

JANUARY 1967

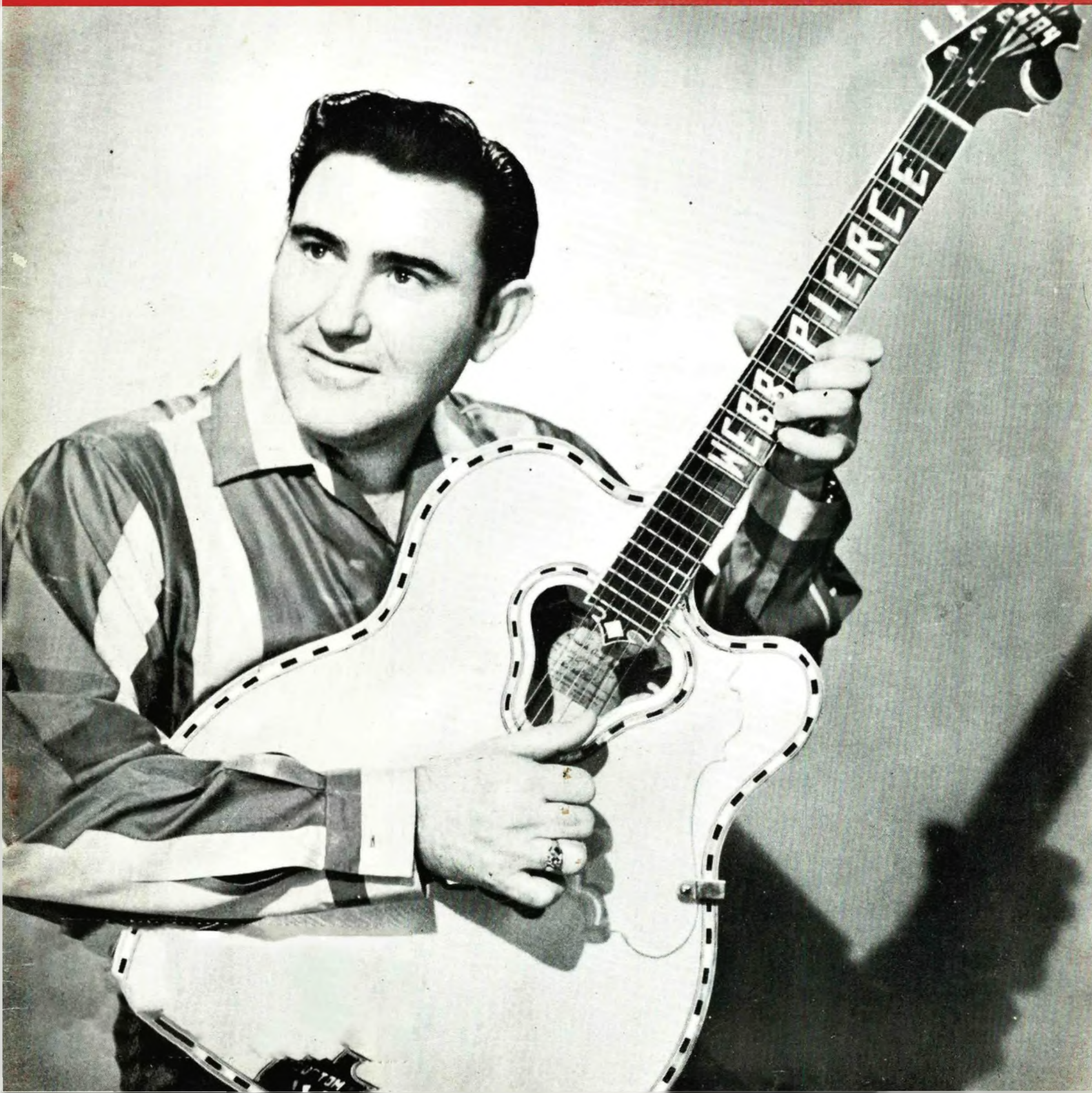
60c

COUNTRY MUSIC LIFE

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RED SOVINE

WBMD JUBILEE



FREE!

**8 X 10 COLOR PHOTO
OF
BUCK OWENS**

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Webb Pierce is a star of two decades. See story on Page 32.

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**Next
Month
In**



Rex Allen

STARTING NEXT MONTH FIRST OF 5 INSTALLMENTS

On Tour With BILL ANDERSON

and many other exciting stories, news and articles plus our regular departments, such as "Tips From The Top," "Nashville Notes," "Where The Stars Are Shining," etc..

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Mr. Harris:

Enclosed you will please find a Country Music news article which I submit to you for publication.

Alaska is becoming the biggest outlet for Country Music in the nation. But artists just won't work Alaska or want so much money that they are the only people who make any money when they do work Alaska.

When I left Las Vegas some 18 months ago it was my plans to forget C & W music. I was to always keep my love and desire for C & W music, but I made up my mind to never become as involved as I had been in the past.

Alaska is an entertainment hungry country. The club owners pay good money for very bad acts. But that's all they can get. When they contact a good artist to work their clubs the first thing that happens is that their manager or agent ups the price \$300.00 and no one can afford them.

Ann Jones and her Western Sweethearts just finished 6 wonderful weeks in Alaska. They broke house record after house record. And they left the state with more money than they would have made in 6 weeks in the lower '48'. This can be done by every country artist that is willing to try.

When we get C & W Music in full swing in Alaska, keep me in mind. I'll be your far north reporter. You may recall that I once wrote the Las Vegas News for Devvy Davenport's Country Music Review.

Howdy Smith
Anchorage, Alaska

*The news article will appear in next month's issue-
Ed.*

Dear Sir:

I am a great Country music lover. I have developed an enjoyable habit for it. This is the first year I've subscribed to your magazine and find it quite informative on the subject.

I am writing this letter to express my thoughts about whom I believe is one of the most talented men to come along in the Country Music field.

I am not a negro myself, but Charlie Pride is every thing his co-manager, Jack Johnson, claims him to be.

In your 1966 March issue of Country Music Life someone wrote a short article about Charlie Pride. I've seen in your magazine that Pride has no fan club president so I couldn't write to them, but if Mr. Jack Johnson would be able to read this and inform me on what I'd like to know I would surely appreciate the editors concern.

Pride has his own style, containing everything that would make any song a hit. Above all as stated

in the article, Pride's love for this music is definitely heard in his singing, that's what counts and is what makes it so great.

Thankgoodness for RCA Victor for helping him on his way to stardom.

I would like to know if Pride has made any albums. I have asked at many Country Music Shops but no one has any of his albums. Maybe someone can inform me where I might be able to send, since I can't find a shop that carries him.

One of the major radio stations I listen to is WWVA. I wrote to them asking if they would play more of Charlie Pride. I don't know for sure what their setup is, but they play his latest recording quite a bit.

I'm sure I speak for many people when I say Charlie Pride is a great Country Music entertainer.

Thank you for the nice picture of Mr. Pride in your magazine.

Sincerely Yours,
Clara Miller
Dellroy, Ohio

Dear Mr. Harris,

Due to the fact that I did not know of CML I have only been a subscriber for the past two months. I am more sorry about this than you.

I am sorry to inform you (from your NEWS section) that the Double B Ranch in Latham, N.Y. is not in operation but would really appreciate you "giving credit, where credit is due" so to speak.

Due to the backing of our local C & W radio sta. WEEE, Albany, 1300 on the dial (for CML tourist in our area) and the efforts of my favorite DJ, Barry Frank, we have to our credit in this area, seen such fine performers as, Sonny James, Hank Snow, Stonewall Jackson, Kenney Roberts, Elton Britt, Bill Anderson, Ferlon Husky, Kitty Wells, etc. and my favorite comedian Archie Campbell.

Also, back to the nightclubs, the Ranch Bar, 6 miles from Latham has put an all out effort to bring good C & W entertainers here, in the past month we have seen Johnny Dollar, followed by Van Trevor.

Please try and publish this as I think WEEE, w/Barry Frank and the Ranch Bar, prop. Harold Ballantine deserve a much overdo round of applause.

Gladys Davis
Cohoes, New York 12047

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2  **THERE GOES MY EVERYTHING**
Jack Greene—Decca 32023

3  **MISTY BLUE**
Wilma Burgess—Decca 32027

4  **TOUCH MY HEART**
Ray Price—Columbia 43795

5  **GAMES OF TRIANGLES**
Bobby Bare, Norma Jean,
Liz Anderson—RCA Victor 8693

6  **UNMITIGATED GALL**
Faron Young—Mercury 72617

7  **DON'T COME HOME
A DRINKIN'**
Loretta Lynn—Decca 32045

8  **STAND BESIDE ME**
Jimmy Dean—RCA Victor 8971

9  **SOMEBODY LIKE ME**
Eddy Arnold—RCA Victor 8965

10  **WHERE'D YA STAY
LAST NIGHT**
Webb Pierce—Decca 32033

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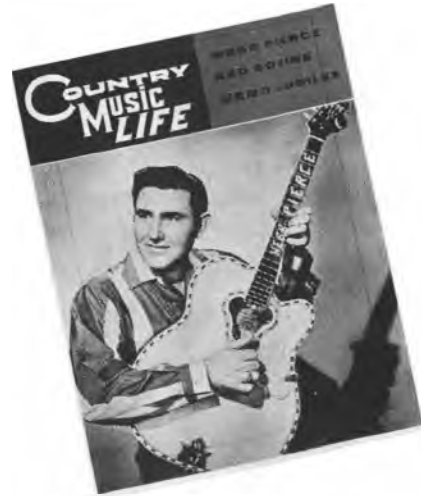
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editorial

THE NEW YEAR

As 1967 comes creeping in we take a moment to reflect and count our blessings and progress during 1966. Not only the progress of COUNTRY MUSIC LIFE, which has been most gratifying, but the progress of the entire Country Music Industry; more radio stations have gone "country" during the past year, more "country" attractions have been booked, attendance records have been broken at all "country" shows, the record and publishing industry are counting their blessings and their money, more fans have "come over" to the country sound . . . all in all . . . Country Music has had a great year . . . and to all indications 1967 will be bigger and better . . . who could ask for anything more!

A WORD TO THE ARTISTS

Recently I had a chat with a "name" artist and was completely impressed (or unimpressed) by the complete lack of foresight and business sense that this person had. I had been telling him of the many advertising benefits that Country Music Life held for the artist . . . the opportunity to advertise their current record or their name direct to the fan, the person that buys the records and attends the shows, instead of advertising in a trade publication with the hope that a D.J. will play the record, the fan will hear it, and eventually will remember the title and buy it . . . that over 100,000 people read Country Music Life every month . . . that it was a method of keeping their name in front of the public . . . even though they had not had a "hit" record for quite sometime . . . that it was an investment in insuring their own future, and in as much as it is a legitimate business expense, it was tax deductible. In essence . . . they were investing in themselves instead of paying it in taxes! This artist told me that he would like to spend more in advertising . . . but couldn't afford it. Ten minutes later he complained that he was in the 65% tax bracket for 1965 . . . in 1966 he didn't have a record on the charts all year. (P.S. He sells for less money this year . . . ho hum)

TIPS FROM THE TOP

Doug Warren



"Tips From The Top" is primarily for the benefit of new and "up and coming" entertainers who are anxious to learn more about this wonderful Country Music "Show Business."

It is with great interest that I have been reading the article "Tips From The Top". These tips should be thoroughly read, and digested by any of the artists that are reaching for that top rung of the ladder to success.

The most basic thing to remember is that it takes work, work, and more hard work. When you feel that you "Can't Get Up Again", just reach down, pull yourself up by the boot-straps, and head out again.

Hard work makes one appreciate each step up that ladder. Don't be afraid of, so called, competition. Without this we would all become slouchy, listless, and lifeless. Competition is the thing that keeps us on our toes with our best foot forward.

Always remember, whether you are just beginning, or the star, those faces looking up at you are beautiful faces, they are your public, your audience wanting to be entertained. When you are in front of that mike YOU are the star "IF" you want to be. Entertain from the bottom of your heart.

If you are going into this only for what you feel will be big money - FORGET IT - do as Stonewall Jackson suggested in his article - get a job "Operating A Lawnmower".

