

Melody Maker

Anthony Newley

See Page 3

May 16, 1959

FOR THE BEST IN JAZZ

Every Friday 6d.

ABC-TV PROPS FOR SINATRA

MILLIONAIRES!



The Variety Club staged its annual Golden Disc luncheon on Wednesday at the Dorchester Hotel. The chief guest was veteran American entertainer Sophie Tucker. The last of the Red Hot Mommas. She is seen (above) of the luncheon with (l-r) Hughie Green, Stanley Black and Harry Secombe.



Four more disc millionaires are seen just before entering the luncheon room. They are (l-r) Cyril Ripstein, Eddie Collett, Shirley Bassey and Eamonn Conway.



The guest list was completed by (l-r) Pete Murray, Janice Peters, Kent Walton (who introduced the stars) and Ted Heath. Mr. Big Omer, Michael Holliday and Marlon Marou were also invited but they have influenza. Marou was kept busy by TV and Michael is out of town.

Four shows in Britain

ABC-TV is poised to pull off one of the biggest television scoops of the year. Bids have gone out from the company for Frank Sinatra to visit Britain to make four "spectaculars."

Sinatra would tape the shows here in December, January or February. Apart from being shown in Britain, they would be made available to America and other countries.

If the deal comes off, this would be Sinatra's first working trip to Britain since his Variety tour here six years ago.

Man behind this ambitious project is Ron Rowson, programme controller of ABC-TV. He recently returned from the States, where he opened negotiations

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Frank Sinatra

BECHET IS FIGHTING FOR HIS LIFE

From GINO LEVI

PARIS, Wednesday—Veteran jazz star Sidney Bechet is fighting for his life.

The world-famous soprano saxist and clarinetist has a deadly lung cancer and his condition was described today as "desperate."

"The news is absolutely catastrophic. He is wailing at a terrifying speed," I was told by his friend, impresario Charles Delannay.

His visitors are allowed at the small cottage in the Paris suburb of Garches, where Bechet is fighting the greatest battle of his life.

He has lost a tremendous amount of weight in the last four weeks but it is hoped that he will be strong enough to be moved very shortly into a clinic to undergo treatment.

Shaken

Treatment at a Paris clinic last month only left him more shaken than before. I was told.

Elizabeth Bechet, Sidney's estranged wife who lives outside Paris, told me: "You cannot imagine how grieved I am by this tragedy."

Bechet has not enjoyed the best of health since he underwent an operation for stomach ulcers in the summer of 1945.

His last public engagement was at the Brussels World Fair in September.

Bechet's axe is something of

a mystery—the reference books varying from the late sixties to the early twenties. He was born in New Orleans and has been playing clarinet since he was six.

Since settling in France ten years ago, Bechet's popularity with both jazz fans and the general public has been so great that publishers have referred to him as the "King of France."

HEART TO HEART VAUGHAN DEBUT

FRANKIE VAUGHAN'S picture, "The Heart of a Man," is to be premiered for Royalty at Marble Arch Odeon on June 23.

Attended by the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester, it will be in aid of the National Association of Boys' Clubs, of which the Duke is President, and the Heart Fund of the Variety Club of Great Britain.

Frankie cannot be present as he opens his two-week season at New York's CosmoBallroom night-spot that evening.

Frankie Vaughan's current London Palladium season ends on May 23. He has a Saturday Spectacular, on May 23 with the Kaye Sisters and the King Brothers.

British agent off for U.S. talks

Agent Sydney Graves left for the States on Tuesday for a three-week trip.

While there, he will discuss current and future bookings with America's General Artists Association. Artists handled by GAA include Nat "King" Cole, Johnny "Machine Gun" Cole, Frankie Laine and Teresa Brewer.

Jeremy Lubbock at the Blue Note

Planiat Jeremy Lubbock has been booked to open for a month at the Blue Note, Paris, starting on June 1.

During his first week, he will be featured together with alto-saxophonist Benny Hill. Britons asked Gerry Mulligan will then replace Hill.

A new Jeremy Lubbock EP is due from Parlophone shortly.

'Farewell' to the Rockingham XI

THE best-selling Jack Good-Harry Robinson Lord Rockingham XI disc combo played its "swan song" at Decca's Hampstead studios last week.

Last in the line of Lord Rockingham "singles" to be issued by Decca is "Ha-Ha, Rockingham" and "Farewell to Rockingham."

Harry Robinson: "This will be our last Lord Rockingham XI record, but, of course, if either title turns out to be a

best-seller, we may revise our idea."

When the current "Oh Boy!" series ends on May 30 Harry will lead the Lord Rockingham XI on a series of one-night dates throughout the summer.

"But I think the band will wind up by September," adds Harry.

"I shall not be back on 'Oh Boy!' when it returns to TV in September. I want to do a new show with a different type of appeal." (See also page 1.)

Stop Press INTERNATIONAL REGISTRATION

Lena Horne film

NEW YORK, Wednesday.—Debbie Reynolds and Dean Martin due to record album that will have sleeve notes by Bing Crosby, singer Eddie Fisher wants to play a small role with Elizabeth Taylor in "Suddenly Last Summer" to be filmed in England this summer.

And Bing Crosby makes three...

HOLLYWOOD, Wednesday.—Frankie Laine is to tour in "Pajama Game" and then "Say Darling" and "The Rat Patrol" has a starring role in "Private Affairs" Charlie Martin is replacing Lennie Nelson in the Kenyon lead on stage. Laine is returning to Hollywood to concentrate on arranging.

FRANKIE LAINE is to tour in "Pajama Game" and then "Say Darling" and "The Rat Patrol" has a starring role in "Private Affairs" Charlie Martin is replacing Lennie Nelson in the Kenyon lead on stage. Laine is returning to Hollywood to concentrate on arranging.

PELLE CLARK'S first single release on Imperial here is "Baby Love" backed with "Ever Been in Love" An Ekkoville-Balle album will be released in England in June or July's August British tour.

GRAND! BING CROSBY became a star again last week when showgirl Sandra Drum-

NEW YORK, Wednesday.

—Reg ("Manhattan Spiritual") Owen may tour the States with an 18-piece British band this autumn.

Two big American agents deal following Reg's recent

From HOWARD LUCRAFT

Learning fast
Said the Hollywood columnist last week: "All four of the Crosby boys are learning to play guitar by their own natural gifts." The boys are trying for a June 15 opening.
It's reported that Gerry Mulligan will obtain a Mexican divorce to clear the way for him to marry Judy Holiday.
Congratulations
Congratulations to Jimmy and Elvis Presley's cabbed coronation. The Four Prime Capitol recording stars who started at Hollywood High School three years ago, have all been called up together for the army. Their arranger went along too!

MEET THE STARS with REN GREVATT

are already bidding for the month's visit to America.

Reg returned to Britain 10 days ago from his six-week promotional trip in connection with his best-selling "Manhattan Spiritual".

Reg also has an album on the Parlophone label entitled "Manhattan Spiritual" which is now selling fast here. And a new single has just been released. Titles are "Down By The Riverside" and another Owen original, "Ambush".

ETHEL ENNIS

For London's Astor
ETHEL ENNIS has just been booked for an engagement at the Astor Club in July.
Miss Ennis is well known on the international front last year when she was featured in vocal with the Betty Goodman troupe at the Brussels World Fair.
Another English thrush, Abbey Lincoln, has been booked into the Astor for June.

CONNIE FRANCIS

LP boost
TWO top thrashers on MGM, Connie Francis and Joni James, both of whom recently appeared on the radio, are also in promotion treatment here on their new albums.
Connie's latest is "I'm Gonna Be a Girl" (MGM) and Joni's is "I'm Gonna Be a Girl" (MGM).
Connie's latest LP was recorded in London's Kingsway Hall. Her new album was supported by her choral and the symphony of the London Philharmonic. Her husband, Tony Acquaviva, is the arranger.

Dates with the Stars

- (Week commencing May 17)
- Paul ANKA
Week: Empire, Liverpool
 - Kenny BAKER
Week: Royal, Chester
 - Shelley BASKIN
Week: Prince of Wales, W. London
 - Week: Hippodrome, Birmingham
 - Ray CASTLE
Week: Empire, Palladium
 - DALLAS BOYS
Week: Empire, Pinbury
 - Jill DAY
Week: Floral Hall, Scarborough
 - Larry DORLAND
Week: Coventry Theatre, Coventry
 - Louise DOUGAN
Week: Coventry Theatre, Coventry
 - Joe HENDERSON
Week: Royal, Chester
 - Henna HILTON
Week: Royal, Chester
 - Edmond HODKINSON
Week: North Pier, Blackpool
 - Michael HOLLODY
Week: Wellington Pier, Great Yarmouth
 - Sunday Granada: Akeley
Jazz at the Philharmonic
Week: Gaiety, St. James's
 - KAYE SISTERS
Week: Hippodrome, Brighton
 - KING BROTHERS
Week: London Palladium
 - MURRAY
Week: North Pier, Blackpool
 - Ruby MURRAY
Week: Winter Gardens, Morecambe
 - COE RICHARD
Week: Empire, Pinbury
 - Maurice ROCCO
Week: Hippodrome, Brighton
 - REBECCA STURTEVANT
Week: Royal, Chester
 - Week: North Pier, Blackpool
 - Frankie VAUGHAN
Week: London Palladium
 - DAVE WHITFIELD
Week: Regal, Great Yarmouth

Stop Press INTERNATIONAL

JAZZ promoter M. Romano and film producer Roger Vadim left Paris for New York this week to record Thelma Houston for the film "Lionsel Dangers".
Meanwhile, Monk was taken ill in Boston and entered hospital. A letter from the hospital to his wife went astray and New York was buzzing with rumors that the pianist has died. However, it is now convincing at home in New York.

second TV jazz spectacular on June 2.
Also featured will be the Chris Jordan group, featuring Milt Mackay Quartet (Montreal),

NEW YORK.—Latest signing of the Glaser's Associated Booking Corporation, the Louis Jordan group, is being lined up for a tour of Europe. First it will tour in Scotland, then a tour and a series of TV guest spots.

MONTREAL.—That "Old School" man, Billy Daniels, opened at the Bellevue Casino last week-end.

NEW YORK.—A new musical group in Las Vegas, the "New Musical Group," is set to Broadway on Tuesday. Unusually, the group will use a jazz quartet on stage instead of a pit band.
Tommy Wolf, who wrote the music and is MD of the group, will be heard and seen at the Kingsway Hall (S.T.), Joe Benjamin (bass), Lou Stets (drums) and Lou Stets replaces Wolf next week.

