

Music

AUGUST • 1954

VIEWS



KENTON PRESENTS
JAZZ

The Biggest Comedy Album of the Year!



"The funniest twelve
guys on television"—

Jackie Gleason — portrays some of his
best-loved characters in an album that
captures all the fun and excitement of his great
television show!

L.P. Album No. H-511

E.P. Album No. EBF-511

Romantic listening music conducted by

JACKIE GLEASON •

"MUSIC FOR LOVERS ONLY"

L.P. Album No. H-527

E.P. Album No. EBF-522

"TAWNY"

L.P. Album No. H-521

E.P. Album No. EBF-521

"LOVER'S SHAPIRO!"

L.P. Album No. H-536

E.P. Album Nos. EBF-1136 & EBF-2-366

"MUSIC TO MAKE YOU MISTY"

L.P. Album No. H-532

E.P. Album No. EBF-532

Music Views

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THE COVER

Stan Kenton is, without a doubt, one of the most controversial figures in the music world. He is also one of the best liked. Even those who disagree with his music are quick to recognize his sincerity and integrity. He is now turning some of his seemingly endless supply of energy toward a new venture, production of jazz records with small groups for Capitol Records. For more about Stan Kenton's newest contribution to the field of jazz, see pages 16 and 17 of this issue.

on the stand

AL MARTINO

Birmingham, England	26 July
Newcastle, England	2 Aug.
Edinburgh, Scotland	9 Aug.
Finsbury Park, England	16 Aug.

NAT "KING" COLE

San Francisco, Calif.	15, 19 July
Hollywood, Calif.	27 Aug., 9 Sept.

BILLY MAY ORCHESTRA WITH SAM DONAHUE

Louisville, Ky.	15 July
Buckeye Lake, Ohio	16 July
Youngstown, Ohio	17 July
Vermillion, Ohio	18 July
Pittsburgh, Pa.	21 July
Atlantic City, N. J.	23, 29 July
Glen Echo, Md.	30, 31 July
Bridgeport, Conn.	1 Aug.
Hampton Beach, New Hamp.	4 Aug.
Toronto, Ontario	11 Aug.
Erie, Pa.	12 Aug.
Port Stanley, Ontario	13 Aug.

Canton, Ohio	15 Aug.
Sylvania, Ohio	17 Aug.

FOUR KNIGHTS

Pittsburgh, Pa.	15, 17 July
Wildwood, N. J.	19, 25 July

TOMMY LEONETTI

Chicago, Illinois	9, 30 July
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PEE WEE HUNT

San Francisco, Calif.	15, 27 July
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RAY ANTHONY

Ephrapa, Pa.	18 July
Rochester, Indiana	6 Aug.
Erie, Pa.	24 Aug.
Chippewa Lake, Ohio	25 Aug.
Buckeye Lake, Ohio	27 Aug.
Youngstown, Ohio	28 Aug.
Vermillion, Ohio	29 Aug.
Sylvania, Ohio	31 Aug.

FOUR FRESHMEN

Wildwood, N. J.	15 July, 6 Sept.
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Capitol's Lee Gillette explains a desired effect to Keith Textor of the Textor Singers, while recording new release, "The Little Shoemaker."

across the



Johnny Roy listens critically to the play-back of his most recent wax effort, "To Ev'ry Boy - To Ev'ry Girl." Do you suppose he liked it?



Al Martino signs an autograph for Mrs. MacGregor English, Mayoress of Sunderland, during his current tour of Great Britain. Martino's new Capitol release is "On and On."



Bobby Troup, who's album of same name established him as a wax artist, has a new disk, "Five Days, Six Hours, Thirteen Minutes." The guitarist seen is Howard Roberts.

country



Betty Madigan runs through the arrangement of her recent MGM waxing "And So I Walked Home," with her conductor, Joe Lippman.



The late, inimitable "Fats" Waller receives a posthumous salute from Ted Heath on a new London Records album, "The Music of Fats Waller."



Funnyman Steve Allen lends a hand at Ella Fitzgerald's 19th anniversary in showbiz by reading wires she received from Ray Anthony, Guy Lombardo, Stan Freberg, etc.



Margaret Whiting gets a razzberry from daughter, Debbie, when momma hit a clinker while rehearsing her new disk, "How Long Has It Been" and "An Affair of the Heart."

MUSICAL EVOLUTIONIST

"If I had to tag any 'ism' on my music, I would probably say it was evolutionism," ponders Stan Kenton's 30-year old composer protege, Bob Graettinger. "I've never had a technique to execute my ideas. I work from the idea, and have acquainted myself with the physical laws of sound. I use a different technique for every idea. I feel a lot of music is written by composers as a result of technique. With me it's the other way around. I want the music to be the result of my idea."