Talent is a gift God has given to be used to help others, in many ways. To help lift a burden, to lighten a troubled heart, to bring a smile to a saddened face, and to make glad heart "gladder". If you can feel this, your way up will be faster and much more enjoyable than if you are only doing this materialistic.

Don't ever take your success, or your audience for granted. We are never too great that we can not continue to learn, and improve. Neither are we ever too great to not need the help, and advice of others who are more experienced. I could almost fill a book with the names of wonderful people who have, and are helping me.

The insincere ones, and the insincere incidents - put them behind you - it's part of life.

Heres hoping these words have some meaning for you.

BEST WISHES FOR YOUR SUCCESS - HAVE FUN WORKING AT IT - BUT WORK!!!

NOTES

By IRENE BEELER

Cy Anders just finished a two month stand at the Diplomat Tavern in Toronto. He will be appearing in Peterborough from November 28 to December 17. Cy is booked at the new Rivalda Restaurant in Toronto for two weeks starting January 9. I regret to report that the Vice President of Cy Anders fan club, Carol Hrappestead (formerly Carol Leggart) was fatally injured in a car accident in Manitoba last October. President of the Club is Joyce Leggart, sister to Carol. Country Music has lost one of its greatest fans and promoters.

The turnout for the Eddy Arnold Spectacular tour in Western Canada was fair in most places. The Kitty Wells - Johnnie Wright Show this past week was a sellout in most of the cities where the show played. Along with Johnnie and Kitty were Ruby and Bobby Wright, Wild Carter, Bill Philips and The Tennessee Mountain Boys. The next tour booked for Western Canada will include Sonny James, Stonewall Jackson, Connie Smith, Johnny Paycheck, Carl Belew and a possibility of more additions.

Mike Stech, the Capitol Records promoter for Saskatchewan won a two week all-expense paid trip to Nassau for the biggest increase in sales per capita in Canada.

Mike Harris, manager of Gracie Dee, reports that Gracie will be heading for Nashville this week for a recording session. Gracie is originally from Canora, Sask. and has been singing in the U.S. for the past six years. She plays electric bass and piano; also guitar and banjo. Miss Dee was discovered by country singer Hal Willis when he heard Gracie singing in a night club. He called Simms Records in Nashville and got an audition for her. She was signed to a recording contract with Simms in July, 1966.

Gracie has her own four-piece band called the Charmerres, consisting of steel guitar, fiddle played by her manager Mike Harris; drums and bass. The group has played Hawaii, Greenland, Puerto Rico plus all of the U.S. and the main cities in Canada. They have just finished a two week stand at the Athletic Club in Williston, North Dakota. After cutting her new record Gracie and the Charmerres will be playing Vancouver B.C. from December 1 thru December 10. December 16 thru Jan. 5 will find them doing one-niters throughout Northern B.C.; also the Yukon and Alaska, where she will be doing shows for the remote military bases in Alaska. Mike Harris is also a recording star in his own right. He has two fiddle records released a few weeks ago called "Waves of Danube" b/w "Orange Blossom Special"; also "Flannigans Polka" b/w "Joys of Quebec", all on the Can-am Label.

NOTES

By LARRY BRIEL

I want to start out my column this month by thanking the readers of COUNTRY MUSIC LIFE. — C/M artists and others who took time to send along notes, letters and Christmas cards during the holiday season. Since I started with CML in November, the response to my writings has just been wonderful. The mail, phone calls and everything else you fine folks have said and done is so very much appreciated by this country buddy! My thanks go out to each and every one of you.

There were many successful country music New Years Eve dances and parties around the Pacific Northwest, including a big one at the Holiday Ballroom in Burlington, Wash., which featured Jack Roberts and the Evergreen Drifters from Seattle playing western swing music and attracting a large crowd from near and far.

Doyle Holly, who used to be one of Buck Owens' Buckaroos, went out on his own a few months ago. He has been entertaining at a Seattle area nitery and records for the Mostrite label. Doyle's first release, "The Dumb Thing," has gained considerable attention, not only in the Northwest region, but in many places across this land.

Another disk, this one by Burt Light of KTW-radio, Seattle, has stirred up a goodly amount of action in the past few weeks in various areas, like the Doyle Holly record has done. Burt is on the Wasp label, with his current sides pairing "Just Like Me", written by Cole Shelton of Tacoma, Wash., with the old standard "Have I Stayed Away Too Long". The songs were arranged by Chubby Howard.

Speaking of song writers in the Tacoma locality I had a visit with Jeff Young, who is a co-penner with Earl Edwards of two efforts which Edwards put on wax for the K-Ark label in Nashville awhile back. The songs are "Big Big Love" b/w "When It Quits Hurtin'". Earl is based in Republic, Wash.

Jimmy Patton, one of the most popular C/M entertainers in Portland and Western Oregon, was in Seattle again recently for another successful appearance. Where-ever Jimmy performs, he always has the audience wanting more. He is indeed a real showman!

On the country music radio scene in Portland — KRDR is beaming out almost around the clock, with the following popular air personalities: "Laramie" Clair Musser, Buddy Simmons, Don Lane, and Ben Dawson. General manager is Jack Grant, and Lane is program director. KRDR broadcasts the "Grand Ole Opry" program in the Portland market area.

In the Seattle-Tacoma vicinity, the delayed airings

Continued on page 13

NOTES



By Jim Harris

I am going to start this month off with a question directed at all the other columnists. Hows the weather where you are? As I write this I look out the window and "sunny California" is really sunny. The temperature is in the high 70's and except for a few nippy evenings, short sleeves are still very much in style. If this sounds like a dig, thats good. Thats what I wanted. I've lived all over the country and I wouldn't live anywhere else but right here.

You know, we never get to see any of our favorite stars here in southern California. All I saw last month was Sonny James, Connie Smith, Leroy Van Dyke and Marty Robbins each with their own show on December 2nd thru the efforts of giant 1020 KGBS. Next night courtesy of KFOX 1280 we saw what is sure to be an occasion to remember in the area. Would you believe a homecoming of top stars that live in southern California? The Le Garde twins, Jerry Wallace, Beth Moore, Billy Mize, Bobby Austin, Tommy Collins, Bob Christie, Smokey Rogers, Jimmy Wakely, Johnny Bond, Wynn Stewart, Skeets McDonald Eddie Downs, Sheb Wooley, Johnny & Joanie Mosley, and Tex Williams.

At this point I am going to go out on a limb and make a stardom prediction. The man I predict will be a star in 1967 is a humble young guy by the name of Eddie Downs. Currently riding high in the local area with his 1st release on Capitol called "Nothing But Time". Eddie is a fine, person that deserves everything he can get. In substantiating my prediction I will quote Johnny Bond. As Eddie was performing we were standing backstage and Johnny said, "this kid is going places". Eddie is currently the feature vocalist with the Phil Baugh Trio at the Rockette Club in Montclair every night but Sunday.

CML goes in the mail on the 25th of each month, so those of you that receive it on time be sure to catch the big New Years Eve gala affair at the Olympic Auditorium in Los Angeles where KGBS is hosting Buck Owens and the Buckaroos and a host of other personalities. Should be quite a blast.

Speaking of "Mr Big", official news has reached me that Buck will be riding on the "City of Monterey Park" float in the world famous annual tournament

Continued on page 13

NOTES



Mary Ann Cooper

The death November 20th of C & W's CARL LEE makes this column a bit harder than usual to write. Mr. Lee, a friend of ours, was readying a new C & W Newspaper to have begun publication in December. I will be contacting the Lee's soon to find out what will happen about the paper. Our deepest sympathies to all concerned!

Illinois' latest all country music radio station W.K.Z.I. Casey, teams up with W.T.F.R.-FM Terre Haute, Indiana, for some of its programming. One of these shows, which makes enjoyable listening, is "SUNDAY IN THE COUNTRY" - a couple hours of music, taped interviews with big name stars, and in November, a little something different when on the 20th, DONNA STEELE of Mattoon, Illinois, took over as "D.J. For A Day". I'm surprised they don't try to hire her - Donna sounded like a pro!

THE JOE TAYLOR FAN CLUB held their 1966 annual Christmas Party at the W.G.L. Ft. Wayne, Indiana studios. More clubs should have these get-togethers.

Speaking of fan clubs, BETTY CARSON, president of one for KAY ADAMS (Route 1, Box 518, North Jackson, Ohio 44451), raises Pomeranians. What's unusual about that? Nothing except this gal names 'em all after her favorite entertainers and song titles! TOMMY COLLINS insists the little dog named BUCK is better looking than BUCK OWENS?! ALL THE BUCKAROOS have little pooch namesakes, and of course, there is a little KAY too! Would ya believe "AMAZIN' GRACIE" and "ABY LENE" (ABILENE)? At last count, Betty came up with 31 altogether. Wanna buy a puppy?

Just received a letter from Shirley of the talented singing duo BILL & SHIRLEY WHITE from Missouri. They just returned from a long tour of Greenland and "points North" with the JENNY JAMISON SHOW. Hope to have a lot to tell you about this trip after I can talk with Jenny, as I understand from Shirl it was very successful - and interesting!

Also from Missouri, CLAY HARRELL sent a copy of a new instrumental release on St. Louis' own label "Hop". It's a catchy little thing by BARNEY BARNICIE AND THE UPTOWNERS called "DON'S BOOGIE".

Continued on page 31

Nashville

NOTES



By
By RUTH and PAUL CHARON

As usual, the month after Convention has found all Music City in a scurry; with Thanksgiving and Christmas plans, holiday benefit shows and recordings and tours through the ice ridden North. The yuletide parties had already begun before December made its' entrance; with a birthday for Opry stage manager, Vite Pellertieri (still full of fun and energy in his mid seventies). WENO Radio held its' celebration at Riverwood Lodge, with hostess Lorrie Angel.

The new D.J. at that station, Jerry Green, is a welcome new tenant in Madison and hopes to record soon. He joined us out to Alice and Neal Merritts' for a get-to-gether, as we broke in Neal's new \$1,000 harpsicord and amplifier, given him by Baldwin Co.

Marty Robbins is tuning up his beloved stock car, as Robert Patrick Productions of Hollywood are returning to film a new movie starring Marty, titled "Hell On Wheels". "Road To Nashville" had its (first Music City showing here in Madison, in its sellout rounds across the nation, Marty's teenage son has a combo, with Bob Jennongs' son as their most ardent fan.

WSM's "Ralph Emery" and "Bobby Lord Show" are now in full color, adding 100% quality and viewing pleasure. Dave Dudley was here to film his first color syndicated Opry TV Show this month. Bobby Lewis also made his first appearance, because of the success of his current hit, "How Long Has It Been".

Photographer Les Leverett was busy rushing out an album cover as Liz Anderson, Norman Jean and Bobby Bare cut an RCA Triangel album. We all visited with Theresa Brewer as she arrived in town to cut some commercials and other material.

Quote your reporter Paul: WSM personnel kicks off the Christmas season at Christmas Village, a trade fair and show, for the benefit of the Bill Wilkerson Speech and Hearing Clinic. Headliners were; Dave Overton, Boyce Hawkins, Bobby Lord, Skeeter Davis, Ronnie Lifht and myself. Santa Claus joined us all for the fun and shopping list problems. In November we followed the first season's snow into

Continued on page 31

Southeast

NOTES



By
Red Wilcox

On December 1st country music "touched" an entirely different type of audience as a show in Alexandria, Virginia, became a major society event. The show starring Jean Shepard, The Compton Brothers, and The Osborn Bros. was promoted by the Business and Professional Women's Club. International celebrities in attendance included. Lady Baumgardner (cousin of Winston Churchill and one of the top ten women in Washington, D. C.); Samuel Bookatz (the only artist ever to have studios in the White House itself); and, Dr. William Dickman and his wife, Ilka Dickman (Dr. Dickman is Liason for the City of Helsingborg, Sweden, and Mrs. Dickman is Medical Officer, Food and Drug Administration, U.S. Dept. of Health, Education, & Welfare). From Gemini Pictures, producers of the color movie, MUSIC CITY, USA, were two Vice Presidents -- Noel Barrett and Dick O'Connell. They were accompanied by Mrs. Collins, mother of the movie's producer Preston Collins. Mrs. Jeane Dixon, world renowned for her forecasting of future events, had planned to attend but an illness caused cancellation of her plans at the last minute. From all the applause received by the artists, the country music show was a great success with the distinguished audience. WDON DJ Tom Reeder did the EmCee chores with a little help from WXRA's Larry Jackson.

