

Amusical Express

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 8, 1948

No. 105

PRICE FOURPENCE

On EVERYBODY'S Lips! BERG LARSEN MOUTHPIECES

TRUMPET TECHNIQUE! ROY ELDRIDGE'S SHORT CUT TO GOOD AD-LIBbing THE ART OF IMITATION Price 5/- (5/3 post free) PETER MAURICE MUSIC CO. LTD. 21, DENMARK ST., LONDON, W.C.2

ON-BROADCAST DISCUSSIONS SHORTLY

A MINISTRY OF LABOUR COMMITTEE WILL DISCUSS ALL DISPUTES BETWEEN THE BBC AND THE MUSICIANS' UNION INCLUDING OUTSIDE BROADCASTING ON OCT. 18.

JOHNNY DENIS IN BIG STAGE SHOW Success of 'The Ranchers'

ORIGINALLY BOOKED BY THE B.B.C. FOR A SERIES OF FIVE BROADCASTS ENTITLED "WAY OUT WEST," JOHNNY DENIS AND HIS RANCHERS PROVED SUCH A SUCCESS THAT THE FEATURE WAS CONTINUED EVERY DAY FOR FIVE SUCCESSIVE WEEKS. DUE TO THIS A BIG STAGE BREAK HAS COME HIS WAY AND WELL-KNOWN VARIETY AGENTS WILL COLLINS AND DEAN MORAY IN CONJUNCTION WITH KUN-ELLIOTT DIRECTION ARE TO PRESENT THIS COMBINATION TOGETHER WITH BUCK WARREN'S "AMERICAN EXPRESS" IN A JOINT PRODUCTION.

Denis and his Ranchers are currently at the Hippodrome... The show will be taken off the road but will resume the last week in January at the Palace Theatre, Bolton on November 1.

During the Christmas period the show will be taken off the road but will resume the last week in January at the Palace Theatre, Bolton on November 1.

Johnnie Denis and his Ranchers will travel overnight from York to appear in Variety Barns Box on November 14 and we understand there is every possibility of their being in London again he will be heard on the air towards the latter part of the year.

Johnnie Denis and his Ranchers are also recording a number of programmes under the auspices of Zetter's Pool, which are broadcast on Radio Luxembourg every Sunday at 4 p.m. Personalities in this connection include Denis (electric, Hawaiian and Spanish guitar, vocalist and novelty singer), leading Desmond Maloney (clarinet and tenor sax), Pete Huggett (bass), Ivor Ray (piano and electric accordion) and Sam Prager (drums).

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DICK JAMES BREAKS RECORDS

Crowds Turned Away WHILE popular vocalist Dick James was appearing in Glasgow with the Cyril Sings Orchestra he was booked by Chalmers Wood to appear on July 12 as a special attraction at the Pavilion, Dunoon.

On this occasion the management had to close the doors and several hundred people were turned away. Local Scottish papers stated that they could only hear this, at the occasion when Vera Lynn had appeared in that vicinity.

On the first occasion James played a twenty minute programme but on his return he did a forty-five minute spot. He returned to the town of the Stapleton Orchestra this week and we understand the band has played to record business everywhere it has appeared.

RECORDED CARMICHAEL PROGRAMMES

HOAGY CARMICHAEL will make five recorded appearances in the Home Service in October and November. On October 25 in the "Children's Hour," introduced by Josephine Plummer, he will tell how he came across Geoffrey Dearmer's "Song Of The Whale." He will sing it to his own accompaniment and follow it with "Lazy Bones."

On October 27 and November 10, 17 and 24, in the Home Service, he will sing and play some of his most popular compositions including "Standout," "Old Buttermilk Sky," "Hong Kong Blues" and "Little Old Lady."

In these four programmes he will have an accompaniment of guitar, bass drums and a second piano. Mark White will introduce the programmes.

