



EIGHTEEN-YEAR-OLD Vito Farinola had been taking singing lessons for two years—and he was rising faster than he knew. He—a mere usher at New York's Paramount Theatre—was taking the famous Perry Como up in the lift when they stopped suddenly. Taking his finger off the emergency button and gulping back his fears, Farinola addressed the startled Como urgently. "Listen, Mr. Como, I want you to hear me sing. I've been studying—but I'd like to know if I'm wasting my time." Como cut short the spate of words by agreeing.

FILMS and TV

BING CROSBY and Frank Sinatra have been signed to star in the Sol Siegel production, *High Society*, to be made at the MGM studios. This will be the first film they have shared. Crosby and Sinatra—both Academy Award winners (Bing for *Going My Way* and Frankie for *From Here to Eternity*) will be joined by another Oscar owner, Grace Kelly. Louis Armstrong will also be in the film. For Sinatra, this is another step forward. His performance in MGM's *The Tender Trap*—soon to hit British screens—has already been talked about as being as good as any he has ever done. And *Guy and Dolls*, in which he appears with Marlon Brando, Jean Simmons and Vivian Blaine, is on its way.

LIBERACE is the king of songbirds who believes in the power of plumeage. In Warner Brothers' *Sincerely Yours*, his first starring vehicle, he manifests a suit change, some slightly more exotic than others. Liberace fancies raw silk in charcoal grey, pearl grey or black and white frocks for summer wear—dressing for business, that is. Among his sports include a creation in "chocolate smoke." But he just loves the freedom of a formal occasion, when ruffled or lace shirts can be paraded, and dress suits of black brocade dotted with gold. As a contrast, he sometimes sports a dark grey dinner jacket, with a silver cummerbund. Liberace, he believes, should express his personality. Get into the wardrobe, he modestly claims, should be distinctive but not ostentatious.

The home screen
A WEEK of mixed TV impressions, with one really memorable programme. Unexpected moments, too, for the viewer who rarely sorts out his programmes a week in advance, a deficiency to which I confess.

For example, had I chosen on Sunday to pass over John Pizzone's *Movie Magazine* on ITV, I might have missed Yvonne De Carlo's *Approved* song and dance in *Home Of The Islands*. After enjoying that guilty pleasure, perhaps I'd choose to switch over to *The Show Band* just in time for "The Don Brothers March" a stirring march piece, not just the type I enjoy most from the Stapleton band. If I dance to *The Music*, featuring the Lon Preager and Phil Tate bands from Hammer-smith, Paris, on Thursday's TV, wasn't sensational, at least it was half an hour's music too quickly.


Christmas Greetings to All My Friends
STAN KITCHEN
DIX LTD.
18 Soho Square, London, W.1. GERRARD 1672/3

Tony Brown interviews U.S singer Vic Damone

allow for the pride and gratitude that named the infant Perry Rocco Luigi Farinola. Vic is married to Italian actress Pier Angeli and followed her over to England last week with the baby. He didn't even plan it as a holiday. ("I just came over to be with my wife.") He candidly admits that his early style was modelled on that of another singer—Frank Sinatra. "Sinatra was my idol," he admits simply. "That's funny. When I was practically unknown, I had my own spot on a radio station. One night a phone call came from Sammy Burns—then Frank's manager. "Frankie's here," said Burns. "Wants to talk to you." The great Sinatra wants to talk to Damone? It didn't make sense. Obviously a gag. So I hung up. But the phone rang again."

DAMONE —in London for Christmas.

Hope you have a
Wonderful Christmas
and a
Happy New Year.



Sincerely,
ALMA COGAN

Greetings
for a
**HAPPY AND
HEALTHY NEW YEAR**
JOE LOSS
and his Orchestra

JOE LOSS ENTERTAINMENTS LIMITED
MORLEY HOUSE, REGENT STREET, LONDON, W.1

The Season's Greetings
to All my Friends at Home
from
**VICTOR
FELDMAN**
New York, U.S.A.

Diana Coupland & Monty Norman
hope that 1956 will be as happy a year
for you as 1955 was for us.

A Merry Christmas and
A Happy New Year
from
**DR. CROCK
AND HIS
CRACKPOTS**

Heartiest Christmas Greetings
to All my Friends,
both English & American
from
**REGGIE
GOFF**

A Happy and Joyous Christmas
to All from
SUZI MILLER

Season's Greetings
to all our
FANS AND FRIENDS
from
**TONY CROMBIE
AND HIS ORCHESTRA**
Sole Direction: Kruger Enterprises (London) Ltd., Covent Garden 2745

Leonard Feather heralds a new

THE KING OF THE BLUES

"I DON'T know what I'm doing in Philadelphia," Count Basie was heard to remark recently when his band was playing a week in that city. "I might just as well not be here—all they want to hear is Joe."

A characteristically modest statement, typical of Basie, but not without a grain of truth; for the Joe he referred to was, of course, the fabulous Joe Williams.

In less than a year, Williams has transformed the Basic orchestra from a band that barely made a profit on its record sales to an outfit capable of selling hundreds of thousands of discs.

Who is he? "Every Day," the number that marked his debut with the band, has sold close to a quarter of a million (it is reviewed on p. 29).

Who is this Joe Williams, this newcomer who has transformed the fortunes of the band? Actually he's no newcomer at all. He's been around with names bands, since about 1938 when he signed Minnie Noone. He's even been with Basie before—when the Count had the S.M.A.'s in Chicago, for a month or two, in 1945.

Joe was born in Cordes, Georgia, on December 12, 1918. Raised in Chicago from the age of three, son of a talented concert organist, he started picking out blues on the piano from early childhood.

The early job with Noone enabled him to gather valuable experience by doubling as singer, valet and general odd-de-camp to the great clarinetist. He was a wonderful, warm human being, Joe recalls. "It was a pleasure even to carry his things."

When Jimmie moved out to the West for a while, I freelanced in clubs around Chicago, in 1941 I sang with the Coleman Hawkins orchestra—when I had the big band—at Cafe Society Club.

Then I joined Lionel Hampton's band, replacing Ruben

Blaker as the ballad singer. Lionel wanted me to concentrate strictly on ballads and never gave me a chance to sing the blues. Joe worked with a number of other name bands during the 1940s, but never moved far away from Chicago for very long. He worked night clubs with Red Saunders' Rhythm-and-Blues combo, toured for a few months with Andy Kirk, and also with the Albert Ammons-Pete Johnson piano team.

After his first engagement with Basie at the Brass Hall, he says, "Count never lost touch with me. Whenever he came to Chicago, we'd get together at the De La Club or at his hotel. Finally, one day in December, 1954, he asked me to join the band. I started on Christmas Day. Joe had already made a few records for a small Chicago label, Checker, and had sung a ballad on one of Andy Kirk's Decca discs. But, for all practical purposes, Every Day" and its coupling, "The Connection," marked his real record debut.

Francis Wayne, whose superb work with the Neal Hoff band at Birdland was recently praised here, is now cutting her first single. Neal has also written the arrangements for Hazel Scott's current appearance at the Latin Quarter, for which Hazel is supporting the house band with Oscar Pettiford and Kenny Clarke.

French pianist Bernard Peiffer's American misadventure may be over. He has obtained his release from MGM after several months of intermittent unemployment, and has signed with Billy Shaw's office.

Shaw has also signed Japanese pianist Toshiko Akiyoshi, who arrives here next spring to study in Boston on a scholarship. Julia Hipp, already in New York, is awaiting her union card before she can start work for the night club and for Blue Note Records.

ROUND-UP OF AMERICAN NEWS
PAGE 15



Joe Williams

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ROUND-UP OF AMERICAN NEWS
PAGE 15

Frank Foster, younger of Basie's two tenor-men, has written most of Basie's vocal backgrounds in the band and must be credited with bringing out his personality in the best possible setting. Joe is a spell-binding artist to watch. Much of the time, he stands very still, hands in front of him with fingers touching—as if in prayer. Sometimes he throws a smile into half a dozen different notes in wild, dramatic effect.

And on one or two numbers he just takes a note, sung falsetto, and holds on to it for an entire 12-bar blues chorus, while the band builds up the tremendous intensity behind him.

Maybe he will sing one of those "I'm a Fool to Be Proud of Myself" type songs. He is a superior one like "Satchel's Blues" or "The Girl That Got Away" or "I'm a Fool to Be Proud of Myself" type songs.

Great! Jimmie Rushing was and is. It might be said that Jimmy's talent leaves off where Joe's begins.

Joe has already recorded his first LP for Norman Granz on Clef, an LP that will show you the unique quality of his sound and the variety of his instruments of the blues—and of non-blues, too.

In my opinion, Williams is the first truly great jazz singer to join the male vocal ranks in jazz—yes, the term "jazz singer" to distinguish him from numerous musicians and vocalists who have sung pop songs to some effect from time to time.

For me, jazz singing is first and foremost blues singing—and Joe is the new king of the blues.

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ENCYCLOPEDIA

of jazz!

THE Apple is New York City; a dollar is a bean. No jazzmen of note were born on June 3 or August 1. Jimmy Dorsey gave a birthday every Leap Year. Norman Granz was a quotation clerk in the Los Angeles Stock Exchange. And Frankie Trumbauer lives at 14, East Navajo Lane, Santa Fe Hills, Kansas City, Mo.

Six facts from a book that contains half a million: *The Encyclopedia Of Jazz*, just published in America.

This massive tome, which sells at ten dollars and took literally years to prepare, has been compiled by Leonard Feather, the MM's man on the New York Front. It is a marvellous and unprecedented piece of work. And a book that every jazz collector should fight to get on his bookshelf.

This *Encyclopedia*, with the recently published *Hear Me Talkin' To Ya*, make the perfect basis for a jazz library. Hear Me Talkin' To Ya has the quiet; this book has the facts. It is basically a directory of jazzmen, with over a thousand biographies, most of them complete with pocket discography and address. Plus an 18-page musical analysis of jazz and a brief sketch of its history.

But opinions there are, and Duke Ellington manages to make a pretty controversial statement in the few pages allotted him as an introduction to the early days. "The piano players were very important in the early days," writes Duke. "And the great piano players were always on the East Coast; there never was anybody in the West could play two notes. By 'West' I mean New Orleans; in those early days there was no other West to speak of, west of that."

The author, too, has opinions. "A careful re-examination of the evidence reveals that jazz is not entirely African in origin," writes Feather. "Although as Duke Ellington has pointed out, high school teachers played better jazz."

"Among other things, his rhythm was unsteady; but that's position as a novelty; jazz has to be identified with capophony; it had to be profane. Ellington found in such titles as 'Satchel Blues,' 'Jive,' 'Stable yard Blues,' 'Ostrich Walk,' 'Bow Wow Blues,' 'Skeleton Jangle,' 'The use of such effects as the 'launting clarinet' and 'crying trombone,' prominent in the tongue-in-cheek performance of Ted Lewis and other satirists, was prevalent, even among the more dedicated jazzmen, until the music had a secure enough footing to dispense with these tricks."

In California in 1940, Oscar Moore, guitarist with the King Cole trio, ended the group's first Decca record, 'Sweet Lorraine,' with a ninth chord with a flatted

and you? **AVAILABLE HERE—**

ELEVEN years after his presumed death on a wartime army flight from London to Paris, the late Glenn Miller commands as many—if not more—fans as he did in his lifetime.

This month, the members of the Glenn Miller Appreciation Society and the band leader's numerous other fans will be able to relive a host of memories in a book published by the Society: *Glenn Miller Appreciation Society, A Glenn Miller Discography*, by Stephen F. Redwell, The Glenn Miller Appreciation Society, 3 Great Ferry Street, London, W.C.1. 18s. 6d.

In this 102-page volume (illustrated with four whole-page photos), the former Miller fan, too, will be able to extract more information on every aspect of their idol than they knew existed.

The book is not only a discography. The band leader's Stephen Redwell has divided it into five sections—the first two being a short biography and a discography "with" various related information; of Miller the trombonist, from 1925 to 1942.

There follows a discography of the Miller civilian activities from 1935 to 1942, also with various related information. The Society's London journal describes how the enormous amount of cross-referencing and correlation was done and why it superseded all other discographies. Butcher has incorporated material gained since Redwell was forced to discontinue the compilation a year ago. An absolute must for Millerites.

Show Business And The Law, by E. R. Hardy Ivamy, Stevens and Sons, London, 25s.



Leonard Feather, author of the *Encyclopedia*, on one of his radio broadcasts (center). With him are (l. to r.) Bob Thiele, Jane Russell, Steve Allen, Norman Granz.

fifth—an unheard-of departure then, an overworked cliché today. At Cafe Society, in New York, Kenneth Kerner, pianist with the then popular Red Allen sextet, found his way from a tonic to a dominant chord through an unconventional progression of minor seventh.

Also in the introductory part of this work is a Hall of Fame, where critics' Top Five selections have been amalgamated into the following list of the Greatest Jazzmen—in terms of artistic achievement and overall influence: Duke Ellington, Louis Armstrong, Charlie Parker, Lester Young, Count Basie.

The biographies take up the major portion of the book, but following them is a list of 50 LPs—A Basic Collection Of Jazz Records—a glossary of terms used by jazz musicians, a jazz bibliography, and a chronological list of jazzmen's birthdays.

This is, altogether, an important and valuable book to the jazz collector.

—Mike Neard

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS
to the
**'JACK PARNELL'
FAN CLUB**
and to all our friends at
home and abroad from
**JACK PARNELL
GENE WILLIAMS, IRENE MILLER and the
ORCHESTRA**

A Very Happy Christmas
and a Wonderful New Year
from
**FRANKIE
VAUGHAN**

Best Wishes and Thanks
DON LUSHER

Seasonal Greetings
from
**DEREK NEW
& HIS ORCHESTRA**
Cabaret Club, W.1

ALLAN CRAWFORD * GRIFF LEWIS *
LES PERRIN * MAX DIAMOND *
LES PERRIN * ALLAN CRAWFORD * GRIFF LEWIS * HARRY BENSON *
LES PERRIN * MAX DIAMOND *
Best Wishes from
**SOUTHERN GROUP
OF COMPANIES**
SOUTHERN MUSIC * LIBER-SOUTHERN
LATIN-AMERICAN
HARRY BENSON * MAX DIAMOND *
A NEW YEAR
with
MILLER
And a Record Breaking
Year!

CLAVIOLINE CONCLAVE

Armstrong & Brubeck may unite for Europe



GEORGE AVAKIAN, A&R director of Columbia Records, New York, and the man behind such successful jazz sets as the Buck Clayton jam sessions and "Louis Plays Handy" LP, was in London early this week...

Interviewed by the MM, Avakian said he was over to study conditions in the pop and jazz record field, also to look into a project for a Columbia Jazz Show which he hopes will tour Europe in the autumn of 1956.