Washington, D.C's FM station, 10 KW WXRA still needs cards and letters from listeners showing that they are in favor of the station increasing its wattage to 50,000 and its broadcasting day to 24-hours. WXRA (Alexandria, Va.) is all country so lets show them that we country fans stand behind their programming.

Through the use of UHF converters and the new TV sets already "rigged" for UHF, the success of the "Country Music Time" shows on Channel 14 is growing steadily. Country music groups in the area have increasingly turned out in support of the show. Dot Recording artists, The Compton Brothers, recently taped three of the shows and Johnny \$ Dollar plans to tape soon. Nicki Newland and the Oxon Hill Cloggers appear quite frequently on the show.

To show their appreciation, Washington, D.C., musicians, singers, and dancers got together and

Continued on page 13

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Talked to Frankie Starr, Nashville Rep. of CML, and he stated that he sold 27 copies of his last release, not counting the one he sold his mother at wholesale. All kidding aside, Frankie recently signed with Rebco Records of Denver, Colorado with a new release to be cut shortly. Rebco also has a Nashville office, with Autry Inman at the helm. Autry also divides his time up, with being a fine columnist. His "Odds And Ends" column, in a leading trade publication, has been stirring up MUCH comment down here.

"Brother" Herb, Sims that is, is busy keeping his nine Gospel Acts busy on the road. The Seego Bros. & Neomi; The Bellaires, Carl Story & group, Wendy Bagwell, The Carter Family & Kathy, all have new albums on the market.

Judy Lynn, Las Vegas' favorite gal, is in Nashville cutting another big session for the Musicor folks. Scheduled for a four day stay, Nashville is awaitin' this mighty talented and pretty gal.

Our favorite duo, and Longhorn's BIG guns, Janet McBride & Vern Stovall, have a brand spankin' new album. "Country Dozen" features all their Big ones, plus many original tunes to keep your listening ear happy.

Vernon Glen, Miss Ann Taylor, and Don Teague and his Tennessee "T's", readying their gear for a month's overseas bookings, starting shortly. Don, one of the few country music entertainers born and raised in Tennessee, informed me that Steve Cory has joined the "T's" on electric lead guitar. A few short years back, Steve had a top R & R release out, and later switched to C & W, playing with some leading acts. Getting married, he retired from the field, and just recently returned to the "wars".

Buck Cody, Western movie artist, returned to the recording field after a five year absence. Recording for the Wizard label, his first effort, "Legend Of Thunderhawk", has "taken off", sales and air action wise. Reports coming in at the Wizard Office, predict that the "Thunder Drums" of Willie Ackeman (featured on this release) can be heard across the country.

Ed Bruce is busy shopping for Cottonmouth snakes, Alligators and quick sand. It seems to have something to do with his first release, "Walker's Woods", just released on the RCA label. More about this later.

BACK ISSUES

ARE STILL AVAILABLE



NOVEMBER
ROGER MILLER, JIM REEVES, LORETTA LYNN

DECEMBER
GEORGE JONES, JUDY LYNN, SONNY JAMES

JANUARY
BUCK OWENS, SKEETER DAVIS, BOBBY BARNETT

MARCH
EDDIE ARNOLD, DOTTIE WEST, JIMMY DICKENS

APRIL
WILBURN BROS., CARL SMITH, ARCHIE CAMPBELL

MAY
JIMMIE ROGERS, BILLY WALKER, BILLY MIZE

JUNE
CHET ATKINS, BOB WILLS, KITTY WELLS

JULY
ROY ROGERS, ERNEST TUBB, HARDIN TRIO

AUGUST
HANK THOMPSON, JUSTIN TUBB,
CARL & PEARL BUTLER, DEL REEVES



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Three Wizard artists hit the "Awards" binge, during the recent convention. Vernon Glen ("Mr. Congenality" plaque); Vince Roberts (Made "Honorary Citizen" of Tennessee) and George Main came up with award for being "Michigan's most promising Male singer". Believe it or not, Wizard knew nothing about the awards and were just as pleased and proud as the winners.

"The Kay Arnold Show", came off the roads with a successful tour in Indiana. Along with the regulars, The Chuck Wagon Gang, were featured. The Chucks are one of the alltime greats in the Gospel Music field.

On his latest Capa release, Johnny Foster states that, "I'm A Little Bit Back'ards", but taint so. In fact, he's "forward" on their sales charts with this cute novelty entry. Capa's excellent songstress, Kitty Hawkins, will have a new one out in the near future.

Jim & Lyn, those roaring "Tigers" of Tiger Records, find themselves roaring in the number 10 spot, on the charts throughout South America. Besides, their noise making release, "I Wish I Never", they've added their radio program outlets to Europe.

Jack Turner & Tom Donahue, The Country Music Gents, are playing to SRO crowds throughout the Eastern seaboard area. They're scheduled to fly here to Nashville to cut their first record session. Knowing these boys, this is ONE release to watch and listen for.

A few short weeks ago, Ken Galloway opened Delta Talent Agency, and HOW he's added "names" to his booking lists. In a few weeks, he now is booking Jack Greene, Cousin Jody, Bill Monroe, Kirk Hansard, Lois Johnson, Neal Merritt and many others. Spending most of his long days on the phone, he deserves success. Watch this agency move!

I'd like to close this month's column with a few words of my own. May 1967 be everything you wish, it to be . . . may you enjoy happiness and full success. . . but don't forget, everyday GIVE thanks to the Lord above, HAPPY NEW YEAR!

WEST COAST NOTES

Continued from page 10
of Roses Parade.

The time is coming so once again I will remind you about the up-coming color TV show by KGBS radio. I don't know the date of its debut so you will have to watch your TV listings for date & time.

Well, I am going to close this month with a wish that you all have a very very prosperous new year.

SOUTHEAST NOTES

Continued from page 11

staged a big country show at the Veterans' Hospital. WDON DJ Jack Rodgers MCEED the "doins" which featured Shell Bowling and his band, The Cimarrons; Al Jones, Frank Necessary, and The Spruce Mountain

Boys; Nicki Newland; Salem Recording artist, Jeff Simmons; Peggy Rose; Dick and Jack, The Goodacre Brothers; and, The Oxon Hill Cloggers, National Champions for two years' running at the Warrenton Championships.

The WBMD Country Jubilee for Sunday afternoon, Feb. 17, at the Baltimore Civic Center will star Hank Thompson, Ferlin Husky, Roy Clark, Porter Wagoner, and Norma Jean. Be sure and order tickets early (WBMD Radio, Baltimore, Maryland) on this one. But hold onto your hats! To help "ring in the New Year", WBMD will stage a special Country Jubilee prior to the regularly scheduled February show! The "Special New Years" show will be starring all new faces to the Baltimore Civic Center -- Bill Anderson & The Po' Boys, Bobby Bare, Skeeter Davis, and Sheb Wooley, with more stars to be announced. The date of this New Year's Special Jubilee is Saturday, January 7th. Tickets will have to be ordered early on this one!

Virginia as well as the entire Southeast joins with the rest of the world in mourning the loss of Carter Stanley. High on a mountain-top in the little town of Nora, Virginia, Carter Stanley was "laid to rest" on December 3rd. Carlton Haney reports that between 4,000 and 5,000 people crowded into the school there to pay their final homage. People from all walks of life -- some bluegrass fans and some not -- they came from near and far. As a special tribute, Bill Monroe, the "father of bluegrass music", stood at the foot of the casket and in a solo voice without accompaniment sang "Swing Low Sweet Chariot".

NORTHWEST NOTES

Continued from page 10

of the "Opry" are carried on KMO twice daily, at 6 A.M. (Yawn!), and 4 P.M. The station also has country records on all night long, beginning at 10:30 P.M. The night-time signal of KMO stretches out to reach several states and up into Canada.

One day I tuned in Jan Kelly's C/M show, heard Monday thru Saturday, '11 A.M. to 2 P.M., over KAYE in Puyallup, Wash. She played the complete "Hank Snow Story" album on RCA Victor Records on the air, which took nearly a full hour, I knew of this album being out, but before it was broadcast on KAYE, I hadn't had the opportunity of listening to it. I found the LP to be most interesting, with the voices and sounds from all through Hank's career in country music, -- actual radio programs, etc. In my opinion, other stars should consider doing this type of album. By the way, Buck Owens was a deejay at KAYE some years back.

Capitol Records' Bonnie Owens was in Seattle for a one-nighter appearance in December.

Just a reminder, drop me a card or letter at 1619 So. Mullen St., Tacoma, Wash. 98405 or c/o CML in California. I'll be glad to hear from you, friends! Until next month--remember to KEEP IT COUNTRY!

NEWS NEWS NEWS



Tommy and The Star-Lighters, Detroit, Michigan recording artists, were recently voted Michigan's Leading Country Music Band. Selection was through a poll of the state's DJ's and fans.

* * * * *

Capitol Records' SONNY JAMES, climaxing the highly successful "SONNY JAMES MONTH" which has been observed nationally and internationally by country music radio stations, has been signed for an important part in a new musical feature being produced by Woolner Brothers Productions in Hollywood, according to announcement from James' personal manager, Bob Neal of Nashville. The feature is being produced in Hollywood in the early part of December and James and the Southern Gentlemen will be filmed for their part during a west coast tour the first two weeks of December. The production, which deals with musical events in a haunted house is set to feature such top character actors as Basil Rathbone, Lon Chaney, Jr., and Mamie Van Doren as well as Ferlin Husky from Nashville. The picture will be filmed in wide screen and color and aimed for early Spring distribution. The part played by James will feature him and his musical group in several selections as well as an acting part for the Southern Gentleman. Negotiations were concluded by Bob Neal and Bernard Woolner, head of Woolner Brothers Productions in Hollywood.

* * * * *

Husky Music, Ferlin Husky's namesake publisher under the Long Banner, is watching the progress of what obviously is becoming a Country Classic. Husky shares co-publishing on "There's Goes My Everything", a song which is being cut frequently along Music Row. The top version thus far is by Jack Green but a number of other artists are interpreting it on their own. "There Goes My Everything" will also come out by Margie Bowes, Loretta Lynn, Jean Shepard, Ray Price, Pop Thrus Sue Raney, and the Bill Vaughn Voices. The song was written by Dallas Frazier.



Pop Stoneman's seemingly selfish attitude toward Thanksgiving turkey dinners is described by the 73 yr. old entertainer himself as being merely "a matter of practicality". Pop and Mom Stoneman had 23 children, 13 of whom lived to ravish many a beautiful gobbler on Thanksgiving Day, so around his table its a sort of "survival of the fittest" when it's time to eat. During non-eating spells, Pop heads up the popular Stoneman musical unit which moved to Music City this year and is currently enjoying its greatest popularity.

* * * * *

Country Music giant Buck (The Tiger) Owens, now celebrating his most successful year in show business, has released information regarding his employee profit sharing plan. In one of the most unique employer-employee programs devised, the popular Capitol hitmaker put into force earlier this a plan whereby those employees, who, through their years of service have proven their loyalty, will benefit financially. Owens stated the profit-sharing plan is his way of further compensating his employees who have stood by him through thick and thin. The profit sharing plan "The Tiger" has selected is supported entirely by him. His employees do not contribute in any form. The Bakersfield Star employs 30 persons who work in the various Owens enterprises; Buck Owens Production Co., Inc., Blue Book Music, Radio Station KUZZ, Buckaroo Music Corporation, Buck Owens Enterprises, Buckaroo Public Relations and Advertising Agency and OMAC Artist's Corporation. Dorothy Owens is business manager of her brother's growing empire of interests.

* * * * *

Buck Cody of Western Movie fame is back on the recording range once again. After being absent from the recording scene for five years, he recently cut a big session for Wizard. Reports indicate that he has a "bullseye" release. Riding hard at the session, he was hotly pursued by "Chief Thunderhawk," Willie Ackerman. Looks like Nashville will shortly be involved in an Indian uprising.

