

Margy Hayes in
CLC

Music

VIEWS

NOVEMBER • 1953



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STAN KENTON

presents

"PORTRAITS ON STANDARDS"

— a second collection of great popular songs played in the imaginative style of the Kenton orchestra — the nation's most exciting modern band!

Album No. 462



more GREAT tunes for EVERYONE!



JACKIE GLEASON

presents

"MUSIC TO MAKE YOU MISTY"

— another beautiful selection of sentimental ballads, performed with the romantic Gleason touch, and featuring instrumental soloists Bobby Hackett and Toots Mondello.

Album No. 455

Music Views

Nov., 1953 Vol. XI, No. 11

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THE COVER

Since our cover featuring Ray Anthony and Jack Webb went to press, this "Dragnet" kick has become even kickier, Ray's record of the Walter Schumann theme broke like a bombshell, and now Stan Freberg's "St. George and the Dragon Net" is breaking like — well, there's never been a bombshell like it. Sorry we couldn't get Freberg, Anthony and Webb all on the cover, but you know how it is with magazines. You read one apology, you've read 'em all.

on the stand

NAT "KING" COLE

Brooklyn, N.Y.	15 Oct.
Hershey, N.Y.	16 Oct.
Buffalo, N.Y.	17 Oct.
Youngstown, Ohio	18 Oct.
Johnstown, Ohio	19 Oct.
Toledo, Ohio	20 Oct.
Cincinnati, Ohio	21 Oct.
Cleveland, Ohio	22 Oct.
Pittsburgh, Pa.	23 Oct.
Detroit, Michigan	24 Oct.
Flint, Michigan	25 Oct.
Lansing, Michigan	26 Oct.
Columbus, Ohio	27 Oct.
Indianapolis, Indiana	28 Oct.
Fort Wayne, Indiana	29 Oct.
Milwaukee, Wisconsin	31 Oct.
New York, N.Y.	27 Nov., 6 Dec.

JUNE CHRISTY

Girard, Ohio	18 Oct.
Akron, Ohio	19 Oct., 25 Oct.
Northeast, Pa.	26 Oct., 31 Oct.
East Lansing, Michigan	1 Nov.
Detroit, Michigan	3 Nov., 7 Nov.

RAY ANTHONY

Carlsbad, New Mexico	15 Oct.
Lubbock, Texas	16 Oct.
Fort Worth, Texas	17 Oct.
Waco, Texas	18 Oct.
Dallas, Texas	19 Oct.
Pine Bluff, Arkansas	20 Oct.
Kalamazoo, Michigan	24 Oct.
Fremont, Ohio	25 Oct.
Oxford, Ohio	27 Oct.
Grove Port, Ohio	29 Oct.
Cincinnati, Ohio	30 Oct.
Dallas, Texas	6 Nov.
College Station, Texas	7 Nov.
Lawton, Oklahoma	8 Nov.
Norman, Oklahoma	9 Nov.
Tulsa, Oklahoma	10 Nov.

PEE-WEE HUNT

Wichita, Kansas	17 Oct., 18 Oct.
St. Louis, Missouri	20 Oct., 25 Oct.
Gary, Indiana	26 Oct.
Kaukauna, Wisconsin	27 Oct.
Sauk City, Wisconsin	29 Oct.
St. Paul, Minnesota	30 Oct.
Marion, Iowa	31 Oct.
Des Moines, Iowa	1 Nov.



Ann Miller and Bob Fosse chat with Cole Porter on the set of MGM's "Kiss Me, Kate," for which Porter wrote music and lyrics. The 3-D musical will star Kathryn Grayson.

across the



"Little Boy Santa Claus Forgot" put the pensive expression on Nat Cole's face at a recent Capitol session. Cole is also out on a swing version of "Lover Come Back."



On Safari with Metro's "Mogambo" company, Ava Gardner joins Belgian Congo natives in a Wagenia Tribe jam session. Ava traveled 10,000 miles through Africa making film.



Andy and Della Russell and Jane Powell help Gene Nelson celebrate a birthday in the Cocoanut Grove. Della recently quit dancing to open a dress shop in Los Angeles.

country



Dick Haymes shows no signs of worry about the status of his citizenship as he relaxes before show-time during recent stand at Sands, Las Vegas. Is he talking to Rita?



Hollywood's Lester Horton directs his Dancers in an interpretation of Duke Ellington's "Liberian Suite." Ellington's current Capitol single is a revised "A Train"—"Boo-Dah."



Jane Russell runs down several of the songs from her next RKO pic, "The French Line," with songwriters Ralph Blane, Bob Wells and Joseph Myrow (l to r). She needs to sing?



Hoagy Carmichael, just signed by Capitol, shows photographer how he feels "When Love Goes Wrong," title of the Ole Starduster's first record under the domed label.

New Balladeer: Capitol's Chuck Miller

Twenty-nine-year-old Chuck Miller is the newest male singer launched by a major record company, and the disk jockeys of Honolulu, especially, will be glad to hear this, because for a time they all thought he was dead.