MONTREAL.—Canada's Montreal Tensional, son of a Montreal band contest with titles at New York's Regal Ballroom, is the Ted Metrom Band. Ted, a Montreal musician, goes in for the better brands of jazz and small combo sounds.

AS VEGAS.—Buddy Rich is set to work with a small group in Las Vegas shortly. The drummer has been appearing with both small and large units in New York for the past few months.

NEW YORK.—Trombonist John Cotrone is leaving for a new job. He is probably replacement by Milt Heath, brother of Milt Heath, brother of Milt Heath, brother of Milt Heath. Heath's Columbia Records report says he is the new trombonist in the Dave-Cli Evans' "Foxy And The Soulmates".

HOHENSA.—Bassist Ross Borkovic, who left the Sid Phillips Band in London, is due back in Britain about the "Blomstein Castle" on June 1.

PARIS.—Norman Grant presents two JATP concerts in Paris next Friday (May 22) with a brand new programme of original top names of West Coast jazz.
Art Mulligan's Quartet, with J.P. Fuller, the Jimmy Mulligan Trio and the Krupa Quartet will play for a matinee and evening show at the Pleyel Concert Hall.

AMSTERDAM.—Record "A" Supervision boss Denis Poyser will be in Holland on Monday for a four-day business-pleasure trip.

"The Exciting Connie Francis" and it too is getting a big promotion billhook.
One thousand copies are being rushed to disc-jockeys and already the album has become the spotlight of the week on a number of stations.

BILLY DANIELS

Back to Europe
BILLY DANIELS, recently a European visitor, will soon be returning.
Following his recent successful engagement at the Cops-ahome, it was announced that he will appear at Monte Carlo starting July 10.
Running his idea that he stop-off in London en route to the Riviera for TV appearances.

CLARA WARD

Group honoured
CLARA WARD and her Singers have been accorded a circular award.
The group has been booked for two appearances at the nationally known Savina Music Festival in suburban Chicago for August 5 and 6.
Before, the Festival has been confined largely to classical music.

PERRY COMO

Meets disc-jockeys
THE second annual National Disc-Jockey Convention slated for Miami Beach, Florida, on May 30, is likely to become a gathering place for the top disc artists of the nation.
The convention will be held at the Hotel Americana, the conclude will have in its midst such names as Perry Como, Pat Boone, Tony Bennett, Peggy Lee, Vic Davy, Gene Summers and his Quartet, Jack Scott, Jackie Turner, Gary Byrnes and the great Count Basie Band.

LESLINGTON BAND TAKES A BREAK

DUKE ELLINGTON'S orchestra is virtually on suspension. Last week Duke took off for Michigan to start work on the filming of "Anatomy of a Murder".
Ellington is Jimmy Hamilton, Ray Nance, Jimmy Wood, Duke Ellington, new drummer, Jimmy Johnson, all of whom will be seen as well as heard in the film.

From LEONARD FEATHER

Hayes (piano) and Les Orin (bass). Sellers has just returned from a two-week engagement in Bermuda with Tony Scott.
CHARLIE MINOUS is enjoying considerable success with an aggressively swinging quintet at the Playhouse (better known as Minton's). With him are Booker Ervin (tenor sax), Sam Handy (tenor and alto), Horace Parlan (piano) and Danny Richmond (drums).

A TOTAL of 76 college students are qualified for the semi-finals of the School of Jazz International Scholarship Competition, according to jazz critic Martin Williams. Williams has been screening musicians from the twelve participating colleges and universities.
The winners, who will receive full scholarships to the School of Jazz for the next season, will be chosen by John Lewis of the Modern Jazz Quartet, and Dave Liebman of the faculty of the school.

The Ellington Band has already made several appearances without its leader—Billie Holiday substituting on piano for some dates.
Apart from a few week-end one-night-stands, the band will continue to play until early June when it will reassemble for a two-week engagement in Syracuse, New York.

E. V. PERRY, ex-Ellington trumpeter, and Clyde Henson, substituting on piano with the Gil Evans Band, released Bill Coleman as Larry Moor in Maynard Ferguson's trumpet section.

BLAISE WARD, Brother John LPs for Monitor Records. Accompanying him on the recording is Mickey Baker (guitar), Ernest

CLARRY BAINES...



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ANTHONY NEWLEY—the overnight star—says

Heat by this business



ANTHONY NEWLEY, bright boy of Warwick Films—and now bright boy of the MM's Top Twenty—had a hangover when I called on him on Friday. A hangover induced by the heady flavour of the Hit Parade.

The two 'phones in his Kensington flat were ringing continuously, the mantelpiece was piled high with invitations and the newly-appointed secretary was waiting with a notebook full of messages. Anthony Newley—owner of a single and an EP in the Hit Parade—sank gratefully into the calm of his fireside chair—still in pyjamas and dressing gown.

"You know, lad," he confided, "this music business has got me beat. A fortnight ago I didn't know it existed—now I'm finding myself hypnotised by it."

BILL HALDEN spends a morning with the star of 'Idle on Parade'

"It's a fantastic world on its own. A huge chunk of Americana. An Alice in Wonderland world that's sharp and snide, and ruled by the top-selling charts. Now it's even got me at it. I look eagerly at the lists every week, and read the musical Press."

An actor

"Mind you, I'm not quite in it. As an actor first and foremost, I've found that publishers and so on are not too eager to approach me."

"I've had offers to do Variety tour one-night-stands and so on. I suppose if I wanted to I could get in there and make myself quite a few thousand pounds. But that sort of stuff isn't for me."

"I don't want to be one of those rock-'n'-rollers who go on to the stage, grunt and groan, and then, a few years later, are forgotten nobodies."

Two ballads

"I like to think of myself as being a bit different. Some of the numbers that are brought to me I have to laugh at. 'You're not serious?' I ask. 'Well, no,' is usually the reply—but that's what the kids want.' I have two ballads coming out next, but I suppose they will be given a rock backing."

"I have never had any musical training, and Decca have advised me not to take singing lessons."

"I have a tremendous respect for musicians, mainly because I have always wanted to be one, and I like to think I break a song up in the same way a musician would."

Anthony Newley is 27. He first made an impact in the fashionable "Cranks" revue in London's West End. But films have been Tony's bread-and-butter.

Since 1947, he has appeared in at least one film each year. Films like "The Guinea Pig", "Above Us The Waves", "Cockleshell Heroes", "Fire Down Below" and "The Man Inside."

Praise

Yet it was only this year that the critics really promoted him. They praised his role as an actor in Frankie Vaughan's "The Lady is a Square," so a couple of months ago, revs in London's West End, Decca decided to feature Newley's "Idle on Parade."

The film cost only £75,000 to make (average is usually upward of £125,000) and was, says Newley himself, admits, "the film no one wanted to know about."

Then the hysteria over the Newley songs began. The numbers were meant to be a take-off of rock-'n'-roll, but people took them seriously. And they have now boosted the box-office for the film.

Cynical

Tony, after 14 years in Show Business, is cynical about his success. "The other day I described teenagers as idiots. Actually, I didn't mean it as badly as it sounded. But the day after it appeared in print, I had dozens of letters from teenagers 'muttering' a 'we're not sound the phrase, we're not on where you are.'"



Newley sets up a record

LAST week, Anthony Newley became the first British artist to get an EP into the MM's Top Twenty.

From his film "Idle on Parade," it came in at No. 18, to give him two discs in the best-sellers at one time. His "I've Waited So Long" had soared into tenth position a week previously.

The EP, on Decca DFE 6566, includes "I've Waited So Long," "Idle Rock-a-Boogie," "Idle on Parade," and "Sat'day Night Rock-a-Boogie." "I've Waited So Long" is also available on Decca F11127.

"That really cured me up. They put me where I am—after 14 years in the business and just because they've been buying my record for a fortnight!"

But Newley is not quite as cynical about the rock business as he likes to make out.

He is still staggering under the reaction to what he says was just a "panic session" in a recording studio.

"The music business had done something in a few hours which I have been trying to do in films for years—get the public to put a name to my face."

"And because of the record, I now have my own fan club. Two girls at Columbia Pictures have asked if they can start one—and it's done, really, well. Amazing, isn't it?"

The music, Anthony Newley is on a Northern personal appearance tour in connection with the film. Then on June 22 he starts work on a new picture, tentatively titled "The Jazzbois." This is the film being shot in conjunction with the annual jazzbois stage run each year by Jazzbois.

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Crossroads

Now he thinks his career is at a crossroads. "After all this it has made me think I have been taking myself too seriously during all these years. Perhaps I have been afraid of taking a gamble. Now I'm not sure which direction I want my career to take."

One thing is sure, Anthony Newley will not be allowed to forget his hit-disc-making talents for a long time to come. Tomorrow (Saturday) he returns to the Decca recording studios to make his second hit at Hit Parade honours.



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You need more than gimmicks to draw a crowd, says Acker Bilk.



It takes more than clothes to make a band

MR. ACKER BILK hooked his thumbs into his waistband and turned a challenging eye on me. "Fancy waistcoats?" he demanded vigorously. "Have you ever seen us in 'em? Well, you're one of our fans haven't you?"

"We only dressed up once or twice for the big jobs."

"Glimnick! Sure. The Press got hold of that and the Myster tag and splashed it big."

"But it's not our clothes they come to see, it's the music that draws them into your club."

"You need more than gimmicks, I could stand on my head with a clarinet stuck into my left ear. If nothing but burps came out what jazz fan would pay to see us again?"

"Other musicians he agreed, sometimes belittle his efforts."

"But only behind my back. That's the trouble with this business. It's a rat race."

"He becomes even less jovial when asked if he is happy playing his own type of music."

"'A disease' 'Type?' he echoes. "All this typing nonsense is a disease. Everywhere you go, they try to pigeon-hole you—comparing, classifying. Makes me sick!"

"Jazz is a free music. Maybe one man is greater than the next. But we all have something to say in our own way."

"Does that mean that he has no prejudice against modern jazz?"

"I listen to quite a bit of it. And you really have to concentrate."

"That could mean, I suggested, that it needs better musicianship."

MUSICIANS, instrument dealers—take heart! There is a strong possibility that the tax on instruments will be further reduced, if not completely removed, in next year's Budget.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer told the House of Commons on Tuesday night: "I have a soft spot in my heart for that claim, and I have made reductions two years running."