NEWS NEWS NEWS



Jim Chesser, air personality on all-country KVEG radio in Las Vegas, Nev., displays a giant-sized copy of Johnny \$ Dollar's Dot release, "Windburn", brought to the station by Bemice Thompson, President of the national Johnny \$ Dollar Fan Club. Mrs. Thompson only recently moved to the resort city from the nation's capital.

* * * * *

The current expansion of Aud-Lee Attractions is adhering closely to the true meaning of the word and adding a few changes for good measure. Still at 812 16th Ave. S., the firm has moved into Suite 107 and even has a new telephone number - 244-4336 - according to Buddy Lee, co-owner along with Audrey Williams. A booking assistant, Bob Eddings, has been added to Lee's staff, which handles appearance arrangements for such artists as Hank Williams, Jr., Merle Kilgore, Vernon Oxford, Tommy Cash, Ralph Emery, Wilma Lee, Stoney Cooper and "The Clinch Mountain Clan", Jimmy Martin and "The Sunny Mountain Boys", Marvin Rainwater, Dawn Glass, and Curley Fox.

* * * * *

Maybe it's "all just music" after all and that our classifications of "country", "pop", "classical", "jazz", and the like are just notions, as a recent Nashville session paved a strong bridge across category gaps. Produced for RCA Victor by Chet Atkins, the first session by the Nashville Sound String Quartet, featuring violinist Roddy Bristol, used a chamber music-approach with such songs as "Oh, Lonesome Me", "I really Don't Want To Know", "The Three Bells", and "Bonapart's Retreat". Bristol, who was unearthed by Atkins, has performed with many of the nation's major symphonic groups and is considered by Atkins as "one of the most extraordinary violinists in the nation today".



The premiere of a movie is always something special and the debut of "Nashville Rebel" starring Waylon Jennings was no exception as Waylon and many other special guests were at Nashville's Tennessee Theatre.

* * * * *

When the two hour "Wonderful World Of Country Music" made it's debut on the Intermountain radio network, Saturday December 3rd, the guest star was Leroy Van Dyke. Although many other outstanding country artists will appear in ensuing programs, it is most appropriate that Leroy helped launch the show, since it's title was inspired by one of his great hits, "The Big Wide Wonderful World Of Country Music". The Intermountain Network is the largest regional network in the nation, interconnecting more than 65 radio stations in seven Rocky Mountain states. His appearance on this program might come as a surprise to Leroy, since he recorded his participation many months ago. The Intermountain Network show was originally to have started much earlier this year. The start date was held up until the originating station, KVOC Casper, Wyoming, could complete the two man team that will host the show. The slots were finally awarded to John Woodside and Tom Brennen, two platter and chatter specialists.

* * * * *

"The Slim Mims Show", continues to gather high ratings on WBTW-TV, with the Florence, South Carolina residents. The early morning telecast presents the finest in Country Music entertainment, with special guests in each morning. Recent guests were Nashville personalities, Cousin Jody and Rink Hardin.

* * * * *

Archie Campbell is an obvious favorite at the widely-syndicated "Midwestern Hayride" and returns to Cincinnati December 3 for his 4th appearance on the WLW production.

NEWS NEWS NEWS



Van Trevor, whose recording of "Our Side" is rapidly becoming a cross country hit for the C & W crooner, recently was a special guest on the Keystone Jamboree in Doylestown, Pa. which is hosted by the station's own Hugh Clinton and is aired on week-ends over the 5,000-watt station.

* * * * *

Little Jimmy Dickens will perform on the California club circuit December 6-17. This will be his first visit to the West Coast in two years.

* * * * *



Three of Decca Records' proudest "possessions" are (l to r) A & R Chief Owen Bradley, Kitty Wells, and Kitty's husband Johnny Wright, far right. The threesome flanks young Bobby Wright, who recently returned home from Hollywood after a stint with the McHale's Navy TV series to join his parent's Country Music troupe. Photo above was snapped during this year's Dee-Jay convention, amidst rumors that Bobby might change his recording contract from Hickory to Decca.

One of the songs just recorded by the Four Preps was written by one of Tree Publishing Company's most consistently successful songwriting duos, John Hurley and Ronnie Wilkins. The song used in the Capitol session was "Love of the Common People".

* * * * *

Country music shows are not nearly as prevalent in Tennessee as in other parts of the country, but one exception will come about when Don Gibson headlines a big show at the Municipal Auditorium in Chattanooga in December. Other acts on the show will include Lefty Frizzell and Johnny Darrell.

* * * * *

Stallion Music, the Bill Anderson publishing annex of the Hubert Long House, has scored again with several new releases either out or on the boards for imminent release. Porter Wagoner will be riding a Stallion entry with his cut of "Cold Hard Facts of Life". Charlie Walker's cut of "You Lied To Me" is also a Stallion song. Anderson also wrote George Hamilton IV's "And You Wonder Why" and Charlie Louvin's "Off and On". Bill's current Decca offerings are also copping coin for the tall Georgian.

* * * * *



Happy smiles were on familiar faces recently at Nashville's Belmont Baptist Church. The wedding of Barbara Stoneman Asbury and Jerry Monday marked the official entry of the popular member of the performing Stonemans into the Stoneman family.

NEWS NEWS NEWS

Hugh X. Lewis may have his life insurance premiums re-examined after the hazards of filming "Cottonpickin' Chickenpickers" become known. Hugh prefers doing his own stunt work but some of the stunts involved in this latest film border on the murderous. Hugh, who co-stars in the film, is required to jump from a freight train during the opening of the film. The freight's speed of twenty miles an hour made the first attempt precarious but the director asked for three additional takes for safety. Hugh accomodatingly hopped off the moving box car all four times, despite some minor bruises inflicted by the stunt. Hugh also was required to hang from the rear of a moving swamp-buggy during one scene. The water skimming vehicle is driven by a 250 horsepower aircraft engine with propeller. The major danger, as far as Hugh is concerned is the presence of the usual swamp denizens. Lewis reports killing three lethal diamond-back rattlers personally and says at least a score have been dispatched by other members of the cast and crew.

* * * * *

The January and February, 1967, issues of New Magazine will carry a two-part feature on the Duke of Paducah entitled "I Never Forgot to Pray". The publication is an internationally-circulated religious periodical published out of Unity Village, Lees Summit, Missouri. Announcement of the forth-coming feature was made by the magazine's editor, Charles Lilly.

* * * * *

The long-running, family-flavored "Lawrence Welk Show" has invited Country songstress Connie Smith and her band to appear as a guest artist. According to her agent, Jimmie Klein, Miss Smith will perform on the segment of the show which is taped December 6 for showing December 17. The Nashville-based singer is one of few Country entertainers to have worked the popular ABC-TV network show.

* * * * *

Tommy Ingram and the Star-Lighters, recently voted through a state wide poll of DJS & fans as Michigans leading Country Music band, recently appeared as special guests on the popular Detroit telecast, "The Morning Show", over WXYZ-TV. An early return date is up coming.

* * * * *

Janet McBride and Vern Stovall (Longhorn Records duo) are still involved in their fast paced "dollar" search—thanks to their big one "Where Did The Dollar Go" while searching throughout Nebraska, Kansas, Idaho and South Dakota—making PA's along the way. Hey, Dewey, do you really know where that dollar went?



A recent visitor to Music City, and longtime "numero uno" fan of guitarist Chet Atkins (left), was Chet's father, Mr. James Atkins, shown above sound-searching at the keyboard with his offspring. The elder Atkins lives in Corryton, Tenn., where he is a gentleman farmer and retired music instructor.

* * * * *

Murv Shiner, general manager of Ly-Ran Music, was notified that the firm will receive a BMI award for "Standing in the Shadows." As Hank Williams Jr. was 16 at the time he wrote the song, he is probably the youngest C/M songwriter to compose a BMI award-winning tune.



Some folk may laugh at old-fashioned methods, but a diving rod worked for Buddy Killen and Jack Stapp in this instance leading them to a new BMI contract which is being signed by Nashville's BMI head Frances Preston. The contract affiliates a new publishing firm, Twig Music, Inc., with BMI. A "branch" of Tree Publishing Company, Twig is headed by President Stapp and Executive Vice President Killen.

NEWS NEWS NEWS



The Prophets, Knoxville, Tennessee's favorite sons and fast becoming America's favorite singers were the American Soldier's "hero's" last night as they headlined a spectacular two-hour show at Fort Campbell's Wilson Theatre. The audience, a good cross-section of the 40,000 people who make up this military post included everyone from recruit, career soldiers, army families and military civilians to battle weary troops just returned from the front lines in Viet Nam. This concert, the first for Gospel Music on an army base in the United States was negotiated by The Prophets Personal Manager, Buz Wilburn through Army Chaplains Major Gosser and Capt. Curt Bowers in conjunction with Special Services Officer Lt. Glenn F. Nellist. Yesterday afternoon, The Prophets visited the critical wards of the base hospital and took their special brand of "sunshine" to those many who could not be transported to the theatre. A piano was provided and The Prophets played and sang to hundreds of "smiles" that haven't been seen in a long time. A nurse was heard to say "look at Danny over there, I've never seen him laugh before".

The Celestials, an all girl group from Lexington, Kentucky provided the feminine charm for the show. A very pretty and talented trio, they were rousingly received by the troops. Their stunning piano player, Betty, said "she had a hundred and fourteen proposals during intermission". Commenting on the event, Chaplains Gosser and Bowers had many fine words of praise for The Prophets and The Celestials, The Chaplains along with Special Services Lt. Glenn Nellist agreed that the days visit by The Prophets and The Celestials had been one of the best morale boosters on the base in a long time. Result: The Prophets have been booked back for several appearances in the coming year.

* * * * *

One of Nashville's hottest new songwriters is getting an opportunity to prove his worth as a singer as Bobby Braddock enters the studio to record for MGM this month. Bobby has had the phenomenal average of having one or more songs recorded per week since arriving in Nashville this summer.

Birth Certificate

WEIGHT: 7 lbs. HAIR: Black
LENGTH: 20 in. EYES: Blue

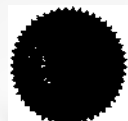


This is not an official Birth Certificate for your baby. A certified copy of your baby's birth can be obtained by writing to your State Board of Health.

This Certifies that, SANDRA RUTH COLLIE
was born to MR. AND MRS. RUFAN KEITH COLLIE
in this Hospital at 3400 E. 10th St. SUNDAY
the 30th day of OCTOBER 19 66

In Witness Whereof the attending Physician has
written at his hand and the said Hospital has caused this
Certificate to be signed by its duly authorized officers and its
Official Seal to be hereunto affixed.

[Handwritten signature]



Biff Collie, Popular Long Beach KFOX D.J. used this clever approach to announce the arrival of new daughter Sandra Ruth Collie.

* * * * *

Toby Dick Ellis, producer-MC of midwest TV show, "The Possum Holler Opry," has announced the pacting of Wizard recording artist, Vernon Glen, as a featured regular of the telecast. Because of his busy schedule, Glen will tape his segments monthly. The Opry is the nation's longest running Country Music TV program.

* * * * *

Buck Cody, former Western Movie Star, has a bulls-eye, with his first release for Wizard Records. According to the firm's General Manager, Buster Doss, "The Legend Of Thunderhawk", originally began to move in the Dallas-Houston area, and is spreading rapidly across the country. Along with sales action, airplay is reported as excellent.

* * * * *

Ralph Petti has been named General Sales Manager of Radio Station KGBS, Los Angeles effective November 14th, according to Dale Peterson, General Manager of the 50,000 watt Storer Broadcasting Company station. Pat McDowd, who has been covering both national and local sales, will continue on the local sales side. "Increased sales activity necessitate our making the addition of Mr. Petti", Peterson said. Petti comes to KGBS from KONO, San Antonio, where he has served as Vice President & Station Manager. Petti's background includes both major and small market radio in San Francisco (KEWB), Montana and Pennsylvania.

* * * * *

Jerry Monday has long been "our man Friday" to the Stonemans, but now he's "brother-in-law". Jerry and recent bride Barbara now reside in Donelson, Tenn., at Merry Oaks Apartments.

