

TONE POEMS OF COLOR

CONDUCTS

FRANK SINATRA



VIEWS

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Musical

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THE COVER

Frank Sinatra turns conductor on his newest Capitol album, "Tone Poems Of Color." Package contains original compositions by well known composers, inspired by a group of twelve poems dealing with the significance of various colors. Titles of the works are, "White," "Green," "Purple," "Yellow," "Gray," "Gold," "Orange," "Black," "Silver," "Blue," "Brown" and "Red." For further details see pages 5, 6 and 7 of this issue.



A young fan aids Stan Freberg in demonstrating the overall effect of his "Freberg Paste-On Sideburns." The hirsute adornments were offered to the deejays in a circular sent out to promote Stan's satirical version of "Heartbreak Hotel." Several different styles were offered: The Elvis Presley (long, neat and narrow), the Abe Lincoln (shaggy type), the Muttonchop (curly and shabby), and the Ivy League (short with buckle in the back). A choice of colors was offered. Demand was tremendous.

ELECTIONS INSPIRE TUNESMITHS

WITH the election campaigns swinging into high gear, Jim Walsh, a writer with a long memory and an inexhaustible amount of reference material, began to dig around for facts about campaign songs and recordings of prior years. The results of his ferreting appeared in a recent issue of *Weekly Variety*, an entertainment industry newspaper, in an article which produced the following facts:

In 1896 (when there were just beginning to be wax recording cylinders and machines to play them on) there appeared recordings which satirized both candidates, William McKinley and William Jennings Bryan. 1900 evidently produced no campaign ditties, but in 1904 Billy Murray waxed "We Want You, Teddy, for Four Years More" for the Republicans and "Good-bye, Teddy, You Must March, March, March" for the Democrats. There seems to be no reference to the Democratic nominee, Alton B. Parker.

Only musical reminder of the 1908 race is a tune called "B-I-Double L-Bill," in honor of William Howard Taft. However, both Taft and William Jennings Bryan made recordings outlining their policies.

IN 1912 a tune called "You Gotta Quit Kickin' My Dawg Aroun'" cropped up in the Democratic camp for reason which is rather obscure today.

1916 saw the presentation of a tune called "We Take Hats Off to You, Mr. Wilson," and another, "I Think We've Got Another Washington and Wilson Is His Name." With votes for women being a big issue that year, a tune came out titled, "She's Good Enough to be Your Baby's Mother."

1920 was unheralded by Tin Pan Alley politicians, but 1924 left a recorded souvenir, "The Teapot Dome Blues," calling attention to a campaign issue which the Democrats exploited with little effect.

Considerable activity was evident in 1928. Lew Brown and Al Von Tilzer wrote a tune titled "He's Our Al" in honor of Al Smith, but it wasn't successful in spite of wax versions by leading recording artists. There were also versions of a ditty called "Mr. Hoover and Mr. Smith," a "Gallagher and Shean" type of tune. Amos 'n Andy recorded a campaign skit for Victor, which ended with Mr. Smith walking into the

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White House - "Herbert Hoover had sent for him."

1932 saw no new tunes other than the use by the Democrats of two pop tunes, "Brother, Can You Spare a Dime" and "Happy Days Are Here Again." 1934 seemed to have produced no songs whatsoever.

In 1940 there was a Wilkie song, "Thank God We've Found the Man" and a "Vote for Roosevelt" tune, neither of which attracted much attention.

SINCE that time there seems to have been no further efforts made in this direction until Irving Berlin's "I Like Ike" song from the musical "Call Me Madam." This tune was rewritten by Berlin for GOP use in the current campaign. The Eisenhower camp has also made use of the popular tune of four years ago, "I Love the Sunshine of Your Smile."

Currently, an album has appeared entitled "Pick the Winner," which distributes its favors equally to both sides with such tunes as "I've Got Those New Deal, Fair Deal, Square Deal Blues," "After the Brawl Is Over," "The Dixon Yates Song" and "Love That Team."