IMESONS RETURN

After a very successful season at Caister the Imeson Brothers Orchestra has now returned to London. They informed Musical Express that they intend to concentrate on gigs this winter prior to returning to Caister next year. They can be contacted at Holborn 0457.

DATE WITH A DREAM

HARRY LEADER has just signed a further contract for one year with the Astoria Ballroom. This will be the band's seventh consecutive year at this popular dance hall. This coincides with Leader's twenty-third year in the music business.

GRACIE FIELDS AT THE PALLADIUM

Exclusive Musical Express Pictures Taken at Rehearsal



ON THE LEFT, GRACIE AT THE MICROPHONE DURING REHEARSAL. ABOVE SHE IS SEEN IN THE STARS WITH HER OWN MUSIC DIRECTOR TEDDY HOLMES, AND WOOLF PHILLIPS, CONDUCTOR OF THE SKYROCKETS.

TOPPING an all star variety bill, Gracie Fields commenced her farewell two weeks' performance at the London Palladium last Monday night. To a packed audience she still proved that she is a great artiste. But your reporter felt that this was not "Our Gracie." For she sang with the same voice but where were all those songs that endeared her to the British public?

Where was "Granpa's Little Old Skin Bug" and "Walter, Walter"? I admit, she sang one song in this inimitable style that she

has established, but I felt that it was more in the sphere of an American point number. And oh, Miss Fields, how could you tell your audience when they called for it that you didn't know "Galway Bay"?

She Fitzgerald seemed a little nervous, but in spite of this her musically voice was a delight. Her programme was well chosen and in spite of rumours to the contrary did not contain bog. I personally found her version of "Woody Woodpecker" the most tuneful I have yet heard.

RAY ELLINGTON FOR GILLINGHAM

FOLLOWING his successful appearance at Fischer's Restaurant this week Ray Ellington and his Quartet will be the first outfit to inaugurate a new policy at the New Pavilion Ballroom, Gillingham. The Quartet will be the first name band to be featured there in three years when they play opposite the Londoners at a big swing dance on October 12. This will be their second appearance in Kent that they will play at the Royal Star Hotel, Maidstone the previous night.

NEW VOCALIST FOR BURNS

BARBY KENT who as Renee Souterous, won the Eric Winstons "Search for a vocal star" has been signed up by Tito Burns to join his Sextet. Burns who introduced Kent to the audience when he played at Chingford last week, tells us that the reception accorded to this new star was overwhelming. Burns feels sure that Kent will have a very large fan following by the time the Sextet has completed its extensive tour of one night stands all over the country.

LEADER CONTRACT IS RENEWED

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SHELTON AND LYNN FOR NEW TERRY THOMAS WEEKLY SERIES

TERRY THOMAS will be heard in a new weekly show "To Town With Terry," in the Home Service, beginning on October 12. In "Who Am I?" he will introduce two people each week, well known to listeners who have cards on their backs with famous names and in a given time, they must find out who they are by questioning Terry.

A sketch, "Dolly Dove Of Dover Street," will be played each week with Ruth Dunning in the name part. Terry will give a variation of his act of doctormentary, "Old Buttermilk Sky," "Hong Kong Blues" and "Little Old Lady."

MAURICE BURMAN COMING HOME

AS we close for press a letter is to hand from Maurice Burman in which he informs us that after two and a half years, during which time he has been in a clinic in Switzerland, he will return to England this Thursday.

We take this opportunity of welcoming back this popular member of the profession and we sincerely hope that he is now completely recovered from his serious illness, contracted while he was in the Middle East.

MISHAPS IN THE SIMPSON SOLO BAND PARADE

A SERIES of mishaps have befallen the Teddy Foster band recently. Latest of these events occurred when Bob Efford tenor player with the New Look Music sprained his ankle after falling down stairs last week. He carried on with the job in spite of great pain. When the band travelled from Manchester to Nottingham last Thursday the coach which was going at speed went over a bump in the road causing a jolt which knocked the bass off the back seat. The instrument fell to pieces and the bass player had to travel to Leeds to purchase another instrument.