Yorks pianist wins Clavioline Contest

THE prize of £100 put up by Messrs. Selmers, Ltd. for the best Grand tape recording of Bill McGuffie's "Clavioline Concerto" has been won by Yorkshire pianist and ex-contesting leader George Ryder...

Dankworth pianist in ITV series

DAVE LEE, pianist with the Johnny Dankworth Orchestra, commences a series of six programmes for commercial TV early in January.

Farewell to two Payne airtops

Jack Payne's "Say It With Music" and "British Band Box" are to be replaced by "Easy Rhythms" and "Dankworth Singers, Cleo Laine and Frank Holder, will also be featured."

Bronzy returns

Blues singer Big Bill Bronzy sailed from Le Havre to New York on Tuesday after playing concerts in Holland and Belgium.



Vincent Montefusco sends Festive Greetings to all readers, and Staff, of Melody Maker

HARRY GOLD TO LEAVE 8 AFTER LUTON CONCERT

HARRY GOLD will make his last appearance as leader of the Pieces of Eight at Luton on New Year's Eve.

Low-price LPs are out for Christmas

The Solitare record label is now available for the Christmas market, with 10-in. LPs at 15s. 6d. and 7s. 6d.

REGGIE REHEARSES SEXTET COMEBACK



Reggie Golff (extreme r) seen rehearsing his sextet...

Janette—'From Me to You'



"One, two—over to you!" says Eric Withings (r) to Roy Ellington. The "mistake" is film star Janette Scott.

MM REPORTER IS BARRED

AS a result of publicity given to recent outbreaks of hooliganism outside the Ballroom, Bradford, Stanley Pearson, MM West Riding correspondent, was last Saturday refused admission.

Virginia Somers in new London show

Singer Virginia Somers has a leading part in "Palm and Fantasy" which opens this month at the Drury Lane Theatre.

NEW HONOUR FOR BRITISH COMPOSERS

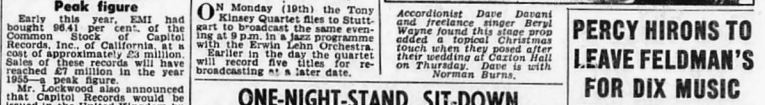


A new incentive for British composers was announced on Monday by impresario Joseph Peniston (l-r) seen here with Vic Knight (Sec. songwriters' Guild), celebrated pianist Mark Hambourg and jazz singer Eric Meschick.

RECORD REPORT RECORD SALES HIT HIGHEST EVER

AT the Annual General Meeting of Electric and Musical Industries, Ltd., last Friday, the Chairman, Mr. J. F. Lockwood, stated that the value of the sale of the firm's records (HMV, Columbia, Parlophone) in the financial year ended June 30 last was up by 33 per cent.

WEDDING WITH SLEIGH BELLS

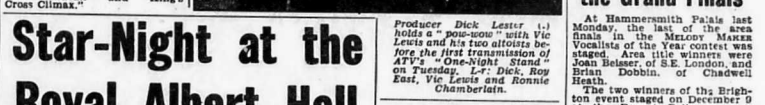


Accordianist Dave Durant and freelance singer Perry Wayne found this stage proof edited of topical Christmas touches when they posed after their wedding at Aston Hotel on Thursday.

PERCY HIRONS TO LEAVE FELDMAN'S FOR DIX MUSIC

PERCY HIRONS is to vacate the exploitation chair at Feldman and Co. Ltd. to become General Manager for Dix Ltd. when they move to their new premises in Soho Square, W. on January 1.

ONE-NIGHT-STAND SIT-DOWN



Harold Franz, who at present handles light music for the Robins Music Corporation, is now to be in charge of light music and standard exploitation for both the Robins and Feldman catalogues.

Six on session for Holder calypsos

The personnel which accompanied the vocalists for Holder on his calypso session for the MCA label last week comprised Jack Elroy (singer), Bill Amstell (cl.), Danny Moss (bass cl.), Jack Fallon (trumpet), Cedric West (gtr.) and Shake Keane (drum).

Star-Night at the Royal Albert Hall

THE stars are already lining up for the great Melody Maker "Night Out With the Stars" Ball at the Royal Albert Hall on January 27.

Hilton tackles 6 dates in 9 days

Ronnie Hilton's spot in Jack Payne's "Say It With Music" tomorrow (Saturday) is the first of a series of six radio and TV dates in nine days.

Loss-plus

Joe Loss and his Orchestra will play for dancing; Franklin Kermann will stage a special "Stars in Town" night...

GRACIE ESCAPES BOMB IN MOROCCO

GRACIE COLE flew into London this week from Morocco, after a two-month tour of U.S. Camps in seven different countries, with her girlie band.

Southwark cinema to be ballroom

The Circuit Management Association is to convert its Picture House, Old Kent Road, Southwark, into a luxury ballroom.

ANGLO-US

From Page 1 final show at Brooklyn on April 29.

THE MANHATTAN BROTHERS

Lovely lies; Killmanjaro F1065

THE TALKING BUDGERIGAR

Joy the chatterbox F1062

THIS WEEK'S RELEASES of DECCA-GROUP 78 and 45 R.P.M. RECORDS

- PEGGY COCHRANE Starlight tango; The can-can F10660
a space adventure of the future Attack from Zarrus F10651
THE MANHATTAN BROTHERS Lovely lies; Killmanjaro F10655
THE TALKING BUDGERIGAR Joy the chatterbox F1062

DECCA RECORDS LONDON RECORDS

Season's Greetings from The Wright House THE SMASH Xmas hit—PI-ANNA RAG Recorded by DICKIE VALENTINE (Decca) BILLIE ANTHONY (Columbia) HAVE YOU EVER BEEN LONELY First titles in the new "EVERGREEN" series of orchestration for all combinations "GLAD RAG DOLL" "BABETTE" waltz 3/6 per set LAWRENCE WRIGHT 19 DENMARK ST., LONDON, W.C.2

PEARSALL SINGER WEDS



Midlands bandster Beryl Austin after her marriage last Monday at Dudley to footballer Ben Hulton of West Bromwich Albion.

It's Party Time in Norwich
L. LESLIE DOUGLAS, resident at the Samson and Hercules Ballroom, Norwich, will present three children's parties over the Christmas period...

Pompey, Southsea make it a Carnival Christmas

AT the South Parade Pier, Southsea, the "Two Bands—Two Ballrooms" policy will be followed on Christmas Eve...

Stars in Midland Panto Preview
S'ARAS appearing in Midland Pantomimes will be featured in "Pantomime Preview"...

Trumpet WEDS
Trumpet player Bonnie Smith, based at the Royal Albert Hall, London, will be featured...

Lord Provost opens 'new' Locarno

THE Lord Provost of Glasgow was among the 1,000 distinguished guests who attended a private ball at the Locarno, Glasgow, on Tuesday...

Eddie Mendoza 7 net TV series

Accordantist Eddie Mendoza, who is leading his trio at Bullin's Ocean Hotel, Salford, has been booked for eight appearances...

Deeley distributes Christmas cheer

Midlands leader Cliff Deeley is sending over 2,000 Christmas cards to patrons at the Tower Ballroom, Edgbaston, Birmingham...

Rafini still seeks the right girl

A series of talent contests at the Plaza Ballroom have failed to produce the right girl, and Rafini is still seeking someone with looks and personality who can sing...

FLARE-UP IN IRISH RECORD WAR AS PHILIPS HACK PRICES

DUBLIN, Monday.—The war in Ireland flared into the open last week-end, when George O'Reilly, of Irish Record Factors—distributors of the Philips label in the Republic—announced sweeping reductions in the price tabs on Philips EP and LP series...

O'Reilly will also be safeguarding Philips' interest. The formation of the Irish Record Collectors' Association, a group of Irish disc buyers who banded together and started a "Boycott-the-Shop" movement, imported their LPs direct from Britain...

Accidents, illness in the Midlands

MIDLAND bands have been struck by a wave of illness during the past two weeks. Most seriously affected is Harry Gray, resident leader at the Casino Ballroom, Birmingham...

DIXIE CAROLS

The Ken Rattenbury Band will be giving carols a rocking Dixieland treatment this Christmas. Ken has written several novel arrangements for his band...

Xmas news box

(from Jacqui page)
...is playing over the holiday period at the Leamington Hotel, Leamington Spa, and the Red Horse Hotel, Stratford-on-Avon...

"Irish Rhythms" Orchestra for the home and American markets. "Best session we've had for a long time," said Gerry Collier's comment after stopping the traffic by playing to thousands of jazz fans from the front steps of Belfast's Ritz Cinema...

DEBIL—New IP of M offices and clubs will open under the aegis of January 1. "Shan Wilson" will be making a trial appearance at the Cavite Hotel, Birmingham, on January 28...

Advertisement for Eve Boswell, featuring a portrait and text: "Lots of Luck for Christmas and the New Year from EVE BOSWELL"

Advertisement for Jack Nathan & His Band, featuring a portrait and text: "Christmas Greetings to You All from JACK NATHAN & HIS BAND"

Advertisement for Phil Tate, featuring a portrait and text: "Sincere Christmas Wishes to Everyone PHIL TATE"

WESTCLIFF—Music for "the twelve weeks season of Pina B. Boots" at the Council Chambers Theatre will be provided by Ben Oakey's Orchestra under the direction of Roy Westcliff...

BRIGHTON—Bassinet leader Ken Lyon has teamed with ex-Deeley pianist Frank Harlow in a new venture...

YORKSHIRE—Contesting leader Duggie Mason, who fronts the Bradford Modernaires band, is to be married early in the New Year...

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YORKSHIRE—Contesting leader Duggie Mason, who fronts the Bradford Modernaires band, is to be married early in the New Year...

Advertisement for Keith Prowse Music Publishing Company Ltd., featuring a Christmas tree and text: "Season's Greetings to All Our Friends KEITH PROWSE MUSIC PUBLISHING COMPANY LTD."

Advertisement for Ronnie Pleydell and His Orchestra, featuring a Christmas tree and text: "Christmas Greetings from RONNIE PLEYDELL AND HIS ORCHESTRA"

Advertisement for Syd Dean & His Band, featuring a Christmas tree and text: "Greetings & Best Wishes for Christmas to ALL OUR FRIENDS EVERYWHERE SYD DEAN & HIS BAND"

Advertisement for Harry and Cynthia, featuring a Christmas tree and text: "Harry and Cynthia with all their many friends A TURKEY CHRISTMAS and A PLUM PUDDING NEW YEAR"

Advertisement for Cavendish Music Co. and Laflaur Music Co., featuring a Christmas tree and text: "A Merry Christmas to All our Friends Maurice Taylor Ron Richards Dick Howard Peter Sullivan CAVENDISH MUSIC CO. LAFLEUR MUSIC CO."

Advertisement for Parker's Brass Studios Ltd., featuring a Christmas tree and text: "A Merry Christmas from All at PARKER'S BRASS STUDIOS LTD."

Advertisement for Michael Fletcher and Don Wilson, featuring a Christmas tree and text: "A Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year MICHAEL FLETCHER AND DON WILSON wish their many Friends in the business A MERRY CHRISTMAS and A HAPPY NEW YEAR THE SNAKE the most played Samba of 1955"

WAKEFIELD UNITY OPENS IN TIME FOR CHRISTMAS

THE newly decorated and re-furbished hall in Wakefield will be open in time for Christmas under the direction of MM contest leader Norman Longbottom...

DECCA recording organist Harry Farmer plays at an open-air carol service at the Parish Church, Aulsebrook, on Christmas Eve...

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Advertisement for The Snake, featuring a Christmas tree and text: "DON and MIKE and thank all those who have helped to make THE SNAKE the most played Samba of 1955"



Last Monday, rehearsals for "Goody Two Shoes" commenced at Dudley Hippodrome. Here star Beryl Hill is wished "good luck" by her hubby—Hedley Ward. Trio bassist Derek Frenchman.

THAT FELLOW HYNAM'S GONE TOO FAR THIS TIME!



WE thought Dan Morgan's letter to the Musicians' Union (page 3) was a big joke, until the picture on the left arrived from America. Take a close look at it, and you'll see that U.S. bandleader Bobby Sherwood has got himself a matter duplicator.

Singers, trumpeters, vibist, trombonist, horn man, drummer... they're all Bobby Sherwood, the man who became known to AEP listeners back in the war with his recording of "Sherwood's Forest."

To Top a "ROYAL" YEAR we send You "Warmest" Christmas Greetings from South Africa
VIC LEWIS & HIS ORCHESTRA

A Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year from
CYRIL ORNADEL

Happy Yuletide to All My Friends in and out of the show world
DENNIS LOTIS

J. P. CORNELL "The Musicians' Shop" 31 SPRING BANK • HULL
MAESTRO MARIO Maker of Stars Wishes All His Pupils At Home and Abroad A Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year.
101 NEW BOND STREET, W.I. MAY, 5155

W is for WISHES, the warmest we can send,
L is for YULETIDE, the happiest you can spend,
I is for LAUGHTER, to chase away your ills,
E is for INCOME, to settle all your bills!
L is for EVERYONE who listens and dances to
WYLLIE PRICE and HIS ORCHESTRA
IN RESIDENCE: PALAIS-DE-DANSE, NOTTINGHAM

Coast-to-coast round-up of American news

BENNY GOODMAN is planning to reorganize a big band to coincide with the release of *The Benny Goodman Story*. He is negotiating for a series of concert dates and will also probably open at the Waldorf Astoria, New York's swankiest hotel, in the spring.

Meanwhile, Benny has been recording busily with both large and small groups for Columbia. On one combo date this week he was reunited with his original 1934 pianist, Claude Thornhill, in a date that also featured Urbie Green, drummer Bob Donaldson and bassist Aaron Bell.

A pall was cast over the New York preview of Benny's film by the sudden death on December 8 of Ethel Krupa, popular wife of the famed drummer. Mrs. Krupa, who had been ill for some time, collapsed and died of a stroke at their Yonkers home.

JUNIOR RAGLIN, bassist with the Ellington band from 1941-5 and winner of the *Esquire* New Star Award in 1946, died last week in Boston. He had been inactive much of the time in recent years, though he made a brief and unsuccessful return to the Ellington band last January. Raglin, who came from Omaha, Nebraska, was 38.

TONI HARPER, the former club singer who has gone up into a first-class Fitzgerald-style stage, has made some new records with *Dizzy Gillespie* and a nine-piece band. Playing and arranging for the date was Melba Liston, girl trombonist who once was Eddie's big band. Willie Smith was also on the date.

THE Charlie Parker Memorial fund committee, center of much internal squabbling for several months, was dissolved last week when the problem of distributing the memorial concert money was taken over by the AP of the fund.

They expect to allocate several thousand dollars each to Charlie's son by his first wife and his young daughter by his last wife, Charlie's mother, and the Union delegate will be joint trustees.