Originally from Ontario, California, Graettinger now maintains living quarters in a garage apartment in Hollywood where he refuses to own a telephone, works intensively on serious compositions a week or ten days without ceasing and then breaks it up with a siege at the library or a long walk.

The harmonious relationship with Stan Kenton began in 1947 when Graettinger mailed his score "Thermopolae" to Kenton. Though he had acquired a certain measure of recognition on alto sax and as arranger with the bands of Kenny Baker, Jan Savitt, Bobby Sherwood, Johnny Richards, Alvino Rey, Vido Musso and Benny Carter, leader Kenton was unfamiliar with Graettinger



Bob Graettinger

until the manuscript reached him. Then trumpeter Ray Wetzel, a friend from Bob's post-Army Sherwood days, arranged an introduction. Since then the Kenton orchestra has produced on Capitol disks such works by the young composer as "House of Strings," "Thermopolae," "Incident in Jazz" and "This Modern World."

A controversial figure in the music world, Graettinger explains his musical position this way: "I am not trying to set any rules. I've never studied music formally but I've listened all the time and read and am aware of what has come before me. I can't deliberately devote any thought to success. I'm very concerned with my audiences but only to assure me that I'm a complete human being. Composers make the mistake of

trying to explain their music in words. I don't feel that talking about music accomplishes anything. A composer has failed if he has to talk about his work."

As far as his plans for the future go, Graettinger, currently cleffing several compositions for fall recording by Kenton, believes he will adhere to instrumental music. "I can't think of writing music in conjunction with any other art," he says, "though I like to attend the ballet and opera and I get a spontaneous thrill out of popular singers and jazz combos." He expresses his admiration for Kenton, "It's a wonderful thing to have an outlet, to be able to experiment."—*Merrilyn Hammond*

UNCOOL

Invited to be a guest leader of the Seattle Symphony, a famous conductor was being interviewed by a local newspaper reporter. "What program do you plan giving?" the reporter asked. "Oh, some Beethoven and Brahms," the great man replied. "What style will you use?" the reporter questioned. When the conductor seemed bewildered, the reporter rushed on, "Don't you have your own arrangements?"



Don't you wish you were the leader of a rumba band? This, of course is Abbe Lane, vocalist-wife of the bandleader, Xavier Cugat. They're currently touring on the continent.

Introducing

HONEY DREAMERS

Last February, the Honey Dreamers booked into Le Reuben Bleu, a New York supper club. Though they had been making appearances since 1946, when they first organized, this was the first time the group had a chance to carry out their own ideas for staging, special material and tune selection. Repertoire executives from Capitol Records caught the show and two nights after they closed at Le Reuben Bleu the Honey Dreamers were in a Capitol studio making a record.

The group appeared regularly on *The New Revue*, the first scheduled color-TV show for CBS. Organized on the southern Minnesota campus of St. Olaf College, the two-girl-



three-boy quintet have worked on radio, the Dave Garrouay, "Garrouay At Large" TV show in Chicago and some 200 network shows from New York, including the Martin and Lewis, Kate Smith, Faye Emerson, Gary Moore and Steve Allen shows.

Their first record for Capitol is a rocking interpretation of a pair of standards, "Perdido" and "Happy."

● ROOSEVELT NIGHTS

Guy Lombardo and his band, after 25 years at the Hotel Roosevelt in New York City will cut an album with the understatement, "Night at the Roosevelt," for its title. Being released by Decca, the album gets its name from Lombardo's television show over WNBT, New York. Lombardo is scheduled for another album release, "Arabian Nights."

● CANADIAN CAP

Capitol Records recently announced the formation of a subsidiary corporation, Capitol Records Distributors of Canada, Ltd., with the main office to be in Toronto. A branch office will be in Montreal.

Increased distribution throughout Canada's provinces will be managed by independent distributors under Capitol jurisdiction.



Terry Moore had no sooner finished her latest picture, "King of the Khyber Rifles," than she started breaking in her new nightclub act in which she both sings and dances. She's also credited with having said: "It's not that I have a lot of boyfriends, it's just that I have a lot of friends who are boys." What do you suppose she could mean by that?