NEWS NEWS NEWS

Bob Homa, Yakima, Washington, recording artist, reports that the most requested numbers during his present Holiday Inn engagements, include: "Pistol Packin' Mama" and "Mountain Dew". It seems that people still remember the "Old" tunes after all.

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When the public likes something, the logical move is give them more of it; therefore, MGM is releasing a second edition of the engineering marvel that combines the voices of the legendary Hank Williams and his highly talented son. Entitled "Hank Williams and Hank Williams, Jr., Again", the package features interesting treatment of such winners as "Kawliga" and "My Bucket's Got A Hole In It".

* * * * *

December will have 23 work days for Waylon Jennings this year, significantly drawing to a close his first year with RCA Victor. After appearing at the Flame in Minneapolis Dec. 12-17, Jennings will return to his hometown of Phoenix, Arizona, for an engagement at J.D.'s Club Dec. 20-31. How's that for being home for Christmas and New Year's Eve?

* * * * *

Shooting for a dozen hits with that many releases, Dial artist Joe Tex is heard in a somewhat different setting on his current release, "Pappa Was, Too". Composition honors were earned by the singer, who is an exclusive writer for Tree Publishing Company.

* * * * *

A new album entitled "Kitty Wells" (VL-3786) is a double treat for fans of the Queen of Country Music, as a eye-pleasing portrait by the artist Healy adorns the jacket cover and the songs give equal pleasure to the ear. On the inexpensive Decca-subsi-dary Vocation label, the package includes such favorites as "Cryin' Steel Guitar Waltz", "Thou Shalt Not Steal", "The Life They Live in Songs", "Wicked World", and "Heartache for a Keepsake".

* * * * *

Kenny Price, Midwestern Hayride star whose "Walkin' On New Grass" hit very high in all the country music popularity polls, has a new release which may top it. Called "Happy Tracks" it, like "Walkin' On New Grass" was written by Ray Pennington, and is backgrounded by 22 Nashville musicians. Both are on the Boone label. Bobby Bobo, head of Boone Records and also a member of Hayride's multi-talented cast, describes "Happy Tracks" as an up-tempo, happy piece of music with a nice philosophical touch in the lyrics. Bobby Bobo's Boone Records also recently released "Are You Guilty", a pop tune by Colleen Sharp, one of the Hayride vocalists. It too is scoring well in all the major markets.



Bruce Belland (center), highly successful songwriter and 10-yr. member of "The Four Preps", contemplates the heights he hopes to ascend as a new member of Tree Publishing Company's family of writers. Assisting with the elevated look-see are Tree execs. Jack Stapp (left) and Buddy Killen. Though hoping to focus on the Country market, million-sellers from the Pop pen of Belland include "26 Miles (To Santa Catalina)", "Big Man", "Down By The Station", "Got A Girl", and "More Money For You and Me".

* * * * *

A strong tempo and a strong set of Mack Vickery lyrics mark the current MGM release by Hank Williams, Jr., "I Can't Take It No Longer". The flip, also penned by Vickery, is "You Can Hear A Tear drop". The session was produced by Jack Clement, which makes for another element of "strength".

* * * * *

Ken Galloway, Manager of Delta Talent Agency, announced this week the appointment of Marve Hoerner, Nashville public relations consultant, to represent his agency and artists. The Nashville based Talent firm, nationally books Bill Monroe; Jack Greene; Cousin Jody; Kirk Hansard; Neal Merrit; Tammy Wynette; Alice Joy; Don Chapel; Rink Hardin; Jack Kirch; Karen Wheeler; Benny Barnes; and others.

NEWS NEWS NEWS

A retrospective glance at this year's entertainment calendar shows that, while this could have been the year the Duke of Paducah retired, it was the biggest and busiest of the 65-year-old comic's 44 years in show business. There is still no room for "retirement" in his thinking, as his 1967 calendar is already getting bright with red circles.

* * * * *

Kapp Records' Dick Flood, by popular request, was held over for an extra week following his October 11-23rd stint at Harmon Air Force Base NCO Club, Newfoundland. Flood, along with his Pathfinders, followed this with a 10-day stand at Raney AFB, Puerto Rico, plus other Southern dates.

* * * * *

SONNY JAMES, Capitol Records Southern Gentleman has been set for an appearance on the Pat Boone TV show, according to information from his manager, Bob Neal. James and the Southern Gentlemen will make the TV taping during a west coast tour from the 1st of December through the 10th of December, and the airing date will be announced later.

* * * * *

About the time it will be too late for Tom Turkey to worry about Thanksgiving, Archie Campbell will have a brand new Christmas single released. "Christmas Eve in Heaven" (Victor 47-9028) is a beautiful narration of a new type of Christmas story and is due for release November 22. The song will be backed by "Christmas at the Opry".

* * * * *

A name has been decided upon for the backup group which was formed earlier this fall to accompany Connie Smith on all her appearances. According to the RCA Victor artist's agent, Jimmie Klein, the band will be known as "The Sundowners" and is composed of steelman Weldon Myrick, guitarist Jack Watkins, bassman Larry Fullman, and drummer Leo Taylor.

* * * * *

EVA LENA CHENAULT will have a brand new single release on VOKES RECORDS titled, "ANOTHER DEFEAT" within 3 weeks, and Eva invites country jocks to write her for copies at 5914 Edgehill Drive, Alexandria, Virginia 22309.

* * * * *

KITTY WHITE country music promoter now in her 8th year with the HOWARD VOKES fan club. Club has members all over USA, Canada, and several foreign countries. Kitty would like to hear from real country artists. Write 1517 Main Street, Sharpsburg, Pennsylvania 15215.

DEL REEVES, the lanky luminary of the Grand Ole Opry, United Artist Records, countless stage appearances and three movies, doesn't object to a limited amount of sacrifice for the sake of the arts, but the genial young singer has finally drawn the line. DEL didn't object (too much) when he was asked to sing from the ledge of a tall building during the filming of "Gold Guitar". He didn't falter when the wind reached gale proportion or when he noticed someone had taken the safety net away; he merely said a silent prayer, closed his eyes, and sang. Now DEL is appearing in LARRY JACKSON'S "Cottonpickin Chickenpicker's", currently being filmed in Florida. In one scene DEL is supposed to wrestle with a more-or-less tame alligator. DEL, paraphrasing the title of his current UA single, commented "This Must Be The Bottom" and politely declined any body contact with the scaly monster. Producer JACKSON is trying to find a rubber stand-in for the gator.

* * * * *



JED International recording thrush, has a first-release on the JED label which is showing significant chart potential in several major market areas. Entitled, "You Only Call Me When You're Drinking" b/w "Before I Change My Mind", both sides of the single were written by Cedarwood's Mel Tillis in collaboration with Marijohn Wilkin and Fred Burch respectively.

NEWS NEWS NEWS

Jean Shepard, Capitol recording artist has added a very capable two people to travel with her and furnish the musical part of her show. They are Sallie Lordan and Sammy Pruett. Jean just completed a very successful week at the Horseshoe in Toronto, with dates coming up in Alexandria, Virginia, New Tripoli, Pa., W. Carlisle, Pa. and Trenton, New Jersey.

* * * * *

Penny Starr, Van Trevor and Johnny \$ Dollar joined forces with their manager, Dick Heard, this year and issued a rather unusual Christmas "card" to stations and their fans. The "card" which takes the form of a 45-rpm record, features Trevor singing "Christmas in the Country" on one side, and special Christmas and holiday greetings on the other side from Starr, Trevor and Dollar. The record will not be placed on sale, though the Trevor full-length side will appear as a bonus cut on his forthcoming Band Box LP, "Come on Over to Our Side". Copies were mailed to every station known to program one or more hours of country music per week. Heard said the record was "the best way we could find to somehow show to both stations and the public that we're all very grateful for their encouragement and support during the past year".

* * * * *

Tri-Son Promotions reports the signing of young Ohio artist, PAUL WAYNE, by West Coast-based OMAC Artist Corporation. Paul's current STARDAY release, "EVERYTHING BUT LOVE", is showing up on many a localized chart and is coming on strong 'cross the country.

* * * * *

A good song in a good album can often eliminate the need of another session for a single release, as Dottie West recently learned. Pulled from her popular "Suffertime" album, "What's Come Over My Baby", was released this week. Flip is another strong Dottie West delivery, "How Many Lifetimes Will It Take?".

* * * * *

An unbroken string of big records is apparently being lengthened by writer-producer Jack Clement, as the recently-released "Just Between You and Me" on RCA Victor by Charlie Pride is already jumping into chart action. Written, published, and co-produced by Clement, the song is backed up by Pride's strong ballad styling of "Detroit City".

* * * * *

Cindy Street recently returned from a successful overseas tour. Busy with personals across the mid-west, plans call for her to make another overseas tour in the near future.



Pete Sayers, youthful native of England now based in Atlanta as an entertainer at the city's "Cock and Bull" pub, recently made a Music City debut via appearances on "The Grand Ole Opry", "The Porter Wagoner Show", and Ralph Emery's "Opry Star Spotlight". Above, Wagoner and the British-born Georgia Cracker break during showtime with Sayers sporting a gift from the Wagonmaster, his personal D-4 Martin guitar.

* * * * *

The Wilburn Bros & the Nashville Tennessean's one of the finest show groups in existence recently played to capacity crowds in Rochester, Minn. . . . Waterloo, Ia. Minneapolis, Minn. and Des Moines, Iowa along with Slim Whitman, Loretta Lynn, Ray Price, Ray Pillow, Harold Morrison and Billy Gray. In Des Moines, the Wilburns, Loretta and Harold paid a visit to all nite Dee Jay, Mike Hoyer at WHO Radio Station. Don Bailey, Another Decca recording artist is now seen on all the Wilburn Bros. personal appearances.



First winner of Columbia Records' newly-created "Don Law Country Gentleman Award" was Carl Smith (right), shown above with Law, label A & R chief at Columbia's annual luncheon Oct. 22. The award will go annually to the artist whose work and reputation among his fellow artists best lives up to gentlemanly standards.

NEWS NEWS NEWS



Eleven successful years as a buyer and advocate of Nashville's Country Music talent were celebrated this past weekend when the officers of Nashville's Moeller Talent Inc. flew to Minneapolis to host a surprise "birthday" bash for Ray Perkins (above), owner and co-operator along with his brother, Abe, of the city's famous "Flame" supperclub. "The Flame" has continuously and exclusively purchased Country talent from the Moeller organization on a year-round basis since 1955.

* * * * *

The number of Country-Western night clubs in the United States probably doesn't total a "million and one" yet, but one of the newest is planning to put Billy Walker and his giant song to good use. Larry Moeller has announced that Walker will appear at Mr. Lucky's in Phoenix, Ariz., Dec. 26-31, leading the many Nashville artists who will appear there later.

* * * * *

From all indications, 1967 will be as busy for the Kitty Wells-Johnny Wright Show as previous years have been. The troupe will open the New Year in Europe, appearing on the Continent Jan. 4-15. There is also a strong possibility that an option for them to perform in England Jan. 16-27 will be exercised. Late '67 will involve work, too, as the unit is booked in Greenville, S. C., Knoxville, Tenn. and Ashville, N.C. for Nov. 17-19 of 1967!

JUDY LYNN, who is currently appearing at the Golden Nugget in Las Vegas, received a most pleasant surprise last Friday night from one of her most ardent fans, none other than TV and recording star, ROGER MILLER, who arrived just in time to catch her last two shows of the evening. "Was sitting in Hollywood with a couple of friends resting up from, filming my television show and had the urge to visit with Judy and her fine band at the Nugget," mused Roger, "so we chartered a plane to catch her act. . . and here we are." At Judy's request, Roger joined her on-stage for two exciting shows, much to the SRO crowd on hand; then left immediately for his return flight to Los Angeles. Following her Golden Nugget engagement, Judy heads for Nashville and a recording session for Musicor, under the direction of Pappy Daily.

* * * * *

BOBBY GREGORY recently cut a "KOUNTRY KOMEDY" album at RCA Victor studios in Nashville, scheduled for a Feb. 15 release on the RODEO INTERNATIONAL label, including the evergreen "Maggie Get The Hammer, There's A Fly on Baby's Head" and 11 others penned by Gregory.

