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DAVID WHITFIELD

4 page Supplement

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### Singing stars with TALKING PO ARE we getting tired of the many singers in show busiinstrumental

ness? Are instrumental records becoming more popular? And are American vocal records superior
because the singers use their voices
like an instrument, while many
British artists just sing the lyric?

Whitfield have a slight tremolo in their voices. Ruby's is somewhere between a saxophone and strings.

David's is between a saxophone and

because the singers use their voices like an instrument, while many British artists just sing the lyric? These are some of the questions asked this week by PETER HILL, of Mappleton Grove, Preston Road, Hull, who writes:

Slim Whitman "bends" his voice like a guitar on "Rose Marie," Frankie Laine pounds the lyric like a brass section on "Cool Water." Al Hibbler appears to imitate a saxophone on "Unchained Melody."

The McGuire Sisters are like a lead section of a band. The Crew Cuts are a complete orchestra in themselves.

themselves

Some of the more popular singers in Britain use their voices as instru-ments. Both Ruby Murray and David

### WHERE'S

Here is an extract from a poem dedicated to Guy Mitchell from JANET McVICAR, of Thornton Street, Maryhill, Glasgow:
Dear Guy, a week or two ago, You came to Glasgow town;
And hoping I would see you,
I hurriedly went down.

At your hotel each night I For you to pass me by, But you slipped in the back

How could you be so sly?

NEMASCOPE

David s is between a saxophone and trumpet.

Dickie Valentine is lucky. His voice blends easily with a band, as does Frank Sinatra's. Is this the reason why good British singers like Lee Lawrence and Rose Brennan rarely make hit records?

Is the voice becoming an instrument, and the lyric just an excuse to introduce a "new sound"?

Dixie dancing

\*

NVO: no plugs
MIKE JOHNSON, of Strathbrook
Road, Streatham, S.W.16, writes:
I feel I must hand the BBC a

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SQUARE

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large bouquet for one fine radio institution—namely, the Northern Variety Orchestra.

Variety Orchestra.
What is its recipe for success?
Simply that it is solely a broadcasting orchestra and as such does
not make records. Consequently,
they have no latest recordings to
plug, and so give us, every Friday
evening, a fine programme of tasteful music with first-class arrangements.

Sarah the artist
PETE JARVIS writes from King
Richard Street, Stoke, Coventry:
Surely the answer to Lewis Fcasdale's query concerning the appeal
of Sarah Vaughan (last week's Talking Points) is simply that Sarah is an
artist in the true sense of the word.
I am not a fan of Sarah's personally, but I am a rabid advocate of
Peggy Lee, who likewise sells few
records here. Few are gifted with
both pop and artistic appeal. Frank
Sinatra is a notable exception; here
is an artist who has the commercial
world at his feet. world at his feet.

world at his feet.

Generally, however, true artistry lies deep and, though it is more satisfying when you find it, the commercial singer with his more obvious style and material will always attract the masses.

**Great Doris** 

Coals of fire continue to pour down on my head for what I wrote about Dorls Day's new film musical. Here is a blast from JOHN BROAD, of Ditchling Road, Brighton 6:
I read your review of "Love Mc

### Congratulations } Corner . . .

TO FRANKIE VAUGHAN for

To FRANKIE VAUGHAN for a sizzling performance in "Swing Session" (August 23). It was well worth the row I got into for creeping downstairs and switching on the radio. (Patricla Robertson, Eskdale Avenue, Carlisle). To DICK HAYMES, who has aigned a contract with Capitol (Nat Hentoff's column). I would like to welcome him back to the pop recording field, of which he was at the top some years ago. (Martyn Lewis, Davies Street, Porth, Głam.)

Glam.)
To JANIE MARDEN on her success in the "Show Band Show." (John Phillips, Lancaster Road, Enfield, Middlesex).
To BILL McGUFFIE for his frank letter to the NME which many musicians could never have written. But does Bill know that Benny Green also gave a Tony Crombie record the same rating as Charlie Parker's "All The Things You Are"? (A. E. Knight, Choda Farm, Crawley, Sussex).

now I never really bothered much about Doris Day. I used to like Judy Garland, but after seeing "Love Me Or Leave Me," I can say Doris Day

outshines her by miles.

She's proved a wonderful actress and singer, and from now on I remain on ardent fan of Doris Day.

What's her next film, please?

Doris's next scheduled film to called "The Man Who Knew Too Much," part of which was shot in London on her last visit here.

LYDIA MACFARLANE writes from Alma Road, Kingswood, Bristol:

I wonder if anyone besides myself has noticed the marked improvement lately of backings for British

backings on American recordings are first rate. But I'm afraid I didn't think the same of the British—until recently.

recently.

First there was Dickie Valentine's
"No Such Luck," faintly reminiscent
of Sinatra's "Learnin' The Blues,"
perhaps, but slightly terrific none the
less. Then there were Alma Cogan's
"I've Been Thinking" and Max
Bygraves's "Anyone Can Be A
Millionaire."

To my mind none of these are

To my mind, none of these are

triking numbers, but the band

arrangements give them just that
little extra. I sincerely hope this is a

taste of things to come.

\* Hard on Billie RICHARD SWAINSON, of Westella, Yelverton, South Devon,

### lately of backings for British westella, Yelverton, South Devon, vocalists. When I buy a record, the orchestration means just as much as the reviewer who it is that Billie Anthony HIGHLIGHT

344, 271, 547 METRES

TUESDAY

A.M. As for Monday, except 9 Dom
McNell,
P.M. 1 Martin Block; 1.30 Little
Matinee; 2 Outpost Concert; 3.05 Stickbuddy Jamboree; 3.30 Bud's Bandwaggon; 4 Military Minstrel; 5 Raquests; 6 Perry Como; 7 Music In
The Air; 8.05 Dennis Day; 9.30 Music
From America; 11.05 Tex Beneke;
12.05 Late Request Show.
WEDNESDAY

A.M. As for Monday, except 9 Dom

A.M. As for Monday, except 9 Don McNeil.

A.M. As for Monday, except 9 Don McNeil.
P.M. 1 Martin Block; 1.30 Strictly From Dixie; 2 Operas of the World; 3.05 Stickbuddy Jamboree; 3.30 Bud's Bandwaggon; 4 Bavarian Holiday; 5 Requests; 6 Bob Crosby; 7 Muste In The Air; 8.05 Bob Hope; 8.30 Groucho Marx; 10.45 Mood for Moderns; 11.30 Late Request Show; 12.05 Late Request Show; 12.05 Late Request Show; THUESDAY
A.M. As for Monday except 9 Don McNeil,
P.M. 1 Martin Block; 1.30 Lattle Matinee; 2 Outpost Concert; 3.05 Stickbuddy Jamboree; 3.30 Bud's Bandwaggon; 4 Military Minstrel; 5 Requests; 6 Perry Como; 7 Music In The Air; 8.05 Two For The Money; 6.30 Dragnet; 10 The Chase; 11.05 Bobby Swain & Orch.; 11.30 Late Request Show; 12.05 Late Request Show, FRIDAY
A.M. As for Monday, except 9 Don

A.M. McNeil. As for Monday, except 9 Dor

P.M. 1 Martin Block; 1.30 Strictly from Dixie; 3.05 Stickbuddy Jamboree; 3.30 Bud's Bandwaggon; 4 Bavarian Holiday; 5 Requests; 6 Bob Crosby;

keeps reminding him of? I have never known him give her a good

keeps reminding him of? I have never known him give her a good review as yet.

His review of "This Ol' House" was pretty awful, yet it turned out to be her best seller to date. When he reviewed her record of "Tweedlee Dee" coupled with "Shake The Hand Of A Stranger," he hardly mentioned the latter, which I consider to be one of her best

Last week his review of "Ten

Last week his review of "Ten Little Kisses" coupled with "The Banjo's Back In Town" was very discouraging, yet I consider these both to be Hit Parade stuff. What doesn't he like about her?

### NEW 208 D-J



Here is Dave Gell, 26-year-old Canadian-born radio announcer, who replaces Dick Norton oo Radio Luxembourg. Dave will also be taking over the Sunday night "Top 20" record programme when Pete Murray leaves Luxembourg for a commercial TV post early this month.

# SUNDAY A.M. 8 Sunday Circus; 10.05 Symphonette; 10.30 Negro College Choir. F.M. 1.30 Matinee from Berchategaden; 3.05 Highway of Melody; 4.30 Serenade in Blue; 5.0 Frank Sinatra; 5.30 Request Parade; 6.05 Jack Benny; 6.30 Our Miss Brooks; 7 Inheritance; 7.30 Treasury Bandstand; 8.05 People Are Funny; 8.30 Twenty Questions; 9 Rudy Vallee; 12.05 Melody Go Round, MONDAY A.M. 6.05 Hillbilly Gasthaus; 7.15 Today's The Day; 7.30 Tips and Tunes; 8.05 Forward March; 8.15 Behind The Story; 9 Don McNeil; 9.25 Woman's World; 9.30 Tennessee Ernle; 10.05 Merely Music; 11 My Son Jeep; 11.30 Noon Request Show. F.M. 12.55 Les Paul; 1 Martin Block; 1.30 Strictly From Dixle; 2 Outpost Concert; 3.05 Stickbuddy Jambore; 3.30 Bud's Bandwagson; 4 Bavarian Holiday; 5 Requests; 6 Bob Crosby; 7 Music In The Air; 8 News World; 8.05 My Little Margie; 8.30 Arthur Godfrey; 9.30 Singing Soldiers; 10 The Whistler; 10.45 Blues For Monday; 11.05 Migelito Valder; 11.30 Late Request Show; 12.05 Late Request Show. TURBIDAY A.M. As for Monday, except 9 Doe McNeil, Parade March; 13 Little GEFAT RECO NOSIGE

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SUNDAY
7 Empire Show; 7.30 Dick James; 7.45 Winifred Atwell Show; 8 Vera Lynn; 8.30 Michael Miles; 9 Melody Caravan; 9.15 Curt Massey and Martha Tilton; 9.30 Get Wise; 10 Time For A Bons; 10.30 Bins Sinss; 10.45 Charlie Kunz; 11 Top Twenty. Midnight: Close down.

MONDAY
7 Spread Your Wings; 7.15 Dan Dare; 7.30 Musical Menu; 8 Strike It Rich; 8.30 Monday's Requests; 9.15 Dance Date; 9.45 Scrapbook of Song; 10 Jack Jackson; 10,30 Around The Old Piano; 10,45 The Other Side of The Bible Christian Programme; 11,15 Frank and Ernest; 11,30 The World Tomorrow. Midnight: Close down.

TUESDAY
7 Penguin Parade; 7.15 Dan Dare; 7.30 Bob & Dennis; 7.45 Steve Larrabee; 8 Tuesday's Requests; 8.30 Frank Chacksfield; 9 Lita Roza; 9.15 Your Song Parade; 9.30 Preview; 9.45 Friends and Neighbours; 10 Donald Peers; 10,30 Two's Company; 10.45 Steve Larrabee; 8 Tuesday's Requests; 8.30 Frank Chacksfield; 9 Lita Roza; 9.15 Your Song Parade; 9.30 Preview; 9.45 Friends and Neighbours; 10 Donald Peers; 10,30 Two's Company; 10.45 SaTURDAY
7 Penguin Parade; 7.15 Piano Play.

### RADIO LUXEMBOURG FULL PROGRAMMES - -208 Metres

### 1125 and MUSIC

T had to happen sooner or later. At last some of the subjects of those screen biographies are kicking. Case in hand is that of Ruth Etting and Joe Snyder, who are none too happy about the way they're portrayed in "Love Me Or Leave Me."

Their complaints raise quite a

Their complaints raise quite a question in the musical world. For years Hollywood has been using the life-line of musical personalities as a ready-made background on which to hang a variety of tales. Sure, the details haven't been quite correct

"So what?" say the companies—if the public like the film that's all that matters. Well, is it? Let's take a look.

One thing is quite certain about these musical biographies. A lot of new interest is created in the artist, often among a generation who had only heard of him by hearsay.

People on the receiving end of the cash are the film-makers and, of course, the record companies, who have a fine chance to re-issue old recordings. On the whole, no one bothers too much about the biographics that counts.

Biggest among the coming life-



When the craze for filmic life-stories began is lost in the history of the cinema. By the time "Rhap-sody In Blue" had netted a fortune, the movie boys realised they were on to a good thing. The tale of Gersh-win's life was quickly followed by

Recently, you'll remember Jane Froman's story told in "With A Song In My Heart," Sigmund Rom-berg's in "Deep In My Heart," Glenn Miller, Eddie Cantor, Rodgers and Hart, and so on.

music that counts.

Biggest among the coming lifestories is undoubtedly Universal-International's "The Benny Goodman Story." The part of Goodman will be played by American television comedian Steve Allen, Donna Reed will be Mrs. G. Benny himself will re-record twenty-eight of his old numbers for the film.

### Star musicians

The Goodman orchestra has been faithfully re-assembled for the picture. Many of the musicians will have speaking parts. Featured are Gene Krupa, Teddy Wilson, Lionel Hampton, Harry James, Ziggy Elman, Babe Rusin, George Duvivier, Allan Reuss, Hymie Schertzer, Stan Getz, Buck Clayton, Chris Griffen, Irving Goodman, Conrad Gozzo, Urbie Green and Murray McEachern.

### Life stories brighten the box-office—but many top singers are wasted

### MICHAEL WINNER

Then there was Frankie Laine backing "Strange Lady In Town," and the oft repeated "Prize Of Gold," which kept on popping up in the Richard Widmark thriller,
Even Britain has jumped on to the bandwagon with Eddie Calver's backing to "John and Julie," which should sell enough records and cinema tickets to please anyone.
Oddly enough, it is not Hollywood which provides filmdom's most interesting current musical news. For years, since the failure of "London Town," England has fought shy of the musical approach to the screen.
Now, at last, it appears that British studios are thawing out. Slowly at first, but still thawing.

### Spritely number

Coslow. The film, incidentally, also features Ken Mackintosh with his Orchestra, and singer Don Cameron. Norman Wisdom has already recorded "Dream For Sale," and "Beware," on Columbia.

Both come from his new film "Man Of The Moment." The title song was recorded for the sound-track last week by the Beverley Sisters. Will they make a record of it? No one knows yet.

### Singing lesson

But although British films are using more songs, they still seem a bit shy of starring established singers. Intead, the vogue is to train their current top-liners to sing. Diane Cilento, for example, gives full-throated treatment to the new Jack Fishman number "A Fool And His Heart," in "The Woman For Joe."

Anyway, most recent would-be vocalist is youngster David Knight who is busy taking lessons. He'd like to do a full-scale musical, "But not until I'm really trained," he adds.

Stan Getz, Buck Clayton, Chris Griffen, Irving Goodman, Conrad Gozzo, Urbie Green and Murray McEachern.

Martha Tilton, ex-Goodman vocalist, will also appear as herself. The musical line-up puts the film way to the front for music fans. The studio hope it will also have the popular appeal of their "Glenn Miller Story."

In the meantime, Paramount plant to film the life of Red Nichols. Danny Kaye will star as the great jazzman, and Pat Duggan will produce. Title will be "Intermission."

Among other artists who have been mentioned in connection with film biographies are Louis Armstrong, Fred Astaire and our own Eddie Calvert.

Attaching a tune

Current trend is also for film makers to have a tune attached to a film—even if the picture isn't basically a musical. The film then helps the song, and vice-versa, Remember "The River of No Return," sung by Tennessee Ernie?

