

# WHY SHE PREFERS WORKING IN FRANCE

# ELVIS PRESLEY'S CLARKE'S CAREER



ALL NRM  
PICTURES  
BY  
DEREK  
RILEY

• In France, and the Continent the lyric is more important ...

## ELVIS PRESLEY'S EARLY LIFE

THEY are the recurring cycles, that ELVIS PRESLEY is money-mad. Magazine articles have been headed by "Elvis loves nothing more than signing a big fat contract" scenarios.

But if it's true, it's not to be wondered at. For money is something that barely existed in Elvis's early days. To earn a couple of dollars took a great deal of effort after back-breaking work.

"And this is pointed out in a new Daily Mirror-produced book, "Elvis," out this week. Author Philip Haskie did deep and says: "The squalor and misery of his early life burnt deep into Elvis's soul. Not only was the land in Lumbia, Mississippi, poor, not only did it resist the efforts of those people to wrest a living from it—but from time to time it was devastated by monstrous tornadoes. No wonder that the poor people of this region turned to God ... happy memories Elvis carries of his childhood. Says Elvis: "I loved the music and sang so loud it could be heard over the style of our preaching from that of the early Negroes—a rolling, rhythmic style with everbody swaying in the church, the early Negroes—my father bought me a guitar but my thirteen-cent dollars and he had to go without snacks for weeks."

"Elvis went to school, but at nights he worked as a cinema attendant for fourteen dollars a week. Says Elvis: "I was strong and liked working hard." At weekends, he moved lanes for the rich people of Memphis (the family moved there during his teen) with Negro labourers at half a dollar apiece, dependent on the size of the lane.

"Elvis joined the Cadet Corps, but left eventually because he did not get on as well as he hoped. He went to night school to study electricity. Finally he graduated from school and went to work in a factory."

"Often he got up to start work at 3 a.m.

"Then to help out the family finances, he began driving a truck. "I felt I was growing into a man and our finances, for once, weren't too bad."

"At long last, it seemed that he was getting a red Mississippi sun was beginning to shine on his head. Just as they were the huge, red Mississippi sun was beginning to shine on the Presley family."

"With Elvis just 18, Mr. Presley damaged his back and lay in hospital in great pain."

"Poverty was back with the Presleys—and back with a vengeance."

"Elvis recalls how brave his mother was. She had to get a job in a hospital. She had bad patients, made beds, scrubbed floors and worked harder than the had ever done before."

"Says Elvis: "For two years, she endured a brutal routine, slaving at all those chores, that coming home every evening to cook supper, do the housework and mend the clothes."

"I used to tell her she shouldn't have to stop so hard. And she'd tell me, smiling: "I love you both so much I would sooner work for you than anything in this world."

"Not many people at 18 have to undertake to support their mother and father. Elvis felt hopeless. What could he do? Says 17 it did the first thing that came into my head. I went down on my knees and prayed to be shown some way to help my parents."

"It was a year later that Elvis made his first test recording and sufficiently interested Sam Phillips, co-owner of Sun Records, the fabulous, Galt/Oldie street corner was under way."

"And those days of poverty were over ..."

"All Elvis," published by Daily Mirror Books at 5s., features a full-colour cover of his front and back, a Presley discography and a section devoted to stiffs from his films. Plus a lot of hitherto unknown facts about Elvis. 7s.

like Edith Piaf can, and does, sing songs about going insane. She sings them fabulously and they are appreciated. Over here? Well, I don't think they'd have the same success.

"On the continent, the songs are more aware. It's less superficial than in this country and America. They can write songs about life and love and sex ... or dying and living."

"And these songs from the real backbone of French showbusiness. In fact they are real French showbusiness."

"There is a surfeit of rock and roll, mainly run by Johnny Hallyday who certainly pulls in the crowds. I don't think Vince Taylor is really as big as all that."

"I think it's harder working on the continent because until you can do a whole variety of set of 45 to 50 minutes much longer than in Britain—then they don't consider you a star."

They consider Petula Clark a star. Her professional life is spent rushing around the continent playing top cabaret spots, concerts, television and records.

Her new continental disc, "Clarice" is at present high in the French charts and No. 1 in Belgium. "I'm very excited about this one," Petula told me. "I've already recorded it for the British market."

by  
IAN DOVE

Petula came to Britain for the last work of a three week holiday. Only it wasn't really a holiday. Alan Freeman, of Five said Petula's long time recording manager—has been recording her to come over and help sales of her latest Pet. Disc, "Lovable Salome".

"I've got a plan," she told me. "I'm going to make an album in the original French lyric—the song was called "L'Amour" and the story about a friend who had died and how much the singer missed this friend."

### • INSANE

"The English translation was just about a friend who had gone away. The death part wasn't over mentioned."

"And a top star on the continent"

of my ambition. I felt I'd done everything—been a child star, films, records, television, my own series on television, and all that."