● PROMOTES JAZZ

Although various music personalities are periodically sounding the death knell of jazz, Herman Lemberg, owner of New York's Record Collector's Shop, is turning a deaf ear. To promote his line of jazz records, Lemberg has inaugurated a series of free jazz concerts featuring such top jazz names as Miles Davis, Gerry Mulligan and Chet Baker. The first "session" drew over 120 people into the small shop. Lemberg feels that the sessions will not only serve to bring people into the store and introduce them to his stock, but will eventually provide him with a valuable mailing list of jazz enthusiasts.



A couple of guys named Crosby are seen looking over the script for Gary's radio show, which happens, by odd coincidence, to be summer replacement for Bing Crosby Show.



Frank Sinatra sings his newest release, "The Girl That Got Away," for appreciative patrons of Sands Hotel in Las Vegas. Flip-side of the record is a ballad, "Half as Lovely."



"If this doesn't sell a million, I'll eat it," says vocalist Lucy Ann Palk, and demonstrates. Dave Pell, leader, fears for her bridge work, hopes drastic step won't be necessary.

HAREM

Sixteen tunes, bearing girl's names for titles, will be released by Mercury at intervals during the next year. The composer, Walter Scharf, has completed the first two; "Susan," dedicated to his 12-year-old daughter, and "Elizabeth," dedicated to his wife. The composer, who has received eight Academy Award nominations for film scores, will conduct a 32-piece orchestra at each of the sessions, recording a name song with another musical theme on the flipside of each disk. The names will be chosen from those not heretofore used as titles.

Gisele MacKenzie

Five foot six and one-half inches in her stocking feet, Capitol artist Gisele MacKenzie, stands high among pop singers today. Born in Canada of French-Canadian and Scottish parents, she studied at the Royal Conservatory of Music in Toronto, earning scholarships in the graduate school there. At that time she was concentrating on violin. It was after the encouragement of Bob Shuttleworth, her agent, that she was persuaded to leave violin for singing.

Her first job was playing violin and piano in a dance band, fronted by Shuttleworth, and her first singing stint was on radio coast to coast over the Canadian networks (CBC).

In spite of her intensive musical training and her obvious talent Gisele believes that



luck—just plain luck—plays the greatest part in a musical career, running first over the other assets such as talent, good health, perseverance and personality.

Gisele likes to read contemporary French novels and when not working likes to putter around the house, cooking and playing with her two long-haired (not a musical term in this case) daschunds, Brunhilde Von Bagel and Wolfgang.

● WHO'S ON FIRST?

When Ronnie Gaylord gets his discharge papers from the army, Mercury Records will find themselves in the peculiar position of having two male lead singers for the Gaylords singing group. Ronnie, whose voice was the lead on the early Gaylord successes, was replaced when he joined the army. It is the new lead who is

featured on the later Gaylord releases.

Mercury will try to keep the new Gaylord group intact, by recording Ronnie separately, backed by two other singers, utilizing the style of the early Gaylord records. This is liable to be confusing on a juke box. Gaylord No. 1 or Gaylord No. 11?



She sings, dances, acts and looks beautiful. She's Rita Moreno, the "Miss Latin Lady" of Hugo Winterhalter's disk. How's your Spanish?

● COME OUT FIGHTING

Probably nothing will be settled, but MGM Records will enter the age-old fight between the sexes with an LP album entitled, "Cats vs. Chicks." The Clark Terry Septet will meet the Terry Pollard Septet in a contest of jazz, each combo playing the same numbers, "Cat Meets Chick," "Mamblues," "The Man I Love" and "Anything You Can Do." Leonard Feather will produce the album.

● HOUSING PROBLEM

Academy Award winner Dimitri Tiomkin describes as "tragic," the lack of adequate, modern auditoriums throughout the country for concerts, opera and legitimate theatre productions. A recent tour of major cities prompted Tiomkin to state, "Music and legitimate drama, as well as stage musical comedy are all suffering from the fact that very few cities can offer adequate auditoriums. Many of the houses that are available to touring attractions in every phase of show business are 40 to 50 years old and are located in inaccessible parts of town."

Tiomkin's trek was a preliminary step toward planning possible road tours for his recently completed musical comedy "Romantic Weather," set for fall production on Broadway.

THAT FINAL HIGH ONE

Some singers have a certain
dread
Of one high note that lurks
ahead.
They brace themselves, they
fill their lungs,
They wet their lips, they
roll their tongues,
They gulp one final breath
of air
And lift their eyes and say
a prayer
And hope they'll hit it right
on key,
And so, and just as much,
do we.

—Richard Armour



Bronx Born Mitzi Mason is making her bid for record fame on M-G-M with first one, "So Much More."



Duke Ellington introduces some of the tunes from his new Cap album, "Ellington '55," to the audience at recent Gene Narman jazz concert.



