

# I'm Own Boss Now — Harry James

## DOWN BEAT

608 S. Dearborn, Chicago, Illinois

Entered as second class matter October 8, 1939, at the post office at Chicago, Illinois, under the Act of March 3, 1879. Copyright 1942. By Down Beat Publishing Co., Inc.  
Subscription prices, \$3.00 a year in the United States; \$4.50 in Canada (Canadian Dollars) \$4.00 elsewhere. Down Beat is published twice-monthly. Printed in U.S.A. Registered U.S. Pat. Office.

VOL. 9, NO. 8

CHICAGO, APRIL 15, 1942

15 CENTS

### 'Best Band Picture to Date'



Hollywood—Consensus of most musicians and others in the trade is that *The Fleet's In*, a Paramount flicker, is the best dance band picture to be turned out by Hollywood. One of the reasons is pictured here as Dorothy Lamour rests her fanny on Jimmy Dorsey's bandstand. Look elsewhere and you can see Dorsey, as well as saxophonists Milt Yaner and Charlie Frazier. Dorsey and crew are set at Hotel Pennsylvania until May 2.

## Shaw Gets USO Berth; Draft Free

New York—Artie Shaw has received and accepted a special assignment from the government to USO duty. He will travel from camp to camp, whipping army bands into shape and programming camp shows. Shaw plans to make photostat copies of his most famous arrangements and to pass them out free to the army units.

He begins work immediately, and the assignment will preclude any formation of his new band, also eliminates him from the draft.

## Four Trumpets For Goodman

New York—For the first time since Cootie Williams' departure, Benny Goodman's band had four trumpets when it reassembled after a three-week vacation, to play at the Central Theater in Passaic, N. J. last week.

The new addition is Paul Geil, from Bob Chester's crew, who joins Jimmy Maxwell, Bernie Privin and Johnny Naptan in the BG trumpet team. Another change had Charlie Castaldo on trombone in place of Cutty Cutshall, the band's first loss to Uncle Sam.

Art London remained with the band, though Benny was reported shopping for something new in the vocal line, probably a trio or quartet. Benny also planned to use Lou McGarity on occasional vocals, including a revival of the old arrangement of *Basin Street*.

Eddie Sauter being still not well enough to return to work, the Goodman arranging chores are chiefly in the hands of Mel Powell and Toots Camarata.

## New McShann Man

New York—James Coe, saxophonist-arranger, was picked up in Indianapolis and joined the Jay McShann band here upon its opening at the Savoy ballroom April 5. The band goes into the Apollo theater this week (17).

## 21 Musicians Die At Battle Station

Honolulu, T. H.—Twenty-one musicians, comprising the entire ship's band of the U.S.S. *Arizona*, were revealed to be heroes of the Pearl Harbor of Dec. 7, the Navy reported here last week.

The 21 musicians were killed at their battle station below decks when the ship's magazine exploded. All died while passing ammunition to serve the warship's guns.

Their names were: F. W. Kinney, bandmaster; A. J. Nadel, W. L. Bandy, O. M. Brabbazon, N. F. Radford, J. L. Scrubbs, E. H. Whitson, C. J. Haas, F. N. Floege, C. C. Cox, C. W. White, W. S. Morehouse, C. R. Williams, R. W. Burdette, R. K. Shaw, B. T. Hughes, W. M. McCary, J. H. Anderson, W. T. Hurley, H. G. Chernuch and E. I. Lynch.

All the members of the band were well known in Hawaii and the group finished near the top of a recent contest known as the "Battle of Music, 1941." After the bandmen were killed, the other contestants unanimously agreed to award a trophy to their memory.

The award, to be given annually, henceforth will be known as the "Arizona Trophy."

## Buy's Benny's Piece for Reported \$25,000 Ante

by DAVE DEXTER, JR.

New York—"I've bought Benny Goodman off and I'm my own boss now."

That's how Harry James announced his settlement with Goodman two weeks ago, and the disclosure came the same day that James and 38 members of his organization boarded a train for the long 3,000-mile trek to Hollywood.

"When I first started out as a leader in 1939 Benny assisted me financially," James said. "But now I have paid

him back in full and I'm my own boss. No one owns any part of the James band now except James."

Frank Monte, James' manager, told *Down Beat* that Harry's payment to Goodman was "about \$25,000."

### Fathers Another Son

After smashing every mark at Meadowbrook, from both receipts and attendance

standpoints, the James band left for Hollywood, traveling in Pullmans all the way without a single one-nighter to break up the jump. There were 39 members in the party, including wives and children of men in the band.

James himself was in high spirits, his wife, the former Louise Tobin, having given birth to a second son, March 21 in Los Angeles. Harry's first son, Jeffrey, is little more than a year old.

Jack Mathias is scoring the entire sound track for the Universal picture which James and his band now are making. Joe E. Lewis, the comedian, also is starred. It is (Modulate to Page 20)

## What, Joe Louis With Powder Puff?



Joe Louis came down from Ft. Dix, N. J., last month to catch Duke Ellington and the band at the Earle Theater in Philadelphia. Joe had just one day off and spent the entire day with Ellington who is his favorite rhythm dispenser. And it's a good thing Joe used only a powder puff on the Duke or there might not have been a show. The Ellington crew is currently stationed at Los Angeles' Trianon ballroom.



James

## Nailed on Sex Charges, Ex-Union Official Goes To San Quentin Pen

Los Angeles—Harold Roberts, former director of public relations for Local 47, who was convicted on two morals charges involving young girls last fall, has entered San Quentin prison.

Roberts' attorney, Willard Burgess, has fled an appeal, but the former U.S.C. bandleader preferred to start serving his one-to-50-year term. Time spent in the county jail here would not be applied on his sentence in the event that the appeal is denied.

The Roberts case shook California music and civic circles like a blast of dynamite. Roberts had been in the public eye here for years, had served as Director of

Musical Organizations at U.S.C., figured prominently in activities connected with the Olympic Games here, the San Francisco and San Diego Exposition, and was a strong, though defeated, candidate for the Los Angeles School Board last election.

He was hired at a salary of \$125 per week by Local 47 to run the campaign for promotion of the Los Angeles County Band, a job he was holding when arrested for molesting young girls.

## 'Benny, Shaw Are Stealing My Stuff,' Wingy Manone

Los Angeles—"Benny Goodman and Artie Shaw are stealing Wingy's stuff!"

That was the lament of Wingston Manone, one-armed New Or-

leans trumpet player, now leading his own Dixieland band at the Streets of Paris nitery.

Wingy, who always speaks of himself in the third person, says, "Wingy got married in Las Vegas. Then not long after that Artie Shaw and Benny Goodman got married."

"Now Wingy says—tell them to play clarinet with one hand if they can!"

## 'Faz' Pops Up With Powell

New York—Irving Fazola's sudden appearance in the Teddy Powell reed section a couple of weeks ago was unexpected, and it wasn't until "Faz" appeared on the Log Cabin bandstand in Armonk that anyone knew the rotund New Orleans clarinetist had left Muggsy Spanier's band.

Fazola, however, was said to be merely a "temporary" Powell sideman.

Creating almost as much excitement as Fazola in the Powell band now is a 17-year-old trumpet player, Dick Mains, whom Powell has added recently. Mains is so young it was necessary for Powell to become his legal guardian.

Here is how the Powell band shapes up:

Roy Hamersing, Ronnie Perry, tenors; George (Gig) Bohm, alto; Larry Molinelli, baritone; Irving Fazola, clarinet; Harry Carey, John O'Rourke, Jack Satterfield, trombones; Johnny Austin, Dick Mains, Jack Hanson, trumpets; Tony Allen, piano; Zeb Julian, guitar; Ed Cunningham, bass; Lou Fromm, drums; and Peggy Mann and Tommy Taylor, vocals.

Taylor recently left Benny Goodman as vocalist. Powell has a mess of airtime at the spot. Bob Mersey is back as chief arranger. CRA booking.

## Zoots, Our Boy Ed Flynn Weds

Fayetteville, N. C.—Ed Flynn took a bride last month as he was transferred from Fort Sill to Fort Bragg here. The former *Down Beat* ad cat, now a first lieutenant in the army, married a ballet dancer and author, Frances Cash, of Abilene, Tex.

Flynn, who often said he'd never marry, was hitched in Texas and honeymooned in New Orleans. His new address is FARTC, Fort Bragg, N. Car., First Regiment, First Battalion.

The ceremony came as a surprise to Flynn's many friends.

## Mac McDougal to Sonny Dunham Ork

New York—Before leaving for California, where he and his band now are at the Hollywood Palladium, Sonny Dunham replaced Carl Kates, saxist, with Mac McDougal. There were no other changes in the band's lineup and Harriet Clark made the trip as Sonny's chirp.

## Burrs Sole Owner of Down Beat

In a deal which was consummated last week, Glenn Burrs has purchased from Carl Cons the latter's half interest in *Down Beat*. Burrs thus becomes sole owner and publisher of this newspaper.

Carl Cons has resigned as managing editor of the *Beat*, effective immediately, and is embarking upon a new enterprise, to which he carries the heart-felt good wishes and hopes for success of his former associates and the entire staff.

Burrs announces that there will be no change of policy, nor in scheme of operation on the *Beat*. It will continue to be published twice monthly, and, as in the past, will carry the news without fear nor favor to the world of music which it serves.



Fazola

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# Glenn Miller Off Air In AFM-Mutual Fight

Los Angeles—With the union labor movement in U. S. ready for a knockout at the hands of Congress because of sheer bungling on the part of its leadership, bad publicity hit the American Federation of Musicians as Glenn Miller's *Sunrise Serenade* program for service men was ordered off the air indefinitely along with all remote broadcasts on Mutual as the result of a union controversy with stations in Louisville and Nashville.

The Miller *Sunrise Serenade* program, an hour show on Saturday afternoons, has been presented at Miller's own expense for the benefit of soldiers in Army camps. The bandleader paid his orchestra men out of his own pocket for their services.

#### Included Miller Show

When the AFM edict cancelling all remote broadcasts from the Mutual net came though it was interpreted as including Miller's

## Teddy Wilson Leaves Sickbed For Broadcasts

New York—After the biggest break of his bandleading career in the form of a contract to appear in the new Duffy's Tavern series on CBS, Teddy Wilson was almost felled by illness when a siege of grippe laid him low shortly after the first program.

Confined to bed for two weeks under doctors' orders, Teddy just escaped pneumonia. Clyde Hart subbed for him at Cafe Society and Teddy only got up to do the broadcasts, one of which he played while running a 101 fever.

Plans are under way for Teddy to return shortly to the Columbia recording studios, after several months without a session. On his last date Teddy cut several solo sides for an album which he still has to complete.

## Ray McKinley Set in N. Y.

New York—Ray McKinley's new band gets a choice tee-off assignment this week when it follows Vaughn Monroe's into the Hotel Commodore, one of the city's top spots.

In a surprise booking set by the Wm. Morris office here, McKinley will thus reveal his new combination for the first time. He's the drummer-singer who became prominent with Jimmy Dorsey, then went with Will Bradley and left two months back to go out on his own.

"Mac" is to have both Mutual and CBS airtime.

## Jerry Wald Fights Hecklers

# 'I'm Not Aping Shaw!'

New York—"I'm not imitating Artie Shaw!"

That's Jerry Wald's answer to comments that his band sounds much like the old Shaw of a few years back.

Clarinetist Wald and his new band are now playing at the Hotel Lincoln here.

"People say my band sounds like Shaw's. That's mostly bunk. Actually I purchased and have been using only two of Shaw's arrangements—*Beguine* and *Carrioca*.

"Certainly I've been influenced by Artie—he's the number one boy on clarinet for my dough. However if you say my band sounds something like his sounded, remember this: At least we sound like a band that's no longer in existence whereas every other band is imitating the Duke or Jimmie Lunceford."

Bill Challis is arranging for the Wald band at present. From the Maria Kramer-owned hostelry, the crew is aired over CBS and Mutual. In addition, the band has been signed for Decca waxing.



Local trade papers at first incorrectly charged the local union with the cancellation of the Miller program. Embarrassed Local 47 officials finally succeeded in getting statements published to effect order was strictly an International matter with which Local 47 was not concerned.

## Dick Haymes Ready to Debut Band

Asbury Park, N. Y. — Dick Haymes, former Harry James vocalist who has formed his own band, is expected to debut his new outfit at the Hotel Berkeley-Carteret's new dance spot, the Crystal room here. The spot is also new and offers two major wires, Mutual and CBS. A top-flight dance band policy is being established.

The Berkeley-Carteret has already featured the orks of Don De Vito and Dan Pinto in the Berkeley and Carteret rooms respectively. De Vito features the warbling of Mary Dugan, formerly heard with Larry Clinton.

## Courtney Firm Has New N. Y. Offices

New York—The Alan Courtney Music Co., headed by disc jockey Alan (WOV) Courtney, last week opened new quarters in the Brill Building on Broadway. Nat Margo is professional manager of the firm, whose big plugs now include *Shh, It's a Military Secret* and *Smile For Me*.

## Charged with Three Murders; Wanted Moola for Music

Los Angeles—Courtney Fred Rogers, who has been arrested here on charges of killing his mother, father and grandmother, wanted the insurance and inheritance money to aid him to pursue his musical education, he is reported to have told police in a confession.

However, young Rogers is charged with spending the money on maintaining a swell apartment and buying jewels. The music passion he bragged about to reporters seems to have been based on his reported ability as a church organist. Although newspapers referred to him constantly as a "musician," no record that he had ever worked as such can be found and he is not a member of the union.

## Alvino Rey Hires Kincaide; Augments Brass

New York—Deane Kincaide has joined the Alvino Rey ork this past week. He took over Sam Listengart's fourth sax chair and in addition will assume arranging duties. Buddy Cole also will concentrate entirely on arranging for the band, giving up his piano chair to Van Smith. Cole however will continue to play piano on recording dates.

This move gives the Rey band three first string arrangers, Kincaide, Cole and Roger Segure.

Jack Palmer, former James trumpeter, has been sitting in the brass section as well as handling Bill Schallen's vocal parts. Schallen was due out of the hospital Easter week, where he recently underwent a thyroid operation. His first trombone chair has been taken by Sam Levine. Upon Schallen's return, both Levine and Joe Ferrall, new second trombonist, stay on, giving the band three slip-horns.

## Pha Terrell Joins Clarence Love's Band

Chicago—Pha Terrell, former balladeer with Andy Kirk's ork, left Chicago last week to join Clarence Love's sepiu ork now on tour through the deep South.

Terrell was set with the Love band by the Ferguson agency of Indianapolis. He was contracted for principally on the hope that he would perform the same miracle for Love's orchestra as he previously did for Andy Kirk when his recording of *Until the Real Thing Comes Along* boosted that band to fame.



Backstage with the Les Brown band, Butch Stone, Betty Bonney and Ralph Young, all chanters, dig Miss Bonney's pet pooch. The canine thrives on Chocolate goodies and despite the sugar shortage, gets a daily handout from his brunet mistress. Brown and band just completed three sensational weeks at New York's Paramount Theater.

## 'My Band Won't Play Like Jan Garber's!'

Chicago — Bob Siegrist, former publicity manager with Jan Garber's crew, parted here last month with Garber to organize his own band. Working agreements have already been arranged with Stan Zucker which has lined up a month or so of dates for Siegrist, at the end of which time he will probably go with General Amusement.

Siegrist led his own band seven years ago at Michigan State College in Lansing before joining Garber.

"There are many good men left up there I intend to use in my band," Siegrist said. "You can depend on one thing — this crew definitely will not be a Garber type of band. While a commercial band, it will be more of a sophisticated swing outfit."

Siegrist intends to front the band, write a majority of the arrangements and handle vocals.

## Grappelly Recovers

London—Jack Payne has signed up the great French swing violinist Stephane Grappelly to appear on several of his weekly broadcasts here, the *Melody Maker* reports.

Grappelly, still recognized to be the leading swing stylist in this country on his instrument, has now made a complete recovery from his illness and his job with Jack Payne will not interfere with his nightly appearance at Hatchett's.

In London's West End, quite a sensation has been created by news of the termination of Frankie Weir's contract at the Bagatelle where he led his band of all stars under the banner of Ambrose.

## Paramount Short For 'Kobblers'

New York—Scheduled to make a Paramount short soon as the Korn Kobblers, novelty band now at the Flagship in nearby Jersey. The featured scene in the short will be a patriotic theme revolving around a salute to Gen. Douglas MacArthur.

Band will be filmed playing their usual washboards, duck-quackers, etc.

## Ray Conniff With Vaughn Monroe

New York — Replacing young Sid Brantley in Vaughn Monroe's trombone section at Hotel Commodore last month was Ray Conniff, who also composes and arranges. He was last with Artie Shaw.

Monroe and men are winding up a long engagement at the spot.

## Jurgens Adds Brassmen; Heads East

Chicago—Dick Jurgens and his ork moved out of the Aragon ballroom here this week in preparation for his swing through the East, the band's first seaboard invasion. The Jurgens crew has remained in the Middle West for the past five years, despite the fact the band has become nationally known due to its best selling Okeh records and NBC transcriptions. Contractual obligations with the Aragon management kept the band here.

Jurgens opens May 27 at the Totem Pole in Boston for eight weeks with Columbia and Mutual wires, after completing a one-nighter and theater tour in the East. He will return to the Aragon here on Christmas, 1942.

Another trombone has been added, making five brass in all for Jurgens, while Dan Gay has been lifted out of Boyd Raeburn's band to replace Joe Contursi who is entering the armed services.



Woody Herman takes time out between sets at the Hotel New Yorker in New York to chat with Major Alex de Seversky, the aircraft manufacturer. Seversky has written a new song, *Over Land and Sea*, which is being played by Woody.

## Four Chirps to Chester Combo

New York—Bob Chester popped out this month with a new vocal organization, of four persons, which gives him a singing staff of six. Tentatively calling themselves the "Rhythmites," the combo is headed by Elise Cooper, former Eddie DeLange chirp, and Bob Gibbons, Eugene Knaub and Francis Knaub.

In addition, Chester is using Betty Bradley and Gene Howard as vocalists.

Chester and troupe have been touring as usual.



Jerry Wald

## Form Invo

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# Former Lyman Sideman Is Involved in Double Tragedy

Los Angeles—A tragedy shocked music circles here as Fred (Fergie) Ferguson, widely known trumpet player, was taken to the prison ward of the General Hospital suffering from a possibly fatal wound and charged with suspicion of having murdered his wife and mother-in-law.

Ferguson was for many years a member of Abe Lyman's orchestra. He left Lyman a couple of years ago and has since been working here in the staff orchestra at a local radio station.

### Lapsed Into Coma

Before he lapsed into a coma at the hospital, Ferguson told detectives that his wife, an attractive girl with red hair, had done the shooting, and had ended her own life after shooting him and his mother-in-law.

But police seemed inclined to believe the story told by the trumpet player's 12-year-old stepdaughter, who reportedly said that he had shot the wife after beating her over the head with a blackjack and had shot the mother-in-law when the latter tried to protect her

daughter. The shooting occurred about 3:00 a.m. on March 30 at Ferguson's home in North Hollywood.

Musicians who worked with Ferguson at the radio station said that although he seemed to be somewhat morose and cynical he had shown no signs of an impending mental crack-up. One member said: "Fergie was a good guy. There must be more to this than the first newspaper accounts have given."



Two beautiful thrushes above are Gloria Van and Marilyn Stewart. Gloria is featured with Scat Davis' ork and Marilyn with Bob Patern.

# Benny Carter Holiday Set For Joint Tour

New York—Benny Carter and his new 15-piece combination are playing this week at the Apollo theater in Harlem on the first leg of a series of theater dates which Benny will make jointly with Billie Holiday.

Carter, who is being booked by Joe Glaser on this tour, will continue to write for Mark Warnow and will remain in the Eastern states. His band is set for another record session shortly for the Bluebird label.

Sidney de Paris has replaced Nelson Bryant in the trumpet section.

# Morrow Crew Sprouts from Sullivan Ork

Chicago—Two weeks after John E. Sullivan, trumpet-leader, was drafted last month leaving the band under the management of his brother, Ed, the band folded.

Benny Morrow, trumpeter with the band, salvaged a small combo from the ruins when he grabbed George Mitchell, arranger and saxist; Leo Doolan, bass, and Dennis Kelley, vocalist. To this he added Milwaukee 88er Del Miller filling his four piece combo which he has taken into the Hillcrest hotel in Toledo, Ohio.

Brother Ed along with Bob Sheehan, trombone, Buck Buchanan, sax, and Bob Snyder, piano, are set for impending dates with their respective draft boards. Trumpeter Don McDougall has returned to Texas and the Hal Howard ork.

Saxist Johnny Bothwell and Jack Meyring, drummer, are reported in Chicago jobbing. Vocalist Maxine Coffee has returned to her home in Lincoln, Neb.

# Dick Stabile Replaces 3 GWTD's

New York—Vincent Badale and Bill Abel have gone into the Dick Stabile band to replace Hank Reincke on trumpet and Al Reinecke on trombone respectively. Norman Stern has replaced Charley Arlington on alto.

The two Reineckes have entered the army and are now playing in the Camp Dix, N. J., band. Arlington is playing in a band at Camp Bolling, Washington, D. C.

Stabile is currently at the Top Hat in New Jersey.

# Hale Opens Season

Columbus, Miss.—Tige Hale and his Gold Medal concert band opened their fourth season here last week with the Oscar Bloom Gold Medal shows.

# Kay Kyser On the Kover

Chicago—Kay Kyser returned to the Chicago theater here this week (17) to play his first engagement since his memorable stay in the Blackhawk here five years ago when he first presented his *Kollege of Musical Knowledge*. Kyser has just made his fourth movie for R-K-O, entitled *My Favorite Spy*. No wonder the Ol' Professor is knockin' himself out these days, radio commercials, army shows, pictures et al.



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# 'Did a Certain Music Rag Slander Negro Musicians?'

by HAL HOLLY

Los Angeles—When an anonymous columnist revealed in the magazine *Music & Rhythm* (Page 26—March issue) that Bunny Berigan had recorded the music which Rex Stewart will appear to play in the RKO picture, *Syncopation*, he put jazz addicts into spasms of various kinds.

The situation was made particularly interesting by the fact that "RKO emphatically denied" . . . etc. And with that "denial" in his beezee, into prompt action goes one Mr. Stanley Diaz, who heads (or probably is) "The Group for Creative Music." Mr. Diaz is currently plastering the offices of editors with an official communique charging many things—"a tendency to consciously discredit the Negro musician" . . . "A serious reflection on Stewart's musicianship" . . . etc.

### Answer Is Elementary

Fully aware that this mystery of "What Happened to the Stewart Sound-Track" might get the country at large into a state of nerves that could even disrupt the war effort your Hollywood correspondent donned his green glasses, false whiskers and rubber gloves and went to work.

And was it elementary? Easier than that!

Here it is:  
The sound-tracks recorded by

Stewart at the time he was enacting his role before the camera ("King Jeffers," a legendary cornet player) were temporary tracks which were not intended to be used when the picture was scored. This is just part of picture-making technique and we shall not attempt to explain it for the benefit of Mr. Diaz or anyone else.

### Let Berigan Do It

Now, when the time came to record the music for the sound track that will be heard with the picture Rex Stewart was somewhere in the East with Duke Ellington's band. Right on hand and in the studio is a guy named Bunny Berigan, who has been brought to the Coast to record the music which Jackie Cooper will appear to play in the picture.

What would you have done, Mr. Diaz?

Of course, we know. You would have held up production for a couple of weeks, arranged with Duke Ellington to let Rex off for a month or so to return to the

Coast. But that isn't the way they do things in Hollywood. They just let this fellow Berigan do it. At least they think they did. It might have been George Thow (whom you refer to in your communique as "Throw.") No one at RKO is quite positive.

I'm not—and I was there when they recorded a lot of it! That's how things go out here!

And, you may be surprised to learn that a lot of people think George Thow is a hell of a good man with a horn. And one of these people, I'll wager you a small bet, is Rex Stewart.

## Kalban of Mills into Service

New York — Bernard Kalban, publicity and advertising director of Mills Music, has joined the armed forces. He is succeeded by Bernard Simon.

Robert and Paul Mills, sons of Irving Mills, were due to enter the Marines this week, having been accepted by that division of service. Paul Mills is professional manager of the American Academy of Music while Robert Mills is on the staff of Mills Music.

## "The Cats Are Killing Themselves"



Hollywood—Wingy (Wingstonovitch) Manone shows up Goodman and Shaw by playing one-handed clarinet. "Let's see them do it," cries Wingy. The ex-New Orleans trumpeter and his band are currently "killing the cat" at the Club Capri. That's Bu Knapp, unknown but upcoming band leader, and Arnold Robbins, Wingy's bass player, digging the Manone. Ralph Forney snapped this shot.

## Hitemen Leave For Army; Dizzy Gillespie Joins Ork

New York—The first instance of two brothers being drafted out of a band simultaneously occurred here when Les Hite said goodbye to Britt and Coney Woodman, trombonist and pianist with the band, after they closed at the Strand theater in Brooklyn. Britt was a founder member of the present Hite band.