"To tell the truth it wasn't very exciting for me any more and I don't think I was very exciting for the public any more. That's being honest."

"It was a dangerous moment for me ... I just felt I had to get away—from show business. I wasn't making it very naturally any more. I'd decided that I wanted to travel right around the world if possible."

### • BIG HITS

"About this time I've signed an agreement with a French record company and thought it would be a good idea if some English artists were released over there. More of a courtesy thing, than anything else."

"At this time, five years ago, I had a couple of big hits with "With All My Heart" and "Alone" so they chose me. Speaking of French I went to appear at a kind of music ball in Paris where the fans go and also a lot of show business people, who are there to spot new artists."

### • ALIVE

"I was petrified I had a cold and I sang in English. But surprisingly I went down well. The audience loved it. The next day I met the man who is now my husband ... and, well, I was hooked on." "I felt alive again."

"I queried Paula on the film career which was once so big in this country. She said she had a French film."

"A British film?"

"She pondered: "Well, you know, I look round at the British stars, Gail, Ronald, Finlay, Bagnall, Mills, Todd, all men. There doesn't seem to be any women parts in films now in Britain."

"And when a good meaty part comes up it generally goes to a foreign actress."

"I'm happy singing where I can thank you."



• Going to France has made me feel alive again. I had lost a bit of ambition.

• There doesn't seem to be any good parts for women in British pictures. I don't know why.

Page Four

# WHEN THE LEGS FELL OFF THEY PAID FOR A CONCERTO! - 'EXODUS' DUO IN LONDON

IT WAS ARTHUR FERRANTE — or was it LOU TEICHER? — or was it Lou Teicher — or was it Arthur Ferrante? — who was battling about how the American two-piano, four-hands team "limber up" with weight-lifting when away from the classical stage.

The two come here for last week's "Sunday Night At The London Palladium TV Series" are untried... but they do look nice. Wellington-hosieryed, quick to quip, with a line in double-entendre that could earn them a lot of loot should the piano business go sour on them.

## EXODUS

They hit Parade successes—notably on the "Exodus" theme single as far as Britain is concerned—late as surprising as if, for instance, one Rawicz and Landauer dived in the Top Twenty.

They've been together since they were six-year-olds at New York's Juillard School of Music. They studied with the same teachers and later graduated as piano majors. After a spell of concert work, they returned to Juillard... as teachers!

Said Lou (I think): "Pianos earn no money but they also can't trouble. You'd be surprised how few Cities in the States can runle up two first-class grand pianos. We've settled the difficulty by taking our own grands with us."

"This means having a specially-designed truck and a driver. We generally go out by air, but it means we can't do concerts too far apart. The truck driver can only do about 200 miles a day."

"That is rather pedantic which used to cause trouble. Like finding that pianos in major concert halls were hopelessly out of tune. Or inspecting the inside of a piano and finding clouds of dust coming out."

Teicher: "We know from past experience that you have great pianos in this country!"

In the States, Ferrante and Teicher spent their time between classical concerts and recording sessions. Said Lou: "We get a great many invitations to play in night clubs but we are really too busy to accept even the most important ones."

The duo are O.K. for some statesmen, but you get that clatter of kniver and forks, and people ordering a drink or two on to a concert hall, you know the people have come along

specifically to see and hear the performer. They are attentive and quiet. And that is the way we like our audiences."

Ferrante and Teicher make round trips of all 48 States and also spend time in Canada. They've been on most of the top TV shows and on every major radio network. And they've appeared with Perry Faith on many occasions—and composed the music, with original sound effects, for the movie "Ludraica Conquist"

Weight-lifting isn't the only unusual occupation for these classical pianists. Teicher is a very serious-minded and devoted stamp collector. And Ferrante is a keen swimmer and sailing enthusiast. Both are expert photographers.

Busy men, Amiable men. And, whatever music they play, far from being "square".

Anyone who can laugh—like Ferrante, or Lou Teicher—"when the legs on a grand piano fall off is an ALL RIGHT sort of character..."

By  
**PETER JONES**



FERRANTE and TEICHER with his son FRANK FIELD, backstage at 'Sunday Night At The London Palladium'. (NRM Picture)



FRANK SINATRA: back in uniform again! A shot from his latest film 'The Manchurian Candidate'—seen to be released here.

## STEEPTOE'S SON ON RECORD!

DISC DEBUT his work by one HARRY H. CORRETT, and to those who don't recognize the name, he is "Harold" of the brilliantly successful BBC TV series "Steptoe and Son".

On the Pye label, Harry's first-ever comedy "Bank Shot" and "The Life of Clerkenwell", comedy items specially named by Jack Fishman. Making a disc is just about the only thing left for this incredibly versatile actor. He's had over 100 TV roles in the past five years, including a concert on Death Row.