Sassy singer **Rose Hurdaway**, recently with Duke Ellington, is now singing features with *Earl Hines* in Las Vegas.

Earl Hines signed with Fantasy Records and made an LP in San Francisco with *Earl Hines*, guitar, *Earl Watkins*, drums, and *Earl Hines*, W.S.

With the exception of an abortive "one-man" effort on an inferior wax, which used only six tracks, this is the first venture of its kind, and the quality of the sound, despite the enormous amount of re-recording involved, is extraordinarily good (series *Leonard Feather*).

Bobby is heard playing three trumpet parts, trombone, French horn, vibes, piano, guitar, bass, drums, solo vocal, and four vocal quartet parts. He wrote the arrangements, too. It's on Coral. Oddly enough, Bobby's musical ability never enabled him to make the grade as a top-flight bandleader, though he ran a dance band with moderate success through the 1940's. He is now best known as a television personality.

Stars of Bethlehem **ANDREW "GEORGE" BAKER** has signed to record with the new combo for Bethlehem. Also signed with Bethlehem is tenor man *Allen Eager*, a survivor of the early bebop wars, now playing a week with Howard now best known as a television personality.

ronnie scott and the orchestra wish you all a cool yule

The Season's Greetings
EDNA SAVAGE

A HAPPY XMAS and a GUID NEW YEAR to all my friends from
CARL BARRITEAU HIS CLARINET AND HIS MUSIC



JUST FOR THE RECORD

GIRL WITH AN ACCENT
AS I haven't heard Tonia Bern sing, I can't actually urge that the A and B men are making a mistake. But I do know that the excuse one offered for not allowing her to record doesn't make sense.

JIMMY YOUNG Wishes Everyone A Very Happy Christmas

Best Christmas Wishes to All—
VIC ASH

Merry Christmas and Prosperous New Year to All Our Friends from
MIKE DANIELS & HIS BAND and DOREEN BEATTY
Season's Greetings to All My Many Friends Everywhere
PETER AKISTER

BOREDOM IN THE BAND

HERE is a rather delayed-action comment on Jack Farnell's complaint, quoted by me a few weeks ago, that each new bandleader grabs his cornermen from other bands.



"Isn't the answer to this obvious?" writes my correspondent. "Put the section leaders under a long-term contract." Well, it does look easy, doesn't it?

Second thoughts, however, remove complacency. Here's the snag. Music, like most other arts, demands more than mere technical competence. A musician, to pull his full weight in a band, has to be skilled, studious and enthusiastic.

by **JACK PAYNE**

Now just imagine what would happen if a bandleader signed a contract with a bandleader for two years, for example, and then started to regret it after the first two months. Take my word for it: a musician is as prone to likes and dislikes as any other man. Perhaps he doesn't like the sound of the bandleader's voice; or he may feel that the music he is called upon to play is not up to his personal artistic standards; or it may be that the band is on tour and his wife is expecting a baby.

However, the specific reason for his dissatisfaction doesn't particularly matter. The significant aspect is that he is unhappy. That all-important enthusiasm for the job in hand would then be destroyed; he would be counting the days until his release. In certain cases, the musician's skill on his instrument might be affected. For lack of enthusiasm often results in a lack of concentration

—which is fatal in a band. The wise bandleader, of course, recognizes that an unwilling musician is likely to be no help to his band and releases him from his contract. I'll go even further by suggesting that it is virtually useless putting a musician on a long-term contract at all. No musician who worked for me had to give more than a fortnight's notice if he wanted to leave.

I've seen some of the effects on musicians of the "regular-job" mentality over the years—at the BBC and other places. One of one employed conductor who was afraid to stir his musicians to more conscientious efforts. They countered any criticism by writing memos to their employers. Believe me, it doesn't do the average musician much good, artistically or professionally. In music a man can't be mediocre; he has mastered his medium; he must be learning all the time. Boredom means the end of progress.

Here's wishing you a very enjoyable Christmas and a Prosperous 1956 from **JOHN** and all the **JOHNNY DANKWORTH ORGANIZATION**

A Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year to Everyone from **LORRAE DESMOND**

TO ALL OUR FRIENDS AT HOME AND OVERSEAS
KEN COLYER'S JAZZMEN AND THE SKIFFLE GROUP Christmas Greetings and a Happy New Orleans Year

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all my pupils at home and overseas from **MAX ABRAMS**

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Singers, trumpeters, vibist, trombonist, horn man, drummer... they're all Bobby Sherwood, the man who became known to AEP listeners back in the war with his recording of "Sherwood's Forest." Bobby's latest venture is a sound version of what you see on the left—a 15-man band—all Bobby Sherwood. The "sound" is on record—a record of "Yes Indeed" and "Brown Eyes, Why Are You Blue?" by Bobby Sherwood and his All-Bobby Sherwood Band. And it's getting heavy play from the New York disc-jockeys. The amazingly versatile Sherwood comes through simultaneously on 15 tracks.

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DUKE ELLINGTON'S orchestra will record for Norman Granz's Clef label if negotiations under way last week are completed.

Dismissed at Capitol, Duke orbited the charts and has been discussing with Granz the possibility of recording some of his famous (but never recorded) concert works for LP release, as well as shorter numbers for single 78s.

Billie Eckstette's long-planned switch from MGM to RCA Victor is now expected to take place January 31.

Artie Shaw leaves for Europe December 22. He will vacation in Cannes, pick up a car in Germany, then spend some time in London and Paris. No professional plans.

Ernie Wilkins is back from California, where he made the first book of arrangements for Harry James.

—Leonard Feather

JUST FOR THE RECORD

BOREDOM IN THE BAND



Tonia Bern

HERE is a rather delayed-action comment on Jack Parnell's complaint, quoted by me a few weeks ago, that each new bandleader grabs his cornermen from other bands.

"Isn't the answer to this obvious?" writes my correspondent. "Put the section leaders under a long-term contract." Well, it does look easy, doesn't it? Second thoughts, however, remove complacency.

Here's the snag. Music, like most other arts, demands more than mere technical competence. A musician, to pull his full weight in a band, has to be skilled, studious and enthusiastic. Mere time-servers are not good enough.

Now just imagine what would happen if a man signed a contract with a bandleader for two years, for example, and then started to regret it after the first two months.

Take my word for it: a musician is as prone to likes and dislikes as any other man. Perhaps he doesn't like the sound of the bandleader's voice; or he may feel that the music he is called upon to play is not up to his personal artistic standards; or it may be that the band is on tour and his wife is expecting a baby.

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I knew of one employed conductor who was afraid to stir his musicians to more conscientious efforts. They countered any criticism by writing memos to their employers!

Believe me, it doesn't do the average musician much good, artistically or professionally. In music a man never can claim to have mastered his medium; he should be learning all the time. Boredom means the end of progress.

Perhaps more than most other people, the musician needs the stimulus of an occasional change of activity.

And the more brilliant the musician, the more he is likely to be oppressed by the monotony that is inevitable when working with the same band at the same places, week after week and year after year. The fact that he is under contract does not make him feel any better.



by JACK PAYNE



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Season's Greetings to All My Many Friends Everywhere PETER AKISTER

Merry Christmas and Prosperous New Year to All Our Friends from MIKE DANIELS & HIS BAND and DOREEN BEATTY

KINSEY 4, CHET BAKER LOSS NOTCHES UP 25 YEARS UNITE TO TOUR JAPAN



Dennis Hale 'not happy'—but disc big U.S. success

DENNIS HALE'S recording of "Sizzling" to be released in January is his second cutting of this number. The first disc was made early this year and, not happy about the tempo, Dennis asked that it not be released here. It was, however, released in America—and was very successful. In the new version for this country, Dennis is accompanied by eight brass strings, rhythm and a choir, conducted by Johnny Douglas.

ITV debut and BBC airings for Harry Roy

OVER a period of eight days commencing next Monday, Harry Roy leaps back into the public eye with dates on ITV, BBC sound and vision, and Radio Luxembourg.

Harry's Orto record of "The Little Lagoon" has been chosen "record of the week" by Radio Luxembourg, and will be aired nightly at 6 p.m. commencing next Monday. On Thursday (22nd) he makes his debut on commercial television in Jack Hilton's one-hour presentation for Associated-Rediffusion at 8 p.m.

New vocal group

A well-known musician now appearing in Variety is in process of forming an unusual new vocal instrumental team. Two other musicians (all three will play as well as sing) are already signed for the venture.

BUDDY TO RECORD NO-PIANO GROUP

A GROUP comprising trumpet, tenor, baritone, bass and drums—but no piano—is scheduled to make its first recording for the "Jazz Today" series shortly after Christmas. The idea was conceived by Buddy Featherstonhaugh while playing at Pete Chilver's West End Club, Edinburgh, and with himself on baritone, the quintet has already appeared at out-of-town clubs. It makes its West End debut at the Flamingo this Sunday. Titles for the session, which will be under the supervision of Denis Preston, will be selected from the group's repertoire, all of which have been written by Buddy.

Xmas in Town



Singer Vic Damone and his wife, 14-year-old Pier Angeli, who arrived in London last week, pose for the MM at their press reception. He is making "Fort Apache" for Columbia.

THE Tony Kinsey Quartet will join forces with the Chet Baker Quintet and American singer Gerry Garner in an Anglo-U.S. package which commences a month's tour of Japan in March, playing night clubs and concerts in leading Japanese cities.

First in Tony Kinsey told the MM: "We appreciate the opportunity of being the first British jazz group to play in Japan. But above all we feel grateful that such an offer has been made to us as it suggests that our music is now being more widely appreciated."

The Chet Baker Quintet finishes its season at Reykjavik, Iceland, on December 21, and then flies to Germany for concerts at Frankfurt and Munich. While in Germany the quintet will feature Continental singer Caterina Valente on two records for release on Polydor.

Chet then travels to Italy for the month season at a leading Milan night club.

Lita Roza returns to spate of work

Lita Roza was discharged last Wednesday from King's College Hospital where she has been undergoing treatment for the past three weeks. After a few days' rest, she has four broadcasting dates to fulfil next week, followed by two weeks in Variety. On Wednesday, Lita has a Luxembourg session as a guest of Frankie Vaughan. On Thursday she appears in the BBC's "Midday Music Hall" on Friday with the show band; and on Saturday (24th) is a guest on "Red Heat" in a recorded programme, "Listen to My Music" (or transmission on December 27). Commencing on Boxing Day, she has two weeks with Peter Brown and Archie Andrews, Southern and Southampton Gaumonts.

Beryl due home

British blues singer Beryl Bryden returns to London on Monday for a week's holiday. While here she will appear at the Streamline Jazz Club on December 23, and at Norwich the following day.

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WEST CENTRAL PRINTING CO. LTD.
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13 Jazz Nos. for Piano... 4/-
DICK SADLER'S
Discographic Self-Tutor for Clarinet... 4/-
Modern Practice Guide for Flute... 4/-
Obtainable at all Music Dealers or Direct from—
DAREWSKI MUSIC PUBLISHING CO.
138, Shaftesbury Avenue, London, W.C.2

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DECEMBER 24, 1955 EVERY FRIDAY—6d.

Certified by the Audit Bureau of Circulations

ECKSTINE & DELANEY PLANNING U.S. TOUR

Continental Kinsey 4



Last Monday the Tony Kinsey Quartet broadcast from Stuttgart with the Army Light Orchestra. (L-R) Bill Le Sage, Ronnie Ross, Eric Dawson and Tony are pictured just before leaving for the Continent.

NEW YORK, Wednesday.—Singing star Billy Eckstine and the Eric Delaney Orchestra may tour both Britain and America next year. In addition, Toots Camarata's Commanders, the famous U.S. recording orchestra, will tour Britain if permission is obtained. British publicity man Ken Pitt, now voyaging home on the Queen Mary after a U.S. business trip, has a letter from Billy Eckstine to Eric Delaney making the tour proposal.

June visit
Eckstine is definitely visiting Britain in June for an extensive Variety and concert tour. He will also play the Continent. He would like Eric Delaney to form a package show with him and, in return, he would tour the States with the Delaney band, kicking off with a Carnegie Hall concert in September. If the plan obtains the blessing of both unions, Toots Camarata's Commanders would fulfil the American contribution to the exchange. In London, Eric Delaney said: "It will be a great thrill to work with Billy again. Unfortunately, I'm not sure whether we will be able to."



A happy smile from Lita Roza as she slips into her coat on leaving King's College Hospital, after three weeks of treatment. Lita is one of the many stars of show business whose presence will grace the MM's "Night Out With the Stars" at the Royal Albert Hall on January 27. Lita also with Ted Heath next Tuesday.

Ivy to solo for flying sailors

Bandleader Ivy Benson travels to Gosport on December 29 to make a solo broadcast in "Variety Ahoy!" from HMS Stiskin, the RNAS shore base.

Page 7, Col. 3

WISHING YOU ALL A HAPPY XMAS
AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR
KEN
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A HAPPY CHRISTMAS
AND BEST WISHES
from
AMBROSE

MU to discuss BBC ultimatum

REPRESENTATIVES of the BBC Variety and Revue Orchestras were to attend a meeting at the London Branch Office of the Musicians' Union yesterday (Tuesday), to discuss the ultimatum issued last week to the two orchestras, telling certain members to "modernise" their playing or they would be dismissed.

The BBC denial of the existence of such an ultimatum came as a shock to musicians in the two orchestras. On making further inquiries, the MM is assured by one of the parties concerned that at least eight members of each orchestra were summoned to interviews (Variety Orchestra on December 16, Revue Orchestra December 9), when the previously prepared document quoted in full in last week's MM was read to them. Said our informant: "How the BBC can deny this truth in such a positive manner is a mystery."
Page 6, Col. 3

Dankworth-Kirchin trumpet switch

Johnny Dankworth and Basil Kirchin have exchanged trumpets. Dougie Roberts has left Johnny Dankworth to join the Kirchin band in place of Frankie Donlan, while Frankie makes his debut with the Dankworth Orchestra on December 29.

Eddie Thompson joins Freddy Rendell

Pianist Eddie Thompson has joined the Freddy Rendell band and is due to make his first appearance with the group at Finchley Road (Wednesday). He replaces Harry Smith, who has left Rendell to freelance.

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- FREDY ADAMSON Jack Parnell's Orchestra
- MIKE NICHOLSON Sid Phillips' Band
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- JOCK CHAMBERS Harry Roy's Band
- BEN EDWARDS Ronnie Scott's Orchestra
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CHET BAKER NITE TO TOUR JAPAN



(2nd l) celebrated 25 years of band at Saturday on "ATV Music Shop." are (l-r) singers Bill Dornel, Rose and saxist Harry Klein.

