

BRITAIN'S LARGEST WEEKLY ENTERTAINMENT NEWSPAPER

THE GREATEST EVER! THE WEDDING SAMBA

Musical Express

Incorporating ACCORDION TIMES

FRIDAY, AUGUST 26th, 1949

No. 151

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WHILE THE ANGELUS WAS RINGING I LOVE YOU SO MUCH

THE GREAT NATIONAL DANCE BAND CHAMPIONSHIP

NBC GRAND FINAL TO BE THE GREATEST DANCE BAND EVENT

(By the Editor)

GERALDO, HIS ENTIRE ORCHESTRA, HIS FULL COMPLEMENT OF SINGERS AND ARTISTES AND THE MAESTRO HIMSELF CONDUCTING THIS MIGHTY AGGREGATION OF MUSIC, WILL APPEAR ON SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2, AT THE GRAND FINAL IN THE NATIONAL DANCE BAND CHAMPIONSHIP...

The National Dance Band Championship, conceived in all its magnitude by Musical Express, finally attracted, as our readers know, the most experienced and most respected organiser of dance band contests in the world—Lewis Buckley.

Lewis Buckley, with twenty-one years of contest organising to his credit, during which time he accumulated the profound respect of the orchestras competing throughout Britain, suddenly realised that the Musical Express project had to be re-organised.

So this first great year ends at Blackpool coinciding with the famous Blackpool Illuminations which will flood the town and the Championship with light. All the great bands which have distinguished themselves during the year will appear and contest the All-Britain Trophy.

When approached, Geraldine agreed to appear. Geraldine agrees a great deal about the National Championship. Curiously enough when it was but an interesting idea, Musical Express approached him in the early stages to provide on a panel of adjudicators.

It will be a great day for the contesting bands—even for those who are unplaced for they will have lost in excellent company. It will be an equally great day for Geraldine, for he will be playing on a Saturday night with his already heavy bookings.

(Continued on page 4)

BAND BOX FOR IVY BENSON

IVY BENSON who is now at Butlin's Heads of Ayr Hotel will return to Flley Camp on August 28. On September 10 she will travel to London with her pianist to appear as a solo artist in Variety Band Box...

We understand that Ivy Benson is booked solidly from the completion of her Butlin engagement until Christmas in the London area and it is quite possible that she will play Blackpool during Christmas week.

VALERIE HAYES AT MARGATE

During this week-end, Valerie Hayes, ex-singing partner of Radio Luxembourg, will be entertaining patrons of the Grand Hotel, Cliffville, Margate.

On Saturday, August 27, she will be heard in the ballroom, and on the following evening will appear in the hotel's popular Sunday concert feature.



Exclusive Musical Express photograph of Tessa O'Shea and Billy Cotton rehearsing for their current radio show

SOUTH AFRICAN ARTIST HERE

Hammond Organist

BARRY SNOW, South African Hammond organist, arrived in England last week. He is well known for his work over the South African Broadcasting Corporation stations and for his excellent brand of jazz that he has featured in the finest clubs in both Johannesburg and Durban.

TED HEATH'S NEW TRUMPET PLAYER

THE Ted Heath Orchestra informs us that as from September 5, Ronnie Hughes will join the band in place of trumpeter Leo Wright.

MIDLAND ROMANCE

Vocalist weds Trumpet player

De-Nai Temple, and now Vernon Adcock's popular feminine vocalist, Beryl Turner had a very important date on Friday, August 12, when she was married to Benny Rose's trumpeter Leo (Calypso) Cooke at Abergwyth, Llan, incidentally the last bachelor but one in the League of the Jazz tradition.

BROWN DOES HIS FIRST BIG SHOW

RECENTLY we published the numbers that Frankie Brown's orchestra was in rehearsal for a charity engagement at Rochampton Military Hospital. The date had been fixed for the 25th of this month, but because of other engagements this was advanced to last week.

PERTWEE'S NEW RACING CAR

JON PERTWEE, postman from "Waterlogged Spa" who is appearing at the Garrick Theatre Southampton this week, is planning to "gear 'em up" both at the theatre and on the sands as he will be trying out his new racing car—an Italian Christiani—originally built for the famous driver, Eddie Merckx.

TOMMY SAMPSON BAND FOR YORKS N.D.B.C. SEP. 4

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★ TESS & BILL ★



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SAVOY AND DISC LABELS TO BE ISSUED IN LONDON

(From STEVE RACE: M.E. Record Critic)

GREAT NEWS FOR PURISTS AND POP FANS ALIKE BREAKS THIS WEEK WITH THE ANNOUNCEMENT THAT HERETOFORE UNOBTAINABLE RECORDS ON THE AMERICAN SAVOY AND DISC LABELS ARE TO BE RELEASED IN ENGLAND.