In spite of her talent and extremely pretty features, KNBH songbird Barbara Logan has trouble hanging onto boyfriends as soon as they find out her hobby . . . lion taming.

● SPECTACULAR WAX

Capitol Records will issue an album of the first musical score ever to be written especially for television. The score, authored by Jay Livingston and Ray Evans, will be written for the first Max Leibman 90-minute spectacular color show over NBC-TV, starring Betty Hutton. Livingston and Evans also wrote Miss Hutton's act when she appeared at the Palace in New York City.

The album is slated to hit the record-buying market before the television showing and is calculated to pique the interest of viewers in the NBC spectacular set for September 12.

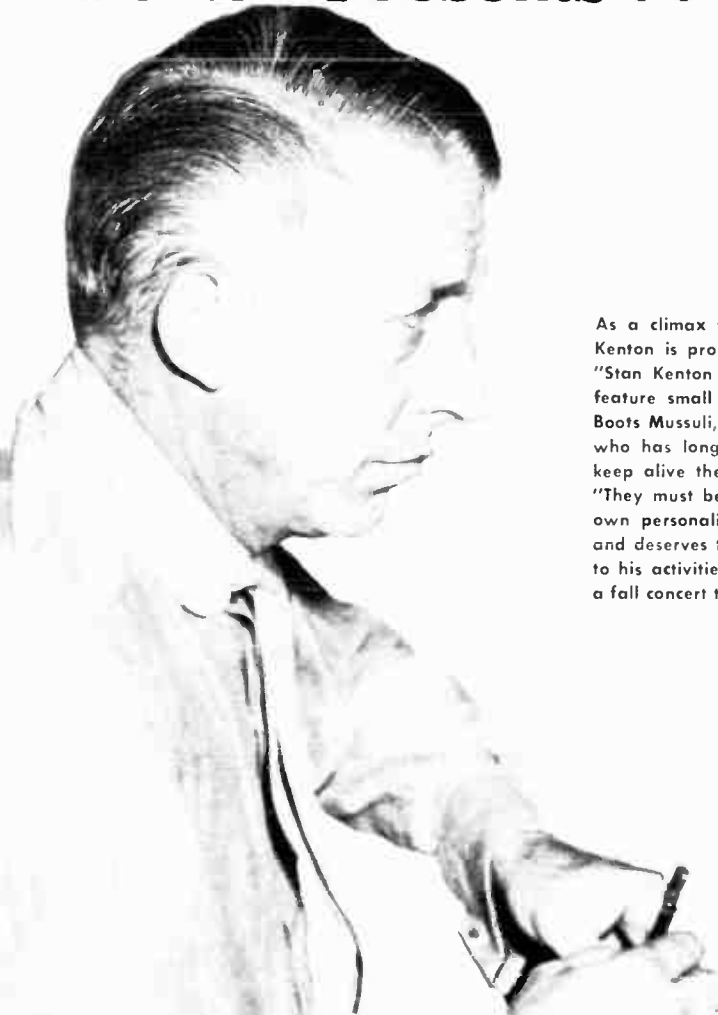


Youngster Frankie Avalon demonstrates how he got the high ones on his new "X" label effort, "Trumpet Tarantella" and "Dormi, Dormi."

● JEFF-OF-ALL-TRADES

Just a few months ago, Jeff Chandler, movie star, came out with his first record on the Decca label. Not satisfied with doing the vocals only, Mr. Chandler has branched out and turned tune-smith with a song, "That's All She's Waiting To Hear," which he also is publishing in his new firm, Chandler Music.

Kenton Presents . . .



Left to right: Joe Mondragon, Bob Cooper, Bud, Shank and Kenton. Reading down are: Kenton, Frank Rosolino, Charlie Mariano and Sam Noto.

As a climax to over eleven years pioneering in the field of jazz, Stan Kenton is producing a new series of albums for Capitol under the title, "Stan Kenton Presents Jazz." Albums and singles in this new series will feature small groups headed by such jazz personalities as Bob Cooper, Boots Mussuli, Bill Holman, Frank Rosolino, Lee Konitz and others. Kenton, who has long felt that there are not enough jazz stars to supply and keep alive the jazz clubs, plans to search out and develop new artists. "They must be in the jazz idiom," he states, "but they can express their own personality in their own way as long as it is sincere, good music and deserves to be heard." His new project for Capitol will be in addition to his activities with his own orchestra, for which he is currently shaping a fall concert tour titled "The Festival of Modern Jazz."