He has also played "Richard III" and "Hamlet" at Stratford Theatre Royal; been a regular at Bristol Old Vic; helped form the BBC TV drama group "The Langham Group"; been in unspoken films.

But "Steptoe" has brought him to millions. He's become a national figure and, of course, is undergoing the usual bit from folk who believe it's an "overnight success" just because they've at last caught up with him in a popular comedy series.

Harry "you'll never get out of him what the second 'H' stands for" — was born in Kingston. He later went to school in Manchester and recalls: "The only thing I remember is complete total boredom and a strong urge to leave."

He has been (a) an apprentice tool fitter; (b) a Royal Marine; (c) a putterer-up of pre-fabs; (d) a student radio-fighter.

"I'd thought about acting as a career but I'd never had the money," he told the NRM. "But I got off in a carpentry business, employed a lot of outside-work actors and musicians — and was eventually persuaded by some of them to try the local repertory company."

"My first role was a leading one. The first bit of a show in 'Dick Whittington' I like to think I gave one of the most professional performances ever in that particular role."

Then he played a policeman — "but it was a struggle because I was so bad I could only do one thing at a time. After every episode of 'Lark' I never both to bother."

With Chorlton Repertory Company, he learned how to sweep the stage, fight bits of acts, make tea and generally cope. Then he joined the Theatre Works, which is becoming ever more of a repertory company for ten years.

Says Harry: "I enjoy the stimulus of working with script-writers Colton and Simpson on 'Steptoe' but I don't want to be tied up with it, with this type of role. So I'm playing a lead in a movie 'The Man From Snowy Mountain' with G. Robertson."

Harry has never Hampton Heath and is married. Hobbes? "Don't really have time for any," he said. "But my main ambition is to die at sixty, with a jealous wife."

## FREDDY CANNON IN TOURING

THOSE touring packages show that Freddy Cannon and Britain — YES, he has them in a recent NRM interview, No said the explosive Freddy Cannon this week.

Said Freddy: "I say Bobby is quite wrong. If you don't fear the media world, you must fear the fan club. They still turn up to see you. We're bringing out on a lot of them, using a lot of the local talent, and I hope I'm not wanting when I say the business has been excellent."

"Sure, they get on with having the same sort of formula. But make it the RIGHT formula and you'll not go wrong."

## FAMILY

Freddy has also turned to the nightclub type of work where he's not so intensely explosive as on his singles or on disc. He throws in "family type" singles and proves, very satisfactorily that he's come on apace in the past year or so.

This year, he admits, is important to him. He's had his after his — 14 at the last count — in the States but here has had just two major, smash winners — "Talkback Loner" and "Way Down

Yonder". Now he's taking over from Dion on the Dad Shannon-Barz Clifford Joe Brown tour. Freddy is living up to States-side billing: "the ball of the rock stars".

Freddy, born Freddy Picardello, was in Britain back in 1959 when he set the ringtones afloat on "Boy Meets Girls".

He was back the following year to tour.

And on that tour, he developed a very healthy regard for the British boys of rock, notably Joe Brown. "Joe is a very real talent and a whole lot of fun," he said. "I'm sure he's a very big in the States..."

## GOLD DISC

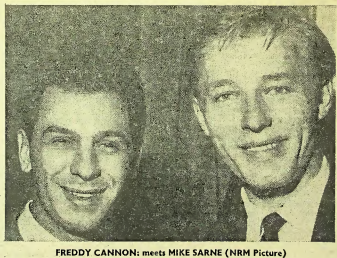
"Paladium Park" which commemorated the opening of a huge American fun-fair, won him a Gold Disc on top of the mainstays by the side of the one he "kissed" and it also led to one of the most terrific personal appearances ever when Freddy went to Paladium Park to meet his fans. They came near to tearing him apart.

Freddy, slim, dark-haired, easy on the chat, in an attitude by inclination, favouring golf, basketball and swimming. But his hectic series of one-nighters in America leaves him little time to indulge. Nowadays his main relaxation is in the domestic program, listening to discs as varied as those by Little Richard and Frank Sinatra.

Known as his mimes as "Boom Boom Cannon", Freddy is right now proving himself a "radio-fan-mony" performer. He dished right back to the early cash-back rock but there is also a sensitive, ball-selling side to his music.

But even should Bobby Vinton be right about these new singers, Freddy is a ALL RIGHT with his night-club and television appearances.

Freddy: Freddy makes a quick return to a Britain after the current tour. To sing in Milton Suboby's new music, "Just For Me"—P.J.



FREDDY CANNON: meets MIKE SARNE (NRM Picture)

a good English sausage."

Shortly before he arrived, George asked Freddy to make sure that good quality scrambled eggs would be served at his head.

At a reception in honour of George, and singer Joe Williamson, he drank milk. He did talk about music:

"If Bach were alive today he would have been a fantastic jazzman."