Miller, pianist and leader of a popular west coast trio, came by the premature obituary a couple of years ago after playing a hit engagement in Hawaii. After he returned to the mainland, a piano player named Chuck Miller was stabbed to death in San Francisco, and the Honolulu deejays, assuming it was the Chuck Miller they knew, competed with each other in playing records "in memory of the great Chuck Miller."

Very much alive and not kicking a bit, Miller signed this fall with Capitol, and breaks in his pipe-organ baritone on "Count Your Blessings," an inspirational new song, and "Am I To Blame," a solid old one. A native of Wellington, Kansas, the new star has been a musician since high school and a popular attraction at the Hollywood Palladium for several seasons.

Fresh, unspoiled and "loaded with ability," as a reviewer characterized him, Miller impresses most people as deeply as he impressed



Producer Dave Dexter kibitzes with Capitol artist Chuck Miller (right).

Art Whiting, veteran Hollywood manager, at their first meeting in 1949. Miller had brought along an audition record and Whiting, skeptical at first, brightened as he listened.

"Not a bad voice," he said, "but who's that accompanying you on piano? He's terrific!"

"That's me," Miller admitted.

Whiting listened some more.

"Pretty good song, too," he observed. "Where'd you get it?"

"I wrote it," said Miller.

Whiting signed him up on the spot and has managed him ever since.

● BIG MONTHS AHEAD

Record sales are on the way to a whopping \$152,800,000 for 1953, reports Billboard magazine in a survey of the industry. Retail dealers are expected to sell about \$61,400,000 worth of records from Sept. 1 to Dec. 31. About half of this sum, Billboard estimates, will be spent for packaged records—classical, popular and jazz albums and children's. The record trade estimates that its best year was 1947.

● BOUGHT FOR A SONG

Two night club operators in Wildwood, New Jersey, were bilked for \$42.80 each by a "con" artist with a new racket. He peddled them packages which supposedly contained sheet music ordered by the club bandleader. The "messenger" called when he knew the leaders wouldn't be there, talked the proprietors into paying for packages of "music." The proprietors later found out—surprise!—that no one had ordered any music.

● FLASHES IN A-FLAT

Mr. and Mrs. America and all the ships at sea will soon be hearing Walter Winchell on their phonographs. Winchell will script and co-produce a series of albums for RCA Victor, "Hit Songs From Flop Shows."



Capitol has issued a double release to celebrate signing of Connie Russell. Is it any wonder? Disks are "Phonograph Record"—"Sighs" and "I Want a Boy"—"My Kind of Love."

MAYHEM at the mike!

Capitol's unpredictable Stan Freberg is a young man of many parts. There's the part of St. George in his current "St. George and the Dragon Net;" there's the part of John in the famous "John and Marsha" wax classic. And here (Right) is Stan in the part of a tear-stained crooner, Billy Weber, in "Geraldine," a Republic Pictures comedy soon to be released.



Comic high spot of the picture is Stan's all-out emotional assault on one of its songs (which may become a Capitol record). In an appearance on a college campus, "recording artist" Billy Weber (Freberg) brings down the house and raises his tailoring bill as song climbs to weepy climax.

But at an autograph session in a record store, Weber finds himself outclassed by an obscure singing college professor who is also his rival for his girl friend's (Mala Powers') affections.





Chilean ork leader, Pupi Campo, is now a Coral artist. He'll do pops and standards in Latin tempos. Anyone mind if we say "Chile today and hot tamale"? So sorry.

● THE STORY UP TO NOW

Woman's Home Companion, following the pattern which Life Magazine started last year, has

Give
enough!
FOR ALL
RED FEATHER SERVICES

commissioned Dimitri Tiomkin and Ned Washington to write a Christmas song for publication in the magazine. The "Compan-

ion" will get first publication rights, with the Academy Award-winning tunesmiths holding all others. Coverage by several record labels has also been arranged. Life last year paid Rodgers and Hammerstein \$25,000 for "Happy Christmas, Little Friend."

● NEW KEY FOR BOYD

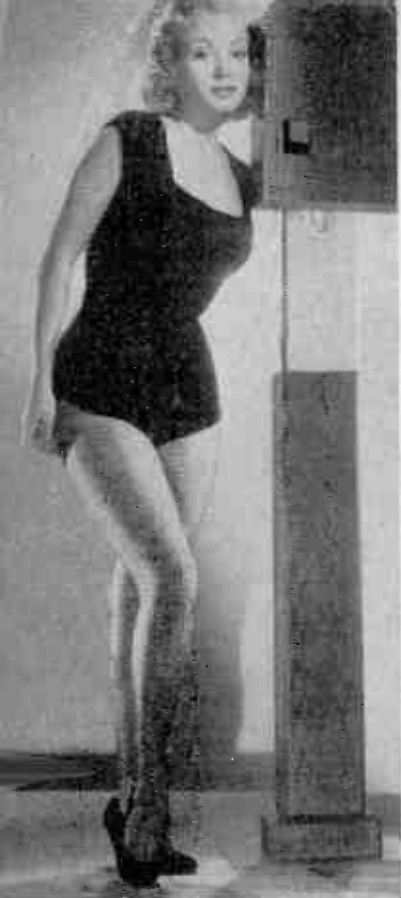
Freckle-faced Jimmy Boyd now sings in A-flat instead of B-flat—his voice is changing.