He was not so forthcoming, however, when it came to the tax on gramophones. He merely pointed out that he had reduced the tax by a sixth—more than any other Chancellor had done to date.

Ludicrous... crazy
MEMBERS of both the Conservative and Labour Parties were urging him to reconsider the tax on discs and instruments. John Dugdale (Lab., West Bromwich) felt it intolerable that records should be taxed at the rate of 50 per cent—twice the tax imposed on a milk can.

It was so ludicrous, he said, that it passed comprehension. And Tom Brown (Lab., Ince) considered it crazy to tax records. It showed a lack of understanding of what the people of the country wanted.

Warning
HE further warned Mr. Amory that unless there was a change in approach to Purchase Tax on instruments, there would be a first-class riot on the next Budget.

Pity
IT is a pity, though, that any discussion involving records seems to degenerate into a Classes-versus-Pop debate. And more of a pity that some MPs should take the opportunity to air their opinions of popular records.

Because it shakes one's faith in their ability to think clearly on other matters of public interest.

ACKER BILK tells Bob Anthony

draws them into your club. "You need more than gimmicks, I could stand on my head with a clarinet stuck into my left ear. If nothing but burps came out what jazz fan would pay to see us again?"

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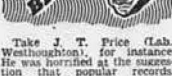
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"That could mean, I suggested, that it needs better musicianship."

THE BEAT



by PAT BRAND

Take J. T. Price (Lab., Westhoughton), for instance. He was horrified at the suggestion that popular records, which he described as "an abomination," should be free of tax.

"Personally, I would double the tax on that kind of rubbish," he said.

And one wonders whether his viewpoint is dictated by snobbery (if the public likes it, it can't be good?), a tin ear, or plain ignorance.

And whether loose thinking of this nature leads to similar sweeping generalisations on such matters as hanging the H-bomb, and old-age pensions.

When?
LUCKILY, the Chancellor refused to discriminate between forms of music.

"I certainly would not start arguing with young people on that subject," he declared.

So when will we see the abolition or reduction of this tax (as high as any other country in the world) on gramophone industry, and factories start laying off staff.

Why?
THERE was further indication of this mental snobbery when I sat in the Members' Dining-Room on Monday and listened to members of an all-Party committee outlining their campaign for Tuesday's debate.

Sir Arthur Bliss was reminded that he had stated that he liked certain forms of jazz.

"Never!" was his indignant retort.

But why the indignation? The Queen enjoys jazz. Only last week she accepted a special composition from Duke Ellington.

At one of the most memorable of the Royal Variety Performances, Charlie and his Band were the highlight.

And Sir Arthur, remember, is Master of the Queen's Music. . . .

Request
WHAT sort of music does Oscar Peterson like to eat?

He answered: "I like to eat his slower numbers, which he sang with great feeling. The best numbers, though executed with great feeling, are the monotonous after a while and it was a pleasure to hear the sound of his fingers as he swept off his rivals from a sudden My Heart Sings, his own composition."

The young Canadian sang all his standards—Down by the River, I'm a Slave for Two, and so on—made a good job of it. Doesn't matter any more, which he wrote himself ("I am singing into a microphone, as Buddy Holly in Heaven," and proved "All of a Songwriter" he has few equals in his field. George Hartman.

His wife and he, and Mr. and Mrs. Bob Farnon, were listening to accordionist Harry Davison in a guest spot at Kennington's Chez Victor. So Berry naturally turned to a selection of jazz-oriented numbers such as "Laura" and "Funny Valentine."

But when it came to request time, Oscar Peterson asked for "Green Eyes."

And Bob Farnon, who remembered Barry from the famed Cromwell Club 15 years before, requested "Dizzy Fingers."

Dedication
I STOOD at the bar of the 145 Club in Charing Cross Road on Tuesday night and listened while the Rev. Geoffrey Beaumont performed a dedication service to a Meditation Room for songwriters, performers and other show business. His sermon—on the theme of Christ's association with all that went on in everyday life—was punctuated by his own hymn compositions, played by Garry Milk.

"There's a Big Story Breaking—The Gospel to News."

"Hurrah!"—today's word for Hallingale.

"The 2's"—Man's ego and The Great I Am (Jehovah).

O.K.
I admire Geoffrey for linking religion so directly with the life of Tin Poppy News.

I admired the way Garry carried off a very tricky situation.

All-star
I SAT back, repete, after lunch at the Derbyshire on Wednesday, and watched an impromptu cabaret performance by Irving Berlin.

No Business Like Show Business. . . .

On piano: Stanley Black and Russ Conway.

Singers: Bob Tucker, Harry Belafonte, Eddie Calvert, Shirley Bassey, Janice Peters, Ted Heath, Cyril Stapleton, Stanley Black, Kent Walton and Pete Murray.

Quite a line-up. For quite an occasion. The Third Annual Dinner of the Great Britain Variety Club of Great Britain.

Where it had just been announced that Irving Berlin was to donate all royalties from this "Show Business" song to this club's charity organisation.

Et?
It happened early on in Harry Belafonte's signature career.

MD Stanley Black: "Do you know what's singing a tone and a half flat?"

Harry: "Yes! And I can tell you—it's not easy!"

All this—and heaven, too

PAUL ANKA began his British Variety tour at Birmingham Hippodrome on Monday.

This pleasant, likeable youth sang in 27 houses, and worked hard to win over the audience. Towards the end of his tour he succeeded. And by the time he had finished with All of a Sudden My Heart Sings, the audience had really warmed up.

To be fair, the first houses, less than half full—was not a typical Anka audience. His reception was in comparison to the ecstatic applause of his previous tours.

He particularly liked Anka in the past.

DECCA
regrets that two of the records advertised in the MM's last monthly LP Supplement

COLYER IN HAMBURG
LP 128

JAZZ AT TOAD HALL
(KEN MOULIE) SKL 4042
(new version already issued)

are for release in June.

Dealers will nevertheless be glad to know that great interest has been aroused by this announcement, and they should please accept orders to be held against the release of these discs next month.

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beer and bring them to the stand pal, said Mr. Bilk, indignantly. Then giving his larger trousers a hitch he ambled rapidly away in the direction of the packed auditorium.

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COOL JAZZ

THERE are two things I particularly dislike about jazz clubs: the dancers and the temperature.

Not that I object to jazz dancers in their place. They can mind their business and I will mind mine, which happens to be listening to music.

The trouble with dancers is that they sometimes get in the way of the music. And the trouble with the temperature of jazz clubs is that I, at any rate, can't enjoy cool music in raving heat.

Neither of these troubles afflicts the Flamingo Club. One can easily watch and listen without being distracted by prosecuting, jogging juveniles. And air-conditioning takes care of the temperature problem.

I visited the Flamingo last Friday. In session were the Tony Kinsey Quartet and the Jazz Committee.

I have long been an admirer of Tony Kinsey, one of our leading jazz individualists. Tony in action, eyes closed, with a dawning smile on his lips, is the best example I know of a drummer who differs.

No phrase played by a soloist escapes his ears; he judges with exact good taste when to echo a melodic phrase, or when merely to continue laying down that light, flexible undercurrent of rhythm.

Bill Le Sage plays a musical piano, with plenty of technique in reserve, occasionally moving over to the vibes—on which nowadays he can blow quite a storm.

Kenny Napper plays thoughtful bass. But the sound he produces is insufficient, and needs careful amplification.

One cardiolmike intended to do service for both bass and piano, is just not enough, and the youthful Mr. Kruger, Sr., would do well to give serious attention to the almost inaudible Kruger bass, tasteful though it may be at close quarters.

Stu Hamer, playing one of those skew-whiff Gillespie trumpets, is a jazzman of tremendous imaginative ability and instrumental promise.

At present not many of his rapid flights of fancy come out of the horn quite as he conceives them, but he has an extraordinarily creative range. Listening to him for the first time, one's mind immediately flies to the "New Star" category in the jazz polls.

When the Jazz Committee took over the stand, my mind immediately went back to an evening at the Light-house, Hermona Beach some two years ago.

Not that Don Rendell sounds like Richie Kamaca, or indeed like any one other than Don Rendell. The point of similarity is in the choice of material.

It is I believe, a mistake to play too many "originals" in a programme. Only through the keenest



STU HAMER
—new star?

first-chorus concentration is one able to follow the subsequent solos.

One needs a pilot through the vast seas of improvisation, not every composer serves as Bert Courtney has done the flagging chord sequence of "China Boy."

The Jazz Committee plays a high proportion of manuscript tunes. It is a relief to hear Ellington's "Jones," played at this fruitful jazz tempo.

Don Rendell's stature as a jazzman grows every year, and it is a measure of Bert Courtney's ability that he can follow Don without the listener experiencing a feeling of loss.

Originality

The tone quality drops, of course—his trumpet sound is still a little shallow for my taste—but there is originality and high musicianship behind everything Bert plays. Muted, in "Jones" he was superb.

Seated at the piano, Eddie Harvey wears the disinterested expression of one who dislikes music. Can it be that he too would rather be listening to the Harvey trombone?

Those cerebral, Monkish piano solo sound defiant and harsh in striking contrast to the rich melodic flow of Rendell's tenor.

Perle Blannin's bass comes through more roundly than that of Kenny

Napper, though he cannot equal Kenny as a soloist. Jackie Douglas plays excellent, swinging drums, and his enjoyment of every moment communicates itself to the audience.

Most modern jazz numbers, however, both in clubs and on records, are too long. Why has it become necessary for everyone to have a turn in every item?

Bass solos

Least interesting of all are those interminable bass solos, which (in my experience) few bassists wish to play, and still fewer listeners wish to hear.

During the coming weeks I hope to hear club groups in which the bass player and the drummer too, are allowed to remain accompanists throughout a whole set.

Meanwhile, my thanks to the Flamingo for a most enjoyable session of modern jazz heard under near-perfect conditions. Even the decor is pleasing—what one can see of it through the Stygian gloom—with some superb stills of the world's great jazzmen.

Painted on the wall behind the bandstand are a number of rampant flamingos (or, as composer Biz Curtis calls them, "long-kneed ducks"). May they dance to the best of British jazz for many years to come.

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Two Clansmen equal one hit

As leading lights in that esoteric Hollywood sect known as "The Clan," it is only natural that founder members Frank Sinatra and Dean Martin should make a hit-disc partnership. There is little doubt that this new disc will hit the mark.