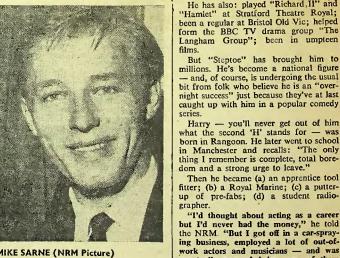
And:

"Let There Be Love" was as much a surprise to me as 'Lullaby Of Birdland' was as a commercial hit. But Nat and I never tried specifically to aim it at the charts.

"And there's no reason why I should make a follow up, I shall carry on as normal. I'm making out... and so I believe it's Nat Cold."

The George Shearing Quartet currently runs about £2000 a year.

"Still a bit else is a nice surprise," added George as he went off... no doubt in search of English tea, sausage and scrambled egg.



George Shearing, pianist who shared a hit disc "Let There Be Love" with Nat Cold, breezed into London after a long absence and gave a strange reason for doing so:

"I heard they were using tea bags over here in the tea and just to come and see for myself."

Later on he gave another reason: "I had a yearning all of a sudden for

shearing, music and food!"

# FILM 'PORGY AND BESS' OPENS AND— AT LAST WE CAN HEAR SAMMY DAVIS JR.



SAMMY DAVIS JR. as Sportin' Life.

AFTER 17 years of legal wrangles, delays and stoppages—not least waiting until "South Pacific" finished its record breaking run—Gershwin's opera, "Porgy and Bess" opens at the Dominion, Tottenham Court Road, London, W.1.

And the full glory of Sammy Davis Jr.'s masterful portrayal of dope peddler, gambler, lecher, Sportin' Life can be seen.

And heard!

Heard? The original film had long playing album has been on sale for two years. But it isn't Sammy Davis Jr.'s voice on the track. It was switched and Negro band leader Cab Calloway—the king of five, wester of the Zoot Suit in the 1940s—replaced him.

## CAMPAIGN

Cab played the Sportin' Life part in the early Broadway production and it was seeing him in 1952 at the Chicago Civic Opera House that made Sammy determined to have the plum film part.

And to get it, Sammy launched into an extensive campaign: "When I read about it in the papers that Sam Goldwyn was making a film of it, I just had to do something.

Point One: telling every newspaperman and disc jockey who would listen to him that he was right for the part.

He put the message in print and on the air, Hollywood—and in particular Sam Goldwyn—couldn't ignore.

Even the massively influential Frank Sinatra and members of his clan—which included Sammy—were scolded to lobby Goldwyn for the part.

Remember how it that Sammy also tried to sneak a few words into one of his recordings last Dec. (Sammy now re-records for Reprise) put their foot down about it.

by  
**IAN DOVE**

Sammy even appealed to audiences to join in and help get him the part.

Sifted advice from Hollywood.

Then came the night of February 19, 1958. Sammy was doing his one man show at the Moulin Rouge in Hollywood and Sam Goldwyn was in the audience.

Mr. Davis Jr. pulled out all the stops that night.

He sang, danced, did imitations, ad libbed and then put in a short notice two numbers from "Porgy and Bess". Mr. Goldwyn was seated in his dressing room after the show offering him the part. He had no doubts that Sammy was the man for the part.

But later when he looked at Sammy's schedule, he had doubts if he could fit it in. Why?

## EXERCISE

Two months before the cameras started rolling, Sammy was busy pre-recording the songs. And he was also making strenuous night club appearances.

And while the film was being made Sammy—at night time was rehearsing for his role in a play called "The Directorate House" Sammy had it all worked out.

He had persuaded director Otto Preminger—a hard dictatorial man, not easy to please—but he could shoot around the Sportin' Life part for three weeks, thereby allowing Sammy to do the play—which he called an "acting exercise".

One of Sammy's songs in "Porgy" is called "I Can't Sit Still".

When he was over in London for his one man show last year Sammy surprised everybody by having no secret formula for keeping up his ferocious, driving energy.

He would take a large stick before the show—"There's no truth about the story that I have THREE sticks for lunch every day", he said—and revealed a formula for ferocity called.

## WESTERN

Sammy doesn't take vitamin pills or special breakfast foods. He doesn't exercise—I do like practicing drawing as a shooter. They reckon I'm one of the fastest men on the draw in Hollywood. And they've got a lot of TV Western stars here, you know? He once said.

Sammy has a collection of over thirty Western guns and next to fellow singer Mel Tormé is reckoned the fastest non-professional draw in Hollywood.

Sammy once said he wanted to make an all Negro Western but philosophically "It would probably be the only time the Indians would win, though".

Sammy doesn't get a lot of sleep either.

The secret then?

"He things I enjoy—entertaining—happen to be the things that keep me in shape—mentally and physically."

