

HOT OFF THE PRESS! SENSATIONAL NEW HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE MOVIE... SABRE DANCE BOOGIE... PRICE 30 PER SET... PETER MAURICE MUSIC LTD. 31, DENMARK ST., LONDON, W.C.2

Musical Express

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BERG LARSEN MOUTHPIECES

FRIDAY, JANUARY 14, 1949

MORNING RUMOURE EARLING E.M.I. "CORAL LABEL" ISSUE? TOMMY HANDLEY DIES

Loss of Radio's Greatest Star (BY LEE CONWAY)

KAPP OF AMERICAN DECCA SAID TO BE INTERESTED IN IT

AMOUR HAS REACHED THESE OFFICES FROM OUR AMERICAN REPRESENTATIVES THAT WALLY MOODY, RECORDING MANAGER OF E.M.I., IS TO LEAVE THAT CONCERN AT THE END OF THIS MONTH TO TAKE UP A VERY IMPORTANT NEW APPOINTMENT. THE PRESS OFFICER OF E.M.I. INFORMED US THAT MR. MOODY IS AT PRESENT IN AMERICA ON E.M.I. BUSINESS AND, AS FAR AS THEY WERE CONCERNED, IS STILL EMPLOYED BY THAT COMPANY. HE INTIMATED, HOWEVER, THAT THERE MIGHT BE A STATEMENT AVAILABLE ON MOODY'S RETURN FROM THE UNITED STATES.

This news in itself is not so sensational as the further rumour that Wally Moody is to be Recording Manager for a new label to be issued in England. The label, so we understand, is to be called "Coral," and the man behind the scheme is reputed to be Jack Kapp, chief of American Decca.

As there appears to be the greatest secrecy concerning this project, we are unable to tell our readers whether the "Coral Label" is to be used for the purpose of recording both American and English artists, or even whether it will be made in England. To import records in their actual form from America will require a permit from the Board of Trade. We understand from that body that they would be of the opinion that records pressed in America would be open competition to our recording industry here. It will be recalled that the American label "Capitol" is pressed in this country and distributed through the English Decca organisation, thereby providing employment for British workpeople.

One thing is certain if the rumour that Wally Moody is to leave E.M.I. is true, there will be many seeking the opportunity to take his place. Moody has been with the company for many years. His right-hand in Miss Blanche Jones, better known to the profession as "Jonesy."

Baguley Song For a Film

Leslie Baguley of Unit Publishing Company informs us that he has just had a song accepted for the new Sidney Cox production, "I Want to Get Married." The film has commenced production and the music has been written by Baguley with lyrics by Lewis Gilbert.

RECORDING

M.U. Consents

FOLLOWING confirmation from the American Federation of Musicians that final agreements have been made with Gramophone Recording and Transcription Companies in the U.S.A., it has been necessary to reconsider the embargo placed by the Union upon the making of records here with American artists. Acting in accordance with what I am sure would be the wish of the Union's responsible Committee, and to avoid delay, I am informing British recording companies that records with American artists may now be made by all members.

Meanwhile, the ban upon recordings for American Transcription Companies remains in force. Any decision to remove it must be made by the Committee. The American dispute was not the sole consideration taken into account when the ban was imposed, and it will be necessary for the Committee not only to study in detail the precise agreement between the American Federation and the Transcription Companies in the U.S.A., but to examine again whether making of transcriptions here primarily for use in American radio would be contrary to the Union's general policy.

HARDIE BATCHELOR, General Secretary, M.U.

JOHN ABBOTT Famous Musical Figure Retires

AFTER a lifetime of active service to the music industry, and more particularly to his firm of Francis Day & Hunter, John Abbott, that grand old man of the publishing industry, retired this week from his position as general manager of that company. He will, however, still take an interest in the business in an advisory capacity as Consultant Director. The new general manager is a man who has been with Francis Day & Hunter for a period of twenty years and is equally well-known to the profession. He is Mr. R. Thackeray, who has for years been closely associated with the business organisation of that concern.

DAVE KIDD REJOINS NICKY

VOICELIST Dave Kidd left London for Ireland last Monday to join his brother, who is doing a piano-song act, and has until recently been featured on the Jack Simpson Sextet. This will not be the first time Dave and Nicky Kidd have worked together, for they were both discovered doing a double act by Jack Hyton fifteen years ago. The war came along and split up the original team, and Dave commenced an act with Bert Waller. When this ended, Kidd sang with the bands of Billy Turner, Teddy Foster, Carl Barrisette, Nat Temple and finally Jack Simpson. The act will be touring France and Scotland, and it is quite probable that when it is running smoothly they will appear in England.