The record in question is "Sleep Warm," an LP featuring The Dean singing "hulabiees" for moderns to orchestral accompaniments conducted by Frank Sinatra.

I don't know whether Sir Thomas Beecham would approve of Sinatra's qualifications in this particular role, but I do know that the orchestra, playing swift arrangements by Pete King, performs with the finesse one expects from a top-line American studio aggregation.

And the fact remains that here we have one of the most astu-



POP DISCS reviewed by Laurie Henshaw

fyng Dean Martin efforts yet recorded.

Titles: Sleep Warm; Hit the Road to Dreamland; Dream; Cuddle Up a Little Closer; Sleepy Time Gal; Good Night Sweetheart; All I Do is Dream of You; Let's Put Out the Lights; Dream a Little Dream of Me; Wrap Your Troubles in Dreams; Goodnight, My Love; Brahms's Lullaby. (Capitol TL130)

Nat "King" Cole

NAT "KING" COLE delivers his right back to the 1932 song book with You Made Me Love You, which is delivered in the usual inimitable Cole manner. Backing: I Must Be Dreaming. (Capitol 42-115015)

Johnny Mathis

THE experiment of featuring Johnny Mathis against the solo backing of two guitars (a Guano and Tony Montana) and bass (Milt Hinton) is not entirely successful. Mathis sings as well as ever, but the quality of tonal colour and variety in the accompaniments makes the LP fall after the first few tracks.



Dean Martin

Frank Sinatra

Watch these!

JACK PLEIS leads a star-studded studio orchestra through that compelling instrumental theme of the film, "Compulsion." The ensemble, precision and drive of this orchestra make a thrilling impact. "Compulsion" is a toe-tapping LP specialty. (Brunswick 65793)

SINGER Malcolm Dodds should hit the jukebox prominent right where it counts with his rocking version of "Tremble." This promising singer also scores with his appealing version of "Deep Inside." On this record, he sounds like a blend of Nat "King" Cole and Al Hibbler. (Brunswick 65794)

MANCHESTER - born Sinatra, Boston projects the luring Italian song, 10 per cent, an engaging winsome fashion. Backing is an ingenious vocal-instrumental arrangement arranged by Johnny Douglas. Reverse is the folk-sounding "Soldier, Won't You Marry Me?" (Pop Rank 42-AR1113)

Tomorrow's hits

BOBBY DARIN: Dream Lover (London HLE8867). Bobby Darin made a big impact when he sang this number on a recent BBC-TV "Perry Como Show." This engaging styling should go right to the top of the Hit Parade. Release: May 22.

LITTLE RICHARD: Kansas City (London HLE 8868). Blues shouting by Little Richard is a fetching studio beat. Release: May 22.

THE PIENAS: So Fine (London HLE8870). A spirited, stylized effort by a new American vocal group that could click. Release: May 22.

LOED BUCKINGHAM'S XI: He-Ha! Buckingham (Decca FL1189). Herd Moore, retooled with the Loed Buckingham XI on the "Ola Boy" show, was asked to blow a few phrases for a sound test by producer Jack Good. Arranged by Buckingham MD Harry Robinson. The "test" turns up as a number that could easily pop to be another hit for the Buckingham crew. Release: immediate.

PAUL ANKA says

See you all in "Girls' Town"

POCKET-SIZED disc star Paul Anka was actor about his new picture, when I spoke to him during rehearsals on Monday at Birmingham Hippodrome.

"It's an MGM picture called 'Girls' Town,' and Paul Anka wrote the musical score, including the five featured songs. They're sung by Mamie Van Doren, Kathy Crosby—Bob Crosby's daughter—and myself. 'I also sing 'Ave Maria'—but I didn't write that,' he explained.

"It's my first starring role. The script is about those teenage things. A guy gets knocked over by a girl and some girls are wrongly taken to reform school. I guess I kind of straighten things out. The movie will be released in the States in about three months' time. You'll be seeing it, too, of course."

"They want me for another picture when I go back. The script is being studied at this moment. I shall fly straight to Hollywood when I finish my current tour — my tour in Britain."

Added Paul: "Say hello to everyone for me. You're great to be back!"

Paul's latest disc couples "Miss You So" with "Late Last Night," another of his own compositions (Columbia DB1586).

Paul Anka

school. I guess I kind of straighten things out. The movie will be released in the States in about three months' time. You'll be seeing it, too, of course."



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Laurie Henshaw

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duff moonets. I think the LP will outlast "Sing a Song."... The trio swings all the time, it goes the band. The album is splendid entertainment—Max Jones.

'Sweets' (LP)

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Louis Bellon At The Plantage
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THINK PEP... When Harry's blowing, anybody can appreciate it. He's a brilliant accompanist on Carmen McRae's recent British visit, and here he adds to his reputation with another excellent rhythmic chorale...

Country blues

MUDDY WATERS (LP)
I Just Want To Make Love To You
Long Distance Call
Louisiana Blues
Rollin' Stone Blues
Henry Bear
The Blues Man
I Want To Be Like You
I'm a Blues Man
Around Orange
I'm A Blues Man

Country blues

"I just want to make love to you..."
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The rhythm help Muddy to create the most wonderful Southern blues sound... These have had previous releases. So have "Long Distance" and "Henry Bear" both more conventional in type and style but very good.

Country blues

Muddy Waters (LP)
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Long Distance Call
Louisiana Blues
Rollin' Stone Blues
Henry Bear
The Blues Man
I Want To Be Like You
I'm a Blues Man
Around Orange
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Country blues

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Country blues... The album is a collection of songs that showcase Muddy Waters' talent as a blues musician and performer.

Songwriters

This coupon entitles you to free advice on any new song... This coupon entitles you to free advice on any new song you may have written, or on how to get it into a recording company.

Guid meetings

GUID meetings
JOHN YORK and Robert Crawford have just formed a permanent branch of the Songwriters Guild at Brighton.

Rites of Diablo

RITES OF DIABLO
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must surely be it." says CHARLES MELVILLE in the BBC's JUST JAZZ programme.

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Roy's JAZZ

AFTER agreeing that Ella Fitzgerald is pre-eminent among the JATP stars, opinion is divided about the rest—a happy state of affairs, I imagine, for the company at large. Without indulging in whole-sale comparisons, I advance my opinion that the evening's warmest jazz is heard when Roy Eldridge takes the stage.

"Little Jazz," as he is aptly nicknamed, doesn't get about the rest—he deserves. But he has a better spot than on the last tour, the rhythm section is almost giddy enough to do justice to him, and he seems happier in his work. For a variety of reasons

to New Orleans in "my life." One of New York's current attractions for Roy is the quintet he leads with Coleman Hawkins at the Metropole three days a week.

"This is the swingingest band in town," he says emphatically. "The job's freedom, we have all the freedom in the world, play what we want to play, and Coleman is too much. We open every night with 'Soft Winds' and really stretch out on it."

New York style
ELDRIDGE admires New York as a musical center, and says it has always had as much as any city—its own style.

"People there played different from others," he told me. "Certain riffs they had were distinct from what any other city was playing. I recognize it in a minute. I heard it when I came to New York in 1939."

"I don't say all the guys came from New York, but that's where the music took root."

shape. Jimmy Harrison, a favorite of mine, he gave a lot to New York style. And Gene Clark — he and Jimmy were a team."

Given a free hand to choose records from his shelves, Roy asked first for the Wilcox-Holidays of 1935, particularly "What A Little Moonlight And A Little You."

"When I'll sing, he said: 'That still sounds pretty good to me.' And Wilson's piano brought forth: 'They ought to play more piano like that. He wanted to make every chorus perfect.'

"I hear something more zolid in those old bands," he concluded. "The way we were included" in together."



'Little Jazz'

realize that most publicity is ultimately beneficial.

"I found out years ago that when they stop writing about you altogether is when to worry," he told me. "Whether it's good or bad, it's what this concept thinks. It's writing to make a living."

"The guy may not know the particular scene or appreciate what's happening. Often he'll tell you you're good when you know you were off, so you don't set too much store by it."

"So many things bear on a performance when you're playing from the heart. If a cat thinks nobody wants to hear him, he gets discouraged—gets to thinking they ain't going to dig it anyway."

"I know for myself. If I feel happy I can do about anything; if I feel a drag, I can't do nothing right. Or if it's a concert recording, well, there's a dozen different things can go wrong."

On concerts
CONCERTS brought up the question: To improvise or not to improvise. Eldridge holds firm opinions.

"You can play as you feel, which means making something new each show, or repeat what you've learned off."

"The second is playing safe. I've worked with people who'd say for a studio work, Roy Eldridge—a reference to the fact that Roy plays serviceable piano, as well as drums and bass."

"About Krupa's 'Swing Is Here,' Roy decided: 'It ain't good a bit.' And his verdict on the Williams-Baite 'Every Day' was: 'If you can't feel this, your feet's lost.'"

He permitted himself a smile of satisfaction at the soaring trumpet on the 1937 "Wahala-Somp," but said only: "That was also solo and brother Joe. He was the schooled musician of the family. I'm the layaround kid."

On criticism
ELDRIDGE, though wounded by some criticisms, is sufficiently philosophical to

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jazz on the air

(Times: BST-CEI)

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6:30-7 P. D. L. Sharkey's West Coast.
8:15-9 P. Ubrin Green, Gorme, Doot, Pelt.
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8:30-9 A. J. JATP from FRIDAY, MAY 15:
9:30-10 P. J. America's Top Bands (Globe, Herald, Herald, T.D., S.C. Warner, 10:15-10:30 P. J. Jazz Miscellaneous: J. Jazz. 11:15-11:30 a.m. J. Dancing on 12:30-1:15 P. Report of S.B. 11:30-11:45 P. J. Jazz & Ballroom. If-Qu: Hollywood-New York.

12:30-1:15 P. Report of S.B. 11:30-11:45 P. J. Jazz & Ballroom. If-Qu: Hollywood-New York.

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TUESDAY, MAY 19:
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WEDNESDAY, MAY 20:
12:30-1:15 P. Report of S.B. 11:30-11:45 P. J. Jazz & Ballroom. If-Qu: Hollywood-New York.

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NEWSBOX

By Jerry Dawson

TOP-SELLING Irish singer

Bridie Gallagher will deputise for David Hughes at the Queen's Theatre, Blackpool on Sunday

David cancelled the concert date, and a Workers' Playhouse broadcast because of rehearsals for BBC-TV's "Catholics," in which he stars with Ginger Rogers on Whit Monday.