Sammy likes work, earns a lot over a million dollars a year—and spends a lot for it. But since his marriage to Swedish actress May Britt he's questioned down a lot.

He has around a dozen people on his payroll, a valet, secretary, conductor-arranger, musicians included. But he still enjoys his evenings with his father, who used to lead the Mill Masin Trio, where Sammy started in show business at the age of three. His father has now retired following a heart attack and lives in Hollywood in a house originally built for Judy Garland.

Sammy himself has the top floor apartment all decked out in white rugs and black furniture. Below him lives his father, mother, two sisters and his grandmother.

## IMPERSONATIONS

Right now Sammy's disc career is booming.

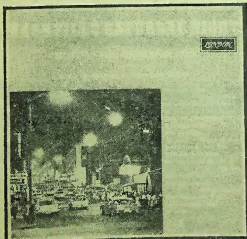
Always a big album seller he now has a single in the American charts—"What Kind of Fool Am I?" from the Tony Newby show, "Slop The World".

Remember over here have recently issued an EP of Sammy singing songs from the show including "What Kind of Fool?"

But for Davis supporters the "Sammy Davis Impersonator" is a must because it features Sammy doing his celebrated impersonations—Jolson, Edward G. Robinson, Nat Cole, Ray Charles, James Stewart, James Cagney and more.

This and his part in the £2,500,000 production of "Porgy and Bess"—plus his forthcoming season at the London Palladium early next year—means that the good times are rolling for fans and friends of Sammy Davis Jr.

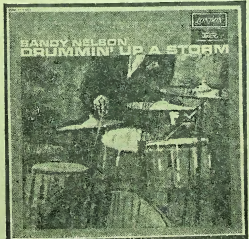
# SATURDAY NIGHT AT HOME



## NASHVILLE SATURDAY NIGHT

A selection of 16 Country and Western numbers from Nashville including: Seasons of my heart; Strictly man's; Love has made you beautiful; Nashville waltz; Nashville Saturday night; One is a lonely number; Sunny Tennessee; Eyes of love.

© HAR 8003 London



## SANDY NELSON

DRUMMIN' UP A STORM Castle rock; Sandy; I'm In love again; All night long; C Jam blues; Here we go again; All around the world with drums; Tub-thumpin'; Drummin' up a storm

© SHP 8009 © HAP 8009 London

# BEN E. KING DON'T PLAY THAT SONG!



## BEN E. KING

DON'T PLAY THAT SONG! Don't play that song; Ecstasy On the horizon; Show me the way; Here comes the night; First taste of love; Stand by me; Yes; Young boy blues; The heart of misty mountains; I promise love; Love yourself

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## LONDON

19" stereo or mono records

## LONDON ATLANTIC

London Records division of The Decca Record Company Ltd  
Queen House, 49 Abchurch Lane, London EC4N 3SE



The gentlemen of "Bonanza"—now on LP—(from left to right) Ben Cartwright (LORNE GREENE), Hoss (DAN BLOCKER), Adam (FERNELL ROBERTS) and Lute Joe (MIKE LANDON).

# NOBODY SELLS ALMA COGAN MORE THAN... ALMA COGAN

**NOBODY** sells ALMA COGAN like Alma Cogan sells Alma Cogan. Most singers are satisfied just with singing. But not Alma Cogan.

She designs her own dresses and has them made up to her exact specifications. She frequently designs the sets for her television appearances.

And now, dissatisfied with most of the L.P. covers on British records, she is designing her own. The colorful reproduction on her last one linked her so much that her next is planned by her for black and white.

Next step for Alma is a new film for television in which she plays a lady detective. A private eye with a real time (in unusual) days. Designed by Alma Cogan, of course.

Film, called "The Secret Keeper" is being made by producer-director Kenneth Hume. Shirley Bassey's husband and Shirley is featured in the production. Said Ken Hume: "We are, as yet, undecided as to whether 'The Secret Keeper' will be released to theaters through the country or be the first of a television series."

Other guests in the production include Frankie Howard, Jess Conrad, Harold Laag and Caryd Robinson. Alma doesn't sing or wear any of her self-designed gowns—but she does get the chance of putting across her comedy talents.

Alma's success story is quite fantastic. From Dennis Haily's hand at the age of 15 to Britain's top ballroom girl of show business. And it's a story which shows her fighting spirit.

## by Wilson Beaton

Chosen to star in a weekly radio show, a really big break, Alma was told by a specialist that she should be noticed by nodules forming on her vocal chords, through hard had to give up singing for six months—and even taking for three. It was complete hell for Alma—but she did it.

Alma has never had her salary sliced up as so many pop stars do. She gets her ten per cent on an agent and then went on to manage herself, learning what to wear, what to sing, how to handle an audience, how to travel the country and the dingiest theaters imaginable. Alma Cogan was selling like hot Cogan ever since.

