



## N. O. PIC RELEASED



LOUIS ARMSTRONG, BILLIE HOLLIDAY AND BARNEY BIGARD Great jazz flowing.

April 26 brought the release of the highly anticipated pic, "New Orleans."

Teaming such great stars as Louis Armstrong, Billie Holliday, Kid Ory, Barney Bigard, Bud Scott, Zutty Singleton, Red Callendar and Woody Herman and his orchestra the film is a must for jazz fans. The fact that it traces the progress of jazz from its early days to its present stage of development is a facet which makes it doubly interesting.

#### The Music

The music which would naturally flow from such a collection of greats is here very much in evidence. Seizing on the opportunity to put this music on wax, RCA Victor has recorded the highlights of the movie with Armstrong and his Dixieland Seven and his orchestra. The small group, made up of six of the musicians from Satchmo's combo in the pic (Minor Hall takes Zutty Singletone's place on drums) cut Mahogany Hall Stomp, Where the Blues Were Born in New Orleans and Do You Know What It Means to Miss New Orleans. The orchestra made *Endie*, which is the big tune in the film. The recording company, realizing the great demand for Armstrong records, sure to result from the release of the movie, is re- everyone.

issuing the famous album "Hot Jazz by Louis Armstrong" (HJ-1).

#### JAMES AND BARNET BANDS BACK

The Harry James band is back in business once more.

Beginning a series of one night appearances, the newly reorganized group teed off its string of dates last month in Texas.

Last month likewise saw the reorganizing of the Charlie Barnett ork which made its initial return engagement at the Avadon Ballroom in Los Angeles.

#### NATIONAL MUSIC WEEK

"Music Is Especially Needed----Now!"

That's the slogan for National Music Week which will be observed between May 4 and 11.

NAMM (National Association of Music Merchants) and the thirtyfour other organizations sponsoring National Music Week feel that today music is a necessity.

The annual selebration, which has been taking place since 1917, is always the occasion for bringing music to the forefront, but this year efforts are being redoubled so it may take its rightful place of importance in the daily lives of everyone. IN THE GROOVE Published monthly by RCA VICTOR DIVISION Camden, N. J. Copyright 1947. All rights reserved. Printed in U. S. A. Form 1K 2735 Vol. II, No. 3 Editor—FRANK J. O'DONNELL RICHARD WEDDELL—Director of RCA Victor Record Publications



COVER BOY for this edition is Tony Martin.

A lad who puts lots of personality behind an excellent voice, Tony makes a welcome addition to RCA Victor's list of popular recording artists. Full particulars of his signing can be found elsewhere in these pages.

One of the few lads who can provoke a genuine swoon from the feminine population, Tony is likewise a big favorite with the masculine portion of his audience, his full deep tones being as manly as they come.

The great strides Martin made in improving his voice and technique during his Army stint indicate that bigger and bigger things are in store for the singer in short order. Definitely a boy to watch then is Tony Martin, RCA Victor's latest singing star.

Latest ABC name reported to be considering a disc jockey show is Paul Whiteman.



FRANCEY LANE The Johnny Long ork boasts fancy Francey as its vocalist. Besides being an eyeful the girl sings a mighty pleasing song.

## "BLOSSOM TIME" IN ALBUM



AL GOODMAN, MARY MARTHA BRINEY AND DONALD DAME A great operetta an records.

The theater packing operetta, "Blossom Time" has been recorded.

Earl Wrightson, Donald Dame and Mary Martha Briney head the record cast, which also includes Blanka Peric, the Mullen Sisters and The Guild Choristers. Supplying the instrumental background is Al Goodman and his orchestra.

The performance this combination of excellent talent turns in for RCA Victor is of the same calibre as the great nusical which has kept theater audiences entertained for years. All the bitter-sweet color is retained as the well-known story, based or the life of Franz Schubert, unfolds through the playing of the dises.

The performance begins with Mr. Goodman and the orchestra playing Schubert Medley, which includes portions of the Unfinished Symphony and the Military March.