* * * * *

Decca artist JOHNNY WRIGHT'S newest release "Mamas Little Jewel", (Decca 32061) is appearing to be a strong follow-up to "Pam Doing This For Daddy". Flip of the "Little Jewel" side is another strong Johnny Wright delivery with an equally provocative title "Nothing From Nothing".

* * * * *

Loretta Lynn seems to be breaking attendance records wherever she appears. Recently she played to record crowds in Ft. Worth, Texas, Elizabethtown, Ohio and Lexington, Kentucky. --- In Lexington, more than 1,000 people were turned away. Her latest Decca release, "Don't Come Home A Drinkin'" is another SURE-FIRE hit.

* * * * *

Pretty little Penny Starr, who left Nov. 1st with the Jimmy Case Band for the Far East, says American GI's in South Viet Nam are "crazy about country music". She phoned her manager in N.Y.C., Dick Heard, on Nov. 11th to make arrangements to extend her stay in the war-torn country until the end of January so she will have time to appear before as many individual units as possible. Penny was recently given a captured Vietcong flag when she sang for a U.S. Army unit serving in the Mekong Delta region. (Penny's current release, "A Thing of Pleasure", is showing up on regional charts.) After Viet Nam, Penny will tour Okinawa and Japan.

NEWS NEWS NEWS

A number of name guests have recently been signed by Avco Broadcasting to appear on its color syndicated series "Midwestern Hayride". Among them are Nat Stuckey, who has a new hit in his "Sweet Thang"; composer-performer Mel Tillis, whose "Star-side" is riding well up on the charts; Del Reeves, with the new single "This Must Be The Bottom"; and the popular songstress Jean Shepard. Jean's current hits are "If Teardrops Were Silver" and the album with the flippant title, "MANY HAPPY HANG-OVERS TO YOU". Also signed for an early guest spot is Don Bowman, the singer-comedian whose hilarious novelty single "I Get The Feeling We're Through" seems destined to be a smash success. Other guests currently appearing with the popular "Hayride" series include The Homesteaders, George Hamilton IV, Archie Campbell, Melba Montgomery, Bobbi Staff, Stoney Cooper & Wilma Lee, Johnny Paycheck, Marion Worth, and Billy Grammer. Each show of the weekly country music series features a top name guest, along with the regular cast of thirty. Among the Hayride "regulars" are host Dean Richards; "Walkin' On New Grass" Kenny Price; Bobby Bobo, Colleen Sharp, Charlie Gore, Bonnie Lou, the Lucky Pennies, the Hometowners the Midwesterners square dancing group, and other well-known performers in the country music world. The program, which started on radio in 1945, is one of the oldest continuous commercial shows in broadcasting. It went on television in 1948, and since 1957 has been in color.

* * * * *

Vernon Glen, Wizard recording artist, received the "Mr Congeniality" award, during the recent DJ Convention. Presented by the Michigan Country Music Organization, he was voted this special plaque through a state wide poll of DJ's and fans. Presented from the stage of The Grand Ol Opry, he was one of many Nashville personalities, honored by this group.

* * * * *

Ill. songstress, Kitty Hawkins is being booked months in advance, with tours through the midwest, being set for 1967. Her latest Capa release, "Water Under The Bridge", is moving sales & air-action wise.

* * * * *

Stu Phillips doesn't do a soft shoe with a cane, but he's getting more and more to be the "Maurice Chevalier of Country Music." One of the most recent indications of his wide international appeal has been the release of his "The Great El Tigre" in Belgium, which makes his recordings available to people of more than half a dozen languages. Other countries with Stu Phillips singles on the market are the U.S., Canada, Mexico, and Germany.



Saul Holiff (right), personal manager of singer Johnny Cash, and W.E. "Lucky" Moeller, President of Nashville's Moeller Talent Inc., completed negotiations this week naming the Moeller agency as exclusive agent for "The Johnny Cash Show" for rodeos and fairs in July, August and September 1967. Personal appearances for Cash in April and May were also set-up between the two wherein the Columbia entertainer has been guaranteed, on one particular engagement, "the largest sum of money in the history of Country Music for an individual on a single engagement".

* * * * *

Van Trevor's first KP, "Come on Over to OUR SIDE", is being released in early January by Band Box Records due to the increasing popularity of Van's current hit, "Our Side". -- Incidentally, even though Country Music Month ended Oct. 31, many a new fan is still taking Van Trevor's advise and coming on over to "Our Side" - the side of Country Music.

* * * * *

Dewey Groom stopped searching for that other dollar long enough to release his first album by his powerful duo, Janet McBride & Vern Stovall. Entitled, "Country Dozen", it features mostly new material, plus their big hits, "I'm Wild Bill Tonight", "Where Did The Other Dollar Go" and "Tell Me Again". Should be another winner for the Texas based label.

* * * * *

A new RCA Victor release, due out immediately after Christmas, will continue the smooth singing reputation of Stu Phillips and will also mark a "first" for the Canadian native. "Walk Me To The Station", published by Acuff-Rose, is the first "A" side release Phillips has ever written. The flip is a Jack Clement standard, "Guess Things Happen That Way".



LIFE IS A COUNTRY ROAD

FOR

RED SOVINE



By FRANK HARRIS

"Big League" clearly describes Red Sovine, but he has retained the simple, sincere demeanor of the West Virginia hills that produced him.

Any deserving big leaguer can recall the hard days of the minors and Red can fondly retell many stories of lean times, good times, disappointing times, and fun times with such locales as WCHS of his native Charleston, W. Va.; Wheeling's WWVA; Montgomery, Alabama's WSFA; and KWKH in Shreveport, La. It was from KWKH's "Louisiana Hayride" that Red accepted an invitation to join WSM's Grand Ole Opry in Nashville in 1954 and from the Opry he continued his steady climb through the ranks of stardom.

Thousands of miles through every state, all of Canada, and across Europe have been traveled by the 6-ft. redhead and, whether he's traveling by automobile, customized bus, or jet liner, Red is the same calm, unsophisticated Country boy that just might be walking down a dirt country road with a fishing cane in his hand and a song of the earth on his lips.

One of his most ardent fans told us about going to see Red Sovine in person for the first time, while Red was a member of the traveling Phillip Morris Show in the late 50's with little Jimmy Dickens, Biff Collie, Bobby Lord, Mimi Roman, and Ronnie Self. The shy fan was anxious to meet the various stars and got to the auditorium early in order to get backstage. In the mass confusion of getting everything set up, our friend vividly recalls that the first two

things he noticed were Jimmy Dickens standing in an open door getting some fresh air and the unmistakable voice of Red Sovine floating up from a downstairs dressing room, at peak volume, "In a ramshackled shack in ol' Caroline -" No more fitting memory of Red Sovine could dwell in anyone's mind than the memory of him singing, because singing is his very life.

In view of the "singing Red Sovine" image, it may seem ironic that his mammoth hit of "Giddyup Go" is a recitation, but hard-core Sovine fans remember his "Little Rosa" and "The Star of the Show Won't Go On Tonight", depicting the depth and sincerity that are as integral parts of Red's talent as his fantastic voice control. Actually, "Giddyup Go" - - which he co-wrote with old compadre Tommy Hill of the "Why Baby Why" days - - was fitting material for Red, as travel, trucks, and problems of a mobile society are truly parts of America today and so is the voice of Red Sovine.

The father of four children, Red and his wife Noma live in Nashville and as much time as possible is spent at home, but Lucky Moeller, Larry Moeller, and Jack Andrews of Moeller Talent Inc., have little difficulty keeping the popular redhead on the road.

Country music fans like sincerity in Country Music artists and they have a lot to like in the singing - Sovine, who continues to travel the road of life as if it were a dirt road in West Virginia.



In the early 40's, Red used to don his cowboy rig and pick-and-sing on weekends. Monday thru Saturday afternoons he was superintendent at a hosiery mill in Flanor, West Virginia.



In 1949 Red gained major fame as the "Ole Syrup Sopper" over Shreveport's KWKH radio. "I was selling breakfast syrup with Country Music", he recalls, "and undoubtedly ate more syrup during those years than anybody in America".



Red reckons he's done just about everything there is to do in Country Music, from personally entertaining governors and VIP's to presiding over such "grand openings" as those pictured above. (circa 1940) bass player in Hardy Forrester

ED BRUCE

RCA'S Latest Singing Sensation

By Marve Hoerner

"The sun never shines in Walker's Woods . . . I doubt that it would want to come in . . . even if it could." The sun may not shine in Walker's Woods BUT it's rays are streaming down on a young man in Nashville, a talented artist that RCA Victor is grooming for stardom, Ed Bruce.

Choosing the ballad with a strong punch, "Walker's Woods", RCA has combined the talents of Bruce, with the hit writing abilities of Miss Kay Arnold. This powerful duo of singer and songwriter is a combination that all Nashville is talking about. Take the driving and unique style of Bruce, add a strong tune with "jab and punch" material by Miss Arnold, and it's quite easy to see why every one is watching this release closely.

At twenty-six Ed is standing on the threshold of a solid career in Country Music. Success could easily be termed his middle name. While living in his hometown of, Memphis, he started his career, at the age of sixteen, in the field of Rock & Roll, with several excellent releases. Feeling stifled with this form of music, he moved into Rhythm & Blues field, with numerous selling records.

Trying his creative abilities at songwriting, he composed, "See the Big Man Cry", which became a major hit in the R & B field, later a hit country release by Charlie Louvin. Among his writing credits are, "Working Man's Prayer", recorded by Dave Dudley; "Lonesome is Me", recorded by numerous country artists, and is the tune chosen as the flip side for "Walker's Woods". These are but a few of the tunes created by this fine young talent.

Between recording sessions and personal appearances, Ed can be found enjoying the quite solitude at his home in Nashville, with his lovely wife, Patsy and two children, Trey (Bruce III) and Ginny Lynn.

Miss Arnold, who is accustomed to having leading names record her material, stated in an exclusive interview with this reporter . . . "I have never been so excited with any recording session in my life, than Ed's latest. He is such a wonderful talent and does he ever do justice to, "Walker's Woods". When I wrote this song, I never dreamed anyone would deliver as he does here. He's every songwriter's dream . . . he has the talent and has the feel for the tune. All I can honestly say, is that Ed is something else. "A real talent!" I had the pleasure of hearing the master tape and all I can echo to Kay's words is



Ed Bruce & Kay Arnold discussing possibilities of tune during recording session.

Amen.

The publicity release simply states . . . "Kay Arnold Wrote It . . . Ed Bruce Sings It" Need we say more! Two excellent talents . . . Miss Kay Arnold, Songwriter And RCA's latest discovery, Ed Bruce . . . add up to an exciting and refreshingly different release. The sun never shines in "Walkers Woods", but the sun is shining brightly in Nashville. If you don't believe me, ask Ed Bruce, he's wearing sun-glasses.

The WBMD-Baltimore Maryland COUNTRY JUBILEES

By Red & Bea Wilcox

Following along in the current upsurge in country music throughout the nation, are the people of Baltimore and many surrounding states. But, in order to understand the continuous success of the WBMD Country Jubilees, one must first understand the man behind them.

His name is Carl Brenner. He serves WBMD Radio as Vice President and General Manager. Mr. Brenner has deep insight - but, more ; - he has a deep love, for country music. Because he loves it and understands it himself, he has the power of salesmanship in something he strongly believes in. WBMD was one of the earlier stations changing to an all-country format. The music was well received by the listening audience even then.

But, Carl Brenner wanted to share the music he so loves even more and the idea of the WBMD Country Jubilees was born. Mr. Brenner knew that the name of country music wasn't too fashionable or well received so he decided to change the image around a little bit. He didn't want a barn like atmosphere for these shows; he wanted "plush surroundings". He wanted his friends, the audience, to be comfortable during the shows and to show Baltimore that country music had come out of the honky tonks and dives it had formerly been associated with. The 14,000 - seat Baltimore Civic Center was chosen as the scene of the activities. It was brand new, a very modernistic-type building with excellent sound and all reserved seating. Definitely the type of place one could come to without being ashamed . . . audiences and artists alike.