The hit followed one another: "Bill Bottom Blues," "Can't Tell a Waltz From a Tango," "Last Night On the Back Porch." The high-point, four came.



**ALMA COGAN** releases off of "The Secret Keeper" with **SHIRLEY BASSEY**, the *Oxens* of discworld.

Alma doesn't mind micro-skiping, as she showed when Frankie Howard asked her throughout one television show why she wasn't married and couldn't find a man. I suspect that'll take a mighty persuasive man to make Alma want marriage for the thrills about show business from first thing in the morning to last thing at night.

She never forgets the face of any journalist who interviews her. It doesn't break her up when she lies in the British Top Twenty for the tops a number of charts elements. In Japan, for instance, her record of "Couldn't Resist Her" with her Pocket Transistor!

# LAZZARONI SPOON

**BREAKING IT UP ON BROADWAY**  
The *Oxens* of discworld

Running Wild • Old Fashioned Love • How Are Things in Your House • Love • My Ain't My Business • Hey, Look • You • The New American Merchandise Society • Don't Waste • Bill • Can't Tell a Waltz From a Tango • Last Night On the Back Porch • A Star • Cops • B.G. 2024.

ON the extreme edge of commercialism. This new bonanza in the States is the successful Duke of DeLafayette.

**WHOA** back! The "BONANZA" boys rode into town (New York) the other week and cut themselves a long playing album.

Somebody at RCA Victor thought it would be a good idea to get BEN CARTWRIGHT, LITTLE JOE ADAM and HOSS, down on TV together. Previously I had noted the high audience ratings this TV Western series sustained throughout the world.

So the album was made, filled "Bonanza", with fourteen tracks and chatty dialogue in between by the funny (and some) and will be released in Britain on November 23, say Decca.

## TV STARS

And the "Bonanza" boys join the ranks of Dr. Casey, Dr. Kildare, Baze of Route 66, Bill Spencer of '77 Sunset Strip, the Scout of "Wagon Train", Kooky, Frankie Yankum, Norman Vaughan, Harry H. Corbett, Bruce Forsyth, Comic Stevens — all television stars turned singers.

But when four top stars make ONE disc then it's something out of the ordinary.

**MIKE LANDON** — he plays Lute Joe — has recorded before, also, accompanying himself on guitar. He even appeared on American television as a singer in a show called "Highways of Music".

But perhaps the most surprising thing is that Mike has — **DAN BLOCKER** in a real life bit as a nifty singer. He made a powerful debut last year by appearing

# "Bonanza" all album

on "The Perry Como Show" as a singer. He quickly followed it up with spots on the "Bob Newhart Show" and a big television special built around actor Henry Kissinger.

It was unusual to see 6 ft. 4 in., 275 lbs. Hoss in a suit singing love songs... but a lot of things about Hoss are

in the series he is generally praised as being not too bright. In actual fact he is a Doctor of Philosophy graduate of the University of California and was a teacher.

## BY IAN DOVE

A small part in "Gammack" — this was in 1959 when the search was on for tall rugged outdoor men to play TV Westerns — changed all that. Dan Blocker figured that when four days before television cameras carried him more money than a month back home teaching it was best to give up teaching.

Directors of westerns loved him; "Cheyenne", "Jane Grey Theatre", "Have Gun Will Travel", "Maverick", "Restless Gun", "Cannonball City" all claimed him. Finally he got a plum job in "Bonanza". And Dan, the biggest baby ever born in Bonnie County, Texas, stayed.

Dan has always been big. He was 14 lbs. at birth, at eight years he was 7 ft., 7 in., at 12 it was 13 ft. 8 in., and finally it settled at just under 20 ft.

He recalls that his pastime as a child

was fighting. Indeed the children of the small Texas town used to refer off a section of the main street on Saturday night and match all the local roustabouts against poor Dan Blocker.

When he was 13, nobody would fight him!

"Dan never diets — 'I just keep active," he says.

Off set they call him the "Quiet Cowboy". His latest staying home with his family — four children including a set of twins — is due to music.

What? Classic music. If you think Dan Blocker is unusual, take a look at Little Joe, Mike Landon.

Mike likes keeping pets. He collects them when "Bonanza" goes on location to film. He caught one of his favourite kind of pet once and took it home with him. It was christened Homer but couldn't stand being shut up and away from the wide open spaces.

Mike's pet worried and fretted and finally went bald.

One of the petful tarantula SPIDER, one of the most poisonous spiders in the world.

Mike also digs snakes. "They make wonderful pets because they do not honey. They like to curl around you like a snake. Finally he got a plum job in "Bonanza". And Dan, the biggest baby ever born in Bonnie County, Texas, stayed.

Mike, like Adam, is also very intelligent. His IQ rating at school was 153, well above average, proving on brilliant.

During his time as university on an athlete's scholarship (with offer of \$40,000 a year) because he wouldn't study but would throw javelin.