Columbia Records and his parents may view his changing voice with some alarm, but 14-year-old Jimmy takes this show of maturity with serenity. "If my voice winds up good," he recently told Aline Mosby of United Press, "I'll go on singing. If it winds up bad, I'll start talking. I'll act."



Boyd





Monica Lewis, new Capitol pactee, demonstrates best way to get fast action from the fire department. Her first disk release: "Don't Say Goodbye" and "Autumn Leaves."

'INSPIRATIONS'

By JOHNNY MERCER

Reprinted from Variety

"Accentuate The Positive"—probably got the idea while lying on a psychiatrist's couch.

"Bob White"—the only words that I could think of that would fit those two notes.

"Laura"—the publisher gave me the title.

"Goody Goody"—couldn't have come from anywhere but an old laundry list.

"Lazy Bones"—took me one year to write it and was one of the first big ones. Didn't know how to rhyme very well then. Got stuck with the E in potato.

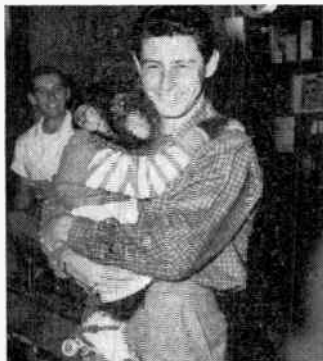
"I'm An Old Cow Hand"—after I did that one I had to defend myself with a six-gun. It was a parody on the popular western songs.

"Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe"—I was riding on the Union Pacific when I got the idea for the words.

"Blues In The Night"—my childhood taking over.

"Big Movie Show In The Sky"—the baritone needed a song for "Texas' Little Darlin."

"Cool Cool Cool Of The Evening"—Written the night our bedroom air-conditioner broke down.



Television's J. Fred Muggs visits Eddie Fisher backstage, New York. Muggs has a reputation for biting singers but Eddie safely sang him chorus of new disk, "Many Times."



Everybody made like Red Hot Mama at Sophie Tucker's Golden Jubilee at the Shamrock, Houston, and here's comedienne Penny Singleton doing it. Proceeds went to charity.



Dolores Martel is getting the big build-up from RCA Victor, via jigsaw puzzles, picture blowups and deejay tours. First release for Victor was "There Must Be a Way."

● WHO NEEDS HITS?

Although sheet music sales have declined in recent years, the major publishers have no reason to shed tears. Top publishers, unlike their small competitors, don't depend on the unstable pop market for basic revenue. They have large catalogues of educational and religious music which provide a firmer foundation from which to operate. In addition, the share of these houses in ASCAP coin runs from \$500,000 to \$1,200,000 per year. The disk revenue from the "standard" tunes in their catalogue provides another sizable chunk of revenue, putting them in a position where a hit tune is pure gravy.

Dorothy Shay

OFF PARK AVENUE

"The Park Avenue Hillbillie" has made sophistication and Ralph Moni gowns a trademark in night clubs. But on vacation at her Westwood, Calif., home, Dorothy Shay likes to cook. She's also passed up many a glamorous Hollywood evening to stay home with her mother.

"TV's Tough On Love" (Right) is in her new Capitol album, "The Park Ave. Hillbillie."



The gal who made "Sagebrush Sadie" and other western-flavor tunes famous leaves for an afternoon's horseback riding (left). She relaxes (right) on the patio. A native of Florida, Dorothy changed her name from Sims to Shay when she broke into big time in N. Y. during World War II.

Dorothy took up golf only about 180 holes ago, as of this writing; marvels that "good golfers don't mind playing with me."

Good cooks don't mind eating with her . . . She spends 3 months a year at home, then hits the road, driving car, on club dates.



Vicki Lets Down Hair With 'Pink Shampoo'

Women have long sought a simple beauty secret to aid them in snagging a man. But shapely Vicki Young of Capitol feels she has found one that will snag her a hit record — "Pink Shampoo." The title of Vicki's new disk, it's an ear-catcher with an interesting history.

Minette Alton, a secretary in Carmel, California, wrote both words and music. She was one of the "Songs Without Words" contest winners some four years ago, and had her lyric "Melinda" waxed by the Jan



Vicki

Garber band as a result. Music publisher Mickey Goldsen presented the award to her in San Francisco at that time.

Persistent Miss Alton, in the years that followed, kept sending new songs to Goldsen in Hollywood. Two years ago he received the first version of "Pink Shampoo." He airtailed it back with several suggestions for changes.