Xmas in Town



Singer Vic Damone and his wife, film-star Pier Angeli, who arrived in London last week, pose for the MM at their Press reception. Vic is holding a white Pier is to make "Fort Afrique" for Columbia.

debut and BBC airings for Harry Roy

his debut on commercial television in Jack Hinton's on-hour presentation for Associated-Rediffusion at 8 p.m. Next Saturday (24th) he will be heard in the BBC Home Service with his own band (11 a.m.) and on Boxing Day will be seen and heard in a BBC Television Variety Show at 4.15 p.m., produced by Richard Afton. In the meantime, Harry continues to appear nightly at the Gargoyle Club, which he recently acquired in association with two London businessmen.

BUDDY TO RECORD NO-PIANO GROUP

A GROUP comprising trumpet, a tenor, baritone, bass and drums—but no piano—is scheduled to make its first recording for the "Jazz Today" series shortly after Christmas. The idea was conceived by Buddy Featherstonhaugh while playing at Pete Chivers's West End club, Edinburg, and with himself on baritone, the quintet has already appeared at out-of-town clubs. It makes its West End debut at the Flamingo this Sunday. Titles for the session, which will be under the supervision of Denis Preston, will be selected from the group's repertoire, all of which have been written by Buddy.

New vocal group

A well-known musician now appearing in Variety is in process of forming an unusual new vocal instrumental team, two other musicians (all three will play as well as sing) are already signed for the venture. The Pan Alley personality Les Fervis has been charged with the task of securing two personable girl singers to complete the group.

Lita Roza returns to spate of work

Lita Roza was discharged last Wednesday from King's College Hospital where she has been undergoing treatment for the past three weeks. After a few days rest, she has four broadcasting dates to fulfil next week, followed by two weeks in Variety. On Wednesday, Lita has a Luxembourg session as a guest of Frankie Vaughan; on Thursday she appears in the BBC's "Midday Music Hall"; on Friday with the Show Band; and on Saturday (24th) is a guest on "Fort Health" in a recorded programme. "Listen to My Music" for transmission on December 27. Commenting on Boxing Day, she has two weeks with Peter Brown and Archie Andrews at Southampton and Southampton Gaumonts.

Beryl due home

British blues singer Beryl Bryden returns to London on Monday for a week's holiday. While here she will appear at the Streatam Jazz Club on December 22 and at Norwich the following day.

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ECKSTINE & DELANEY PLANNING U.S. TOUR

Continental Kinsey 4



Last Monday the Tony Kinsey Quartet broadcast from Stutgart with the Ernie Lehn Orchestra. (L-r.) Bill Le Sage, Ronnie Ross, Eric Deason and Tony are pictured just before leaving for the Continent.

NEW YORK, Wednesday.—Singing star Billy Eckstine and the Eric Delaney Orchestra may tour both Britain and America next year. In addition, Toots Camarata's Commanders, the famous U.S. recording orchestra, will tour Britain if permission is obtained. He would like Eric Delaney to form a package show with him and, in return, he would tour the States with the Delaney band, kicking off with a Carnegie Hall concert in September. If the plan obtains the blessing of both unions, Toots Camarata's Commanders would fulfil the American contribution to the exchange. In London, Eric Delaney said: "It will be a great thrill to work with Billy again. Unfortunately, I'm not sure whether we will be able to

Hiya, Lita!



A happy smile from Lita Roza as she slips into her car on leaving King's College Hospital, after three weeks of treatment. Lita is one of the many stars of show business whose presence will grace the MM's "Night Out With The Stars" at the Royal Albert Hall on January 27. Lita stars with Ted Heath next Tuesday.

Ivy to solo for flying sailors

Bandleader Ivy Benson travels to Gosport on December 29 to make a solo broadcast in "Variety Ahoy!" from HMS Siskin, the RNAS shore base.

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FRANKIE VAUGHAN TO LAUNCH NEXT 'SONG' SERIES

FRANKIE VAUGHAN will be the first singing star to appear in the new version of the BBC series, "The Song of the Week," which will be heard six nights a week commencing on January 2 (6 p.m.). He will present his own records and those of other artists. "I never thought that I would be paid for plugging my own discs," quipped Frankie. Following Vaughan on the series will be Petula Clark, then Anne Shelton. The Chris Barber Band will be featured on January 9.

A MERRY CHRISTMAS and a HAPPY NEW YEAR to you all



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| MIKE NICHOLSON | Sid Phillips' Band |
| BOBBY KEVIN | Oscar Rubin's Band |
| JACK BEACH | Harry Roy's Band |
| PHIL SEAMEN | Ronnie Scott's Orchestra |
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"Phonograph records are now the most important single factor in determining the success of a singer," says Phil, "and it is the aural factors that count. There has to be 'the sound'—a unique approach to a song that cannot be copied."

"Take Tony Bennett, for instance. Remember his recording of 'Because Of You'? It was the number-one best seller for months."

TRICKS

"Bennett's approach to that song was emotional, pleading. Through some particular trick in his voice, Tony sounded as if he were straining, and it was just that appealing 'sound' that sold the record."

"Now it's what Tony's fans want and expect from him on every record he makes."

SENGALI

Often called "The Star Maker" or "Sengali," Phil Moore has had a long and phenomenally varied musical career. Aside from his coaching activities, Phil, still in his thirties, has been a musical director at several major Hollywood studios, an arranger, composer and conductor on radio and television, a constant on-stage performer for the Army during World War II, and recording director for the most of America's top night spots and theatres.

THE SOUND

Most vocal styles, Moore states, stem from those little faults and imperfections every singer has. "The trick," he says, "is to find them, and then use them to the best advantage."

"I'm not like the old show business days," Moore explains. "Then, you could dress up a girl in a beautiful gown, teach her to walk and to get out there and sell a song not only with her voice but with her hands, her smile and sometimes even her hips."

MAILBAG

The jazz clubs aren't what they used to be

ABOUT a year ago, there was quite a healthy atmosphere around the London jazz clubs. At least once a fortnight, we could be assured of hearing some good jazz at one of the two leading places.

Since then, however, things have deteriorated. Seldom do we have the pleasure, now, of seeing such competent musicians as Rendell, Moule, Whittle or Scott leading their regular groups.

Instead, five or six well-known faces (too well-known around the clubs) appear, playing the same old tunes in the same old way. The number of times we, the customers, find ourselves listening to 12-bar blues on any one night is amazing!

ADD to this an uninteresting silence between numbers (mainly because the solo has been boring and the musicians don't know what to play next), and the fact that the session has probably started to play next, and you will not wonder something obviously must be done. One answer is for competent, promoters and musicians to get together and do something about it themselves.

The other, of course, is to stay away.—Richard Gallimore, Leobury, Herefordshire.

The Downbeat fiasco

WHY is everyone trying to whitewash the fact that jazz has dropped on TV? Your news story on the inception of the One-Night Stand Series (M&M, 8/12/55), said that Downbeat, which ended last Tuesday, would be "replaced" by this quarter-hour event.

Surely this completely ignores the fact that Downbeat was originally not scheduled to end on November 30 at all, but was designed to run to the end of the year; that it was completely replaced after the first programme, since that was such a fiasco; that it has now been taken off after only four of the at least half-dozen programme planned.

Why? Was it because the advertisers thought it wasn't good enough? Again, your critic producer Dick Lester, in saying that the time-cut was caused by the difficulty of fitting in the new programme with the existing overall schedule, rather than any lack of viewer interest.

This entirely overlooks the fact that (according to your news story) on August 20 (last year) there was a "re-evaluation" of all the programmes up until the end of December 1954, when a second TV music telecast should have been transmitted. Leonard Poole, Reigate, Surrey.

Continued on page 8

December 24, 1955. MELODY MAKER—Page 3

We make no excuses for dwelling on the subject of Louis Armstrong. His European tour has reawakened interest in jazz in every country he has played. Now we give Louis's own impressions of the tour as reported by two Editors of an American news magazine:—

LOUIS & WAGNER AT THE MILAN OPERA HOUSE



QUESTION: Is there any difference between jazz as it's liked in Europe and jazz as it's liked in America?

LOUIS: It's the same all over the world. I always say a note's a note in any language if you hit it on the nose. . . . But they appreciate the technical part of your music, every bit of it—everybody's been so classical-minded all over Europe. Back in Milan we was playing up at the Odeon—that's a concert hall two blocks from La Scala, the opera house—and after my concert I had to get in the cab and go over to La Scala and get pictures taken standing beside all these great men like Verdi and Wagner and—their statues, you know—and right between 'em. That's what the Italians requested. . . .

QUESTION: WHAT KIND OF PROBLEMS DO YOU GET IN YOUR AUDIENCE HERE . . . ?

ANSWER: All kinds. Now the president of the Hot Club in Basle, Switzerland, is a old fellow, right old gentleman, and he's right on the ball. He's president of the Hot Club, and every one of them got all my jazz records—old fellow, he's a professor at the university. . . .

DO YOU SPEAK FRENCH AT ALL, LOUIS?

A little bit, enough to get what I want. When I'd get to little towns I used to say, uh: "Madame, Messieurs, maintenant we're gonna play 'Then There Eyes,'"—because they got the record, you don't need to say that in French. "But I don't need to do that now; there's so many Frenchmen speakin' English."

Like water

PICK UP ANY SCANDINAVIAN?

"Skol!" I learned, yeah. When I first got there it just looked like water to me and I got to be the skinniest cat you ever seen. . . .

IS IT TRUE THAT THE PRESIDENT OF FRANCE GAVE YOU A SEVERE VASE?

Oh, don't talk about that vase. When they come from the President with that vase I was upstairs with some cats talkin' . . . and they come in and holler. "They is down and like to drop it. Well, she there with that vase. Come didn't and got it home in a special round black case, and hand me this vase that cost a you can see it there. . . .

IS IT THE SAME ALL OVER WITH JAZZ—NO FRONTIERS, NO IRON CURTAIN?

That's right. Well, in Rome we was out at this beautiful home with them Italian diplomats an' all, and they're so proud. . . .

President

WHAT IS THIS HOT CLUB? IS THERE A HOT CLUB IN EVERY TOWN IN FRANCE?

Yes, sir; everywhere in Europe, most every town has a Hot Club. In honorary president of most of 'em. . . .

Sure . . . replied Louis

the Iron Curtain to hear our Louis," and they said "We don't know how we gonna get back."

EXCERPTS FROM AN INTERVIEW WITH LOUIS ARMSTRONG HELD IN PARIS AND PUBLISHED IN "US NEWS AND WORLD REPORT," DECEMBER 2, 1955, UNDER THE TITLE OF "THEY CROSS IRON CURTAIN TO HEAR AMERICAN JAZZ."

IN EUROPE YOU HAVE CROWDS MEETING YOU AT RAILWAY STATIONS AND AIRPORTS—DOES THAT HAPPEN IN AMERICA?

No, not to that extent. . . . Back home you're around and there's no wonder. . . .

HOW DID THINGS GO WHEN YOU PLAYED IN BERLIN?

Oh, fine, fine. There was these Berlin cats that wanted me to go and blow my trumpet at that there Russian soldier-guardin' some Russian Red Army statue—you know, inside West Berlin—but I wouldn't. . . .

Just music

WOULD A MAN LIKE MOLOTOV, THE SOVIET FOREIGN MINISTER, WHO'S NEVER HEARD ANY JAZZ, SPARK TO IT?

Maybe, if he likes any good music. . . .

WHAT DO YOU PLAY, LOUIS?

I just play music. . . .

IS IT DIXIE?

Any kind, I play music—you call it what you want. . . .

WHEN EVERYBODY WAS SWINGING IT, DID YOU SWING IT TOO?

I swing right now. But I don't try to prove nothing—no more than just being a musician. . . .

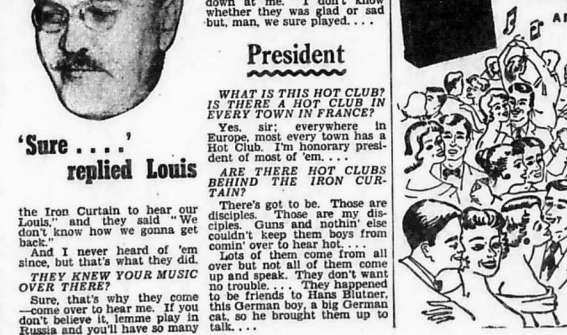
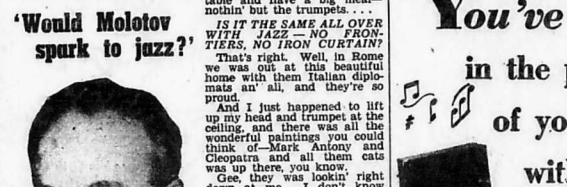
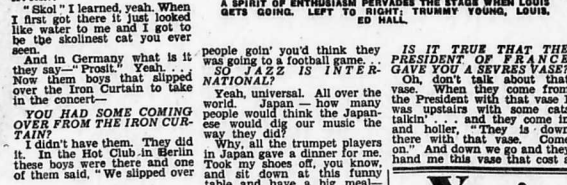
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When 2 songs

have the same title

MANY readers are at a loss to understand why publishers accept songs with titles used before—when they, too, know that the title has already appeared in print. Let us presume that there has been a published song called "Love Me Forever," which was a hit some five years ago. Now another writer has heard had this same title in view for quite a long time—but in his mind, the "story" working out of the song is entirely different from that of the original number. So, to freshen the thing up, he adds a sub-title to the main title, and, by calling his song "Love Me Forever (And Mine Forever)" he makes some differentiation and the song assumes a different approach.

SONG-SHEET

by Hubert W. David.

This explains the frequent duplication of titles, though this habit has always been known. In the case of this kind of question may be raised out as and when some amendment is made like the Copyright Act. In this country, a "dual" title can also be the first place in America, and then the popularity transferred over here. That song may have exactly the same title as an English one, but it was a hit in the past, but which, as it happened, has never reached American shores when it was first written. It is well-nigh impossible for the budding songwriter to check the previous use of titles; it is only natural that a songwriter, at 17, may well think that he has hit upon an original idea, whereas the writer who has been long at the game would recognize the similarity to some other song right away.

JOHNNY SMITH



HE was just a wee nipper aged four. In Birmingham, Alabama, ma and pa dressed him in his Sunday best. Then they led him by the hand to the local radio station—ostensibly to play a harmonica solo on the air. "But I fell asleep," recalls Johnny Smith, "and leaped up my very first broadcast." That was in 1924. Two years later "someone left a guitar behind at the house," and little Johnny taught himself to play. "I couldn't reach around the neck," he told me. "I was only six. I played with the fingers on top like."

Self-taught

Soon young Smith, still only at elementary school, was playing local gigs "guitar doubling violin." And when his folks moved to Maine he was in High School and the local Hillbilly star. "Of course I always hated Hillbilly," confesses Johnny, "but it was the only kind of music that provided steady work." And with a chuckle he adds: "I'm not sure that it still isn't."

He toppled Les Paul from his throne a year ago—and is still at the top. But what do we know of the boy who fell asleep on his first broadcast?