Dave Kidd

BERNARD HILDA Ace French Maestro Playing in London



Above, Bernard Hilda, whose Orchestra opens at Ciro's Club on January 11. Below, glamorous Jean Morgan, American songstress with the Orchestra.

LEWIS BUCKLEY CONTESTS WILL NOW BE RUN EXCLUSIVELY WITH US! (See story on Page 3)

SWEET SERENADE ORCHESTRA FOR EMPRESS HALL

ON Sunday January 23 Peter York will present his Full Sweet Serenade Concert Orchestra at the Empress Hall, Grafton Street, in a concert due to commence at 7 p.m. In addition to this fine orchestra he will feature as guest artists Paula Green, Leslie Douglas, Maria Fretell, Leader of the orchestra will be that excellent violinist Louis Stevens, and Freddie Gardner will also be featured as solo soloist. We feel sure that all the Empress Hall arrangements will be presented to their utmost extent and that this will be a show that many musicians and followers of the orchestra will wish to see.

A NEW BEST SELLERS' LIST

WE understand on good authority that there is to be a new Best Sellers' List to be issued shortly. This list will, so we hear, be compiled from actual figures of approximately fifty leading records over the country. Prior to this, hits were compiled from wholesale figures and did not include multiple chain stores. This, of course, means that figures given by a wholesaler might not mean actual counter sales, but could quite easily contain orders that were not returned. Our readers will remember that this newspaper decided to discontinue printing the previous list due to the fact that we did not consider it wholly representative. However, we shall commence presenting the new list as soon as it is available, as we feel that actual sales, including chain store figures, are almost wholly representative of what constitutes best-sellers.

INSTRUMENT STOLEN

Bill Jackson, 2nd aite with Gerald had his home burgled last week. A great deal of his belongings were stolen, including two radio sets, clothes and his clarinet. Any musician or dealer being offered the instrument, which is a Ben Davis 23 clarinet No. 2215, is urged to contact the police immediately.

D'AMATO BREAK FOR MUSIC

CHARLIE D'AMATO and his Orchestra have another series of broadcasts commencing Monday, January 24, and followed by January 31 and February 7. Charlie Pade, well-known exponent of the novel chord, who is featured with the D'Amato Orchestra at Hatched's, is to take a holiday for an operation this Thursday, January 13. He will take this opportunity of wishing him a speedy recovery and inform our readers that during his absence his place will be taken by Eddie Palmato.

TONY OSBORNE IS LEAVING STAPLETON

Tony Osborne will be leaving Cyril Stapleton on January 30 to free-lance in town. The reason for this is that his wife is expecting a baby shortly, and he naturally wishes to be with her at this time. Cyril Stapleton is featuring two of Osborne's compositions, "Highland Patrol" and "Do It My Way," which Campbell Connolly will shortly be publishing.

NAT TEMPLE'S FUTURE DATES

NAT TEMPLE and his Orchestra will be heard in a series of "Break For Music" broadcasts on Monday, January 11, 18, 25 and February 1, 8, 15, 22 and February 29, respectively. On each of these occasions, Tony Lee will be featured artist. On February 22, Temple and the orchestra, augmented with strings, will be featured in a new radio series at 7.30 p.m. in the Home Service. The show will feature Joyce Grenfell and George Formby.

LADY BASSIST GETS MARRIED

Margaret Chappell, twenty-four-year-old bass player, who recently left Roy Benson after a long and happy association, to marry Mr. Robert Roe in Sheffield, has asked to be back her many friends who sent telegrams and good wishes.

THE DEATH OF TOMMY HANDLEY WILL NOT ONLY LEAVE THE PROFESSION WITH A DEEP SENSE OF LOSS, BUT IT WILL HAVE GREAT REPERCUSSIONS. THIS IS A MEASURE BY WHICH WE MAY ASSESS HANDLEY'S GREATNESS. IT MAY HAVE BEEN THE TITLE OF HIS FAMOUS RADIO SHOW, BUT YOU NEVER TUNED IN TO IT. YOU TUNED IN TO TOMMY HANDLEY. THE IMPORTANCE AND ENORMOUS FAN PUBLIC OF THE CHARACTERS PLAYED BY THE REST OF THE CAST WAS INEVITABLE, YET IN REFERRING TO THE SHOW IT WAS ALWAYS HANDLEY.