Foster informs us that he is interested in hearing from a first class trumpeter who might be desirous of joining the band. He can be contacted at Cunningham 5412 or can be written to at 11 Brownson Court, Grove End Road, London, N.W.8.

KEYNOTES TELEVISION

When "Lady Luck" is televised next Saturday evening this musical comedy by Firth Shepherd will have as its star lovely Patricia Dore currently appearing in the Embassy Club's "Copa" cabaret. Also featured in this presentation will be the Keynotes and the orchestra will be directed by Eric Robinson.

BOOSEY & HAWKES LTD. BARGAINS. CASH OR EASY TERMS. Also Saxophone, artist's model, plated, low pitch, reconditioned. Drum outfit including 16" 15" 18" 20" 24" 28" 32" 36" 40" 44" 48" 52" 56" 60" 64" 68" 72" 76" 80" 84" 88" 92" 96" 100" 104" 108" 112" 116" 120" 124" 128" 132" 136" 140" 144" 148" 152" 156" 160" 164" 168" 172" 176" 180" 184" 188" 192" 196" 200" 204" 208" 212" 216" 220" 224" 228" 232" 236" 240" 244" 248" 252" 256" 260" 264" 268" 272" 276" 280" 284" 288" 292" 296" 300" 304" 308" 312" 316" 320" 324" 328" 332" 336" 340" 344" 348" 352" 356" 360" 364" 368" 372" 376" 380" 384" 388" 392" 396" 400" 404" 408" 412" 416" 420" 424" 428" 432" 436" 440" 444" 448" 452" 456" 460" 464" 468" 472" 476" 480" 484" 488" 492" 496" 500" 504" 508" 512" 516" 520" 524" 528" 532" 536" 540" 544" 548" 552" 556" 560" 564" 568" 572" 576" 580" 584" 588" 592" 596" 600" 604" 608" 612" 616" 620" 624" 628" 632" 636" 640" 644" 648" 652" 656" 660" 664" 668" 672" 676" 680" 684" 688" 692" 696" 700" 704" 708" 712" 716" 720" 724" 728" 732" 736" 740" 744" 748" 752" 756" 760" 764" 768" 772" 776" 780" 784" 788" 792" 796" 800" 804" 808" 812" 816" 820" 824" 828" 832" 836" 840" 844" 848" 852" 856" 860" 864" 868" 872" 876" 880" 884" 888" 892" 896" 900" 904" 908" 912" 916" 920" 924" 928" 932" 936" 940" 944" 948" 952" 956" 960" 964" 968" 972" 976" 980" 984" 988" 992" 996" 1000

MAGNA MUSIC A NEW BRITISH PUBLISHING COMPANY UNDER THE DIRECTION OF ROSS PARKER INTRODUCES THREE BRITISH SONGS... 1. "I'LL BE THERE" BY THE WRITER OF 'I'LL MAKE UP FOR EVERYTHING' 2. "YOU CAN LAUGH IF YOU WANT TO" A TUNE WITH A TEMPO AND A LYRIC WORTH SINGING 3. "Welcome Little Stranger" A HEART-CATCHING STRAIGHT BALLAD MAGNA MUSIC COY., 6 DENMARK PLACE, CHARING X ROAD, W.C.2. PHONE: TEM 5147



Stars of the film "Date With a Dream" at the film's premiere showing in London last Thursday. Left to right: Ken Thorne, producer Bob Baker, Vic Lewis, Len and Bill Lowe, Wally Patch, Mr. and Mrs. Terry Thomas with Joan Carson and director Dicky Loeman.