Simultaneously with the brothers departure to report for induction in California, Hite decided to clean house by making two more important changes. Johnny Brown, a new lad from Philadelphia, replaced Sol Moore on baritone sax, and John (Dizzy) Gillespie, outstanding horn man, took over Stumpy Whitlock's trumpet chair. Dizzy was featured until recently with Benny Carter's small band at the Famous Door.

Hite remained in Manhattan for several days breaking in the new men before leaving for another tour of New England.

## Brackman a Fave

New York — Artie Brackman's band was chosen favorite of the students at Far Rockaway High last month in an all-school poll. He's a Norman Bates pupil and plays sax.

## Stabile Grabs Fat Disc Pact

New York—Dick Stabile's band and Gracie Barrie are to be paid \$5,000 for a series of electrical transcriptions to be made this month here. Deal was set by Bill Burton, Stabile's personal manager, who also set Stabile into the N. Y. Strand for two weeks and possibly three.

Joey Stabile, Dick's saxist and road manager, expects to enter the service shortly. He's Dick's brother. Band has been playing a successful engagement at the Top Hat, nitery in Jersey.

## Sonny Skyler Leaves Lopez To Form Band

New York—Sonny Skyler, who for more than three years has been featured vocalist with Vincent Lopez's orchestra, left him this week to form his own band.

Lopez is currently featured at the Hotel Taft Grill, and it was here that Sonny Skyler started his professional career seven years ago as vocalist with Geo. Hall's orchestra.

Lopez is sponsoring Skyler's new band which will consist of twelve men, with Skyler and Jeanne D'Arcy (formerly with Johnny Messner) handling the vocal assignments.

## Alabaster Joins Charlie Spivak

New York—Ted Alabaster, former Bob Chester road manager, now is with the Charlie Spivak band which opens next month at Hotel Pennsylvania here.

Alabaster succeeds Bobby Burns, who at press time was ready to enter the army. Burns managed Tommy Dorsey several years before going with Spivak.

Charlie and crew will play the Penn until July at least. Band records for Okeh.

## Sad Takeoff to Make a Film

New York—Thieves who entered the parked motor car of Claude Bowen, trumpet player in Harry James' band, stole two trumpets and a trunkful of zoot suits just a few moments before Bowen grabbed a special train to go to California with Harry's band.

James, Bowen, et al, are to make two movies on the coast. Police here were searching for the loot long after Bowen left for California.

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## Chicago



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## ATTEN AND

Have several ballads, tor that have co properly. W arranger or talent in ce *DOWN BEA* Chicago.

### Gene Krupa's Gang in Action



Chicago—Gene Krupa's band wound up a bangeroo engagement at the Panther Room of the Hotel Sherman here last week, being followed by Cab Calloway's orchestra. The Krupa sax section is shown above, giving itself a stiff workout. From left to right are Don Brannfield, Sam Musiker, Ben Feman, Rex Sittig and Jimmy Milione. In back of them can be caught glimpses of trumpeters Roy Eldridge, Graham Young and Mickey Mengano. In the lower left photo, Gene himself performs a few drumastics for the benefit of Sherman audiences and the cameraman. And huddled around the mike at the right are Sam Musiker, Jimmy Milione and Roy Eldridge in a bit of close clary, sax and trumpet harmony. Is it true that the Krupa brass section boasts three little budding Eldridges now? All photos are by *Rube Lewis*.

## Kyser Loses Bus, All Arrangements, In Gotham Fire

New York—A three alarm fire, fed by the explosion of numerous tanks, completely gutted a New York garage here April 4, destroying Kay Kyser's band bus, some army trucks and a few passenger cars. All of Kyser's arrangements, gathered during fifteen years in music, were destroyed, together with the band's drums, bass fiddle and some of the reeds. Kyser was forced to cancel out two broadcasts and a Trenton, N. J., concert scheduled for the Easter week end. The garage was on West 55th street, not far from the Normandie dock. Firemen and troops guarding the huge ship aided in quelling the blaze.

### Baumann Is Ill

Chicago—Carl A. Baumann, vice president of Chicago's Local 10, AFM, entered Berwyn hospital here April 3. He has pneumonia.

### New Weems Pianist

Chicago—Jimmy Simmonin replaced Ralph Blank in the Ted Weems band at the Blackhawk here last week. Simmonin formerly was with Jimmy Greer.

### It's a Boy For The Nick Fatools

New York—Nick Fatool, now drumming for Jan Savitt, became a father last month when his wife gave birth to a son at LeRoy Hospital here. The Fatools named the child, their first, David Michael Fatool. Youngster weighed in at 7 pounds, 2 ounces. Fatool left Savitt a couple of weeks to be with his wife but has since rejoined Jan in St. Louis.

### Cootie Cuts Four Sides On Okeh

Chicago—On his first date with his new band Cootie Williams late last month cut four sides for Okeh. Sides were *Flying High*, Cootie's theme; *Marquita*, *Sleepy Valley* and *When My Baby Left Me*, a blues. *Baby* is an original by Eddie Vincent, saxist, on which he takes the vocal. *Marquita* and *Valley* were scored by Don Kirkpatrick, formerly with Count Basie, and the first features a vocal by Louis Bacon while the latter showcases the plunging of Coot. *Flying* features Williams, of course, with some space saved for a trumpet solo by Joe Guy. Bob McRae, brother of Ted McRae with Calloway, scored this one. The band continues at the Grand Terrace here.

### Bob Bach Now In the Army

New York—Radio man Bob Bach of WMCA, a former writer on jazz subjects and also press agent for the Will Bradley band, was to enter the Army this week. Bach is best known for his *Platterbrains* radio program on which appear name bandleaders and vocalists every Saturday answering quiz questions pertaining to jazz. Bach was slated to report to Fort Monmouth, N. J. Leonard Feather will take over emcee duties on the *Platterbrains* show and Dave Dexter, Jr., becomes a regular member of the show's "expert" staff. Program will continue under sponsorship of Crawford Clothes.

### Turner's New Manager

Oakland, Cal.—John A. Bur-Ton has taken over the management of Joe Turner, blues shouter. Turner will tour the country after his close at the Club Capri in Hollywood.

### Old Onyx Club Reopens Again

New York—Irving Alexander was set to reopen the Onyx Club on West 52nd street as the *Beat* went to press. Alexander, formerly associated with the Famous Door, was to offer Billie Holiday, the King Cole Trio and other attractions. The Onyx at one time, about 1935, was a favorite meeting and jamming spot for musicians. Joe Helbock at that time managed the room. There will be no dancing, but jazz music will be heavily featured, Alexander disclosed.

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# Frankie Trumbauer Recalls the Good Old Days...

## Many of Goldkette Stars Later Played with Rollini

by FRANKIE TRUMBAUER

I hate to contradict anybody but I must question some of my good friend Russ Morgan's statements as told to Bob Locke in a recent issue of *Down Beat*. I am not attempting to get the nod from the trade by writing an article, as this is unnecessary, and further, Russ is right in many respects but I believe a little clarification is in order.

We will go back a bit with our dates, if you don't mind a little reminiscing: I had the band at the Arcadia ballroom in St. Louis in 1926. Bix and Pee-Wee Russell were with me. That was the stopping-off place for all musicians who passed through. Needless to say, the band was just a little over the heads of the public in general at that time.

### Wasn't Sold on Bix

Charley Horvath made me an offer to conduct the Goldkette at Detroit, and when I mentioned bringing Bix with me, he wasn't sold on the idea, as he explained that Bix was around Detroit for some time and nothing happened. I refused the offer unless Bix could come along; so Charley reconsidered, and told me I would have to be responsible for him, as he did not think it would work.

He didn't know what Bix and I had been doing. Bix could not read very well when we started. We taught him all that was possible in the time we had. Bix thought and played in Concert, even on a Bb instrument. We started him on violin parts—then taught him to transpose the violin parts to trumpet—and at last we gave him trumpet parts alone, and he was doing pretty well with them. At least he was in there trying. He was saving his money, had plenty of clothes, and was playing golf and looked wonderful.

We had a fine understanding, and could anticipate what the other was about to do on his instrument. We sat at the piano for hours and worked things out; and if you would like to hear some of the inspiration for *In a Mist*, play *Land of the Loon*. He loved Eastwood Lane and Cyril Scott. I don't remember ever sitting down to listen to popular records; generally we listened to symphonies that we liked. A few of the things that most of the boys didn't know was that Bix got to the point where he could read pretty well.

### "Bix Had a Love-Life"

He had a love-life that very few people ever heard of. This girl still cherishes the things she hears



Frankie Trumbauer

about Bix, and she has a wonderful reason to do so. If she ever wants her story to be told, I feel sure she will let me tell it.

I seem to be wandering from the point a bit: We folded the band and went to Detroit to join Goldkette; and to say that the band was a "killer" would be putting it mildly. Don Murray was everything Morgan said he was, and a little more. He would bring a basket of beer and sandwiches to rehearsal, and he and Quicksell drove me "nuts." As I was conducting the band, I would ask the boys to make a cut on some arrangement, and Murray would take me at my word and actually cut that part out with a pair of scissors—his parts all looked like an old lace curtain. And if you wanted to put something back that was previously cut out, Murray would yell "Oh, no you don't!" "Look at my part; you cut that out once." Now what could you do in a case like that? I roomed with Murray for a while, until I couldn't stand the ladders and red lanterns he and Quicksell would bring home.

### Then, Whiteman Came

When Bix and I played the Graystone Ballroom, and Whiteman was in the balcony, I was

## Trumbauer Says "Keep 'em Flyin'"

Kansas City—Frankie Trumbauer has retired as a leader and at present is an acting senior aeronautical inspector here.

"Ask any musician who flies about our duties," says Trumbauer. "We give out Uncle Sam's pilot certificates to those who pass the flight test. At present, the War Department is in the dealer's seat and we had all better listen to what they have to say. Where these pilots go and where we work, there is no spotlight or applause, no bows—just cold facts. I was sworn in the day Italy declared war. We have given quite a number of musicians their certificates and they are serving as instructors."

"THE IMPORTANCE OF THIS PRESENT CONFLICT CANNOT BE UNDERESTIMATED. WE MUST KEEP 'EM FLYIN'."

leading the band. Backstage, after a set, Bix said to me, "That is our next move." "I hear the big boy is getting his kicks, at least so the boys tell me."

We played our engagement at the Roseland Ballroom in New York, and the boys had the rumor that the band must go. I called most of the key men together and discussed the possibility of getting the band together at a later date when Gene might be able to do something to offset the payroll. We were all agreed, and I went to him and asked him to call the band back in ninety days—or even six months—because we should not let the name we had created go to pot. And the boys would come back. Farrar, Wilcox, Morehouse, Murray, Quicksell, Ryker, Riskin, Brown, Rank, Bix and myself, at least, were sold on this deal, but Gene was broken-hearted, as the band had always cost more than he made with it—just one of those things no one could understand. The library was then available to what is now the Casa Loma Band.

### Frank Fay Was Around

One of the things most people have forgotten was the next band we were in. Adrian Rollini set up a band of All-Stars for a cafe—I believe the name was New Yorker. Frank Fay was the main attraction, Patsy Kelly was a stooge and Franklin was the piano player. Well, we all know where Fay is today; also Patsy Kelly; and Franklin. Anyone who has ever been around the Paramount lot can tell you who he is. Needless to say, most of Fay's stuff was too fast for the public, even when we played the Strand Theatre in New York. This band contained Joe Venuti, Eddie Lang, Morehouse, Rollini (Leader), Frankie Signorelli, Murray, Bix and myself and others.

Bix and I joined the Goldkette

band on the same day. Also, the All-Stars and the Whiteman band on the same day. When we joined "Pops" Whiteman at Indianapolis, he said, "Boys, I hope you will be happy. I pay more than any other leader because I want the best, and I have to keep the best happy. Go get a red coat and sit in the next show."

Bix went to the brass section with no idea of what was going on, and I sat in front with the saxes; and I was just as groggy as he was. A great many stars of the times were in that band: Bing Crosby, Jack Fulton, the Dorsey brothers, Challis, Grofe and Strickfadden—you people should know the roster of the band at that time—1927.

### Spotlight Hit Him

Whiteman, during the show out in front—rightfully proud—pointed to Bix; the spotlight hit him. "Take the next one" yelled Pops. Bix looked over to where he thought I should be and smiled, and cut one that cooled all the boys.

I took the next one, and we didn't get fired, at least.

The rest is history—how Bix got his record dates, how he made *In a Mist*, where the title came from—we will take that up at a later date; possibly in the book I am writing, *Twenty Years in the Music Business*. I wonder if the trade would like a book like that.

Morgan's statement about beauty in the band is truly righteous. If it has tone, style and beauty in phrasing, it will live. If you don't think so, listen to Whiteman's record of *Sweet Sue* and listen to what Bix does. I might add that I think Morgan one of the best all-around musicians we have today, and I'll take Jimmy Dorsey on saxophone.

Let's let the boys wonder about who knew Bix the best, and let's have less writing about him by people who never really knew him. He got his inspiration from great works that he loved, and his own piano. He had a God-given conception, coupled with the artistry to interpret it.



**I Look at Heaven** is the title of a new song based on Grieg's *Piano Concerto* which youthful Bobby Worth recently composed. Dinah Shore and Freddy Martin were first to record the ditty, on *Bluebird*. The three principals are shown discussing other matters at New York's Waldorf. Ray Levitt Photo.

## Let Waller Use Small Combo on Tour—Observed

by ROLAND YOUNG

Bridgeport, Conn. — Although Fats Waller did fine business at the Lyric theater here recently, when in for a 3-day stint, and almost broke house records (the management puts all the bands playing here in that bracket), the band and show proved a big bring-down to all of Fats' friends who heard him. Fats used a big band that seemed lost about the entire affair. Why not, observers asked, have Waller use his own small crew on these theater dates? It's a shame to send him around with a crew like this, leaving a bad taste in everyone's mouth.

After auditioning plenty of local tenor men for a ??? in the lead tenor department, Mary Marshall (Milford's Seven Gables) grabbed Al Yost, localite, out of the Ronny Rommel band to fill the chair. His work is drawing raves from everyone. Lad came into town when the Dean Hudson band disbanded. Marshall's fine crew will soon leave for a Cleveland hotel spot and is due to start recording soon.

After his recent one-nighter at the Ritz here, Bobby Byrne planned to take a vacation and seemed to be anxiously awaiting same...

Despite all reports to the contrary, Mickey Carr continues on at the Hotel Howard with trumpeter Eddy Antolick, a recent addition. . . . Incidentally, The Apaches, relief group at this popular spot, are terrific. They use bass, guitar, and vibes. . . . Gus Meyer's Colonials are back on WICC, making this maestro the busiest in town. He has a daily radio show, plus the pit chores at the Lyric and plenty of club dates. . . . Local 63 AFM officials are plenty proud of the fact that they were among the first of any locals to purchase Defense Bonds, and they have \$1500 worth.

The local is making a determined bid to raise scale, something that is vitally necessary here.

## Rhodie Sisters Set in Newark

New York — Steve Turpin of Metro Band Management signed the Rhodie Sisters, singing trio, to a 10-year personal management contract. Trio has been set at the Sportsman's Grill, Paddy Ryan's, in Newark. Girls formerly worked at Roger's Corner.

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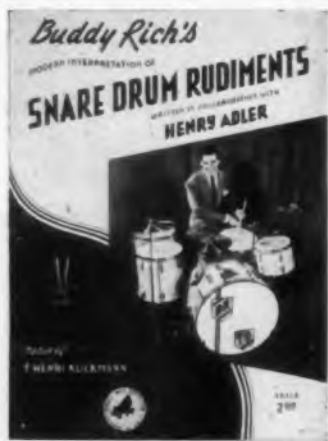
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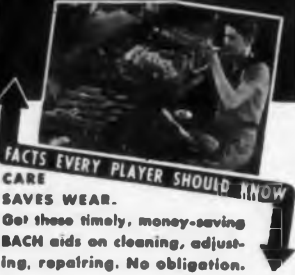
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### Top-Flight Musicians Play in Navy Band



Don Jacoby, above, left his trumpet chair in Les Brown's orchestra to become a member of the band at the U. S. Naval Training Station in Great Lakes, Ill. Lt. Commander Edwin Peabody, shown at left, chatting with Jan Garber, is the leader of the band and is the man responsible for the recruiting of so many outstanding musicians. More than 5,000 recruits in training are entertained at one time. U. S. Naval Photos.

### College Ork-Eye Catcher

Chicago—A young Northwestern university band under the leadership of Eddie Salkowe and featuring special arrangements has caught the eye of various name leaders who have been through this territory.

The band, six months old, has been grabbing the best campus dates available here, having just played the Shia-Ai-Bat hop, one of Northwestern's biggest. April 25 they are set for the Willard Hall dance.

Les Brown dug the ork when here recently and got a fine kick from their style which is not unlike his own. Some of their outstanding scores are *Body and Soul*, *Moonlight Cocktail*, *Out of Nowhere* and *'Tis Autumn*. *Girlfriend of Corporal Jones*, an original by Salkowe, so interested Brown that he tried it with his own band.

The band consists of five brass, five saxes and three rhythm and has Salkowe, George Peterson, O'Neil Del, trumpets; Sol Minkoff, Greg Padavini, trombones; Hal Hayer, Bob Ranger, Bill Hansen, Harold Bucholz, Bob Anderson, saxes; Dick Marx, piano; Grant Hamilton, drums, and Al Larcombe, bass. Jayne Brandes, a former model, and Al Wolish divide the vocals. Most of the scores are written by 88er Dick Marx.

Will Bradley is reported to be interested in trombonist Sol Minkoff.

### Cafe Society For London

London, Eng.—Jack Hamilton, well known for his sterling trumpet work with Louis Armstrong in 1934 here and lately a member of the Embassy and Jig's Club bands here, has opened a new niterly entitled Cafe Society in the West End.

Hamilton directs his own band which includes such stylists as Clinton Maxwell, drums; Colin Beaton, piano; Jimmy Skidmore, tenor, and Gerry Fitzgerald, bass.

### Wagner Replaces Vent with Stuart

St. Louis—Russ Wagner stepped out of George Hamilton's band to replace Vic Vent on bass in Nick Stuart's band, now playing at the Hotel Jefferson here. Vent is returning to the West Coast.

attached to Commander Peabody's staff, was stage director and assistant production manager for Sonja Henie tours and *It Happened On Ice*, now on its second year in New York, before coming into the Navy.

his sailing days.

Four drummers in the Navy now include Wilfred Hanson, another ex-army man, who played with Herbie Kay before being drafted. He came into the navy after his army release. Milt Chalifoux was a staff drummer at Chicago's CBS studios, and Sam Tannenbaum beat out rumba rhythms with Don Pedro's crew, Chuck Johnson, who doubles as drummer and vocalist with the Great Lakes rhythm orchestra, received his musical training with Frankie Trumbauer and Ernie Palmquist.

Hank Larsen, bass fiddle man, came to the navy from Gay Claridge's band.

#### Lou Mindling Is Manager

Lou Mindling was formerly Xavier Cugat's manager and was with MCA and the CBS Artists' bureau before enlisting. Bill Fischer, who directs the new Navy vocal orchestra, sang with The Commanders at Chicago's Chez Paree before enlisting. Dannie Hector, dancing star of *Meet The People*, is also at Great Lakes, as is D. W. Bellah, former professor of music at the University of Texas.

Chief Specialist Robert Linden,

## Navy Life Lures Ace Dance Men

Great Lakes, Ill.—From the ranks of the greatest dance bands in the country have come the men who form the band, music and entertainment division at the United States Naval Training Station here.

Lieutenant Commander Edwin E. Peabody, string instrument wizard who has been a headliner for many years, has worked for several months recruiting the men who make up the Great Lakes military band and rhythm orchestra.

Lt. Cdr. Peabody's department is doing the Herculean job of maintaining the morale of new recruits at Great Lakes at a high standard through frequent entertainments known as Happy Hours, radio broadcasts and appearances for recruit dances and programs.

#### Tucker Man or 88

Orrin Tucker's band is getting along these days without Everett Ralston, pianist-arranger, who is now performing those duties with the Great Lakes dance crew. Bob Moonan, formerly with Del Courtney, is now chief organist and pianist at the station, and Carl Haesman, Maurie Sherman's expansionist, also is playing for the entertainment of recruits at Great Lakes.

Trumpet men in the office include several top stars from stage and radio headliners. Don Jacoby left Les Brown to join the navy; Bill Haley was with Lou Breese, and Henry Jackson played with Jan Savitt, Ina Ray Hutton and Pierson Thal before enlisting. Frank Laurie was with Sev Olsen at the Nicollet Hotel in Minneapolis, while Georgie Schuster came to Great Lakes from Phil Levant's band. Byron Baxter is still another trumpeter in the station's dance band.

Freddie Simon of Charlie Agnew's band, Eddie Schaefer of Lou Breese's organization and Chester Breskin of Ted Fio Rito's orchestra fill the trombone chairs.

#### Saxes Include Many Names

Sax men now at Great Lakes hail from many name bands. George Kaitz was with Russ Morgan, Bob Smith left Charlie Teagarden, and Don Baker is an ex-Art Kassel man. Edward Karpowicz played with "Goldie," former Whiteman trumpet star and now a maestro in his own right, and Glen Rohlfing was with Ben Bernie and Henry Busse before he was drafted into the army several months ago. Following his temporary release from the army, Glen enlisted in the navy. Irving Schandelmeyer was with Ann Dupont's band, and Joe (Beanie) Warcup comes to Great Lakes after playing with Bernie and Busse. Carl Rechygiel forsook Boyd Raeburn, and Phil Coomer played with Billy Baer's orchestra. Thala Rush was with Vincent Lopez and Arnold Johnson, among other bands, before enlisting. Herb Sanders taught woodwind instruments at the American Conservatory of Music in Chicago before



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### Here's That New Will Bradley Band



Down Beat's roving Rube Lewis caught the Will Bradley band in action in Washington, D. C. Bradley is more proud of this band, composed entirely of youngsters, than of any band he has had yet. And the morale is tops, reports Will! Shown in the rhythm section are Billy Maxted, piano; Marty Brown, bass; Sheldon Manne, drums, and Steve Jordan, guitar.

Trumpets from left to right are Max Greer, Tony Faso and Shorty (Buck) Rogers; trombones, Irv Dinkin and Leonard Ray. The saxes consist of Ray Schultz, Phil Gomez, Ray Beller, Sal Augusta, and Bob Wertz. Vocalists are Terry Allen and Lynn Gardner and that's Will himself, and sliphorn out in front. Irv Tonkins is Will's personal manager now.

## Dickie Wells, Helen Humes Were In Looneyville Kid Band of 1925

by BOB SALES

I went up the river to Cincy to dig the Cab Calloway and Jack Teagarden orchestras recently—and man, in addition to being knocked out by the music, your correspondent really got the beat when it came to delving into ancient history! Jonah Jones, get-off man with the Hi-de-Ho Gang, on learning that I was from Looneyville, K-Y, informed me that he first saw the light of day in that same city.

"Back in 1925-27," reminisced Jonah, "the Booker T. Washington Community Center, at Ninth and Magazine Streets, sponsored a children's band, and any cat in town who was anybody at all was in the outfit.

We used to cut loose on the marches while on parade, just like those old New Orleans bands did, and the director, Lockwood Lewis, would have to bring us back into line. That old band had Dickie Wells, Bill Beason, Robert Carroll, Mack Walker, Les Carr, Harold McFerran, Louis Thompson, and Helen Humes in the line-up. No, Jimmy Harrison wasn't a member (in response to a query from me), since he was a little older than us kids—but he helped us out with our music whenever he could find time to do so, as Jimmy already had quite a reputation around town, and was much in demand for gigs. I recall that Meade Lux Lewis was born in Louisville, and Ammons played there for quite some time, but that was a little before I got into the game."

Carr, McFerran and Walker recorded with Cecil Scott. Louis Thompson was on bass with Willie Bryant, Bill Beason is currently hitting the hides for Ella Fitzgerald, while Dickie Wells is with the Count. Carroll may be found on discings by Redman, The Father and Willie The Lion, and Helen Humes cut many a blues side for Okeh in the old days. Lockwood Lewis, the director of the Washington Community Center Band, still is gigging around Louisville with his own outfit.

### Parsons Chirping With Strickland

Chicago—Frank Parsons, former George Olsen vocalist, joined the Don Strickland Ork on April 4. The band is currently one-nighting it but will open at the Hotel Schroeder in Milwaukee on July 1.

### Bataan Boys Make With the Music

Selnectady, N. Y.—Love songs and swing tunes are what Uncle Sam's soldiers in the Philippines want to hear, according to a letter just received from nine Air Corps men there by KGEI, the General Electric international short-wave radio station in San Francisco.

Said the letter: "For the boys on Corregidor, we would particularly like you to dedicate *Remember Me*."