TELEVISION

Jack Good and his Norris Paramor will be among the judges for the finals of ABC-TV's "Hit For Pass" on Sunday, May 31. . . . Anne Houston and Lucille Farrow will be stars of David Hughes in the first of his "Shake Myself" BBC-TV shows on Wednesday (10.15).

CHANGES

Former Vic Lewis trumpeter Dick McPherson leads his group on Sundays at the West End Restaurant, Edinburgh, succeeding Charlie Mc-



Midland band leader Brian Jones and Alan Magnus (left) have left Leon Doehane at the Victoria Hotel, Toronto, to open at the Court Hotel, where Bernard leads a quartet. . . . Lloyd Dean drummer, Frank Marshall has joined the Blue Rockets at London's Astoria Ballroom.

MIDLAND band leader

Brian Jones and Alan Magnus (left) have left Leon Doehane at the Victoria Hotel, Toronto, to open at the Court Hotel, where Bernard leads a quartet. . . . Lloyd Dean drummer, Frank Marshall has joined the Blue Rockets at London's Astoria Ballroom.

SUMMER

Jim Bacon takes a big band from the Macusha Ballroom, Dublin, to the Pavilion Ballroom, Secreps, for the summer season. . . . The Frank Sherry quartet formerly at Butlin's Metropole Hotel, Blackpool, is now resident at Mere Old and Country Club, near Manchester. . . . Rex Evans Orchestra is playing its third summer season at the Regency Ballroom, Bath.

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Harry Secombe and actress Sheila Marsha snap autographs. Enjoying a boat trip are singers Ruby Murray and Toni D'Amico.



Chas. McDevitt and his singer-wife Shirley Douglas with Shirley Batey and Bert Weedon.

10,000 ENJOY THE SUNSHINE

By DICK HALL

WITH the temperature nearing the eighties, the Star Gala Opening of the Battersea Festival Gardens Saturday was sure of a tremendous success. Especially as last year's event was a near sell-out—and that took place in cold weather and during a bus strike.

This year's show was the biggest hit in the six years that the Variety Club of Great Britain has been staging these star-studded galas. Commented a spokesman: "We should easily top last year's figure of £2,000. With the glorious weather and crowds this is our best show ever."

More than 10,000 fans turned up to enjoy the sun and mingle with the 200 Show Business personalities.

200 celebrities

The celebrities included Bernard Bressan, Duffy Power, Wally Scott, Bob Carr, Jo Shelton, Mike Desmond, Vince Taylor, Lorraine Desmond, Don Lang, Ron Goodwin, Norris Paramor, Frank Cordell, Ivor Eager, Geoff Love, Tony Osborne, Johnny Whidrie, Bill Forbes, Al Saxon, Johnnie Gray, Lorie Mann, Craig Douglas, Marjorie Martin, Cy Grant, Felix Kane, Toni D'Amico, Ruby Murray, Chas McDevitt, Shirley Douglas, Bert Weedon, Billie Anthony, Malcolm Mitchell, Marjorie Paylor, Gary Mills, Benny Hill, Harry Secombe, Ted Heath, Shirley Batey, Sheila Buxton, Ron Mason, Nancy Whiskey, Ronnie Carroll, Gary Riley, Martin, Tony Brent and the stars of TV's "Army Game."

Hit Parade

The celebrities, in addition to singing autographs, will be given over 700 Television on June 2, in a programme featuring Monica Zetterlund, Stephanie Grappelly and the DJI Jinks Trio.

Sao Paulo: Singer Shirley Douglas led a big crowd of admirers to the Star Gala at Battersea.

TALE OF NINE NIGHTSHIRTS

THE "Mystery Seven" is no longer resident at the Kings Arms, but on Monday—because of nine nightshirts. Seven—in fact, the line-up adds up to nine nightshirts, all-night session at the Colver Club on Friday.

Strip club Champ

Ruby Murray played Des Champ in pianist for the revue which opened at the New Olympia Theatre Club on Monday. He replaced Norman Long, now rehearsing for the Program Theatre Club opening on May 26.

THE TALE OF NINE NIGHTSHIRTS

Says the group's clarinetist, Harry King: "As it takes an all-night do we naturally turned up in our nightshirts."

The lady in charge took a poor view of us, so we were out by 11.30.

48 hours.

So we have put on the extra show at Her Majesty's. Tickets are already selling fast. This is something quite new for us. Usually I put on only "vintage" people like Methuen and Hellett. But I used Lehrer on an LP played by an American friend. So we wrote and staged an all-night session at Her Majesty's Theatre on June 7 and 14.

Sell out

Commons Ian Hunter, Keith Bullivant and Harold Holt. The first two concerts at Her Majesty's were sold out within 15 minutes without any advertising. The second was within 48 hours.

VERA LYNN BILLY GRAMMER

Have I told you lately that I love you

No. 1 in Britain No. 2 in America

ELVIS PRESLEY COME TO ME

A FOOL SUCH AS I I NEED YOUR LOVE TONIGHT

RC A-1118 RCA 1118

BONAPARTE'S RETREAT

Climbing in America

MARY JOHNSON

HLT 8666



Sharing a shady spot under the trees are Billie Anthony and Malcolm Mitchell.



TV's Hughie Green turns cameraman to snap Michael Medwin and Marjorie Paylor.

SEVEN MORE JAZZMEN MOVE TO EMI

POLL-WINNING trumpeter Kenny Baker is among the latest list of EMI's Preston's Record Supervision stars to switch labels from Pye to Decca's Columbia.

Following in the footsteps of Chris Barber and Acker Bilk are Baker, Sandy Brown, Al Fairweather, Lennie Felix, Dill Jones, the Polka Dots and Alex Welsh. Other Preston artists recently signed by Columbia include two more jazz leaders, Ian Bell and Terry Lightfoot.

New jazz series

All these groups will be featured in a new series of Columbia monthly issues—the Lansdowne Jazz Series—to be recorded by Preston at his new Lansdowne Studios.

BANDS SET FOR THE BUTLIN HOLIDAY CAMPS

TWENTY-ONE bands have been fixed by Butlin's for summer seasons at their holiday camps and hotels starting tomorrow (Saturday).

The full list is: Art—Val Merrett, Brian Smeaton and Fred Cooke; Clacton—Eric Winstone, Len Hooker, Paul Bangs and Roy Blackwell; Fife—Terry Foster, Fred Jackson, Paul Bonville and John Wainwright; Pwll—Ged Dean, Al Ford and Ronnie Smith; Bognor—Joe Daniels, Will Green, John Sockett and Roy Wilde; Margate—Ged Dean, Al Ford, Roy Havel, Brighton—Lennie Baker.

KEN MACKINTOSH IN 'LATE SHOW'

KEN MACKINTOSH and his Orchestra start a 13-week series of BBC's "Late Show" programme on Wednesday, July 1, from 10.40 to 11.45 p.m. in the Light Programme.

Non-stop jazz at the Flamingo club

A non-stop, seven-hour, all-night jazz show will be staged tomorrow (Saturday) at Jill's Club, 11, St. James's Street. This is part of a Whitsun weekend of jazz at the Flamingo that will run from Friday to Monday night.

OBITUARY

Director dies

George Scarth, managing director of O. Scarth Ltd., the musical instrument firm of Charing Cross Road, W.C.2, died in Charing Cross Hospital on Saturday.

He was taken ill while at work and died two hours later.

In the music business for the past 30 years, he leaves a widow, Edith, who will carry on the firm with the third director, Reg White.

Just for the record!

Garrard produce the finest and widest range of record playing equipment in the world

The model illustrated is the 4-speed R.C. 121/4D Mark II Record Changer mounted on an attractive base.

Just plug in to your radio, connect to the power supply and you have the complete record player.

Price (as illustrated on B.I. base) £162.10 (inc. P.T.)

Price (without base) £133.10 (inc. P.T.)

This model is for A.C. only.

An Illustrated Catalogue of the whole Garrard range is available on request.

Garrard

The Soundest Name in Sound Reproduction

GOLD RUSH

Harry Gold and his Band start a 13-week tour of Ireland this Sunday.

RECORDS MAGAZINE—Have you got your copy yet? There's a new colour portrait of Max Bygraves on the cover of the May issue. Make sure you get this monthly guide to all the best new records. Dispense from your dealer or newsagent. THE DECCA RECORD COMPANY LTD DECCA HOUSE ALBERT EMBANKMENT LONDON SE 11

EXTRA! inside

Mirabelle

Magnificent
PHOTO
SUPPLEMENT

including
2 BIG
PORTRAITS

CLIFF
RICHARD



and
MARTY
WILDE



Focus on Cliff Richard and Marty Wilde! Two big portraits of Cliff... and a feature by sister Doulla telling you what he's really like. Five scintillating pictures of Marty... and an intimate story of his life and dislikes. There is also an article on the brilliant "Oh Boy!" TV show which has featured both stars.

GET
Mirabelle
OUT NOW 4½

Variety Singing? Blame these teenage stars

IT'S no use Variety promoters blaming television for poor business—they have brought it on themselves.

With the advent of rock and skiffle, agents and bookers flung together countless teenage shows, headed by the current idol, in an attempt to attract the fickle younger generation to the halls.

Instead they drove away the remaining regulars. Now that they are losing both groups, they should realize that what looked like a get-rich-quick idea has turned out to be slow starvation for the halls. And the way things are shaping up the record industry looks to be facing death for the same reason.—J. Pichers, N.Y. 16.

● LP WINNER
The spirit
I AM a modernist. But last week, seeking the authentic New Orleans spirit, I visited a well-known traditional jazz club.

My enthusiasm was dampened somewhat by the time I had stumbled down a narrow flight of stairs into a room crowded with a seething, struggling whirling mass of humanity. It was several minutes before I realised the band was actually playing—the amplification consisted of a crackle to



Each week the MM awards free LPs for lively letters. Send yours to "Mailbag," MELODY MAKER, 4 Arne Street, W.C.2.

for the generation.—J. Pitman, Fairfield, Glas.

By Gad, sir!
I SEE a well-known jazz musician was refused entry into a London restaurant because of his multi-coloured Scandinavian cardigan. I should think so, too! It may be a better jazz musician than many of our own musicians, but he must realise that before he can eat an English meal he must dress like an Englishman!—K. Ford, Scarborough, Yorks.