Starlet Barbara Lawrence began her professional career by winning an amateur show for singing. Could be the judges weren't unprejudiced?



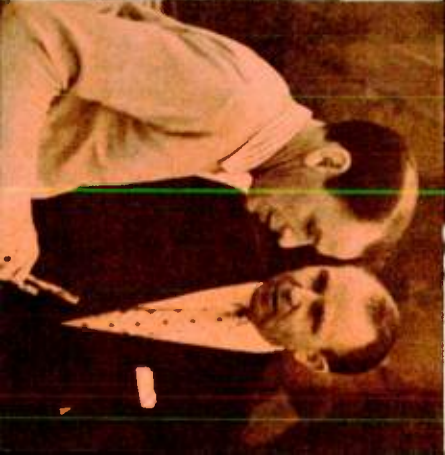
FRANK
SINATRA
CONDUCTS
TONE
POEMS
OF
COLOR

THERE seems to be virtually no limit to the multi-talents of Frank Sinatra. Having already proven himself as a singer without peer, a great actor, a fine comedian and skilled movie producer, he has taken time out to tackle still another difficult endeavor . . . conducting a full orchestra. This was accomplished with his usual success.

At the start of this project, Sinatra was so impressed by a group of poems written by Norman Sichel that he felt they would inspire fine musical compositions based on the central theme, color. Each of the represented colors was assigned to a composer to be interpreted musically. Composers selected were Victor Young, Gordon Jenkins, Billy May, Jeff Alexander, Alec Wilder, Nelson Riddle, Elmer Bernstein and Andre Previn.

The twelve resulting compositions were then conducted by Sinatra and assembled into a new album by Capitol, "Frank Sinatra Conducts Tone Poems of Color."





HEY PLUGGERS!

Song pluggers are known for some pretty bizarre stunts in their efforts to put their latest ditty across, but what is probably the weirdest of all song plugs happened by accident some 35 years ago. As unearthed by Paul Coates, Los Angeles newspaper columnist and TV personality, the story goes like this:

Back in 1919, a songwriter named M. K. Jerome wrote a tune titled, "Old Pal, Why Don't You Answer Me?" The publishing firm of Waterson, Berlin and Snyder went to work plugging the song but the public didn't respond. The theme involved the singer mourning a buddy killed in World War I. So the tune was dropped from the plug lists.

Then came a sensational murder case in which Carl

Wanderer was convicted of killing his wife. Just before going to the gallows, Wanderer confessed. As they tied the noose around his neck, he was asked by the Warden if he had any last words. The startled witnesses heard Wanderer start to sing the opening bars of "Old Pal, Why Don't You Answer Me?" As he came to the lines which said, "My arms embrace an empty space," the warden sprang the trap.

Next day the headlines across the country shouted, "Wanderer Goes to Death Singing 'Old Pal, Why Don't You Answer Me.'" Soon after orders for the "death song" began to flood the publishers office.

The song sold a million copies of sheet music.