The remainder of the cast join their voices to produce the rest of the album which has five tem-inch double feature records containing Peace to My Lonely Heart, Three Little Maids, Song of Love, Oniv One Love Ever Fills the Heart. In Old Vienna Town, Serenade, Tell Me Daisy, My Springtime Thou Art and Let Me Awake.

The album number is P-173 and it is now at RCA Victor record stores everywhere.

A well written and pictured album liner adds greatly to the attractiveness of the package.

#### BENEKE-MILLER JOCKEY SALUTE GOING STRONG

Blues of the Record Man. disc jockey salute etched by Tex Beneke with the Miller ork, is creating quite a hubbub around the country.

Released only a few short weeks ago the biscuit is getting heavy plays from the platter whirlers who recognize it for what it really is, a kudo to them. Hot too are record sales in RCA Victor outlets.

Reasons for all this are many. Besides being a salute to record men the platter makes mighty fine listening. Tex's vocalizing, along with the Mello Larks, is plenty pleasant as is the grouping together of identifying themes of top name bands such as Tommy Dorsey, Charlie Spivak. Duke Ellington, and Sammy Kaye. It's all done with a beat too, which is an interesting facet. Divers though the styles of the said name bands may lee, there is never a lag in the movement of the tune.

Really big then is *Blues of the Record Man* which shows strong promise of being even bigger.

#### KING COLE GOING WEST

The King Cole Trio will head back to Hollywood the end of this month to make a one week appearance at the Lincoln Theater.

#### TONY MARTIN TO RECORD FOR RCA VICTOR

Tony Martin, popular young singer, will bring his talents to RCA Victor this month and will henceforth record for this label exclusively, it was announced recently by J. W. Murray, Vice President in charge of RCA Victor record activities.

Martin, who has been popular for a number of years, gained special and widespread recognition during the past year, since his discharge from the Army. Critics in magazines and newspapers throughout the country acclaimed him as one of the top vocalists and constantly pointed to the fact that his voice had improved immensely during the time he had been absent from the entertainment world.

A large part of Martin's stay in the Army was spent in the China-Burma-India Theater of Operations where he sang to GIs and became extremely popular with the troops.

Tony Martin first came to the attention of the public via the movies. He has remained for a long time a favorite of the screen by virtue of his singing and acting ability.

At present he is being considered for the lead part in *Pepe La Moko*, a remake of the film, *Algiers*.

Since the end of March Martin has been starring in the "Texaco Star Theater" heard every Sunday evening over CBS.



TONY

World Radio History



#### V

HUBBY JACKSON is a character. and he's glad of it. Ever since the "Happy Monster," as he likes to call himself, discovered that a good personality could help to sell good music, he has been combining the two with monstrous success.

Grieg Stewart Jackson was born into show business. His mother, who is almost as well known among musicians as her inimitable son, is an old vaudevillian. Born in 1918 in New York City, Chubby went to high school in Freeport, L. I., and has lived most of his life in Freeport with his mother and aunt, in a house that has become a home away from home for musicians and showfolk.

After playing clarinet in the high school band. Chubby took up the bass at sixteen and was working with Mike Riley's band at eighteen. Later he played for a variety of bands, from Johnny Messner and Raymond Scott to Jan Savitt and Henry Busse. His first important break came with



CHUBBY

Charlie Barnet's band, where he and Oscar Pettiford (later to join the Duke) were featured as a twobass team.

Chubby's potentialities as a personality and comedian were still further revealed when he joined Woody Herman in 1943. More important, from then until the summer of 1946, when he left Woody, Chubby was a vital factor in the spirit and team feeling that helped to make the band memorable in jazz history. Some of the greatest improvised ideas were inspired by him, and he was a driving force in many of the small band numbers.

After winning the Esquire New Star award in 1945, Chubby rose fast and became the Gold Award bassist in the 1946 and 1947 voting. He took part in Vol. I as well as the soon to be released Vol. II of Esquire All American Jazz on BCA Victor records.

After leaving Woody last year, Chubby retired to his Freeport home, confining his activities to record dates, jam sessions and jazz concerts, plus entertaining members of his Freeport fraternity, including former Herman musicians Conti. Candoli, Ralph Burns, Tony Aless and Billy Bauer, comedian Buddy Lester, and dancer Steve Condes.