Spritely number "Doctor At Sea." the comedy sequel to "Doctor In The House, is graced with a spritely number, sequel to "Doctor In The House, is graced with a spritely number, sequel to "Doctor In The House, is graced with a spritely number, sequel to "Doctor In The House, is graced with a spritely number, sequel to "Doctor In The House, is graced with a spritely number, sung by French star Brigitte Bardot, Composer is actor Hubert Gregg, who has pennel out more than 100 songs including "Maybe It's Because I'm A Londoner."

He's also composed one of the numbers for the forthcoming comedy which stars can be star as the great also composed one of the numbers for the forthcoming comedy vocalist JII Day. Bob Farnon is the musical director. Another example of Britain's new "bring-on-the-music" policy will soon be at your local cinemas. Title is a diam even if the picture isn't be at your local cinemas. Title is have comedy, starring John Gregson and Dana Dors, Backing the hilainity is foreatest Sex."

Nat "King" Cole will sing written for the film by Academy Frank Lineary is maked for autumn release. Frank Loeser's score will be supplied to dolar productio



Jane Russell and Rudy Vallee, who co-star in the new film musical, "Gentlemen Marry Brunettes." "The producers have packed the film with old song favourites," says Michael Winner in this article.

Livingston and Evans have also written three songs which Doris Day will sing in Alfred Hitchcock's "The Man Who Knew Too Much." The film, a thriller, co-stars Doris with James Stewart. Incidentally, it also includes a portrayal of Palladium boss Val Parnell by actor Alan Mowbray.

Mowbray.

Frank Sinatra, still going for films where his performance is strictly dramatic, will nevertheless, sing a duet with Debbie Reynolds in MGM's comedy "The Tender Trap."

Pegsy Lee sings two songs in her new film with Jack Webb, the famous "Sergeant Friday," of the "Dragnet" series. The film is "Pete Kelly's Blues," the songs, "He Needs Me" and "Sing A Rainbow," were specially composed by Arthur Hamilton.

### Lanza again

Mario Lanza looks as if he will at last go through with another screen appearance in "Screnade" for Warners. Much publicised pianist Liberace, soon to be seen here on commercial TV, is the star of a new film titled "Sincerely Yours."

Gene Krupa

Flip Phillips

Artie Shaw N

Charlie Parker

Machito & HIS ORCHESTRA

**O**scar Peterson

**Bud Powell** 

And finally, among the pick of the musicals soon to come your way, is "Gentlemen Marry Brunettes." The film, a sequel to "Gentlemen Prefer Blondes," stars Jane Russell and Rudy Vallée. Following the break-up of song-writing team Sammy Cahn and Jules Styne, who produced such tip-top music for "Gentlemen Prefer Blondes," the producers of the new film have packed the score with old favourites. Among the songs to be heard again are Rodgers and Hart's "My Funny Valentine," "I've Got Five Dollars," and "Have You Met Miss Jones." Rudy Valee will play the bazooka in addition to his starring acting rôle.

So the musicals stream out. And my only complaint is that the film boys still aren't making enough use of the top musical stars. Alter all, why waste soneone like Frankie Laine in ludicrous pyjamas in films like "Bring Your Smile Along"?

He deserves better, and so do all the other top singers. I, for one, look forward to the day when, instead of hearing their voices behind the credits, we can also see their faces after them

after them

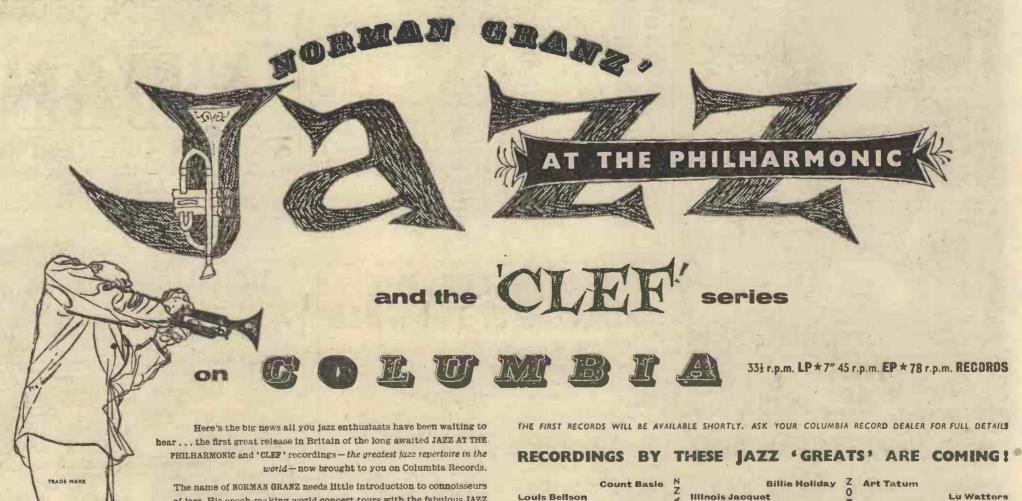
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And now for Noone

Jazz records reviewed by

"Battle of Jazz" issue on VogueCoral LRA.10018. The Noone
contribution, as I pointed out, outweighs the Dodds by five to three,
with "Sweet Lorraine" encroaching on Dodds's territory.

The other Neone titles are "Pump of the property of the propert

The other Noone titles are "Bump It" (otherwise "Apex Blues"), "Japansy," "Four Or Five Times" and "I Know That You Know."

This version of "Bump It" is not the same as the one we have had before. I fancy it must be an earlier master that someone has dug up. dug up

### Few Records

Anyone attempting an assessment of Jimmy Noone must approach the task with trepidation. The difficulty is that we have not many Noone records available, and of those we have, let's face it, a large number are quite awful.

In one of the 1947 editions of "Jazz Music," Iain Lang waved a tentative red rag by saying, in a review of Mezzrow's "Really The Blues":

"It is arguable that the Noone manner was not fully-developed jazz, and had not completely emerged from the concert style which Delta clarinettists inherited from the Creole symphony orchestras and salon bands. The first clarinettist who did fully emerge into jazz was Johnny Dodds ..."

But there's plenty of evidence to refute Iam Lang's contention—starting with the Oliver Creole Band sessions, the Ollie Powers 'Play That Thing,' some selected ous takes quite a bit of getting used high-spots from the Apex Club records, this version of "Four Or Five Times," and, of course, the or or on Welles radio transcriptions with the Kid Ory Band.

On all of these, Noone pulls out however, is to find nothing at all.

LAST week I reviewed the Dodds fine jazz performances. But Lang's judgment was carefully qualified—
"Battle of Lazz" issue on Voques "not fully developed," "had not

But, as Lang suggested, Noone did belong partly to the pre-jazz Creole school of clarinet-craftsmen whose pride was that they could play anything and everything.

"not fully developed," "had not completely emerged . "And the evidence that Noone retained, until the end of his life, non-jazz affiliate, tions is mountainous.

"There are those rapid-tongued "clarinet speciality" runs, carefully against stop chords. "I know That you Know" has one of these, and it's not until the last chorus that the against stop chords. "I know That you Know" has one of these, and and then, what about those sentiase mental tunes, played straighter and with more sickening gush than one would expect from a strict-tempo hack? "Japansy" is just about the most unpleasant sound I have ever heard in the name of music, with out bringing jazz into it at all, "We know that the best jazzmen have their moments of aberation. But how a fully-fiedged jazz musician could fall back into this slough of bandlity is hard to imagine. And

by MIKE BUTCHER

with considerable skill and aptness, not forgetting the sound and temperament of the men in question.

His Capitol LP of original manuscripts (played by the Kenton orchestra) drew forth such conflicting comment as "Russo's compositions, though unequal, overflow with ideas" (Steve Race) and "Empty beneath their glossy exteriors" (your present writer). scripts (played by the Kenton orchestra) drew forth such conflicting comment as "Russo's compositions, though unequal, overflow with ideas" (Steve Race) and "Empty beneath their glossy exteriors" (your present writer).

Bill left the Kenton entourage last year, after visiting Europe with the band in 1953. A Chicago resident, he has his own quintet operating from that city—but in June he commenced a three-month visit to Europe.

He has written arrangements for British and Continental b and s, rehearsed other groups, taken on an imposing list of pupils.

Recording executives have not yet

Russo's compositions, though unequal, overflow with the kenton period that we have to assess the coassess will—and, as mentioned above, he longer regards this highly.

The present Russo quintet (Bill Trujillo, tenor; Eddie Baker, piano; drums) may well form the nucleus of this group, for Bill has freely expressed his enthusiasm for them.

But one thing is certain. However bill's music develops in the future, it will not be along the romantic lines of the French impressionists.

"Ravel?" he says, "If I don't write something better than his stuff to being a lawyer—like my dad."

realised Bill's potentialities, considerable force in the "progressive jazz" market, to any great extent. He made an LP for the Dee-Gee label in 1952, but would rather forget this.



78 R.P.M. 10-451 RONNIE SCOTT ORCHESTRA

Quicksilver/Time after time 10-452 KING PLEASURE and the DAVE LAMBERT SINGERS Sometimes I'm happy/This is always

10-453 ERIC SILK AND HIS SOUTHERN JAZZ BAND Blues my naughty sweetie gives to me/Some of these days

10-454 ZOOT SIMS QUINTET 10-455 GEOFF TAYLOR SEXTET

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SO far as Britain is concerned, this looks like being Thelonious

Monk's first year of fame.

He had almost no records issued here until a few months ago. Then Vogue brought out an EP of his early work (EPV.1048)—and now we are offered two further, newer Monk releases by Esquire.

They rank among his best efforts.

be the most unpianistic pianist in the world. Under his emphatic handling, the piano might be a new unexplored

the plano might be a new unexplored instrument—not a soft, gentle instrument, certainly, but one of mordant, dramatic and affecting power.

Yet one also finds a strangely poignant lyricism in many of his solos. and humour, too, though usually with a sinister undercurrent.

enough in my sleeve notes for Esquire 20—039, so detailed descrip-tions here are unnecessary.

"How Hi THE FI"—A BUCK
CLAYTON JAM SESSION (LP)
"How Hi The Fi" / "Blue Moon" / "Sentimental Journey" / "Moten Swing"
(Philips BBL.7040)

BUCK'S jam sessions continue to provide relaxed, informal, en-

# joyable jazz of no particular deno-mination. Stuff like this should appeal to modernists and tradi-tionalists alike, for it just keeps swinging, striving to reach no extreme extreme Particularly to my taste are the three trumpeters (Buck, Joe Thomas, Joe Newman), the trombonist on "Journey" and "Swing" (Urbie Green, Benny Powell), the pianists (Jimmy Jones, Sir Charles Thompson), tenorist Al Cohn (on "Hi" and "Moon") and a superlative ex-Basic rhythm section comprising Freddy Green (guitar), Walter Page (bass) and Jo Jones (drums). Len Davis (alto) Inlies (alto) Inlies Davis (alto) Inlies Davis (alto) Inlies (alt

usually with a sinister undercurrent.

\* \* \* \* \*

THELONIOUS MONK TRIO (EP)

"Little Rootic Tootic" / "Sweet And
Lovely" / "Bye-Ya" / "Monk's
Dream"
(Esquire EP.75)

THELONIOUS MONK QUINTET
(LP)

"Locomotive" / "Hackensack" / "We
See" / "Smoke Gets In Your Eyes"
(Esquire 20—039)

THE trio set proves how well
Thelonious can sustain interest when there are no horns around. Note the man's wonderful timing (exemplified by the coda of "Rootie") the occasional impression he gives of an unromantic Duke Ellington ("Dream"), the strongly descending chordal substitutions he uses on "Lovely."

Art Blakey has always been the perfect drummer for Monk. His phenomenal swing and beautifully timed fill-ins here could profitably be studied by every percussionist in the world! And Brooklyn policeman Gary Mapp complements Art with his entirely fitting bass part.
To hear jazz bass playing at its absolute best, however, listen to Percy Heath on the quintet LP. Blakey trumpeter Ray Copeland (a vigorous, promising newcomer) and tenorist Frank Foster complete this group, the latter setting down his best work on wax to date.

I described the routines thoroughly enough in my sleeve notes for Esquire 20—039, so detailed descriptions here are unnecessary.

"Affair" and "Baby" show Herbie to be an uninteresting tenorist, how-ever, despite his lovely sound and

ever, despite his lovely sound and executive ease.

The Sims set features Zoot in wontedly swinging mood, with Jerry Wiggins (a somewhat nebulous pianist) Pierre Michelot (impressive on bass) and Kenny Clarke (druming tightly, but effectively) behind him.

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Love song was born'

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and 'Wildfire' PB438

As sung by him in the original production

of 'Wildfire'

### THIS TONY HAS THE

Domani "What's The Time In Nicaragua" (HMV B.10911)
TUST like the master craftsman that

he is, Tony Martin takes everything in his stride and sails through these songs with the greatest of ease. Tony still has a fine voice and his voice control and phrasing are as

good as ever.

"Domani" is an exciting song and suits the style of the singer. The Henri Rene orchestra supply the backing, and one cannot fault it in

any way.
"What's The Time In Nicaragua"
is a fascinating song that one would
not normally expect Tony to sing,

hot normally expect Tony to sing, but I can assure you that he not only sings it well, but he has produced a record that could easily be a terrific hit.

But it would be unfair not to mention the unusual and beautiful backing and also the singing of the interludes. You must listen to this side and note how a great artist tackles a song of this type, and how he sounds so wonderfully relaxed. A real gem.

MANTOVANI AND HIS
ORCHESTRA
"Brass Buttons"
"Take My Love"
(Decca F.10601)

Popular Records reviewed by GEOFFREY EVERITT

gimmicks.

Thank you, Mantovani, for two sides of the highest possible standard.

\* THE CHEERS
"I Must Be Dreaming"
"Fancy Meeting You Here"
(Capitol CL.14337)

LIKE the rather lighthearted military approach to "Brass Buttons," but, please, don't imagine that this sounds like a rousing march with the drummer bashing the drums to pieces.

THE Cheers have a very modern approach to vocal group work, and although "Fancy Meeting You Here" is, in my opinion, an excellent with the drummer bashing the drums side, it is just that shade uncommercial. I think this will result in

No, this is a very wonderful Mantovani arrangement, in which he manages to feature the various sections of his orchestra very cleverly. When the muted brass is playing in the distance it still comes through crystal clear.

"Take My Love" is a romantic melody with a really beautiful theme and the recording engineers have done a grand job of work. But, once again, great praise to the maestro, Mantovani, for a fine arrangement.

Not many orchestra leaders feature the accordion, but Mantovani does, and he writes so well for it that it makes an outstanding contribution to the simplicity of the score. How wonderful to hear an arrangement full of melody with few tricks and gimmicks.

Thank you Mantovani for two

"THE MONSTER" could really have stayed at home so far as musical composition goes. I can never work up an interest in anything that lacks a basic melody, and I am afraid that I find this just a lot of noise

Although certain musicians can

Although certain musicians can claim to enjoy this sort of music, I, as a layman, cannot, and I must add that I do not understand it and, therefore, I will not attempt to review it.

"Cornball No. I" is more interesting and does at least have a theme running through it, and the various sections are heard to good advantage, with the rhythm boys providing a rocking beat and the brass full of bite and precision.

I fancy any of our top six dance orchestras could have equalled this performance, and I can't say it is a disc of great entertainment value.