"I was symphonic before that, as is every other guitar player. I'd reached the limit chordally. Now with my sixth string tuned to D, I have correctly voiced chords and the scope seems unlimited." "You Were Meant For Me," "Don't Worry," "Sincerely," etc.—and you will note that all these are either natural major chords which we use in everyday conversation, or they are written particularly on the other hand, "manipulating the whole story of the song, and are therefore not so likely to be duplicated by another person."

—and here's a newer star: PHIL WOODS

IN recent years Hollywood has become the main jumping-off point for new white jazz musicians. The fact that also saxist Phil Woods, who answers to this description, has built up a reputation on the far side of the continent, in New York, is therefore a little unusual.

DRUMMERS! Here is all you need to know about the world's Supreme Drums.



for Prestige, this time as the leader of a quartet consisting of two drummers, a bassist, and a pianist. The remaining three numbers were originals—"Open Door," "Pot Pie" and "Robin."

In February of this year the same personnel assembled in the Prestige studio to record an "Extended" composition, two numbers by Jon Eardley ("Hole, Shoe Curv" and "Foot Hoops"), one by pianist Syran ("Cobbles-ton"), and one by Woods ("Sea Beach").

Despite the New York jazz situation, which has prevented the quiet from playing at a regular unit, the recorded results show a closely knit group sound with the accent on relaxed swing. Woods plays with a cutting tone and is the possessor of a formidable technique. His agile fingering enables him to change quickly and accurately from one octave to the next. The resultant effect on "Sea Beach" in particular, is that of two alices instead of one.

There are "natural" titles and manufactured ones. Examples of "natural" titles are "You Were Meant For Me," "Don't Worry," "Sincerely," etc.—and you will note that all these are either natural major chords which we use in everyday conversation, or they are written particularly on the other hand, "manipulating the whole story of the song, and are therefore not so likely to be duplicated by another person."

Can you imagine sitting down to write a song called "How Much Is That Doggie In The Window?" or "Where Will The Bump Be?" This sort of title is immune from plagiarism. Also, a "manufactured" title is one which attracts a publisher's attention whereas a title he has seen before may not. A clever songwriter is liable to convey an impression of stale-

ness in every other guitar player. I'd reached the limit chordally. Now with my sixth string tuned to D, I have correctly voiced chords and the scope seems unlimited.

He left NBC to go freelance, but still played on radio, TV and record sessions. His "Jazz At NBC Quintet," with Getz, Saffron, Don Lamond and pianist Sanford Gold, was quite sensational.

Johny was married in 1952 (his wife is very talented—writes short stories, radio scripts), Mr. and Mrs. S. have one child (daughter, August, 1954).

Then, last year, he knocked Les Paul from the guitarists' throne in the American polls. This month, with publication of the *Dones Best* poll results, we find he has held on to his pinnacle. But what of the future? "Jazz will always be my life from now on," he affirms. But you have to play jazz all the time to become proficient. I am far from proficient, yet. "I'll travel with my own group when I get more known. But maybe I'll have to wait. Even if I'm prepared to starve. I wouldn't want my family to starve with me."

What is the secret of his ability? Says Johnny: "I have a basic stock of practice—scales and arpeggios right through the key cycle—and some violin and flute material. "I've always practised hard."

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Then, last year, he knocked Les Paul from the guitarists' throne in the American polls. This month, with publication of the *Dones Best* poll results, we find he has held on to his pinnacle. But what of the future? "Jazz will always be my life from now on," he affirms. But you have to play jazz all the time to become proficient. I am far from proficient, yet. "I'll travel with my own group when I get more known. But maybe I'll have to wait. Even if I'm prepared to starve. I wouldn't want my family to starve with me."

so that if ever I had the brains to conceive I would have the fingers to execute.

Two played Schoenberg and Ibert music for guitar. It's for the normal E minor tuning, but I was both amazed and yet pleased and amused to find a low D in a Schoenberg piece.

Johnny modestly forgot to mention that he played solo guitar on the first performance in the USA of Alban Berg's "Wozzeck" with Dimitri Mitropoulos and the New York Philharmonic Symphony Orchestra at Carnegie Hall.)

"Today in jazz," says Smith, "there's polish among performers. Witness Stan Getz, Chet Baker. In jazz, first the ideas progressed—now the facility."

I like both classics and jazz and good folk music, too—in fact, almost anything that's well done.

There should be no limitation on music (or, for that matter, on food, medicine, or progress of any kind). We must seek all rules of music. Quarter tones? No. The average person can't distinguish a quarter tone."

This gangling one-time Hillbilly Johnny Smith is not only musically crude, he's a most friendly and likeable fellow. He's a most phlegmatic guy who's known never to get upset. Except once—just a year or so back.

Arriving in Rochester, New York, for a gig, he was confronted with a huge billboard that said "JOHNNY SMITH—the great STEEL guitar artist." "Man," he said, "I was really dragged. I would rather have been billed as 'Hillbilly Harmonica Player.'"

MACRAE AND HIS WIFE SHEILA ARE CAUGHT AT HOME BY THE CAMERAMAN. GORDON, ONE OF AMERICA'S TOP SINGING STARS, IS BRINGING HIS WIFE TO LONDON THIS CHRISTMAS. BUT LATEST REPORTS SAY THE TRIP IS OFF.

Jazz on the Air

by F. W. Street

DECEMBER 21:
Today A: 1: Parker, Home, Cole-Brookmeyer, M. P. 1: White Notes...
1: Christmas Salts...
1: Light and Dance...
1: Holiday-G-Round...
1: 6:30-7:30 a.m. J: D-D
D-J Shows (daily).

DECEMBER 22:
m. J: Sunday Syncope...
1: 2: Christmas in...
A. 1: 3: Ten Dones...
N.O. Jazz. 9:5: Jazz...
1: Swing and Rhythms...
1: Light and Dance...
1: Holiday-G-Round...
1: 6:30-7:30 a.m. J: D-D
D-J Shows (daily).

DECEMBER 23:
1: 2: Christmas in...
A. 1: 3: Ten Dones...
N.O. Jazz. 9:5: Jazz...
1: Swing and Rhythms...
1: Light and Dance...
1: Holiday-G-Round...
1: 6:30-7:30 a.m. J: D-D
D-J Shows (daily).

DECEMBER 24:
1: 2: Christmas in...
A. 1: 3: Ten Dones...
N.O. Jazz. 9:5: Jazz...
1: Swing and Rhythms...
1: Light and Dance...
1: Holiday-G-Round...
1: 6:30-7:30 a.m. J: D-D
D-J Shows (daily).

DECEMBER 25:
1: 2: Christmas in...
A. 1: 3: Ten Dones...
N.O. Jazz. 9:5: Jazz...
1: Swing and Rhythms...
1: Light and Dance...
1: Holiday-G-Round...
1: 6:30-7:30 a.m. J: D-D
D-J Shows (daily).

DECEMBER 26:
1: 2: Christmas in...
A. 1: 3: Ten Dones...
N.O. Jazz. 9:5: Jazz...
1: Swing and Rhythms...
1: Light and Dance...
1: Holiday-G-Round...
1: 6:30-7:30 a.m. J: D-D
D-J Shows (daily).

DECEMBER 27:
1: 2: Christmas in...
A. 1: 3: Ten Dones...
N.O. Jazz. 9:5: Jazz...
1: Swing and Rhythms...
1: Light and Dance...
1: Holiday-G-Round...
1: 6:30-7:30 a.m. J: D-D
D-J Shows (daily).

DECEMBER 28:
1: 2: Christmas in...
A. 1: 3: Ten Dones...
N.O. Jazz. 9:5: Jazz...
1: Swing and Rhythms...
1: Light and Dance...
1: Holiday-G-Round...
1: 6:30-7:30 a.m. J: D-D
D-J Shows (daily).

DECEMBER 29:
1: 2: Christmas in...
A. 1: 3: Ten Dones...
N.O. Jazz. 9:5: Jazz...
1: Swing and Rhythms...
1: Light and Dance...
1: Holiday-G-Round...
1: 6:30-7:30 a.m. J: D-D
D-J Shows (daily).

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A Choice for Every Drummer!

A WIDE VARIETY in NEW FINISHES of Immediate appeal... and Exceptional Value!

- 100 Steel Wire, Stainless Anodized Aluminum Heads. 7/11 pr.
- 101 Steel Wire, White Varnish Covered Heads. 8/8 "
- 102 Stainless Wire, Stainless Anodized Aluminum Heads, Ring Ends. 9/6 "
- 103 Stainless Wire, White Varnish Covered Heads, Ring Ends. 10/7 "
- 104 Steel Wire, Corrugated White Varnish Covered Heads. 9/6 "
- 105 Corrugated Wire, Corrugated White Varnish Covered Heads, Ring Ends. 10/11 "

50 years experience has assured the secure future of the rustproof wires

New Beverly literature is in preparation—are you on the Beverly mailing list?

MUSIC DEALERS EVERYWHERE

Manufacturers & Distributors... BEANS & SON (YORKSHIRE) LTD... P.A. BOX No. 6... BEVERLY, E. YORKSHIRE

If you wish to know about the latest in everything for the drummer, send today for this fine Premier catalogue.

THE PREMIER DRUM COMPANY LTD.
87 Regent St., Piccadilly, London, W.1
Telephone: 44 in evening. Send now Catalogue to:
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Price £8.18.6 (Tax Paid)

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London, E.C.2

BLUES HIT!

CLOCK

HER

ECHO

100 Cross Road, W.C.2

VERA LYNN MAKES DEBUT ON TV

Goodman 'celebration' on five LPs from Philips

FIVE LPs of Goodman recordings from 1931 to the present day are to be released by American Columbia to commemorate Benny's 25-year association with the company.

With releases of "Carnegie Hall Concert," "Jazz Concert Number Two" and "Vintage Goodman," the set will include new recordings.

Other artists to be heard on the earlier discs include Art Tatum, Billie Holiday and Mildred Bailey.

On another release, Benny will be presented in a vocal setting on "It's Bad For Me" with a backing group including Buck Clayton (tp), Urbie Green (sax) and Aaron Bell (bass).

Colonna records with Cordell

Before his appearance in the new show "The Young Men of the Night," comedian-singer-trombonist Jerry Colonna took part in a new recording for Vee-Jay.

The sides will be released in the next few days or next February.

On Tuesday, Colonna was scheduled to leave for the States to give a recital for the National Folk Society.

He is also appearing at the Lyceum Ballroom, Newport, Mass., in an evening of music.

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Beat the drum: They're home



Singer Annie Ross announces the return of the Tony Crombie Band on an Israeli drum set. The band had just arrived back from a six-week tour of Israel.

TONY CROMBIE RESUMES TOUR AT WEYMOUTH

THE Tony Crombie Orchestra, which returned on Saturday from its six-week tour of Israel, recommences one-night-stands with a date at Biscaya Hall, Weymouth, on Friday.

It then plays the Florida Club on Christmas Day and New Year's Eve at the Palm Court, Bath.

On New Year's Day, Crombie exchanges Peterborough (1st), and the Palace, Reading (8th).

The orchestra is set to record two more sides for Decca next week.

Jack Green moves to Calvert office

Jack Green, tour manager for Harold Fielding, is now general manager of Eddie Calvert Productions, Ltd., with offices in Pall Mall.

This is a newly formed company which will act as bookers and agents.

3 GONELLA DAVIS

Nat Gonella is to appear at the Court Royal Hotel, Southampton, for Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, and Boxing Day.

Jerry Dawson's NEWS BOX

BRIGHTON—Ken Lyon, leading a quintet at the Bedford Hotel over Christmas, is also presenting groups at the Moor Hotel.

YORKSHIRE—First change in five years in Stan Smith's group at Rikley Moor Hotel took place recently when pianist Jack Newstead returned to Manchester.

MIDLANDS—Pat Pattinson has changed the name of his Monday evening club to the Minnie Ballroom, West Bromwich, to Club 8.

Derby Jaganella and his trombonist, John Cherry, may also join Fikkington.

THE HITS FROM THE U.S. ON LONDON RECORDS

- BILL HAYES The Ballad of Davy Crockett; Farewell HLA 820 (available 2nd January)
BILLY YAGHN The shifting, whispering sands; (2 sides) HLD 8205
THE FONTANE SISTERS Seven teens; If I could be with you one hour tonight HLD 8177
THE DE CASTRO SISTERS Snowbound for Christmas; Christmas is a-comin' HLU 8212
KEN CARSON Hawkeye; I've been working on the railroad HLF 8213
BILL DARNEL and FRANK WEIR My little mother; Bring me a bluebird HLU 8204
ROGER WILLIAMS Autumn leaves; Take care HLU 8214
ARCHIE BLEYER Hernando's hideaway; S'v you plait HLA 8176
GINNY WRIGHT & TOM TALL Are you mine? Boom, boom, boomerang HL 8150
BOGI GRANT Suddenly there's a valley; Love is HLB 8192
PAT BOONE Ain't that a shame; Tennessee Saturday night HLD 8172
SLIM WHITMAN You have my heart; Song of the wild HLU 8196

STAN KEITON TOUR MAY START IN MARCH

AS we close for press (Monday night) arrangements are almost complete for Stan Keiton's tour of Britain to commence two months earlier than was planned.

TWODENNYBOYCE SINGERS RECORD FOR ORIOLE

MAXINE DANIELS, vocalist as Collins in "Mother Goose," makes her commercial TV debut on Tuesday next when she appears in Jack Hylyon's "You Take a Slow" programme.

Maxine is set to work two sides with the Boyce Orchestra next week for release on Oriole. This is "I'll Be Home For Christmas" and "Oo-Boo-Bo-Bo."

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Xmas Day concert by Sammy Price Quintet

PARIS, Wednesday—Sammy Price and a combination of five musicians including Emmett Berry (tp) and Papa Foster (bass) will reach Paris on Saturday to start a two months tour comprising no fewer than 60 concerts.

London Hot Club throws a party

THE Hot Club of London throws its annual Christmas party for members at the Shakespeare Hotel, Woolwich, tomorrow (Thursday). Host is George Webb. The bands are Humphrey Lyttelton's and Chris Barber's, and guests will include Sandy Brown and Al Fairweather.

LESLIE WEEKS 4 OPEN AT-EL TORO

Drummer-leader Leslie Weeks comes at the El Toro Club, 100, Rye Road, today (Wednesday) with a quartet.

FOLK RECITAL

Folk-singer Rudy Marialis is to give a recital for a Birmingham French Society, 115, A. Licence Francaise, on New Year's Eve.

WIMBLEDON PALAIS

London's finest holiday entertainment 5.19-11.19. SAT. 24th DECEMBER. SAT. 31st DECEMBER.

XMAS EVE GALA NEW YEAR'S EVE CARNIVAL BALL

7.15 to 11.15. SAT. 24th DECEMBER. SAT. 31st DECEMBER.