Last March he realized another ambition when he took over the Esquire Club in Valley Stream, L. L. where, together with some of the above-mentioned musicians, he provided the entertainment in "Chubby Jackson's Happy Monster Room."

Two other Jackson achievements: first jazz bass player to Let nobody ever accuse Chubby perfect a five-string bass, replacing of not being unique!

### **MERRILL 'WHIFFENPOOF' DISC CAUSES FUROR**

Robert Merrill's discing, for RCA Victor, of The Whiftenpool Song has caused a frenzy the country over.

It all started some weeks ago when Merrill sang the popular Yale song on the RCA Victor Show, Request for repeats trickled in at first. Then suddenly they reached deluge proportions. Realizing that a waxing of the tunc by Merrill would be met with enthusiasm the recording company had it cut as quickly as possible.

The disc is on the market at this writing and is receiving heavy play from disc jockeys and juke boxes.

#### The Record

Sung by Merrill with the expert backing of Russ Case and his orchestra and a male chorus, the face has warmth, sincerity and nostalgia. The arrangement is simple and straightforward, which is one reason for its widespread acceptance. It is sung as collegiates the country over like it.

Paired with The Whiffenpoot Song is the ever popular Sweetheart of Sigma Chi. The coupling of these two numbers indicates that this platter will surely become a standard item.

#### A Concert

At press time plans were in the making for Merrill to do a concert at Yale University, the central point of the appearance being his rendition of Whiffenpool. It's known that he'll sing the number on the RCA Victor Show (heard Sunday afternoon NBC) on May 18.

#### RECORD OF THE MONTH

One more how to the excellence of this record was the one made by Song Hits magazine which recently selected it as their "Record of the Month."

It is felt that this disc will follow other Song Hits choices to the top.

the old four-string model; and first jazz bass man to wear a beard.

# In the Groove WITH THE STARS

1 Something of a switch takes place as Vaughn Monroe seats himself at the keyboard and Count Basie prepares to break into song.

**2** Tenor sax star Illinois Jacquet takes off on one of his fine solos.

**3** Disc jockey Alec Cooper of Station KLAX, Pasadena, California, takes some notes just before interviewing Betty Rhodes.

4 Johnny Moore's Three Blazers

are gaining popularity in a hurry. Eddie Miller plays bass, Johnny Moore guitar and Charles Brown, piano. PD IT ON WOR

2

**5** Perry Como goes on his merry way getting hit after hit on RCA Victor wax. He's pictured above during a Supper Club broadcast.

6 Conductor Percy Faith relaxes in a truly inspiring setting. The five lovelies are all from the Barbizon School of Modeling.

## **PIONEERS' FIRST ALBUM OUT**



THE SONS OF THE PIONEERS Superior harmony.

The first RCA Victor album by the Sons of the Pioneers is out now.

their best known songs, re-coupled The Timber Trail and Trees. high regard for the titan of the for the album, it also has four Country Washburne and his or- trumpet is reflected in the mannew waxings by the group.

Of the eight tunes, seven were the records. written by the two best known composers of cowboy numbers, Tim Spencer and Bob Nolan. Trees definite stay starting May 18. is the only selection not written by the two.

Due to hit the record stores about the same time as this publication, the album is one that everybody will want to have.

#### **Expert Harmony**

The usual high standard of the Sons of the Pioneers is completely maintained and at times surpassed itt "Cowboy Classics," which is the title of the new album, Their superior brand of cowboy harmonizing is for all to enjoy and is not limited in scope to any specific group. The high standard of quality for which this group is famous is here very much in evidence.

#### The Numbers

"Cowboy Classics" (P-168) is made up of eight numbers: Cool Water, Chant of the Wanderer, she stars opposite Dennis Morgan.