NAT "KING" COLE
"10th Anniversary" Part 3
Sides I and 2
(Capitol EAP.3-514)
(Extended Play)
IT is good to sit down and listen to this record if only for the reason that we hear two Nat "King" Coles and four titles that have not

First let's listen to the King Cole
Trio playing as they did when they
first hit the jackpot way back in 1943
with "Straighten Up And Fly
Right." On this disc the trio offer
"The Love Nest" and "But All
I've Got Is Me."

The style, both vocally and musically, is far more uncommercial than Nat's present day offerings, but he plays some fine piano and the bass and guitar are beautifully relayed. relaxed.

Then you can compare this style with the Cole you hear singing "Lovelight" with the Nelson Riddle Orchestra and "Where Were You" accompanied by Pete Rugolo and his orchestra. Yes, these styles span the years, and Nat must be congratulated on having enough sense to move with the times and yet still remain a fine performer.

d fine performer.

Good as it may be, I don't think the King Cole Trio would have lifted Nat to his present position.

\* MICHAEL HOLLIDAY "Yellow Rose Of Texas" (Columbia D.B.3657)

MICHAEL HOLLIDAY has M somewhat unusual voice but, nevertheless, it is interesting and I think it will cause a good deal of comment both in Tip Pan Alley and with record buyers all over the country

Let's take the "Stein Song" first.

As a critic, it is my duty to endeavour to describe the voice of this new vocal star. Well, I at once started to compare Mr. Holliday with the great Danny Kaye, but only because at times he phrases and sounds very much like the fabulous American

American

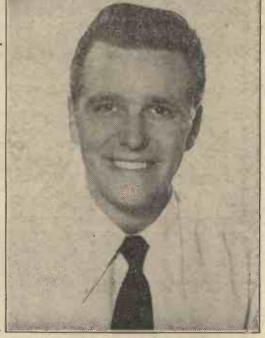
To make certain I was on the right track, I played this side to two of my colleagues, and they at once remarked "Sounds like Danny Kaye." Well, listen for yourself and then see what you think. But whatever you do you must listen, for I am convinced that we shall hear a lot more of this artist, especially if he sings as well as he does on "Yellow Rose Of Texas."

He is certainly a terrific discovery.

day next (September 5) he makes his debut in variety as a solo singing star at G l a s g o w Empire.

Dennis left the Jack Parnell Band to venture into music hall engagements,

Although in 1946 Dennis was a featured vocalist with Teddy Foster's orchestra, he left to form his own band at the Savoy Ballroom, Southsea, and the Aquarium Ballroom in his home town home town Brighton.



The backings are by Norrie Paramor and his orchestra, and are well up to his usual high standard.

FRED WARING AND HIS PENNSYLVANIANS

For Listening Only "
Sides 1 and 2
(Brunswick LAT.8068)
(Long Playing)

FRED WARING and his Pennsylvanians have set such a high standard with their past records that one looks forward to every issue bearing their name. This disc is yet another gem to add to your collections. Scores, and, great shown is, Fred Waring does comedy. I like the cle in "Cecilia," and then instrumental called "I followed by the Rhapsody," beautifully world Gearhart.

There are no fewer the another gem to add to your collections.

tion, for as usual there is something for everyone, from Irving Berlin's "Say It With Music" to the "Hungarian Rhapsody" by Liszt. The offerings are all tasteful and there are some wonderful vocal scores, and, great showman that he is, Fred Waring does not forget comedy. I like the clever routines in "Cecilia," and then a wonderful instrumental called "Red Wing" followed by the "Hungarian Rhapsody," beautifully played by Morley and Gearhart.

There are no fewer than 12 titles

There are no fewer than 12 titles and they make up a wonderfully

### RAY BURNS

Thanks everyone who has helped to place his new disc "THAT'S HOW A LOVE SONG WAS BORN" in the Best Selling Record Chart.

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## NOT AS

# Is 13 Mana David Writted (Deca) 12 14 16 SOFTLY, SOFTLY (Cavendish) 13 16 DON'T WORRY (L. Wright) 13 16 I WONDER Dickle Valentine (Deca) 13 16 DON'T WORRY (L. Wright) 15 17 MAMA Dickle Valentine (Deca) 15 17 MAMA Dickle Valentine (Deca) 16 18 16 STARS SHINE IN YOUR EYES DICKLE VAN BORN Rounde Hilton (HWV) 20 17 THAT'S HOW A LOVE SONG WAS BORN Ray Burns (Columbia) - 18 NOT AS A STRANGER Frank Shatra (Capitol) - 19 SING IT AGAIN WITH JOE Joe Henderson (Polygon) 14 20 UNCHAINED MELODY AI Hibbler (Brunswick) 21 24 EARL ANGEL (Chappells) (Chappells) 15 16 DON'T WORRY (L. Wright) (Macmelodies) (Chappells) 16 DON'T WORRY (L. Wright) (Macmelodies) (Chappells) 17 DON'T WORRY (Macmelodies) (Chappells) 18 16 STARS SHINE IN YOUR EYES SONG WAS BORN (Chappells) 18 16 STARS SHINE IN YOUR EYES SONG WAS BORN (Chappells) 19 THAT'S HOW A LOVE SONG (Chappells) 19 THAT'S HOW A LOVE SONG (Chappells) 19 THAT'S HOW A LOVE SONG (Chappells) 19 SING IT AGAIN WITH JOE JOE Henderson (Polygon) 14 20 UNCHAINED MELODY 21 24 EARL ANGEL (Chappells) (Chappells) 19 THAT'S HOW A LOVE SONG (Chappells) 19 THAT'S HOW A

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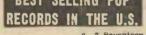
Week

1 1 ROSE MARIE
Silm Whitman (London)

2 2 LEARNIN' THE BLUES
Frank Sinatra (Capitol)
3 3 COOL WATER
Frankie Laine (Philips)
4 4 EV'RYWHERE
David Whitfield (Decca)
6 5 EVERY DAY OF MY LIFE
Maleolm Vaughan (HMV)
11 6 JOHN AND JULIE
Edde Caivert (Columbia)
8 7 THE BREEZE AND I
Caterim Valente (Polydor)
7 8 INDIAN LOVE OALL
Slim Whitman (London)
5 9 EVERMORE
Ruby Murray (Columbia)
8 9 WHERE WILL THE DIMPLE
BEAUTH OF THE BREEZE WILL THE DIMPLE
(Cinephonic)
9 10 STOWAWAY (Morris)

5 9 EVERMORE
Buby Murray (Columbia)
10 10 STRANGE LADY IN TOWN
Frankie Laine (Philips)
15 11 SOMETHING'S GOTTA GIVE
Sammy Davis, Jur. (Brunswick)
9 12 DREAMBOAT
Alma Cogan (HMV)
15 13 MAMA David Whitfield (Deca)
12 14 UNCHAINED MELODY
Jimmy Young (Deca)
13 16 DON'T WORBY
(Chepholic)
(Morris)
9 10 STOWAWAY
(Morris)
18 12 STARS SHINE IN YOUR EYES
(Peter Maurice) 2s.
(11 13 YOU, MY LOVE
(Dash)
(14 15 SOFTLY, SOFTLY
(Cavendish)
(L. Wright)

BEST SELLING POP RECORDS IN THE U.S.



Last This

6 7 Seventeen
5 8 A Blossom Fell Nat 'King' Cole
10 9 House Of Blue Lights
Chuck Miller
C. Berry

Last This
Week

1 I Rock Around The Clock
Bill Haley
2 2 Ain't That A Shame Pat Boone
3 3 Yellow Rose Of Texas
Mitch Miller
4 4 Learnin' The Blues
Frank Sinatra
7 5 Hard To Get Giselle Mackenzie
11 'Yellow Rose Of Texas
Johnny Desmond

| Som the Light Chuck Miller C. Berry
| Som the Author And the Redheads
| Som the Author And Tell The People Les Baxter
| People Les Baxter Fontaine Sisters
| Seventeen Fontaine Sisters | Mills | Chuck Miller
| Chuck Miller C. Berry
| Som the Author The Town And Tell The People Les Baxter
| Seventeen Fontaine Sisters | Chuck Miller C. Berry
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### BEST SELLING SHEET MUSIC (U.S.)

Last This

Week

1 Yellow Rose of Texas

2 Rock Around The Clock

3 I'll Never Stop Loving You

4 Unchained Melody

5 Hard To Get

6 Bible Tells Me So

7 Seventeen

9 8 Hummingbird 11 9 It's A Sin To Tell A Lie 15 10 Wake The Town And Tell The 6 11 Cherry Pink

- 12 Ain't That A Shame
13 13 A Biossom Fell
7 14 Man In The Rainceat
14 14 Learnin' The Blues

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PERCY C. DICKINS



Trombonist Ken Wray and his bride—the former Miss Peggy Robinson, a London model—get a lift from Hampstead Registry Office after their marriage on Wednesday afternoon. The man at the wheel gets into everything. It's Ken's bandleader.

Guess who?

COMMERCIAL TV

finalising of the agreement between the Musicians' Union and commercial TV interests, some of the variety programmes using musicians and singers,

scheduled to be tele-filmed this week, were postponed.
Rumours suggesting that singing star David Hughes would be featured in a Hylton programme could not be confirmed with the Hylton office; the singer, when questioned, countered with a firm "No comment."

Cyril Ornadel—one of the youngest musical directors in the West End—will act as a musical adviser for many of ABC's week-end presentations.

Among the programmes he will be concerned with is "Saturday Showtime," a big variety programme to be transmitted from the former Wood Green Empire. MD for this show will be Dennis Ringrowe.

Steve Race will be MD for Chris Mercer's "Penny For a Song" programme which AR-TV will alternate with Tig Roe's "Down Beat" production on Tuesdays. Shirley Abicair and Dennis Quilley will be featured singers.

A group led by drummer Tommy Maxwell will be featured in "ABC Music Shop" on Saturday afternoons.

Teddy Johnson and Pearl Carr, pianist Ian Stewart and organist Cherry Wainer have filmed quarter-hour programmes for ABC.

contractor for Birmingham and Lancashire week-end operations. Among the reported applicants are Regent Films (of which the noted jazz authority Lord Donegal is a director), Associated British Cinemas, and an unnamed syndicate.

Many well-known names are rumoured to be associated in the latter body. Among them—Jack Payne, Henry Hall, Tom Arnold and Claud Langdon.

### News Round-up . . .

CAPITOL bandleader Ray Anthony married screen actress Mamie Van Doren in Ohio this week . . . . Jack Parnell trumpeter Terry Lewis rescued a four-year-old boy from drowning at Blackpool last week . . . Maria Pavlou is recovering from an abdominal operation in the London Clinic . . . Cy Laurie Band appears at the Savoy Ballroom, Southsea, this Monday . . . Humphrey Lyttelton and Sandy Brown Band will appear at "Pete Kelly's Blues" MSBC charity premiere on September 24 at the Warner Theatre . . Lita Roza, Ray Ellington Quartet, and Les Howard broadcast in "Blackpool Night" next Wednesday . . . Trombonist Harry Buckles has left the Johnny Gray Band to join Malcolm Mitchell . . . Australian singer Margaret Kerr is in cabaret at the Albany Club.

### WHITFIELD REFUSES BBC SERIES: ANOTHER U.S.

the likely date that David will depart for the States, where he expects to remain for six or seven

recorded, to ensure continuity on the air each week during his absence.

Singer Kirk Stevens was married

They are spending part

at Tottenham, London, on Mon-

years ago. They are spending par of their honeymoon in Scotland.

THIRD TV SHOW

Record," the NME understands that he is booked to appear on two Ed. Sullivan TV shows from New York next month, as part of a six weeks' visit to America! October 24 has been stated as

### STAPLETON WAXES LP FOR MGM

Speaking to Jack Marshall of the NME from Blackpool on Wednesday night, David said: "I have been told that Hollywood screen tests SHOW BAND leader, Cyril have been arranged for me during my visit to America." have been arranged for me during my visit to America."

It has been previously reported that several film companies—including MGM—were interested in David, following his TV appearances earlier this year on "Toast of the Town."

His Blackpool season terminates early next month. Prior to his departure for the U.S. several programmes for his new Radio Luxembourg series will have to be precorded, to ensure continuity on the Stapleton, until now an ex-clusive Decca artist, has recently waxed an independent LP for the American market (on the MGM label) with full permission of the

label) with full permission of the Decca concern.

The origin of the MGM plan came from a brainwave of Cyril's which has developed into a romantic success story. He paid for the session himself, and sent the resultant tape to the States. The result? MGM was pleased to bid for the tapes and "Paris After Dark," a twelve-track, twelve-inch LP of familiar French melodies, played by Cyril Stapleton and his Orchestra is now on sale throughout the U.S. under the MGM banner.

THIRD TV SHOW

David had been scheduled to broadcast for five nights in the BBC "The Song's the Thing" series in October, but John Hooper, producer of the shows said that in view of the American commitments, an alternative artist had been secured.

This will be David's third visit to the U.S. within a year—but on the last occasion, in April, he appeared twice on the Ed. Sullivan show.

Full details of his American plans were not available owing to the unavailability of his agent, Leslie Grade, who is on holiday, but full details of his exciting activities will be reported in the NME. SAXIST Harry Bence is back in Harry Leader's Orchestra. actory arrangements have Satisfactory now been made regarding the payment of the £100 "fine," he is paying in order to be readmitted to the MU.

day to Miss Ann Turner, who was with him in the same show three Harry Leader's suggestion—that this sum should be deducted in weekly instalments from Bence's salary—has been accepted by the Union.

### PARNELL BAND

TACK PARNELL and his

JACK PARNELL and his Orchestra have been announced as an added attraction for this year's Jazz Jamboree, at the Gaumont State, Kilburn, on Sunday, October 23.

This news marks a particularly worthy gesture on the part of Jack and his boys. To appear at the Jamboree, they will have to make an overnight journey to town from Burnley, then travel up to Scotland on the Sunday evening after the show.

TENORIST Bob Adams leaves the Geraldo Orchestra on September 9, after an eight-year stay. After completing the band's current Monte Carlo season, he will not move on to Blackpool with

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**JEUCES** 

JIMMY YOUNG AND

VOCAL stars Eve Boswell and Jimmy Young have both been

engaged to appear in important pantomime productions in the Midlands this Chrismas.

varied talents.

### PETER MADREN **LEAVES 208**

Peter, who has been with "208" for nearly five years, is to work as a TV producer for the J. Walter Thompson Agency, where he joins another former Luxembourg announcer, Dick Norton. His last programme for Radio Luxembourg is "Music at Bedtime" on September 30.

As exclusively announced last month in the NME, Pete Murray is leaving "208" early this month for a London commercial TV appointment.

appointment.



Stanley Black (right) resident musical director of the BBC's "Off the series, is pictured at Tuesday's gala session with Jack Payne (left) and producer Frances Essex.

### A dance orchestras, Stanley Black is disbanding his dance band—at the end of this week! He made this sudden and startling decision activities. Stanley's

A NOTHER Luxembourg disc-jockey—Peter / Madren—is leaving the station at the end of this month. Peter, who has been with "208"

owing to the enormous increase of his film, recording, radio and TV

activities.

Stanley's many commitments force him to discontinue touring, in order to devote his time to London.

Although he will retain certain members of his orchestra for studio dates, Stanley's surprise announcement will cause the departure of featured vocal artists.

—Alma Warren, Martin Moreno and Wally Carr.

The instrumentalists chosen by Stanley Black to work under his new plan comprise the neucleus of his large augmented orchestra to be featured on TV's fortnightly "Off The Record" programme and the monthly "Hit Parade" series,

one-night stand dates after this week-end.