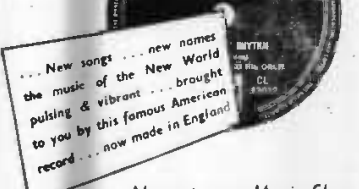
HIS UNFORTUNATE DEATH WILL BE THE B.B.C. OF ITS NUMBER ONE FEATURE. AND ABOVE ALL THE FEELING UPON WHICH THEY COULD ALWAYS RELY WHEN OTHER TOP-LINE SHOWS WERE TOTTERING. TOMMY HANDLEY WAS A WRITER OF COMEDY WAS DUE IN NO SMALL MEASURE TO THE SUCCESS OF TOMMY HANDLEY. HAVANAGE AT OTHER WRITERS TO FEEL THE INSATIABLE THIRST FOR GAGS QUENCHED. THE MATERIAL, IN MY VIEW, WAS ALWAYS PUEBIL. BUT IT WAS THE GLOBAL SAID BY ED AND HANDLEY'S FANTASTIC SENSE OF TIDING THAT MADE THE SHOW FUNNY.

Will Hay used the "straight man" technique. Although he was regarded as a star comedian, he actually did the "feeling" to minor comedy characters. Tommy Handley used a similar method with his other crazy characters in Itna, but did not relinquish all the comedy lines. In deciding to stop Itna altogether, the B.B.C. are wise. I shall miss my favourite "Friday, Friday" but I cannot conceive this character without his "feed." And that goes for all of them. It is related like Allen without Flanagan; Westons without the Brother; Gold without Norton; Warriss without Javel. There will be empty time-slots for the band, musician and conductor. This is indeed sad news. But it is the classic example of them when the show does was this difference, however. NOT go on

HARVEY ARRIVES Sid Field plays greatest part in his whole career

HARVEY HAS ARRIVED, AND IN MY VIEW IT IS GOOD FOR A RUN OF AT LEAST TWO YEARS. A WELL-CONSTRUCTED PLAY WITH LOTS OF BIG LAUGHS AND ORIGINALITY. ITS SUCCESS AT THE PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE IS DUE TO AN OLD AND INFALLIBLE FORMULA. GET AN EXPERIENCED VAUDEVILLE PERFORMER AND LET HIM LOOSE AMONG THE LEGS IN A REAL THEATRE AND HE'LL STEAL THE WHOLE SHOW. IT NEVER FAILS. AND THAT IS EXACTLY WHAT HAPPENED IN THE CASE OF SID FIELD, WHO SO ABLY PLAYS THE LEAD IN THIS GRAND SHOW.

As an experienced vaudeville comic is invariably a consummate character man. This quality is what makes Field so great in the part of an "alky" or "dope" or whatever else you like to call a habitual drunk. He never does a drunk. He does not play a drunk, as most of the time called. At no time during the show is he "drunk." But his characterization of an alcoholic with an insatiable (and inseparable six-foot rabbit) is just about perfect. He extracts every ounce from the character. His stage presence is most commanding. The fabulous Elmer F. Dowd actually lives.



Now at your Music Shop

Capitol Records advertisement with list of artists and record titles including Nat Temple, Tony Lee, and others.

WRIGHT HITS

CAN YOU LOOK ME IN THE EYE AND SAY YOU LOVE ME SAY SOMETHING SWEET TO YOUR SWEETHEART THE DREAM OF OLWEN

CIT ALL COMES BACK TO ME NOW All Dressed Up With a Broken Heart READY SHORTLY! I'D GIVE THE WORLD UNLUCKY LA MARIPOSA LET ME DREAM CINEPHONIC CINEPHONIC MUSIC CO. LIMITED

GOLD SIGNS NEW SINGER

AFTER HOLDING AUDITIONS FOR VOICELISTS LAST TUESDAY, HARRY GOLD REAR NOW BOOKED BERTY TAYLOR TO TAKE THE PLACE OF JANE LEE WHO, ALREADY PRINTED, IS EXPECTING A HAPPY EVENT. BERTY COMES FROM BOURNEVILLE AND RECENTLY BEEN HEARD ON THE AIR WITH THE SIMONS' BAND, AND PRIOR TO THAT WAS WITH HENRY HALL. FOR SOME CONSIDERABLE PERIOD, GOLD TELLS US THAT SHE HAS GOOD DELIVERY AND DICTION AND A PLEASING PERSONALITY AND SETTLE AND SEE FEELS SHE SHE WILL FIT INTO THE ORGANISATION VERY WELL.

Berty will join the band for their North-Western engagement on January 18, and this will complete the various changes in the Pieces of Eight's line-up, which is now as follows: Ernie Tommaseo, clarinet; Freddy Tommaseo, trumpet; Gene Low, trombone and vocals; Leslie Gold, bass; Gerry Hawkins, bass; Neville Parsons, piano; Johnny Wood, drums. Freddy Tommaseo, who succeeds Cyril Ellis, has already set in with the band and he will lead the ensemble, having played with his brother Ernie Tommaseo's similar type of combination in London. On January 13 the Pieces of Eight will broadcast opposite Bartlett Lopes in the Light Programme at 10.15 p.m. and will again broadcast on January 18 at 10.45-11.15 a.m. The band will appear in "Jazz Club" on February 5, and this will be followed by a quintette led by Harry Gold in the "Bands With" on February 7 at 12.15-12.30 p.m. On January 30 the Pieces of Eight will appear with "Much Binding in The Market" at the Empress Hall, Earl's Court, and they will play two concerts with that show at Glasgow and Edinburgh on April 23 and 25 respectively. With the exception of several odd dates, the Pieces of Eight are solidly booked until October 5.