This air-mailing back and forth procedure went on for 18 months. A few months ago, when Goldsen felt "Shampoo" was ready to go, he presented it to Capitol Records, where it was offered to Vicki Young.



George Shearing expresses his musical "Appreciation" to his manager John Levy, backstage at Paramount Theatre, N.Y. "Appreciation" is the title of Shearing's new MGM disk.

FOUR STARS

Following a sneak preview of "Jack Slade" in Bell, California, a preview card was left with the following notations: 1. How did you like the picture? — "Most frantic." 2. What did you think of the cast?—"The most." 3. How did you like the story? — "Real Gone." 4. General Remarks—"Real cool, man, the most."

There's another happy ending, too, for Miss Alton. She was signed this week as a staff composer for the Frankie Laine publishing house.



Left: With U. S. bands banned in England, London's New Musical Express flew six plane loads of British fans to Belgium to hear Stan Kenton on his recent European tour. Right: Buddy Childers, Kenton's lead trumpeter (in houndstooth coat), receives a prize bottle of Dutch gin in Holland from a representative of Capitol Records, Amsterdam.

NATCH

The day of the comic as the chief attraction in the personal appearance field has passed. Today it is the record name who gets the top billing and the top money. That is virtually the consensus of opinion in the trade, among sellers as well as buyers.

As recently as two years ago, there was hardly a show in a club or a theater that didn't have a comic as the star . . . The star in most spots today is a record name.

—Bill Smith, *Billboard*.



Harry Stewart (Yogi Yorgesson), becomes Hari Kari once more to join his "Six Saki Sippers" on a funny disk, "Night Before Christmas." As Yogi, his "Yingle Bells" still sells.

Standley Routine Not In The Book

Johnny Standley, whose first record, "It's in the Book," came out of left field last year to become one of Capitol's all-time hits, is the kind of guy who often has nothing funny happen to him, which seems to be typical of comedians. For example, here are some of the trials he suffered during his recent tour of Korea and Japan with the Horace Heidt Show.

His new record, "Proud New Father," was released during his absence, and Standley did the routine for the first time in Korea in a show before 10,000 GI's on a makeshift stage, outdoors, with tank searchlights for spots. He finished "It's in the Book" and then announced his brand new-record routine. After the first line, bedlam broke out, when six mascot dogs, brought along to the show, broke into a mass fight. Standley continued as best he could, and finally the MP's restored order.

On arrival in Tokyo enroute to Korea, he had already undergone a rugged experience. While standing in line for his second typhoid shot, he turned around to speak to someone behind him. The medic, geared to assembly line technique, gave him another



Johnny Standley, "Proud New Father" of a hit disk, removes his shoes as per ancient Japanese custom at dinner given for Heidt's troupe by Tokyo newspapers.

shot. Standley was knocked out by the double dose for 24 hours.

RACE RECORD

Replete with splendid crash noises, grinds, moans, groans, and brake screeches, "Stock Car Blues" and "Heat Race" have been released by Replica Records. The tunes were composed by Shay Torrent, organist, for another organist, Tony Tahlman. Tahlman, a Chicago stock car racer, renders the weird organ sounds with bass fiddle accompaniment.

Enjoy Christmas entertainment

ALBUMS

(Long Play, Extended Play and 78 rpm)

CHRISTMAS IN THE AIR — The Voices of Walter Schumann

CHRISTMAS BELLS — Richard Keys Biggs

CHRISTMAS CAROLS — St. Luke's Choristers

CHRISTMAS CHORISTERS — St. Luke's Choristers

CAROLS FOR CHRISTMAS — The Starlighters Chorus

THE ORGAN PLAYS AT CHRISTMAS — Buddy Cole

UNDER THE CHRISTMAS TREE — Jan Barber

CAROLS AT CHRISTMAS — The Four Men Quartet

BOYS TOWN CHIRM SINGING CHRISTMAS MUSIC —

Boys Town Choir

NOW ON 45 EP SINGLES

SONGS OF CHRISTMAS — Jo Stafford & Gordon MacRae

YINGLE BELLS — Yogi Yorgesson

CHRISTMAS ON THE RANGE — Jimmy Wakely

CHILDREN'S SINGLE-RECORD ALBUMS

(78 and 45 rpm)

I SAW MOMMY KISSING SANTA CLAS

WHERE DID MY SNOWMAN GO? — Molly Bee

YAH, DAS IST EIN CHRISTMAS TREE

I CAN'T WAIT TILL QUITSMUTH — Mel Blanc

FROSTY THE SNOWMAN

THE TUBBY THE TUBA SONG — Jerry Morone

RUDOLPH THE RED-NOSTED REINDEER

THE SWISS BOY — Smiley Burnette

nt by top Capitol artists!

lyland records →

AWAY IN A MANGER
 PATAPAW — The Sportsmen
 DECK THE HALLS
 UP ON A HOLSETOP — The Sportsmen
 JINGLE BELLS
 JOLLY OLD ST. NICHOLAS — Hal Derwin
 I SAW THREE SHIPS
 GOOD KING WENCESLAS — Hal Derwin

(78 rpm 4000)

SINGLE RECORDS

NEW!