The artists themselves vie for appearances at the Civic Center. Not only do they have plush, clean, modern dressing rooms, but they also get paid on time. Some promoters seem to feel that a four-hour contract on the artist for a certain amount of dollars means that the promoter literally "owns" the artist. For that four hours or so, the artist must literally jump through the hoop for the promoter in everything from posing for pictures, taping promos, and going out to eat with the promoter after the show is over to going to the promoter's private party and entertaining some of his friends. Not so with the WBMD Country Jubilees. Carl Brenner never for one moment forgets that the artists are people and not merchandise that has been bought. The entire WBMD staff

is in the dressing rooms to cater to the artists in anything they may need; and, if they need privacy, they get that too. An artist is always escorted from the dressing room to the stage by either Bernie Stevens, Bobby Brown, or Red Wilcox. WBMD's Women's Director, Helpful Harriet, is around to "tape" the artists that desire to be taped for her Country Music News and the "Backstage" shows. The moment the artist returns from the stage, his contract is paid. He may leave or stay as he wishes. He is not bound by the contract to stay until the end of the show or to face the embarrassment of walking around with his hand out for his salary.

The Civic Center is a huge place and Mr. Brenner worried that the people way up in the back balconies could not see the stage too well. After careful study, the problem was alleviated with a circular revolving stage right in the middle of the auditorium. The stage makes a complete revolution every three minutes and was built at a cost of \$10,000 with three complete power circuits and two complete amplification systems to insure dependability. Only three times has the Civic Center ever been filled to capacity (many sports events are held here too) - for Frank Sinatra, The Beatles, and The Country Jubilee.

But Mike Todd-like Carl Brenner calls his Country Jubilees spectaculars - and these they are! On September 24th, for example, the lineup of stars included Bonnie Owens, Merle Haggard, Kay Adams, Dick Curless, Tommy Collins, The Hardin Trio - plus Buck Owens & The Buckaroos and George Jones & The Jones Boys. Over 12,000 people were in attendance.

There's still more to this success story though! All the WBMD staff, including P.D. Clark West take an avid interest too in the shows and the radio listeners. Carl Brenner is so avidly interested in country music that he serves as a Board Member of the CMA. In addition, he attends all broadcasting forums and meetings possible for the propagation of his favorite music. He is also extremely active in the Baltimore area too. WBMD also sponsors five-state country music talent roundups. 1964 winners, The Compton Brothers are now nationally known around the country for their Dot Recordings of COUNTRY MUSIC and PICKIN' UP THE MAIL/FEATHERS TO STONE.



The ever-popular - BUCK OWENS and THE BUCKAROO'S



GEORGE JONES and THE JONES BOYS entertain



JACK MCFADDEN & BUCK OWENS with WBMD'S Women's Director, Helpful HARRIET

Recently, two women came to Mr. Brenner with a problem. They knew of a nice bathing beach and park they felt would make a wonderful Sunday country music park. They did not have a monetary interest, they simply wanted a park to go to on a Sunday afternoon to see country music shows. The owner of the park faced much confusion; he just didn't know if country music would "go". How popular it was in the area, or what type of people it would attract. As busy as he is, Mr. Brenner took it upon himself to visit the owner and give him some straight facts, figures, and business statistics. Mr. Brenner also invited the man to the September 24th show so that he could see for himself the dedication of the country music fans. He didn't feel he needed high-pressure sales techniques and that "seeing is believing". Baltimore will undoubtedly have a country music park next year where one wasn't this year!



For their first Country Jubilee appearance - THE HARDIN TRIO

In early September, the Timonium, Maryland, Fair opened with country music for six days instead of the customary circus. This was Mr. Brenner's suggestion to the Fair Committee. There was no spectacular here; Wilma Lee & Stoney Cooper for two days, Jimmy Martin for two, and Carl & Pearl Butler for two. Previous fair attendance records were shattered and traffic backed up for miles as fans poured in to the fair. The shows were broadcast "live" and direct from WBMD Radio.

WBMD is a radio station for the people and the artists whose records are played on the station. With an unselfish attitude like this, it is easy to understand how the WBMD Country Jubilees draw thousands of spectators to each and every show while other spectacles in other places meet with dismal failure.



Pretty MISS BONNIE OWENS adds "the final touches" before going on stage



Winner's of the 1964 WBMD Annual 5-state Country Talent Contest - THE COMPTON BROTHERS now with Dot records



TOMMY COLLINS - front and center.



WBMD'S BOBBY BROWN poses with BUCK OWENS

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NASHVILLE NOTES

Continued from page 11

Toronto, Canada, as Skeeter was to appear on shows with Hank Williams Jr. The end of the month found me happily subbing for drummer Willie Ackerman on the Eddie Hill TV Show, as Willie and his family went on vacation.

Rusty Adams (formerly Koko the Clown), now with JED Records, is set for a tour in Germany, March and April. John Denny reports that Rusty will record on his JED label Dec. 15th.

Roy Stevens, Chalon Records and WPFR, Terra Haute, Indiana, was in town with his wife and Juanita Kennedy, searching for material on his next release. They joined us at home for a barbecue and we look for a lot from Roy, as he has a tremendous voice and presentation.

Red Rector, of WBIR TV Knoxville, Tenn. guested on the Ernest Tubbs Record Shop Show, of late. He is the Red of Red and Fred, who have made comedy appearances on the Opry, and are hilarious! This same night, we were highly impressed with Gwen Davis, a lovely songstress, from Louisville, Kentucky. She has done a great deal of work on "Hayloft Hoe-down", WHAS TV; a new show to me, but not surprising, as Country Shows are growing so popular across the nation. "Swingin' Country" did a fine job on the networks in November, showing in color, parts of the Convention Billboard Country Music Awards.

Christy Lane has just sent us her newest release on the K-ARK Label, "Subtract His Love". She is the namesake of Chris Lane of WJJD, Chicago and he gives her his blessings. Charlie Dick (Patsy Cline's husband) called us from Starday. They have just recorded Stonewall's brother, Wade; if he even comes close to his brother's success, he will be great.

Hubert Long Talent informs us that Del Reeves is filming a movie in Florida, but when they asked him to wrestle with an alligator, he asked for a substitute; man that he is, this was too much Tommy Doyle has been invited to film a Bob Hope videotaping in Hollywood, from the success of his short part in "Nashville Rebel", premiered here this month, Hollywood style.

MIDWEST NOTES

Continued from page 10

"Possum Holler Opry's" TOBY DICK ELLIS called from Quincy, Illinois, the other evening for a nice chat via long distance. "Toby" has plans for a "LORETTA LYNN WEEK" which we hope works out. But why not a whole month Toby? She deserves it!

Detroit has more claim to fame than just automobiles now . . . they have America's top C & W songwriter and one of its top singers BILL ANDERSON! Bill films his TV shows near Detroit and at this writing, I'm told the lucky people around that area are the only ones who can currently see the entire

hour program on television. Of course, it will spread out. One of the regulars on Bill's show is No. 1 comedian DON BOWMAN and JAN HOWARD is still the featured girl singer.

PREMIER ENTERTAINMENT of Milwaukee features only the finest talent on all their stage shows - they go mainly by requests of the fans in the area and are happy to announce the bookings of two more of the requested favorites for 1967.

DELL REEVES for February 18th and SONNY JAMES for May 13th. All their shows are BIG packages with enough stars to always assure good crowds. Hope to make it up for the February one - it'll be nice to meet and chat with the Premier gals, MURIEL FILAR, WANDA KNUTSON and part-timer LINDA GOLL.

Another ardent Milwaukee C & W fan, MARY ANN KUTASI tells us that D.J. JIM BAILEY of W Y.L.O. is taking a poll on how many people in the area, belong to fan clubs, and he also asks for material from all clubs. It's nice to find a disc jockey who is ready to support country music fan clubs! Another Midwestern DJ in that category, we understand, is JAY "Jaybird" DRENNAN of WSLR in Akron, Ohio. Listeners affectionately call 'em just "whistler" (after all, what else does WSLR spell????). WAYLON JENNINGS, appearing on a show with JAYBIRD recently exclaimed on stage, the people in Whistler country should be very proud of their "Morning Mayor" (oh, that's Jaybird!) and also said that Mr. Drennan had done much to encourage him to continue his singing career. The two (Waylon and Jay) were co-workers back in New Mexico a few years back. - HAPPY 1967!!!

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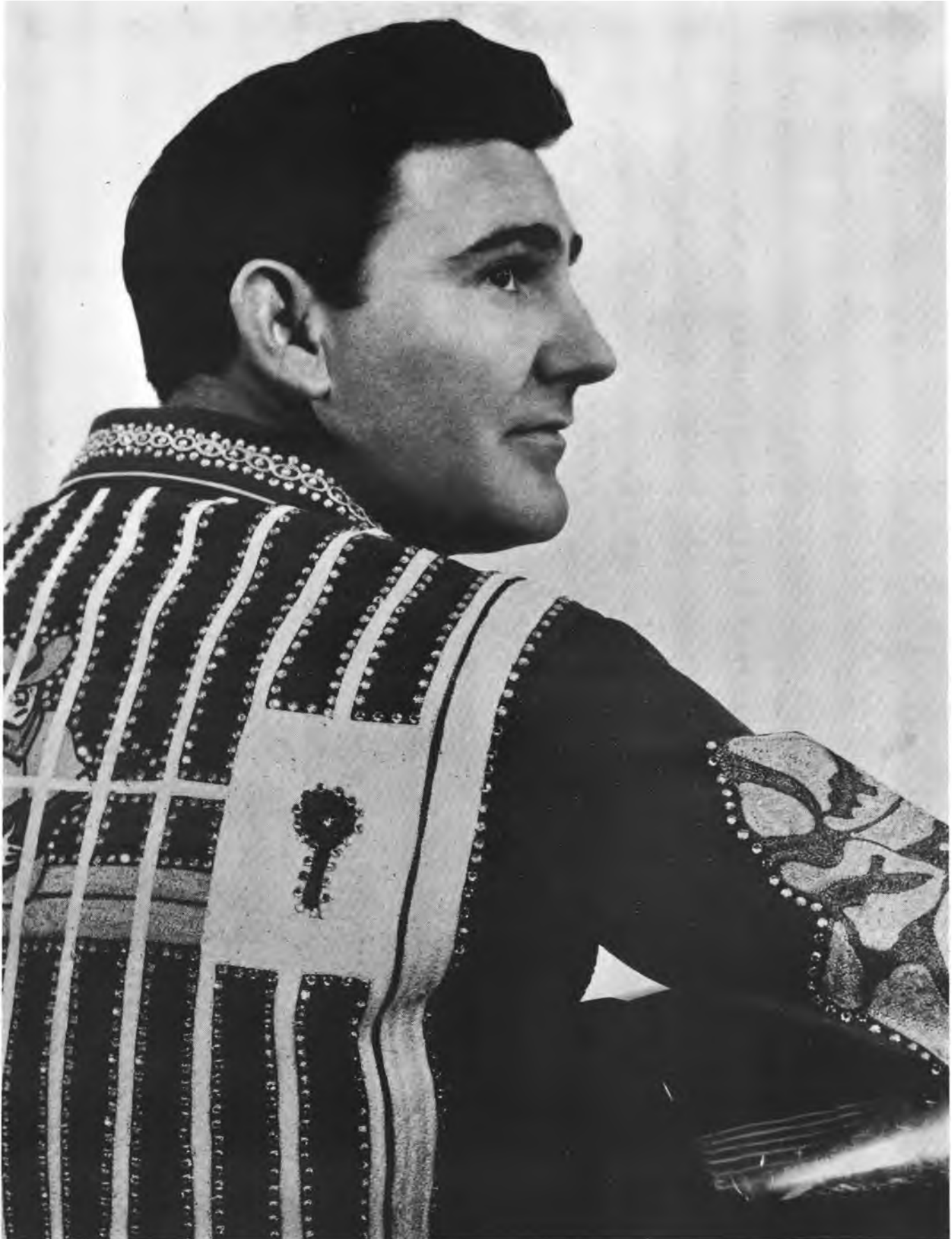
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WEBB PIERCE



FAVORITE OF TWO DECADES

By FRANK HARRIS

To have won more awards than any other Country-Western singer in the world, Webb Pierce would have to be considered among the greats and all-time favorites in the field and no one seems inclined to argue the points.