### Benny Weds

Chicago—Benny Goodman married Lady Alice Hammond Duckworth in Las Vegas, N. M., last month. The couple honeymooned in Phoenix, Ariz.

The former Lady Duckworth is a sister of John Hammond, the jazz critic. She was formerly married to Lord Duckworth, a member of the British peerage, and has three children by her former marriage.

This week, society editors of the various newspapers were wondering in print whether the social register would "take Benny in or pitch Lady Alice out." The result will not be known until next November when the 1943 "Blueblood Bible" is issued.

### White into Navy

Chicago—Arthur White, former bandsman with Ben Bernie and Jack Teagarden, is now in training at the United States Naval Training Station at Great Lakes, Ill., as a musician, second class.

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# Coot Band On Upbeat

by BOB LOCKE

Chicago—Piling up a record run at the Grand Terrace cafe here on Chi's South Side is Cootie Williams' new ork. The band opened here January 30 and is still going strong.

The Coot's band is still rough but not as rough as it sounded on its preem night. It's a heavily-styled jump outfit, a la Basie, and its rhythm section rocks whether the band does or not. Particularly effective also are Cootie's own growl horn solos, which on slow-tempoed numbers are wistfully reminiscent of many wonderful old choruses he took with Ellington. In other words, Cootie is back in his element and playing much better than he ever did during his stay with Benny Goodman. He also is giving out with a lot of open horn these days and shows particularly effective phrasing on many old standards. Perhaps his best is *West End Blues*, which in this writer's opinion will stand up with Louie's.

Not much can be said for Louis Bacon's horn, although much was expected. At any rate, the whole Williams brass section is entirely too loud and with the exception of Sandy Williams, who is still one of the most underrated trombonists in the business, can stand a lot of drilling.

### Kersey Is Tops

However, Cootie does have two other instrumentalists of outstanding ability in Kenneth Kersey, ex-Red Allen boogie-ist, on piano and saxist Eddie Vincent on blues vocals. Vincent shouts an earthy human blues song, much on the order of Jimmy Rushing or Walter Brown.

Incidentally, the Terrace shows are beginning to show improvement under the skillful hand of producer Teddy Blackman, ex of White's Emporium.

How about some kind "woids" for Gust Gorgan, only ballroom operator in this vicinity book name bands on one-nighters? He's the op of Waukegan's Rink ballroom. However, Gust let us down last week with Henry Busse and Frankie Masters.

### Freeman on Commercial?

Red Hodgson, ex-Joe Saunders trumpeter now gigging between Chicago's nite spots and the Chelsea, is sporting a wounded nose these days. . . . What's this about Bud Freeman's band grabbing the Fibber McGee and Molly commercial? At any rate, insiders report that the Freeman band which is being eyed by many Chi radio execs, stands a good chance.

Jan Savitt came into town for a week at the Chicago, and localite Vic Engle took over Nick Fatool's tub assignment. However when the Savitt-eurs left town, Lou Finerty was in the pots and pans saddle. Hank Busse made out his income

tax last month and discovered he had employed 65 musicians in the past year. That's a record of some kind or other.

Calloway at Sherman  
Cab Calloway is currently at the Panther Room of the Sherman and Ted Weems is at the Blackhawk. Duchin went into the Palmer House. Ramon Ramos, who leads a swingless band at the Drake, is a poppa.

Dig that Dorothy Donegan, sepi pianist who is swinging classics in the Hazel Scott manner at the Three Deuces. As a matter of fact, the club is stuffy with ivory-ists, Ray Walters and Laura Rucker also being on the bill as 88-artists.

Maceo Burch, who was buried in Kansas City too long, is back in the field as Count Basie's road manager. . . . Sammy Kaye played the Chi theater here then headed for 20th Century-Fox on the West Coast to begin work on the pic, *Iceland*. . . . Mary Kreig, vocalist with Baron Elliott at the Oh Henry, is ill with appendicitis. . . .

The town's music publishers staged a Victory Ball at the Morrison hotel the 6th. . . . Anise and Allyn, and Paul, Slim and Eddie are in the new Terrace show. . . . George Oldham, who used to play bass with Louis Armstrong, has gone into the army. . . . Louie Jordan recorded for Decca on April 7. . . . A new South Side spot opening this is Charlie Glenn's Rhumboogie. Joe (Ziggy) Johnson is producing the shows and Tiny Bradshaw's band gets the music spot. . . . Coleman Hawkins holds over indefinitely at White's Emporium.

Attention, Al Monroe of the Chicago *Defender*: *Down Beat's* trophies were plaques this year because metal is on the priorities list. By using plaques instead of cups, enough metal was saved by the government to kill 200 Jap soldiers!

Bill Turner and his Dead End orchestra are at the Capitol Lounge. And Turner actually is a former Dead End Kid. Gene Krupa got the *Pittsburgh Courier's* Chu Berry Award this year for having done the most for the Negro musician during 1941.

## Sunday Shattered Nitory Itches For Stab at Sabbath War Trade

Worcester, Mass.—With many downtown theaters playing to turnaway biz on Sabbath, due to six-day defense plant shifts, the Lido cafe, currently featuring Mickey Sullivan's ork, is still needing state officials to get permit for Sunday performance. If there's a nitory bargain in town it's here at the Lido, where floor shows are booked out of New York.

Roy Gill began his Totem Pole ballroom location policy last Fall, and suspended it in favor of weekend operation for winter months. Pole will resume the policy the end of May and Dick Jurgens will be the first name in.

Station WAAB, formerly a Boston outlet, moves to Worcester in June. . . . The name band parade comes on and on in here with

Alvino Rey, Bob Chester, and Muggsy Spanier. . . . There are a great many things that Worcester is grateful to New England's Lexington for and one of them is Jean Wilkins. Maybe the name isn't familiar to some but every single day, holding down WTAC's prize chair as staff organist, Jean becomes more and more familiar to New Englanders.

—MIKE STRANGER

### Duo in Duluth

Duluth, Minn. — Jerry and Vi Wagner, piano and duo organ, are set for four weeks at the Hotel Spalding here, to be followed with a May 4 opening at the Phillips hotel, Kansas City.

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# Union Relaxes In Chi Fracas

Chicago—The American Federation of Musicians relaxed its regulations slightly here late last month in order to permit the South Shore high school band to play at a civilian defense affair.

The union previously had barred the band from playing, due to an agreement with the Board of Education which provides that no school band can play in a public school at a function sponsored by interests outside of the work.

John P. Quigley, commander of the South Shore civilian defense district, termed the action of the union "an outrage" and declared the union was depriving school children of an opportunity to aid in defense work.

Quigley said, "If we had the money to employ union musicians, we would be glad to do so. We haven't the money and we are volunteering our services and are charging nothing for admission. It is a matter of patriotism, not money."

The Chicago newspapers took up the hue and cry and the *Daily News* even bannered the story across its entire front page thus: "PETRILLO BARS WAR RALLY BAND."

James C. Petrillo, president of the AFM and of the Chicago local, when reached in New York immediately rescinded the local's action in order to permit the school band to play, declaring he could not see where musicians' interests were being injured.

# Lu Watters Jazz Band Falls—Deep in Moola

by DIXON GAYER

San Francisco—Following the *Down Beat* notices and the radio buildup which their new album brought on, the Lu Watters Yerba Buena Jazz Band is revelling in the glory of paid admissions to the dark little basement Dawn club in the alley behind the famous Palace hotel. Things don't look the same these days to the Watters.

tribe and the music sounds more inspired every night as the boys see signs of the green stuff as an added incentive for their work.

There have been a couple of shaggy years for the Watters tribe (working on a paid admissions deal at the club). The boys played night after night to a crowd of twenty or thirty assorted radio announcers and Hugues Panassie readers, and many was the night that they could have played a seven-man discord without hurting over 14 or 16 ears.

Those were lean days but Lu et l'ensemble still came back for more. They hit snag after snag and they lost money, but they knew that something would be cooking if they could once start the kettle boiling.

A coast to coast hookup the other night, if repeated, may lead the band to something. Frankly, all hope so. They are now polished and sincere and, finally, balanced. They certainly deserve anything they get. Style note of some interest is that the band (except for piano, drums and bonjoes) never sits down during their evening's work. They tried standing one whole night and found that the band sounded and worked better. Thus, the gentlemen will remain standing, if you please.

In front of the Dawn club in the Palace hotel, Al Donahue sounds rather nice despite the smooth style demanded by local clientele. He kicks out well when the localities aren't looking. The hotels (on strike these many months now . . . and the union doesn't like it a bit . . . even gets mad if you phone and ask about the situation) are featuring invisible picket lines. The pickets are still all around the hotels even if you don't see them. Rumors are that the hotel strike is on the mend, though, and that Henry King will be hustled to the St. Francis when all's well. Sir Francis Drake is still happy with local boy Ran Wilde, although the band fails to rate as high as when he was the Deauville maestro here some five years back.

Ran lost his singer to a local leader with a nice outfit, Henry Gallagher. The Gallagher band has played so many local one nighters in the district that his name's a by-word—especially over in Contra Costa county. Last week the band pulled a musical coup by signing and playing the College of Pacific Mardi Gras. It's the first year a 'name' hasn't bagged the brawl. Skinnay Ennis had it last. Gallagher (three tenor, four brass, four rhythm) sounded fine and especially so on their airshot over a

Stockton station. Job emanated from the Stockton V.F.W. hall.

Down the street is Cleo Brown at one of the local joints. Reports say that she sounds as fine as ever until the bottle gets too heavy. . . Maurice Anger's non-union 8-piece combo is still giving local 6 the headache of all time on the U. C. campus. Six doesn't even want a compromise, they're so mad, but Anger doesn't worry—just piddles around with the neatest piano in the area and takes the money that people hand him (over scale) after his twice or thrice weekly job. Boring, huh, Maurice.



**Young Cat** with a lot on the ball, as a drummer, receives a compliment on his percussion artistry from J. C. Heard, colored drummer. Heard is shown with Harry Lim. Javanese jazz man who sponsors Sunday bashes in New York, and young Jay Wishing, of Brooklyn. Wishing sits in with the big timers at every Lim session.



STEVE BROADUS carries on intensive research of Plastic Reeds and Mouthpieces at his Vista, California Studios.

## Harlem Hep Cat



Cedar Rapids, Ia.—Boyd Atkins and his Harlem Hep Cats are beating it out at the Fox Head Tavern here. Atkins' new band is made up almost entirely of Chicago musicians. Deal was set by GAC, now booking the Atkins crew. Boyd is shown here taking a hot solo on his alto sax.

## Dorsey Boys, Peck Toss Session

by LOUIS SCHEXNAYDER

Houston, Tex.—Naturally the first thing Tommy Dorsey wanted to do when he finished playing his recent one niter here was to hear Peck Kelley and his piano, Tommy dropped by the Plantation to hear George Wald first and also to have a tune up session before taking on the mighty Peck. After helping the very popular Wald close the doors, Tommy, Wald, Ziggy Elman and Buddy Rich joined Peck for one of the grooviest sessions ever heard in this neck of the woods.

Wald has formed a complete new band, also adding strings. George is heading right to the top of the ladder after getting a good start on the Fitch Band wagon this past summer. This is his third visit to the Plantation, and the late clients seem to like him more every time.

## GAC Signs Mitch Ayres

New York—Mitchell Ayres has dropped John Gluskin as personal manager, obtained a release from his booking binder with MCA and signed a new one with Tom Rockwell's General Amusement Corp. Ayres, whose "fashions in music" currently are being heard at the New Pelham Heath Inn in the Bronx, will be booked exclusively by GAC in the future. Ayres now is winding up a long and successful engagement at the Inn.

## New Trumpeter for Vaughn Monroe

New York — Ray Kranz has joined Vaughn Monroe's band as first trumpeter. Formerly with Clyde Lucas, Kranz succeeds Spots Esposito. Monroe and band are leaving the Commodore Hotel this week to play theaters.

# Fem Musiker Hurt in Jump From Fire; Others Scorched

by BOB REDMOND

Montreal, Can.—Late last month, six members of the Sally Lee all-girl orchestra were rushed to the Richelieu hospital in Sorel after narrowly escaping death, when a fire broke out in the quarters of the Sorel Industries boarding house where they were staying.

Miss Lee, formerly of Winnipeg, and leader of the orchestra, suffered severe burns about the entire body, while her sister Molly suffered burns about the head and feet. Elsie Peachey, formerly of Calgary, and residing with the Lee sisters, also was treated for burns about the head and feet. Annette Duplessis and Irene Paradis, suffered from severe burns of the face and scalp. Agnes Budd, the sixth member of the orchestra, did not suffer from burns but received injuries and bruises when she jumped out of the second story window of the boarding house.

**While Girls Were Dressing**  
The fire broke out at 8 o'clock in the evening, while the girls were dressing for supper. Exits were blocked by huge lapping flames and many were trapped until local firemen assisted by soldiers came to the rescue.

Nine others were injured in the fire. Sally Lee's orchestra while in Montreal played the Savoy club and the Capitol cafe and were completing a two-week stand in the grill of the Sorel hotel. It was pre-

sumed that the instruments and library were saved.

The Mount Royal hotel recently closed the Normandie roof for alterations and redecoration. Don Turner and the orchestra who play there nightly were given a two-week rest, and were scheduled to have resumed activities by April 4. Neil Golden and his Continentals are providing the relief music on the roof.

The new El Morocco club has been turning away hundreds of people every nite since its very successful opening. . . Cliff Marshall has replaced Johnny Gilbert at the Palm cafe. . . What certain band in this city is thinking of going to college?

## Circus Cornetist Forms Dance Ork

Boise, Ida.—Harold Irwin's band has been set for two months at Haven E. Schoonover's Mirimar ballroom here. Irwin formerly was solo cornetist with the Barnum and Bailey circus band.

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. . . Says Danny Barker with Cab Calloway

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PUBLISHED TWICE MONTHLY  
GLENN BURRS, Editor NED E. WILLIAMS, Managing Ed.

Advertising Editor: TOM HERRICK, Adv. Mgr. R. V. PETERS, Auditing FRANK MILES  
Editorial Editor: BOB LOCKE, Chicago Editor MIKE LEVIN, New York Editor Cir. Mgr.

NEW YORK OFFICE  
News—MIKE LEVIN  
Forrest Hotel, West 49th Street • Phone Circle 6-5252

PACIFIC COAST OFFICE  
CHARLIE EMGE, 648 N. Rampart Blvd., Los Angeles, Calif.

Opinions expressed by writers in this publication are not necessarily those of Down Beat's editors. To insure return of material submitted for publication, contributors must enclose self-addressed, stamped envelope. Down Beat is not responsible for unsolicited manuscripts.

DOWN BEAT • Address All Communications to 408 South Dearborn Street • Chicago, Illinois  
Printed in U.S.A. by John Maher Printing Company, Chicago

# Musicians Are Human, Too!

### They Eat, Sleep, Get Married, Pay Taxes! And They Also Have the Stuff That Heroes Are Made Of!

MUSICIANS figured prominently in the war headlines this month, with the release by the Navy department of the story that all 21 members of the band of the U.S.S. *Arizona* perished when that battleship was sunk at Pearl Harbor by the Japanese in their attack of December 7.

Not since 1912, when the S.S. *Titanic* plunged into the icy depths of the north Atlantic, with the ship's band playing *Nearer My God to Thee* on the deck, has any similar group of musician-heroes inspired universal admiration in such thrilling fashion.

THE NEWS DISPATCHES STATED THAT THESE 21 MUSICIANS WERE KILLED AT THEIR BATTLE STATION BELOW DECKS WHEN THE SHIP'S MAGAZINES EXPLODED. All died while passing ammunition to serve the warship's guns. And it is the reaction to this portion of the news story that we want to bring to your attention.

Too large a proportion of the public, unfamiliar with routine details of Army and Navy life, actually were surprised to thus learn that musicians do engage in combatant service, that life for them in the armed forces does not consist of an exclusive round of bugle calls, drum rolls and stirring martial music.

Even in civil life, musicians are too generally regarded as a class apart from the rest of the population. The average layman usually regards a professional musician with a wondering, if not a suspicious eye. And as a result of this mistaken, but prevalent appraisal, many landlords discriminate against musicians as tenants and commercial firms, even the butcher and the grocer, are doubly cautious about extending credit.

Yet musicians eat and sleep like other humans, even if it is at strange hours; they buy clothes, get married, have babies, pay taxes and, in short, live through all the experiences and emotions of a fairly normal existence. AND WHEN IT COMES TO SHOWING THE STUFF THAT HEROES ARE MADE OF, MUSICIANS RESPOND WITH THE SAME FIERY PATRIOTISM THAT MIGHT CHARACTERIZE AN AMERICAN FROM ANY OTHER WALK OF LIFE.

We are not holding special brief for these members of the *Arizona* band. They deserve the rating of heroes, not because they were musicians, but because they were down there passing the ammunition when ammunition was needed. We believe that it proves just the point that we have been trying to make. MUSICIANS ARE HUMAN, TOO!

## Twenty Bands in One Week Sets St. Louis Awhirl

by WALT RELLER

St. Louis—Local cats are still wondering how it happened. Twenty different bands in one week at Casa Loma ballroom left them dazed. Never before had they witnessed such a parade of local talent, and they now feel local bands rate equally with the traveling units passing thru the city.

Mark Doyle, a local leader, is promoting a patriotic song the hard way. The tune *America Ties a String Around Her Finger* is one of the many patriotic numbers on "hot now, and Doyle says, sure to be a hit." This

tune, by Joseph W. Guinan of Detroit, is getting a big play at Tune Town thru Doyle's band, and the prediction is that it will soon be a heavy favorite here.

George Bohler, ex-piano man with Jimmie Maguire, is pounding the ivories at the reception center at Will Rogers Field, Oklahoma City. . . . Chick Johnson, formerly first sax man with Michael Pelat, is holding down a sax job in the Second Marine band at San Diego. Local money will give you odds that Johnson makes the First Marine Band before long.

## Musicians Off the Record



Dig that Zoot Suit worn by drummer Mickey Bride. That's his boss, leader Lee Williams on the right admiring the suit. We'd say Williams sports a fair zoot himself. Shot was snapped inside the Williams sleeper bus.



Baron Elliott takes a few early swings at a golf ball just to get in shape for this summer. The Baron, they say, swings a mean mashie as well as a mean buton. At any rate, it's the only swinging you'll ever see from Elliott as his orchestra, currently at Chicago's Oh Henry ballroom, is strictly on a mickey kick but good.

## Gives Birth To a Son



Los Angeles — Mrs. Harry James, wife of the trumpet playing maestro, gave birth to a baby boy here March 27. She's the former Louise Tobin, one time vocalist with Benny Goodman's orchestra.



## RAG-TIME MARCHES ON . . .

### NEW NUMBERS

COOGAN—A son to Mrs. Jackie Coogan at Lying-in Hospital, Los Angeles, March 4. Dad is former child actor and later band leader.

PUTNAM—A son, born to Mrs. George Putnam Feb. 22 in Philadelphia. Mother is radio singer known as Ruth Carhart and dad is news commentator.

RAMOS—A daughter, Lydia, born to Mrs. Ramon Ramos in Chicago Feb. 20. Dad is band leader.

PINTO—A daughter, born March 24 to Mrs. Pete Pinto in Philadelphia. Dad is former violinist and orchestra leader.

ROCK—A daughter, Sandra Anne, born March 22 to Mr. and Mrs. Dick Rock in Detroit. Dad is ork leader at Book-Cadillac hotel in Detroit.

DAVIS—A daughter, born recently to Mrs. Bob Davis in Lenox Hill hospital, New York. Mother is Gloria Blake, singer.

NEHER—A son, born March 17 to Mrs. Dick Neher in Des Moines. Dad is with the Songfellows of station WHO there.

GARR—A daughter, born March 21 to Mrs. Glen Carr in Trenton, N. J. Dad is the band leader.

JAMES—A son, born to Mrs. Harry James in Los Angeles March 27. She is the former Louise Tobin, ex-vocalist with Benny Goodman's ork. Dad is the trumpet-band leader.

### TIED NOTES

GAYER-SORRENSON—Dixon Gayer, *Down Beat* columnist and jazzfidd, and Wanda Sorrenson in Long Beach, Cal., Jan. 25.

DODSON-THOMPSON—Dave Dodson, veteran saxophonist and clarinetist, and Pauline Thompson in Hollidaysburg, Pa., March 8.

PARKER-FERGUSON—Frank N. Parker, singer, and Hilda Ferguson, singer, in Westport, Conn., March 14.

CRANE-SHAW—George H. Crane, band leader, and Lois Shaw in Lockport, N. Y., March 18.

GOODMAN-DUCKWORTH—Benny Goodman, orchestra leader, to Lady Alice Hammond Duckworth in Las Vegas, Nev., recently.

SCHOEN-JACOBS—Vic Schoen, musical arranger, and Yvette Jacobs recently in New York.

TUCCI-BLANCHE—Ray Tucci, saxophon-

ist in Jan Savitt's ork, and Jeanne Blanche in Omaha, March 11.

### LOST HARMONY

NATALINI—Alta divorced from Alfonso Guerin Natalini, musician at Turner Park night club, East Longmeadow, Mass., in Springfield, Mass., recently.

QUIJADA—Vernelle Casey, model, divorced from Ernest P. Quijada, drummer, in Los Angeles, March 3.

### FINAL BAR

WALL—Ernie, 63, bassist with Oscar Adler's orchestra, died March 13 in Miami, Fla. He was a member of the Chicago and Indianapolis locals, formerly with the Elmer Kaiser orchestra in Chicago, and a singer with the Ziegfeld Shows for many years.

JENKINS—Al, former colored orchestra leader, known for years as the Sepia Guy Lombardo, died March 16 at the Veterans Hospital, Danville, Ill.

BUCHANAN—Stewart H., died March 18 in Rockford, Ill. He was a former director of the Rockford band and a charter member of the Rockford Musical Association.

ULIE—Arthur, 49, concert violinist, composer and teacher, died in Spokane, Wash., March 26.

CAPEHOON—Fred S., 52, musician and director of station WCAM, Camden, N. J., died March 16 at his home there. He organized the local musicians union.

HANSFORD—Monteville M., 68, former musician, died March 14 in Huntington, W. Va., hospital. He formerly was associated with G. Schirmer and company, music publishers.

METCALISTER—Jack R., 67, former symphony, theater and night club musician, died March 12 in Columbus, O.

MUELLISTER—Andrew Kennedy, 65, retired musician, died March 14 at Ventnor, N. J.

TRUUP—George D., trombonist, died March 15. He played with Jan Garber, Benny Davis and the Melodians, among other bands.

DUNBAR—Ralph M., 65, musician and former musical director, died recently at his home in Memphis.

ELKORT—Allan, 3, son of Eddie Elkort, of the Chicago office of MCA, died March 22 at Mobile, Fla.

## Chords and Discords

### "Panama's Been Jumping for Some Time"

Jacksonville, Fla.

To the Editors:

I invite Gerry Potter's attention to the article, "Panama Has Learned to Jump," in the April 1 issue of *Down Beat*, which bears his name as author.

Would you, Mr. Potter, have the readers of *DB* believe that the Cats on the Isthmus did not know how to jump until recently? If you will "recount" after I tell you that you are wrong (assuming that the impression I gained from the above is the way you want it interpreted), your findings might, repeat, — might amaze even you.

You are wrong!

There is a colored boy, a talented arranger-director on the Isthmus who answers to the name of Henry Barlow. This lad has organized, arranged for, and directed probably the best crew that ever worked in Panama. You might inquire, in reference to this gentleman, and use the monicker, "The King of Jazz of Central America." That sounds corny, doesn't it? But

dig me gate, he was, and as far as I know, still is, that "King," having earned this title by cutting the best brand of combos that were ever offered at the battles conducted in both Colon and Panama City.

Naturally, as was always the case when a large band was formed in this locality, Barlow's band folded after a few club dates due to the fact that there were no spots that could support such a congregation. This was too bad, because Barlow's arranging and "Steamboat" Quito's bugling were superb.

This last is a little off the "beaten track," but hell man, they "jumped!"—and before 1942!

Ask any side man from the "States" that has visited Panama and has honked a horn in front of some of Ray Cox's, or "The Man" King's 88 background, then for your own information, record the answers. Man, these two 88'ers have been "jumping" from 'way back.

Find out for yourself by listening to that groove-conscious composer-arranger-88er George Maycox, and drummer "Steppin'" (Modulate to Page 11)

## Chor Disc

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### Chords and Discords

Fechet, whether or not they "jump," and just remember that they have been "jumping" from way back also.

All of the above-mentioned are colored boys, however I know of a white boy that is sweating somewhere on the Isthmus, who is strictly "out of the world." Why he suddenly parked his clarinet and "took to clerking" for Uncle Sam is a mystery to me. Maybe one of his pals on the Coast can answer this one, or maybe Horn Man Purvis can shed some light on this subject. The point is, this man has been "jumping" since he learned that *Ain't Misbehavin'* has great possibilities after fifty or more choruses, and believe me Mr. Potter. J. "Lonnie" Preston learned this a long time ago.