(78 and 45 rpm)

- NAT 'KING' COLE** — The Little Boy That Santa Claus Forgot
 Mrs. Santa Claus
- LES PAUL** — Jingle Bells (Jingo-Jingo-Go)
 White Christmas
- HARRY KART** — The Night Before Christmas
 Oh, Oh, Don't Ever Go
- MEL BLANC** — Yeh, Gosh! Is Ein Christmas Tree
 I Can't Wait Till Quittin' Time

- YOKI YORGESSON** — I Just Got Nuts at Christmas
 Jingle Bells
 — I Was Santa Claus at The School House
 The Christmas Party
- MARGARET WHITING & JIMMY WARDLY** — Christmas Candy
 Silver Bells
- LES PAUL & MARY FORD** — Jingle Bells
 Great Night
- LES BAXTER** — Hang Your Wishes on This Tree
 Santa Claus' Party
- MOLLY BEE** — I Saw Mommy Kissing Santa Claus
 With Claus
- NAT 'KING' COLE** — My Two Front Teeth
 The Christmas Song

BURR'S FEAT—12,000 RECORDS IN 30 YEARS



ASK any surviving artist of the pre-electric era of recording who turned out more records than anyone else and you're almost certain to get the answer: "I did!" But the well established truth is that although the still-living comedian, Billy Murray, was the most popular artist of the acoustic recording days, the largest number of individual titles was made by the tenor best known as Henry Burr.

Burr's legal name was Harry H. McClaskey. He was born in St. Stephen, New Brunswick, Canada, in 1882. As a youngster of 20 he began recording hymns and sentimental ballads for Columbia under the name of Burr. A little later he began making Edison cylinders as Irving Gillette. He also made hundreds of records under his real name of McClaskey, and sang occasionally as Harry Barr, Harry Haley, and Alfred Alexander—the latter being his mother's father's name. Until he signed an exclusive Victor contract in 1920 Burr free-lanced, singing for virtually every recording company in the United States and Canada.

NOT only did he make thousands of solos; he was also

the lead tenor of the Sterling Trio and the Peerless Quartet—ensembles that were so popular they frequently worked almost around the clock, making enough records for the various companies to go on three-month concert trips with a troupe managed by Burr. The trio and quartet's first tenor was Albert Campbell, with whom Burr recorded innumerable duets. He also made duets with the baritone, John H. Meyer, and the quartet's basso, Frank Croxton, in addition to doing occasional team work with dozens of other singers.



At one time or other Burr sang duets with virtually every popular recording artist. He was also an end man in many minstrel specialties and was frequently called on to sing the vocal refrains in dance records. He is estimated to have made at least 12,000 records over a 30-year period.

When Burr's recording career ended, he moved to Chicago where he was known as "The Dean of Ballad Singers," starring on the National Barn Dance, until his death from cancer in April, 1941.—Jim Walsh.

LES 'N' MARY

A secluded white cottage in the Ramapo Valley, N.J., is the home and recording studio of "Mr. and Mrs. Sound," Les Paul and Mary Ford. Here they cut "Vaya Con Dios," their big hit of 1953.



Les and Mary take time out for relaxation and a bite to eat before putting the finishing touches to their latest disk, "Jungle Bells" and "White Christmas."



Mary rehearses while sister Carol Kamin prepares lunch.



The famous duo at work. Beautiful new studio and control room cost \$60,000.



Carol's husband, Wally, is technician, plays bass and acts as secretary. He and Carol live with the Pauls.



Les and Wally repair one of Les's many guitars. They constantly try to produce new effects and improve the techniques that keep their disks on top.

PHOTOS BY WASHINGTON-POST/RETNA



Angie Dickinson is seen regularly on NBC-TV's Comedy Hour as one of the "T-Venuses." Pert singer is an outdoor girl; was runner-up in the 1953 Mrs. California contest.



Jerry Lewis mugs for Ray Toland, drummer-photog, on the wax session which produced Jerry's most recent disk, "Y-Y-Y-Yup" and "Give Me a Little Kiss, Will 'Ya' Huh?"

FLIP-SIDE QUIZ

The records listed below are on the "other side" of all-time hit records. Can you name the hit? Answers on Page 28.

1. "The Charleston"—Pee Wee Hunt.
2. "Why Don't You Do Right?"—Peggy Lee & Dave Barbour.
3. "Wedding Bells"—Margaret Whiting & Jimmy Wakely.
4. "The Stars Will Remember"—Vaughn Monroe.
5. "All Through the Day"—Perry Como.
6. "Never Before"—Eddie Fisher.
7. "God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen"—Bing Crosby.
8. "Tzena, Tzena, Tzena"—The Weavers.
9. "Bell Of the Ball"—Le Roy Anderson.