He told the NME: "I am most grateful to the many agents, dance hall managements and promoters who have co-operated by permitting me to cancel dates."

As the Musical Director of TV Advertising, Ltd., Stanley has many responsibilities for this company, but cannot yet divulge important plans

cannot yet divulge important plans concerning negotiations for Com-mercial TV and film ventures in the

### FAREWELL DATES

Stanley Black directed the resident BBC Dance Orchestra from 1946 until 1952. He resigned to form his own 19-piece group for a nation-

own 19-piece group for a nation-wide tour.

Now, after little more than 2½ years on the road, the disbandment takes effect with farewell dates to-night (Friday) at Southampton; to-morrow, Royal Star Hotel, Maid-stone, and a concert on Sunday at White Rock Pavilion, Hastings.

After this week-end, only outside

After this week-end, only outside dates will be played at venues where Stanley Black has been unable to obtain release from contracts.

A brilliant composer, arranger, musical director and pianist, Stanley played an important part in pianeer.

played an important part in pioneering the popularity of Latin-American music in this country. His orchestra has undertaken several Radio Luxembourg and BBC series (including "Top Score").

### Great Heath—Dankworth Kirchin - Klein - Russo Concert this Sunday

public to pay tribute to the great Ted Heath Orchestra at the special Tenth Anniversary Concert, at the Royal Albert Hall this Sunday (September 4, at 2 p.m.).

A maximum attendance is assured.

A maximum attendance is assured.

Only a limited number of seats remain at 7s. 6d., 6s., and 3s. 6d., and can only be obtained by personal application from the NME offices (Covent Garden 2266) at 5 Denmark Street, Charing Cross Road, London, W.C.2, until 7 p.m. tonight (Friday) or 1 p.m. tomorrow (Saturday).

Alternatively, the only other

Alternatively, the only other source of supply is the Royal Albert Hall box-office, either prior to the

Eve will star in "Mother Goose"

at the Coventry Theatre, opening

ten weeks' season. The script of the production has been specially

adapted to make full use of Eve's

Last Christmas the Parlophone

Last Christmas the Parlophone recording star made a very successful debut in "Humpty Dumpty," also in the Midlands—at Dudley Hippodrome.

Jimmy Young will appear as guest star in Derek Salberg's "Robinson Crusoe" at the Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton, where David Whitfield and Teddy Johnson appeared last year. He was booked through Lew and Leslie Grade, in association with his own agent, Leslie Macdonnell.

Jimmy opens on Christmas Eve; the pantomime is scheduled to run for eight weeks.

Singer Wally Peterson has been signed to present his own series
"Candleglow" on Radio Luxembourg
commencing Sunday (11th).

This is Eve's second pantomime.

concert, or at the doors before the commencement of the event.

Special arrangements have been made for a supply of tickets to be available to the public on Sunday at the Albert Hall, but you are requested to arrive there early to be certain of securing a seat.

Several hundred Gallery tickets will be available at 2s. 6d. each.

As reported on these news pages, Ivor Kirchin will be out of action for two months owing to an eye operation, but his son Basil—and the Kirchins' Orchestra—will be appearing at this great concert—in addition to the Johnny Dankworth Orchestra, the Harry Klein Group and American bandleader, Bill Russo.

Tickets for the Pownie Scott—

Tickets for the Ronnie Scott—
Tommy Whittle Bands debut on
October 16 will be available at the
Albert Hall box-office this Sunday, either during the interval, or at the conclusion of the concert.

### D-J SERIES BACK

POPULAR radio and TV personality, Eamonn Andrews, returns to the air with his "Pied Piper" record programme on

October 8.

It will be heard in the Light Programme in a new late-night spot—
11 to 12 p.m.

### New 'Hall'-star tor Armstrong

CLARINETTIST Edmond Hall Bigard's place in the Louis Armstrong All Stars (cables Nat Hentoff). Edmond's starting date with Louis has not yet been announced. He definitely joins for the group's tour of Europe.

### RED PRICEpossibly George Hunter— JOINING PARNELL

TENOR-SAX star Red Price is leaving Ronnie Aldrich and

leaving Ronnie Aldrich and the Squadronaires at the middle of the month. He is joining the Jack Parnell Orchestra.
Red has been with Ronnie for three years. No replacement will be made until the band returns to London after the conclusion of its season at the Palace Ballroom, Douglas, Isle of Man.
Former Ted Heath saxist George Hunter may also be joining the Parnell band. He is at present with Malcolm Mitchell.

### Johnny Brandon visiting USA

RECORDING-STAR-SONGWRITER Johnny Brandon is to visit America on October 29. He expects to be away until at least January or February. Before leaving, he has a string of radio and concert dates, in addition to another TV appearance next Monday, September 5.

### ON THE ROAD AGAIN IN OCTOBER AFTER ANOTHER TERRIFIC SEASON AT BUTLIN'S SKEGNESS

STAR BAN

INCORPORATING THE JAZZ GROUP ON PARLOPHONE RECORDS

"PLAYING THE DANCIEST MUSIC" PLUS! ENTERTAINMENT

Also featuring — MY TALKING DRUM

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# DAVIDAVILLE Golden Record' Supplement

WE present a special four-page supplement devoted entirely to a singer - a tribute to David Whitfield, on his magnificent accomplishment in attaining the coveted "Golden Record," having sold more than one milition copies of his "Cara Mia" recording.

It is fitting that the presentation of this momento of achievement will be performed before David's own fans tomorrow afternoon (Saturday) at the Empress Ballroom, Blackpool, on the occasion of a Convention for the forty David Whitfield clubs. From every part of Britain, Whitfield fans will converge on Blackpool by land, sea and air as an expression of loyalty and to pay tribute to their singing idol.

"Golden Records" are rare to British artists. Vera Lynn and Eddie Calvert proudly possess them. David Whitfield's name can now be added to the Scroll of Honour. It is a just reward that Mantovani's will be the next. This brilliant musician must be accorded a great deal of praise for his outstanding contribution towards making David Whitfield's accomplishment possible. He not only composed the music for "Cara Mia"; with his magnificent orchestra he also accompanied David for the recording and shares with him the handsome royalties from the Decca company.

For a British disc to hit the million mark, it must be a top-seller in the U.S. When "Cara Mia" was released in that country, Mantovani had already established himself as a household name there. This must have influenced the sales tremendously.



Decca deserve the rewards they have reaped; unquestionably they displayed foresight. It was a stroke of genius in launching David Whitfield on the American market by pairing him with an orchestra already held in the highest esteem by the record-buying public there.

Turning the pages of the NME files unfolds a romantic flow of Whitfield successes. Rex Morton recaptures them on the next page. Proudly we make reference to a special article which appeared on July 10, 1953. Under the heading "SINGING STAR IS BORN OVERNIGHT-The Romantic Story of David Whitfield," our writer forecast that here was a British boy going to be every bit as good as his American counterparts. Can the NME modestly claim to be the first British publication to have made such a startlingly true prophecy concerning Whitfield?

In recent months, David has been the target of a vicious circle striving to undermine his ability. When their pernicious tongues whispered that he was a back number, David sealed their lips with a tenacity typical of him. His answer?—Two hitselling discs at the same time; fantastic box-office returns and wild enthusiasm from Blackpool audiences; lucrative contracts to star in the most costly music series on Radio Luxembourg, culminating with the announcement of his "Golden Record" achievement.

The Whitfield success star shines as a guiding light. We salute a humble son of Hull. Thanks a million for the million.

# Congratulations to DAVID WHITFIELD

EXCLUSIVE DECCA RECORDING ARTIST

CARA MIA



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NOW WATCH HIS "EVERYWHERE" FI0515

GO TO THE TOP

# · THE WHITFIELD STORY ·

# From A Cement Mixer—To Royal Command Performer In Two Years

IT'S ONE OF THOSE STORIES THAT YOU'D THINK WERE IMPOSSIBLE—BUT CINDERELLA DOES GET TO THE BALL SOMETIMES. ESPECIALLY IN SHOW BUSINESS, WHERE ANYTHING CAN HAPPEN, AND FREQUENTLY DOES!

Consider these facts. Little more than three years ago, David Whitfield earned his weekly wage by shovelling stone

in a quarry near Hull.

His present day earnings from stage engagements, recording royalties, broadcasts and royalties, broadcasts and American music publishing interests puts him squarely in the super-tax bracket. Probably he is the highest and the super-tax bracket. ably he is the highest paid

British singing star.

In person, David is currently enjoying his second consecutive summer season at Blackpool, where the "house full" boards are displayed every right, prishout are displayed every night, without fail. And if you want to know what the word "ovation" means, listen to the tumultuous cheers at the end of his act!

listen to the tumultuous cheers at the end of his act!

U.S. TV SUCCESSES

Nor is Whitfield's fame restricted to Britain. He has flown to America twice, scoring triumphantly on Ed Sullivan's coast-to-coast "Toast of the Town" TV show on both occasions. Sullivan has extended an open invitation for David to make further appearances whenever his commitments will allow.

"Marta."

Marta."

It brought recognition twenty-four years ago to an unknown named Arthur Tracey, "The Street Singer."

The great Gigli waxed it later—and, at his momentous first session, so did David Whitfield.

Reaching the market without any kind of publicity build-up, the side made an unforeseen impression. The result? Decca called their new boy back to the studio—this time to cut a coverage version of Frankie Laine's hit, "I Believe."

for David to make further appearances whenever his commitments will allow.

A Royal Command Performance at the London Palladium . . tours of the country's number one variety theatres . . . two summer seasons at Blackpool . . film offers . . . countless broadcasts . . . guest star appearances at Bolton and Wolverhampton pantomimes . . these are a few of the further distinctions to come David's way since the spring of 1953.

But let's take first things first, and

But let's take first things first, and see how this literally fabulous young

roday, he ranks among the top two or three singing stars in Britain. Many people consider him the most brilliant of them all.

The Whitfield story is truly a tale of "from rags to riches."

His present day earnings from to the took time out from his quarrying job, came to London, and through the good services of Hughie ("Opportunity Knocks") Green, obtained a cabaret booking at the West End's Washington Hotel.

### RECORD TEST

This turned out amazingly well; almost before he knew it, David had his first commercial disc date lined up. The next part of his story can be called a case of history repeating itself.

Few NME readers can think back to 1931, but those with sufficient years behind them and long enough memories will recall a song called "Marta."

### 'I BELIEVE'

This second Whitfield platter caught on like wildfire with the nation's disc jockeys. Jack Jackson spun it three times in a row on his Saturday evening BBC programme.

The public liked it too, and the sales soared. Considering that everyone in the trade thought "I Believe" would virtually be Frankie Laine's personal property, David could hardly believe his luck!



Whenever David makes a personal appearance at a record shop, it is generally necessary for police control of the crowds. A recent visit by him to the Olympia Starpic Studios in Blackpool was no exception.

artists can claim after a lifetime's solid work.

David Whitfield was born in Hull on February 2, 1926. He started the singing as a choirboy at the local St.

Peter's Church. At seventeen-and-alahalf he joined the Royal Navy, staying for seven years.

He served as a gunner aboard the "Ramilles"—and he certainly saw the world! Whenever time and duties allowed he would sing—entertaining his colleagues from Portsmouth to Hong Kong.

When he was demobbed in 1950, however, nobody wanted to know about David Whitfield, vocalist.

only Whitfield, the quarry-stone in the worked in Hull for

only Whitfield, the quarry-stone shoveller. So he worked in Hull for the next two years.

his spare time, David practised
Workmen's clubs and con-

man grew up, cast off the slough coupling to keep things moving, of obscurity, and accomplished more "Bridge Of Sighs" and "I'm The in a matter of months than most King of Broken Hearts," David artists can claim after a lifetime's stayed comparatively quiet for a few weeks—but next came his astounding hat trick. Three hits, one on top of the other!

One of the biggest songs to come out of Germany since the war, "Mütterlein," had an American lyric attached to it. Whitfield strode into the Decca studio, threw off his raincoat and grey jacket, unknotted his silver silk tie, and sang:

"Answer me, Lord above "I believed every word of that song," he said. "I could have sung it in church." His sincerity was recognised. Inside a fortnight, the sales of "Answer Me" zoomed to almost fifty thousand—without aid of a single BBC broadcast!

The Corporation objected to the lyric's religious implications, so to



In the latter part of 1952, David was a cement mixer in his native Hull. Did he ever imagine that throughout the world he would be so widely acclaimed?

gain the necessary air time for a had sent it. "Ed Sullivan wants potential No. 1 hit, David recorded you for 'Toast of the Town'", it the same number again, this time read! as a conventional love lament:

"Answer me, oh, my love . ."

Before leaving for the States, David had the dream of every man and

### HIT PARADE

Up it rushed to the head of the Hit Parade—more than two hundred thousand pressings sold in the face, again, of competition from Frankie

Laine.

"Rags To Riches" did equally well, followed by "The Book," another religious opus. We repeat, three hits, one on top of the other, all within the Christmas and early New Year period of 1953/4.

New Year period of 1953/4.

David had started touring the halls meanwhile. To packed houses, he sang the songs that were making him famous. Shyly, he told his audiences that only a little while ago he was a working lad in Hull.

They loved it, for he spoke as one of themselves. Still more, they loved the voice. He returned to Hull, a hero, topping the bill at both local theatres in two visits; the rush for tickets created chaos at the box-office. box-office.

box-office.

In the summer of 1953, he was whisked off to the glamour of the International Song Festival at Knokke-le-Zoute, Belgium. He strode on-stage, plunged into "I Believe," and flew home with the International Prize for the best interpretation of any song at the festival. Additionally, he sang the prize-winning new song there, "Mardi Gras," which came out as Decca's coupling to "Rags To Riches." Thus he had two important sides on a single disc.

Gras," which came out as Decca's coupling to "Rags To Riches." Thus he had two important sides on a single disc.

ENTER MANTOVANI

Came 1954 . . and with it the already cited, enormously potent "Book." Could Whitfield continue to climb at the pace he had been going? Everyone asked that question. They quickly knew the answer!

Bunny Lewis, still a Decca executive, hit upon the notion of teaming David's voice with the inimitable strings of Mantovani. Bunny wrote the words of a sentimental waltz, and Mantovani the music, both using pseudonyms.

Out came the result "Gras and it he legend 'Welcome to America.'

"The next three days found David being honoured at a press reception held by London Records (the American distributors of his discs) and taking part in no less than twenty-five disc jockey shows, timed between 7 a.m. and midnight.

"Sunday was the day of his "Toast of the Town appearance. Whitfield made an impressive visual, as well as vocal, success on the Sullivan show, co-starred with the Crew Cuts and Sophie Tucker.

"Featured in two production numbers, 'Cara Mia' and 'Santo Natale,' in the first David sang against a set reminiscent of Roman ruins with ballet dancers swirling in wind-blown, veil-like costumes."

"For 'Santo Natale' Whitfield

Out came the result

read!

Before leaving for the States, David had the dream of every man and woman in show business come true for him. He was chosen to appear before H.M. the Queen and other members of the Royal Family at the 1954 Royal Command Performance.

The date, November 1. At the London Palladium. With Jack Parnell and his Orchestra accompanying, David sang "Dance, Gypsy, Dance" and the by-now inevitable "Cara Mia."

A report from NME New York correspondent Nat Hentoff makes it clear how rapturously Whitfield was received in America, one month

received in American audiences in May

Valentine to American addiences in May.