DON SMITH & HIS ORCHESTRA

BOXING DAY, MONDAY, 26th DECEMBER. TICKETS 6/- AVAILABLE NOW. 7.30-11.15 a.m.

TWO ALL-NITE JAZZ PARTIES AT THE FLORIDA CLUB

(Cafe Anglais, Leicester Square, W.1) THIS SATURDAY (Xmas Eve) • THIS SUNDAY (Xmas Night) 8.30-DAWN. MEMBERS 10/- GUESTS 12/6.

CY LAURIE JAZZ CLUB

12 Midnight to 7 a.m. Boxing Day. Dancing CY LAURIE BAND • LIGHT FOOT BAND • ST. LOUIS RAMBLERS.

THE ERIC DELANEY BAND

at the fabulous multi-drum hall with DERRICK FRANCIS. Seats 2/6, 3/6, 4/6, 5/6, 6/6.

THE NEXT NUMBER IS—'HOGMANAY'

AMONG the numbers played by the band at the Albert Ballroom, Glasgow, is one which is featured only once a year on Hogmanay.

MAKING HIS MARK ON ORIOLE

Living has been banned at Lyceum Ballroom, Newport, Mass., in an evening of music.

Bertoni booked to improve dancing

He is also appearing at the Lyceum Ballroom, Newport, Mass., in an evening of music.

Garlick for Riddick

Trumper Giff Garlick has joined Tim Clayton's band at the Quisling's Restaurant, W.1.

Stan Reed 7 open at Stockport Rex

Ex-Freddy Randall trombonist Stan Reed opens at Stockport, heading a seven-piece band.

Beryl Bryden for Paris & Vienna

Blue-singer Beryl Bryden is to give a recital for the Crazy Horse Saloon in Paris next week.

BASS CHANGE IN CONWAY BAND

Bassist Cecil Newman has joined Harry Conway's band at the Crazy Horse Saloon, W.1.

Pete Bray to leave Johnny Gray Band

Drummer Pete Bray is leaving Johnny Gray's band before it takes up a month's residency at the Club, Amsterdam, on January 2.

'ULTIMATUM'

mystery—16 men from two orchestras could not have imagined it.

It is feared by the 16 musicians that the matter concerns only their fate is sealed. They will each die.

They feel that the six weeks' grace allowed in the ultimatum is merely an elaborate ruse which is merely an attempt to strengthen the BBC's hand should the Corporation decide to dispense with their services.



Richard "Mr. Pastry" Hearn (centre) and ex-Joe Loss men, trumpeter Roy Arnold (L) and singer Harold Jones, seem to be having a spot of polite trouble at rehearsal for last Saturday's TV show "Saturday Showtime".

'Stapleton leaving' rumour denied

RUMOURS rife in the West End over the past few days to the effect that Cyril Stapleton was to relinquish leadership of the BBC Show Band have been strenuously denied.

Scombe blows his Top Ten

Last Thursday it was "piano stations" in Number 1 studio at Manchester's Broadcasting House, Harry Scombe was the cause.

Davani leaves Burns

It became almost a one-man show when Davani left the Norman Burns Band on Boxing Day to join Tony Laurence at the Palladium.

ED. W. JONES

Forthcoming Sunday Concert presentations. DAVIS THEATRE • CROYDON. SUNDAY, JANUARY 1st, 6 & 8.30 p.m.

THE TED HEATH BAND SHOW with THE STARGAZERS • EDDIE ARNOLD. 3/- to 6/- — CRO 8311

TROCADERO • ELEPHANT & CASTLE. SUNDAY, JANUARY 1st, 6 & 8.30 p.m. MAX WALL • RONNIE HILLON • BETTY MILLER

RON PARRY with the SID PHILLIPS BAND SHOW. 3/- to 6/- — HOP 1344

GAUMONT STATE • KILBURN. SUNDAY, JANUARY 1st, 6 & 8.30 p.m. FRANKIE VAUGHAN • TERRY SCOTT

BILL MAYNARD • HEDLEY WARD TRIO with the JACK PARNELL BAND SHOW. 3/- to 6/- — MAI 8081

ODEON • BARKING. SUNDAY, JANUARY 1st, 5.30 & 8 p.m. JIMMY YOUNG • DAVE KING

KEN MACKINTOSH BAND SHOW. 3/- to 6/- — RIP 2900

GERALD COHEN (MELARA PRESENTATIONS) CITY HALL, SHEFFIELD. SATURDAY, JANUARY 14th at 6.15 & 9.15

TED HEATH AND HIS MUSIC. BOX OFFICE OPENS FRIDAY, DECEMBER 30th. 2/6, 3/6, 4/6, 5/6, 6/6.

CORNERMEN-8

BILL CELDARD, a familiar face in the best television action for many years now, has set to reach the age of twenty-six, although he carries behind his somewhat appearance a wealth of experience covered by some five in years of his service in the Royal Air Force.

The American tour is far more likely to come off if the arrangements made for the approach of an instrumental-arranger, musician, reviewer and up-and-coming writer (in fact with many of his best records) Bill's next move is to be seen in London in leading the trombone section with which he has been associated for some years.

Internationally famous JOHNNY DANKWORTH. INTERLUDE.



PLUGGERS GO INTO BATTLE

I've long thought that the stranglehold that the record companies have on the 'popular music business' is an unfortunate situation.

The gramophone companies have developed their own sales promotion angles and men are employed to see that the current record releases get a fair showing in the record programmes.

You might think that this state of affairs pleases everyone connected with recording. Not so.

The gramophone companies have developed their own sales promotion angles and men are employed to see that the current record releases get a fair showing in the record programmes.

JACK PAYNE'S Just For The Record



The two hands of the BBC. Many years ago, it was said that occasionally have embarrassing results.

The idea was to give the incentive of competition, so that one programme would strive to catch the other in listener appreciation.

A worthy line to take—but one that occasionally has embarrassing results. To take the uncharitable view, it means that the left hand is not supposed to know what the right hand is doing.

That explains why it is possible to hear the latest popular songs on the radio, and then to switch over to the Lights and see that their own artists are being promoted by the same artists.

Competition is fine, but surely it has to be done in a way that is not prejudicial to the public interest.

I think that the public is entitled to demand it.

PHIL MOORE TALKS

Year or two ago good examples: Tennie Brewer's 'Ricochet' and Roy Brown's 'Come On A New Year's Eve Dance'.

With the emphasis so firmly placed on recording, it might seem that the future will be one of stunted voices overflowing with personality.

I've been very impressed with the quality of some of the music being included in 'Say It With Music'. Not far to call these people 'hard-core'.

Why? Because they only get the chance of recording the songs they write and compose.

TEMPO THE JAZZ LABEL

RECENT RELEASES LAP 4—THE DAVE CAREY JAZZ BAND

33 1/2 r.p.m. Long playing LAP 4—THE DAVE CAREY JAZZ BAND

45 r.p.m. Extended play EXA 17—TUBBY HAYES & HIS ORCHESTRA

78 r.p.m. A 121—THE DAVE CAREY JAZZ BAND

A 123—TUBBY HAYES QUARTET

A 116—CHRIS BARBER

A 117—KEN COLYER

VOGUE RECORDS LTD., 113/115 Fulham Rd., London, S.W.3



Who's Where

- By BENSON and Orchestra Sunday: UFAF, Upper Heyford
Grade COLLS and All-Over Orchestra Thursday: Crests Ballroom, London
Ken COLYER and Band Monday: Squire '51, Westcombe, Rotherham

Esquire

are proud to announce that MILT JACKSON MODERN JAZZ QUARTET

BIG BILL BRONZON

"Never Seen Better" when he visited JAMES ASMAN'S JAZZ CENTRE

LIFT MUSIC HALL TAX, URGES MP

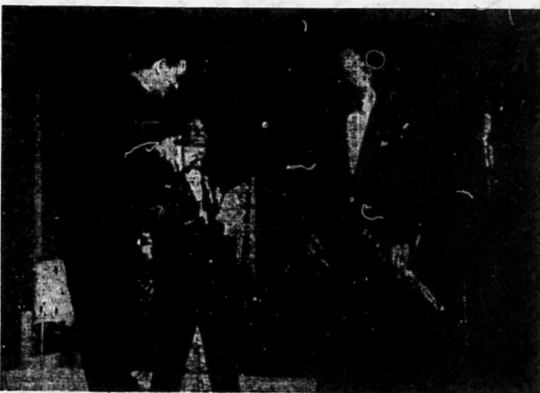
It is wrong that you can see cabare without paying entertainment tax while your seat in a music-hall has tax included.

AMERICAN MUSICIANS IN PARIS GET VERY SLOPPY

from page 3

can, that's all. You keep your nose—and that's what the younger generation is forgetting—about tonation...

THE 'RIOTS' HAVE YOU EVER MET THE POPE? In 1949 Lucille had to wear a veil and everything. We thought there talkin'—it's a pleasant shock. It's so happy, the people enjoy your music, and, by talk and I...



IT NEVER LETS UP. THREE MUSICIANS WITH BUT A SINGLE THOUGHT, TO ENTERTAIN TO ENJOY THEMSELVES...

WHAT ABOUT THESE AMERICAN PLAYERS OVER HERE... WHERE DID YOU GET SATCHEL? ... "Satchmo" came from London.

LOUIS, DO YOU THINK HOT JAZZ WILL END THE COLD WAR? ... It's left to people that's peaceful with music.

Happiness

YOU ONLY FOR THE PLEASURE OF IT? The pleasure and the people... WELL, WHAT IS JAZZ? I wouldn't say I know what jazz is because I don't look at it from that angle.

Atom jive

DO YOU THINK THE ATOMIC BOMB HAS MADE PEOPLE GO MUSIC MORE THAN THEY DID BEFORE? Well, I don't dive into politics.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS (PAGE 10 & 11)

- EAST INDIA HALL Popular Retail, 7, Ladbroke Rd. Sat., 31st Dec., 7.30-10.
NEW YEAR'S EVE DANCE CHRIS BARBER'S JAZZ BAND
INSTRUMENTS FOR SALE
INSTRUMENT REPAIRS
RECORDS FOR SALE
SOUND EQUIPMENT

British musicians' verdict:

HUMPHREY LYTTLE: I heard the previous All-Stars, with Hines, Bigard, Teagarden and Catlett, at Nice; and though the present band is not so impressive on paper...

MICK MULLIGAN: Three concerts, each better than the last; Louis going with more fire than when he was in Paris 1950.

IAN CHRISTIE: The band was good as I expected from the records; it was the presence of Edmund...

WALLY FAWCER: Loved the British style. It's a first but characteristic since first had characteristic since first had characteristic since first had characteristic since...

Cathedral Strings

PLECTRUM GUITAR GIGANT MONEL 178 1st Plain 9s.

181 2nd Monel Wood 1/4 182 3rd " " " 183 6th " " " 184 6th " " " 185 Set " 8/9

WRITE A SONG FOR your favourite Star!

Every correspondence course has a hand of experts. Free trial lesson. Publishing contract or money refunded.

EAST INDIA HALL Popular Retail, 7, Ladbroke Rd. Sat., 31st Dec., 7.30-10. NEW YEAR'S EVE DANCE CHRIS BARBER'S JAZZ BAND

The Grass'n' Greetings from DAVE CABEY & HIS BAND

BIRMINGHAM LARGEST DISTRIBUTORS & STOCKISTS OF ALL NEW & RECONDITIONED BAND INSTRUMENTS

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS (PAGE 10 & 11)

RECORDS FOR SALE ALL TYPES jazz records wanted.

INSURANCE YOUR valuable instrument from special agents. MONEY GUARANTEE.

URG TO TEST-RUN PROGRAMME IN JANUARY

East Coast summer for Peter Legh

PETER LEGH and his Orchestra, currently playing a winter season at Scunthorpe Baths, have been booked by Scarborough Corporation for the coming summer season. They complete their winter contract at the end of April and open in Scarborough on May 19. Peter will lead his 12-piece for dance music at the Olympia Ballroom.

SOUNDTRACK SONGSTRESS

Plans for the extension of the "Merry-go-round" programme later in the year are going ahead. As soon as recordings from Britain become available, it is intended to "feed in" live hand songs and feature top vocalists, including visiting Americans.

PANTO-TVDOUBLE BY JIMMY YOUNG

After appearing in the matinee by "Tommy's Gruesome" at the Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton, on Boxing Day, Jimmy Young will travel to Birmingham to take part in Jack Payne's "On The Record" at 8.15 p.m.

Gerry Brereton saves the show

Few of the Halifax Palace Theatre audience last week realised the worry crowding the mind of blind vocalist Gerry Brereton, who was topping the Variety bill.

55 GIRL SINGERS WANT BERYL'S JOB

MIDLANDS leader Brian Pearson has been overwhelmed by the number of girl singers since he announced that he was looking for a replacement for Beryl Austin, who married footballer Ray Bradlow last week.

MELODY MAKER

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Melody Maker

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FOREIGN TAPES FOR SHOW BAND LATE SPOT



A SURPRISE move announced by the BBC ends the Show Band's current Friday-night spot in the Light Programme on January 13, and inaugurates an eight-week 48-minute series in the Home Service at lunchtime, starting on January 20.

Eartha in Town

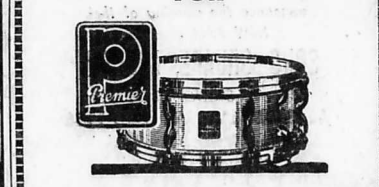
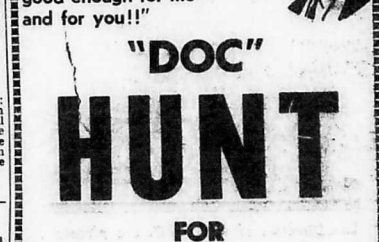


A smiling Eartha Kitt posed for this picture at her Press reception at the Savoy Hotel on Wednesday. The famous American singer is here for commercial TV appearances.

VICTOR FELDMAN CUTS FIRST AMERICAN LP

NEW YORK, Wednesday—Victor Feldman, star British drummer, vibist and arranger who was recently accepted by the AF of M, has just finished waxing an LP for the Keynote label.

DOC. HUNT says: "The Best is only just good enough for me—and for you!!"



HIRE PURCHASE AND THE FINEST DRUM SERVICE IN THE WORLD.

L. W. HUNT DRUM CO. LTD. The Drummers' Headquarters
10/11 ARCHER ST., SHAFESBURY AVE., LONDON, W.1

Well to MD luxury Burnmouth venue

POWELL will be Musical Director of a new luxury ballroom which is to open in Burnmouth at Whitland. The ballroom, which will be Hippodrome Theatre, will cater for 1,500 dancers.

Darnel to two more

singer Bill Darnel, here in October to beca. is set to star sides early in January.