LLANFAIR P.G. WILL BE YOUR CERTAIN REQUEST NUMBER THE BIG NOVELTY TUNE BY RONNIE BRIDGES Can You Say— Llanfairpwllgwyngyllgogerychwyrndrobwlillanantysylllogogoch It's As Easy As ABC! WITH LEGION PATROL BRITAIN'S OWN BAND NUMBER BY JACK SIMPSON AND THE SONG THE WHOLE WORLD IS SINGING GALWAY BAY Box & Cox (Publications) Ltd. 7 Denmark St. W.C.2

Accord Times, and Musical Express

Editorial and Advertising Offices 33, King Street, London, W.C.2

THE VOICE

WARNING TO BAND LEADERS A New danger comes to light this week, brought to my notice by a band leader who has actually suffered through unethical practice on the part of an agent...

THE WHISPERING CAMPAIGN This is how the insidious whispering campaign works. Band leader "A" and his orchestra are booked for a big hall in a certain town. The agent or representative of band leader "B" wants to kill all chances of "A" having any success...

FURTHER RESULTS There are other results that may soon become noticeable. After a few "flops" like this, the unscrupulous representative finds it easier to book his own product...

THE CLASSIC EXAMPLE Musical Express itself actually featured in one rather unfortunate example of high pressure booking on the part of an agent. In one of our issues recently we published changes...

ORCHESTRAS DO NOT KNOW I am very certain that band leaders are completely ignorant of the lengths to which some representatives will go to get a sale...

Table with columns: POSTED BY, ORCHESTRATIONS, C.O.D. DESIRED, and a list of musical pieces with their respective composers and arrangers.

Watch That Swing to JACK HEYWORTH'S NEW "MASTERPIECE" MOUTHPIECE AND PERFECTION REED

BREAKFAST WITH THE PHILHARMONIC

American Commentary by CHICK MADISON

PAUL WESTON, who yields the baton behind Jo Stafford on the NBC (Chesterton) "Supper Club" is the author of the "Song Hits" Magazine "Award of Merit" for 1948 as the outstanding orchestra conductor in radio...

A NEW programme entitled "Festival of Song" had its first broadcast over CBS last week. Michel Plazno, noted conductor of the Symphonette lead that musical group and a male soloist in the programme...

SAM DONAHUE whose youthful orchestra has developed into the top favourite of the college age, is currently engaged to play the annual autumn prom dates at the University of Pennsylvania...

WOODY HERMAN is organising his future bookings so that he will be in Los Angeles for Christmas. He will spread around the out on the road after playing New York theatre and hotel engagements...

Up to his old tricks again is Phil Harris, caught by wife Alice Faye as he sneaks a peek at the comedienne. He was seen in the picture before the return of NBC's Harris-Faye comedy show Sunday, October 3.

Basic band, direct from a nine-week stand at New York's Broadway, six weeks at the Strand Theatre and three weeks at the Royal Rost niterly, will play the King Phillip Ballroom for four days and the Three Rivers Inn for a week.

Buddy Johnson, the youthful piano maestro, who's currently engaged in an extensive one-city tour with his orchestra, has but two open dates in his schedule for the next three months...

Standard Oil Company (New Jersey) will sponsor the 1948-9 season of Sunday afternoon concerts from Carnegie Hall, New York, by the New York Philharmonic-Symphony orchestra...

Michael O'Duffy, Mutual's Irish tenor, who has been a network feature since his arrival from London two months ago, received more than 300 requests from listeners after his performance to sing "Take Me Home Again, Kathleen" on his Sunday song period.

MOVIE TALK by Ken Ryan



Tommy Trinder was one of the first to congratulate Hayzel on her obtaining the title role of "The Orchid" in the new Broadway production...

Flashback: Lionel Hampton recently did thirty thousand dollars worth of business on a recent brooking tour of one-niters in California. He opened at the Cotton Club in Los Angeles on September 1 and continued as an assistant conductor...

Red Nichols and his famous Pacific Coast orchestra, which opened at the Hollywood Club, Hollywood in place of Pete Daily's Chicagoans...

Ann O'Day is now publicised at the Zebek of Jazz. Eddie Sauter has been ordered to make a radio broadcast for the first time in several years...