(Below) Pete Littmar, Ray Santisi, Jack Carter and Boots Mussuli with Stan; also Bill Holman.



SINGER PROMOTES OTHER SINGERS

NOT ONE TO dawdle while she dreams of becoming a record star, Jean Bennett is starting into the recording business by promoting other artists! Jean, a 25-year-old aspiring vocalist, is presently operating Personality Promotions, a promotional agency for artists, record companies, composers and publishers.

Three of her eight artist clients, Mary Rose Bruce, Audie Andrews and Stewart "Rick" Rose, are doing well on Victor and Label X records. In fact, the agency is beginning to grow and prosper faster than she ever dared hope.

Jean started operating her business about a year ago, working on the proverbial shoestring with one secretary and a small office in Los Angeles. Believing that young, unknown singers and musicians should be given more promotional effort than the more established ones, Jean concentrates on new recording artists and song-writers, building their names through constant repetition in her regular newsletter, "The Personality Plugger," getting their names mentioned in trade papers and getting consistent publicity, plugs, and distribution for their records. She often works all day and half the night to keep her organization on its toes.



One of the remarkable things in her agency is that the clients work for each other, as well as themselves. It is not unusual for one of her artists to visit disk jockeys in his particular territory to plug his fellow artists. Various fan clubs have been organized which work for all Jean's clients and not just one.

"I suppose it sounds corny, all this helping one another," Jean says, "but it's a good atmosphere to work in. We never forget that we're dealing with human beings and that we all need aid occasionally. It's paying off!" Jean's clients include popular, western and rhythm-and-blues musicians.

Although she has studied voice only ten months, Jean has easy control over a four-octave vocal range. Her first recording, waxed by her own independent disk label, "Personality Pre-Release," is titled "Winterlude," with the Chansonaires, a group from her own agency.



Hildegarde, who proves that Milwaukee produces something other than beer, is teamed in a nightclub act with singer Johnny Johnston. She still wears long gloves.

● JAN ARDEN ON VIC

Toni Arden's brother Jan has joined RCA-Victor's artist stable. Toni, under contract to Columbia Records, cut a record with her brother several years ago, but excepting this brother-sister duet, Jan has done no further recording, until his recent RCA-Victor session.



Capitol continues to hold its own in the glamour department with the voluptuous Micki Marlo. She waxed "Forever Is Now" and "I'm Gonna Sit Right Down and Cry" on Cap.

● REY COOLS OFF

Air-force personnel, rugged settlers and eskimos of Alaska, were probably sent into a nose-rubbing spree over the romantic music of Alvino Rey, recently booked into that territory for fourteen days. The band played at the Elmendorf Air Force base and the Idlehour Country Club at Anchorage.

For some reason or other this widening of the world's horizons, this intrusion of sweet guitar strings and swaying rhythms into the faraway north seems a pleasant and welcome thought.

JEAN FEELS that her present work is an excellent way to build herself as an artist, since it teaches her the complexities of the recording business. Full of praise for her voice teacher, Poul Thomsen, who teaches singing stars from various Hollywood movie studios, she says, "He has shown me that singing can be a real joy." Moreover he feels that her voice range will be one of the widest ever known, as she has perfect control of both the lower ranges and the higher, while most singers are better known for one or the other.

"Whatever else may happen," Jean says, "music is my lifetime work. I find pure pleasure in it."

—*Lucy Meyer*



Lawrence Welk is awarded a United States Army Certificate of Achievement in honor of the champagne bubbles dished out on Welk's popular ABC-U.S. Army radio show.



She made two million boys take up baseball. She's also made a disk for RCA-Victor entitled "I'm Gonna File My Claim," from her new 20th Century pic, "River of No Return."



Doris Day visits Judy Garland on set of Warner's "A Star Is Born" and renews acquaintance of choreographer Dick Barstow. Doris will do "Young at Heart" with Sinatra.



Vicki Young sports a new hair-do and a new Capitol disk, "Riot In Cell Block Number Nine" backed by "Honey Love." Big Dave's orchestra provides solid accompaniment.



Note to deejays: When this singer brings around a record for you to plug, best you do it! He's heavyweight boxer Buddy Baer who has recorded "It's That Feeling" on Vito.