Tumbling Tumbleweeds, The Everlasting Hills of Oklahoma, Cow-A package containing four of boy Camp Meetin', Blue Prairie. chestra back up the Sons on half ner in which he shows the virtual

> Ray Anthony and ork open at his admirers. Lakeside Park, Denver, for an in-



ANDREA KING AND FREDDY MARTIN Freddy presents Andrea with a copy of his recently released RCA Victor album, "Concerto," Andrea is currently at work on the Warner Brothers picture "My Wild Irish Rose," in which



W ITH nostalgic reminiscence of New Orleans in the beginning of the twentieth century, vivid pictures of Chicago and New York shortly thereafter. Robert Goffin tells the story of Louis Armstrong as a true lover of American jazz.

His subject is treated warmly and sympathetically with Louis' personal problems as well as his artistic development receiving full and thorough coverage. Goffin's own adoration Satchmo' receives from

The completeness of this work makes of it a veritable story of jazz. Names like Buddy Bolden. Bunk Johnson, Jellyroll Morton and King Oliver are discussed at length in the beginning, while its conclusion brings in Coleman Hawkins, Earl Hines and other present day stars. In this book, the evolution of jazz in America is revealed and traced, from its humble beginning to its present day position of importance.

Horn of Plenty is written in such a manner that the reader feels strongly the problems of the hero. Each new victory for Armstrong produces a sense of elation while every obstacle appearing in his way becomes almost a personal affront to the reader.

If you're a Louis Armstrong fan (as who isn't?) by all means get a copy of Horn of Plenty without delav.

IN THE GROOVE



EARNING about "Fats" Waller, up to the mike, thanked the and was willing and anxious to National Memorial Week of people and said he wanted to show Music we decided to contact W. T. his appreciation by playing some-(Ed) Kirkeby, Waller's personal manager for the six years prior to his death. We met Ed in a New York restaurant and over many cups of coffee talked about "Fats.'

Kirkeby turned out to be a small dapper gentleman of middle age with graving hair and a small waxed gray mustache, slightly pinkish skin and clear blue eyes.

The memory of Waller seemed to be a very vivid thing to Kirkeby. When asked what he considered the most memorable traits of the great man Ed responded with, "His boundless energy and sly good humor, his great generosity and his love for music. I can remember times when Tom would stay awake and active for as many as sixty hours at a stretch, just to be near music. It didn't seem to matter much whether he was the performer or the listener so long as music was there.

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Ed also recalled how Waller would buy a half dozen suits at a time. A week later not one of "Everybody, it seemed. knew them would be left, for he in-

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And it is all these things that have endeared the memory of Thomas Wright "Fats" Waller to millions all over the world. When he died on December 15, 1943, at the very pinnacle of his career, on a train in Kansas City bound for New York from Los Angeles, his passing came as a shock to people everywhere.

Kirkeby told us that this year. from the 18th of May until the 24th, will be called "Fats" Waller National Memorial Week of Music and will be the occasion for his friends everywhere to salute him by performing his works. The period includes the 21st, which is his birthday. Sponsoring the ob-(Continued on page 9)



"FATS"

MAY, 1947

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(Continued on page 9)



"FATS"

MAY, 1947



Ted Harding started his radio career while still a senior in high school, sandwiching his broadcasts in between classes and studies... this was in 1935, in Ted's home town, Montgomery, Alabama, over Station WSFA... the following year he moved to WFOR in Hattiesburg. Mississippi ... four years later he became program director for the statiot.

At KWK in St. Louis, Harding announced many network shows, including name band appearances from the Chase Hotel...he moved to KSD and remained for a year and a half as their top news man.

In 1943 he returned to the South to work for WWL in New Orleans where he conducted his first disc show...after this he traveled to

#### The Unforgettable "Fats"

(Continued from page 5) servance of this time is a circle of prominent musicians and celcbrities, including Deems Taylor, Tommy and Jimmy Dorsey. Duke Ellington, Cab Calloway and mary others. During this time, by every conceivable means, his many admirers will pay homage to the memory of the great man.

We left Kirkeby with the impression that we had been talking to a man who had been devoted to Waller and who still felt his loss strongly.