Stratford Snapshot: Records-Upon-Avon

THERE were stacks of records in the 300-year-old shop, but the 20th-Century jazz we heard on the phonograph seemed incongruous with the heavy beamed ceiling and mammoth fireplace. However, William Daniel Tabor, manager of Hanson's Music Center, High Street, Stratford-Upon-Avon, England assured us that English charm in no way affected English musical taste.

"We are just now realizing the appeal to Englishmen of American records," said Mr. Tabor. "As you know, the war curtailed the manufacture of phonographs, but now that they are available, people are beginning to buy records."

Hanson's biggest sellers are 78-rpm disks which sell for around five shillings (70 cents). "Although the 33 $\frac{1}{3}$ -rpm record was introduced in England in 1949," Tabor said, "we have only this year had 45-rpm disks."

The ever-growing number of independent record companies in the U. S. prompted us to ask whether there was a corresponding increase in Britain. Mr. Tabor said that since the war many small companies had sprung up, but that the leading labels were Decca, which distributes Capitol; HMV, distributing Victor; Phil-

CRANK CALL

Mary Solle, a clerk in Bill Leuenhagen's Record Bar, Los Angeles, recently reported the Request of the Month from a customer. He phoned in to ask if the store had a three-speed phonograph for sale. Mary answered yes. Asked the customer: "With an old-fashioned hand crank?"

lips, the outlet for Columbia; Brunswick, which distributes Decca, and MGM, which manufactures in England under the same name.

WE glanced around the shop for the little phonograph booths so common in American record stores. There were none. "But we do provide a phonograph," the manager said. "This is one of our most popular models." The phonograph was a hand-crank portable selling for nine pounds (\$25.20). Electricity in England is very expensive.

"Naturally," said Mr. Tabor, "the more record machines sold, the more records. The big problem here, however, is that I am the only man in the area who can repair a portable."

He glanced desperately at his watch, moved off toward his repair shop in the rear.—**Barbara Singer**



Deejay-comic Jim Hawthorne introduces daughter, Deone, 4 months old, and pet cat to Mel Blanc's new album, "Party Panic." It's also enjoyed by sons, Darr, 5, and Dana, 3.

● HOUSE ON THE ALLEY

Artist and repertoire men at RCA Victor and Columbia are reported turning sour on "open house," a weekly Tin Pan Alley institution in which recording executives audition new songs for amateur and professional alike. The execs have been looking over 20 to 30 songs a week for the past two years, reports Weekly Variety, "but the number selected for waxing has been minute and the number of hits discovered via this route even less." Top songwriters and publishers, Variety points out, make private appointments with A & R men instead of waiting in line for open house.

"TAKE THE HIGH GROUND"



Elaine Stewart issues invitation to "Take the High Ground." Tune was written by Tiomkin for MGM's pic, and is being considered for official Infantry marching song.

● HILLBILLY KINSEY

So far, only one tune has been inspired by the Kinsey report on women. "Don't Believe Everything that You Read about Love," was cut by Betty Cody, a Wheeling, W. Va. thrush, for RCA Victor. Written by Pat Anthony and Mimi Reed, the tune is a serious hillbilly number. Though not mentioning Kinsey by name, it implies that gals are "better" than the experts indicate. Flip-side: "I Found Out more than You Ever Knew."

● DECCA SIGNS FIVE

Recently signed to the Decca label are Charlie Applewhite. Pat Morrissey, Andy Iona and Johnny Pineapple.



Webley Edwards (rear, left) is producer of the popular "Hawaii Calls" radio program which will bow early next year as a new Capitol album. It features the Singing Surfriders.



One of the prettier DJ's, Ginger Rogers shares the "Hour of Stars" radio disk show with Tony Martin, Dick Powell and Peggy Lee. They will spin records 5 days a week.

KNOW YOUR MUSIC

"Dixie" is known to have been composed by Daniel DeCATUR Emmett, but it was first claimed by General Albert Pike, who fought on the Confederate side during the Civil War. Another authority wrote in the "Charleston Courier" June 11, 1861, that it is an old Northern Negro air and that the words referred to one Dix or Dixy, who had an estate on Manhattan Island. The first words used for the song in the South were from a poem entitled "The Star of the West" published in the Charleston "Mercury" in 1861.

—Sylvan Breyn.



Nelson Riddle looks over parts before the session which marked his debut as exclusive Cap artist: He made "Martin Kane Theme" backed by "Make Believe," with his ork.

from the top



POOOR Lucky Strike! After last year's hassle over whether or not "Sound Off" (a hit tune which was also Chesterfield's jingle) should be heard on the Hit Parade show, they have found themselves in the same jackpot this year with "Dagnet." Since the "Dagnet" show is also sponsored by the rival Chesterfield outfit, Luckies have been unanxious to have the tune heard on their program.

Now, then: what happens if Nelson Riddle's "Theme From Martin Kane" climbs into the top ten? That show is sponsored by Encore cigarettes.