● WHITINGS ON FILM

The Whiting Sisters, Margaret and Barbara, will co-star in an upcoming movie, "Fresh From Paris." The dual role resulted from the success of their teaming on the Toast of the Town TV show last spring. Margaret will be seen as a nightclub headliner, Barbara as a cigarette girl with thespic ambitions.

vamp till ready



DIMITRI TIOMKIN will present his original score from "The High and the Mighty" to the Smithsonian Institute . . . Hawthorne is trying to interest Record Companies in a three-minute record of surface noises for hi-fi fans who miss the hiss . . . Frank Sinatra will do two of NBC-TV's upcoming color spectaculars. Betty Hutton kicks off the series this fall . . . Deejay Al Jarvis kept careful track of time allotted to Stan Freberg's "Point of Order," so that if McCarthy cuts a record he can allow him equal time . . . Frank Sinatra is determined to become a director. When someone asked him what made him think he could become a director, Frank replied, "The same thing that made me think I could be a singer and an actor." Touche . . . In case you missed it, dig back to your July 17th issue of Saturday Evening Post and read Richard Hubler's article on Nat "King" Cole . . . June Christy and husband Bob Cooper are expecting a musician, junior grade, in September . . . We were talking about Sinatra? During shooting of his latest pic, "Suddenly," Frank wore a gun in a holster. At the end of a day's shooting he protested, "Fellows, get me a gun for my other side. I'm beginning to tilt." . . . If you think that all you need is an "in" with a record company to get a song recorded, listen to this: Cowboy actor Russ Todd nursed a secret desire to be a songwriter. He submitted a song to Capitol and got back a form rejection with a P.S. attached, "stick to acting." To make matters worse, the rejection bore the signature "L. Clawson." Russ is still sulking, because L. Clawson is Mrs. Russ Todd, an Employee at Capitol . . . If you step into a music store and ask, "what's cooking?" don't be surprised at the answer. Victor has been putting culinary recipes inside some of their album covers . . . There's a hi-fi enthusiast around Los Angeles who really wants equipment desperately. He went all over town, bought hundreds of dollars worth of gear and paid for it with bad checks. Question: does a check make as much noise when it bounces in hi-fi?

● ADVICE TO ACTORS

"Don't listen to people who say, 'Oh, don't go into the theater, it's *too* hard.' Anything good is *too* hard somewhere along the line."

So says musical-comedy author Oscar Hammerstein in an interview in *Seventeen* magazine. Reversing the usual theater veteran's advice to would-be actors, Mr. Hammerstein points out that the theater has never been so alive as it is today. "There are more opportunities for theater people now than ever before," he says, describing the current surge of dynamic young off-Broadway groups, dramatic-reading tours, college and summer-stock productions, road companies and television dramas.

"People forget your failures once you've had some success," he says, admitting to plenty of flops. He warns that while success in the theater looks easy, actually it's been hammered out of—or hammered into—all the people involved. "By the time it's right, everybody has been beaten, hurt and hammered into shape. If the public doesn't like the shape, you take a bigger beating. Young people who want to go into the theater should be prepared for that."

To be successful in the theater, he advises, you must possess a combination of these four qualities: "an irrational love of the



Eddie Albert, headliner of NBC-TV "Saturday Night Revue," also is a top nightclub attraction when teamed with wife Margo. Reviewers, as they say, "flipped" over their act.

theater," talent, ambition and industry. "You cannot be an actor or actress 'on the side' ;" he warns. "If that is what you want, then stick to your school or community group theater."

"The theater world is a rough world for any but the ones who are willing to make any sacrifice to achieve success in this exacting art, this many-sided craft, this toughest of all jobs—acting," says the man whose "irrational love of the theater" has resulted in endless pleasure for all Americans.

PLACE THE FACE

Although stars in the entertainment business are constantly being recognized and beset upon by their fans, it seems that their fame invariably fails them at the most inconvenient time. It happened to Al Martino when he was trying to reach Wearing, England, for the opening night of his current European tour.

Somehow Al managed to miss the proper station and found himself several miles away in Newcastle. His last two shillings of English money went to tip the train porter, so Al was faced with the problem of talking a taxi driver into carrying him back to Wearing on credit. The driver had never heard of Al Martino, so the desperate Al

admonished him to "Ride around the street until you see my photograph on a poster." Reluctantly, the driver agreed. Even when they found a poster, however, the driver insisted that Al get out and stand beside the picture. Finally convinced that Al was indeed a singing star, the driver delivered him to the Sunderland Hotel in Wearing . . . at 1 a.m. on the morning of his opening.

It's a safe bet that the cab driver is now boasting to his friends about the trip, because Al's opening was a smash success and today there are very few people in the area who are not familiar with the name, Al Martino.



George Shaw rode to the crest on a Decca bisquit titled "Till We Two Are One" and is looking for a top-per with his latest, "Wonderful."