"Arriving in New York, Whitfield was met by music publishing notabilities—and by Belle Nardone, a publisher's secretary who recently decided that she could write popular songs, so settled down to compose the hit 'Santo Natale.'

### FAN CLUB WELCOME

"Six of David's U.S. fan club presidents were also there to greet him with an enormous iced cake bearing the legend 'Welcome to America."

Natale, in the first David sang against a set reminiscent of Roman ruins with ballet dancers swirling in wind-blown, veil-like costumes.

"For 'Santo Natale' Whitfield sang against a winter scene with falling snow and Christmas trees.

"The 'Toast of the Town' orchestra, normally directed by Ray Bloch, was conducted by Reg Warburton for Whitfield's appearances... and David's success was so great that the CBS lines were completely jammed by viewers telephoning their congratulations."

Of course, "Santo Natale" was the record for David last Christmas. It sold more than half a million copies.

SWITCHBOARD AT CBS DELUGED WITH TWICE AS MANY
CALLS AS ON HIS FIRST APPEARANCE. SULLIVAN
THRILLED."

Film companies expressed considerable interest in the British singer.
Sophic Tucker called his "the finest voice I have ever heard on the air."

ANOTHER LANZA

American disc jockeys hailed Whitfield a successor to Mario Lanza.
Fabulous offers poured in from every entertainment sphere in the U.S.
Had British commitments not forced his immediate return to this country, David could have visited Hollywood for a screen test, which had been suggested by MGM.

His fantastic success in America

a journalist. Who can say how far he will eventually go? Certainly on the man himself, because David remains dazed by his achievements. He can still hardly believe his good fortune.

In the NME dated September 3, 1954, he wrote: "When it happens—and chosen the wrong person.

"Then when you see that, mistake or no mistake, your dream is no longer a dream, but reality—well, you no longer think you're so good after all. You just feel very humble of a sudden, and very grateful, and determined to give of your best.

American disc jockeys hailed Whitfield a successor to Mario Lanza. Fabulous offers poured in from every entertainment sphere in the U.S. Had British commitments not forced his immediate return to this country, David could have visited Hollywood for a screen test, which had been suggested by MGM.

His fantastic success in America made him an even bigger attraction back in Britain. But at the beginning of this year David's business arrangements underwent changes.

Lew and Leslie Grade took over complete control of his management and booking from Frederic Mullally; some months later, David for the first time recorded for Decca without the supervision of Bunny Lewis. This summer, Lewis's resignation from the Decca organisation was the bombshell of the year in the entertainment profession.

Back in Blackpool this summer—booked as the star of "Sing A Happy Song"—David arrived with another disc hit tucked safely in his belt "Beyond The Stars," another Mantovani-Bunny Lewis collaboration, was a big seller (though did not



Less than two years after David had taken up professional singing, he appeared before the Royal Family at the London Palladium Royal Command Performance last November. In this picture, H.M. The Queen pauses to have a few words with him after the event.

Out came the result . "Cara Mia" It dominated last summer's music trade from the start. Round the world it went, reaching America's Top Ten and repeating its success in many European countries.

Need we stress, yet again, that more than a million copies have flow been sold, and that David will be presented with a "Golden Record" at Blackpool this weekend to his tirt umph?

If anything was still needed to clinch Whitfield's fame, "Cara Mia" and this year, nof one single cloud has passed across the blue skies that Thrilling events sparked his life throughout the latter half of 1954.

His first Blackpool season, a wonderful holiday in Madeira. Not a long holiday, however! Just in from the South-Atlantic sun, David saw a cable waiting for him.

As and David's success was so great that the CBS lines were compute the latter half of 1954.

The thing is now and Christmas troop the Town of the Town of the Town of the Town of the Town on the South-Atlantic sun, David saw a cable waiting for him.

As and David's success was so so whitfield sappearances that the CBS lines were computed by Reg Warts or chestra, normally directed by Reg Warts or the town of the Cara Mia").

That would have been enough to see Whitfield more than after the event.

Queen passes to have a few words with him after the event.

Queen passes to have a few words with him after the event.

That would have been enough to see Whitfield more than as afely scared with the season . . but he cored yet another bull's-eye.

Remembering how well "Marta" was till once than safely season . . whitfield more than asselve world with the well have been enough to see Whitfield more than asselve world have been enough to see world with the well have been enough to see well white the Season . . but he cored yet another bull's-eye.

Remembering how well "Warta" another tile once associated. With did more than a fall more than laft a million on other throughout he latter of the t

The Words Must Be Sincere-or David Will Not Sing Them

REG WARBURTON-THE MAN WHO KNOWS WHITFIELD BEST—writes this article

I HAVE always been thankful that I was given a second chance to

HAVE always been thankful that I was given a second chance to have the privilege of working with David Whitfield. I say second for a very good reason: I turned down the first opportunity six weeks before I joined him at Newcastle Empire in August, 1953.

It could have been a Lancashire man's stubbornness in refusing to believe that Yorkshire could produce anything approaching the height of acclaim the critics of the day were showering on the singer from Hull. Or, which is more than probable, my 20-odd years in show business had taught me to form my own opinions on performers. But the fact remains, I turned down David. However, I consented to do a week with him at Newcastle—and during that week I realised that here was a singer destined to unravel the tangled undergrowth of show business and emerge to the rarefied atmosphere of stardom.

I cancelled all commitments and stayed with David.

I have no need to recap on events which have marked his rapid climb to the top—events which culminate this week-end in regard to the record side of entertainment when he record side of entertainment when he receives his "Golden Record" to mark his million sales of "Cara Mia."

Let it suffice to say that I am glad to have been of help these past two

Let it suffice to say that I am glad to have been of help these past two years and pray that our association will continue for many more years

to come.
But what of the man himself!

### STILL A BOY

David still retains much of the boy in his make-up. But if you look below the surface, underneath that slight touch of "Navy Blue" swagger—a legacy from his scagoing days—you will find a sensitive person who has learned to keep his temper in check. I find that if one approaches David in a reasonable manner he is receptive to suggestions and more than willing to meet one half way. But he dislikes dictatorial methods—whether directed at himself or other persons. other persons.

Occasional touches of irresponsibility can be observed and I look upon it as part of my work to check him if I think the boy, in his nature, is liable to cause injury to the star, who has a duty to the public.

For instance, if, when touring variety theatres, there is a trampoline act sharing the bill, David will avail himself of the first opportunity to climb on to the trampoline. Jumping

The presentation of the "Golden Record," on hehalf of Decca Records, to David Whitfield at the Convention of hls fan clubs at the Empress Ballroom, Blackpool, on Saturday afternoon, will be made by another Decca singing star



Joan Regan—and not Jack Payne as stated in last week's issue of the NME.

Joan, of course, is starring in the "Pick Of The Pack" summer show at the Queen's Theatre, Blacknool.



Here is David with his charming wite, Sheila. Incidentally, this is the first picture of Mr. and Mrs. Whitfield to be published in the NME, and we do so in response to many readers' requests.



**REG WARBURTON** 

VIP who expects to be known by name, even though David may have enjoyed only a fleeting contact with the individual.

the individual.

I recall one incident which concerns Mark Ledder — a very important person in the Ed Sullivan organisation. David was seated in a restaurant when Mark came along and stopped to chat. As you know, David has appeared on the Ed Sullivan programme on three occasions and David, unfortunately, could not bring the name to mind. It can imagine David's feelings while frantically endeavouring to bring the right name and the person together. He was embarrassed. Possibly Mark thought he was acting a little strange, but I know David will be forgiven for this little failing; this is one problem which David has yet to overcome

I think that this trait in David's make-up may be responsible, too, for an entoneous impression of his

I think that this trait in David's make-up may be responsible, too, for an erroneous impression of his character which has been gained by casual acquaintances. He may often appear a little "off hand" in conversation; but the reason is usually that he is trying to recall a name, which he may have heard only once—and at the same time endeavouring to keep up the flow of small talk!

### WITHOUT A DIARY

But I can assure you on one point; he may forget names, but he is particularly careful in memorising times and places. How he manages this I don't know because he does not keep a diary.

I did prevail over his objection to cluttering his pockets with notebooks and pencils when last week I persuaded him to buy a current diary.

You know that my job in life is not simply acting as companion to David Whitfield and carrying out small tasks, such as being on hand to work a fan's camera when he or she desires to be photographed with David, so perhaps you would like to know something about our working no doubt, his liking for the maestro day.

songs which have been selected for recording or inclusion in his stage act. We work out the treatment to be given to a particular song and rehearse until we are satisfied that the number is ready for your — the public's - approval.

### LYRIC IMPORTANT

Then we go through songs which have been submitted by writers and publishers. Here the lyric is a very important consideration. Should David feel that he is unable to be David feel that he is unable to be sincere in his treatment of the words the song is quickly discarded. But if we agree that words and music reach the standard, the song is placed among the possibles to be considered for the next recording session Final fate of a song, as far as we are concerned, is decided when a committee of three—Decca's Hugh Mendl, David and myself—meet to select the next Whitfield titles.

Following our morning's work, we move off to the nearest local for a short discussion on the afternoon

If we are in a resident engagement—as we are currently at Blackpool—we lunch with our respective families and make ready for our afternoon commitments which vary from personal appearances at record stores, opening garden parties, visiting local hospitals and the not too uncongenial task—though often a difficult one—of judging beauty competitions.

If we have a spare afternoon David likes to take out the car and drive around the countryside or, perhaps go for a swim. I usually find plenty to do in orchestrating music for future programmes.

Six p.m. finds us back at the theatre ready for the show and probably entertaining the pressmen who often drop in to see us.

### ANSWERS MAIL

Half an hour before David is due on the stage we retire to our respective dressing-rooms. David changes clothes and makes up for the performance and answers personal mail. This occupation is useful in keeping him relaxed. In between shows a great deal of time is taken by signing autographs and discussing points to watch in the next performance.

points to watch in the next performance.

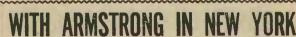
No one is perfect. Occasionally a slight mistake creeps into the act. but I don't think that the audience are aware of it. Working as a team for over two years has brought an almost perfect understanding between David and myself, with the result that some kind of telepathy appears to flash between us when something is about to go wrong. And I realise what is coming a split second before the event and usually have time to cover any mistake. cover any mistake.

Well, on to the second performance which is followed by a gathering of the fans. . . And speaking about fans, hope we will see you at the Convention tomorrow!

### COMPOSER MANTOVANI



We usually commence our day together at 10.30 a.m.; this is a very important part of our programme. A part which David refuses to put off no matter what comes along. For our day begins with David exercising his voice. Exercises over, we rehearse new songs which have been selected for





Appearing with the fabulous jazz star Louis Armstrong during his Ed. now in New York year, David was fortunate in securing some expert advice on trompet-playing from the maestro himself.



### A Personal Message Of Thomas FACTS ABOUT DAVID

### Complete list of David Whitfield's Decca recordings

78 r.p.m.

\* Santo Natale; Adeste Fideles. F.10399.

Marta. F.10062. You; Open Your Heart; Beyond The Stars. F.10458.

I Believe; I'll Make You Mine. F.10099.

The Bridge Of Sighs; I'm The King Of Broken Hearts. F.10129.

Dance, Ma; Dance, Gypey, Dance, F.10192.

Rags To Riches; Mardi Gras.

\* The Book; Heartless. F.10242.

Lough; It's Never Too Late To Pray. F.10279.

Cara Mia; Love, Tears And Kisses. F.10327.

Smile; How, When Or Where. F.10355.

• Mama; Ev'rywhere. F.10515.

• The Lady; Santa Rosa Lea Rose. F.10562.

\*Pil Never Stop Loving You; Lady Of Madrid. F.10596.

E.P. 45 r.p.m.

CARA MIA: Cara Mia; Smile; Rags To Riches; Heartless. DFE 6225.

L.P. 33 tr.p.m.
YOURS FROM THE HEART:
Answer Me; Heartless; The
Bridge Of Sighs; Mardi Gras;
Rags To Riches; The Book;
Dauce, Gypsy, Dance; I
Believe. LF.1165.

\* Also available as 45 r.p.m.

### DAVID WHITFIELD FANS

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Born: Hull, Yorks., February 2,

1926
Family: Wife, Sheila; son, Lance
(aged four)
Height: 5 ft. 11½ in.
Weight: 14 stone.
Hair: Blond.
Eyes: Blue.
Hobbies: Motoring and cinephotography ... currently editing own 8 mm. film of Lance
Whitfield.
Sports: Swimming and golf.

Sports: Swimming and golf.
Likes: Films, but mainly space-travel and sea pictures . . not keen on musicals.
Favourise Actors: Alan Ladd and

James Stewart:
Favourite Musical Performer:
Sammy Davis Jnr. . . whom
David rates higher than Danny

Kaye. Favourite Singer: Richard

Favourite Personal Recording:
"I Believe" because the line in the lyric, "Every time I hear a new-born baby cry," brings back the vision of

David's son, Lance when the boy was seriously ill.

Favourite Orchestra: Mantovani but this was David's opinion long before "Cara Mia"!

Favourie Food: Underdone steaks; fish and chips.

Ambition: "To keep the friends I have, and make lots of new ones."

ones."
Best Friend: Reg Warburton ...
"Now almost one of the family."

Interests Outside Singing: Two

Interests Outside Staging: Two publishing companies in America, Lance Music (named after David's son) and Sheila Music (named after his wife). Pet Project: "My new house, now being built in Hull." Future Plans: "Show business—I hope! But if I ever ended my work on the stage, I'd like to own a mixed store and operate it myself. Contrary to a recent misquote, I have no ambition to own a chain of fish and chip shops!"



A historical picture from the Whitfield Album-taken at this first memorable TV programme in New York last December. Left to right: Sophie Tucker, Ed Sullivan, David and Sophie's British-born planist, Ted Shapiro, her accompanist for 35 years?

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This NME picture was taken at the band's first rehearsal in London

# BBC CAPTURE

THE BBC announced last week—for the first time—that the new series "The Song's the Thing," was scheduled to feature Dickie Valentine (October 3—7) and Eve Boswell (October 10—14).

instrument.

promising talent.

To replace Roy Willox (who is

**'PAJAMA GAME'** 

SIGN HOCKRIDGE,

WITH interest mounting daily in

13, it is now announced that two of the leading rôles have been

Joan Regan will be starring in the last "Holiday Hotel," televised from Blackpool, next Sunday (11th).

First news of this ambitious scheme was revealed exclusively in the August 12 NME.

Brilliant pianist-arranger, Malcolm Lockyer, has been signed as the resident musical director of the series. He will direct a multi-purpose combination of ten instrumentalists

combination of ten instrumentalists for every programme.
Following the appearances by Dickie Valentine and Eve Boswell, "Unchained Melody" man, Jimmy Young, will be the featured singer for five nights, commencing October 17, to be followed by another Decca artist—Joan Regan, in residence from October 17.
Last singer of the month will be Frankie Vaughan whose week's stint opens on Monday, October 31.
Final arrangements regarding the November 7—11 period have yet to be completed—but negotiations with Canadian vocalist Patti Lewis are taking place.
TWO RONNIES

### TWO RONNIES

Strong attractions have been booked for the remainder of November. Former Show Band "resident" Ray Burns is featured from November 14, to be followed by new personality Ronnie Hilton on the 21st.

Ronnie Harris is scheduled to complete the month's bookings on November 28, but the following week, John Hooper has secured the ever-popular Vera Lynn, who will commence on December 5.