● LP WINNER
Jazz only
"JUDGING by the 'sohs" and also of anticipation which greeted the announcement of Humphrey Lyttelton's band as accompaniment to the Clara Ward Singers on their "Sunday Night" at the London Palladium show, the average Variety audience has a greater interest in jazz than it is usually credited with.

Surely it is time we saw jazz groups on TV standing on their own merits, not merely supporting other acts.—T. C. Hand, Bristol.

Tred or mod?
TRADITIONAL Jazz came out a clear leader in the BBC's recent jazz referendum. Yet a glance at the MM's jazz record chart shows that a big majority of the discs bought are modern. Can anyone explain this?—T. Harper, Surbiton.

Rock's not dead
I AM so weary of the "rock dying" reports which appear regularly in papers hard up for a good story.

Surely these people have had time to realize that rock 'n' roll is here to stay? Just because a good ballad group on TV standing on their own merits, not merely supporting other acts.—T. C. Hand, Bristol.



HALEY

AT last he's been mentioned in the MELODY MAKER. Who? A man called Bill Haley. The last time I saw his name in the MM was last APRIL, when he caused some riots in Paris.

His name in your paper might help some people to remember his name again—including you.—D. Hattie, Glasgow.

● Next time Bill does something worth mentioning—we'll do that.

Insults
I AM continually amazed at the extent to which the record companies insult the intelligence of the record-buying public in their sleeve notes.

Take, for example, "Eddie Gorme Yamba the Hoaring 'Frenties" with its phrases like "As your needle feels its way along the grooves there are couple of months to expect to see this razz-ma-azz and 23-skiddoo."

It is time sleeve writers were taught that the public expects something more than this type of thing.—C. A. Nicolson, Brentwood, Essex.

For Cornwall
IT is nonsense to say (Mailbag, 25/4/59) that no professional entertainers visit Cornwall.

In recent months we have had visits from most of Britain's top bands, and within the next couple of months to expect to see Dr. Crook and his Crackpot, Eric Delaney, Victor Bristow, Johnny Dankworth, Lord Rockingham and a couple of The Heath.—B. Vancholas, St. Agnes, Cornwall.

Jazz on 78
WILL record companies please issue more jazz on the 78.

When I wish to buy a jazz record it has to be an EP or a single which I cannot always afford.

Once we could get Basie, Ellington and Armstrong on singles. Now all we get is rock'n'roll and cha-cha-chas. More jazz on 78s might interest more teenagers in jazz.—J. Andrews, Middlesbrough.

● LP WINNER

play anything,
anywhere!—says

Johnnie Gray

KNOWN to everyone in the profession as a "chameleon," that six-foot tenor saxist Johnnie Gray—with his nine-inch moustache, massive physique, quick sense of humour and all-round musical ability—is celebrating 25 years in show business.

He's come a long way since he played solo at a school concert and received a reprimand for stamping his foot to the beat! What advice can genial Johnnie offer newcomers to the demanding world of jazz? "You need bags of confidence. Then go on and underestimate you. You must have a strong will and achieve what you set out to do. A sound basic training, plenty of practice, hard work, self-respect, reliability."

Despite his changing styles, Johnnie has never fallen off the bandwagon—because he was always to play his instrument properly and develop his talent. He became an emergency man, dependable at a moment's notice.

No rehearsal
"When I won an individual award in the 1941 MM British Championship with Billy Mook's band, and when Ted Heath asked me to deputise for war-warmer Freddy Gardner and so was pleased to do so, he offered me the job permanently. I played at sight, without any rehearsal. "When I first turned pro, I worked with three bands every evening, to get the maximum amount of work. "You must keep fit," he



by CHRIS HAYES

went on. "If you drink, which I do, which builds you up! Cut out the cigarette."
Johnnie is a strict disciplinarian, demanding 100 per cent on the job—and Lord help anyone who isn't on time. He has never been late.

MM Pollwinner
"My greatest thrill was winning the MM Poll in 1946. It's the ambition of every musician."
Johnnie has made over 3,000 broadcasts, recorded as a sessioner for every major label, toured the whole of Europe, and been to the States three times. "I've played everywhere, every style for everyone."

"Rock has been the biggest money-spinner of my career. My rough, roaring playing shocked the air. But it shot me off the air. But I brought in record royalties rolling in!"
Of course, I still play "smoochy" when the lights go out and the boys come in to see. They call me Big Daddy!"



YOUR RECORD DEALER

- THE LATEST records are always in stock including alternative numbers on 78s, 45s, 10" Records and Television, Ltd., & Lucille Birmingham 12.
- ★ BRADFORD ★
MOORE OF BRADFORD record Dept. 20, North Fyfe.
- ★ CARDIFF ★
"R" RADIO (Cardiff), Ltd. 3 Churchyard Way, Cardiff (Phone 2182). The only specialist jazz record shop in Wales.
- WHETHER POP or classic your record will be at the Bradford Record Shop, James Howell and Co., Ltd., Cardiff.
- ★ DARLINGTON ★
GEO. A. WILLIAMS and Son, Ltd. 11, Tavock Row, Darlington (19242).
- ★ HOUSLOW ★
WALDEN'S 40-9, High Street, Houslow, Midge.
- ★ LEEDS ★
KITCHENS OF LEEDS, Record Dept., King Edward Street.
- ★ LONDON ★
E.C.1.—GRAHAM'S, 11, Euston Road.
- ★ SHEFFIELD ★
GOX RECORDS (Sheffield), 100, Victoria Road, Sheffield 5, Phone 42159.
- WILSON PECK, Ltd. Your record dealer—1, Park Street, Sheffield.
- ★ STOKES ON TRENT ★
DAVISON, Ltd. 63, Market Street, Loughborough, Leicestershire.

Get your "MM Top 20" (page 6) records from Stock These TOP RECORD DEALERS carry comprehensive stocks of current hits for your selection

BEHIND THE SCREENS AT 'FIND THE SINGER'—PAGE 15

TV PARADE

Edited by TONY BROWN

NEW JAZZ SERIES FOR TWW

THEY'LL DIG DANKWORTH

—rest of Britain may follow

THE most ambitious plans yet for the out-and-out presentation of jazz on TV have been projected by the South Wales and West of England network, TWW.

It will feature the Johnny Dankworth Orchestra in a late Tuesday night series, tentatively entitled "Dig Dankworth." And there is a possibility that other networks may relay it.

"It's too early to hazard guesses," says TWW Assistant Programme Controller, Michael Frostick. "The series will be offered to them and we can only hope that they will be interested."

The first of the initial four 45-minute weekly offerings will be screened at 10.45 p.m. on June 9. After the June 30 transmission, the Dankworth band will leave the Cardiff studios by coach for London Airport to fly to America.

Special trains

Director of the series will probably be Don Lever. Among provisional plans are special TV trains to bring jazz enthusiasts to the Cardiff studio.

"We hope to re-create something of the atmosphere of the Dankworth Club by throwing the studio open to jazz lovers, to have the kids dancing, drinking coke, and so on," says Michael Frostick. "I believe it will be the first attempt to screen a jazz programme without compromise or excuses."

If reaction is favourable, the series will be continued after Dankworth's return from the States, starting on July 28.

Intervening dates will be occupied by other jazz outfits. The Vic Ash group will be resident for three programmes, with support from guest attractions—the Jazz Couriers on July 7, Jazz Committee (14th) and the Jazz Makers (21st).



● Vic Ash



● Johnny Dankworth

NAMES IN THE NEWS

CLIFF RICHARD will start a series of appearances in the BBC's "Dropouts" on June 27. But he still has two dates in ABC-TV's "Oh Boy!" on May 23 and 26.

PETER KNIGHT this week took an appointment as Musical Director for Granada TV. Peter already holds the honours for three weekly Granada shows—"Spot The Tune," "Some Parallels" and "Chelsea At Nine."

ALBA GOGAN gets a BBC-TV 15-minute series commencing June 3. After the first programme she flies to Milan for an Italian retreat.

GUESTS for the fifth and sixth of the Lonnie Donegan G series "Putting On The Donegan," are already booked. They are Jack Jackson, Glen Matlock, Ray Ellington and Alvin Cooper. The series, screened by ATV, starts on June 26.

Blackpool shows scooped by BBC-TV

BBC TV has scooped the Blackpool shows. On schedule are no fewer than twelve visits by the BBC's camera and production teams to the Lancashire resort, widely acknowledged to be the summer capital so far as entertainment is concerned.

Shows to be covered in this all-out effort from spike TV guns range from pier, theatre and circus pro-

ductions to a telecast from the Tower Aquarium and international swimming from the Derby Baths. In all, the BBC will feature seven out of nine major Blackpool presentations. Some stars netted in the

scoop include Edmund Hoekridge, the Three Monarchs, the Madlars, Roy Castle, Marion Ryan, the Five Dallas Boys, the Medley Ward Trio and Ronnie Hilton.

Transmissions will be spread over the peak holiday season between June and August.

TOP RANK RECORDS

BLUES

Donah Washington with Lucky Thompson's All Stars
BLUES FOR A GUY
ROCK MAN'S BLUES
ALL ON RETURNING
CHERRY'S HARPINA BLUES
PACIFIC COAST BLUES
WEST WOMAN BLUES
Betty Rache with the Earl Hines Sextet
BLUES ON MY WELSH HORN
TWOHELD, TROUBLE!
I'LL GET BY
WINDSOR FOR BOY!
and many others
12" L.P. RX 3004

THE WEAVERS AT HOME

America's most famous folk singers with 17 songs in many moods, from many lands, among them:
THIS LARK IN YOUR LARD, LET THE HOUNDOUT
SPECIAL, WILD SONGS GRASSES and
COPPER PICKETS BLUES
12" L.P. RX 3005

THE ROARING TWENTIES

The Charleston City All Stars conducted by Enoch Light
A gay and buoyant re-creation of the music of the pin-and-curl era. 12 great 45-tracks including: CHARLESTON, ELIZABETH, TARTAN, BLACK BUTTER and BUTTER OF YOUR OWNCAST
10" L.P. RV 4022

BUCK & MAE

Buck Clayton and Mae Barnes
1 WONDERSFUL, BLUES IN MY HEART, THEY SAID THE JURY, UNUSUAL PAIR
7" E.P. JKR 8004

MAHALIA JACKSON (Vol. 1)

CONSIDER ME, I'M GOING WHAT LET MY ORANGE COME!
GET AWAY, JESSE, I HAVE A FRIEND
7" E.P. JKR 8006

DORSEY'S BIG FOUR

A high salute to Tommy Dorsey by The Alumni All Star Orchestra, conducted by Bobby Byrne
MELINDA, OPUS 1, SONG OF INDIA, GETTING SENTIMENTAL OVER YOU
7" E.P. JKR 8002

I REMEMBER—SHIRLEY TEMPLE

Songs from her original film sound-tracks including: ON MY SHOULDERS, ON THE GOOD SHIP LULLABY, POLLY WALKY BOOBY, and ANIMAL CRACKERS IN MY SLEEP
7" E.P. JKR 8003

PRAZZAMATAZZ (Vol. 1)

The Charleston City All Stars conducted by Enoch Light
Dig these "twenties in 4-8!"
PACIFIC WHEELER WING, BOUNTY WING, FIVE FOOT TIT, TARTAN, PAIR, TIT, TROUBLE
7" E.P. JKR 8005

SWEET BEAT

Four tracks from the Flamingo Film Productions picture "SWEET BEAT." The Melodiscs singing quartet: Fred Parry and the Satins with 16000000
Les Allen and his Band with better! at the top and CHET YOUNG singing LULA, LULA, LULA ME
7" E.P. JKR 8007

I'M THE ORIGINAL SQUARE EYES.