Back at the office we learned that RCA Victor, for its part in "Fats" Waller National Memorial Week of Music, is re-issuing the best recordings of the great artist. Included in their list are the selections from two albums, Waller on the Ivories (P-109) and "Fats" Waller Favorites (P-151). They are likewise pressing and shipping six other records, including *Ain't* Misbehavin', Moppin' and Boppin',



TED HARDING

KUTA, Salt Lake City, Utah, there to improve and refine his platter spinning technique . . . shortly thereafter he took a position with WHHM in Memphis, Tenn., when the station began operations.

Currently he's keeping listeners to WHHM well pleased with his latest gimmick, which consists of his playing records as old as he can find them . . . he spins platters dating back to 1910 and has the owners of the records in for interviews.

There'll Be Some Changes Made, Not You Stayed Away Too Long, The Everybody Loves My Baby, (When Was You) Squeeze Me. Ooh!, Look-a S'Po. There, Ain't She Pretty, You're Ball.



The Fabulous Dorseys (Charles R. Rogers) AT SUNDOWN TO ME by Tommy Dorsey and His Orchestra Carnegie Hall (Federal)

BEWARE, MY HEART by Vaughn Monroe and His Orchestra

Song of Scheherazade (Universal-International) HYMN TO THE SUN GYPSY DANCE

by Al Goodman and His Orchestra

New Orleans (United Artists) ENDIE

by Louis Armstrong and His Orchestra

MAHOGANY HALL STOMP WHERE THE BLUES WERE BORN IN NEW ORLEANS DO YOU KNOW WHAT IT MEANS TO

MISS NEW ORLEANS

by Louis Armstrong and His Dixieland Seven

Not the Only Oyster in the Stew. The Meanest Thing You Ever Did Was Kiss Me, I Used to Love You, S'Posin and Darktown Strutters' Ball. F. O'D



#### TOMMY DORSEY AND FRIENDS

Frances McGuire (wearing hat) interviews Tommy over WPEN Phlladelphia. Other two girls are Marijo Biondo (left) and Shirley Hendrix Iright). Occasion was the premier of "The Fabulous Dorseys" and the release of TD's RCA Victor album, "All Time Hits." Marijo and Shirley were Tommy's guests because of their stellar work in selling War Bonds.

World Radio History







BILL ROBINSON AND THE DEEP RIVER BOYS The Boys are at present on a six week tour of theaters with Bojangles.



When Ray Anthony's current one night tour ends he'll head into summer location spots . . . Frankie Carle and ork opening at Lakeside Park, Denver, on May 30 . . . Sonny Dunham will remain in the middle-west until lune 12, at which time he has a date at the Cavalier Hotel in Virginia Beach . . . Illinois Jocquet and his Sextet, along with Cootie Williams and his ork begin a theater tour May 2. Beginning at the Regal in Chi the serics will last ten weeks. . . Members of all the Billy Eckstine fan clubs recently presented their hero with a scroll containing the signatures of 18.000 Eckstine admirers . . . Alec Templeton due to take Edgar Bergen's place this summer ... The Tex Beneke-Miller ork may replace Ginny Simms soon . . . Sammy Kaye and ork recently broke the house record at the Capitol in Washington, D. C. This is looked upon as being particularly impressive since the date occurred during lent, traditional bleak period for the box office . . . Dramatic show rumored to be taking Dick Haymes' place on the air . . . Georgia Gibbs and David Rose may take over for Eddie Cantor on the ether during the warm months . . . Benny Goodman will stay on the air until at least June 30 with the Victor Borge show . . . Perry Como, sun-tanned and cheerful, back from his vacation in Florida . . . Johnny Long will play the graduation dance at the United States Military Acadenty, West Point, on June 4. This is considered by many to be the most important prom booking there is . . . Allan Jones is currently appearing at the Vanity Fair in New York . . . It's numored that Artie Shaw may re-enter the band business although nothing has been said to indicate the kind or size of unit he will organize . . . Count Basie's handlers recently nixed the band's proposed tour of Europe. The group may go to South America, however.

## TEXAS **I**M'S SHOW GREAT

Officials of the ABC network have had to move Texas Jim Robertson's show to larger quarters three times since it's been on the air.