Discussing this ambitious series

Discussing this ambitious series with the NME, John Hooper said: "Broadcasts will be each week night from 6 p.m. until 6.25, in the Light programme from Monday to Fridays Each artist can introduce their own twenty-five minute." of the leading rôles have been definitely cast.

Australia's Joy Nichols will play the female lead (originated in the States by Janis Paige), and comic Max Wall will recreate the comedy characterisation made famous by Eddie Foy in the original Broadway production. Whilst official confirmation is forthcoming the NME understands that Edmund Hockridge has been signed for a singing rôle.

Robert Lowe will be MD probably conducting the Skyrockets Orchestra. their own twenty-five minute offering."

### IVOR KIRCHIN: MAJOR EYE **OPERATION**

BANDLEADER Ivor Kirchin D entered University College Hospital on Monday for a major eye operation. He is expected to be away from the band for several

be away from the band for several weeks.

His son and co-leader, Basil Kirchin, will remain on drums during his absence, and the band will be temporarily fronted by trumpeter Norman Baron. The Kirchins, of course, will be one of the star bands at the NME's Royal Albert Hall concert this Sunday.

Next week the Kirchin Band will be recording two further titles for Parlophone—"The Great Lie" and "Gotta Be This Or That."

### DEATH OF SONGWRITER

THE death has occurred of Ord Hamilton, well-known songwriter and pianist at his Chiswick (London) home, after a long

In addition to his songwriting

In addition to his songwriting prowess—his most famous number here was "You're Blasé"—he also appeared in his piano act for musichalls and cabaret.

He led his own dance orchestra for a short time in town, and composed innumerable West End shows and several Hollywood talking pictures in the 'twenties.

THE Eric Delaney band appears at Hammersmith Palais next Monday (5th). This will be their first dance-hall date following a month in variety.

### NEW, EXCITING BANDS AT SAME CONCERT!

### RONNIE SCOTT, TOMMY WHITTLE IN DUAL NME LONDON DEBUT: Royal Albert Hall—Sunday, Oct. 16

Sunday afternoon, October 16 (commencing at 2 p.m.)—at the Royal Albert Haff—we will present the long-awaited London début of two great new bands—RONNIE SCOTT AND HIS ORCHESTRA and the TOMMY WHITTLE ORCHESTRA.

Jazz and dance music enthusiate.

Jazz and dance music enthusiasts will witness Britain's two greatest tenor sax stars battling for supremacy. And each leader will front a galaxy of star instru-mentalists.

Further attractions will be added to this "double top" presentation—but meanwhile, both Ronnie Scott and Tommy Whittle are preparing a special offering for this unique event, which promises fans a thrill-packed afternoon.

### EVERY HONOUR

When the original Romie Scott combination disbanded this year, they had achieved every honour possible in British dance music. Three successive years NME readers voted them No. 1 "Small Band" in all of our annual popularity polls; in 1953 and 1954, Ronnie Scott was voted "Musician of the Year" and Top Tenor Sax player.

But in January, 1955, Tommy Whittle dethroned Ronnie in the tenor sax poll—repeating his success in another nation-wide ballot a few weeks later. leaving to join Geraldo), Ted

Heath has secured the services of Don Savage, one of the most highly regarded stylists on his

Don, who was a member of the Tito Burns Sextet, is currently under contract to Frank Weir. But Frank has generously and to release him, in view of the weeks later.

The "battle of the tenors" and the famous names included in the respective orghestras guarantees fans excitement unlimited!

RONNIE SCOTT AND HIS

offer.

Although he has been listening to audition records sent to him by countless girl vocalists in recent weeks, Ted has not yet signed a female vocal replacement for Kathy Lloyd with the band.

He tells us, however, that the records are revealing some highly promising talent. RONNIE SCOTT AND HIS ORCHESTRA—
Ronnie Scott (leader); Jimmy Watson, Stan Palmer, Henry Shaw, Dave Usden (trumpets); Ken Wray, Mac Minshull, Jack Botterell, Robin-Kaye (trombones); Douggle Robinson, Joe Harriott, Pete King, Benny Green (saxes); Phil Seamen (drums); Norman Stenfalt (piano); Eric Peters (bass); Art Baxter, Linda Russell, Steve Curtis (vocalists).
Regarding the personnel of the Tommy Whittle 11-piece Orchestra, ahe line-up is not yet available. Tommy has secured several great jazz players—but owing to their commitments with other bands, he is not yet in a position to divulge details. But from advance information re-

But from advance information re-ceived, several of Britain's leading stars will have joined his orchestra for this concert.

Definite instrumentalists in the new

W "Pajama Game," the Broad-way musical play which opens at the London Coliseum on October

band will include trombone star, Keith Christie and saxist Joe Temperley—featured on baritone. Details will be announced shortly of the supporting bands also appear-ing at this concert, but in order to meet the obvious heavy demand for

### PARRY SEXTET TV

Harry Parry has been signed for a new BBC children's TV show, "Crackerjack," which will be screened for the first time on Septem-ber 14. He will lead a sextet. Six programmes, on alternative-Wednesdays are scheduled.

tickets, arrangements have been made for them to be on sale immediately. TICKETS

Seats priced 7/6, 6/-, 5/-, 3/6 (Gallery standing), 2/6, are obtainable from the Royal Albert Hall box office (KENsington 8212); All leading theatre ticket agencies, or by personal application or post (enclosing remittance, details of ticket requirements and stamped addressed envelope) from "New Musical Express" (Concert), 5, Denmark Street, London, W.C.2.
Readers attending this Sunday's "Tenth Anniversary Tribute To Heath" concert at the Royal Albert Hall will be able to purchase tickets during the interval, or at the con-

during the interval, or at the con-clusion of the show, for the Scott— Whittle October 16 event.

### Johnnie Ray booked for Manchester variety

WHEN announcing in last week's NME Johnnie Ray's opening

WHEN announcing in last week's NME Johnnie Ray's opening variety dates for his forthcoming British visit next month, we stated that he was appearing—with Vic Lewis and his Orchestra—at a theatre in Lancashire, week commencing October 10.

If this announcement appeared strange to some of our readen, let us explain. We were fully aware that Johnnie Ray and the Lewis Orchestra had been booked for the Palace Theatre, Manchester, on October 16, but realised at a late hour that Vic Lewis and his Orchestra were appearing in Manchester—this week—at the Hippodrome Theatre. We felt that by revealing an appearance by Johnnie Ray in Manchester during October would have caused an immediate rush for ticket reservations, and that some Vic Lewis fans might be tempted to wait to see him next month at the Palace, rather than witness his excellent band show at the Hippodrome.

band show at the Hippodrome.

Accordingly, we have waited until this week before confirming the venue of Johnnie Ray's visit, with the hope that the Vic Lewis Orchestra have enjoyed good results during their current visit to the Hippodrome.

### Special acting role for Dickie Valentine Vewcastle Pantomime

OUTSTANDING British singing personality, Dickie Valentine, is to star in his first pantomime this year—at the Theatre Royal, Newcastle-on-Tyne, in Howard and Wyndhams' "Aladdin."

### RONNIE SCOTT SEEKS SWISS BASS PLAYER

THE "outstanding young bass-ist" chosen for a position in the new Ronnie Scott Band (see last week's NME) can now be named, He is Eric Peter, a twenty-year-old Swiss musician whose work has recently impressed many of London's leading jazzmen at private sessions.

Final Musicians' Union clearance

Final Musicians' Union clearance for Eric to work in this country had not been received at presstime. But as he has been resident in this country, as a student, for longer than twelve months (the qualifying period), no difficulties are anticipated.

Eric, who played at the Ringside

Pated.
Eric, who played at the Ringside in Paris at the time of last year's Jazz Fair, is described by NME critic Mike Butcher as definitely one of the top three jazz bassists now in Britain."

The Denny Boyce Orchestra have nother airing on September 9

He opens on December 20; the

He opens on December 20; the production is scheduled to run until March or April, 1956.
Dickie will play "Wishee Washee"—a part that will afford vast acting opportunities. He will, of course, have feature spots to present his own vocal act.
Akhough this is the first time Dickie has appeared in pantomime since attaining star status, he did undertake a singing and comedy rôle in a resident revue at Glasgow Empire during the last yuletide season.
He appeared with American comedian Bonar Colleano, and the successful partnership was resumed this summer in the "Dickie Valentine Show" at the Hippodrome Theatre, Blackpool.

It was only after several weeks of persuasion that Dickie finally agreed to play in the Newcastle pantomime. In fact, only six weeks ago he told the NME's Newcastle correspondent,

Jeff Burns, that he expected to go into another revue again this year.

Mr. Fred Rumball, the manager of the Theatre Royal, Newcastle, said he was delighted that Dickie would be appearing in the theatre's panto-

Meanwhile Dickie continues variety engagements, appearing at the Coventry Theatre this week, and the Garrick Theatre, Southport, from next Monday (Sept. 5).

# U.S. DOUBLE ACT

THE current "double" of pianist Bill McGuffie and singer Ray Burns—seen at several music halls recently and currently at Brighton Hippodrome—is so successful that both boys are hoping it will soon

operate in the U.S.

As it is virtually certain that McGuffie will be spending much of his future musical life in the U.S., he hopes, after getting established there, to invite Ray Burns to "double up" again with him in an act for radio, TV, and some of Hollywood's smartest night spots.

In their current variety tour, Ray

In their current variety tour, Ray Burns and Bill McGuffie appear as solo acts, but jojin forces for the last few minutes of Ray's presentation.

SONGSTRESS Ruby Murray is Still away from the new Palladium production at the time of writing. Further recuperation is necessary following an attack of tonsilitis, but Ruby hopes to

### THIS WEEK'S RELEASES of DECCA-GROUP 78 and 45 R.P.M. RECORDS

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JANIE MARDEN DAKOTA STATON I never dreamt; Abracadabra CL 14339 I'll come when you call;

Thank you for the waltz F 10605\* RAY ANTHONY AND HIS ORCHESTRA Pete Kelly's blues; DC 7 CL 14345 \*(Available from September 10)

> MARGARET WHITING A man; Mama's pearls CL 14348

LES BROWN AND HIS BAND OF RENOWN He needs me; Simplicity CL 14350

LES BAXTER The Shrike; The toy tiger CL 14351 PAT BOONE

Ain't that a shame; Tennessee Saturday night HLD 8172

FATS DOMINO Ain't that a shame; La-la HLD 8173

MAC WISEMAN

The Kentuckian song: Wabash cannonball HLD 8174

DAVE BURGESS TRIO I love Paris;

Five foot two, eyes of blue HLB 8175



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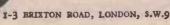
Close your eyes; Pierrot F 10606

ALEX WELSH & HIS DIXIELAND BAND

As long as I live;

New Orleans stomp F 10607





### TEST YOUR JAZZ response to absolutely no requests, I have concentrated

question-master

BENNY GREEN

who

sets the first-

and last-exam

(a) Is it True What they Say About Dixie?

Hayes
(b) Leon Roy and Harry Roy Ken Wray and Johnnie Ray Betty Hutton and Len

Hutton
(e) Johnnie Hawkesworth.

famous blues singers—

(a) Blind Lemon Curd

(b) Baked Jam Roll, and

(c) Custard

(a) Jack Payne(b) Teresa Brewer(c) Lew Stone.

3. Discuss the significance of not more than six of the following

(especially Custard).

6. Give a brief account with dates

(a) The Battle of Agents Cut (b) The Massacre at Bookers Folly.

sousaphone
(c) Charge him a guinea a lesson.

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this week on the clearing up of a very touchy question. I refer, of course, not to Sabrina or Eddie Calvert, but to the problem of Jazz Knowledge as such, and the complete lack of an recognised method of gauging it.

In this day and age, when there are almost as many schools of criticism as there are bandleaders, what is needed is an official measuring rod, a scientific method of assessment of a man's knowledge of Jazz.

And here it is, so far as I know the first, and very possibly the last examination paper in the history of popular music.

Just a few words to those intrepid custardorains who are eager to try their knowledge. There are four marks for each question. A correct answer scores nothing, and only an utterly wrong one collects full points.

Those readers who have seen fit to read my column diligently each week will have no difficulty in making a complete mess of their paper. No candidate can possibly score more than a hundred per cent. unless he invents his own additional questions.

Fifty—seventy is a pass with honours, thirty—fifty a pass, fifteen—thirty is an honourable failure, seven—eleven is a twelve bar blues, and less than five per cent. denotes that you have been reading the wrong papers.

In order to calculate your score, add up the number of questions and subtract them from half your enswers. Then multiply by the date at the top of the page, and divide by the number of the question that terrifled you most.

terrified you most.

The result will have not the temotest relationship to your score. On page 19 of this issue, you will have great difficulty in finding the answers. Here we go, and may the best man retain his sanity.

est man retain his sanity.

5. What HAVE you the faintest
1. Answer the following ques-recollection of?

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ALL STAR BAND

in popular music of-

(b) What is this Thing Called Love?
(c) How am I to Know?

2. Trace the blood relationships honest.) between the following—

16. W veen the following—

(a) Tubby Hayes and Harry record. Answer Yes or No.

21. When Buddy Bolden played you could hear him at a range of—
(a) Ten feet
(b) Ten yards
(c) Ten miles 4. Have you the faintest recollec-

7. Your son says "Daddy, I want to be a musician." You— (a) Sell him to the gypsies
(b) Clip him one with an old

### by Ron Drake

CCHDALE leader George Pears
—now in his second summer
season at the Ship and Castle Hotel,
St. Mawes, Cornwall—has with him
Ken Smith (piano and accordion);
Terry Rawe (guitar and vocals) and
singer José Turner.
Bassist/vocalist George is to return
to Rochdale to look after his winter
eig conjection when his summer con-

connection when his summer contract ends.

(c) Ten miles.

22. According to popular legend King Oliver in his later years had—

(a) No hair

(b) No teeth
(c) No talent.

23. Identify the following—

(a) The Blue-Eyed Butterfly
(b) The Little Giant
(c) The Big Noise From Winnetka.

24. Place the following in their

24. Place the following in their The Euclidean South York
25. The Sign Noise From Winnetka.

26. Place the following in their The Kirchins are to make their first appearance in South York
27. The Kirchins are to make their first appearance in South York
28. South Market South South York
29. Place the following in their first appearance in South York
29. November 4 at a Gala

(c) The Big Noise From Winnetka.

24. Place the following in their correct order
(a) One Bass Hit.
(b) Two Bass Hit.

25. Discuss
(a) The influence of the saxophone on the life of Johnny Hodges, and
(b) The influence of Earl Bostic on the life of the saxophone.

26. Describe the effect on your sanity if you were told that—
(a) Ready, Willing and Ablewas a subsidiary of Francis, Day and Hunter.
(b) Borodin was a stranger in Paradise
(c) A cool cat was the opposite of a hot dog.

27. Aren't you sorry you got into all this?

28. Am I blue?

PIEK Kirchins are to make their of make their on November 4 at a Gala Dance organised by the Wombwell Cricket Lovers' Society.

The W.C.L.S. head their notepaper: "My song shall be cricket and cricket my theme."

The Kirchins will provide a rather different type of song and theme this particular Friday at Wombwell Baths Hall!

\*\*CURRENTLY managing the Embosts to take up a position as touring manager with Tommy Whittle's new outfit when it hits the road on September 29.

Frank Joins Tommy's staff on September 19.

Disc-jockeys' all-star choice was disappointing

PETER FIELDING and his Orchestra are to leave the Scala Ballroom, Leeds, this weekend and, following an October of the Record of

8. With which musicians are the following numbers associated?

(a) Basic Boogie
(b) Lester Leaps In
(c) Scott's Expedition.