No Xmas fare at Cardiff City Hall

Why is the Cardiff City Hall (claimed to have the best dance floor in the city) not available for festive parties?

Young leaves for cabaret

rolie Young has left All Stars Orchestra of ten weeks.

Orchestra

HARRY SOUTH, PEPE, MIKE GREEN

New Year

YER AMMERSMITH PALAIS

Barber's Band

BARBER CLUB

Kenton tour: First dates are announced

THIRTEEN towns at which Stan Kenton and his Orchestra will play during their tour of Britain have been announced by agent Harold Davison.

AN ARCTIC CHRISTMAS EVE



UNION ASKS BBC FOR STATEMENT

The Musicians' Union has asked the BBC for an official statement regarding its ultimatum to certain members of the BBC Variety and Revue Orchestras to modernise their playing or be dismissed.

MAILBAG

WAS REIDERBECKE THE FIRST BOPPER?

MIKE NEVARD'S review of... asks the reader from Brighton

Feather continues: "Kenneth Kenner... found his way from a tonic to a dominant chord through an unconventional progression of minor seventh chords..."

More about LPs

It may be that Douglas C. Mann (Mailbag, 12/17/55)... is only fair to point out that the average LP, which sells in America for 29c...

Radius compensation

I HAVE noted, in recent weeks, various attacks on recorder concerns regarding time-lengths and groove-spacing on long-play records...

STEVE RACE

It seems that many readers are waiting with baited breath for Steve Race's next attack on Liberace. They recall that I had some fun with the worthy Loe not long ago: with his piano-shaped swimming pool, his "improvements" on the great composers, and his gold lamé suit with the hair to match.

Liberace—a reassessment

Well, now, I apologize for being so perverse, but they're not going to see another attack in this column. The brickbat has been replaced by a large bouquet, suitably scented, which I hope Liberace will place on his piano-shaped dressing-table between his piano-shaped hair-curlers.



One, a wall? He is Prince Albert. In short, he is all things to all music. Liberace, I submit, is the perfect performer, and I'm not the least surprised that he has such a fantastic following.

What I didn't expect was a better-than-average pianist with a likable smile, a harsh speech, a voice, chubby hands and a sense of showmanship amounting to grandeur.

Let us forget the great threat from which the jazz purist (ancient or modern) surfs the concertally minded musician and consider whether or not Liberace is a good performer.

Leban and Scarlett may sound identical under his sneering caress, but 90 per cent. of the Western world inhabitants think that is how good music should sound.

Lover duck

When he plays boogie, Liberace bounces up and down like a rubber duck, and when it's time for a love song his face takes on the expression of an elderly but urgent lover.

In the presence of children he is Dr. Barnardo, and when brother George is making his violin cry there's tiny tear at the corner of the eye nearest the camera.

Lovey duck

When he plays boogie, Liberace bounces up and down like a rubber duck, and when it's time for a love song his face takes on the expression of an elderly but urgent lover.

In the presence of children he is Dr. Barnardo, and when brother George is making his violin cry there's tiny tear at the corner of the eye nearest the camera.

The Directors of DIX LTD. are pleased to announce the opening of their NEW PREMISES at: 18 SOHO SQUARE, LONDON, W.1

A Happy New Year To Everybody I am known to in the Entertainment Business. I advise a great many of your Friends and Associates.

It will be realized that towards the middle of the disc the amount of groove covered gets less and less. This tends to give less volume and, more important, less treble and general clarity of sound towards the middle of the disc.

The solution is obvious: cut the grooves closer and keep well away from the middle. The "remedial" of the Centrol "Kenneth Kenner" with eight tracks per side, will note the definite move towards the middle, in particular the last two.

MR. MANN is lucky to have any LPs at all. Due to the high prices, it is impossible to buy more than one or two per week.

THE answer to reader MANN's query on LP prices is easy: the main cause of American LP prices is to make money.

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JULES PAGLIN'S COINTEGRATES COCE HERE IN SPIRITUALS AND BLUES

OK is a group of four stations (Jules Paglin talking), all with OK in their names. They are WBOK, New Orleans; WYOK in Baton Rouge; KAOK in Lake Charles; and KYOK in Houston.

Louisiana radio stations beam 9 1/2 hours of Negro music every day

5.30 a.m. Here's the day: we start at 5.30 a.m. with a recording of spirituals...

That day die WHILE not attempting to defend the record company, I agree that the existing time per record could be provided...

Fire returned I FOUND Mr. Gallimore's letter (Mailbag, 24/12/55) very interesting. Since the New Jazz Group is resident at Studio '31, I take it that we are among the musicians under fire...

A MINISTER Bubber is really Joe Litcher, the bandleader. Nellie Litcher's brother, Tillman is a Methodist minister. He has a congregation. He's a fine-looking man, a six-foot ministerial dresser and everything...

A STEVEDORE Yes, Okay has a new Oldsmobile in two-tone green with his name, Okay Dokey, on the station, WBOK, painted on the door-both sides!



U.S. Sales: nearly 2,000,000

'BILLBOARD' chart: 20 weeks

Available to you January 2nd

JULES PAGLIN

—president of the OK group of radio stations centred in New Orleans—talks to Max Jones about the BUSINESS of dee-jays

ENGINEERS? In most homes down there you'll find a radio going all the time. You'll find a radio going all the time...

Paglin JULES J. PAGLIN, an energetic and quite-talking man in his early 30s, is president of the OK group of radio stations...

The Ballad of DAVY CROCKETT As featured in the Walt Disney film

sung by BILL HAYES

on HLA 8220 LONDON RECORDS

MAHALIA JACKSON—in the land of Hotsy-Totsy

continued on page 13

MAHALIA JACKSON—in the land of Hotsy-Totsy

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WEEKS-QUARTET HITS THE BULL

Ellington 4 to make 14-week tour of Mecca halls

THE Ray Ellington Quartet, with Marion Ryan, are to make a tour of 14 Mecca halls, commencing on May 21 at the Ritz, Manchester. They will make the tour, playing at each of the halls for a week, with another top-line band, which is not yet fixed.

3 DEUCES AND TITO BURNS OFF TO CANADA

THE Three Deuces vocal group opens at Toronto, Ontario, on Monday for a four-week season. A five-night guest will be their agent, Tito Burns, who flies to Toronto on Sunday to negotiate bookings in Canada for other artists.

The blues back in time to welcome Dutch singing star Rita Hay and her music on January 10. Rita and her group start a four-week season in Britain next day at Burtonwood Camp.

Sid losing Eileen

Vocalist Sid Phillips Band since September. Eileen Taylor has given notice. Her last date with the organization will be a concert at the Trocadero, Elephant and Castle, on January 11.

STAR SPANGLED FLORIDA

Traditional Christmas

Gillespie all set for good will tour of Far East

NEW YORK, Wednesday.—Dizzy Gillespie is now waiting for clearance from the U.S. State Department for his overseas tour under the sponsorship of the American National Theatre and Academy. If it comes through as expected, Dizzy will be the first artist representing the U.S. Government to tour the Middle and Far East. Asia and Africa under the \$300,000 dollars granted by Congress for an emergency fund for participation in international artistic affairs.

Herman names new personnel

New York, Wednesday.—An already reported former Jack Parrish trombonist, Bobby Lamb will be in the organization by present New Year's week at a Boston club.

MORE TELECASTS FROM BIRMINGHAM

WITH the opening of the new Gosta Green studios more telecasts are booked from the Birmingham area. On January 17 there is a "Come Dancing" programme from the Grand Casino, Birmingham, and from the same venue will come a tea

Two new men for Brunskill band

Terry Pitts (tmb.) and Pete Davis (cl.) debut with the Bill Brunskill band at "The Barn," Gerrard Street, W.1, tonight (Friday). They replace Bernie Newlands and Reg Woolley respectively.

This week's releases of Decca-Group 78 @ 45 r.p.m. records

- GRETA KELLER: Goodbye lieber Johnny; Apollo Umberto silvano Roberto Romano F 10649
JOAN REGAN: Croce di oro; Love and marriage F 10659
BILLY COTTON AND HIS BAND: The Ballad of Davy Crockett; The one finger song F 10664
DICKIE VALENTINE: Dreams can tell a lie; Song of the trees F 10667
THE STARGAZERS: (Love is the tender trap; When the swallows say goodbye F 10668
EDMUNDO ROS AND HIS ORCHESTRA: Sixteen tons; Robin Hood F 10669
THE ROLAND SHAW ORCHESTRA: Blue bell polka; The Josephine waltz F 10670
THE FOUR JONES BOYS: Moments to remember; Sing-ing-ing-ing F 10671
BURL IVE: The Ballad of Davy Crockett; Goober Peas 05510
RED SOVINE: Sixteen tons; The Ballad of Davy Crockett; Farewell HLA 8220
WEBB PIERCE: Why baby why 05513
THE HILTOPPERS: Only you; Until the real thing comes HLD 8221
ELLA FITZGERALD: My one and only love; Tender trap 05514
LOUIE ARMSTRONG: Moments to remember; Only you 05512

KENNY BAKER BACK WITH NEW SOUND

KENNY BAKER will present an all-star line-up for his new "Let's Gettle For Music" series commencing on Tuesday (January 3). There will be a number of new faces in the "Dozen."

LEE KONITZ DUE FOR CONTINENT

NEW YORK, Wednesday.—Lee Konitz is set to leave on a concert date set for him as far with Lars Gullin and Hans Koller include Hamburg, January 7, Frankfurt (6th), Baden-Baden (10th), Metz (11th), Berlin (14th) and Cologne (15th).

STRINGS BACK VIC ASH ON NIXA



Vic Ash has backed by strings and rhythm for an LP next on Tuesday for Nixa at the Apollo, London. He is accompanied by Freddie Astor, Henry Dwyer, David Katz, and Ron Essex.

60-concert tour for Sammy Price

Paris, Wednesday.—Sammy Price and his All Stars reached Paris early last Monday and almost immediately played a session for the Jeunesses Musicales de France (reports Henry Kahn).

Mulligan trombonist leaves to freelance

Dave Keir, trombonist with the Mork Mulligan band, is leaving on January 1 to freelance.

Recording Round-Up



EMI Musical celebrities turned up in force at the many parties held over the Christmas week. Here, at the EMI party, famous American entertainer Jerry Colonna (r.) shares a joke with Leslie Wright. "The Daddy Of The Party Alley," and his two charming companions, Alma Cohen (l.) and Ruby Murray. The party was held at EMI's Abbey Road studios.

BG FILM OPENS HERE ON JAN. 12

"The Benny Goodman Story," the film biography of the famous leader, opens in London at the Odeon, Marble Arch, on January 12 for three weeks.

PHILIPS

Winneapolis replaced ten-uses when Philips Records held its annual party on Wednesday. Here Johnny Franz (center), Arthur Karl and Patti Lewis, comedian and disc-jockey Len Herren and radio personality David Jacobs, at the Philips Great Portland Street office.



Rosemary Shires in Amsterdam cabaret

Singer Rosemary Shires commences a month's engagement at the Doopoot, Amsterdam, this Sunday (12th). She will also carry out television and radio dates while in Holland.

Dennis Lotis in 'Song's The Thing'

Fourth songster to be featured in the BBC's "The Song's The Thing" will be Dennis Lotis, who airs on January 23.

U.S. release for McGuffie LP

Platist Bill McGuffie will be the first British artist to have a disc released in the States on Monday (January 2). Arranged in conjunction with the States, whom Bill records in Britain, it will be an LP entitled "Go McGuffie!"

Steve Race airs

In "World Of Jazz" on January 3, Steve Race will present recent jazz recordings.

HEATH PLANS

At the end of their U.S. tour, Ted and the band will sail for home on the liner Queen Elizabeth from New York on May 2. Ted's eye, which had been injured on Wednesday morning and which he is suffering from pleurisy, has completely healed so that he will be able to complete his tour of the States but insisted upon carrying on.

Eartha Kitt says It's not fair

EARTHA KITT, diminutive 27-year-old American singing star, arrived in Britain on Christmas Eve. She is here until January 8 and will make two appearances on ITV (for Associated-Rediffusion) and also star in a half-hour TV film entitled "Twenty-Four Hours in London."

ESQUIRE DISCS PRICE CHANGES

ON January 1st the Esquire 18 rpm 10-000 jazz series will be reduced in price. Simultaneously, 12's have been brought into line with other labels retaining similar material.

Sammy Davis Jr. due next year

New York, Wednesday.—Sammy Davis, Jr., famous American singer, impressionist, dancer and all-round entertainer, is likely to visit Britain next autumn for variety and TV.

Two ITV dates for Kenny Powell

Platist Kenny Powell appears on A.R.'s "Quiet Rhythms" programme on January 5 and 11 accompanied by bassist Joe Muggel and a guitarist who has had singer Shirley Ryan will be guest star on the first programme on January 11.

New Year changes at New Cross

New Cross Palais manager Peter Regis announces innovations to the ballroom for 1956. A new leader, Jeff Martin, and his nine-piece band will be featured every Saturday. Jeff, a local musician, and a three-piece rhythm section of piano, drums and bass.

NEWS IN BRIEF

A AMERICAN musical stars, Derr, at present playing the lead role in "The Sound of Music" in London production which opens at the Grand Theatre on January 25. Mid of the show will be Regina Euston.
The Maple Leaf Four and the Russ Henderson Trinidad Steel Band are to perform in the Commonwealth artists to be presented in the London production which opens at the Grand Theatre on January 25. Mid of the show will be Regina Euston.
Rex Harris presents a programme of W. C. Handy Blues in World Of Jazz on January 11.
The Billy Cotton Band Show returns to the air in the Light Programme on New Year's Day.
Robin Gerber has left Frank Mills to join Keith Prosser at Music Publishing Co. as Record Exploitation Manager.
Canadian, William Ingalls has joined Frank Mills as assistant to Leslie Kettle.
The Tony Kinsley Quartet has been added to the New Year's Eve programme featuring the World of Jazz orchestras at the Florida Club, Leicester Square.
Gipsy singer Danny Purches is appearing on "Music Shop" on January 7.



Larry Cassidy (r.), resident leader at Leeds Locarno, presents George Keller (l.) with a £100 cheque on behalf of Messrs Selmers, Ltd. for winning the recent Guinness Competition organised by Selmers. George, Yorkshire pianist and ex-contestant leader, lives at West Melton, near Rotherham. Watching is Ken Cooper, Messrs. Kitchens' of Leeds, who supplied George's clavichord.



available from 2nd January THE DECCA RECORD COMPANY LTD. 1-3 BRITTON ROAD, LONDON, W.1



Holiday WS

World Symphony" and his id never have imagined that one day he presented to a Flanagan's Trees," "Cotton or Song." ne of them—"Once A Year"— lyrics as riasque as one could Surleque"—be used as ballet

Opera House (writes Jerry ndon's Princes' Theatre in February, began an eight-week run. "A Story of the New World By Eric Maschwitz and Hy Kraft With Music By Anton Pivovak." It purports to be the story of the composer's visit in 1882 to Willow Falls, a Czech lumber town in Illinois. I can hardly believe the story entertainment.