ANNE SHELTON stretched out her hands. A ring with a large pearl glistened on one finger. Her neat black sack dress complimented her fair hair. She looked glamorous and sophisticated.

"Look at my nails," she said. "They're all uneven. I pick them to pieces because I'm so terribly nervous. I have never performed without an attack of nerves and my hands tremble so."

Yet Miss Shelton has been singing for 19 years and 19 years of one long qualified success from the day she started with Ambrose at 14.

"Well, that was my first worry," she said. "Before Ambrose asked me what key I sang 'Begin the Beguine' in, I had never heard of keys and I have worried about things ever since."

"On my television programme, 'The Anne Shelton Show,' I worried about everything connected with the show. I think you are only a success when you have done a job and people are satisfied."

"Every new engagement to me is a challenge. TV is wonderful, but it is a technique all on its own, a sort of combination of singing to an audience and making a film."

"And the cameras pick up so much, especially from someone who might not know how to use them. Things like quick turns and over-emphasizing actions."

"I've got my work and I am not very interested in anything else," she said tartly. "Have you got a mink coat?" She looked at me in silence. "Swimming pool?"

"You are much slimmer. Have you lost weight worrying?" She laughed happily. "Oh no! I'm on a diet. No sweets or butter, but boiled potatoes, and I feel very good on it."

"Anyway, I'm a happy person and being nervous and worrying is just part of show business. And I love it. Has it brought you wealth as well as happiness?"

'Not very interested'

"I've got my work and I am not very interested in anything else," she said tartly. "Have you got a mink coat?" She looked at me in silence. "Swimming pool?"

"Yes, I have a mink," she said coldly. "only because I have to have one, but it is nothing, and I am very surprised at you asking me these sort of questions. Show business is beautiful and wonderful, but not for the things you are talking about."

"Who are your favourite singers, then?" "That's better. Sinatra, Ella, and I love my sister's voice. And then there's Coma. He is television. His secret is that you can watch him and always feel comfortable."

"Do you watch anything on pre-recorded shows?" "Yes and I enjoy them. But I'm very critical. I say to myself I must not do this or that and I watch for faults. The only way to stay on top is to be critical."

"You know," she said, "I'm the original square eyes. I watch everything on television and it broke my heart when they took 'Chevrolet' off. I always love to see my pals on TV. I love them. I love all people. Even you," she said as she swept off in her duster coat.

ANNE SHELTON
talks to
MAURICE BURMAN

on TV it becomes as big as a chair. And being so close, you have to have everything controlled."

"Moderate and pretty."

"You are much slimmer. Have you lost weight worrying?"

"Anyway, I'm a happy person and being nervous and worrying is just part of show business. And I love it. Has it brought you wealth as well as happiness?"

The MM goes



Now let's hear TV a little better!

WHY has sound become the Cinderella of TV? The tonal quality of the vast majority in this Hi-Fi era. Why? Partly because of the chattering mentality of some manufacturers. They push large-screen models, highly-polished cabinets and other selling gimmicks at the expense of sound.

by **PHIL ELVIN**

It is usually mounted in a flimsy cabinet—a heavy acoustical drawing-board. Here again, space shortage and cost factors influence manufacturers. This is true since many sets today are equipped to receive "VHF" radio—while largely negating the high-quality benefits that the system seeks to confer.

Tendency

The main limiting factor is the current tendency to make VHF sets smaller. Space for components is steadily whittled down as new cathode ray tubes and circuits come into use. More and more attention is paid to the visual aspects—and less and less to the loud-speaker, which gets smaller all the time.

Despite an increase in efficiency, a tiny reproducer simply cannot do justice to the sound potentialities of TV. Further,

Demands

What can be done about it? This depends on the demands of the customer. Satisfy the

manufacturer that there is a market for a really top quality sound and vision receiver and they will certainly be forthcoming.

Technically, the modifications that would have to be made are quite simple—a near Hi-Fi audio stage; a larger loud-speaker mounted in an acoustically-designed cabinet.

Cost would be modest—about £10 extra on a popular 17-inch set.

And that would be paid willingly by the growing army of viewers, who regard television as both a vision and sound medium of entertainment.

JINGLE STORY

Punch-line challenge

SONG-WRITERS—the best of them—prefer to deal with bright lyric ideas, rhythmically-phrased and cunningly-rhymed couplets. They talk affectionately of the "marriage" of music with words.

Imagine the dismay of Johnny Johnston when someone handed him the sacral punch-line for the Pearl Jingle—Someone's in my dress. And Pearl waxes white!

But jingle writers take such burles in their stride or fail. The message of the commercial is a challenge.

How did Johnston tackle his task?

Take your choice. Hughes, it seems, has no such fears—though he doubtless has even less to spare. In fact, he had to cry off Sunday concerts to spare rehearsal time. At all two days after "Carissima" for an even series. "Make Music" faces the BBC cameras.

Take your choice. Hughes, it seems, has no such fears—though he doubtless has even less to spare. In fact, he had to cry off Sunday concerts to spare rehearsal time. At all two days after "Carissima" for an even series. "Make Music" faces the BBC cameras.

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Armstrong—excellent TV material

WELL, Armstrong has been and gone on TV. Whatever dissatisfaction may be felt by the hyper-critical, as TV entertainment is was a resounding success.

The whole thing must strike our TV directors as distinctly odd. Visionwise, there just wasn't any production. Camera work—probably because of language difficulties—was dire.

All right, so Armstrong is a special case. A great babbling, humorously phobic personality. But where he triumphed, lesser men could enjoy mere success.

Louis was in tremendous

form, stabbing into the upper tonal reaches with great confidence and accuracy.

Whitbread—brewers of Mackeson stout—are in the throes of promotional delirium. They aim to turn publicans into disc jockeys!

As bait, they offer them a free EP—the Mackeson Medley, sung by Johnny Johnston and the Keynotes.

Nine ancient sing-song

standards, including "Ikky Moor" and "Clementine," are sandwiched between two plugs of "The Mackeson Johnston, as if you couldn't guess, wrote the jingle.

IN MY VIEW . . . by Tony Brown

A printed "Mackeson" copy goes out with the disc, which also has a cod sleeve note, to redde the face of any pretentious record-boasting hack.

The dark, passionate C sharp minor feeling of "Bonny" springs naturally from its content of the darkening bar, the looming landlord, and the cry of "Tune."

That satire is likely to be over the heads of many tipplers.

Comedian Stan Bennett teases in "Sunday Night" in the first of the skiffers TV series on May 25. The first time the pair have shared the stage since the day Stenrod recorded a Donegan guitarist in Variety.

Many who watch the Mills Brothers in "Sunday Night" in the first of the skiffers TV series on May 25. The first time the pair have shared the stage since the day Stenrod recorded a Donegan guitarist in Variety.

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signs for the golden days of the 'thirties when the Boswell Sisters and Mills Brothers covered over so many imitators.

The arrival of the "boys" is a stunning reminder of inexorable Time. Donald, Harry and Herbie are now respectively 43, 45 and 46. Dad Mills, who took over the sax function of John when he died in 1934, is now 71 and retired.

According to newspaper reports, David Hughes got his chance to co-star with Ginger Rogers in BBC-TV's "Carissima" because Grete Kirkep reverted out in his part.

Grete, it suggests, felt that he wouldn't have sufficient time to rehearse his part for the West Monday production.

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● Louis Armstrong



● Johnny Johnston

"I extended the phrase and set it to a bouncy little tune that housewives and kids could easily pick up and sing or whistle."

The 14 editions of the ad included a picture of the successful handsomely.

On all of them, singing was by Johnny's Keynotes. Backing ranges from rhythm section to piccolo to the full brass section of the Ted Heath band—Chris Hayes.

backstage at 'Find The Singer'

TV PARADE

Audience waits
its chance

MM photographer Bill Francis chose these camera angles at Lou Preager's "Find The Singer" contest last Friday. First picture on left shows centerpiece of the judging panel, TV starlet Pat Lawrence, flanked by U. S. C. M. writer Maurice Barman, Dick Howard (Gala Records), rock-'n'-roll impresario, and Larry Farnes. They air their views on the previous week's performers but have no voting power.

In the second shot the competitors have had their fling. Now they uneasily await a last scrutiny from the camera before the show ends. Some are elated, others feel they've "died." But the prevailing mood is relief.

Third picture shows Kenneth McLeod, interviewee, members of the most sympathetic audience in the world. Most are would-be contestants getting acclimated for their future ordeal. Chuckles come easily at this stage.

Finally, as one presentation comes off the air, the next one goes into production. Lou Preager and Director Jimmie Harris audition a fresh batch of competitors. Votes from home viewers provide the plotline.

DEEP FREEZE FOR
THE COOL CATS!

CLANG! Brrr! Into the deep freeze last Friday went "Cool For Cats," AR-TV's teenage Hit Parade disc programme. Will it be back? The company is cagey. Kent Walton's closing tag was enigmatic: "See you SOME Friday..."

The emphasis is mine. I'd say that "Cool" has been axed. Why? One thing's for sure: "Daily Sketch" Associate Editor Ker Robertson—cooly titled "record arranger" for the series—hadn't run out of discs. With all those advance pressings and copies of "Cashbox" and "Billboard" on his desk, he could have continued to fill a weekly half-hour without trouble.