First release on the Savoy label, using the original American catalogue numbers, will be Charlie Parker's "Bar-bacon" and "Parker's Mood." The Disc catalogue will be represented by Billie Holiday's "God's Amazing Grace" and "Where could I go but to the Lord?"

As well as his full band, several members of the orchestra will be featured in this spot, but this will be the first time this popular resident leader has taken the Monday show over himself.

During the proceedings Eddie Taylor will, of course, lead his own top group. Hughes and Norton recently joined the band after appearing with the Blue Rockets and Oldfield has recently been with Vic Lewis.

JAZZ JAMBOREE

THE Musical Social Benevolent Council, informs us that full details will be available next week of this year's mammoth Jazz Jamboree.

STOP PRESS

ON Monday night, Tairhard Evans will introduce his first famous celebrity in his radio show "The Tairhard Evening."

CHANGES IN BARRETT BAND

FREDDY BARRETT, who is resident with his band at the Locarno, Streatham, has made several changes in his personnel.

HAVE YOU HEARD

THE LITTLE OLD OWL SAY TOO-WHIT TOO-WHOOW?

IT'S A SMASH FOR CONCERT AND BALLAD SINGERS

IN ALL THE WORLD

BILLY REID PUBLICATIONS 156 Charing Cross Rd., London, W.C.2

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HUGHIE DIAMOND SALUTES WORKERS FROM MONTE CARLO



Hughie Diamond

HUGHIE DIAMOND, popular singer, was the star of last week's Salute To The Workers programme broadcast over Radio Monte Carlo.

Diamond flew to Paris on Monday, August 8, to record the programme in the Paris-Production studios. Accompanying the British star was the regular Salute To The Workers orchestra, under the direction of M. Roger-Roger.

The programme, sixth of a series, was dedicated in the workers of the British shipbuilding industry, the steel industry and to the farmers whose work is contributing so much to economic recovery.

Salute To The Workers each week is dedicated to the workers of a different European country. Previous programmes, each starting an outstanding musical artist, were dedicated to the workers of France, Belgium, Greece, Italy and the Netherlands.

The show is produced under the direction of the Information Division of the Economic Co-operation Administration (Marshall Plan).

HEVERLEY KRUT CYMBALS

HEVERLEY KRUT CYMBALS (continued)

HEVERLEY KRUT CYMBALS (continued)

THE VOICE

COMMERCIALS AGAIN

APPEARING elsewhere in this issue is an important communication from Captain C. H. Rolleston, R.N., General Secretary of the Listeners' Association...

THE SWING OVER

OUR correspondent rightly says that we omitted from our recent article on the subject the fact that the Union of South Africa sponsored radio through the recommendation of a special Commission of Enquiry...

BESIDE THE SEASIDE

BLACKPOOL has had its fair share of publicity via the B.B.C. and it has had more than a fair share, Brighton, by a lesser extent, since Stapleton has been broadcasting from that town...

SUSCEPTIBILITIES

AND were Blackpool to pay a few hundred pounds for this incomparable national house whose susceptibilities would be upset? Nobody's. Has anyone yet complained that Blackpool is an air every week? Of course not...

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATION

WHAT of the financial aspect? Instead of the B.B.C. having to foot the enormous production bill at Blackpool, or any other of their big-time shows, the sponsor would do this and, no doubt, pay for the air time as well...

EVERY SONG IN THE HIT PARADE DREAM AGAIN - YOU WENT AWAY AND LEFT ME - MY OWN DARB AND JOAN - HI JIG A JIG - SUVLA BAY - GALWAY BAY

THE NATION'S No. 1 THE WEDDING OF LILLI MARLENE AND NOW A ROSE IN A GARDE OF TREDS THE No. 1 OF TOMORROW Box & Cox (Publications) Ltd., 7, Denmark St., W.C.2 Telephone: TEM 6969

RUMBALERO present THE GREAT NEW SONG "COFFIN POLISHES" (No. 2 on America's Hit Parade) NO. 1 NO. 2 NO. 3 LARASPY The New Dancing Game 14, ST. GEORGE STREET, LONDON, W.1

"Rhythm Aurs" NEW AMERICAN ARRANGEMENTS FOR SMALL ORCHESTRAS BLUE MOON DARKTOWN STRUTTERS BALL AT SUNDOWN TEMPTATION SLEEPY TIME GAL MOONLIGHT SERENADE PAGAN LOVE SONG SHOULD I FRANCIS, DAY & HUNTER, LTD. (13-14, Charing X Rd., London, W.C.2)

WILL NEEDED Composers in England and U.S.A.

Building big band round Rene Touzet



FIDDLING SINGER

Curry Massey, right, star of "Curry Massey Time," gay summer musical program on CBS, with Martha Tilson as female vocalist, tries a little close harmony with her during rehearsal. On the air Massey leaves the fiddling to Country Washburne (left) and Ma Orchestra, and sticks to singing in his rich, colorful baritone.

