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EMERGENCY PUBLICATION

Stocks of paper ordered for Musical Express have not arrived in time to print our issue of March 2nd. This emergency news-sheet is being published in the meantime for exclusive distribution to our regular subscribers. It is only a temporary expedient until paper stocks are available. This news-sheet is not included in the number of issues still due to any reader under subscription and only represents a token service for the inconvenience.

- EDITOR -

PREAGER CARRIES ON DESPITE ILLNESS

We can now disclose that Lou Preager, now coming to the end of his highly successful four weeks' tour, has been a semi-invalid all during this period. Stricken with gastric and bronchial flu Preager has, nevertheless, carried out all appearances although a doctor has been in almost constant attendance. From a business point of view this has been Preager's most successful tour to date.

BYGRAVES TO SING JOLSON SONGS

When a programme titled "Jolson Sings on" is broadcast on March 16th Max Bygraves will sing the famous Jolson songs. It will be recalled that Bygraves' finale at the Palladium was an impression of that great showman singing "Mammy."

STAPLETON FOR SAVOY

Cyril Stapleton will take his full orchestra and vocalists into the Savoy Hotel on March 5th for an indefinite period. Stapleton's vast experience of West End clientele should make him a firm favourite with the Savoy patrons.

MORE BROADCASTS FOR MITCHELL TRIO

Playing nightly at both the 96 and Dorchester Restaurants, The Malcolm Mitchell Trio will be heard on the air four times within a few days. They will broadcast on March 4, 8 and 9 and on March 11 will be heard in a repeat of their Variety Band Box of March 4.

DEAN AT METROPOLITAN

Currently at The Metropolitan, Edgware Road, Alan Dean will top the bill at Huddersfield for w/c March 5.

ELLINGTON QUARTET FOR ITALY

The Ray Ellington Quartet will make yet another trip abroad when they leave for an engagement at one of the most exclusive European night spots - The Don Rodrigo Club in Milan. The Quartet will be playing for dancing as well as giving their own specialised cabaret spots.

They will appear from March 24 - April 30, during which period Ellington may possibly make personal appearances at the Milan Festival, an exhibition run on the lines of the B.I.F.

Prior to leaving, the Quartet will broadcast on March 5 and 16 as well as making appearances on one night stands and concerts.

GOLD BAND IN COACH CRASH

Travelling back from an engagement at Southsea last Friday, The Gold Pieces of Eight were involved in a bad coach crash. The accident occurred when their driver was signalled by a man in the road at 3 a.m. at the notorious Devil's Punchbowl. Unknown to the driver was the fact that the roads were very icy and on slowing down he went into a bad skid crashing head on into a lorry which had previously skidded and was lying right across the road hidden by a bend. The front and near side windows of the Gold coach were smashed and metal panelling torn completely off. Two of the boys were injured and although Ted Darrah was discharged after treatment, bassist Geoff Hawkins suffered a sufficiently bad leg injury to stop his travelling for several weeks. Don Raine Young is deputising for Hawkins until his return.

BARBIROLI RETURNS

Sir John Barbirolli, who has just completed a successful visit to Australia, will be heard in the Third Programme when he conducts the Halle Orchestra on March 9th.

THREE NEW BANDS FOR Q.M.

The Geraldo Organisation inform us that commencing March 6th three new bands will be going on the Queen Mary under the leadership of Jock Scott.

- 2 -

GELDRAY ON TOUR

Harmonica virtuoso Max Geldray is currently on tour and will play Stockton w/c March 12, Wigan March 26 and Newcastle w/c April 9. On March 15 he will be heard in Variety Band Box. Geldray is, of course, one of the featured artists in the proposed new radio feature "Junior Crazy Gang." * * *

ABBOTT ON WEST REGIONAL

Frank Abbott and his Quintet, who are successfully resident at the Norfolk Hotel, Bournemouth, will be heard in West Regional's "Strictly Instrumental" series on March 5th at 7.30 p.m. * * *

THREE BROADCASTS FOR WARD TRIO

The popular Hedley Ward Trio will broadcast on March 11, April 2 and April 15. More concerts are booked for both the Ward Band and Trio, including Newcastle on March 4, The Trio at Norwich on March 8, The Band and Trio at Oldham on March 20, The Trio at Nottingham on March 22 and both outfits at Cardiff on March 25.

Recent newcomers to the Ward Band include Jerry Alvarez late of the Song Pedlars who is playing lead alto with the group, and pianist Bob Harvey who recently did a double act with Anne Lenner. Harvey leads Ward's Carousel Three. * * *

FOUR ONE-NIGHTERS FOR MACKINTOSH

Ken Mackintosh and his Orchestra, now firmly established favourites at Wimbledon Palais, will fulfil four one-night stands during the month of March. These include Leyton March 21, Nottingham March 22, Lowestoft March 27 and Norwich March 29. * * *

RANDALL BAND LATE THROUGH CRASH

Freddy Randall and his band, who now do all their travelling in a shooting brake, were involved in a mishap last week while travelling from Taunton to Kettering. Traveling at 60 m.p.h. they had to swerve to avoid a child who had run into the road. The child was missed completely but the car ended up in a field with a smashed wing and headlights and a puncture. Having phoned the Savoy, where their concert was to commence at 7 p.m. the boys put the car in order and arrived at 9 p.m. going straight on to the stands as they were. Their many followers had waited to see them and in spite of their travelling clothes and general appearance gave them a terrific reception. Their next Jazz Club broadcast is on March 10th. * * *

MORE NAME BANDS AT LEYTON

Until the season ends on April 18 The Baths Hall, Leyton, have booked more name bands for their patrons including Eric Winstone, Freddy Randall, George Crowe, George Evans, Ken Mackintosh, Teddy Foster, Tito Burns, Harry Gold and Oscar Rabin. * * *

CAMARATA HERE

Tutti Camarata who, since leaving London Label has been associated with American Decca, is currently in London conducting orchestral recordings. * * *

ROSE FORMS BIG BAND

Trumpeter Dennis Rose informs us that he has formed a new fifteen piece band which will make its debut at the Downbeat Club this Sunday. Vocalists will be Doris Steele and Pete Peterson. * * *

TOP TEN

1. Tennessee Waltz, Cine.
2. Petite Waltz, Leeds.
3. My Heart Cries, Morris.
4. If, Lennox.
5. Canoe, Leeds.
6. Beloved, Pickwick.
7. September Song, Sterling.
8. Ferryboat, C.&C.
9. Always Love You, Victoria.
10. All My Love, P.M. * * *

HOWARD JONES HURT

Howard Jones, featured vocalist with Joe Loss injured himself while singing Mule Train last week while the Loss Band Show was appearing at Shepherd's Bush. Jones uses a large whip during the production number and while wielding it caught his face with the thong. With his usual presence of mind Loss went straight into the next number to enable Howard to receive treatment. The singer returned later in the programme after lint and plaster had been applied to the deep cut. * * *

LYTTLETON CLARINET FORMS TRIO

Ian Christy, clarinet player with Humphrey Lyttleton has left the band to form his own Trio which will specialise in ragtime. He will have Charlie Smith on piano and Ted Roberts guitar. * * *

NEWS IN BRIEF

Kathleen Stobart will guest on Jazz for Moderns March 3... Moss Kaye joins Ambrose... Kenny Baker's new group will debut at Manchester March 11... Dinah Kaye has been appearing with Nat Allen in variety this week in addition to her shows at The Celebrite... Tubby Hayes will leave the Martin Feldman group to join Kenny Baker. A first class tenor interested can contact Feldman at Fin.0085... * * *