Editorial and Advertising Offices
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"The Everears the Wrong Leader"

THE VOICE

All business and professional characters. But the idea is prevalent that all you have to do is hand out a line of bull and you're a showman. Nothing is further from the truth.

"Not bad at all" said a contemporary reporter in the preface at the opening of a really colossal show. By any standard on this earth the show in question was superb.

THE PROTEST
The critics profession, in all branches, should protest in no uncertain terms against this haphazard sort of criticism.

THE REAL CRITICS
Good critics are invaluable to the business. But you must have confidence in the critic's practical knowledge of the subject before you can place any reliance on his judgment.

EDDY HOWARD has wrapped up more than a dozen new tunes for his very first Mercury waxing session since the lifting of the Petrillo ban, and he went into the Chicago recording studios the first week of January to cut the batch.

When Howard opened at the Chicago Argon Ballroom on New Year's Day, more than 3,000 members of his Windy City fan club were on hand to give the popular maestro a gala send-off of recognition and his nineteenth engagement at the Argon in nine years.

Consider also the position of contestants in band contests. Very often they like to discuss the results of the contest with the judges after the show is over.

ORCHESTRATIONS REVIEWED

Maybe You'll Be There, arranged by Johnny Warrington;
Aln's Nobody There But Us, arranged by Alexander;
A Fella With An Umbrella, arranged by Johnny Warrington;
It Only Happens When I Dance With You, arranged by Johnny Warrington;
You Call Everybody Darling, arranged by Jack Marshall;
Heaven For Me, arranged by Johnny Warrington;
Little Jazz Boogie, arranged by Buster Harding;
Aln's Nobody There But Us, arranged by Alexander;
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THE HOST AND THE FINALISTS
Horace Heidt greets the four finalists in the recent first annual finals of his NBC "Original Young Personality Program."

TRANSATLANTIC American Community
Margaret and Capitol are talking over plans to war an album of her late father's greatest songs including "Honey," "I'll Meet Again," "Sleepy Time Gal," "Beyond The Blue Horizon," "Too Marvelous For Words," "Hooray For Hollywood," "Aln's We Got Fun," "She's Funny That Way," etc.

CHICK MADISON
EXCHANGING its time with "Spotlight Review" "The Pause That Refreshes" popular musical featuring the orchestra of Percy Faith and singer Jane Forman, moved to Friday nights on CBS as from January 7.

LAST of the firms to come to arrangements with AFM is the orchestra of Percy Faith and singer Jane Forman, moved to Friday nights on CBS as from January 7.

TRUMPETER Jimmy McPartland and his English-born wife, Marian Page, together with clarinetist Bob Slocum, drummer Elmer Alexander and bass player Bob Carlson, put up a fine show in their new recording at the Sibley House in Chicago, when Billie Holiday appeared last week.

NEWS of Margaret Whiting's pending visit to New York next spring has already brought a host of fan letters and "hot" television shows, in which she would be starred as singing and intelligently for a moment.

★ THIS IS JAZZ ★

by James Asman
I WANT to talk about jazz music in this article, and the Editor has been kind enough to give me a free hand. It is only fair that I should say this, because I feel sure that you will have your own views, which will be expressed here in this column, and that Paul Whiteman, as Editor, or of Musical Express, as a whole, indeed, I must confess, I feel sure that you will have your own opinions. But I have no desire to start frantic controversies raging around my own views. I just want to talk about jazz music.

THIS IS JAZZ
EVER since I was in short pants, sticking my small hand into the horn of a gramophone, listening to Harry Rademars "Yellow Dog Blues," someone has been telling me about jazz. First they said that it was "out of this world," and that Paul Whiteman, as Editor, or of Musical Express, as a whole, indeed, I must confess, I feel sure that you will have your own opinions. But I have no desire to start frantic controversies raging around my own views. I just want to talk about jazz music.

What has all this to do with jazz? Well, considering the important fact that Chinese music is in a full sense, together with African music, quite a lot. For Afro-American folk-song and the music we think of as the amalgamation of the African folk tone scale with the white piano and settlers down in the Southern States of America, has brought about a new Orleans, grew spontaneously out of this wedded music of colored America through the rhythmic medium of the early New Orleans white brass band. So the tradition was made.

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