The Pierce popularity pulse shattered the top of the glass when Decca released the first Webb Pierce recording of "Wondering" in 1951 and very little change has occurred in the picture. The most recent indication of his immense popularity was the tumultuous ovation he received from fellow music traders at Decca's party and show during the 1966 Country Music Convention in Nashville. Singing another mammoth memory from the early '50's, "There Stands the same genial atmosphere that has closely linked him to audiences for the biggest part of two decades.

The oft-told Webb Pierce story started on the family farm near West Monroe, Ka., where Webb learned that the word "country" means hard work in the fields as well as the music that comes naturally from

the hearts of country people. Louisiana, Arkansas, and Texas have produced a number of giants in Country Music and Webb Pierce stands tall among them and all the rest. The city of Shreveport, whose "Louisiana Hayride" has been the "University of Experience" for countless country performers, drew young Webb like a magnet when his three-year stint of military service was finished, and his life immediately became a history-making ladder-climbing party.

His childhood lesson that "country" also means hard work came in handy for Webb Pierce, Decca's bright new recording star of 1951. Rarely has the world of show business seen a newcomer tackle the tremendous job of "breaking the big time" with as

"The Wondering Lad" does very little "wondering" when it comes to songwriting. One of the top Country tunesmiths of all time, above he huddles (l to r) with fellow craftsmen Cliff Parman, Max Powell, and Wayne Walker.





Photo above emphatically gives the point that the C&W crooner not only sounds good but looks good. Webb's one of the handsomest Country Stars, a fact that certainly hasn't hindered his chances for exposure in movies and TV roles.

much zest and determination as Webb displayed. In the tradition of Roy Acuff and Rudy Valee before and Elvis Presley and Johnny Cash since, Webb Pierce was an explosive smash hit from the very beginning. He started a four-year-straight winning streak for the Cash Box Number One Country Male Vocalist Award in 1953 and in 1961, 1962 and 1963, the same honor was again bestowed upon him.

Rather than ramble down the seemingly endless list of trade and fan awards that have been received by Webb, it should suffice to state that in April of 1955, he made Country Music history when Webb Pierce and "In the Jailhouse Now" topped EVERY chart in circulation. This achievement was a first

for the recording industry, but by 1955 everyone had come to expect the unexpected from Webb. He was also the first entertainer to win the coveted "Triple Crown Award" and has since earned and received three more.

Not JUST a recording artist, Webb has also proved his dramatic capabilities in three movies and TV's Kraft Suspense Theatre. More activities of this type are planned for the near future. However, Webb's first love remains Country Music and the Country fans who were all-important in the development of his career. The same identification between Webb and his fans that skyrocketed "More and More", "Slowly", "Back Street Affair", and his many other hits of the 50's to the top of record sales charts has also made hits of his more recent "That's Where My Money Goes," "Who Do You Think I Am?", "You Ain't No Better Than Me", "The Champ", and "She's Twenty-One". Most important of all the facts concerning Webb Pierce is that he has never forgotten the importance of his fans, which helps explain why they have never forgotten or failed to support him.

One of the busiest performers on the Moeller Talent, Inc., roster of Country Music stars, Webb has little free time at all, but most of what leisure he does have is spent with his wife Audrey and their two children, Debbie and Webb, Jr. Their home is a Nashville showplace, featuring a billiard room, two dens, five baths, five bedrooms, and an olympic-size swimming pool in the shape of a guitar. Yes, it has been a long road from the Pierce family farm in North Louisiana for Webb, both up the ladder of success and into the hearts of a nation, but Webb's determination, sense of appreciation, and compulsion to please his fans have not undergone any change. That's why the fans of the 50's have stayed well into the 60's.



Two all-time Country and Western greats, Webb (right) and Rex Allen, are the best of friends both on and off stage.



Webb's ultra-luxurious, super-expensive Pontiac convertible has few equals in the world. Above, the silver dollar-laden chariot, which was customized by Judie of California, provides an interesting setting for a photo.

Webb's Nashville home is a showplace and a favorite visual target of Country Music fans.



FAN CLUB GUIDE

To have your fan club listed in COUNTRY MUSIC LIFE it must be officially registered through our Fan Club Editor. All correspondence in regard to fan clubs should be directed to Mrs. Blanche Trinajstiek, 2730 Baltimore Avenue, Pueblo, Colorado 81003.

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NASHVILLE MOVIES



TOMMY DOYLE, Nashville Based Actor Has Been Gathering Experience Since Childhood!

By RUTH CHARON

Tommy Doyle was born and spent his boyhood in the Shiloh Community of Montgomery County, Tennessee. He attended the Shiloh Elementary School for the first five grades. While in his fourth year there, he was cast in a play titled "JUST PLAIN DOT", which has since become known as "THE MYSTERY OF LITTLE ROY". In this, Tommy played the part of the paper boy. The drama was staged by the eighth graders. He was given only one day to learn his lines in this production, a three act play. Tommy went through his Thespian duties some four hours later, without a mistake. The producer was so enthused that she went in and asked young Doyle's teacher to watch the next rehearsal. His teacher criticized one part of his work so much, that he would not finish the second act. Later that night, the play went off without a hitch; in fact, it went over so well, it ran three nights instead of the scheduled one nighter.

Tommy was so busy studying, he was unable to follow his dramatic pursuits until his senior year in high school, at Clarksville Tennessee High School. Here, Mr Woodland, the debate instructor of the school, cast him in the role of Steven Spetigue, which was the leading role. For this, Tommy received an award for The Most Outstanding Actor in the school of 1,400 students.

In this play titled "CHARLIE'S AUNT", Doyle mastered the part of a well-to-do person of the Eighteenth Century, having a neice and a ward to look after. He was given the task of competing with members of the National Champion Debating Team of 1962. This role was just opposite of the portrayal he had done before. The Clarksville population still remember him by the name of Steven Spetigue, as a result of his memorable performance. After this theatrical work, he was asked to participate in the College Thespian Club of Austin Peay State. With this group, Tommy was cast in "GEORGE WASHINGTON SLEPT HERE"; here again he was portraying a different character type. In this, he had to vocalize the number "AH! SWEET MYSTERY OF LIFE", while garbed in beach wear.

While in high school, he became friends with CHARLES WATTS, a well known character actor, who

works with Metro Goldwyn Mayer in Hollywood. MR WATTS helped Tommy get on at the Old Fort Aldrich Movie Ranch, as a stunt man. At this Ranch he ran into CLINT WALKER and DAN BLOCKER, who later he worked with on their own TV shows. Then Tommy proceeded to work in a TV series, "THE MAN CALLED SUNDOWN", originating from Bowling Green, Kentucky.

After this series, he went to Atlanta, Georgia, where he made a guest star performance at the RED VELVET NITE CLUB. Doyle was then asked to come back in three weeks and begin a six week engagement. Although he was unable to make this booking, Tommy still has close contact with Mr. Naples, owner of this nitery and THE GOLDEN PALMS DINNER CLUB. These plush nite spots welcome Tommy back, at any time, without even phoning, where he still draws good reaction from the crowds. Realizing that this is a somewhat different performance than on the legitimate stage or screen; even the most renowned actors tour the nations nite clubs between films. The Chez Patee and Copacobana are constantly spotlighting such stars in their presentation, as do all the world's glamorous resort havens.

Now Tommys' plans include work for TWENTIETH CENTURY FOX come December. Recently Tommy acted in the Nashville filmed color movie "COUNTRY BOY", starring Randy Boone, Sheb Wooley and Pautta Leemen. Ambassador Films produced this cinema, wherein Nilleus Butrum served as Country Music Talent Co-ordinator. Bob Hope's own cameraman, Alen Stensvold, remarked to Tommy that his work was excellent. This statement was repeated by Nashville columnist, Ruth Charon; who also enjoyed appearing in this movie.

Opry star Curley Fox and Tommy have co-written a song, which is being recorded. The STOP label recording artist, Patti White has also helped Doyle by introducing him to some of the more important people in the Nashville entertainment field. Be on the lookout for articles about Tommy in the Clarksville Newspaper, COUNTRY MUSIC LIFE, and other types of publications.

WHERE THE STARS ARE SHINING

ERNIE ASHWORTH January

Davenport, Iowa 1

CARL & PEARL BUTLER

Minneapolis, Minn. 30

Minneapolis, Minn. 31

JIMMY DICKENS

Minneapolis, Minn. 2

Minneapolis, Minn. 3

Minneapolis, Minn. 4

Minneapolis, Minn. 5

Minneapolis, Minn. 6

Minneapolis, Minn. 7

Toronto, Ontario 9

Toronto, Ontario 10

Toronto, Ontario 11

Toronto, Ontario 12

Toronto, Ontario 13

Toronto, Ontario 14

DUKE OF PADUCAH

Kansas City, Kans. 1

Atlanta, Georgia 4

LEFTY FRIZZELL

Dallas, Texas 13

Ft. Worth, Texas 14

Houston, Texas 15

DON GIBSON

Chicago, Ill. 22

JOHNNY WRIGHT & KITTY WELLS

Europe 4

Europe 5

Europe 6

Europe 7

Europe 8

Europe 9

Europe 10

Europe 11

Europe 12

Europe 13

Europe 14

Europe 15

Detroit, Mich. 29

WAYLON JENNINGS

Rochester, Minn. 20

Freeport, Ill. 21

Chicago, Ill. 22

GRANDPA JONES

Ponchatoula, La. 7

Toronto, Ontario 16

Toronto, Ontario 17

Toronto, Ontario 18

Toronto, Ontario 19

Toronto, Ontario 20

Toronto, Ontario 21

GEORGE MORGAN

Kansas City, Kansas 1

Toronto, Ontario 23

Toronto, Ontario 24

Toronto, Ontario 25

Toronto, Ontario 26

Toronto, Ontario 27

Toronto, Ontario 28

MINNIE PEARL

Seattle, Wash. 20

Portland, Oregon 21

Vancouver, B.C. 22

Detroit, Mich. 29

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Davenport, Iowa 1

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Chicago, Ill. 22

Detroit, Mich. 29

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Indianapolis, Ind. 13

Indianapolis, Inc. 14

Far East 23

Far East 24

Far East 25

Far East 26

Far East 27

Far East 28

Far East 29

Far East 30

Far East 31

JUSTIN TUBB

Kansas City, Kans. 1

Phoenix, Ariz. 11

Phoenix, Ariz. 12

Phoenix, Ariz. 13

Phoenix, Ariz. 14

Phoenix, Ariz. 15

PORTER WAGONER with NORMA JEAN

Des Moines, Iowa 1

Tyler, Texas 6

Beaumont, Texas 7

Lafayette, La. 8

Cedar Rapids, Iowa 14

St. Louis, Missouri 15

Columbus, Ohio 21

Chicago, Ill. 22

Greenville, S.C. 27

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Nashville, Tenn. 9

Nashville, Tenn. 10

Nashville, Tenn. 11

Nashville, Tenn. 12

Nashville, Tenn. 13

Nashville, Tenn. 14

Phoenix, Ariz. 18

Phoenix, Ariz. 19

Phoenix, Ariz. 20

Phoenix, Ariz. 21

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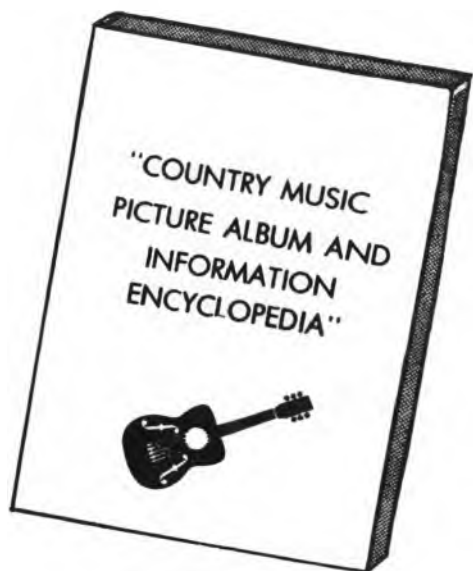
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