"Panama Has Learned To Jump"??? Panama knew how to jump long before you started writing for DB, Mr. Potter.

BOB CARPENTER

### Music for the Boys In Camp

Mobile, Ala.

To the Editors: Last week on Glenn Miller's hour program, he said that music was the most welcomed entertainment of our boys in camp.

Our band knows that because we play for them at Brookley Field and the Recreation Halls every weekend. We have a small band made up of nine high school students who started just for fun and now are doing some good in a small way for Uncle Sam.

To give the boys a break through *Down Beat*, why not ask the bands of America to give more freely of their time toward making life in the army better?

ALFRED ERRINGTON  
GEORGE HARRIS

*Eds. Note—America's dance bands are already giving heartily of their services towards entertaining the boys in Uncle Sam's armed forces. But every extra bit helps—ask the guy in khaki.*

### He Gives with the Raspberry

Wollaston, Mass.

To the Editors: If there is a more ardent admirer of your musical Bible than myself, I'm surprised. Please keep up the good words. But to several of your readers I donate a large raspberry, beginning with Catherine Bush. What is this, *True Romances* or *One Night in Paris*? If it's musical info she wants, why does she ask for such inane columns as *How to Dress on a Mov-*

*ing Bus*? For comedy, etc., please go to another type of magazine. Does Miss Bush comprehend?

And, oh my God, does Mr. Killenny mean what he says? Ray Noble? Where have I heard that name? Oh, yes, he's the man Miller, Spivak and some other musicians used to play under. But that doesn't make him good now. Van Epps can play guitar but let's stand Dumont against Carter, Stein against Haggart, Bonnee against Goodman (some comparison) and now where's your Noble band?

One more thing. While mentioning jazz bands, what's the matter with the former Manone outfit with Powell, Brunies, Marsala, etc? Listen to *Mama's Gone, Goodbye*.

BUD LESTER

### And On the Contrary

Cincinnati, O.

To the Editors: Through no fault of my own, I happen to be a girl and I definitely agree with William Peri that girls do not make good swing musicians. When it comes to playing good music, girls, how about leaving it to the boys? We ought to be proud to be able to dance to such bands as Tommy Dorsey, Count Basie, Etc. Our place is listening and dancing to music, not sitting in with the band and blowing our brains out.

DYNAMITE

### Praises Brass

Chicago

To the Editors: Judging from the remarks Shep Fields made on his *Bandwagon* broadcast of March 1, brass is strictly for blasting.

Fields should listen to some of Kemp's records wherein brass is used but soft and good or to a Meredith Willson rendition for marvelous use of subdued brass. Lack of brass generally tends to sweeten music but that doesn't mean that it can't be used without blowing the walls out.

I'll listen to Shep Fields and his sax band because they are good but I'll also listen to Harry James and his brass band because they are better.

WARREN KETTER

### Vox Populi?

Milton, Mass.

To the Editors: We believe that the musical minded youths of our generation are going to the dogs when people like George Frazier and Al Porter think that Helen O'Connell has a "fish peddler's voice" and compare Frankie Newton and Hodges with Glenn Miller and Tommy Dorsey.

THE WHO PLAYS IT, NOT  
WHAT'S PLAYED CLUB



# Why the Price Of DOWN BEAT Will Be 20c

## BEGINNING MAY FIRST!!!

★ Starting with the May 1st issue we are raising the price of *Down Beat* to 20 cents per copy. You, as a reader, have a right to know why we are asking you to pay this extra nickel, so here are the facts:

★ During the last few months priorities on metal and other essential war materials which go into the manufacturing of musical instruments and accessories have forced many manufacturers to cut down on their production. Naturally they have had less money to spend on advertising their merchandise in *Down Beat*.

★ On the other hand, the costs of printing, paper and production which go into the publishing of magazines and newspapers like *Down Beat* have gone up considerably. Restricted income on one side of the ledger with increased expense on the other has never yet failed to create a problem.

★ The interests of our readers have always been paramount to us and we don't wish to consider any solution to this problem which would entail cutting down the number of pages per issue or any similar economies that would lower the standard and quality which you have become accustomed to expect in *Down Beat*.

★ We are sure you would want it this way if we could sit down and talk it over with you personally. So on May 1st for the same reasons which have forced over 250 other magazines and newspapers to raise their price, we are asking you to share with us the costs which heretofore have been met by normal advertising revenue.

★ Thanks for your support, both past and future — and we promise to see to it that you get your money's worth.

## GET IN UNDER

## THE LINE!!

Beginning with the May 1 issue, *DOWN BEAT* subscription prices will be up. (The war, you know, is forcing production costs up—see story in adjoining columns.)

Subscribe or renew your present subscription now—and SAVE up to \$3.00! That's how much you'll actually save on a three-year subscription by mailing it in to us now.

Now—more than ever—you'll need *DOWN BEAT*'s complete war-time coverage of the entire music world. The war is accelerating the already fast pace—more bands, more activities, new leaders, more changes and innovations are coming. Be sure *DOWN BEAT* keeps coming regularly—mail in the order blank below NOW—while you're thinking of it.

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# Bud DeSylva, John Mercer Form New Record Firm

Los Angeles—While MGM execs mulled over the idea of forming a new phonograph record company to compete with the big three, Victor, Decca and Columbia, and finally gave it up, three enterprising gentlemen of Hollywood were quietly laying their plans.

Result: Liberty Records, Inc., whose first releases will probably be on the market by June 1.

President of Liberty is Buddy DeSylva, the onetime songwriter who is now production chief of the Paramount Studios.

Vice president is Johnny Mercer, one of the ablest of today's songwriters, and also one of the smartest music men in the business.

Wallicha is Treasurer. Treasurer is Glenn Wallicha, up-and-coming young Hollywood business man, who with his father, Oscar Wallicha, founded Music City, important musical merchandise center here, and one of the city's most important record sales outlets.

Wallicha will retain his interest in Music City but will devote full time to the new recording firm, giving much of his attention to distribution.

Liberty records will be pressed at the old Brunswick plant in Scranton, Pa., and at Allied Phonograph or Record Corp. in Hollywood.

Working with Mercer in lining up talent is David Shelley.

### Paul Whiteman Signed

Among the first bandleaders to be signed by the new firm was Paul Whiteman. Others signed or about to sign included Bob Hope, Martha Tilton, Freddy Slack, Ronnie Kempner, with many more virtually sure of being on the roster by the time this is published.

Liberty's standard item will be a 50 cent record but higher priced specialties will be released from time to time.

Wallicha said that the new company would have offices in Hollywood and New York, and probably other cities later, but he stressed the fact that control would remain on the Coast in order to take full advantage of contacts with the motion picture and radio industries.

### "No Tie-ups"

"We have no 'inside tie-ups,'" said Wallicha. "We are going into the open market for the best songs and the best performers we can give the public. We plan a complete catalogue that will offer sweet

music, swing music, Hawaiian, hill billy and race music."

Asked if he had any new wrinkles in distribution in mind, Wallicha grinned and said, "We have some new ideas along that line but we'd rather not talk about them yet."

# Doorman Pens Prize Operetta

Los Angeles—How would you like to open your morning mail and find therein a check for a thousand bucks and notification that you had one chance in three of winning \$5,000 more?

That's what happened to Ross Hastings, 27-year-old composer of this city who was one of the three finalists in WGN's nation-wide contest for the best original light opera on an American theme.

On successive Saturdays WGN broadcasted Hastings' and two other winning operettas. Listeners will vote their choice for the grand prize winner of the three final contestants.

The Hastings story has plenty of human interest. He has been working here by day for an oil company and at night as a doorman at the Los Angeles Philharmonic Auditorium. Many a night he came home from the auditorium to spend the rest of the night on his operetta, then going to work in the morning at his day job.

Sharing Hastings' happiness in winning are his wife, who collaborated with him on the playlet on which his operetta is based, and his two children.

Roy is the son of the late Dr. Ray Hastings, a prominent organist who died a few years ago.

# Dixieland on Upbeat in Frisco



San Francisco—Two beat music is on the upbeat in Frisco as Peter Tamony, president of the Hot Music Society of San Francisco, second from left, interviews Dave Stuart and Lu Watters (left and right of mike) on the issues of the day. Bill Colburn, collector, and Ted Lenz, announcer of KSAN's Sunday morning program, *Five at 11:05*, San Francisco's most popular hot program, are shown on the flanks. Watters' Yerba Buena Jazz Band's eight sides, issued under Stuart's Jazz Man label, are a terrific success in the Bay Area, about 500 albums having already been sold.

# Betty Van Joins Big Tea; Kallen Set for Screen

Los Angeles — Betty Van was tagged by Paul Wimbish to replace Kitty Kallen as featured songstress with Jack Teagarden when Kitty left the band to take a shot at radio and pix in Hollywood. Already set for a series of unstainers on NBC the ex-Tea chirper was also in line for a screen test.

Teagarden is set solid on a series of theatre and short term dates that will cover the West Coast and much of the Northwest. Included in the bookings will be the opening of the season at Portland's Jantzen Beach with a 12-day run starting May 2. Band returns to Hollywood May 30 for a two-week vacation, the first in two years.

Dale Jones, bass player and entertainer formerly with Will Osborne, joins Teagarden May 1, replacing Myron Shepler.



Kitty Kallen

# Los Angeles Band Briefs

by HAL HOLLY

Los Angeles—Harry James' last local appearance was at the Victor Hugo about two years ago. The James band just bout died there and the Victor Hugo did die not long after. But Harry comes back this month, this time to the Palladium (opening April 28), where he will draw top dough and be well worth it, for the band is definitely "in" now as a top-bracket name. . . . Management of the Radio Room plugged Mike Riley's zany crew by displaying Bob Locke's Down Beat story of the band blown up to newspaper size in a frame by the Vine St. entrance. But they didn't get the Down Beat name in, anywhere—durn it!

Carlos Gastel arrived in town well ahead of Sonny Dunham's opening (April 7) to try to catch a bit of rest. . . . L.A.'s faithful but long suffering disciples of le jazz hot getting earsful at present with Louie at the Casa Manana and Duke at the Trianon, and all-out jam sessions at Boureston's on Sunday afternoon continuing as per usual. . . . Leon Mojica, a local bandsman, making one of his rare local appearances at the Casino Gardens at Ocean Park (which is, after all, not so local with the tire situation what it is). . . . One that caught us by surprise was appearance of the Allan Gordon combo at the Biltmore Rendezvous (afternoon) room, ending a three-year stretch here by Maurice Menge.



Sonny Dunham

# Divorce Suit Sets Crosby Take at 50G's

Los Angeles—Yearly earnings of bandleader Bob Crosby have been averaging around \$50,000, according to statement made in a divorce action filed here by Mrs. June Crosby, whom the bandleader married in 1938.

Later a reconciliation announcement was made by the couple, and it appears likely that the divorce proceedings will be abandoned entirely.

# Ex-Banjoist Lew Ayres to Conshie Camp

Los Angeles — Lew Ayres, the one-time banjo player who rose to motion picture stardom after he was chosen to play the leading role in *All Quiet on the Western Front*, anti-war film of the late 'twenties, has been sent to conscientious objectors' camp in Oregon following his refusal to accept induction into the army.

Many local musicians know Ayres from the days when he was working with dance orks in and around Hollywood. His last job as a banjo player was at the old Lafayette Cafe (which later became the Cafe de Paris) with Henry Halstead.

# James for Prom

Los Angeles—Harry James has been signed for the Junior Prom at the University of California here April 24. James was chosen by a poll of the student body.

# Listen for Stan Kenton And his Orchestra

On C.P. MacGregor Transcriptions On Your Favorite Radio Station

# More Yerba Buena Discs On Way

Los Angeles—Having hung up a complete sell-out on the first pressings of Lu Watters' Yerba Buena Jazz Band album, Dave Stuart of the Jazz Man Record Shop, who sponsored Watters' first waxings, will shortly issue a series of individual recordings by Watters' unique outfit.

Stuart went to San Francisco, where Watters' band works, and supervised the recording of 12 more sides. Titles included *Cake-Walking Babies*, *London Blues*, *Fidgety Feet*, *Tiger Rag*, *Come Back Sweet Papa*, *Sunset Cafe*, *Daddy Do*, *Terrible Blues*, *High Society*, *Riveride Blues*. Also recorded were two piano solos by the band's pianist (Walter Rose)—*Hot House Rag* and *Temptation Rag*.

### Two Banjos

The two banjos incorrectly reported to have been on the album recordings are for a fact on these new discs. Watters uses two banjos in his regular working combination but did not use them on his first records. The players are Clarence Hayes and Russell Bennett.

A new bass man is also heard—Squier Girsback, who replaced Dick Lammi at the artillery piece. (Watters uses a tuba instead of string bass). Balance of the combo includes two cornets, trombone, clarinet, piano and drums.

Larry Adler. Also in a prominent spot is Helen Huntley, recently the gal singer of Stan Kenton's ork. . . . Due to the sheer number of contenders, patriotic songs are the toughest to get action on at present. Two from the local field that seem to be headed hitward are Johnny Get Your Gun Again, by Mickey Gillette and Hugh Hudgins, which has been taken by Mills; and *MacArthur Is the Name*, by Sam Coslow, of Soundies fame, and his musical director, Hal Borne. Coslow is using the MacArthur number as subject for a soundies short. . . . Trumpetman Harry Geller of the CBS staff steps out with his own combo on the new CBS variety show, "Look Who's Here" (Saturday eve). . . . Word from Portland has it that Cliff Gillette of our town, formerly of the Gus Arnheim band, is heading a fast little combo at Portland's Pago-Pago club.

# Paul Whiteman Switches Men

Los Angeles — A number of changes were noted in the line-up of Paul Whiteman's ork, currently working out of Los Angeles on theater and dance dates while playing the Burns and Allen air show. King Guion, a local boy whose tenor work has aroused much favorable comment took over the chair formerly occupied by Jack Henson.

Replacements in the trumpet section included Monty Kelly for Rudy Novak, Irving Parker for Jerry Brooks, Larry Neale for Bob Fishelson.

Louis Paonessa moved in at drums, replacing Willie Rodriguez. Replacements for Murray MacEachern and another trombone player were not set at writing.



Whiteman

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Mario Back Kenosh and his winding Eagle's scheduled at Twin is back o ranging i trumpeter Lou Bree Tuto Ru while Jer clarinetis year-old stellar bi

Trio W Alexan nelle trio cello; Ma cello; Kue over an the Mirror tley here.

Symph Horns Beckon to Lou

Lou Bring Brainchilds 'Revolutionary' Combo

Hollywood—Lou Bring, former pianist with Vincent Lopez and now musical director of the Al Pearce, Gene Autry and Ginny Simms radio shows here, is experimenting with a new orchestral and voice combination which promises to be one of the most revolutionary developments in music in years.



Bring

According to Sturges, he has long felt the woodwind family has never been given a fair break as an orchestral body. Its mellow tone quality is brightened by the addition of pianos, harp, guitar and rhythm instruments.

Arrangements already played and recorded include everything from concert to swing. Several eastern radio sponsors are dicker-ing for the combo for summer air shows.

RKO Plans 13 Band Pictures

of the woodwind family — saxophones, clarinets, flute, oboe, English horn, bassoon, etc.—in addition to two pianos, harp, guitar, drums and string bass.

Augmenting this combination is a chorus of 14 voices cued into the arrangements like instruments. Band leaders, musicians and radio bigwigs around Hollywood who have heard the outfit have acclaimed its style as sensationally new and different.

Combo was the brainchild of Max Sturges, Los Angeles attorney and former musician with name bands, developed by Sturges in collaboration with Bring, conductor; Arthur Schutt and Ned Freeman, arrangers, and Howard Chandler,

Los Angeles—RKO's schedule of two-reel specialty features this year will include 13 shorts built around name bands. Names are being signed up in New York and the local plant had not been informed yet as to bands which will be included.

Several studios, particularly Warners and Universal, have turned out band shorts from time to time but the RKO series will be the first on this lot and one of the most extensive to date anywhere.

Young 88er's Ork is Finest Deep in the Heart of . . .

by BRUCE BAKER, JR.

Austin, Texas—One of the finest up-and-coming young bands in the South is that of Bobby Hammack at the University of Texas.

Styled primarily along the commercial angle—but with no sticky sweetness, the Hammack crew is immensely popular with everyone here—deep in the heart, etc., etc.

Of the many factors contributing to the success and popularity of the Hammack band, is the personable fronting and solid piano work of Bobby himself. Hammack also handles all the band's arrangements and it is a rare thing indeed for this bunch to play a stock. Practically the entire library is composed of specials and original numbers from the pen of the leader.

Band consists of five brass, four saxes, and three rhythm. Speaking of the brass, too much cannot be said for the fine lead horn of Doc Toland, former first chair man for Harry James. Compliments are also definitely in order for Bob Hunter who does such a swell job of putting the saxes through their paces.

Honest Jazz Aplenty

There's honest jazz aplenty too. When Bobby and the rhythm section jam on old standby it's really fine kicks for lovers of the true

Marion Barron Is Back with PasCucci

Kenosha, Wis.—Ben PasCucci and his all-star orchestra are winding up an engagement at the Eagle's ballroom here and are scheduled to open the Wonder Bar at Twin Lakes, Wis. Marie Barron is back on piano and vocals. Arranging is handled by Ernie Pratt, trumpeter, while Joe Petrini, ex-Lou Breeze reedman, is on tenor. Toto Ruffalo handles hot tenor while Jerry Glagardi, 19-year-old clarinetist, and Bobby Stephen, 18-year-old guitarist, are both given stellar billing.

Trio Wins Renewal

Alexandria, La.—The Charmelle trio, made up of Betty Gates, cello; Marie Geil, violin, and Marcella Kuechle, piano, has been held over an additional six weeks in the Mirror room of the Hotel Bentley here.

Wire Pounder



Hollywood—Teddy Bunn, tops in guitar as acclaimed by West Coast jazzites, is shown here pounding the wires at the Club Capri in a Sunday afternoon jam session. Ernie Caceres of the Glenn Miller crew and Bobby Hackett sat in on this session with Bunn. Forney Photo.

Dawn Dance Backfires As Ops Cracks Union Rulings

by FLOYD MURRAY

Seattle—Seattle's newest dancing innovation, the Swing Shift dance, backfired on its initial try, but will carry on. The dance was originated for the benefit of defense workers on the four to midnight shift.

Special permission was granted by the proper city authorities for the after hours affair, but manager Ted Harris of the Trianon ballroom made the grave error of allowing a traveling band to play the extra shift

without union okay. Art Rowley, leader of the band, made the second mistake when he accepted the engagement. At this point Local 76 stepped in and the result cost Ted Harris \$130.

"I can appreciate the union standing by its rules," said Harris, "but I fail to see where I did anything to deserve this fine." From Carbon Webber, Local 76 business agent, Down Beat received this explanation: "I don't see how anyone can call that a fine. You can't fine an operator. Besides, we don't fine anybody for creating work. We encourage it. The thing was not done in accordance with union rules and Rowley is at fault."

The dances will continue with

local musicians on the bandstand. The only thing that may now interfere is the conduct of the crowd, something the officials are watching very closely. The Swing Shift idea was started here by Jan King, ex-radio announcer, now fronting the old Jerry Tucker ork at the Century ballroom, Tacoma.

MacEachern Gives Up Band Plans

Los Angeles — Murray MacEachern, who left Paul Whiteman here with the intention of starting his own outfit has abandoned the idea of forming a band due to problems of transportation and draft trouble which now face all band leaders.

Murray decided that the times were not auspicious for band building enterprises but he left Whiteman nevertheless. He said that he expected to do some recording work with a small combination.

MacEachern drew featured billing as a member of the PW troupe and had a 10-year contract. He purchased his contract in order to obtain his release. Figure was not revealed.

Banjo Survives on West Coast; Yeah, There Are Fans Too

by CHARLES EMGE

Los Angeles—When Eddie Peabody, aided and abetted by the alert NBC publicity department, took the stump to charge that American band leaders had unpatriotically "boycotted" the banjo, the one native American musical instrument, he caught most of the banjo jugglers flatfooted. They tried to side-step the issue in various ways but the fact remains that the good old skillet simply does not fit into the musical picture with the suave, sophisticated, conventionalized music that descended from the rugged American jazz of the banjo days.

Only Two Outfits Left

A survey of Coast combos revealed that there were only two recording outfits in which the banjo survives in all of its doubtful glory.

Lu Watters' Yerba Buena Jazz Band of San Francisco, whose members are devoted to perpetuating what some critics believe to be the only authentic jazz style, is set off by the banjo plunking of Clarence Hayes.

And He Was Kidding!

But more banjo than anyone has

Fans Send Pies to Jazz Platter Chef

by MARY OTIS NASH

San Francisco—Clarinetist Hal McIntyre, staff announcer at KYA here, on the first Friday of every month gives a specialized jazz program on his 1260 Club, a daily record request show.

On these jazz shows he gives history on the rise of various name bands with biographical data and recorded illustrations. Also personal interviews when possible.

Recently he has had such names as Ziggy Elman, Buddy Rich, and Frankie Carle.

His fans have become so enthusiastic that at times they send him everything from pumpkin pies, homemade fudge, to etc. (What no ripe razzberries?)

Lodi Hall Trio Becomes a Duo

Anderson, Ind.—The Lodi Hall trio was reduced to a duo here recently when drummer Tiny Huyge enlisted in the United States Coast Guard Service. The combo is being held over indefinitely at Murphy's Boat club here and has just signed a seven year contract with MCA. Deal was handled by Dick Stevens of MCA's Chi office.

stuff. In the vocal department, the honors go to Mary Buchanan. Handling all the pops, Mary just doesn't sing the lyrics but phrases each tune beautifully.

Recently the Hammack band landed its biggest job to date, when it was contracted to play for the all-university dance during Round-Up. Round-Up, which is homecoming for the U of T, is the biggest social event on the spring calendar and it is really a feather in Hammack's hat to land the job.

Supplying the solo spots with fine improvisations are such fellows as Hal Walker, trumpet; Dave Bartlett, trombone; Billy Wolfe, tenor sax; Buddy Holley, clarinet; Bob Hunter, alto; Bob Pettit, drums; and Bobby at the 88.

Lunce Cracks Kirk Record

by CAL MATHEWS, JR.

Indianapolis—Jimmie Lunceford, in town recently for a one nighter at the Sunset Terrace, broke all existing house records—including that of Andy Kirk.

Abe Hammerslagg has been re-elected secretary of local 3. Old timers recall Abe as being in the same chair back even unto the prohibition days.

Chuck Haug, former Ayars La-Marr 88er, writes home that he got the go sign from Miss Alice Emerson who by this time should be Mrs. Haug. . . Haug is stationed at Ft. Dix along with Ross Christens, former Down Beat scribe.

Dick Peirce pulled his new band into the Indiana roof recently and Alice MacMahan, op of the roof, inked his binder for an indefinite stay. . . Chuck Smith and his Indiana university ork hit town again after a gang of one nighters to play a battle of bands with the Bud Roderick from the University of Illinois.

Max Greer, until recently baton-er of his own band, has joined Ray McKinley's new band on second trumpet. Nate Miller has taken over where Greer left off.

ROTH Famous for BAND INSTRUMENTS SCHEIDT & ROTHS INC. 2845 Prospect Ave., Cleveland, Ohio

# Former Church Organist Now Boffo on Records!

## But Vallee Gets the Knife On His Return as 'Artist'

by DAVE DEXTER, JR.

JAY MCSHANN is a personable and multi-talented pianist who was once an organist in a little Baptist church in Oklahoma. Later he hied himself off to Kansas City, organized a band, and within a four-year period became one of the most valuable attractions on the Decca sepia label.

McShann still isn't a "big name" in the Basie-Duke classification, but certainly he's on his way. A late Decca pressing of the young Steinway stroker's style couples a solo, *So You Won't Jump*, with a blues played by Jay and his full orchestra with Walter Brown singing, titled *One Woman's Man*.

On the latter there is little basis for comment except a few measures of sterling piano, a gutty ensemble and ample shouting by the nasal but pleasing pipes of Mr. Brown. *Jump* is the better, and despite McShann's carboning of Basie on the initial chorus, there's a generous bit of McShann piano mixed with Gene Ramey's bass and Gus Johnson's tasty Southwestern drumming. It all jells well, on Decca 8607, and leaves a listener with the impression that more—much more—may be heard of the McShann man and his band in the near future.

Do you dig, Gale?

### Una Mae Carlisle

*I'm Tryin' and Don't Tech It*, BBird 11491.

Ordinary fem chanting backed by a lifeless John Kirby group. *Tryin'* is a Maria Kramer ballad which gets nowhere. *Tech* is better, but slightly. Mediocre material in both cases, sung in run of the mill "intimate" fashion.

### Pete Brown-Helen Humes

*Unlucky Woman and Mound Bayou*, Decca 8613.

Leonard Feather handled this session, composed both songs, and rounded up the recording princ-

pals. Miss Humes returns to wax after a long absence, and while she's in her best groove on the blues, it's Pete Brown's alto which must be accorded equal praise. Two fairly successful efforts, these, and well worth spinning.