So why the goodbyes? My guess: they ran out of gimmicks. Every record check in the book had been tried—more than once.

The lingo-to-illustrate records-on-TV question has been bugging TV planners for years. The BBC provided a coolly answer with Jack Parnes' "Off The Record," original record sounds by using the same orchestration. That has been dropped.

ATV plumped for infuriatingly brief extracts from pop discs interspersed with full-length mimes in the style of the Jack Jackson show.

"Cool" was a bold attempt to create specially for TV. Director Joan Kemp-Welch was the brain behind the format—music interpreted by dancing trapeze.

The programme title was wildly inaccurate. Minsky Maxon readers and other authentic cats must have deplored the content. Cool? With no Tristano, Konitz or even Miltigan!

The glimmering of new possibilities peeped through in that last offering. Seven-and-a-half minutes were devoted to a ballet sequence to Mel Tormé's "Blues In The Night."

I'd say that idea emanated from the new director, Danbne Shadwell, and her husband John Hamilton, knowing their musical tastes.

And wasn't this a real idea? Why contrive arty dance routines for the latest Elvis? Leave the plugs to sound radio. I say, and concentrate on standards.

Even to eleven-thirty on Friday night is off-peak viewing time. Minutes should reasonably expect to get a look-in.

Lots of Ella Fitzgerald, Fletchy of Louis. Some of those wonderful Nelson Riddle tracks. Ray Conniff's "Wonderful" and "Marvelous." Les Baxter's "Surre de Sauvage" and "Taboo."

The Hilda's... Eddie Cochrane... you name them.

AR-TV could have tired old cat out of the refrigerator and really get it jumping.

by HUGH
FRANCISGive me an intimate show
every time says
Kenny Baker

"GIVE me the intimate TV shows," entreats trumpeter-soloist Kenny Baker. "I don't go for these spectaculars. They stick you up on an isolated rostrum miles from the accompanying orchestra, which is screened so you can't hear it.

"If you ask for the speaker near you to be turned up, they say it'll come over your mike. There's always some obstacle.

"It's impossible to do anything of jazz content, owing to the time-lag. The band is invariably behind the beat, so there's no co-ordination.

"It's best to play ballads or other slow-tempo numbers, where the faults are not so noticeable.

Difficulties

"I wish producers of these big-scale shows would consider the difficulties of solo instrumentalists.

"It's entirely different on intimate programmes. You can work with satisfaction. The bands in focus, right behind you, and it's a real encouragement. You can relax and give a good performance.

"The sort of thing I mean is "Sunday Break." It's an "idea atmosphere." And it was a treat to be backed by the Dill Jones Trio."

Switching to radio for a moment, I asked Kenny the



by CHRIS HAYES

question thousands of jazz fans must be wondering right now.

Will his "Let's Get It For Music" with that swinging Baker's Dones, be reinstated by the BBC in the autumn?

—Aired not, beamed to Kenny? They don't seem to be keen on it. But I might have a solo programme of some sort, although it would have to be a good deal more commercial.

"I gather that the BBC felt the programme did not have a wide enough appeal, being mainly for musicians."

"Another drawback was the

lack of vocals. These days, every popular show has singing in it.

"Vocals give a show a better chance of survival. People ask for them, and that's all there is to it.

"I have come to the conclusion that it is no use fighting against present trends. The best thing to do is to aim somewhere between one's ambition and the target set by the BBC. I think there is every chance of a compromise.

"If I'm offered a commercial series I would be foolish not to accept."

CAMERA ANGLES

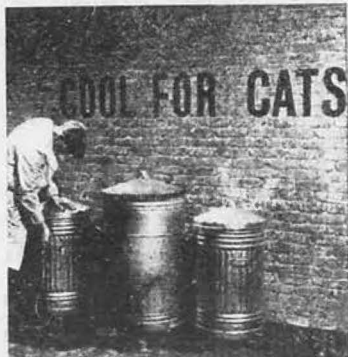
BBC-TV VIEWERS can see a 45-minute recording of the new Horatio Awards presentation on May 25. Billy Cotton gets a Mass Of Stone statistic by "outstanding personal services to British popular music" and winning song, will be performed. They include "The Wind Cannot Blow" by Peter Hart, "I'm So Ashamed" by Ken Hare, "Tradie" and "The Colonel's Tune" by Johnny Dankworth.

THE first of six Johnnie Ray recorded shows will be screened on ATV on June 29. Co-starred with Johnnie is Shani Wallis. The Jack Parnell Orchestra accompanies.

PIANIST Russ Conway gets a 15-minute solo spot on BBC-TV on May 25.

SCAR LEVANT, more famous nowadays for his very "Amusing" radio music playing, is guest on the BBC's "Jack Benny Show" on May 28.

THE musical show set of Sammy Emma and Dick Bomer has a second TV spot on May 29 in the BBC's "Caravan." They play 14 instruments.



Melody Maker

MAY 16, 1959

EVERY FRIDAY 6d.

'Drumbeat' in the lead?



On Sunday evening BBC-TV's "Drumbeat" (above) are singers Vince Eager, Sylvia Scott on record. Participants got a "five" lip (Sandra and Adam Faith). With them are some of the 150 teenagers who attended the session.

'GIGI' TOO SEXY FOR IRELAND

"GIGI" is too sexy for Ireland. Two numbers from the MOM's top-selling film—"Thank Heaven For Little Girls" and the title song—have been banned from sponsored shows on Radio Eireann.

The ban was imposed as the result of a decision by station director Maurice O'Riain.

Inquiries by the BBC at Radio Eireann's Sponsored Programme Department revealed that the songs were banned on sex grounds but that the embargo was only on these two numbers.

Guarantee

"We request sponsors not to play the songs but we don't stand over them with a gun," a Department spokesman commented. "But we can guarantee that not a note of the numbers will escape the Irish air until the embargo is lifted."

In London, M.G.M.'s Director of Publicity Ronald Lee said: "This ban is fantastic especially when the LP is selling like hot potatoes out there. But it does not concern us too much. They are entitled to their own opinion after all."

Footnote: The play of "Gigi" (with a music) is currently drawing packed houses at Dublin's Olympia Theatre.

LAST WEEK-END FOR THE JATP

NORMAN GRANT'S "Jazz At The Plaza" unit ends its second British tour with two concerts at the Gaumont State, Kingsway, on Sunday.

On Monday, the Oscar Peterson Trio flies to Paris for record dates. Sonny Bili will also be in the French capital for a spell at the Blue Note club.

The Gene Krupa Quartet will be touring the Continent with a new Grant show which includes Gerry Mulligan Quartet and the Jimmy Giuffrè Trio. The rest of the current package will fly home to the States.

Tonight (Friday) the show is at the Colston Hall, Bristol, and tomorrow it plays the Gaumont, Bournemouth.

Week's tour delay for the Platters

ZOLA MCGUIRE, "the Dish" with the Platters, has been taken ill on the eve of the vocal group's return trip to Britain.

The Platters were to have opened the Monday evening at the Empire. The tour will now start at Finsbury Park Empire on May 25. They will be at Leeds on June 1, instead of Hatfield's Theatre Royal as previously planned.

Three Sunday concerts have now been fixed at the De Montfort Hill, Leicester (June 14), Gaumont (Exeter) (21st), and Gaumont (Bournemouth) (28th). The "Cool for Cats" stage show has been switched into Leeds Empire next week.

NEW HUMPH MANAGER

Humphrey Lyttelton has appointed Peter Bourne as his band's manager from Monday (16th). Peter will continue to manage the Humphrey Lyttelton Club at 100, Oxford Street, W.

MICHAEL HOLLIDAY FLYING TO BING

MICHAEL HOLLIDAY flies to Hollywood on Tuesday to meet Bing Crosby.

"Bing has just finished a film and gone on a fishing holiday, but should be back in time to see me," said Mike in Variety at Folkestone on Wednesday.

Mike will stay in America for three or four weeks, during which time he may play some dates and visit Capitol Records to talk about his disc releases in the States.

He has entered a plan to be the BBC for him to be featured in "This Is Your Life" during his summer season at Scarborough.

Returning home from a week's tour, Mike switched on his tape-recorder, which had been connected by the telephone and accidentally left on.

He heard conversations between his wife and the BBC, so he phoned the BBC and told them that he had discovered the secret.

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MELODY MAKER
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"DRUMBEAT" is now far in front of its ABC-TV rival "Oh Boy!" Who says so? "Drumbeat" producer Stewart Morris.

He told the M.M.: "According to the BBC's audience

research department—which is quite impartial—we are leading 'Oh Boy!' by at least 11 million viewers."

"We estimate that our show is seen in five million homes, which gives us an approximate viewing figure of 15 million."

But ABC-TV on Wednesday called the BBC claim "poppycock." A spokesman said: "We are sorry to have to chatter the BBC's claims. We have checked very carefully on our charts and find that we have 30 per cent more viewers than 'Drumbeat'."

ABC-TV producer Jack Good planned to New York on Monday to book top American stars for his autumn series of "Oh Boy!" He will compete for the

Eric Galloway Ork for new hall room

Eric Galloway and his 12-piece orchestra will be resident at the Galloway and his 12-piece orchestra will be resident at the Galloway, Embassy Park, White Plains, Mid-Sussex. The Galloway Band is: Don Champ (piano), Gordon Keats and Jane Wadsworth (sax), Ken Lark and Johnny Francis (trumpet), Len Mooker, Jerry Bush and Dave Lowe (drum), Johnny Watson (timb.), Ray Drummond (bass), Freddy Foster (dca) and Gerry Desmond (vcl.).

Cootner, Jackie Wilson and Jerry Lee Lewis. And the BBC, as a counterblast, are holding for the Platters, Sammy Davis, Jr., and other names.

Now Ready!
Rock Orchs. of the Teenage Smash
CHARLIE BROWN

PROGRESSIVE MUSIC
17 Savile Row, W.1
REGENT 3251

NEXT WEEK
The MILLS BROTHERS

SINATRA TV
From Page 1

With Tommy Moe, executive of ABC's ABC-TV, he has been under his contract for television. Under this contract, we are trying to arrange four programmes to be produced in the country. British artists and artists would sponsor Frank. We think the latter arrangement has important consequences for the future.

The programmes produced in this way would then be transmitted in Britain, and be available to America and to any remote area which wanted to buy them.

The money involved? Adds Ron Brown: "There is no question of our paying for the film to Sinatra direct. He would be paid by American ABC-TV and our deal would be with them."

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