The McGuire Sisters receive their "Brascar" award for "exquisite form on records" from Earl Wilson, self-avowed expert on all forms.



Faron Young, Tommy Collins and Webb Pierce, top names in the Country & Hillbilly field, share spotlight on Grand Ole Opry show.



Jane Russell (r) teams up with her fellow Coral pactee, Johnny Desmond, on new wax, "Forever More."

● JUKE JUNKET

If you should find yourself in some little known corner of the world, it is increasingly likely that all you would have to do to hear the latest Frank Sinatra recording is put a coin in a juke box. Some 14,000 jukes were shipped to foreign countries last year and from all indications, there may be another 20,000 shipped in 1954. Countries all over the world are now playing the latest U.S. hits, along with disks in their native language.

Biggest obstacle to continued expansion is rather strange to the American way of life . . . lack of electricity. In a great many countries of the world, electricity is found only in the large cities. As a result, many exporters are selling juke boxes in conjunction with a small generator. Often this makes it possible for the proprietor of a small back-country saloon to operate a refrigerator or other appliance off the same generator.

How do you say "put a nickel in the juke box" in Siamese?

SOFTHEARTED

Although a record company's a. & r. men are traditionally supposed to be the most hard-hearted guys in the world, the boys at Mercury show signs of softening in their old age. They have worked out a rhymed rejection slip designed to let the songwriters down easy. It reads:

We're truly sorry to say,
We're returning your
music today.

We can't use your song,
But we could be wrong,
It might be a hit some
day.

Songwriters who have received this notice have been known to comment, "Anyone who would rhyme 'today' with 'some day' hasn't any business turning down a lyric no matter how bad it is."

● WHERE'S DJINN?

Aladdin Records, rhythm and blues label on the West Coast, is starting a new subsidiary, logically enough, Lamp Records! The label is being issued in conjunction with Jesse Stone, arranger who has worked closely with Atlantic Records for several years. Lamp's first release is with singer-composer Leonard Lee.



We haven't figured out why she's holding the bass viol, but she's pretty and she sings and her name is Patricia Scott. She's on Tiffany Record's "Point of No Return."



Dorothy Lamour has embarked on another "road," this one without Bob and Bing. She's touring the night club circuit. Here she gets plaudits at the El Rancho Vegas.

GUILTY

Peter Potter, Los Angeles deejay and adjudicator of the "Juke Box Jury" radio and TV shows, is a man who evidently likes to live dangerously. Despite the fact that he is married to Beryl Davis, a songstress who has enjoyed considerable success in the U.S. and her native England, Potter is on record as considering Ella Fitzgerald and Jo Stafford to be the best female vocalists in the business. He also insists that hungry singers sing better than successful ones. Considering that a comment like that could conceivably induce wife Beryl to cut off his food rations, we find ourselves wondering if hungry disk jockeys jockey better than successful ones.

● PROGRESSIVE DANCE

The famed Lester Horton Dancers obtained special permission from Stan Kenton to use four of his "progressive jazz" compositions for their "Choreo '54" tour this summer. The group recently premiered their season in Los Angeles with a company of 10 dancers headed by Carmen de Lavallade and James Truitte.



Members of the Professional Music Men enjoy the annual outing given for them by Fred Waring at his Shawnee, Delaware, estate. Reading clockwise from the left they are: Lee Gillette, Capitol a&r man; songplugger Johnny Greene; Hal Cook, Capitol's Sales Manager; Waring; Arthur Mogul, Ray Anthony's manager; publishers Marvin Kane and Ivan Mogul

● EPIDEMIC

At New York City's Palladium, the shout of "Go, Man, Go!" is reportedly swinging over to, "Vaya, Senor, Vaya!" In other words, the mamba is sweeping Manhattan from the dancehalls to the swank supper clubs. Some say it's even invaded Brooklyn! Analysts give varying reasons for the contagion. Some report it's due to an increase in the Puerto Rican population. Others claim it's because of the general upsurge in jazz. Do you suppose it'll replace the Dodgers?



Johnny Green takes time out to exchange pleasantries with columnist Ed Sullivan while conducting MGM's studio work in "Jubilee Overture," for studio's 30th anniversary year.



Jane Powell smiles at several of her seven brothers-in-law, during M-G-M's 'Seven Brides For Seven Brothers.' From the pic came tune "Sobbin' Women," which was recorded for Cap by Textor Singers.



July was "Jimmy McHugh anniversary month" in honor of the noted song-smith who wrote such standards as "I'm In the Mood For Love." "On the Sunny Side of the Street."