### Muggsy Spanier

*Little David Play Your Harp and Hesitating Blues*, Decca 4271.

"B" side is the best of the month. The first is arranged by Deane Kincaide and is similar to the Crosby band's old *Prayin' Humble*. Unreservedly recommended. But

even better from every standpoint in the blues, in which Mugs junks his full band to get off, royally, with his Ragtimers. Fazola, Vernon Brown, Dave Bowman and the maestro all blow wonderful solos, not unlike those heard (by a different personnel) on Spanier's Bluebirds of three years back. Everyone sounds wonderful except Art Eisendrath, who's flat in the fourth measure of the second chorus.

### Mildred Bailey

*I Think of You and More Than You Know*, Decca 4267.

Still the finest of the white jazz singers, La Bailey turns in the best record of *Think* to date, although it's fairly dated by now. A dull instrumental group behind her (or possibly, the arrangements themselves) keeps both sides from be-



### Hal McIntyre

*I'll Pray For You and Do You Miss Your Sweetheart*, Vic. 27821.

An excellent band with excellent arrangements. The songs here are not particularly notable, but imaginative arrangements and superb musicianship combine to make a disc which bears repeated playings. Carl Denny's singing okay, too.

### Erskine Hawkins

*So Long, Shorty and Wrap Your Troubles in Dreams*, BBird 11485.

Schmaltz, and on both faces. Ida James looks better than she sings, and her lengthy solo longs on the *Shorty* side don't add to the attractiveness of a tune which would be dull enough without her interference. Wilbur Bascomb's trumpeting gets label recognition. Jimmy Mitchell's Pha Terrelish crooning features the reverse.

Without an Avery Parrish piano solo, or contribs from tenorists Julian Dash and Paul Bascomb, the Gabriel is a dead duck on wax.

### Vaughn Monroe

*My Little Cousin and Commodore Clipper*, BBird 11488; *Tom Thumb and Me and My Melinda*, 11483.

Two turkeys and two instrumentals. *Clipper* sounds like a Jim Mundy score, while *Thumb* (popularized by Basie) also may be. At

any rate, they show the Monroe band well. Clean and potent brass, well rehearsed and with a compelling rhythm section. Note especially the work of Arnold Ross, Monroe pianist, whose ability has never been properly recognized in the trade.

*Thumb* might well be tagged the best Monroe record in history. The pops may be called something else again.

### Mabel Robinson

*I've Got Too Many Blues and Me and My, Etc.*, Decca 8601.

A virtual unknown, Miss Robinson is a blues shouter of the old school. Invigorating singing with Sammy Price and a studio band behind her, on the "A" side. But the slipover is a dog, with only a barrelhouse tenor worth catching. Mayo Williams may have been in the studio on this. Or maybe he was consulting an attorney.

### Tolbert Eldridge

*Delta Land Blues and Ride On*, Decca 8608.

More sepia series jazz. This is about the best of the month on that label. Someone's terrific piano and a good little band make *Delta* a winner. Jean Eldridge's tasty, in-tune singing dittos for the flip-over. Skeets composed both numbers. The band as well as Miss Eldridge is impressive.

### 'The Watchman' Now On Jersey Station

Jersey City, N. J.—"Hank the Night Watchman," pal of hundreds of musicians and bandleaders, who was one of the most prominent disc jockeys on the West Coast, now is handling an all-night recorded program running six solid hours over WAAT here. Hank's real name is Bill Kelso.

He's using Woody Herman's platter of *Night Watchman* as a theme. Assisting Kelso, and selling time for the station, is George Tasker, former manager of Anson Weeks and Red Nichols.

### O'Brien and Evans Duo

(Organ and Guitar)

Vocals by Mary O'Brien

Being held indefinitely—Theatre Bar King's Lounge, Cincinnati, Ohio

### Without Bascomb,

the Erskine Hawkins band is a "dead duck" says reviewer Dave Dexter, Jr., speaking of Paul Bascomb's tenor solos which are conspicuously missing on a new Gabriel record.

ing anywhere near among her best, however. *Know* happens to be Mildred's favorite song. But this '42 version, because of its drab surroundings, is no match for her immortal old Vocalion version. With hubby Kenneth Red's new band behind her on Columbia Mildred should sound even greater — and soon.

### Buddy Johnson

*You'll Get Them Blues and I Wonder Who's Boogiein'*, Decca 8611.

Ella Johnson's singing sparks the first side, an earthy sort of medium blues without distinction otherwise. Flipover stinks. Three minutes wasted.

### Shore and Martin

*I Can't Give You Anything But Love and I Look at Heaven*, BBird 11487.

Two very BIG people. Miss Shore is without question the most popular fem balladeer of the moment. Martin and his band are equally heated as wax salesmen. Together, they fail to excite.

First is mostly Shore, well done technically but fairly mechanical inspirationally. *Heaven* is rehased *Grieg Concerto* with lyrics. Even Dinah's dulcet pipes can't wipe out the elephantine crashings of pianist Jack Fina's thumping.

### Snub Mosely

*Blues at High Noon and Between You and the Devil*, Decca 8614.

Buster Smith's alto and a weird trombone spark both sides. First is so-so blues, competently if unexcitedly performed. Snub's horrendous singing of a set of foxily clever lyrics saves the second, which should go well in the piccolos in the sunburned sections. It's a small band, but listenable.

### Rudy Vallee

*A Letter From London and I Just Couldn't Say it Before*, Vic. 27823.

Things were going along too well in the recording industry. For Vallee is back. The Great One who garnered gold by lifting the steins to dead ole' Maine has made many a foul disc through the years, but none more foul than the one which couples *London* and *Before* together. The studio ork is buried under by Rudolph's pitiful mouthings of two of the saddest and moronic songs ever penned.

Even the men in the band won't buy this one. Neither will Vallee, if he's honest.

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### Back on Wax



New York—Helen Humes, ex-Basie vocalist, now doing a solo stint at the Famous Door club here, is featured with Pete Brown's band in her first record release since she left the Count. The titles are *Unlucky Woman* and *Mound Bayou*, released last week on Decca's Sepia series.

## WLW into New Spot On May 1

by BUD EBEL

Cincinnati—Plans have now been completed for Crosley's WLW to move in their new quarters May 1. Unique features and the last word in radio broadcast setup will make their new setup perhaps the finest in the world. At least plans on paper seem to indicate this.

Studio A will be used exclusively for the big shows that play to audiences. With a seating capacity of 1000 or more those who frequently catch these shows now will be able to enjoy them in the glamor that heretofore has been only Hollywood's and New York's.

To go with this vast enterprise WLW has a musical staff that is on a par with the best. In the vocal department one wouldn't want for more and the same goes for the dramatics. All in all WLW has much to gain and very little to lose. The \$1,500,000 profit, in the past year is enough proof.

## Lasater Set For Location

Sikeston, Mo.—Fon Lasater and his Melody Masters ork have just completed a tour of one nighters in Missouri, Kentucky, Arkansas, Tennessee and Illinois and is set to go on location in June in Michigan. The personnel includes:

Alex Waters, Joe Arbaugh, Billy Grant, saxes; Bill Vogel, Emanuel Scherli, trumpets; Paul Wolk, accordion; Bob Sunderman, piano; Fon Lasater, drums, and Wyan Ahles, vocals.

## Cloud Outfit On Kaycee Beat

Kansas City, Kas.—Attracting attention here is another young Kaycee ofay band, that of Forrest Cloud. Outfit is one of the few in this area to obtain a steady stream of dates.

Cloud's brass section includes Squeaky Williams, brother of George Williams who at one time filled the second tenor chair with the band; Paul Wright, former local leader, Charlie Madden, high note trumpet player, and Cloud himself, lone trombonist.

Saxes include Bob Gray, first alto; John L. Sullivan, Bud (Honey) Blanchard and Vernon Hall. Rhythm section which concentrates on a shuffle style includes pianist Bob Castor, Monte Gillespie and Sonny Marts. Chirp is Beverly Nelson.

# Most Popular Records in the Coin Machines

SONG FIRST CHOICE SECOND CHOICE

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- 2—Tangerine . . . . .
- 3—Moonlight Cocktail . . . . .
- 4—Blues in the Night . . . . .
- 5—When Roses Bloom Again . . . . .
- 6—A String of Pearls . . . . .
- 7—I Don't Want to Walk . . . . .
- 8—Jersey Bounce . . . . .
- 9—Somebody Else is Taking . . . . .
- 10—Skylark . . . . .
- 11—Rose O' Day . . . . .
- 12—Arthur Murray Taught Me . . . . .

- Merry Macs, Decca . . . . .
- Jimmy Dorsey, Decca . . . . .
- Glenn Miller, Bluebird . . . . .
- Woody Herman, Decca . . . . .
- Jimmy Dorsey, Decca . . . . .
- Glenn Miller, Bluebird . . . . .
- Harry James, Columbia . . . . .
- Benny Goodman, Okel . . . . .
- Benny Goodman, Okel . . . . .
- Glenn Miller, Bluebird . . . . .
- Kate Smith, Bluebird . . . . .
- Jimmy Dorsey, Decca . . . . .

- Alvino Rey, Bluebird . . . . .
- Vaughn Monroe, Bluebird . . . . .
- Casa Loma, Decca . . . . .
- Jimmie Lunceford, Decca . . . . .
- Glenn Miller, Bluebird . . . . .
- Woody Herman, Decca . . . . .
- Guy Lombardo, Decca . . . . .
- Earl Hines, Bluebird . . . . .
- Russ Morgan, Decca . . . . .
- Harry James, Columbia . . . . .
- Woody Herman, Decca . . . . .
- Vaughn Monroe, Bluebird . . . . .

### "SLEEPERS"

(Records Which Soon May Become National Hits)

**SLEEPY LAGOON**—A startling new pop tune, adapted from an Eric Coates classic, this one is destined for sensational popularity in the nation's machines via Harry James' Columbia and Jimmy Dorsey's Decca. Moving fast in the East. Tab as a sure winner.

**FIGHTIN' DOUG MACARTHUR**—Lucky Millinder (Decca) introduced this one, and it's clicking nicely. Gene Krupa also has an okay version. It's timely and easy to sing, and should get a fair share of the jitneys. Either version okay.

**ALWAYS IN MY HEART**—A pretty new ballad, done best by Bob Eberly and Jimmy Dorsey on a Decca. Soft music, this, at slow tempo. Worth trying no matter what kind of location it may be.

**WHAT TO DO?**—The Andrews Sisters latest click. From the Universal picture *What's Cookin' and Right in the Sisters' Groove*. Sid Robin wrote the tune (he did *Sorrento*) and Andrews Sisters fans will be ready for it. Decca.

**CONCERTO FOR BULL-FIDDLE**—A novelty, this whacky song is new by Stan Kenton and his fresh

young California band, on Decca. Plenty of humor on this from an instrumental standpoint and should go solidly on swing locations.

**JERSEY BOUNCE**—Another instrumental which is going great, chiefly through Benny Goodman's Okel discing. Tune is getting heavy radio plugging on the networks and should pull jitneys on most all kinds of locations.

**DROP ME A LINE**—Cannily timed in its release, this is a ballad recorded for Decca by Jimmy Dorsey with most of the grooves allotted to Helen O'Connell and her plea for her man to write. Dynamite stuff, this, and going good in its first month on the machines. Lyrics have a strong "Soldier Leaves Girl" angle.

**I'M GONNA MOVE TO THE OUTSKIRTS OF TOWN**—A lengthy title, this is a real "sleeper." Louie Jordan made the song for Decca without any fanfare, but the record caught and is now selling madly. Song is a blue, and especially slanted for colored and swing-conscious locations. Tab as a first-rate nickel-nabber.



## RCAF, Draft Hits Firman

by DUKE DELORY

Toronto, Can. — Paul Firman, currently at the northend Masonic aud, recently lost his ace skin beater Billy Campbell to the RCAF and trombonist Lloyd Richards to the draft. They were replaced by Earl Freeman on tubs and Alfie Woods of tram.

At the Alexandra ballroom in Hamilton, Morgan Thomas is still looking for a guy who plays either tenor or trumpet and sings. Guy will replace Eddy Darby, sax and vocalist, now with localite Jack Evan. Evan is slated for the open-air dansant Sea Breeze opener in May.

Phil Antanacci, Norm Barber, saxes, and Jack Kane, clary, are working that O'Keefe Sunday night commercial over CFRB batoned by Fred Davis. . . Cliff McKay, alto and claryman with 88er Horace Lapp's Royal York hotel crew, is now taking antipounding treatments. Cliff should dig that Louie Armstrong diet.

Reg Saville, ex-Frank Crowley reed and arranger, replaced Lou Lewis in the reed section of Luigi Romanelli's King Edward hotel ork. Lou said his stuff was getting stale on Romanelli's corn diet and is now freelancing and whipping his horn into condition again. . . Tab Bert Niosi's trumpet on *Fiesta in Blue* at the Palais Royale ballroom.

**Brushing Up** on a lyric are blues shouter Rosetta Tharpe and band leader Lucky Millinder just before going on wax at Decca's recording studios in New York.

## George Troup Dies Of Heart Ailment

New York — A veteran trombonist, noted for his tailgate style tram sliding, was buried last month in Barre, Vt. He was George Troup, who died suddenly of a heart attack March 15.

Another vet trombonist also recently passed away on the Coast. He was Jimmy Walsh, who was prominent as co-leader of the Williams-Wash orchestra for many years. The "Williams" was Griff Williams, now a commercial success on his own.

## GUTBUCKET DRIPPIN'S

CAUGHT BY BOB LOCKE

"Up to now, I have managed to keep out of this war started by Joe Vance, but when guys start attacking my boy Charlie Barnet, then I see red!" says John MacBride, of Lexington, Va. So Mr. MacBride's remarks make up the first business of the day for this edition of the *Gutbucket*.

Says Johnny in further ramblings, "The day that Charlie becomes the Corn vendor, I'll eat his tenor without salt! Charlie has got more music in his little finger than Joe Vance has brains in his bean. I will admit Charlie is playing far too many popular songs on his records, but on a dance he is the Mad Mab of the Tenor! Charlie has served as an inspiration to thousands of young tenormen and teachers have used his earlier records as examples of hot tenor work. Catch his *Night and Day* and *I Never Knew*. Cork (Corny) Corcoran is the boy you should pan. He is pulling down James more than Vido ever did. The white "Hawk" is a poor imitation of a truly great tenormen who is right up there with the best of them.

"Don Saylor says Barney Bigard is unknown. My friend, where have you been hiding all these years? Maybe in a sand pit. Barney will be known by all jazz fans for many years to come. Where are the Saylor's of yesteryear?"

And here's a complaint from John Brouhard, Ames, Ia.: "The art of moaning on a clarinet as practiced by Pee Wee Russell and Johnny Dodds tends to lower the standards of true jazz clarinet. It is true that these two are capable of improvising real masterpieces but moaning is not representative of true jazz improvisation and is actually a sign of incapacibilities on the clarinet."

Well, gates, we're sorry space is so limited. But if you'll all just bear with this cat awhile, every letter sent into the *Gutbucket* will eventually find its way into this column. They're all filed away neatly right between Bix and Pine-top just waiting for the light of publication.

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## TD Gets 6000 Kids on First Purdue Concert

by BYRON TORMOHLN

West Lafayette, Ind. — The appearance of Tommy Dorsey here on the Purdue university campus last week broke all existing attendance records for name bands. Dorsey packed over 6,000 persons in the million dollar Hall of Music with his hour and a half concert of swing. Students were admitted to the concert by showing a purchase of at least fifty cents worth of Defense Savings Stamps. The total amount of stamps sold was well over the three thousand dollar mark.

The Dorsey crew seemed dwarfed on the mammoth stage of the Hall of Music, but they handled the concert perfectly. Highlights of the concert were Ziggy Elman's terrific solos and Buddy Rich's *Quiet Please*.

Although many of the nation's leading symphonies have given concerts at Purdue, Dorsey's concert of swing is the first for the University. Half an hour after the concert Dorsey played for a regular dance in the Memorial Union building. Jamming the twin ballrooms, he shattered his old 1940 record by playing for more than 4500 dancers. During the dance the band played for a half hour broadcast over the University station WBAA.

Keeping up with its four-year average of two name bands a month, Purdue has recently signed Charlie Spivak and Russ Morgan for the latter part of April.

## Plans Include Dozen Name Orks in Newark Army, Navy Benefit

by AL LINO

Newark, N. J. — Plans are being formulated for the greatest benefit ever staged in Newark. A massive crowd is expected from all over the state to see a collection of the most famous name bands and personalities in the country.

The gigantic show, staged for the Army and Navy relief fund, has been appropriately named "MacArthur Night."

Benny Goodman, Glenn Miller, Sammy Kaye, Guy Lombardo, Dick Stable, Vaughn Monroe, Vincent Lopez, Harry James, Shep Fields, Stan Kenton, George Auld, Jimmy Dorsey and Tommy Dorsey and their orchestras are expected to make an appearance. Included among the celebrities expected are Walter Winchell, Fred Allen, Eddie Cantor, Nick Kenny, Kate Smith, Martin Block, Henny Youngman, Dinah Shore, Irving Berlin, Joe Louis, Ed Sullivan, Bob Hawk, Jimmy Sheerer and Allan Courtney. Arturo Toscanini is being sought to direct the WPA Symphony orchestra. Station WOR, WNEW and WAAT will air part of the program which will start at 7 and last "until the five fans are unconscious," said general chairman of the committee, Jack Arnold Press, prominent local bandsman. He will be assisted by Leo Cluesmann, official of the AFM. Muriel Press, wife of the chairman, will head a women's auxiliary.

Previously, it was planned to have the affair at the Sussex avenue armory, but when efforts of Governor Edison failed to secure the auditorium, the present arrangements were made. Army heads and draft board officials feared that the preparations for the affair might interfere with the examination and induction of draftees.

"This is going to be the greatest cavalcade of music and entertain-

ment to ever be presented at one time," said Press. "I don't think Newark will ever see anything like it again. Everything has and is being done to acquire the finest entertainment available. It's going to be a tremendous success," he boasted.

Date is set for May 18.

## Kelner with Welk

Chicago — Max Kelner, former Joe Reichman sideman, replaced Jerry Burke in Lawrence Welk's band, currently playing at Chicago's Trianon ballroom here. He plays sax, clary and viola.

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### Rappolo Played in This Band



Both Emmett Hardy and Leon Rappolo played in this outfit in Davenport, Ia., about 1919. The band is the Carlisle Evans Original Jazz Band, and the photo was taken at the old Terrace Gardens in Davenport. Shown from left to right are Jack Willett, drums; Myron Neil, sax; Carlisle Evans, piano; Emmet Hardy, cornet; Leon Rappolo, clarinet; Louie Black, banjo, and Tal Sexton, drums. It is interesting to note that Hardy and Rappolo played the Columbia theater in Davenport around 1919 with a small combo that was included in Bee Palmers' vaude act, then went on to Peoria where they left the act, coming back to join Evans in Davenport. Pic, Courtesy of Wayne H. Rohlf and Jack Willett.

## THE HOT BOX

A COLUMN FOR RECORD COLLECTORS

by GEORGE HOEFER, JR. (2 East Banks, Chicago)

Tommy Dorsey rode to fame and fortune on a recorded swing arrangement of Irving Berlin's *Marie* back in 1937. Tommy and one of his sax men heard the arrangement in Washington, D. C., as played by the Sunset Royal Colored Band in a theater. The rendition had been worked out by the late Steve Washington and Ace Harris (now with the Ink Spots). Steve had died of pneumonia in 1936 and Ace wouldn't sell the arrangement as he wanted to keep it in memory of Steve. When the Dorsey Brothers split, Tommy latched on to Joe Haymes' men and arrangements to later crack the nut with the Sunset's stylizing of *Marie* with a highly commercial vocal effect which was also used on *Who*.

Fronted by Washington The Sunset Royal Orchestra was fronted by Steve Washington and had the following personnel: Emmett Perry, Jimmy Harris, Jesse Brown—trumpets, Julius "Hawk-

shaw" Watson, Nathaniel Allen—trombones, Cornelius King and Robert Smith—alto sax, Charles Vigo and Freddie Greer — tenor sax, Al Lukas—bass, Joe Murphy—drums, Willie Gaddy—guitar and Ace Harris—piano and vocal. Featured numbers were arrangements of *Marie* and *Who* by Washington and Harris, an original *Hurly Burly* composed by Jimmy Harris, and another original *Rhythm About Town* by Robert Smith.

Steve Washington was with the old White Hut Band in Pittsburgh about 1930. They recorded the following sides: Vocalion 2598 *Sing A Little Low-Down Tune* and *We Were The Best Of Friends*, Vocalion 2609 *Love Me and Blue River*.

Donald Lindley, now a trumpeter at Chicago NBC studios, gives the personnel of Columbia 1443 *Stidin' Around and Nothin' Doin'* by Donald Lindley and His Boys as follows: Hank Winston, piano (now with Cee Davidson's orchestra in Chicago); Pierre Olker, bass (now on West Coast); Phil Wing, alto sax (NBC staff—Chi); Howard Grantham, trombone (now in Florida); Mutt Hays, tenor sax (South America with U. S. Gov't.); Julian Davidson, banjo (West Coast), and Lindley, trumpet. Don also recorded a trumpet solo on Columbia 546-D *Trumpet Blues* (141450) backed by another solo *Sweet Stuff*.

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(141451) both accompanied by piano. The two compositions were by Lindley.

**DRIVEL BEAM.** The ever active Wilson and Gullickson firm at 1100 26th St., Washington, D. C., is operating a Want, Sell, Trade, or Auction exchange on a monthly mimeographed sheet.

Robert Thiele (Signature Records—WBYN jazz caster) is launching a new JAZZ MAGAZINE from the Midtown Warehouse, 601 West 26th St., New York. Associated with Bob in the new project is Dann Priest.

Charles Payne Rogers (Jazz Record Book) by playing the Melrose sheet music of Jelly Roll's *Shoe Shiner's Drag* found it to be none other than Jelly's *London Blues* note for note. Rogers thinks this accounts for the omission of *London* from the later recording sessions.

Amy Lee, writer for *Metronome* and other publications has several chapters of a book on Bix Beiderbecke done and into the publishers—Scribners.

Rosy McHargue, clarinet for Ted Weems, advised Jerry Page that it is his belief the clarinet on the Ted Lewis Columbias of *Clarinet Marmalade* *Shimme-sha-wabble*, and *Jungle Blues* to be the late Don Murray.

Eddie Lang played guitar accompaniments on Charles Kaley's vocal Columbia 886-D *Muddy Water* and *High On A Hilltop*. Kaley also used Venuti's fiddle on some records. Kaley is now leading an orchestra at the Golden Gate theater, San Francisco. Dick Mills of Stockton, Calif., confirmed this data with the singer-leader.

Sullie Sullivan, prominent Chicago cartoonist-collector is now at Patterson Field, Dayton, Ohio, connected with the Army Air Corps.

Ed Hartwell, 849 Newport, Chicago, has been making records of various Windy City musicians.

Dick Jones of 1015 E. 6th St., Long Beach, Calif., has an Ellington collection up for sale.

W. W. Clark former Rock Island collector has settled in Burbank, Calif.

**COLLECTOR'S CATALOGUE.** Jake Trussell, Jr., Route 2, Box 38, Kingsville, Texas. Cattle Rancher who listens to ten or fifteen Ellington discs six mornings a week before dawn. Also interested in the 1937-38 Bunny Berigan band records. *Down Beat* correspondent and is interested in contacting other collectors.

A. G. Schafer, 228 Fair Road, Berea, Ohio. Bix, Louis, Muggsy, Wingy and Duke. Has 2,200 records and lacks only three Bix items.

Lou Levi, 8 Ridgcrest West, Scarsdale, N. Y. Plays piano in a four piece band week-ends and attends high school through the week. President of Hot Club of Scarsdale. Collects Muggsy, Chicagoans, Jelly Roll and the white blues pianists.

**SOLO OF THE MONTH**—Joe Sullivan's piano chorus on Billy Banks and His Harlem Hot Shots *Oh Peter* on Perfect 15620.

### SHEET MUSIC BEST SELLERS

MOONLIGHT COCKTAIL (Jawel)  
DEEP IN THE HEART OF TEXAS (Melody Lane)  
I DON'T WANT TO WALK WITHOUT YOU (Paramount)  
BISS IN THE NIGHT (Remick)  
MISS YOU (Savoy-Jay-Safest)  
SOMEBODY ELSE IS TAKING MY PLACE (Shapiro-Bernstein)  
HOW ABOUT YOU? (Feist)  
WE'LL MEET AGAIN (Dash)  
SOMETIMES (Berlin)  
WHITE CLIFFS OF DOVER (Shapiro-Bernstein)

### SONGS MOST PLAYED ON THE AIR

I REMEMBER YOU (Famous)  
DEEP IN THE HEART OF TEXAS (Melody Lane)  
SHE'LL ALWAYS REMEMBER (Witmark)  
I DON'T WANT TO WALK WITHOUT YOU (Paramount)  
ME AND MY MELINDA (Berlin)  
WE'LL MEET AGAIN (Dash)  
HOW ABOUT YOU? (Feist)  
SKYLARK (Morris)  
I'LL PRAY FOR YOU (Harms)  
JERSEY BOUNCE (Lewis)

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## Guitars & Guitarists

### Reuss, Green Are Masters

by Irving C. Ashby

Various readers have inquired about the value of harmonizing chords to the notes of a bass part. These requests have to do with the guitar as a part of the rhythm section rather than as a solo instrument.