Latest news from Paramount is that they have purchased "The Broadway Story" an original Broadway musical play written by Charles Ledberg and Frank Miller...

Advertisement for THE MUSICIAN works for a BANDLEADER who works for a PROPRIETOR. But they ALL read Musical Express—otherwise how do they know what's going on?

Advertisement for ANNE SHELTON SINGS FOR HER NEW RADIO SERIES COMMENCING OCTOBER 13th. SAY THAT YOU'RE MINE. NOCHIMILCO. ROSA, ROSA, ROSALINDA. CARISSIMA: YOU TURNED THE TABLES ON ME. TUN PAN ALLEY BALL-LYCEUM-OCTOBER 28th.

"LIFT" SOUNDS OF ORDER

Says Steve Race In "The Sound Track"

IN one of the first "Second Thoughts" articles I ever wrote, I made a plea for originality in the music of the day. I pointed out the types of British dance music. I returned to the subject several times in the past...

ALAN DEAN Jazz Band. Being merely a musician, and not an expert on this type of music, I can only pass my opinion that they are rough and ready in an attractive kind of way...

Big Chief Balle's Australian Jazz Band. Equire South Yama Blues 10-008. Equire Yama Blues 10-008. Equire Yama Blues 10-008. Equire Yama Blues 10-008.

Advertisement for THE SKYROCKETS ORCHESTRA. Don't Blame Me. HMV. Long After Tonight. BD 6019. Woolf Phillips starts "Blues" with a whole chorus of straight trombones...

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MUSIC

MUCH music originally written for the theatre survives today only in concert hall performances. How many operas are known only by their overtures? Such a work is Ravel's "La Valse". It was written for, but never used by the Diaghilev Ballet, though later it was danced by Ida Rubenstein.

Ravel's original idea had been to write a tone poem depicting Vienna and calling it "Wien", but between the first sketches and the final completion it came a period of military service so that by the time he set to work to again his original intentions had considerably altered. He began to score the work as it stands today on the last day of 1917. A week later in a letter, he wrote "I Waltz frantically".

"La Valse" has been recorded by The Paris Conservatoire Orchestra under Ernest Ansermet on Decca K 1867/8. This new set makes an interesting comparison with the recording by the San Francisco Symphony Orchestra under Monteux on H.M.V. DB 5964/5. Monteux takes it much faster, his performance lasting about two-thirds the time of the present one and so losing much of the character of a Viennese waltz. Occasionally it does merely bolt, but bolts over.

Ansermet on the other hand suppresses the emotional and concentrates on clarity and design. His reading is as clear as a bell.

Equally certainly Messiaen's music for the ballet "Les Fables" is not great music, being the sort of thing one expects to hear at the Grand Pavillon. Hearing it for its own sake soon becomes boring, though as a waltz it is highly polished performance by the Covent Garden Opera House Orchestra under Hugo Rignold. The recording is brilliant and is one for the not-very-music-minded collector.

To bridge the gap between the two there is little to choose, the English recording being slightly the better. In places the balance is so different that it gives rise to interesting and amusing scoring. "Gayaneh" is not great music and certainly not the best music I have heard, but it has its attractions.

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THE THEATRE

By Our Music Editor

MALCOLM RAYMENT

al as a debut is romantic. I have no doubt that Ravel himself has expressed his ideas in a somewhat different manner. The exhibition was a compromise between the artistic and the technical—everything. The new recording is superb, details are clear, the orchestration is most effective. Nor can one but help admiring the clarity with which he expressed his ideas and his colouring. This ballet music is given a great performance on Decca K 1855 by Josef Perlea conducting La Scala Orchestra of Milan. The recording is excellent, the orchestra playing with a fine sense of rhythm and a fine sense of colour. The conductor is Josef Perlea.