After years of being bleated by muscular baritones, "On the Road To Mandalay" is being prepped for exploitation as a possible pop tune. The G. Shermer Co. worked out a copy, mechanical and performance deal with Myers Music . . . In the same vein, Johnny Mercer's new lyric for "Song of India" has been cleared with the original publishers by Criterion Music, paving the way for world release of Lanza's pressing.

P. T. Barnum's "The Drunkard," which has run almost continuously in Los Angeles for twenty years, got a bracer recently via the addition of a dozen songs. This version is called "The Wayward Way." . . . "Miss Wild Honey," a model used to publicize a record by John Arcesi, has got her picture in the papers twice with the same publicity stunt. She has sued the principals involved in the original gimmick.

Nat "King" Cole has decided that personal appearances require him to add a regular-type drummer to his outfit, so he's dropping bongo player Jack Costanza and backing him in his own group . . . Leonard Feather, associate editor of Down Beat Magazine, has relinquished his post. Nat Hentoff replaces.

Young arranger-composer Dennis Farnon showed some of his compositions to Robert Armbruster, NBC staff conductor, who was sufficiently impressed to play the works on his radio show. Armbruster wants to use more of Farnon's material.



Savannah Churchill signed recently with Decca, was formerly with RCA Victor. The blues specialist cut "Shake a Hand" and "Shed a Tear," as first sides on the label.



Red Buttons and Milton Berle give two-fold congratulations to Frank Sinatra . . . for his widely acclaimed acting in "From Here To Eternity," and disk of same name.

● CONTEST SEASON ON

Columbia and RCA Victor, taking a page out of the book of radio and TV, are initiating a policy of prize contests.

Columbia has contests running for both Champ Butler and Frankie Laine. The Butler puzzler involves a "phonetic picture puzzle," while Laine and the Wurlitzer Co. are co-sponsoring a scholarship contest for amateur talent.

Most unique of the giveaways is the \$100 being offered by Victor for a dollar bill with serial numbers which are cryptograms of Buddy Morrow's name.



Al "Jazzbo" Collins, whose "Invention of the Airplane" is new on Cap, admires Bermuda shorts attire that Lionel Hampton wore on his Bandbox, N.Y. engagement.

AKFAST DISH

Blue-eyed Eileen Parker, new "Singing Sweetheart" on Don McNeill's Breakfast Club, had sung only in and around her home town until five months ago.

Urged on by her friend, Paula Kelly of the Modernaires, she mustered enough courage to audition for a singing spot on CBS. The network surprised her with a recall and a singing role in the summer series, "On A Sunday Afternoon."



Eileen

When a vocalist-vacancy occurred in the Breakfast Club, toastmaster McNeill chose Eileen. A 27-year-old brunet, Eileen lives on the near-north side of Chicago. Her half-Scottish ancestry may account for the fact that she shoots in the low 40's around a nine-hole golf course.

OFF BASE

When Columbia Records was able to field only seven men for a baseball game with London Records, a Columbia executive called a publisher friend and asked, "Would you play ball with Columbia?" The song merchant replied: "I'll play ball with you guys if you'll remember to play ball with me."



Judge Peter Potter gives instructions to juror Marilyn Maxwell before showtime of "Juke Box Jury." Show is seen on Los Angeles' KNXT, where it began, also on ABC-TV.

● DOUBLE EXPOSURE

The emergence of such two-sided hits as Kay Starr's "Allez Vous-En"-"Half a Photograph," the Hilltopper's "P.S. I Love You"-"I'd Rather Die Young" and Perry Como's "No Other Love"-"Keep It Gay" has improved the position of publishers who often find themselves on the "other side" of a hit record. Publishers credit the double exposure to the new large juke boxes. In the past, they have almost given up trying to get exposure for flip-side tunes because of a reluctance on the part of deejays to play both sides. Now, however, the big 100-disk juke boxes are giving them a chance to "expose" the tune.

● DOWN ON THE FARM

Country singer Merle Travis has made one record you aren't likely to hear unless you're an advertising executive or radio station manager. Produced by ABC, it's an argument for more country and hillbilly programs.

"Rural performers draw more mail and have more loyal followers than the so-called class or popular artists," says Travis, yet "this is a type of programming which many executives and sponsors often thumb their noses at."

Criticizing sponsors "who think the whole world likes the kind of programs they personally happen to enjoy," the Capitol Records artist observes: "Country folks and working class people have plenty of money to spend—the 'Grapes of Wrath' itinerant farm laborers now get \$11 per day and some of them are driving Cadillacs."

● FIGURES ON NUMBERS

Either more people are writing music or more people are becoming copyright conscious, according to the latest figures from the U. S. Copyright Office in Washington. New tunes registered so far this year total 45,372, an increase as compared with the 40,401 registered by this time in 1952.



Tiny Joni James emerges as MGM Records' top popular singer, having sold a reported 5 million disks. She's current on "You're Fooling Someone" and "My Love, My Love."