To play from the notes from the part written for the bassist requires fast fingering on chord formations and still faster thinking on the part of the guitarist. But once this is learned a boxman becomes an invaluable asset to any band. You make your changes with the bass player and thereby obtain a heavier and fuller effect.

In this type of rhythm work everything reverts to harmony and if you aren't prepared with a solid foundation in harmony this style may prove too difficult. However, it can be done.

Special mention for this type of section work should go to Freddie Green and Allen Reuss. They are masters.

Following is a short interlude to work out on your box.

Mail for Irving Ashby should be addressed c/o Down Beat, 608 South Dearborn, Chicago. For personal reply inclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

### Band Promotion •

## These Stunts Build Business For Other Orks

**The Late Eddie Lang is shown here at the right with Joe Venuti and Goldie at the time of the making of Paul Whiteman's King of Jazz picture at the Universal Studios in 1930. There are very few photos of guitarist Eddie Lang around.**

Ran Wilde has inaugurated a new type of radio broadcast. Emanating from the belief that celebrated show tunes are the best in modern music, he has formulated a plan to feature on his sustaining program nothing but songs from the popular New York musical productions like *Panama Hattie*, *New Moon*, *Show Boat*, *No, No, Nanette*, etc.

Preceding each selection, the announcer voices a condensed highlight or two concerning the title show or famous personalities of that era.

Ran wants his band's style to become known as Wilde and his "Music of Broadway."

Eddy Howard recently took part in Memphis' first public defense rally. Howard transported his orchestra to the scene of the rally on a large wagon, bearing the sign "Hop on the Bondwagon with Eddy Howard" in addition to other

Leaders, what are you doing to publicize your band? Shoot in details on stunts and ideas you've employed to promote your band and increase its money-making capacity to Bob Locke, c/o Down Beat, 608 So. Dearborn St., Chicago.

## • THE BANDBOX •

• by BILL DUGAN •

Patricia Hennelly, who is publicity agent for the Jurgens Praise Agents, a Dick Jurgens fan club, reports that the membership is way up in the hundreds. Jackie Rhodes, 2153 Farragut Ave., Chicago, is the president and Juene Schneider, 1836 Lawrence Ave., is secretary. The club has adopted a plan whereby ten cents of their 30 cents dues are used to buy defense stamps.

Jentzen Bull, of 1804 Mecklenburg Ave., Charlotte, N. C., has organized a Benny Goodman club. To join, prospective members must take an entrance exam on their knowledge of BG's band.

Speaking of Benny and his band, Florence Hassard, 165 Babylon Turnpike, Merrick, L. I., has organized a club, dedicated to Mel Powell, pianist in BG's band.

Mrs. James A. Mertz, Jr., of Trenton, N. J., writes in to advise

that the Benny Goodman Fan Club conducted under her maiden name of Hope Hutchings is no longer in existence. So fans will get in touch with Doris Hayes' club.

## Norman Thrush In Garland Pic

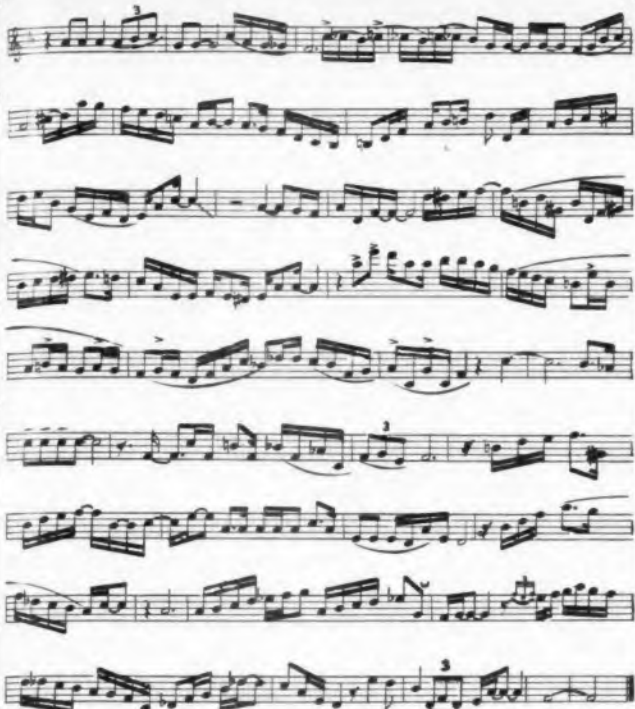
by BUD EBEL

Cincinnati—Comes word from Hollywood that *Down Beat's* 1941 find, Lucille Norman of WLW, is appearing in a new Judy Garland pic. Lucille is doing three songs. Also comes a wire from Larry Crosby who is interested in getting Lucille for the Crosby Kraft show. Another pic will follow the Judy Garland affair in which Lucille is set for a major part.

Chicago  
R  
Dover takeoff by per Music  
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After it we shall near of the key symbol depend  
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It is odd to realize  
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ians in instance, was call before he would play was d fact, all on the l nothing h would do  
He plays two pack sir" and to do it.  
Arr  
Then Benny— He alway



Roy Eldridge's "Rocking Chair" Chorus



Down Beat is pleased to reprint Roy Eldridge's famous trumpet takeoff on the tune, Rocking Chair. Copied by Bob Moore. Published by permission of the copyright owners. Copyright 1930 by Southern Music Co., Inc., assigned 1941 to Peer International Corporation.

Orchestration Reviews

★ by TOM HERRICK ★

Hathaway Stock Boasts Hot Solos!

Royal Flush

Published by B.V.C., Arr. by Charley Hathaway

Here's the arrangement from the 1942-All-Star Columbia record. Selected by Met readers, this year's all-star line-up was really something and the recorded jam solos are all transcribed and set down here. Consequently, the stock, in addition to being a good arrangement, is also a sort of composite of the hot styles of many of the best musicians in jazz.



Hathaway

After the intro and first chorus, which is a unison sax riff backed up by plunger brass, the following solos are written down as played: Vido Musso and Tex Beneke take off at C and D. Cootie Williams takes it at E, F is split between Toots Mondello and Benny Carter, G between Higginbotham and McGarrity, H between James and Eldridge, and Benny gets a complete chorus at J. A very interesting stock and a swell idea by B.V.C.

Rhythm of the Waves

Published by Miller, Arr. by Fud Livingston

Here's a new tune with a Hawaiian flavor which will probably get somewhere with Joseph Public. After the unison sax intro brass and saxes split the repeat choruses with tasty sax figures backing up the brass at A. A 4-bar interlude leads into the special which starts off with a trombone solo backed up by independent clarinet and straight muted brass figures. The last is broad ensemble.

I'm Here

Published by Regent, Arr. by Charley Hathaway

Benny Goodman's brilliant young pianist Mel Powell, penned this original which the Goodman band recorded some time ago. It's a 32-bar opus and opens up with saxes on a rolling 8th note melody for the first 16. Brass takes the bridge and reeds take it out while 1st sax changes to clarinet. Hathaway has written a double line for the ad lib solos with the melody and chords on one in case the instrumentalist wishes to do his own improvising, and the record chorus on the other. Benny's fine solo is written out in

toto and it's one of the best he's recorded for some time. 2nd trumpet and McGarrity's 2-beat trombone effort follow and the last chorus is a marvelous piece of orchestration which you'll have to hear to appreciate.

The Peanut Vendor

Published by Mvha, Arr. by Fabian Andre

From Xavier Cugat's Rumbaland Series for Orchestra comes this new version of El Manisero. Unison clarinets take the familiar intro and the rhythm figure is established at A. The chorus starts at B. 2nd trumpet has an ad lib solo at C. Reeds stay with their clarinets through most of the arrangement and supply the background to the whisper finish.

Dusk

Published by Robbins, Arr. by Will Hudson

Another of Duke Ellington's new descriptive manuscripts. Clarinets and cup muted trumpets join in the intro while tenor sax plays a triplet figure. They continue into the first chorus—a weird Ellington-like melody with 2 tenors filling in the holes. Second tenor takes a solo at B and then teams up with trombones at C in a rhythm chorus. There's a sock ensemble at D and the last reverts to cup mutes and clarinets with tenors again filling in. Musicians will like.

Me And My Melinda

Published by Irving Berlin, Arr. by Jack Mason

Irving Berlin's new bounce tune, which is getting a big play from the sweet bands and quite a few records. Independent sax figures enhance the brass lead in the first chorus and the second repeat goes to the reeds. Brass jam in straight mutes for the special and split alternate 4-bar phrases with unison saxes in the lower register. The short last chorus kicks nicely.

Taint No Good

Published by Advanced, Arr. by Vic Schoon

Here's a whimsical bounce tune in a slow groove which lends itself admirably to Schoon's solid manuscripting. After the braces there's

an on-the-beat ensemble for brass which rocks prettily and then supports tenor sax in a brief go. The last chorus puts unison saxes in the lower register with moving brass riffs. It's nice.

When You and I Were Young Maggie

Little Brown Jug

Song of the Volga Boatmen

Published by Windoor Press, Arr. by Jay Arnold

Three of a new series of small band orchestrations which can be played by 3 saxes, trumpets, drums, bass, and piano—or less. Arnold has done a remarkable job with these pee wees—they're compactly voiced, written in a good groove, and they make the most possible music for bands with limited personnel. The ensemble choruses are written 4-way and they really jump.

I'll Keep the Lovelight Burning

Published by Remick, Arr. by Jack Mason

Nick Kenny had a hand in this new ballad. After the intro and the repeat trombone shares the lead with reeds—clarinet on top. Full brass a la grandioso take it out.

ALSO RECOMMENDED

The Tale of Peter and the Wolf, Published by Harman Music, Arr. by Phil Lang.

In Old Brazil, Published by Robbins, Arr. by Jack Mason.

All Through the Night, Published by Witmark, Arr. by Jack Matthias.

Love's Rhapsody, Published by Schubert, Arr. by Kendall Burgess.

Fiesta in Granada, Published by Marks, Arr. by Fabian Andre.

Sing Me a Song of the Island, Published by B.V.C., Arr. by Charley Hathaway.

Junior Miss, Published by Harms, Arr. by Jack Mason.

A Blue Song That Made Me Happy, Published by Sudlik & Siegel, Arr. by Jimmie Dale.

Heaven Is Mine Again, Published by Maurice O. Wells, Arr. by Archie Bleyer.

Jones Crew Breaks Up

Savannah, Ga.—The Billy Jones band broke up here last month while playing at the Club Royale. Drummer Jimmy Hennessy returned to his home in Elizabeth, N. J., and the other members of the band have scattered.

Sax Problems War and the Musician by Norman Bates

WAR LIKE SICKNESS, it is said, leaves us a lot older and wiser. With each previous war this has not been the case. After this war, who knows? Until all mankind sees eye to eye, we shall never know. However this present international sickness of war is our burden. America and all we Americans hold the key to the fate of the world's oppressed millions. The very symbol of liberty upon which our country and the world depends is in our hands.

Although we American musicians are but a small minority, let us not forget that the fife, the drum and the flag were the heroic medium for the spirit of 1776. May this spirit of Americanism never die whether we serve in the army, navy, defense or in civilian life. Remember music is the only human thing that war cannot destroy. Materially we fight the war but it is the spirit that prevails. Life isn't worthwhile unless we do the things we believe in. If we haven't enough courage to succeed in spite of it, why we must take the penalty.

Young Musicians Worry

Many young musicians in the pre-Draft stage are concerned about themselves, asking: "Where will I be professionally? What will happen to my job? How can I keep going musically?"

This reaction is only natural. However, I have noted that after they have been in the forces for a short time, they realize that this thing is something much bigger than the individual. It's their country, America, they are defending. Without security for all, the individual self means nothing. It is odd but it takes a war for us to realize this.

Some of the stories from musicians in camps are priceless. For instance, one of the local boys who was called "Cash Register Joe" before he was drafted. He never would play a note unless the money was deposited in the union. In fact, all rehearsals had to be cash on the line. To play overtime—nothing less than a certified check would do. You should see him now. He plays up to 1 a.m., steady pay, two packs of cigarets besides "Yes, sir" and "No, sir" and he is glad to do it.

Army Changes Them!

Then there's Beau Brummel Benny—the local fashion plate. He always wore padded shoulders,

long drape coat, zoot suit pants, seven-inch cuff and 30-inch waist, sharp shoes, etc. He is now known as Benny the Droop, coat sleeves too long, pants too long, shoes too big and Benny too small.

Too, there is long haired Harry, the marcel wave king. He's known as "pineapple head."

It takes all kinds to make a world and it takes all kinds to make an army. Let us see that Joe musician keeps the tempo and the spirit of true American courage up to concert pitch.

In other parts of this world our Allied fellow musicians are doing a swell job. Witness this letter I just received a few days ago. Dated Dec. 6, 1941, Timaru, New Zealand:

"Dear Sir: You will perhaps be surprised to hear from a fan, away down in this corner of the world. Thru the Down Beat column, I feel that I know you, hence the liberty of this letter. I am not yet old enough for overseas service, but am in the home training now. It is quite impossible to get a new sax here in New Zealand, owing to the war. This goes for books and music, as we cannot send the money to even get them from your country. However, we still get the Down Beat for which we are truly thankful. I see according to the Beat that many of your best swing men are off to camp with the rest and doing their bit. We're with you yanks. With thumbs up and appreciation of your help via Down Beat, I remain, Sincerely yours, TED REEVES

Answer: If my letter does not reach you before this issue of Down Beat, I want to say that we American musicians admire your courage and we're with you New Zealanders 100 per cent.

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Advertisement for Leedy Broadway Pedal. Includes image of the pedal, text: "New 'BROADWAY' PEDAL", "Finest We Ever Made", "The answer to every drummer's prayer—a pedal that practically works itself! Words can't describe its effortless, fast, smooth action. Beater shaft acts as a 'tie' to prevent double post standard from 'spreading' and causing eventual 'binding.' Direct center action of the spring steel pull strap on the rocker arm eliminates all side strain. This, together with full ball bearing beater shaft, assures as nearly effortless action as can be incorporated into any pedal. Beater ball 'flows' evenly and effortlessly through the full arc of its travel. Action can be increased or shortened. The exact pedal 'feel' you want can be obtained by adjusting the tension spring. Standard, beater shaft, footboard and heelplate finished in aluminum lacquer. Try it and you'll buy it! LEEDY MFG. CO., 419 Leedy Building, Elkhart, Indiana.", and Leedy logo.

# Ravings at Reveille



by "SARJ"



Jack Landerman wrote in to the old Sarj that the 1229 R.C. jazz band under the able direction of Sgt. Herbie Fields is about the busiest musical aggregation in the army these days. With the intriguing wild tenor that Herbie plays, he also conducts nightly shows and radio broadcasts, which include such stars as Jack Leonard, Howard Dulany and a cast formerly from New York niteries.

Along with the regular infantry duties and military band parades, the Fort Dix all soldier show with a cast of twenty-five, frequently take road trips to various army camps entertaining the soldiers.

The style of the band is centered around the inspired jazz tenor Herbie plays, besides fine ensemble work consisting of five saxes and six brass which feature Bill Shine on alto, James Morreale and Don Matteson in the brass section. The arranging credit goes to Sid Macy, James Morreale and George Johnston all trumpeters in the band.

The band consists of Bill Shine, John Avanzino, Sam Levinson, Jack Landerman, saxes; James Morreale, Sid Macy, Morris Libbrizzi, George Johnston, trumpets; Seymour Goldfinger, Don Matteson, Louis Cotannihan, trombones; Morton Kahn, piano; John Ficcarotta, bass; Jack Seery, drums, and Fields, leader and sax.

Andy Olesak, former saxist with Baron Elliott, is in the Marine band at Paris Island, South Carolina. Andy reports that he has his eye on the Marine band in Washington, D. C.

A letter from H. A. Shelleday in Honolulu says the boys down there are getting fine kicks from the Sarj column. It's the only way they have of keeping tabs on their buddies back in the states. Shelly is a radio operator and played a gang of trumpet before he enlisted.

Dick Barry tells us that there is a pretty swell colored band at Ft. Devens, Mass., and that it really needs diggin'. Barry has been at Devens since he enlisted in Boston last January.

The cats in the 9th Division ork at Ft. Bragg, N. C. got a taste of the Hickory House jive when they got to jivin' with Joe Marsala and Adele Girard who were touring with the USO.

Hal Havard, former St. Louis leader now at Jefferson Barracks, Mo., is waiting for a few more men to be sent through the Jefferson Reception Center. Hal is forming a dance band and at the present time hasn't sufficient men to fill the sections. Hal started in the music biz 12 years ago as a drummer.

Sgt. R. Jahn, who last February was reported in Sarj at Camp Davis, has been transferred and is



**Furlough** means jamming for Rufin Olzowzy, guitarist. He is pictured here as he joined his brother, John Olzowzy, first tenor man with the Steelmakers sax section for a little jam on a recent coast to coast NBC network program of the *Musical Steelmakers*.

now at Ft. Hase, T. H., playing in the 95th C. A. band. Jahn before he went overseas was a corporal and prior to that was shop foreman in the WFL drummers. He plays sax and clarinet.

Rudolf Fellner, a Jewish refugee, is now a private at Camp Bowie, Texas. Formerly a director of the Vienna Concert ork, Fellner was forced to flee Austria three months after the Anschluss. From Italy he took one of the last boats to leave Europe and after landing in New York went to Dallas where he was drafted. Fellner has liked the music of the late George Gershwin since hearing his *Rhapsody in Blue* in the film *King of Jazz*, which he saw in Vienna in 1930. He likes swing, but prefers to hear it played by Duke Ellington.

Down Beat's Houston, Texas, correspondent, Louis Schexnayder, shoots us the dope that Camp Wallace, located near Houston, can claim a good percentage of the cream of the music and entertainment world. During Bing Crosby's recent visit at the camp he stayed overtime listening to a colored boy, Herman Jenks, tickle the ivories. Herman has acquired the name of "the colored Peck Kelley" due to his sensational playing, which resembles the great Peck's. Herman is the boy Cab Calloway was after but Uncle Sam beat him to it.

Also here and doing their bit for the Uncle are Jimmy Valentine, former vocalist with Will Bradley; Eddie Burwaldt, leader of the camp band; Lee Wellington, from Dick Barrie's band; former ork leader, Tom Lines; Charlie Spivak's arranger, Kay Lively; Bobbie Freeman, Tiny Hill's songster; Jack Lane, camp emcee, who was formerly with Ramona, Tony Martin, Joe Venuti and Ben Pollack; and from the longhairs are Howard Weinsler, from the Los Angeles Civic Light Opera, and Russel Yaeger of the St. Louis Municipal Opera.

George Davis, first fiddler with Carvel Craig, joined the Uncle's air force recently while in Houston and was replaced by Hugo Rinaldi.

Down at the Jackson Barracks in New Orleans, the Land of Jazz, there are a bunch of cats who are billing themselves as the "New Orleans Port of Embarkation Band." Outfit is under the direction of Warrant Officer C. W. Langstaff. The boys also have a dance band to entertain the outgoing cats which lines up with four saxes, six brass and three rhythm. The dance band is under the leadership of Sgt. Earl Drumm and Pvt. Bruce Baker.

# Rambling Along Tin Pan Alley

by MICHAEL MELODY

Oscar Blum, in charge of the promotion activities for the Warner Brothers music corporation, has enlisted in the Navy and expected to be called at this writing. He formerly was associated with the film company's advertising department.

He has a first class seamen's rating and will be with the Harbor Patrol unit, otherwise known as the M-2 division.

Ira S. Wegodsky, formerly with Paramount Pictures and General Records, has joined Bregman, Vococo and Conn, Inc., as business manager.

Mose Gumble, who is in charge of the Standard Music professional activities for Witmark, Harms and Remick is winding up a three weeks' vacation in California.

**Rumba Book for Drums**  
Remick is publishing *Latin-American Rhythms for the Drums*, a practical method in the art of playing rumbas, congas, beguines and other Latin dances. The book is by Phil Rale, of Emil Coleman's orchestra, who has made an extensive study of Latin music.

Accordion music is well represented in publication schedule of Music Publishers' Holding Corporation. The razing hit of the day, *Blues in the Night*, heads the list of solos which have been arranged by Robert Carreno. In the folio field, the second *Rainbow Album* is being readied for release. This series includes arrangements for other instruments as well as accordion.

Robbins is providing music fans with a series of song and piano folios, compiled and edited by radio stars. Music pub Jack Robbins has signed Dinah Shore to compile a folio of her favorite songs to be published this month. It is certain to include *Yes, My Darling Daughter*. Also set is Barry Wood's *Hit Parade of Songs and Carmen Cavallaro's Parade of Hits*.

**Another Stutter Song**  
Hollywood's newest publishing house is World Melodies, Inc., heads of which are Dimitri Senoff, president; Jimmy Kennedy, vice president; Charlie Adams, general manager. Distribution will be handled by Art Schwartz' Pacific Music Sales. Lead-off songs will be *Am I Too Late* and a "stutter song," *St-st-st-Stella*, by Jimmy Nolan and Jimmy Kennedy.

Vanguard Songs of Hollywood (owned by Fred MacMurray) has published *Fighting Sons of the Navy Blue*, by Bill Watters, an enlisted man in the service. *Fighting Sons* has been drawing fine air plugs, hitting such network shows as "Anchors Aweigh," "Songs for Marching Men" and "King Size Weekly." Band arrangement by Clarence Wheeler and Al Woodbury was due for release soon.

Irving Siegel, profession manager of Sudlik & Siegel, is lining up plugs on *A Blue Song That Made Me Happy*, of which Irv is co-author.

**Walter Gross's Boogie**  
American Academy of Music has just brought out an eight-page boogie wongie study by Walter Gross, CBS music director. Titled *Creepy Weepy*, it is based on Walter's piano solo on Bluebird. Gross also collaborated with Mack Davis on a theme number for Vera Barton, CBS' new singing star, entitled *Just a Moon Ago*.

Bell Tone Music, one of the younger and more ambitious of the few all-Negro publishing companies, has taken over the provocative *Governor Talmadge Blues*, recently introduced by Helen Humes, and *Unlucky Woman*, which Helen recorded on Decca last month with Pete Brown. Both numbers were written by Leonard Feather. In charge of Bell Tone is William Moore, former Lunceford arranger and song writer, now working for Sonny Dunham's band.

**Old War Song Back**  
Schuberth is starting to push the song, *When the Great Red Dawn Is Shining*, which was popular during the last war.

Tin Pan Alley Publications, in Los Angeles, is publishing *Fame and Fortune Writing Songs*. Sheron Johnson Music Manor, same city, is on the music counters with *Siempre Ser Tuyo*.

Clarence M. Shapiro, Chicago attorney and Midwest talent scout for Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, has just published his song, *You Lift Me to*



**Girl Said Yes . . . The I Said No girl, vocalist Nan Wynn, is shown here chirping to the accompaniment of pianoman Pvt. Joe Buslkin, former T. Dorsey 88er, now of Uncle Sam's air force at March Field, Cal. The occasion was when Huagy Carmichael, Johnny Mercer and Nan trekked out from Sunset and Vine in Hollywood recently and entertained.**

# A Big Jump From Jalopy To Airliner

by IRMA WASSALL

Wichita, Kan.—The Dinning sisters (Jean and Ginger, twins, and Lou), Chicago NBC trio, who formerly sang over a Wichita radio station, and who arrived in Chicago in 1939 in a wornout jalopy and thirty cents, have been signed to sing three songs in a Universal picture now in production. They made their scenes in the picture between scheduled appearances on the National Barn Dance, playing west after their broadcast March 21 and returning March 27 in time for rehearsal for their show the following day.

Corinna Mura (Latin-American singer) has just signed for another picture with RKO. It will be called *The Silver Pheasant*. She also has a contract for a third, *The Amazing Mrs. Ames*, which will go into production as soon as *Pheasant* is finished. Her brother, Herbert Wall, will be musical director on the pictures. Her first picture, *Call Out the Marines*, has been released, has received good notices, and her three songs have clicked.

Will Osborne followed Scat Davis into the Blue Moon for a short engagement. Wayne (Waltz) King hit the spot for a two-nighter (March 21 and 22). The place was jammed with dancers who have been going for King's sweet waltzes these last fifteen years. King said while here that he wants to direct a symphony next September, presenting the past, present and future of music. After losing only three sidemen in those fifteen years, most of them registered for the draft this February. Saxist Wayne Barclay, however, won't be called just yet, as he is among the 45-year-olds.