A short spell at swimming instructor followed — he quit when they found out Mike couldn't swim.

Born Eugene Orlovitz, Mike figured that this name wouldn't sell well on screen credits. A dip into the telephone directory brought his new one.

Landon. In his particular directory there weren't many Lандons so he chose it.

## JOKER

Mike is a practical joker. One particular favourite is one he stages with Dan Blocker on the set of "Bonanza" before unknowing, unsuspecting visitors. He stages a grimy realistic fight, knocking over chairs, tables and unknowing, unsuspecting visitors with Dan.

Sometimes nerves refuse to appear with 24-year-old Mike on the grounds of respect for his guests. He says: "Visitors take the easy way out — run off set."

The remaining members of the quartet, **LORNE GREENE**, who plays Ben Cartwright, **FERNELL ROBERTS**, who plays Adam, are strictly non-jokers.

While Haiden, back bowed Lorne tried to be an engineer but blew himself

LITTLE HOSS, ADAM, CARTV, ALL TO, ON OF

up one or twice... radio announcement.

He was once... film, Oscar...

Mike suddenly... Halfway through... on breaking con...

Ray Lester... Oscar still... late for... of it. 40 years... started by... Canada. He c... where he live... an actor how... Everybody w... Lorne and p... a part in a... up and from... Bonanza part...

Adrian and... the quartet. He himself became... Lorne and p... life away...

But all in... FERNELL RO...

He was first... Western series... Malley's Sp... Mike's shape... good background...

**IN YOUR SHOPS TODAY**

**DEL SHANNON** Swiss Milk 9623

**FLOYD Cramer** Being Low 9624

**LITTLE RALPH BUCK** Romy Gibson 9123

**LORE ORBISON** Went for the man 9625

**SAM COOKE** Nothing can stop this love 9626

**HE'S A BIRD** The Crystal 9627

**DESIJANA BOONE** The Young Stranger 9628

**KETTY LESTER** You don't live in 9629

**SILVER** Peggy 9129

**LOVE ME WITH ALL YOUR HEART** The Square Pegs 9130

**JOHNNY NASH** Let's 9131

**THE ROULETTE WIZ** 9132

**TRAIT IN DISCO**

**SUE & SUE** # 1155

**JOHN TILLOT** SEND ME THE YOU CR...

# ikes

LITTLE JOE,  
BOSS,  
ADAM AND BEN  
CARTWRIGHT—  
ALL TOGETHER  
ON ONE L.P.!

... was once a singer and decided that acting was safer. He came into "Bonanza" via this announcing.

He was once announcer on a programme which brilliant bad boy of the 50s, Orson Welles, was to make a speech. Orson Welles, who was making a speech, Orson was late arriving and some audience had the speech thrust in front of him with the request to make it.

Halfway through he felt a hand on his shoulder — Orson Welles. Lorne showed up on the place and Orson took over without breaking continuity.

Says Lorne: "Nobody knew the difference."

**ORSON**

Orson still doesn't like to be reminded of it. It's his boast that he's never been a fool — a boast.

... the Canadian Academy of Arts and Letters but when television tried it didn't furnish his chances in Canada. He came south to America, where he was invited to top watch that told actor how much time he had left.

Everybody wanted one including a producer who also liked the look of Lorne and put him in a play. Eventually part in a "Wagon Train" series came and from this Lorne was offered the Orson part.

Adam is the mystery member of the quartet. He maintains secrecy around himself because he doesn't believe an actor has to give secrets of his personal life away.

But still a great deal is known about ERNEST BORISZYNSKI.

He was a forest ranger, butcher, soldier and a wildcat river, welder, and a union clerk and evasive tailor.

For a tip, Pernell also made ...

... background before doing the Western stage.

... Malenki Shalagarenka. He appeared in Shakespeare's "Play all Over America." "A good background," he says.



MIKE LANDON: spider and snake lover!

# Great Scott, once a rival to Elvis

No. 1 of a new series by **NORMAN JOPLING**

ONCE upon a time there was a singer. He was good-looking, had a deep, deep voice, and some gold discs on his mantelpiece. Like many others he was reluctant to rival to ELVIS PRESLEY. Something which he himself would completely deny.

Then people forgot JACK (that his name) and didn't buy his records any more. Which was a pity because they were good records.

And so Jack changed his style until he had a much chance of making the charts again any year. Everyone hopes he changes back before it's too late ...

There's a parallel in real life to this one. The singer's name is JACK SCOTT and that could very well be his story. Jack was born in 1937 in Windsor, Ontario, but his family moved across the border to Detroit.

**CRUSH**

After living in Detroit for some years, Jack began holding some Saturday Night Burn Dances. In which he and some of his friends supplied the music. It was his friends, in a roundabout way, who got Jack his break.