RAVE

After attending a performance of "Porgy and Bess" Duke Ellington wires Robert Breen, director and co-producer: "Your 'Porgy and Bess' superb, singing the gonest, acting the craziest, Gershwin the greatest, you're the nicest, thanks the mostest. Love you madly." A copy of the message, posted backstage at the Ziegfeld Theatre, New York, sent the cast into an impromptu jive-and-dance session.



Barbaro Barr, protege of Joe Corr, chats with Vallejo deejay Robert Bowles (left) and State Senator L. E. Gibson of Calif. Barbara and "Fingers" cut "Mexican Joe."

● TWO SONGS, ONE TITLE

Lava is flowing down the sidewalks of Tin Pan Alley. Two publishers have tunes with the same title — "Volcano." Symphony House has a version, recorded by four labels, from an Anna Magnani film, released in the U. S. as "Volcano." Shapiro-Bernstein has a tune of the same name on which American recordings are expected soon.

● TAPE FOR MILLIONS

Use of an estimated 1,000,000 tape recorders in private homes in the U. S. may open up a new medium of musical entertainment. Several companies have approached music publishers for permission to use popular tunes on music taped for homes.

WHAT HORSE?

RCA Victor is still scratching its dog's head over the following letter:

"Dear Sirs: Please—I'd like to ask three questions: (1) Who handles Eddie Fisher's mail? (2) Where is Eli Oberstein? (3) Does that horse still stand in front of the 24th Street New York studio?"

● PRIVACY PREFERRED

Irving Berlin has reaffirmed his decision that he will not authorize a movie of his life while he lives. Whether or not there will ever be an "Irving Berlin Story," he says, will be decided by the executives of his estate.

QUIZ ANSWERS

1. "Twelfth Street Rag."
2. "Manana."
3. "Slipping Around."
4. "Ballerina."
5. "Prisoner of Love."
6. "Any Time."
7. "White Christmas."
8. "Goodnight Irene."
9. "Blue Tango."

Scoring: (9-8) You've really flipped your disks! (7-6) Very flippant (5-4) Little flipper (3-0) Strictly one-sided.

● BOZO GETS CREDIT

This year the sales of children's records will top 30,000,000, according to Pathfinder magazine. In a recent article, "Look What Bozo Started," the magazine points out that this is ten times the number sold seven years ago and that the man responsible for it is Capitol Vice President Alan Livingston.

It was in 1946 that Livingston, then head of Capitol's children's department, touched off the campaign - which brought the other recording companies scampering into the market. The first of Livingston's creations was "Bozo at the Circus," an album in which Bozo the Clown tells his young listeners about the acts and animals as they read along with him.

Other recording companies blinked as the "Bozo" album rapidly climbed past the 700,000 mark in sales. All major companies are now competing for the moppet trade, but Bozo has a head start. The clown productions have exceeded 6,000,000 in sales.

Pathfinder has these tips to offer in picking disks for children: Listen to the record before you buy it; don't let fancy covers fool you; don't buy just because you recognize the big-name star on the label.



Kay Starr, here with manager Hal Stanley, recently returned to U.S. from successful tour of Europe. New release: "Swamp-fire" and "When My Dreamboat Comes Home."

REAL BYGONE

1943

Benny Goodman's blonde vocalist, Peggy Lee, has retired from the band to become a mother.

Chico Marx last week junked his dance band after two years and will return to motion pictures.

1944

June Hutton takes Jo Stafford's spot with the Pied Pipers vocal group. She's the sister of Ina Ray Hutton.

1946

Margaret Whiting has suddenly soared to fame on a Capitol record, "It Might As Well Be Spring."

vamp till ready



Pfc. Faron Young is starring with the Third Army (Korea) show, "Fanfare." The overseas tour was to kick off Oct. 7 for thirty days.

Kay Starr's London Palladium appearance inspired the usually austere British critics to such comments as "she positively vibrates in sympathy with each song" and "Kay Starr is great!" This is news?

More than one way to get a song published. Publisher Eddie Joy was sitting in a Vine Street barber shop when the barber, Harry Green, began singing his tune, "The Night Holds No Fear." Rather than risk irritating Green, who was stropping a razor, Joy accepted the tune. Margaret Whiting has recorded it for Capitol.

Donald Kahn, son of the late Gus Kahn, has set up special radio and TV programs to commemorate his dad's birthday, Nov. 6. It is estimated that there are over five hundred records of the composer's tunes.

Jane Pickens, appearing at the Paramount Theatre, N. Y., received the following wire from the mayor of her home town, Macon, Georgia: "If Peter Piper or any piper a pip they would be pickin', the pip they'd pick would positively be our own Jane Pickens."

Bing Crosby has to pay his sponsors, General Electric, \$500 for every week he doesn't do a TV show. Bob Hope maintains that this will break Crosby in about 100,000 years.

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With three members of the British "Jazz Armada" which
his concert. They are, (left to right) Freddy Ran-
der; Lita Roza, vocalist with Ted Heath and a re-
own right, and Norman Burns, popular bandleader.