# Kenton Hears Singer's Disc, Signs Him

Passaic, N. J.—While Stan Kenton was performing his one-week stint at the Central theater here recently, a young chap forced his way back-stage and presented Stan with a record of his voice. "I've only been singing six months," said the hopeful applicant, "but if you like this example of my warbling, I'd like to sing with your band." Stan listened to the record, thought it sensational and the young baritone, Jerry Summers, by name, became the ork's male vocalist.

Paul Brenner, emcee of the *Requestfully Yours* program, aired by WAAT, happened to be present during the audition. He thought Jerry's rendition of *Come Back to Sorrento* was so good that he played it on his show the following evening. —AL LINO

Heaven.  
Mills Music is pushing *We've Got a Wonder Down Under*.

**A Date with Olivia**  
When the Merry Macs introduced on the air the tune, *Olivia*, written by Eddie Cherkose and Jacques Press and dedicated to Olivia de Havilland, the actress heard it, liked it, and dropped lyricist Cherkose a note complimenting the tune and inviting him to lunch with her.

**Short News Jottings**  
Skokie Music of Chicago is publishing *Plain Mister Yank* by Hunter Reynolds. Mike Keeley, publicity man for New York publishers, has been drafted. Simon Balicer of New York has published *Every Tomorrow Is a New Day*.

A new sweetheart song of Kappa Sigma, the second largest college fraternity in the country, has been published by Paull-Pioneer Music Corporation under the title of *Kappa Sigma Waltz*.

Dynamic Music of Hollywood is publishing Case Kusby's *We're Ready to Fight*. Joseph deCimber, Milwaukee music pub, recently staged a defense stamp show there which netted \$2,000. Diane Melodies of Cleveland is on the stands with *Did You Ever?* Words and music by Alvin Friedman.

Famous Music has Lew Pollock's and Ned Washington's *Reap the Wild Wind*. Whitney Blake is publishing Bob Bertram's *Song of America*.

By the way, the new Brown University show, called *The Three Bears*, is reported to have some presentable songs including *Somewhere, Keep 'em Steppin', Women, Nemesis* and *My Symphony*.

# New Orleans Cats a Must For Visitors

by MONK HAZEL

New Orleans—Down at Hyp. Guinle's Famous Dixie club on the Rue Bourbon in the Vieux Carré, there are a bunch of cats who really give out with the jive and are well worth the time it takes to give a listen. They call themselves the Five Brown Cats and the lineup includes Adam Lambert, guitar; Famous Lambert, piano; Tommie Jefferson, trumpet; LeRoy Moses, bass, and Alexander Purnell, guitar. Henry Dillingworth dishes out pash vocals.

These boys also double Sundays as the house band at the Rhythm Club, ace spot for colored people, and also a spot where the all people name bands play. It's a must spot for visitors to our town.

**Gitboxist into Army**  
Arthur Pons, the town's outstanding gitbox exponent, is slated to leave any day to join the Uncle "Buck" has carved quite a name for himself in the past having done some fine box work for such men as Gene Austin, Jacques Renaud and Dave Broeckman, all in Hollywood, and Louis Prima, Tony Almerico and various other maestros here and for the past year or so has been on the staff of WWL.

Gene "Meyer Weinberg" Meyer and Joe "Pagliacci" Reichman played the Navy relief show here last month with Lt. Douglas Fairbanks, Jr., as emcee. Gene will be remembered as the fine sax and clarinet man who was with Louis Prima for several years and since coming back to the old time has been playing the *Citizen of the Week* show over WWL here.

George Parinich, the tub and vibrate man with Hal Jordy at the Jung hotel for the past two years, is now pounding the tubs for the dear old uncle in the Coast Guard band at the Algiers naval station.

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## Pattie Name to Stay in Music; Young Bob Fronts Brother's Ork

by DON HAYNES

Cleveland—One of the most popular names in Cleveland dance history, that of the Pattie family, will be kept active as young Bob Pattie has taken over brother Vince's outstanding local orchestra. With Vince's enlistment into the Navy last winter the band continued under his name and with another front man until February when the outfit temporarily disbanded.

Once again, together with only two changes, the present band looks to be the finest crew that the Pattie's have ever had. And when you consider that the original Pattie ork is now in New York City still intact under Bob Allen's leadership, it can easily be said that this new outfit is really a fine dance band. Until his Air Corps furlough is over, ex-front man and clarinetist Bill Ash will continue to front the band, when Bob Pattie will take complete charge.

Outstanding in the twelve piece band is tenorman Eric Christiansen, who will probably join Red Norvo's band this month. His fine tone and ideas have knocked out all the members of the band ever since he joined the outfit last fall. Also prominent are the arrangements of Bill Bailey and Ray Paulsen, Johnny Jelinek's lead and solo trumpet and a very solid rhythm section.

## Dinah's Cuz Sparks New Campus Band

by JACK PAUL JONES

Nashville, Tenn. — Surprising Middle Tennessee, John Stehlin and his kicking young crew are covering the dances with a blanket of live and sophisticated swing—Stehlin's theme—since they started last fall on the Vanderbilt campus.

Selma Seligman, Dinah Shore's cousin and successor as campus thrush, does the chirping and draws 'em by the floor full.

The 13-piece college band, Vandy's first since Francis Craig, in 1924, centers around the Tab Smith-like alto of Stehlin supported by a solid rhythm section featuring heavily the 88 work of Lloyd Hoppel, hot boggie pianist from St. Louis. Personnel includes five reeds, three brass, and four rhythm.

The boys, who recently became members of Local 527, are set to go places.

Francis Craig has thrown his hat in the patriotic ring and hit the airwaves last week with another new war tune—*Bing Bang A Yankee Sang*. Craig is the composer of such popular numbers as *Red Rose* and *Disillusioned*.

Bill (Bojangles) Robinson tapped the war worries out of the local colored cats at the Paradise club, septa niter, at a recent engagement. . . . Adrain McDowell and his Singing Violin is holding an indefinite stand at the Colonial club which is fastly becoming Nashville's number one hot spot. . . . Beasley Smith, WSM studio band leader, is gaining prominence in the musical world with his two weekly shots over NBC. Betty and the Dixie Dons do the vocals.

## Harris Heads For Chicago

by BILL SANDERS

Tampa, Fla. — Ken Harris and his boys are looking sharp and sunburned as they go into their last record-breaking week at the Tampa Terrace hotel. The boys have been basking in that good ole Florida sunshine and, according to Harris, the band is up to par despite the recent loss of their featured girl trumpeter, Lois Ashford, who is laying off for several months under order of her physician.

The band moves into Chicago soon where they will cut six sides for Bluebird, then a location date at French Lick Springs hotel in Indiana.

### Chick Wins Vocal Contest

Featured vocalist is 17-year old Elaine Beatty, the most promising young vocalist heard around here in ages and winner of a local vocalist contest that will take her to Chicago this month to record two Victor sides with Sammy Kaye's band.

Despite Bob Pattie's youth—he is only 17 while the band averages 20—he is an exceptional technician and section man. His father, Sam, is a music teacher and also leads a jobbing band while brother Vince, it will be remembered, organized his first band when he was only 13. For the last four years the Vince Pattie band has been the most popular in northern Ohio. Only the draft, Vince was just 21, kept his previous outfit from going big-time.

Eric Christiansen's probable joining of Red Norvo's ranks is only one case of several Local 4 men finding name band chairs in recent months. Sal Dotter, clarinetist, and Henry Kahout, 19-year old pianist, are already with Norvo and Ray Anthony junked his fine local crew to join Jimmy Dorsey's brass section. Billy Manzo is now with the fine "Tunetoppers" quartet while Freddie Sharp, terrific 19-year old electric guitarist is also in New York awaiting a steady job and his 802 card and recording with the Norvo band.

Despite the usual booming business and good nightclub trade the town has been practically dead as far as name bands and good jazz kicks are concerned. Ray McKinley debuted his brand new band in fine style here Easter eve and his ex-partner Will Bradley followed later that same week for another prom date. The Norvo band has been playing the territory although not here in town. Future bookings show only the Palace theater booking occasional names.

For club kicks, easily the town's most popular niter is Lindsay's Sky-Bar where the solid "Cats and the Fiddle" have been featured the past month. Coming in late in March was the King Cole Trio to be followed by Meade Lux Lewis. Deadline dates make it impossible to review the King Cole Trio until the coming issue.

In the meantime, the enterprising Hot Club of Cleveland continues their very popular Sunday sessions to large and appreciative audiences. Sammy Finger has taken over as club president and sessions are emceed by blues vocalist Frankie Laine. Practically all of the leading jazz musicians in town sit in on the sessions and the music, while far from perfect, affords one of the few real music kicks left in town.

## Quincy Local Plans Prom

Quincy, Ill. — The members of Local 263, AFM, are opening new club rooms and office here. Setup includes all new furniture and a rehearsal room.

The local also is planning its second annual dance to be given April 22 at the Casino ballroom. Three Quincy dance orchestras, those of John Herold, Carl Landrum and Junior Musolino, will donate their services. All proceeds go to War Charities. A special "powerhouse" combo is being formed for the occasion by John Haerle, former Don Bestor trombonist. Arrangements are being made by prexy Melvin Blackwood and sec Carl Landrum.

## Bennett Leaves Garber

Chicago—Lee Bennett, vocalist with Jan Garber's orchestra, which just rounded up an engagement at the Trianon ballroom here, left the band last week to join the staff of WGN.

## It's an Old Trick with Sliphorn Men!

Chicago — Between one nighters on a recent tour, the bus in which the Ted Weems band was travelling burst a water hose in the engine. The Weems-men found plenty of water in a nearby restaurant but no funnel. Les Jenkins, Ted's trombonist, then bravely offered his horn as a funnel. The thing worked fine too, they say. Shown assisting Weems are Jenkins, arranger Joe Haynes and saxist Johnny Helner. The Weems band is currently at the Blackhawk in Chi.



## Pianist Denny Thomson Band Windows Bud Estes Scores

by RAY TREAT

Syracuse, N. Y.—Denny Thomson and his new band recently completed an engagement at Hotel Syracuse's Terrace room. Thomson at one time jobbed around Baltimore doing club dates and on and off engagements at the Belvedere hotel. MCA is behind the unit. Arrangements are by Bud Estes, former Alvino Rey scorer. Rey, it is said, is interested in the Thomson unit.

Instrumentation stacks up as follows: five brass, four reeds and four rhythm. Maestro Thomson directs from the keyboard. Vocals are sung by Kae Marie Baird. While in Syracuse Thomson did a benefit for the "bomber a day" fund. Denny Thomson was followed by Louis Prima who came in after the Easter holidays. Believe this is Prima's first appearance in this section with a big band. Terrace room orks air via WSYR-NBC.

Luigi's is featuring Johnny Camarata, better known as "Camel." Johnny is using seven men including Auburnian Steve Nodzo, bass, and Dick Robinson, trumpet. . . . Norm Meservey and George Scotti are playing piano and Solovox at the New Brown Jug. . . . Barney Rapp's "New Englanders" and Ray Heatherington's ork at the Strand theater with stage shows. . . . George Hammond and Dick Kowell played for the Onondaga Police-

men's ball.

Johnny Kaaihue and his Royal Hawaiians back again at the Rainbow Lounge in Hotel Syracuse. Unit consists of Johnny's daughter, son, nephew, and, of course, Johnny, himself. Outfit mixes well with the patrons. Broadcasts are sent out over WAGE.

## Philly Jazz Combo Set For Debut?

by CHARLES ABBOTT

Philadelphia — Charlie Ventura, idol of Philly's hot jazz fans, is forming his own combo. His backers, Bill Feldman and Sam Fink, are undecided whether he should have a full thirteen piece or an eight piece combo. Anyway, this terrific tenor tooter will use and feature Teddy Walters on guitar. Ventura long has been ranked as one of the most exciting instrumentalists in this burg but he has been content with his defense job and blowing his horn just for kicks. Tony Pastor recently offered Charlie a job, but he refused.

Orchids should be tossed Joey Kearns' way for his swell program, Music for Musicians, heard on Saturdays. Joey has a perfectly balanced show, features name guests. WCAU, the station where Kearns is music director, thinks that the show will soon be heard coast to coast.

Duke Ellington did a week at the Earle late last month, and with Harry Lim and others from the Ellington band went up to Nat Segall's Down Beat club. A session was in progress, with the inimitable Teddy Walters and his git box featured. It seems that Teddy inspired the Duke, so Ellington got into it on the 88, the result was a three hour jam. Lim said that Walters was one of the finest men on guitar he ever heard, ditto for Duke.

Local 77 has its election in three weeks. This will go down in the union's annals as one of the hardest fought battles ever. Jonny Arthurs, fair haired boy of the dance men, is figured to have the inside track.

Lee Vines, of *Living with Jarvis*, now has a sponsor for his WIP radio show. This is a long deserved break for Lee, who is a great entertainer, and a great guy.

## Needs Full Name

Chicago — H. L. Shockey, trumpeter in Johnny Long's ork, went to the courts here last month to get his name changed. It seems he was christened with initials only and he can't buy defense bonds unless he has a full name!

## Jazz Lifts These Kids Off Streets

by RUBE CUMMINGS

Clasboro, N. J. — Too often members of the music profession become targets of criticism from outside sources. Too often the "world of harmony" turns into a turmoil of disharmony. But the hearts of most veterans of the music biz will brighten when they read this story.

For here in South Jersey is a good example of why musicians may point to their profession with pride. Their fondness for music has taken thirteen young kids off the streets—out of poolrooms and crap games—and fashioned them into a smooth dance orchestra. The group, known as the Hep Cats, works cooperatively. The members practice several times weekly—usually all day Sunday—and give up much of their leisure time towards making their venture a success.

Now don't think these boys could walk up and play Frank Bailey's Meadowbrook, but they are certainly clinching many local college proms and social events. Although their ages range only from 12 to 17, the boys are all good.

Most sensational of all is the youngest member of the aggregation—tiny drummer Paul Munaf, who has been playing the traps for 7 of his entire 12 years. Young Munaf seems to be the main drawing card in the crew, but his brother, Joe, hot trumpeter, also plays a mean hunk of horn. Other members of the brass section are Tom Bower and Hank Cummings, who fronts the band when he is not playing, trumpets; and George Sheppard, trombone. The sax section is highlighted by altoist Frank Middleton, who handles most of the solos, Sam Battaglia, alto, and Geno Corradetti and Joe Raffa, tenors. All four double on clarinet.

Assisting the younger Munaf in the rhythm section are Max Jentsch, piano, and Nick Monino, guitar. The ork also sports a fine pair of vocalists—Kurt Dobler, tenor, and cute Rita Lee, selected after a contest amongst local fem chirps.

Here is a fine example of Young America! Here is a group to whom the music profession can point with pride!

## Pettit Adds Alto, Bass

by B. W. PIKE

Springfield, Mo. — Drury College and the State Teachers College are making preparations for the spring formal dances. They will use almost exclusively the music of Jerry Pettit's fine local crew. Pettit is making a few changes in the ork thus hoping to better it musically. He is adding Bert Brassington on alto and Cliff Miles on bass. Miles is this town's most solid bass man and he should help to stabilize the rhythm section.

Featured is Warren McPherson on hides who hails from Kansas City. Mac lives for nothing but drumming and always stops the show when he takes over. Paul Mitchell is on piano. Bert Brassington has a taste for righteous jazz and should be a real spark plug to the boys in the band. Margie Gillette is vocalist. Incidentally, Margie is top voice in the Mountaineers, a five way vocal group in the Merry Mac style.

Jack Baker of the Breakfast Club program spent a couple of nights here recently. Members of the KWTO-KGBX staff joined him in a gratis show for patients in the new government O'Reilly hospital which has only recently been completed. Bill Ring was in charge of the talent and acted as emcee. Jack Baker made a gift of a \$200 public address system to the boys which they installed in the recreation building.

## Steel Pier Opens On Name Ork Kick

Atlantic City, N. J.—The world's famous Steel Pier opened its 45th season of entertainment here Easter week-end with a full bill. Jimmy Dorsey and his ork played for dancing in the Marine Ballroom and the Ink Spots headed the stage show. President Frank P. Gravatt announced the signing of the country's leading dance bands for future appearances at the pier.

### Craig's Canary



This lovely bundle of feminine charm is Sherry Bergan, girl chirp with Carvel Craig's ork. The Craig band is currently playing one nighters in the south before heading north with its brand of danna-pation.

# Hal Wiese Pulls Nifty At Fairview

by JOE PIT

Davenport, Iowa—The Lenten season has had its effect on the local music situation and most bands are only getting about half their usual quota of jobs. However, Hal Wiese's boys have fared better than the rest. Hal pulled a nifty and booked his ten piece into Fairview Inn (Milan, Ill.) for a very successful two weeks' engagement. Heretofore, the place has never used more than four or five man combos. Vocalist Alberta Moorhead, Wiese's fem canary, established herself as a prime favorite with the Fairview patrons.

The week-end of March 29 found Bill Robinson and Ernie Fields' colored swingsters on the stage at the Orpheum in Davenport and Duke Ellington and his gang just across the Mississippi at the LeClaire in Moline, Ill.

June Haver, formerly featured chirp with Wayne Rohlf, recently made her second screen appearance here in a short which spotlighted Jan Garber's ork. June is under contract to Ted Fio-Rito, but appeared on numerous occasions with the Garber crew during their stint on the West Coast. June has not yet reached her 16th birthday, but sings like a veteran and sells her songs with personality plus.

Bob Hale's Lark club recently held a very musical Spring Opening. The new ork, dubbed the Lark Rhythmaires, is headed by Bill Holmes who also serves as a most capable emcee. The ever popular Rosemary continues to entertain with her unique song styles.

Davenport's top jive pianist has recently returned to Uncle Sam's armed forces. This lad is none other than Joe Stroehle, whose brother Pat soon returns to Fairview Inn with Al Keller's Four Equires.

King Lear, local tram man, is now featured in the brass section of Ace Brigade's band. . . A new night club, The Plantation, held its formal opening March 28. Eddy Brandt and his crew dispensed the jive and the floor show included vocalists Arlyne Chanler and Jack Millard.

## Novak Composes Tune

Chillicothe, Mo. — Les Novak, leader of the C.B.C. Quacketeers orchestra, has written a new tune, *Can This Be Heaven*.

## Did Welk's Pianist Lay This Egg?



Kansas City—Tommy Sheridan, who plays boogie woogie piano when Maestro Lawrence Welk isn't looking, is shown here as he digs an Easter rabbit in a Kansas City department store. Tommy vows however that he did not lay the Easter egg he is holding in his hand so it must have been the rabbit. The Welk crew scored a sock week at the Tower theater here. It's another one of those killaroo Harry Kaufman shots.

## Formerly with Krupa, Raskin Tabs Rich 'Ace Tub Thumper'

by TOM KENNY

Sacramento, Cal.—Tommy Dorsey walked away with all laurels due to his terrific one-niter here recently. The crowd missed Connie Haines but local cats in the know were knocked out by Jo Stafford's brand of warbling.

Milt Raskin, 88-man, tells that Buddy Rich is the most solid percussionist he has ever had the pleasure of playing with. This is interesting to note as Milt was Gene Krupa's piano man for a good long while.

Russ Kline, former Bunny Crites tenor, now woodshedding his own crew and playing dates at the army posts nearby. . . Hal Wiley still trying to hold his mixed group together; Hal plays tenor a la Lester Young . . . just as Bernie Bemt's crew was starting to move Uncle Sam reached out that long arm and now Bernie is moving with the draft, the Cal-Aggie campus is going to miss his fine brand of music. . . Eddie Galter still on the Mohawk gas talent quest aired over station KROY every Friday night, not doing so bad on dates either with his Trianon ballroom bookings. . . Sam Rippon has junked his own band and is playing lead trumpet with Howie Winslow's organization;

speaking of Winslow, he is remodeling his band and adding a fourth sax, this will do away with his former three tenor sweet style and enable the crew to get jumping. . . Joe Maita is holding down the Hotel Senator Empire room spot and is really pleasing the more conservative type of customers with his sweet awing. . . Frank Sabastian's Cafe Donovan is using Paul Putnum's four piece righteous group which is sparked by reed man Leon Radsliff and Putnum himself on bass.

## James Severs Goodman Knot

(Jumped from Page 1)

Lewis' first flicker. Records Red Hot Rated by many observers as the "hottest band in the land" right now, James' crew has several records in the nation's boxes, all of which will peddle well above the 100,000 mark. *Sleepy Lagoon, Easter Parade, I Don't Want to Walk and You Made Me Love You* have made Harry's band the most powerful attraction on the Columbia label.

Immediately upon completing his picture for Universal, James will go into the Palladium in Hollywood and shortly after, start a second picture, for RKO and as yet untitled. There were no personnel changes in the orchestra when it left for California. Monte and Sid Beller are managing and Helen Forrest and Jimmy Saunders made the trip as vocalists.

### Harry Now 26

For young Corky Corcoran, Harry's 17-year-old tenor man, the California job is somewhat in the nature of a triumphant return. Less than 16 months ago little Corky arrived in Hollywood carrying his tarnished horn in a newspaper, with the mouthpiece and a couple of split reeds in a coat pocket. There he was given help by Jimmie Lunceford, who placed Corcoran with Carlos Gaste and Sonny Dunham. After about a year with Dunham Corky switched to James' band, and has been heavily featured as an instrumentalist ever since. The kid's home is in Tacoma.

Harry himself had a birthday anniversary last month, celebrating his 26th year. He is separated from his wife, a prominent vocalist in her own right, and despite the recent birth of a son, it is reliably reported by James' friends that Louise will divorce Harry soon. James' band returns to New York's Hotel Lincoln October 1. They expect to stay in California at least 14 weeks.

## Pablo Still Draws

Detroit—Don Pablo and his ork continue to draw packed crowds at the Palm Beach here, despite competition of tariff-less spots, the management reports.

# Hot Enthusiasts Boost Buddy Hancock Ork; Sending San Antonio

San Antonio, Tex.—A welcome sound to the ears of hot enthusiasts in San Antonio has been the music of Buddy Hancock's small group at the Blue Room.

Except for Dude Skiles' periodic appearances at Shadowland, the Hancock bunch has offered about the only good music available at popular prices here. Carl Ravazza, Room of the St. Anthony Hotel, but, the cat who makes it in under the weight of a \$2.20 cover finds nothing but the sweet.

Hancock himself has been jobbing around San Antonio for nearly twelve years, and has a young group together now that fits his own style of playing and arranging nicely. He handles cornet, trombone, and baritone sax himself, with no trouble, and squeezes in vocals, makes all the arrangements, and composes a few in his spare time.

### On Pee Wee Kick

The biggest kick in the band, though, is Marshall Davenport, tenor and clarinet, especially on clarinet. He has a Pee Wee kick that is a fine contrast to the usual brand of schmaltz peddled in the Alamo City.

Walter Beachom, who's in the army now but luckily assigned to Fort Sam Houston, holds down the keyboard in his time off from drill. Ted Cody doubles on tenor and cornet, and hangs up a few vocals. Sam Millsap handles drums.

Jimmy Lunceford and Andy Kirk played big colored dances here a few weeks ago, and both were sharp, but only a few whites managed to fill all the space available

## Basie Intro's Disc Jockey's Tune

Camden, N. J. — South Jersey had one of its rare treats of big-time entertainment April 7 when Count Basie and his crew took over at Convention Hall in one of those too infrequent dance appearances.

Highlight of the night's program was the introduction of a new song by the Basie band titled *Dawn Patrol* and penned by Buck Clayton, the Count's star trumpeter, and Mort Lawrence, who heads an all-night show over Philly's station WIP. Basie expects to groove this ditty which, incidentally, bears the same brand as Mort's program.

—RUBE CUMMINGS

## The Marx band really jumps, report all observers even if it is led by a comedian. And who cares if Chico Marx is kidding with that piano playing. Here's a shot of a couple of Marx trombonists, Larry Hall and Bob Lloyd, resting between chores during a recent Pittsburgh engagement. Pic, Courtesy of Down Beater Ted Humes.



## 25 Gees for Pollack Out Of Marx Ork

by TED HUMES

Pittsburgh—In view of the terrific biz the newly-formed Chico Marx ork has been doing on one-nighters, Ben Pollack recently revealed that any plans he may have had for organizing another band will be abandoned and he will remain the mad Marxman as personal manager at a flat guarantee of \$25,000 per year with a 3-year contract.

Although the possibility of Ben's remaining with the band was mentioned in the Jan. 15 *Beat*, at that time Ben denied this as unfounded rumors and without truth. Surprises in the line-up were George Wettling, whose whereabouts before had been somewhat uncertain, and Marty Marsala. The complete personnel includes Alan Fields, Gabe Galinas, Harry Sopp, Milton Fields, Otis Kipler, saxes; Marty, Emile Ruscina, Bob Clark, trumpets; Chick Maxon, Larry Hall, Bob Lloyd, trombones; George Wettling, hides; Marty Napoleon, piano; Del Straton, guitar; and Francis Palmer, bass. Ziggy Lane is on vocals but is slated for early induction into the army, possibly in April. Skip Nelson, local fave, has already left Piccolo Pete's combo to join Chico. In addition to singing, Skip plays fine piano. Jinny Perkins is fem vocalist. Bookings are being handled by the Wm. Morris agency and the band

has an early recording date for Eli Oberstein's Elite label.