While he was at high school in Detroit, his friend Leroy Johnson was sent to jail for fighting. In way of comfort

Jack composed a song called "Leroy," taped it and played it over to Leroy when he visited him in jail.

At the same time Jack was rather sweet on a girl in his class called Glorie Kestley and during his courtship he composed another number—very slow this time—called "My True Love." He tried this, too—but not to play to Glorie. And when Jack happened to play these two tapes to various people, one of them happened to be connected with the record business.

Eventually a contract with Carlton Records, New York, was drawn up and the company was all set to release the two sides as a single. When they did, they weren't sure which one to play, so they played both of them.

Both reached the top in the States, both carried Jack a gold disc.

Over here only the "My True Love" side was played, and that got into the top ten. But that was after three months' release—"My True Love" was the biggest " sleeper" of 1958. The following month nothing much over here. But "Good-Bye Baby" reached the top again in the States and set up a trend for a length of time in the charts.

All of Jack's next releases were very successful Stateside. They were "With Your Love," "Gardening," "Save My

Soul," and "The Way I Walk the Walk." The latter made the British lists, too.

Then, for a while, there was a lull. Some said that Jack was finished, but he turned up on the Top Rank International label, and made two more gold discs with "What Is The World's Come Over You?" and "Burning Bridges."

The former reached No. 3 in our charts and stayed there for a long, long time. The latter didn't score too much and never have any of his discs since, which is a pity because Jack still sings our good records. His last, "I Can't Hold Your Lotion," which was on Capitol, was a good example.

And that's country music near or least. The strange thing is that Jack writes songs that are better musically and lyrically — he doesn't make the charts with them.

He should remember that in his hit "Gardening," his own name has been about one hundred times.

At least.

# 'My First Really Act' — in a



ON the beach at Caes, Normandy, PAUL ANKA (right) swabbled down a deep gash in his head, and ...

It gives me my first real chance to act. I don't want just to be known as a singer."

**TOMMY SANDS** (left, with Paul Anka) was nearly — his knee badly lacerated that would require, later on, several stitches. FABIAN was nursing a badly bruised back, the result of a collision with actor ROBERT WAGNER.

A film was being made. The film is now being shown in London and Paul Anka is luckiest of all the stars — over their top names appear — in the film, "The Longest Day," a re-enactment of the D-Day invasion of 1944.

The stars are being listed alphabetically — such as Paul Pate at the top of the list. Paul, together with Fabian, Wagner, Sands, play US Rangers in the film and part of their job was to storm a cliff.

**JAZZ SPOT**

**TIGER RAG AND ALL THAT JAZZ**

Edde Condon  
Doris Day • Livery Stable Blues • Lazy Dazy • Sensation • Original Distorted Gro-Spy • Blue! The Blues • Lazy River • Tiger Rag, VOGUE LAE.12249.

It must be admitted that the Condon school, over the long years, has remained something of a Peter Pan in contemporary jazz making. Like most of the Bartie heroes I have seen age is showing through the arms, despite the title and legend. Out of the Condon school one can or has played a character — Pee Wee Russell, who is now making himself a new name and name in the so-called "mainstream" school, is one — and Red Freeman, the best thing in this comeback Condon album, another. He moves his tenor with an elastic agility which, as in the past, possesses a joy and a certain moral imagination which satisfies.



# JAZZ SPOT

**BOB SCOTT'S FRESHING UP**

By Bitter And Egg Men • Silver Dancer • Saturated Blues • Everytime It Pitches Down • Goodies • On The Way • When It Rains • Nightly Jive • Goin' To The • Ain't It The Blues • Long Gone • All The Ways • The Day • ... • Beggin' • And A-Clickin' • Rhythm • VOGUE LAE.12514.

**QINCE-BHS** was recorded a decade ago ... I have been able to hear the Scobey band in the beach on several occasions. The first time was in the own Jan club in Chicago's Northside, and the last in the spacious and resonant Veterans Pool area accompanying the notes of the Harlem Globetrotters.

On none of these occasions was I enamored by the loud and vulgar sounds. The obvious fact is that the players can "trad" hand out San Francisco and the La Waters' Yerba Buena Jazz Band.

L.A.

**TRAITOR IN DISGUISE**  
SUE & MARY  
F1017  
DECCA  
Schmuck

**JOHNNY TILLOTSON**  
SEND ME THE PILLOW YOU GRY ON  
LONDON

**EARL GRANT**  
SWEET SIXTEEN BARS  
10317  
DECCA  
Schmuck

**BOBBY'S GIRL**  
MARCIE BLANE  
HELL 9537  
LONDON

**DOCTOR KILDARE**  
ERIC SYKES & HATTIE JACOUES  
10318  
DECCA  
Schmuck

**MONSTER MASH**  
BOBBY PICKETT  
HELL 9537  
LONDON

**JAZZ SPOT**

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