9. Fill in the following blanks—

(a) In Basic Boogie
(b) Lest he following in the correct order of royal succession—

(b) Delace the following in the correct order of royal succession—

(c) Bull Russo.

10. Place the following in the correct order of royal succession—

(a) Dear Hines.

11. Has it ever occurred to you that Lee Konitz plays backwards?

12. Who is the Champ?

13. Calculate the approximate ages of—

(a) Ole Man River

(b) The Young in Heart.

14. When you first got into this racket, did you think Billie Holiday was a man?

15. Do you still think so? (Be is honest.)

16. What is your favourite jazz record. Answer Yes or No.

17. Estimate the size of—

(a) Bill Broonz

(b) Small Hotel

(c) Tiny Winters.

18. Did the Charleston Chasers ever catch anybody?

19. Describe the complexion of—

(a) Red Norvo

(b) Pinky Tomlin.

20. Have you any idea what you are supposed to be doing?

21. Who Buddy Bolden played you could hear him at a range of—

(a) Ten feet

(b) Ten yards

(c) Ten yards

(c) Ten miles

8. With which musicians are the official and, following an October of the not return to mile the complex on the complex of the will form an out of explain that the work.

Discussing his future plans with the Now disappointing it all turned out to be. Transmitted from the NME. Peter said: "I deplore extended to an hour, something when the National Radio Show and the NME. Peter said: "I deplore extended to an hour, something has with the NME. Peter said: "I deplore extended to an hour, something has the proposition of the NME. Peter said: "I deplore extended to an hour, something has the proposition of the NME. Peter said: "I deplore said wrong.

The went of explainted the proposition of the NME. Peter said: "I deplore said wrong.

The went of explainted the proposition of the NME. Peter said: "I deplore said wrong.

The went of explainted the proposition of the vert said: "I deplore s

Vera and a little out of place in the programme.

Organist Harold Smart, backed by the Show Band rhythm section televised well and the other instrumental group, the NME'S traditional record reviewer, Humphrey Lyttelton and his Band, was presented in a straightforward jam session sequence with "Fish Seller."



STANLEY BLACK

The numbers from the new Vivian Ellis-A. P. Herbert musical "Water Gypsies" which opened in London the following night, included Laurie Payne, Pamela Charles, Peter Graves and, in a comedy number, Dora Bryan. "Water Gypsies" looks like being a really successful British musical.

Max Pugravage in too bet and

musical.

Max Bygraves, in top hat and tails, with his peculiar cross between Al Jolson and Jimmy Durante, sang "Anyone Can Be A Millionaire." It did not seem to be his sort of number at all. Bouncy and breezy as Max always is, somehow he could not get the best out of his latest recording material.

An unusual addition to the pro-

recording material.

An unusual addition to the programme was a classical violist, Alan Loveday — particularly as Richard Attenborough said he had not recorded the title he was playing.

Climaxing of the show was a rather messy arrangement. Jack Payno conducted Stanley Black's 50-piece orchestra and the George Mitchell Singers with solos by Laurie Payno and Stanley at the piano.

Tuesday's "Off The Record" was disappointing. Too much of a magazine-musical variety programme. It seemed only loosely "on the records."

DON WEDGE.

September 2nd Barrow-in-Furness

MALOOLM MITCHELL
Tonight (Friday): Plaza Baliroom,
Derby; Saturday: Civic Hall, Nantwich; Thursday; City Hall, Hull.

JOHNNIE GRAY Saturday: USAF Camp, Upper Hey-ford; Sunday: Ocean Theatre, Clacton.

VIO LEWIS Tonight (Friday) and Saturday: Hippodrome Theatre, Manchester; Sunday: Palace Theatre, Blackpool; Thursday: Baths Hall, Huddersfield.

GRACIE COLE:
Tonight (Friday): Bincleaves Hall,
Weymouth; Saturday: Rex Ballroom,
Bognor; Sunday: Ocean Theatre,
Clacton; Wednesday: Queen's
Theatre, Rhyl; Thursday: Palais

### Week beginning

Thursday: Baths Hail, Huddersheld.

KIRCHIN BAND

Tonight (Friday): Astoria Baliroom,
Nottingham; Saturday: Samson and
Hercules Baliroom, Norwich; Sunday:
Royal Albert Hail and Palace Theatre,
Reading; Monday: Palais, Brighton.

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TONY CROMBIE

Saturday: Swindon.

DANNY PURCHES

Monday, Week:
Hanley. Week: Theatre Royal, Hanley.

RAY BURNS AND BILL MCGUFFIE

Monday, Week: Hippodrome, Birmingham.

RONNIE ALDRICH & THE SQUADS

Tuesday: BBC; Wednesday: Folkestone

stone.
TUBBY HAYES
Tonight (Friday): Bedford; Saturday and Sunday: Burtonwood.
NAT GONFLLA
Monday, Week: Regal, Gt. Yarmouth.

mouth,
FRANK WEIR
Tonight (Friday): Birmingham;
Saturday: East Kirkby; Sunday!
Margate; Wednesday: Sculthorpe.
DAVE SHAND
Tonight (Friday): BBC; Saturday:
Lovestoft; Monday: Tunbridge Weils;
Tuesday: BBC.
BOBBY MICKLEBURGH
Saturday: Brize Norton; Sunday:
Cook's Ferry Inn, Edmonton.

### BOB MILLER'S LINE-UP FOR STREATHAM

SAXIST-leader Bob Miller has made at least three notable captures for his new big band which he will front at Mecca's Streatham September 19. Locarno

They are saxists Art Ellefsen and Terry Fahay, who both move from Frank Weir's band, and former Geraldo trumpeter Pete Winslow, who is now a prolific West End sessioneer. Vocalist will be Joan Baxter who was formerly with the Blue Rockets.

The rest of Bob's line-up, which includes several members of his present group which disbands tomorrow (Saturday), is: Eddie Lawn, George Haley, Roy Smith (saxes); Douggie Arthur, Bobby Herriott (trumpets); Bobby Pratt, Terry Kelly (trombones); Frank Stephenson (piano); Eddie Tripp (bass), and Haydn Jackson (drums).

The new Miller Orchestra opens t the Leeds Locarno on Monday or two weeks, before returning to

23 Albemarle Street, London, W.1

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### American Airmail

### FRANK SINATRA REJECTS FILM AND HUGE TV

FRANK SINATRA is back in the news on several fronts. He first of all walked out of the "Carousel" film before filming a single scene! Reason for his leaving the important part was a matter of time—a commodity Sinatra hasn't much of these days.

When he arrived on location, he discovered the picture was being shot in both Todd-Ao and CinemaScope, and that meant he'd have to do each scene twice. With a Las Vegas opening due September 9. Frank left the picture.

### 'TIME' STORY

He also has decided not to sign the long-term TV agreement with NBC. Again, it was a matter of no free time With three films to complete before March, Sinatra would not have been able to make the seven TV appearances a year called for by his contract. Since he prefers movies to TV, he rejected what could have been a five-year. \$3.000,000 contract.

This week, Time, America's most influential news magazine, devoted its covers and an extensive feature story to Sinatra. As the article its covers and an extensive feature story to Sinatra. As the article emphasized, Sinatra, four months this side of 40, is climaxing a comeback that has made him the hottest property in all phases of show business. Among the more notable quotes from the candid article is this one: "Sinatra's courage, even his enemies agree, is the courage of burning convictions, however crudely it may be expressed. Many of his worst passages of public hooliganism have proceeded from instances of racial discrimination. He once slugged a waiter who refused to serve a Negro, another time went hay-wire at an anti-Semitic remark."

### JATP IN TEXAS

Another courageously consistent foe of discrimination, incidentally, is Norman Granz. Granz has never allowed any of his Jazz at the Philarmonic shows to play before segregated audiences, and, as a result, has opened up several areas of the South to increased practice of dates. has opened up several areas of the South to increased practice of democracy. A week ago, Granz made a special air trip to Houston, Texas, to make sure there'll be no seating discrimination when JATP plays Houston this year. He had the clause written into the contract. This, I believe, will mark the first non-segregated concert in recent Houston history.

MANTOVANI DISCS
The Entertainment Scene: Hollywood columnist Sheilah Graham reports that Dick Haymes will play

with Judy . American bookers and agents are highly impressed by the fact that Mantovani won't have a single open date during his tour here from October 1 to November 6. London Records naturally are preparing special exploitation plans for Mantovani's records to coincide with new Mantovani S records to coincide with the tour. London also will have two new Mantovani LPs ready by fall. One of them, Musical Modes, will contain previously issued singles, and the other set will include instru-mental versions of well-known operatic axiss.



American singer, Bethe Douglas waxed her first recording titles in Britain last Monday for the Pye-controlled N i x a label. In this NME picture, Bethe listens to the play back— and if the results are the same as her last TV "Off the Record" TV "Off the Record" show, Nixa will have a big hit on their hands. Left to right: Alan Freeman and Michael Barclay of Pye - Nixa; Beryl Scott, who led an accompanying year! accompanying roup; MD Frank Bethe Douglas.

Woodyard, formerly with Mill pazz chooks.

Buckner. Paul Gonsalves and Willie Cook, whose lack of a New York will also for example, that the following unit return to Duke in the fall. The University of South California is presenting a jazz course this fall with a distinguished faculty: Shorty Nogers, Shelly Manne, Jimmy Giuffre musicologist composer Ellis vibist Joe Roland; altoist Lou Donaldson; Thelonious Monk; Art Farmer and Zoot Sims. Wallington's quartet will continue as the alternate band, with drummer Art Taylor, altoist Jackie McLean (a Miles Davis Detroit, Paul Chambers) the London Palladium next year.

No word from Haymes, however

Judy Garland's new contract for Capitol calls for albums only. Her set up an all-star jazz show to tour first set, Miss Show Business, will arenas and auditoriums in 41 protégé) and the excellent young contain ten songs long identified American cities, starting November bassist from Detroit, Paul Chambers.

# FROM TAPE

### Edmundo Ros

**BEST REPRODUCTION YET** 

Television and Radio star, uses his 'Master" recorder for Latin-American orchestral work, business and family recordings at home.



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### The New 'MASTER' Recording Products

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l Co-starring with be Dave Brubeck's quartet with Paul Desmond, Gerry Muligan's sextet with Zoot Sims and Bob Brookmeyer, the Australian Jazz Quartet, and singer Carmen McRae. Brubeck, incidentally, discussed "The Theology of Jazz" on a national TV programme this past Sunday morning. He explored the subject along with Reverend Lawrence McMaster, pastor of the Oxford, Pennsylvania Presbyterian Church. The discussion was part of a remarkable series of CBS—TV shows produced by the National Council of Churches of Christ in America.

The series has certainly been of great aid to jazz.

### PARKER ALBUM

contain previously issued singles, and the other set will include instrumental versions of well-known operatic arias.

ELLINGTON LINE-UP

Jazz News: Johnny Hodges will return to the Duke Ellington band and will receive featured billing. Duke also has a new drummer. Sam

PARKEN ALBUW

Record collectors here who have seen the package are much impressed with Vogue's Charlie Parker Memorial Album. The various tributes to Bird on the envelope and Mike Butcher's detailed biography dovetail well with the eloquent records themselves. It looks more and more as if Café Bohemia, the new

### record player?

CAN you recommend a good, cheap record player . . . Letters asking this question reach the NME offices every week. And the answer is—YES!

There are plenty of inexpensive, self-contained record playing machines on the market, and those made by reputable concerns will generally satisfy the average listener . . . I am not concerned here with hi-fi specialists and their requirements.

### Good value

Your local dealer can probably help you make a suitable choice. But the following round-up of a few current, non-costly models can be taken as a representative price-and-quality guide.

I have personally tested all the machines that I mention (often at the suggestion of Messrs. Imhof's, one of the longest established and most reliable sales firms in London) and can guarantee that they represent excellent value for money.

Taking the list in easy stages from the sixteen-guinea level upwards, let's start with:

wards, let's start with:

Stage 1 (16 gns. to 19 gns. price range): These are all small portable models, perfectly adequate for the average collector of popular discs but necessarily restricted in cyclic range by the smallness of the speakers. The EAR "Bantam" (16 gns.) is cheap and serviceable, but the Philips "Disc Jockey" (18 gns.) and Decca "Deccamatic" (19 gns.) provide better all-round reproduction.

Stage 2 (20 gns. to 30 gns. price range): Often obtainable with or without an automatic record-changing mechanism. I recommend the former, especially to collectors who intend to build up a library of LP's. Comparative prices, EAR "P.750"—without auto-change—26 gns. EAR "A.750"—the same model with auto-change—30 gns. Both have separate bass and treble tone controls (the only comparably priced machines that I know of with this advantage) and give remarkably distortion-free reproduction over a wide frequency range for so small a machine.

### 'Black Box'

Also recommended: HMV "2001"
(22 gns.); Trix "Trixette" (25 gns.).
Stage 3 (30 to 40 gns. price range):
The Pye "Black Box" is the only really recommendable machine in this category that I have yet heard.

really recommendable machine in this category that I have yet heard. It is a table model (but easily transportable from room to room) with reproductive fidelity equal to that of many more costly record players. Available without auto-change (37 gns.) or with (39 gns.)

Stage 4 (40 gns. to 50 gns. price range): Two good console models come into this category, the Decca "Panatrope" (45 gns.) and the PAM "Westcott" (45 gns.) and the PAM "Westcott" (45 gns.) a both entirely satisfactory—even for the fairly exacting requirements of a record critic!

To compare a Decca "Deccamatic"

To compare a Decca "Deccamatic" with a Decca "Panatrope" is, of course, ridiculous. The more you pay, the better results you will get. But within their necessary limitations, all the models cited do a fine job of work.

A couple of general pointers can be noted at this stage. The small speaker of a portable record player can give good response in the super sound registers (often up to about 12,000 cycles) but lower frequencies are bound to suffer.

Even the EAR "P.750" has an electronically boosted, rather than a natural, bass sound. A record played on any good, modern, cheap machine is therefore likely to have plenty of brilliance, but little real depth of tone.

### Special tests

Several companies issue special frequency test recordings. Your dealer probably possesses one, and can use it to demonstrate any record player's reproductive potentialities.

One final word on a completely different topic tape recorders. These are comparatively expensive, even the models intended purely for domestic use. But as rehearsal aids to singers, etc., they are invaluable. More expensive record playing equipment (including radiograms) would naturally need an article for itself for proper coverage But it can be taken as a rule that a cheap radiogram is not a good buy.

Far better decide which you really want—a radio or a record player. And if it's a record player, the models cited in this article are worthy of your consideration.

MIKE BUTCHER

### So you want to buy a



Disc-jockey Richard Attenborough is pictured here with his This article is a guide to some of the machines on the market today

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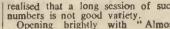
Returning to London Variety— HIS SUCCESS

Tarists.

David, tall, good-looking, with an assured, almost over confident stage manner, was visibly worried with the accompaniment, to the extent of it affecting his singing.

He has a neatly paced act.

Although a ballad singer, David





DAVID HUGHES

Everyone waited for the controversial "There But For The Grace Of God Go I." This is the number that aroused Jack Payne to denounce it before David had even sung it on "Off The Record" at the end of July — and almost every critic has condemned it, too.

Few people have yet had the opportunity of hearing it — the Hughes version anyway. There was an audible murmur when he introduced it as his final number. David announced it simply and sang straightforwardly and sincerely. Not flamboyant gestures; no false dramatics. Not until the curtain came down on its last note. What a dramatic conclusion!