"I think the band has great potentialities, and the bigger names are in for stiff competition," Ben declared. "It will be a combination of a hep and a novelty band, with the novelty providing a background for Chico's antics. Of course there will be no corn."

Pollack also announced that plans are formulating for the opening of a night club, with Chico and himself as co-owners. Location will be in New Jersey but he did not specify as to the exact location. Reason for this will be to use the club as a home grounds for building the band with lots of airtime scheduled. At any rate from the reception the ork received in Pitt it is sure to attract the crowds. Ben also renewed acquaintances with Lou Bolton, former Windy city booker who gave him his first start at Chi's Southmore hotel.

Fran Eichler, who has been fronting the old Clyde Knight crew, has received his final notice and reports for induction, leaving the baton for another successor. . . Buzz Aston, former WWSW maestro, has replaced Dorothy Mathews as the featured singer on the Duquesne Beer shows emanating from KDKA. Buzz, handling some ten programs a week for the brewery, has forsaken the band field permanently. It is quite likely that he will also join the KDKA staff through his present success. . . Fletcher Henderson has taken over the Jimmy Murray crew which was exploited in a previous issue of the *Beat* and played a three-day stay recently. What happened to Smack's previous line-up was not disclosed. Murray's loss has been felt noticeably at the Colonial and Local 471.



Art Eisendrath



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# Marvin on Buildup Ride; Hires New Alto Saxist

by DON LANG

Minneapolis—Seeking a "family man" draft replacement in his band while playing the Nicollet hotel here last month, Mel Marvin finally chose Olin Martolin from about 10 of the local alto men.

Martolin is already sparking the less-than-lifeless Lombardo tone of the band on third horn, with the band playing St. Louis' largest ballroom following the Nicollet session.

Local musicians were amazed at the publicity snapped up by the local papers concerning the Marvin unit. One spread (with pictures) had Marvin trying out girl musicians (about 16 years old) apparently for his band to replace men drafted. For a not-too-well-done commercial outfit, Marvin has done even better in national publicity, with Winchell and Killgallen both giving him a hand.

The Prom ballroom reported a heavy advance sale of tickets for the Tommy Dorsey one nighter there on March 25. Musicians were laying off in droves to attend the dance.

### "Lewis Liked Cokes"

The acute coca-cola shortage here recalls the embarrassment of Minny trumpeter man Chet Lewis, who once had a job during the early morning hours cleaning up the establishment in which he worked as a bandsman.

Chet, who lead a boisterous social life before and after his playing jobs, opened a spigot to draw himself a little coke syrup mix from a large barrel of the brown stuff, and then ran to attend to an immediate errand. When the morning shift came on, there was \$60 worth of coke on the basement floor. His coke bill still stands, while the local musikers try to down substitutes.

Minneapolis' "great white way", Hennepin avenue, has finally earned a right to that name since with the opening of The Frolics, the first spot of its kind in the Twin Cities with a back-bar combo and girl singer.

The Frolics and its blazing inferno of lighting puts to shame even the bright-lighting attempts of the theaters on the street.

Kenny Thompson, one time Minny piano man, brought an accordion-gal singer from Chicago to open up the Frolics. At writing time Thompson was looking for a local squeeze box artist to replace Jimmy Blue, who left the quartet after the original two weeks were up, and another week or two were in the offing.

## "Aw, Let Me Have One Lick, Boys!"



Denver—During a five minute smoker at a recent rehearsal of the Don Reid orchestra, Maestro Reid tries playing a few hot licks on the tuba. It's not hard to see the reaction on some of the boys in the band. Standing, left to right, are Nick Brill, trumpeter; Don Reid, playing, and Bill Stillman, bass player. That's Memo Carle, saxophonist, in the lower front. The Reid crew is currently dishing out dansapation at the Rainbow ballroom here.

# Grid Star Pens Tune, 'Doodle-ee-doo'—Huh?

by SHERWOOD JACKMAN

Ann Arbor, Mich.—Late last month at the Wolverine Hop, footballer Al Wistert's latest song was debuted by Gordon Hardy and his orchestra. The song, *Doodle-ee-doo*, was sung by teammates Tom Kuzma, Bob Kolesar, Tippy Lockard, and captain George Ceithaml, who composed the *Muscles and Melody* quartet. They were directed by All-American Bob Westfall. Hardy's new band, which is now playing permanently at the League ballroom, features Joan Reutter, pretty vocalist, who has been heard with Phil Spitalny and his all-girl orchestra.

One of the biggest influxes of jazz music is about to appear here. The Buy-a-Bomber fund is planning to enlarge its contribution to the nation, by sponsoring a series of jazz concerts in Hill auditorium. Charlie Barnett is slated to appear April 22, and others are in view for future concerts. All profits are to go to the Michigan Buy-a-Bomber fund.

One of the latest outfits to be

organized here is the Men of Jazz Club orchestra, which is made up entirely of amateur musicians. This organization is one of the largest in these parts, with a vocal sextet and two pianos. The band's main purpose is to entertain at the various USO spots and to play at various charity affairs. Sandy Sanborn, Burt Kniskern, and Murray Martin are the originators of the excellent idea and have been receiving numerous praises for their work. Happy Joe Gentle and his Morning Frolic gang of radio station CKLW in Detroit have been popularizing the band. Happy Joe has been giving a lot of publicity to up-and-coming bands and is well liked by many band leaders.

Bill Sawyer, besides leading one of the finest dance bands in these parts, has been working for the University of Michigan. He is an instructor in the music school and also directs the girls' glee club. . . Juan Farrandez, student from Havana, along with Ed Neithercut, local drummer, is trying to form a full-sized Latin-American orchestra. . . Judge Hartrick, former All-State footballer, has been trying out his vocal ability at the 404 club in Royal Oak. Judge is also trying to decide between a career in music or law. . . Many campus orchestras are trying to nab lovely reheaded Helen Nelson, popular torch songstress, as permanent vocalist. . . Clark Pardee and Jim Nordlie, drummer and trumpeter, have been auditioning with several name bands and are due to place soon.

# Mattingly Crew Jump Enlarged Evansville Spa

by ED KLINGER

Evansville, Ind.—Lincoln Hotel's Blue Bar has just completed a remodeling that makes it the largest cocktail lounge in entire area. Now seats 450 without crowding, and can seat over 500.

Structural innovation is the bandstand in middle of floor. Tony Mattingly's small combo proves to be the most popular attraction in town and is being held over under the new enlarged setup.

Club Trocadero, casino-dancery just outside the city but across the line in Kentucky, has reopened after a gambling shut down. It has resumed name band-floor show policy. Heat is on to close it up again. Jimmy Joy's orchestra was followed by Benny Strong, now playing.

Ted Weems orchestra, old favorite here, shattered stage show records at Grand theater. A few days later, booked for one day stand at Peru, Ind., the occasion was declared Cole Porter Day by city fathers. Porter, now in Hollywood, was unable to return to old home town, but band played Porter music exclusively and broke theater house record at Peru.

Jimmy Evans pulls out of Club Zanzibar after one year stand, together with wife Judy Haynes, popular thrush. . . Barry Stuart, who formerly had his own vocal program on WGN, but who recently was forced out of shoe sales business by tire shortage, is lending his voice to entertainment in Hotel McCurdy's Coral room.

# Miami Season Better Than 'Expected'

by MICKEY CHEREP

Miami, Fla.—Chet Brownagle's band opened at the Hollywood Beach hotel here for its third consecutive summer season, after closing at the Biscayne Kennel club. Brownagle also leads a band at the Paddock club from 1:30 a.m. to 6:30 a.m.

Norm Sherr is now musical director over station WQAM and also is playing with Harry Reser's orchestra at the Olympia theater.

The winter season turned out better here than was expected. The lack of name bands can be blamed on the ban on gambling. The local bands got a break, as a result.

Nominations of officers in the Miami local were held last week.

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# Moran Comes Ahead Just Sittin' Back

by JOHN DEINLEIN

Baltimore—One of the most promising dance bands to be organized here in many a day is the new Johnny Moran crew which played its first date at Keith's Roof two weeks ago. Their theme is *Room and Board Plus Fifteen Per Cent of the Tux Junction type*, an original, written and arranged by another local leader, Pete Santora. *Board* features Al Blizzard, clary and Rube Wall, tenor.

Moran, alto sax, sits back and takes things easy while Andy Bafford fronts and digs bookings. Bafford is lately of the Men About Town crew. Charlie Regner is outstanding on bass, as is Sam Gertner on guitar. Band consists of Johnny Kramer, Joe Sagel, Bob Henderson, valves; Johnny Potocki, Joe Soistman, trombones; Al Blizzard, Reuben Wall, Johnny Moran, Tony Sciuto, saxes; Sam Gertner, guitar; Charlie Regner, bass; Tom Ortt, piano; Speed Morgan, drums, and petite Margie Shea, thrush.

The Chanticleer, exclusive nite spot, will introduce a series of Saturday afternoon dances for the benefit of Balty's younger set. Del Casino and his band are currently holding forth at the spot. . . Louis Prima returned to town to open the suburban Summit club for the summer season, the last week in March. Manager Phil Ellis of the Summit announced that his big name band policy will continue. . . The defense workers booked a stinker the other day by choosing Guy Lombardo for their Defense Workers ball. . . Roger Kemp, manager of Keith's Roof, presented two name bands at the spot last month, Charlie Barnett and Bob Chester. Chester outdrew Barnett by several hundred patrons. . . Jimmy (Pop) Meyers, pianist, has booked a new combo into Munder's restaurant, featuring himself on the ivories.

Larry London (Bernie Kravetz) and his band are still holding at the 21 club, featuring Al Spiedock on the drums. Spiedock is the hubby of Helen Forrest, Harry James chirp.

# Norma Lee Joins Jack Martin Band

by CHARLES ARTHUR

Las Vegas, Nev.—Norma Lee, vocalist, formerly of the Show Boat in San Diego, has been added to Jack Martin's band at the El Cortez. . . Bart Roth, who was once with Clyde McCoy's orchestra is the featured entertainer in the new floor show at the Kit Kat Klub. . . Bill Clifford and his 11-piece unit have opened up at the El Rancho Vegas after having completed a successful run at the Bal Tabarin in San Francisco.



Keep 'Em Fiddling . . . Two RAF cadets, on leave from Canada, held a session recently with Stuff Smith's orchestra in a Chicago night club. The two British hot jazz enthusiasts were Ted Ware and Rex Dunn. Ware is shown here playing trumpet to Stuff's hot fiddle obligato while Slick Jones and Dunn provide solid rhythm accompaniment on tubs and mothbox respectively. Sam Bauerman grabbed the pic.

# From Brass To Fiddles To Brass

by BOB FOSSUM

Rockford, Ill.—Hal Todd, who a few months back junked his brass section and took on three fiddles, has pulled the fiddles out and taken back three of his brassmen. He expected to take this set-up into the Inglaterrn April 11. It was the third time in the past four months that Todd has changed his outfit.

Mabel Scott, the blond beauty who has been singing such fine blues at Times Tap, left last month for her home in Michigan where she will take a short rest before returning to Taps later in the spring. In the meantime, Florence Rogers and Jack Price will handle the bulk of the entertaining.

Russ Winslow donated his services to the USO last month and his dixie quartet played a 3-hour session at the club. Soldiers and civilians alike got their kicks.

Beloit, Wis., is hearing one of the best gal singers around since Jeanne Kakuske has been doing the chanting with Stukie at the Diamond. This chick is one of the finest anywhere and is the subject of raves from all who hear her.

Colleen Cahill, formerly at Rockford Tap is now singing at the Miami. . . Lucille Loring is the pianist-singer at Town Tavern. . . Ford Keeler, ex-Winslow and He-

bard man, has joined Arturo's band at the Moonlite Gardens in Saginaw, Michigan. . . Phyllis (Tritz) Lane, who got her start singing with local bands, has left Gus Arnheim and is now with Francis Craig.

# Few Thousand Bicycles May Help Situash

Auburn, N. Y.—Bad news for central New York dance and music fiends seems to be in the air. Rumors have it that Enna Jettick park will not open this season. Shortage of rubber and gasoline seem to be the main reasons. Deauville, adjoining the park, has renewed its liquor license and intends to run as in past summers; featuring small units on the bandstand.

Count Berni Vici's show played at the Jefferson theater using an all-gal ork. . . Don Smith emceeing floor shows at Laxton's and drumming with Freddie Page on dance engagements. He and Bob Canino give quite a boot with their boogie wogie duets. Canino is one of this locale's finest ivory men. . . George Nodzo's trio is at Laxton's. George plays sax while Ned Colella and Tommy Davis work on the piano and drums respectively. Colella and Davis are youngsters while Nodzo is a seasoned veteran, having been a member of 802 for many years. . . Johnny Ty now drumming with Mike Peluso at the Jefferson club.

--RAY TREAT

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### Cookie's Boogie Musn't Improve

by BOB FOSSUM

Rockford, Ill.—The next time Cookie Stevens sits in at a jam session she won't play so good. At least if she is at Jimmy Walker's Black and Tan she won't. She made the mistake of playing a number at Jimmy's one Saturday night last month and the customers and musicians wouldn't let her get off the stand.

The gal's boogie killed the colored cats at the spot and the house drummer wouldn't play with anyone else the rest of the night. Besides her 88ing, Cookie sang a couple of blues including her own East State Street Blues.

### Band Routes

(Jumped from Page 22)

- Turn Toppers (Brass Rail) Chicago
- Turner, Bill, Dead Enders (Capitol Lounge) Chicago, nc
- Turner, Don (Mount Royal) Montreal, h
- Two Beans and a Belle (Green Tree) Washington, Pa., nc
- Tyner, Evelyn (Essex House) NYC, h
- Ulrich, Paul (Vine Gardens) Chgo., nc
- Univ, Dave (Alabama) Chgo., nc
- Valero Sisters (Clover Club) Miami, nc
- Varrell, Tommy (Club Ball) Bkln. NY, nc
- Varson, Eddie (Park Plaza) St. Louis, Mo.
- Veltree, Joe (Tropics) Youngstown, O., nc
- Vernatilians (Montelean) New Orleans, nc
- Victor, Frank (El Patio) Washington, D.C., nc
- Viducovich, Pinky (Station WWL) New Orleans, La.
- Vines, Henry (Sterling) Cincinnati, h
- Vinn, Al (Northland) Green Bay, Wis., h
- Wagner, Percy (Carlele Grille) Allentown, Pa.
- Walker, Ray (Nut Club) MB, Fla.
- Wallace, Jack (Paddock Club) MB, Fla.
- Wallace, Rudy (On tour)
- Walsh, Ellis (Vine Maur's) Los Angeles
- Walsh, John (Lord Tarleton) MB, Fla., b
- Walton, Hank (Carl's Wonder Bar) Phila.
- Waples, Bud (Broadwater Beach) Biloxi, Miss., h
- Wardell, Twining (Hollywood Kennel Club) Hlwd., Fla.
- Warren, Arthur (Boca Raton Club) Boca Raton, Fla.
- Washburn, Oliver (Miami Biltmore) Coral Gables, Fla., h
- Wasden, Hal (Saxonia) Flint, Mich., nc
- Watkins, Sammy (William Penn) Pittsburgh, Pa., h
- Watters, Lu (Dawn Club) San Francisco
- Webb, Wally (Apache) Las Vegas, Nev., h
- Webster, Jack (Tobacco Road) Miami, nc
- Weema, Ted (Blackhawk) Chgo.
- Weller, Curt (Chancellor Inn) Phila., r
- Weisbecker, Charles (Fireplace Tavern) Newark, N.J.
- Weiss, Maurice (Hialeah Park) Hialeah, Fla.
- Weich, Bernie (Graystone) Lima, O., nc
- Welk, Lawrence (Trianon) Chicago, b
- Wendell, Connie (Charlie Blank's Grotto) Abilene, Tex., nc
- Wharton, Dick (Philadelphia) Phila., h
- White, Irving (Totent Pole) MB, Fla.
- White, Mack (Astor) Montreal, Can., r
- Whiteman, Paul (On tour) California
- Whittemore, Earl (Sea Horse) Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., nc
- Wiese, Hal (Doghouse) Davenport, nc
- Wilbur, Ardie (Beverly Hills) Newport, Ky
- Wilbur, Jimmy (Sextett) (WLW) Cincinnati, O
- Wilde, Ran (Sir Francis Drake) SF, Cal.
- Wiley, Earl (Liberty Inn) Chgo., nc
- Williams, Bob (Tuten's) Savannah, Ga., nc
- Williams, Buddy (Wagner's) Phila., b
- Williams, Claude (Kelly's Stables) NYC, nc
- Williams, Griff (Copley-Plaza) Boston, h
- Williams, Sammy (Gibbs) Chgo., r
- Williams, Sande (Astor) NYC, h
- Wilson, Billy (The Dolls) Savannah, Ga.
- Wilson, Teddy (Cafe Society) Downtown NYC, nc
- Windsor, Reginald Guy (Night Club of 224 Market St.) Camden, N. J.
- Wingert, Doug (Lang's) Springfield, NY
- Winstow, Dick (Bar of Music) L.A., Cal.
- Winstow, Russ (On Tour)
- Winston, Jack (River House) Reno, Nev.
- Winton, Barry (Congress) Chgo., h
- Wood, Stan (Auditorium) Montreal, Can.
- Worth, Ray (Chin Lee's) NYC, nc
- Wright, Charles (Brook Club) MB, Fla., nc
- Wright, Louis (Mayo's) Phila., r
- Wubbold, Joe, Trio (Crescent Cafe) Washington, D.C.
- Wustlich, Miller (Balconades) Pittsburgh, nc
- Wylie, Austin (Pier) Celeron, NY, h
- Wylie, Wilf (Sanley Park Supper Club) Vancouver, B. C.
- Xavier, Buddy (St. Bernadette Auditorium) Bkln., NY
- Yates, Danny (Carrousel) MB, Fla., nc
- Yates, J. Newton (Station KPAS) Pasadena, Cal.
- Yeatman, George (Station WBAL) Baltimore, Md.
- Yellman, Duke (Brown Derby) Chgo., nc
- Young, Eddie (Lowry) St. Paul, h
- Young, Lee and Lester (Capri) L.A., Cal.
- Zurke, Bob (Hangover) L.A., Cal.

### Pep Up Morale of the Cadets, Even



Lexington, Mo.—Not that morale needed a lift among the cadets but these entertainers from Kansas City (the Zephyr Room of the Hotel Bellerive in fact) came down to Wentworth Military Academy last month and staged a show for the cadets. Shown left to right are Eggs Royer, that fine boogie woogie pianist; Maxine Tappan, former Gus Arnheim and Vincent Lopez chirp; Major Leon Ungles, dean of Wentworth; the Durango Trio made up of Alicia, Huberto and Mari, and Capt. Kenneth MacKenzie, the academy's aviation director. Photo, Courtesy of Cornyman.

### Irv Berger to Mad Mab; Alpert Loses Whole Section

by MIKE STRANGER

Boston—Charlie Barnett, in his 4th week at the Brunswick hotel, replaced Buddy McGuiness with first trumpeter Irving Berger from the Benny Goodman herd. Neil Hefti turns his seat over to Johnny Carroll to do only arranging, together with Bobby Burnett, who drops trumpeting. Johnny Carroll is from Ruby Newman outfit currently at Copley-Plaza where recently a new cocktail lounge was opened at the other end of the Oval room in what use to be the State room. Joe Ferrente's stool will be swung by Charlie Zimmerman. John Kirby takes over after Barnett.

Mickey Alpert, currently at Coconut Grove here, is out a brass section. Charlie Whittemore ditched his trumpet for higher wage in defense work. Hy Cohen gave up for Uncle Sam and Joe Conne relinquished his chair on trombone for Gene Krupa. . . . Leighton Noble still clicking in 10th week at Hotel Statler's Terrace room. . . . Libby Holman heard Frankie Newton's band at Savoy cafe during her Somerset hotel date and now Frankie's band will provide when she cuts wax for Victor. Joshua White still acts as guitar-accompanist. . . . Larry Thornton, of Dreamworld nite spot over in Scituate, and a former singer, switched his job for USN. . . . Carmen, lovely lively dancer with the floor show at Steuben's Vienna room where Lew Conrad's ork holds forth, was spotted here and handed a break with *Hellzapoppin* show currently at the Majestic and takes her spot in the cast shortly. . . . The Yankee Nest opened its six new studios here which are to be used chiefly by WNAZ, since its other outlet WAAB goes to Worcester. . . .

### Revenooers Nab Drummer

by ISABELL GOUNDRY

Regina, Can.—Seventeen year old drummer with Ollie Wagner's Knights of Harlem ork was fined \$300 in the local courts for infraction of the liquor laws. At this date of writing, the fine has not yet been paid. Wagner's crew, a small colored outfit, hail from Winnipeg, and have the band spot at the Oriental Gardens dine-and-dance.

Regina city fathers are attempting a clean-up crusade against bootlegging, which is said to run rampant in the city.

Daily Record columnist Geo. Clark, with assistance of Betty McDonald of army press relations dept., worked out the idea for WRUL, local short-wave station, to transcribe niter acts on wax and broadcast on Saturday morning around the world, after platters first get army official okay. . . . Jack Granara, known to many name bands and other musicians as RKO-Boston publicity man for past several years, enlisted in the U. S. Air Corps and was inducted at Fort Devens. New England RKO divisional manager gave Jack a farewell party which was attended by a mob of show folk, musicians, publicity pluggers and newspaper hounds. Jimmy King, better known as "Red," takes over Jack's job. . . . Al Navarro, formerly with local orks and now teaching here, has been working out 20 saxes as an experiment and has decided to sponsor ork composed of 65 saxophones. Al's new band will take off at New England Mutual Life auditorium late in April.

### Ork Ducks Scale Loses Air Show

by HARRY DAVIS

Louisville, Ky.—The most unusual happened here last week when Clayton McMitchen got sore with the sponsor of his and Cliff Gross' radio program and turned himself and 13 other rural musicians in to the local board, saying they all had been playing the program for over a year under pitch. Local cats were flabbergasted. The Gross outfit is still playing the program while McMitchen plays no more radio programs 'til further notice.

When Prexy Petrillo informed officials of WGRC to pay the staff band more dough, they refused. The band is still working for the old price, but the station is denied the spot bands from Mutual, and that ain't good.

Mac McConnell got the break he has been deserving for some time when Lou Breeze played here one nite, Breeze heard McConnell and grabbed him right away. Mac was replaced by Hayden Causey on guitar and bass at the Silver Slipper, breaking up the duo pianos.

The Southernaires are back at the Brown hotel less 88man Bob James, who prefers the Army.

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### Porozoff Settles In Chicago

Chicago—Nick Porozoff, for the past 18 months public relations man for Russ Morgan and his orchestra, has located permanently in Chicago and opened public relations offices in Michigan Square Building.

Porozoff is also acting as personal manager for Charlie Fisk's orchestra.

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### Donahue Man Steps Out in Detroit

Detroit — Andy Blaine stepped out of the Sam Donahue band to join Charles Bernhardt's ork here last week. Deal to obtain Walter McGuffin from out of the Bobby Byrne band fell through, McGuffin going to Henry King.

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**Courtney's Chirp** . . . Currently handling vocal assignments with Del Courtney's orchestra is Mary Jane Dodd. She is the first girl chirp for the Courtney orchestra in over three years.



**Art's Artiste** . . . Gloria Hart, formerly with George Olsen and Raymond Scott's orchestra, is now featured with Art Kassel's orchestra. The band is currently at the Riverside theater in Milwaukee.



**Miller's Birdie** . . . Don Haynes, Glenn Miller's personal manager, looks at the stick that made a hole in one. Glenn Miller doesn't count of course. He only held the stick that held the ball that made the birdie! The scene is the green at Pinehurst, N. C.



**King Benny Waxes** . . . Benny Goodman and Peggy Lee, his golden tressed vocalist, are shown here going over a score with the clarinet king at a recent Okeh disc session. Peggy's first big hit is *My Little Cousin* which Benny introduced recently.



**Egan Emotes** . . . *Down Beat's* inquiring photog hid under the Egan sofa to snap this super-duper pic of Jack Egan, manager of Alvino Rey's ork, and the pretty Putty Smith of the musical show, *Banjo Eyes*. Are you hep. Billy Burton?



**Jazz Man on the Fiddle** . . . Eddie South, classico-jazz violin virtuoso, and his ensemble are being dug nightly at New York's Cafe Society Uptown. Left to right are Stanley Facey, piano; Eugene Fields, guitar; Joseph Johnson, drums; Doles Dickens, bass, and South himself with his fiddle in the foreground. Latest addition to South's unusual combination is Rudy Powell, alto sax and clary, not shown in the photo.

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See Story on Page 1

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