TRANSATLANTIC American Commentary by CHICK MADISON Lately this has been a sensational "Tim-tay-shun"; her platters of "The Gentlemen in a Life and The Best Things in Dope and Free" were accompanied by the girl who like jump tempo; the "top" fans loved it. "Jolly Joe" and "Roxie"; her album, Joe Stafford Sings American Folk Songs, won her legions of new admirers, and in an even more arduous vein "Joe" and "Ave" are "Night Night." She is presently on summer vacation from her two network radio shows and devoting portion of her time to making a petition from the local folk at hospitals on the west coast. She's also cutting a flock of new wax for full release on the Capitol label and will headline the festivities at the annual Michigan State Fair, Detroit, in a four-day engagement, starting September 8, and will pick up the record salary check of \$10,000 for those four days' work. Joe's agents are currently setting up a nation-wide theater and concert tour on which she'll be accompanied by Paul Weston's orchestra and the Star Lighters.

What every musician wants to know about the Continent . . . by MALCOLM MITCHELL

DID you have a good time? . . . Are things expensive? . . . What kind of food do you eat? . . . Is the food good? Malcolma Mitchell, just back from his month in France and Switzerland, answers a few of the hundred and one questions you may have to play all kinds of music with a large percentage of waltzes, marches and especially tango. You may have to play long hours . . . anything but twice the normal time in England.

FROM THE LISTENERS' ASSOCIATION The Editor, Musical Express Sir, - Congratulations on your success in scheduling for August 22 about the judging of the Commercial Radio show. The views of this Association are set out in general terms in the enclosed article by our president, Lord Craygavan, but I may add that a recent poll of our members resulted as follows:

In favour of the continuation of the B.B.C. monopoly - 52 per cent. In favour of Commercial Radio in addition to the B.B.C. - 35 per cent. Neutral - 11 per cent. Our next article omitted is that Commercial Radio is at this very moment being introduced to the South Africa as a result of a recommendation by a Commission of Enquiry. Yours faithfully, C. H. BOLLESTON, Hon. Gen. Secretary, The Listeners' Assn., 21, Victoria Road, W.1

SINCE writing about neglect of British composers three weeks ago, the good work done by Plaxton for Granite Bantock, has been brought to my notice. Bantock's music has been ignored by the major recording companies, but Plaxton's (25-8, Dean Street, London, W.1) has recorded many of his pieces, as well as Piano Concerto by Joseph Holbrooke, and Leontine's Comedy Overture, one of the Bantock pieces are miniature, attractive, but hardly market important. On the other hand, Celtic Symphony (GTR 1134) and a slightly more recent Comedy Overture to Aristophanes "The Frogs" (GTR 104) and two Heroic Ballads (GTR 102), most certainly do not deserve the neglect to which they have been subjected.

Bantock, who died about four years ago, was born in London in 1858. He was tremendously influenced by Oriental and Celtic subjects. Among his orchestral works are Arabian Nights, Lalla Rookh, a Hebraic Symphony and a Celtic Poem for Cello and Orchestra; vocal works include Omar Khayyam, Kullin and two Symphonies for unaccompanied Choir. His output is fairly large, but all one notices is the variety of his two Overtures, "The Pierrot of the Minute," and "The Frogs".

The neglect of the Celtic Symphony, written nine years ago, is both way and difficult to understand. It is a masterpiece, yet asks for six harps and the finding of six harp players for one work is no easy matter. It is because from a casual glance at the score, the work does look particularly daunting. The text of the music, however, is not what it looks like, but it is certainly a masterpiece of its kind. It has that fresh quality of the music that is sweeping over the Hebraic Islands.

AMERICA

If the number of neglected English composers is great, it seems that the number of neglected American composers is still larger. We have had a list of Roy Harris, Samuel Barber, Aaron Copland, William Schuman and few others, but who in this country knows anything of Wallingford Riegger, Charles Ives, Howard Hanson, Paul H. P. Williams, Hanson, S. S. Ross, Howard Hanson, Earl McDonald, Frederic Rzewski, and George Antheil, to name but a few. These are the names of our composers. Charles Ives is one of us who have heard of, and we probably know his music. Ives has been heard of, and we probably know his music. Ives has been heard of, and we probably know his music.

LARGAMENTE MAESTRO The work is in three movements, which are played without a break. The second, featuring prominently solo and small ensemble, is a masterpiece of its kind. The performance is in colorful and effective. In typical English style, the orchestra playing a rushing and brilliant finale is marked "Largamente Maestros". Half the orchestra playing a rushing and brilliant finale is marked "Largamente Maestros".

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