On Columbia DX 1459/1501, Ephraim Kurtz conducts the New York Philharmonic Symphony Orchestra in a performance of "Gayaneh". The first number, "The Sabre Dance", has achieved enormous popularity, far in excess of its merits. It has also suffered the penalty of being mutilated by dance bands, etc. There are eight movements in this suite. Three of them—Lullaby, Dance of the Young Maidens and the Sabre Dance—are the most interesting. The recording is excellent, the orchestra playing with a fine sense of rhythm and a fine sense of colour. The conductor is Ephraim Kurtz.

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IN BERLIN TODAY

From our Special Correspondent DEN BERRY

THIS year, there weren't many outstanding performers on these instruments left. There is a Kurt Hohenberg Band, who started out with Heinz Wehner and is today the star of the Kurt Hohenberg Band.

Mention must also be made of the bass player Teddy Lenz and drummer Lip Gluzel, who both started out with Heinz Wehner and is today the star of the Kurt Hohenberg Band.

There are of course quite a number of other good instrumentalists who are not so well known. Quite a few "unknowns" set in at the Jam Sessions organised by the Hot Club and give the fans a lot of pleasure. Speaking of jam sessions, I must mention the recent memorable event which was organised by the Club in which the Flex Stewart Band took part, and which was held under great difficulties and by the light of numerous candles and two car-bine lamps in the Grand Palais, on the night of July 9.

There are two pianists in Berlin who are both exceptionally good. All who have names must mention beyond the borders of their own country. One is Fritz Schütz-Reischel who began his career with James Kok's orchestra, and, in 1935, played in the famous "Sherbini Revue" in Berlin with Eugen Henke and the trombonist Herb Fleming, who were both with the Sam Wooding Band that came there in 1936. Pianist-of-renewed No. 2 is Helmut Werritsch, who started out with Heinz Wehner and is today the star of the Kurt Hohenberg Band.

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CROSSWORD

ACROSS 2. American war film. (6)

8 and 12. Britain's largest newspaper. (7, 7)

9. The Crosby side of the moon. (4)

10. Great man. (4)

11. A type of rich harvest from British corn. More power to his vox humana! (4)

12. A lesser known Bronte. (4)

13. Abbrev. (4)

14. It's far from above-board, as any pianist will tell you. (4)

15. Doubly existing river. (4)

16. Composer of "The 48". (4)

17. Tubby! (4)

18. Originator of a famous musical comedy theatre. (4)

19. Christian name of Mr. Jones, the organist? (7)

20. Recurrent pieces of music. (4)

Accordions Times

Edited by J. J. BLACK

WEST of England readers of this paper will be pleased to hear that an evening should book Friday, October 15, and visit the Hill at Easton near Bristol, for the accordionists' social evening prepared by the Accordion School.

Mr. Ron Nolan, A.B.C.A. Principal of the school, is the most of the well-known accordionists in the area should be present at the evening. The pupils with their families. Mr. Nolan will act as host, and the Misses will be assisted by Fred Kelly, the comedian. There will be several variety acts, and a dancing session.

The Nolan Accordion School Social is continuing to meet every Friday evening, and any pupil who wishes to join can do so. There is no charge for this being part of the service they get from the fee they pay for their private lessons. These evenings are becoming quite an attraction, and it is possible that they will play the accordion a great deal of encouragement.

A WEEK or two ago I asked for readers' experiences with the accordion microphone. One of my readers had been having some difficulty, and had formed the opinion that the "mike" was detrimental to the tone of the instrument.

I have now received an informative letter from Mr. J. Blair, of Glasgow, who tells me that he has been a user of the accordion mike since it was first introduced, and that he can offer some useful suggestions for the assistance of my reader who is having some trouble. The benefit of any others who may be interested.

The reason for the slight distortion of tone, writes Mr. Blair, may be because the player is holding two sounds—one from his accordion and one from the loudspeaker. There may also be a slight time lag if the loudspeaker is any distance away. However if the amplifier is kept at a reasonably loud volume, the time lag will tend to drop, and the actual sound from the accordion, and the effect is much more pleasing. Of course it is possible that the amplifier he is using does not match his mike.

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