With David, was his new accompanist, Ronnie Loughead, who arrived from Australia last week. This young man has yet to acclimatise himself to British theatres (and pit bands?) but showed every sign of being a welcome and talented visitor.

BIRMINGHAM

Dennis, you will agree that he deserves it.

Television, too, has suddenly realised that they have a star on their hands. After only four TV appearance in four years, Dennis por in the TV series, "Hit Parade," revived after a lapse of some years, which recommences of occuber 17. The programme will be presented monthly, an

Ambitious Future Plans—

revealed by PIP WEDGE

SINGER David Hughes started Park Empire on Monday with a fight. A fight with the pit orchestra, which touring singers say is rather better than most they encounter. Pity the others.

A steady rhythm was almost nonexistent; the brass constantly split notes, entries were mistimed, and the whole thing was sluggish.

Top-line British and American singers regularly lead music hall bills these days. But the British vocal stars, who generally lacks the allure of hailing from another world, need every possible type of support to do justice to the paying customer.

Foremost in a musical act must come a good backing. The sort of backing that David Hughes, and his fellow artists had at Finsbury Park on Monday was unfortunate for the fans, average theatregoers and the artists.

David, tall, good-looking, with an More 11 ms.

David, tall, good-looking, with an More 11 ms.

More 11 ms.

A fight with the pit of affine with the pit of support and singer say is rather better than most they important or generally acked one important of memory and important one important of such a fight with the pit of support to do justice to the paying customer.

Foremost in a musical act must come a good backing. The sort of backing that David Hughes, and his fellow artists had at Finsbury Park on Monday was unfortunate for the fans, average theatregoers and the artists.

David, tall, good-looking, with an More 11 ms.

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A fight with the pit of films, stage shows, and London productions of such and staked one important of such they included they be for years lacked one important of such as a long session of such as there been a first-class, good-looking in pop op op op date to make they been called, see has there been a first-class, good-looking stricts in who could also ACT.

When planning London productions of American musical films, stage shows, and London productions of such as there been a first-class, good-looking stricts in who could also ACT.

When planning London productions of American sh

At least, those responsible for the film "The Extra Day," now in production at Shepperton studios, think so. They plan to use Dennis in more films to come; they plan to exploit his considerable talents to the fullest possible extent. If you know Dennis, you will agree that he deserves it.

Television, too, has suddenly realised that they have a star four formance.

In the meantime, London's loss is the provinces' gain, and the groups of teenagers who gather round the stage doors of Britain's variety theatres after the show will still be able to see their favourite singer, in the flesh. All very satisfying—careerwise—but what happens to home life? What happens when you've an attractive wife and two young sons at home, whose lives are ruled by your engagement book?

"Of course, it's difficult, very

"Of course, it's difficult, very difficult," confides Dennis. "I miss Rena and the kids, miss them terribly. But what can I do? I can only be thankful that Rena understands as well as she does, and makes it so easy for me to get on with the ticklish business of 'trying to do the right thing' in my show business career." business career.

While, therefore, home hobbies are While, therefore, home hobbies are at present non-existent, and the palette and easel are temporarily laid aside (for when at home Dennis is a keen artist), Dennis finds other recreations on his journeyings around Britain. Fortunately, where there's a Number One variety theatre, there's usually a golf course not far away. So there's plenty of golf, out in the clean fresh air where the Lotis lungs usually get a daily airing.

### Relaxation

offers from both the London programme contractors."

His "Hit Parade" contract does not tie him exclusively to the BBC. But, as Dennis puts it, "When someone's treating you well, there's no point in running the risk of antagonising them." Tennis has had to take a back seat for a time. He is still a keen pipe smoker, and the collection, which adorns the shelves of the Finchley Road flat, gets weird additions from time to time. For driving from town to town, he has now invested to a convertible. The BBC certainly seems to be looking with favour on the Lotis lad these days. And anyone who watched him singing with Philip Green's orchestra on last Friday's "Music For Romance" programme will realise why.

in a smart Ford Consul convertible.

In the dressing-room between shows, there is the gramophone. But not, as you might think, playing the latest American discs by top singers. Instead, Dennis finds great relaxation in listening to more serious music—Ravel, Delius, Debussy. What of his work in variety? Will the fans in Liverpool, Manchester, Glasgow and Newcastle, have to be content with the picture rather than the person? Not a bit of it. We asked Dennis just that question and he replied: "I've still 21 weeks' variety to do under my present contract with Lew and Leslie Grade,"

In the dressing-room between shows, there is the gramophone. But shows, the gramophone and shows, the gramophone and shows, the gramophone and shows, the gramophone and shows and shows and shows a show and again, though shows a show a show and again, though s

A new picture of Dennis Lotis taken by our chief taken by our chief cameraman, Harry Hammond, when Dennis televised with Phil Green's Orchestra I a s t Frlday,



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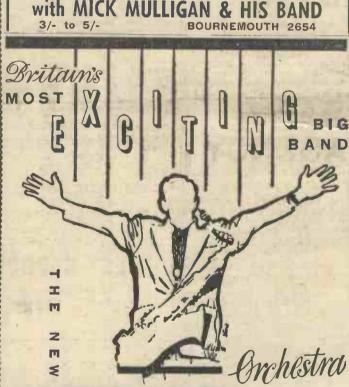
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"WOMAN FOR JOE"
—HIT FOR JACK?

It seems to be coming quite a thing for singing stars and orchestras to record theme music from various

RECORD BREAKING FANFARE Congratulations to "Golden Trumpet" star Eddie Calvert who,

Trumpet" star Eddle Calvert who, in the past two months, has broken the box-office record at no fewer than six different variety theatres in various parts of Great Britain.

The interest in Calvert is phenomenal. After establishing himself firmly as a household name with "Oh Mein Papa," his recent successes with "Cherry Pink" and "John And Julie" have undoubtedly created an even greater public following—particularly children, who regularly fill hundreds of seats at first house performances.

Currently at the Gaumont, Wor-The interest in Calvert is phenomenal. After establishing himself rmly as a household name with Oh Mein Papa," his recent successes with "Cherry Pink" and John And Julie" have undoubtedly reated an even greater public collowing—particularly children, who regularly fill hundreds of seats at 18th house performances.

Currently at the Gaumont, Worsester, the box-office record was VILLAGE'S HAPPY DAY

There was excitement in the little village of Prudhoe-on-Tyne last week, when the singing Marilyn week, when the singing Marilyn wisters made their TV debut.

Prudhoe is the home of one of the sisters, 21-year-old Hazel Day.

After the show she phoned to tell her mother that she and her partner, become the singing of the sisters, 21-year-old Hazel Day.

There was excitement in the little village of Prudhoe-on-Tyne last week, when the singing Marilyn week, when th

JIMMY YOUNG

3/-, 4/-, 5/-, 6/-

broken before Eddie even started! The advance bookings alone were higher than any previous attraction even after they had completed a week

to record theme music from various tilms.

The latest title in question "The Man From Laramie" has been waxed by Al Martino, Jimmy Young and Edmund Hockridge

Last Thursday, in London, the film "Woman For Joe" was premiered and star of the movie, Diane Cliento has recorded the theme tune—written by journalist Jack Fishman—on the Polygon label. It has all the makings of a hit. The title of the song is "A Fool And His Heart."

The latest title in question "The Man From Laramie" has been work artist paid Eddie Calvert the compliment of a gag about him in his cartoon.

\*\*DROPS OF SCOTCH\*

Will "Can Can" be the Christmas musical at the King's Theatre, Glasgow? . Cab Calloway could have done better business at the Empire, Glasgow, but has an act that is as entertaining as any of the younger set . . Ella Logan's October 10 booking for Glasgow Will "Can Can" be the Christmas musical at the King's Theatre, Glasgow? . . Cab Calloway could have done better business at the Empire, Glasgow, but has an act that is as entertaining as any of the younger set . . Ella Logan's October 10 booking for Glasgow Empire means she'll be playing in opposition to her nephew, star comedian Jimmy Logan, now with the Howard and Wyndham show at the Alhambra Theatre—just a few yards away. yards away.

VILLAGE'S HAPPY DAY

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### MarTEAno with his Fans



Al Martino acted as host, at tea, to a group of his fans, who visited him at Brighton last week. Miss K. McKenzie, of the All-Star Fan Club, organised the trip from London.

Hazel started singing at the age of four, in Shirley Temple style.

Then followed local cinema dates at Prudhoe, and other theatres in the North-East. Since she reached London, her progress up the ladder of success has been watched with great interest by the villagers at home.

Hazel started singing at the age of singing with the Show Band in this series include David Hughes (September 9) and Lorrae Desmond (September 23).

"MY FUNNY VALENTINE"

Vocal star Dickle Valentine who dashed down to London from Black-

HOWARD JONES AND REG

Former members of the Joe Loss Orchestra — vocalist Howard Jones and trumpet player Reg Arnold, make their London variety debut





Reg

when they appear at the Empire, Finsbury Park, for a week commencing next Monday, September 5.

Negotiations are taking place for this double act to undertake a summer season at Blackpool next year. Reports from the provinces have indicated that this is a musical act quite unique and original in presentation. presentation.

SHOW BAND GUESTS

Show BAND GUESTS
Soon to make his first ever appearance as guest vocalist with the Show Band, is popular singing star Teddy Johnson. Teddy wiff broadcast with the band in their late night session on Friday, September 16.

Other vocal stars who will be

Vocal star Dickle Valentine who dashed down to London from Black-pool last Sunday to record with Johnny Douglas and his Orchestra for Decca, told me about an incident which happened to him one night last week last week

last week.

During his wonderful impression of Johnnie Ray, Dickie, as usual during the act, left the stage and, choosing one of the girls in the audience, gave her a sweeping kiss But such was the reciprocation, that much to the delight of the audience, Dickie had to literally fight his way clear, and run back on to the stage to escape this rather over-ardent fan.

SHAND IN THE BACKGROUND

SHAND IN THE BACKGROUND

In three of the current films which have been generally released in London—"Deep Blue Sea," "Value For Money" and "Touch And Go," the background music in some of the scenes is supplied by alto saxist, Dave Shand who is featured both as a soloist and with his band.

Dave has just returned from a very successful tour of one night stands in his native Scotland. Appearing with him as a guest star was fellow Scot, pianist Bill McGuffie.

Incidentally, Dave Shand and his band are broadcasting today (Friday) at 3 p.m. (Light Programme).

### BY THE CES

ONE man responsible for scores of disc hits by other artists of disc hits by other artists has now secured one for himself—Mitch Miller with "The Yellow Rose Of Texas," heading for the top of U.S. best-sellers chart. . . Remember the Alley Cat's tip last month that a Stargazers record to be issued within six weeks would be a big hit?—Watch their "Close The Door" disc. . . Has Guy Mitchell renewed friendship with Sabrina on his current visit to Britain? . . Should imagine that a great deal on his current visit to Britain? . . . Should imagine that a great deal of credit is due to Norrie Paramor for the success of the Big Ben Banjo Band. . . . Variety theatre bookers are warned not to allow Eric Delaney's music hall successes to go to the heads of leaders with inferior band shows. . . .

Memo to Jim Davidson: If Show Band scripts do not improve, why not cut out the cackle completely between almost every number?

The Kirchin Band will gain thousands of new admirers and the Albert Hall NME concert this Sunday. . . Capitol's Tony Hall has been holidaymaking in Majorca. . Columbia's

Hall has been holidaymaking in Majorca. Columbia's Barbara Lyon has been holidaymaking in Majorca. Rumoured that Frankie Vaughan is lined up for Ed. Sullivan TV show in New York within next three months. Enjoyed novel idea by Shani Wallis who played vocal records by famous actors John Mills and Michael Redgrave on recent BBC.

by famous actors John Ivins and Michael Redgrave on recent BBC d-i programme. . . Petula Clark will undertake one of her rare will undertake one of her rare accounts at Southport

'planes to U.S. for business trip, including two weeks with Billy

Absence of certain stars in TV's "Off The Record" is understandable because of summer season engagements, but has Francis Essex overlooked Lee Lawrence, Billie Anthony, Dick James, Julie Dawn, Robert Earl and Maria Pavlou, to name but a few? . . Ivy Benson's Orchestra has created a sensation at the Villa Marina, Isle of Man. . . Jazz singer Billie Holiday has written her autobiography titled "Bitter Crop" . . Pianist Dick Twardzik will replace Russ Freeman with the Chet Baker Quartet on their forthcoming European tour . . Singer Lorrae Desmond flies to Malta this Sunday for an engagement, followed by dates in Nairobi and Aden; Lorrae broadcasts on September 16 . . Australian "Zither Girl" Shirley Abicair commences cabaret season at the Savoy Hotel, London, Abicair commences cabaret sea-son at the Savoy Hotel, London, next Monday . . .

Stork Room proprietors Al Burnett and Bill Offner have purchased Pigalle Restaurant in Piccadilly . Congratulations to Henry Hall's son Michael, on his engagement to Anne Rogers, now starring in "The Boy Friend". Ronnie Hilton, Bill McCuffle and Jerry Allen Trio broadcast "Variety Playhouse" on Sept. 10 If only her father will relent, a famous British screen starlet could enjoy her romance with handsome member of a top new yocal group.

Michael Redgrave on recent BBC
d-j programme. . . Petula Clark
will undertake one of her rare
variety engagements at Southport
in near future. .
Imagine the elation of Joe
Henderson hearing his record of
"Sing It With Joe" played on
a juke box whilst sunbathing at
French holiday resort, Dinard. . .
Publicist Ken Pitt will handle
Press relationship for Crew
Cuts' British variety tour, then

handsome member of a top new
vocal group. . .

HMV chartered special plane
to transport Alma Cogan from
Blackpool to London and return
for recent recording session . .

Sally Rogers will take over from
Irene Hilda in touring version of
"Can Can" . . Strongly
rumoured as interested TV programme contractors in Midlands
—impresario Claude Langdon
and Henry Hall.

A 'Natural' to follow "Bridges of Paris" HALT



SOUTHERN MUSIC Co. Ltd. 8 Denmark St., London, W.C.2

leader Erie Delaney on his current variety band show tour is by now well known. But can you imagine the disappointment and astonishment Eric experienced when he arrived at the Ritz Theatre, Cleethorpes, for his engagement there last week.

It was discovered that because a large CinemaScope screen had been erected at the back of the stage, it was impossible for Eric to utilise several of his specially designed props and, as the result, the superb presentation effects were modified. Those presenting Eric were disappointed with the takings at Cleethorpes, which might well prove just how important and essential it is for a complete production for is for a complete production for variety dates.

PARSONS' PUNCH

An aftermath to the story by our A merican correspondent, Nat Hentoff, on page 13 that Frank Sinatra is not continuing with his screen rôle in "Carousel" is contained in a report this week that 20th Century-Fox are suing him for one million dollars (£357,000) alleging breach of contract.

Reports from Hollywood this week reveal that singer Frances Langford and screen star Jon Hall have been divorced after 17 years of married life.

PARSONS' PUNCH

Songwriter Geoffrey Parsons will be responsible for many of the lyrics in "The Punch Revue," which opens at Southsea next Monday, and comes to London's Duke of York Theatre on September 28.

MD of the revue will be pianist life.

Another singer—Dick Haymes—is in the news again. Reports that Rita Hayworth was seeking a divorce are premature, but they have temperatily parted whilst Rita quietly considers the situation. Dick Haymes is her fourth husband. He will shortly record again for Capitol.

### JOHN AND JULIE

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