When he was discharged from the Marines and started to do his Saturday noon broadcasts for the net he occupied a small no-audience studio. Since that time three moves have been necessary to accommodate his many fans wanting to watch him work.

His top request number on the "Saddle Bag of Songs" is Seven Women in One. Billy Moll, who wrote the lyrics, says he got the idea from an old Greek school book in which he saw the work "Eftagynokon" which means seven women in one. The tune was cut by Texas Jim some time ago and is now available in RCA Victor record stores.



TEXAS JIM ROBERTSON

#### Latin Biscuit Due for Raves

Jack! Jack! Jack! and Illusion make up the two sides of an RCA Victor record that is sure to go places.

Recorded by John Paris with Ellis Larkins and group the platter should be in the stores about the time this reaches you.

Jack! is a gay little calvpso rumba that has been keeping the people of Miami humming for the bolero, cut at a dreamy pace. Again past few weeks. It's one of those Paris does a top draw job of singnovelties that takes hold and ing, once more performing in both just won't let go. Paris sings it in Spanish and English. His expert winning style, backed up by the vocalizing on this side as well as Three Beaus and a Peep, first in on Jack! makes this record a must Spanish, then in English. The ver- item.

MAY, 1947

**ROSALIE HAS DISC SEG** 



**ROSALIE ALLEN** 

Rosalie Allen, RCA Victor songstress, has a disc show over Station WOV, New York, which has one of the largest listening audiences on the Atlantic seaboard.

Besides spinning the biscuits, Rosalie occasionally picks up her guitar and sings a tune. It's her informal, neighborly manner which gets her the listeners. Her clear, lilting voice holds them once they stop their radio dials at WOV.

A modest person by nature, Rosalie is nevertheless forced to play her own RCA Victor records, since her listeners practically demand it. Nightly she's swamped with requests for Guitar Polka, I Want to Pe a Cowboy's Sweetheart and Cowpuncher's Waltz.

The popularity she enjoys is evidenced in the mail she pulls, which is terrific.

#### CHICK IN CHUCKS MARRIES

Virginia McCurdy, the chick in "Four Chucks and a Chick," is quitting the outfit to marry Alan Young, the comedian. Replacing her will be Marilyn Jackson, who has never before sung on the radio.

sion is first class and due for big things.

Illusion. on the reverse, is a slow



**Charlie Spivak and His Orchestra** 

20-2202 (There is) NO GREATER LOVE BORN TO BE BLUE Swing and Sway with Sammy Kaye 20-2207 THE EGG AND I AFTER GRADUATION DAY Tommy Dorsey and His Orchestra 20-2210 TIME AFTER TIME IT'S THE SAME OLD DREAM Dennis Day with Charles Dant and His Orchestra 20-2211 MAM'SELLE STELLA BY STARLIGHT Bill Johnson and His Musical Notes 20-2225 DON'T YOU THINK I OUGHTA SHORTY'S GOT TO GO Pat Flowers and His Rhythm 20-2215 ALOYSIUS, DO THE DISHES NEVERTHELESS Yaughn Monroe and His Orchestra 20-2226 YOU CAN'T HIDE YOUR HEART BEHIND A KISS DREAMS ARE DIME Δ. DOZEN DOZEN Betty Rhodes with Charles Dant and His Orchestra 20-2227 TONIGHT BE TENDER TO ME THE MAN WHO PAINTS THE RAINBOW IN THE SKY Louis Armstrong and His Orchestra 20-2228 IT TAKES TIME I WONDER, I WONDER, WONDER, I WONDER Etta Jones with J. C. Heard and His Band 20-2231 I SOLD MY HEART TO THE JUNKMAN (Go to Sleep) MY SLEEPY HEAD Robert Merrill with Russ Case and **His Orchestra** 10-1313 WHIFFENPOOF SONG SWEETHEART OF SIGMI CHI John Paris with Ellis Larkins and Group 26-9021 JACK! JACK! JACK! ILLUSION GEMS OF THE SYNAGOGUE Cantor Josef Rosenblatt gathered

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