The production is lavish and spectacular and the dressing rooms by five members of the cast were the best of the show's undoubted success on its opening night.

Laurence Naughton as the composer is excellent. He is as her best ever. Bonita Primrose gets every ounce out of her role as the soprano. Her singing is superb. Which brings us to David Hughes.

David Hughes, making his first appearance in a musical, does very well. He is as her best ever. Bonita Primrose gets every ounce out of her role as the soprano. Her singing is superb. Which brings us to David Hughes.

Valentine & Bevs SEVERAL hundred teenagers went to see Valentine & Bevs—Dickie Valentine, that is—when he opened in his first pantomime, *Aladdin*, at the Theatre Royal, Newcastle (writes John Hobbs).

It was known before the show started that Valentine would play for more, as indeed he did. But what about the traditionalists and children? Dickie had the answer for them in the marvellous character he portrayed.

As an unassuming page-boy he acted cheerfully the indignities of a "custard pie" treatment from Widow Twankey (Albert Burrows). His real love comes with local girl Doreen Grant—50-50. Valentine is indeed a successful pantomime and much of its triumph can be attributed to Mr. D. Valentine.

At the Empire, we find the Beverley sisters, Cinderella, Babs plays Prince Charming, and her sister acts as attendant. A perfect team.

Christmas Eve SURELY Eve Boswell is our most versatile Principal Boy (writes George Harrison). I have been privileged to see her in both her pantomimes—Humpty Dumpty and Hippodrome last year, and on the first night of *Mother Goose* at the Coventry Theatre this Christmas.

Too sweet! JOAN REGAN is a many splendored soul (writes George Harrison). She has beauty, talent, charm and enormous popularity, as well as a considerable amount of money.



Bill Russo, making his first appearance in a musical, does very well. He is as her best ever. Bonita Primrose gets every ounce out of her role as the soprano. Her singing is superb. Which brings us to David Hughes.

Dick Whittington at Liverpool Empire will do nothing to harm any of those particular items of splendour.

At the same time, it would be wise to remember that the world of pantomime is quite different from the Variety stage.

As an unassuming page-boy he acted cheerfully the indignities of a "custard pie" treatment from Widow Twankey (Albert Burrows). His real love comes with local girl Doreen Grant—50-50.

'Terrific' Teddy Carr in a Marien-inspired accent when Teddy Johnson makes his first appearance on the stage in *Chinerebella* at the Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham. One is inclined to agree with her by the final curtain (writes George Harrison).

Not quite pantomime, but after the show, the girls for their bright singing, light humour, and good acting.

As Colin, she brings a sparkling gamine to cast overloaded with talent. Winesap, Eve Boswell is on stage she radiates an effervescence which is infectious. And when she appears in her own song spot, she is a delight. Just don't want to let her go.

Here is a first-class example of how a top singer can be figured intelligently into a traditional role.

JOAN REGAN is a many splendored soul (writes George Harrison). She has beauty, talent, charm and enormous popularity, as well as a considerable amount of money.

Her first invasion of the traditional ranks of pantomime, in Tom Arnold's presentation of

From the Notebook of BILL RUSSO

THE following is a collection of material concerning the improvement of the jazz orchestra performance. Much of it is easily explained; much of it consists of very small points. Despite simplicity and smallness, however, these details make possible the great jazz orchestra.

HIGH BRASS

1. High brass parts should be written as they sound, not an octave lower with "57a" markings. A trumpet player or trombone player is greatly aided in "reading" the music if he can see their attitude. Both Maynard Ferguson and Ernie Royal have told me how helpful this is.

FAST NOTES

2. Fast, repeated notes can often be best played by the trumpet section through use of alternate fingerings combined with usual fingerings. The figure in Example 1 can be played this way: the first note with the first and third valves, and the last note with the first valve again. The articulation here, then, is created by the valves, not by the tongue.

Discriminated use with the aforementioned qualifications of the trumpet section through use of alternate fingerings is best for powerful chords.

3. It is most conducive to the flow of an up-tempo piece if the more sustained notes are, as a rule, more sounded equally. Debent cut-offs tend to "militarize" the quality of the music.

Saxophones can also do this, although not with as wide an application. In addition, the trombones can obtain similar results by use of different slide positions for the same notes.

There are very few notes which allow this though. The use of this method for trombones would make sense in terms of sound rather than ease, and very fast figures are prescribed.

The usual application of this principle is to chordal figures played by the brass or the entire ensemble.

4. Legato playing is terribly important. The abuse exists in jazz orchestra performances. Accented notes must be clearly pronounced from preceding notes.

There must also be a great deal of "light" between accented notes. In addition, light between accented notes greatly facilitates the flow of the tempo, and destroys cohesive ensemble playing.

5. The notes enclosed in parentheses are not forgotten—they are slighted a bit; they are implied rather than stated. In this way, the ensemble would gain a fully rich experience with jazz orchestra.

6. A brass figure such as the one in Example 6 is very difficult for slide trombones: it is not difficult for larger groups of instruments. Trying to pick out the lower notes makes the passage awkward. What the writer probably wanted is seen in Example 7. This is the way a good jazz brass section would play this figure.

7. If all the notes in Example 6 were sounded equally, the figure would be very clumsy, if not impossible.

8. The notes enclosed in parentheses are not forgotten—they are slighted a bit; they are implied rather than stated. In this way, the ensemble would gain a fully rich experience with jazz orchestra.

9. The use of valve trombones instead of slide trombones in the jazz orchestra would solve a great many ensemble playing problems—not because of the greater facility they afford, although this could be usefully utilized, but because their real advantage is that they provide an articulation like that of the trumpets and the saxophones: a keyed articulation. Since the finger and not the tongue, the phrasing of the trumpets could be fairly easily duplicated in this way, the ensemble would gain a fully rich experience with jazz orchestra.

10. In rehearsing a new piece of music, it is very important to begin by playing the entire work through. If it is long (longer than the usual three-minute piece), the main, large sections of it can be treated individually. Fast and difficult pieces should be first played somewhat slower.

The main reason for this preliminary run-down is to give all the players an idea of the nature of the work as a whole. They must know what the piece requires of them, in addition to having a vision of the whole, before they can be expected to do their best rehearsing.

11. The very difficult passages should be worked out separately each being broken down into a small fragment as possible. Here, it is wise to begin with a much slower tempo, gradually increasing speed as the notes get under control. It is also best if high brass parts are played an octave lower at first (but see 1, above). This allows the men to concentrate on the fingering (which is usually identical, an octave lower) and on the nature of the passage.

12. One very effective way to handle a tricky passage is to work through the orchestra, man by man. An ensemble passage.

13. Another method of working an ensemble passage out is to have the band play it without the lead trumpet. The sound of the lead part covers a multitude of sins. Eliminating it exposes these errors, forcing the men to get the sound themselves.

14. As I mentioned in a previous article, it is a good idea to set up the band in tiers for rehearsal, with trumpets, trombones, and saxophones directly behind each other, and the rhythm section set up alongside.

In addition, rehearsing without the rhythm section is very important, for similar reasons to those mentioned in 13, above.

Some random thoughts on technical matters

UP-TEMPO

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2. Fast, repeated notes can often be best played by the trumpet section through use of alternate fingerings combined with usual fingerings. The figure in Example 1 can be played this way: the first note with the first and third valves, and the last note with the first valve again. The articulation here, then, is created by the valves, not by the tongue.

Discriminated use with the aforementioned qualifications of the trumpet section through use of alternate fingerings is best for powerful chords.

3. It is most conducive to the flow of an up-tempo piece if the more sustained notes are, as a rule, more sounded equally. Debent cut-offs tend to "militarize" the quality of the music.

Saxophones can also do this, although not with as wide an application. In addition, the trombones can obtain similar results by use of different slide positions for the same notes.

There are very few notes which allow this though. The use of this method for trombones would make sense in terms of sound rather than ease, and very fast figures are prescribed.

The usual application of this principle is to chordal figures played by the brass or the entire ensemble.

4. Legato playing is terribly important. The abuse exists in jazz orchestra performances. Accented notes must be clearly pronounced from preceding notes.

There must also be a great deal of "light" between accented notes. In addition, light between accented notes greatly facilitates the flow of the tempo, and destroys cohesive ensemble playing.

5. The notes enclosed in parentheses are not forgotten—they are slighted a bit; they are implied rather than stated. In this way, the ensemble would gain a fully rich experience with jazz orchestra.

6. A brass figure such as the one in Example 6 is very difficult for slide trombones: it is not difficult for larger groups of instruments. Trying to pick out the lower notes makes the passage awkward. What the writer probably wanted is seen in Example 7. This is the way a good jazz brass section would play this figure.

7. If all the notes in Example 6 were sounded equally, the figure would be very clumsy, if not impossible.

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ERIC WINSTONE COMPOSES Christmas Music shop

MUSIC FOR THREE ITV SERIES FOR FRANKIE VAUGHAN



In this picture Frankie Vaughan (L) is seen with (L-R) Life Boss, Tommy Trinder and Geoff Long at rehearsals for the first of his Radio Luxembourg series on Wednesday. Life and Tommy were guest stars. Geoff Long's orchestra accompanied Frankie.

FRANKIE VAUGHAN commences a commercial TV series for Associated-Rediffusion at the beginning of February. This will be his first-ever TV series.

Busy New Year for Marie Benson

TV, cabaret, broadcasts and a concert herald a busy 1956 for Marie Benson. Following her appearance in ITA's "Tele-Box" on Wednesday, she is featured in this Sunday's "Henry Hall's Guest Night". Cabaret in London on January 7 precedes a concert at the New Theatre, Cambridge, the following day.

On January 19, Marie is featured with Bill McQuibb in an afternoon TV show, and on January 25 she broadcasts in "How Do You Do?"

PORTHCAWL WANTS A SONG FROM YOU!

Porthcawl Council have been encouraged by the success of their "Write A Melody" Contest to make this contest an annual event, and are again inviting amateur composers' entries. They should send a stamped, addressed envelope for entry forms and rules to E. Dick, Entertainments Officer, Grand Pavilion, Porthcawl, Glam.

BANDLEADER Eric Winstone has composed the incidental music for three new pictures being made by Exclusive Films, for whom he has made two Cinema-Scope musicals with his band.

These composing assignments follow his background music for the firm's half-hour thriller "The Right Person," which will be seen in the West End in mid-January. One film is a travelogue called "Copenhagen," featuring shots of the Danish city. The others are "The Highwayman" and "Dick Turpin."

Arts Ball

Dennis Hale, currently appearing solo in Variety, sings the title role on the soundtrack of "The Highwayman," which will have music by a large orchestra conducted by John Hollingsworth, studio and for Exclusive. Vocalist Ray Merrell will replace Michael Holliday, who has left Eric Winstone to freelance. Ray, who has recently been with Teddy Foster, joins Eric Winstone next Monday on a two-year contract.

Eric Winstone and his Orchestra appear for the first time at the Chelsea Arts Ball at the Albert Hall today (Friday). They play Hammersmith Palais for one week commencing February 13 and star in the Variety Club of Great Britain Ball at the Dorchester Hotel on February 26.

He appears in Variety at the Nottingham Empire for the week commencing on Monday.

Mike Nevard to join the 'Daily Herald'

MIKE NEVARD is relinquishing his position as Melody Maker's Features Editor to take up a post on the Features staff of the Daily Herald. Mike Nevard, who joined the

MM six years ago, has for the past year been joint Features Editor with Peter Leslie. His outspoken articles have been the subject of much controversy in the profession, and it was his recent features on Cab Callaghan, Eric Deane and Johnnie Ray that led to his being offered, on November 9, the Herald post.

He will leave the Melody Maker on January 16. From January 16, Jack Hutton, of the MM News Department, will become Assistant Features Editor to Peter Leslie.

In the meantime, Bob Dawbarn has joined the MM's reporting staff from Sky's Reporting Agency. Dawbarn is also collaborating with Ian Bell's Jazznet.



A host of stars had a merry Christmas on Gerry Wilmer's "ATV Music Shop" last Saturday. Pictured here enjoying the festive atmosphere are the Three Deuses (back, L-R) featuring Hans Zimmer, Hans Zimmer and Shane Rimmer (front, extreme r.), with Ronnie Hilton and Marion Ryan. The Three Deuses open in Toronto on January 2 for four weeks and return to appear at the Melody Maker's "Night Out With The Stars" at the Royal Albert Hall on January 21. (See stories pp. 8 and 9.)

Melachrino 35 to play Italian Festival

Popular Song, promoted by the Italian radio network, RAI. It will be the first time a British orchestra has played at this event, which will be broadcast and televised before a large audience. All the other artists will be Italian.

George will also conduct for the Italian Festival's annual return date in Britain, at London's Albert Hall in June.

Malcolm Mitchell denies break-up

Malcolm Mitchell has denied strong rumours that he is breaking up his band and reforming his trio. Malcolm told "The Melody Maker" this week: "I can't think how these rumours got around. There is absolutely no truth in such a suggestion."

My band is booked right into April and we are doing remarkably well. I have great hopes for the future and the last thing I would do is to think about disbanding.

Malcolm's lead-trumpet, Murray Campbell, who has been with the band since its inception almost a year ago, leaves after a concert at Dudley on Sunday and will be joining Joe Lusa.

Christmas Music shop



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Buddy F. Quintet line-up for Nixa

The successful West End debut of the Buddy Featherstonhaugh no-piano Quintet at the Flamingo Club on December 18 has resulted in a return date and a booking at the Florida Club early in the New Year. Meanwhile, the Quintet cuts its first Nixa sides on Thursday next (Jan. 5).

The session will be for the "Jazz Today" series, with Buddy leading on baritone, Roy Sidwell (tr.), Leon Calvert (tp.), Bill Stark (bass), Paul Brodie (dr.).

BBC-TV cameras at Tottenham Royal

BBC television cameras will be at the Royal, Tottenham, on Monday (January 2) to cover the final of the Inter-Regional Ballroom Dancing Contest, judging the contestants will be Victor Silvester.

Two bands will be seen by viewers—those of Nat Allen and Sidney Thompson.

LITA ROZA

WISHES ALL HER FRIENDS & FANS

A Very Happy and Prosperous New Year

JOE DANIELS

Wishes all his Fans and Friends

A Happy and Prosperous New Year

New successfully touring FRANCE, GERMANY, TURKEY, SPAIN, ITALY, GREECE and MEXICO, etc. See U.S.A.

New Year Greetings from

Ginger JOHNSON

(Afro-Cuban, Latin-American Rhythm)

and the Fabulous

Monsieur CALVET

from

LE CLUB CONTEMPORAIN

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