● MET GOES MODERN

Even the traditionally staid and conservative Metropolitan Opera Company will yield to the progress of television for the opening of its fall season. Just the fact that the performances have been televised, even to theatres, is enough to horrify many opera-goers, but this season the Met will completely depart from tradition for its opening and present, not just one opera, but a series of scenes from its most popular operas. Included will be excerpts from "Pagliacci," "La Boheme," "The Barber of Seville" and "Aida."

Columnist-critic John Crosby summed up his reactions this way: "Seems to me it'll be more like the Ed Sullivan Show than the opera."

JUNK

A set of master recordings valued at \$40,000 was recovered recently from an Atlanta, Ga., junk yard. Police revealed that the disks, used for making religious works releases, were sold to the junk dealer for \$80. The records had been stolen from the Radio and Television Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention office in Atlanta.

SORE

Singer Sharon Dexter lost her head on a KABC-TV show and is suing the company for \$100,000 damages. It all happened when the head of Vampirira (picture elsewhere on this page) was superimposed on Miss Dexter's body while the songstress was singing on one of the station's shows. It was, of course, a stunt by the station to promote one of its other shows. Although the incident provided numerous laughs around the Los Angeles area, Miss Dexter wants the \$100,000 last laugh because she claims that it led viewers to believe she was a "person of hideous and repulsive appearance." She states that several producers had been alerted to watch the show and that the stunt caused a negative reaction which cost her a great deal of work.



Karen Chandler rehearses her new "Why Didn't You Tell Me" disk with its publisher, Juggy Gales, while manager Freddie Amsel supervises.

● CUGAT GETS LIFE

Xavier Cugat's current tour of the continent is only partially a musical tour. He has been conferring in Spain with Fernando Fernandez, head of Ciofesa Productions, about his upcoming biopic, "The Life of Cugat." Cugat will play himself in the latter portion of the picture.



ABC's infamous Vampirira claims that she's also a songwriter. Her most recent ditties are titled, "Hernando's Mortuary," "Happy Murderer" and "Strangler in Paradise."



Betty Grable and Harry James are here absorbing some desert sun at the El Rancho Hotel in Las Vegas.

● WHAT'S IN A NAME?

Now that the movie producers have found that title-songs from movies are a big help in promoting the picture, they're reversing the usual procedure and making a movie to fit the song title. Warner Bros. has purchased rights to title "Young at Heart" to feature Doris Day and Frank Sinatra. It was the Sinatra recording of "Young at Heart" which made the song a smash hit this spring.

● KITTY KOLLECTS

Kitty Kallen's "Little Things Mean A Lot" was recently the No. 1 record in the country. But, last August, just a year ago, she had no contract with a recording company. However, Kitty, who had been dropped by Mercury, got a green light from Decca Records on the condition that she pay for her own first session, and a pact was promised if the record from that session sold 40,000.

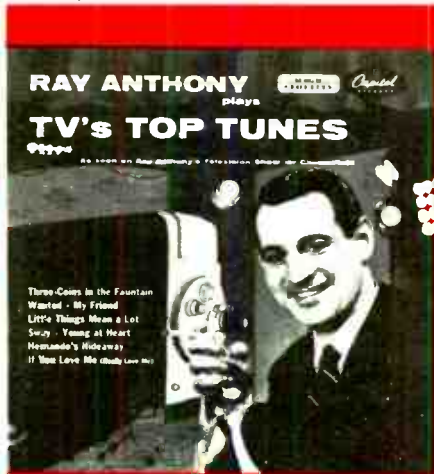
Kitty paid \$2500 for the session and another \$2500 for exploiting the disk, "Looking For A Sweetheart" and "A Little Lie." "Sweetheart" tallied good sales, and her next release, under a Decca contract, was, "Little Things Mean A Lot."

Since her solid hit with Decca Miss Kallen's night-club pay has leaped from \$1500 to \$10,000 a week for a one-nighter tour with the Larry Fotine orchestra.

● CULTURAL CREDIT

You can buy everything else on credit, why not culture? The Hollywood Bowl Association couldn't find any suitable reason "why not," so this year they offered season tickets to the "Symphonies Under the Stars" on the "pay-as-you-hear" plan. The plan provided for season tickets to be paid for in three installments.

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Nat Cole receives instruction from his manager, Carlos Gastel, on use of his new Messerschmitt automobile's "bicycle" steering gear. Nat and Carlos brought the three-wheeled auto back from Germany after completion of Nat's recent European tour. Gastel even plans to distribute the car in the U. S. It is becoming one of Germany's more popular autos.