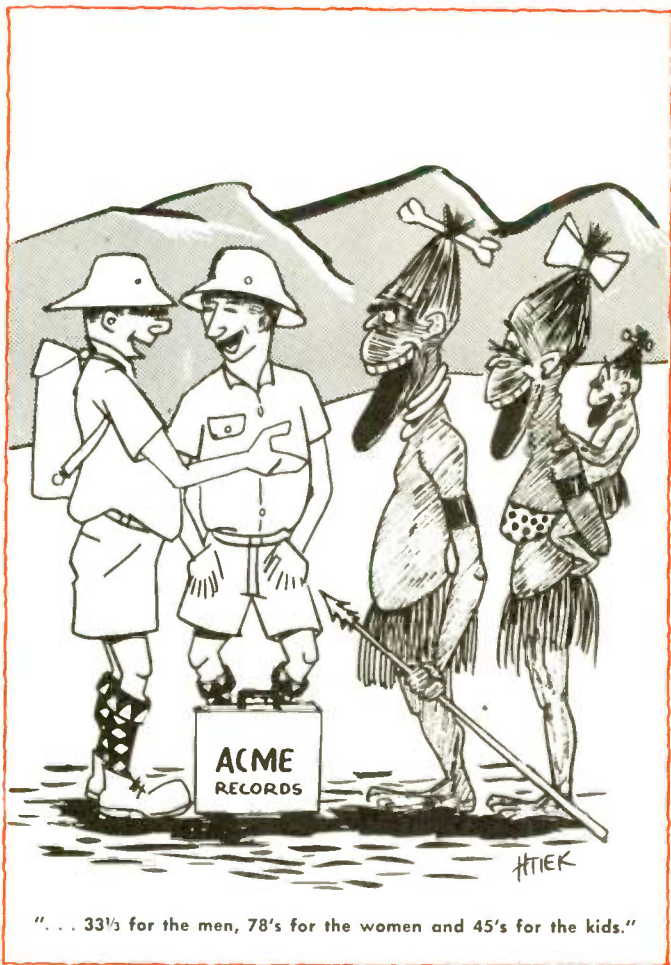
SOLONS GET 'PLEDGE'

The U. S. has become so accustomed to giving things away that it was somewhat taken aback, recently, when somebody gave something to the Government (without protest). The American Society of Composers and Publishers has gifted members of congress with a total of

24,500 copies of the recording, "Pledge Allegiance to the Flag." Each congressman gets 50 copies to be used as "deemed appropriate for the purpose of providing the widest possible dissemination of such musical composition."



Don Robertson, who wrote and performed "The Happy Whistler," has a new one on Capitol, "You" and "Every Day That I Live." He wrote both sides, as well as the current hit by the Chordettes, "Born To Be With You." Successful fellow.





Of historical interest is this shot of Pee Wee Hunt singing with Glen Gray and his Casa Loma Orchestra in a 1943 musical short, "Smoke Rings." Of current interest is the fact that Pee Wee has a new release on Capitol, "I'll See You In Cuba." On flip "Canoodlin' Rag," Pee Wee sings.

KIDS SAY 'WHO HE?'

In view of the furore created by Elvis "The Pelvis" Presley, it's hard to believe that there could be a single teenager in the country who doesn't know who he is. However, a youth research institute survey revealed that 18 per cent of the nation's youngster's don't have the slightest idea of the singer's identity. Many had never heard of him, while others thought he was a comic strip character, Southern Senator, evangelist, mystery story detective, and radio news comentator.

Some of their better informed contemporaries, however, recently traveled 120 miles in a vain attempt to worship at the Presley shrine. 50 rock 'n roll fans from Oneonta, N. Y., piled into automobiles and headed for Binghampton, 60 miles away, because of a rumor that he was appearing there. When they arrived at the hall, the night watchman reacted in the same manner as the aforementioned 18 percent:

"Presley, who's he? Nobody by that name works here."



Janet Blair recently sang & danced her way through NBC's "Chevy Show" and is slated to be Sid Caesar's newest "wife" on TV this fall.



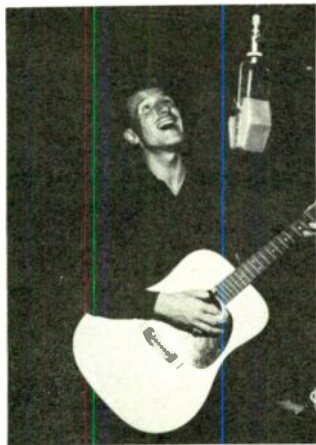
On the heels of his hit recording "Portuguese Washerwoman," Lou Busch comes up with a persuasive version of "Friendly Persuasion."

LOOK OUT, LEE

Liberace may be out-Liberace'd by a member of British royalty if current plans materialize. Lord Adrian Foley, a pianist billed in England as the "Liberace of England," is making two television pilot films in London to be released in the United States. The films are said to bear marked similarities to the Liberace shows.

Some changes have been made in the routine, however. Instead of the sequined dinner jacket of his American counter-part, M'Lord will wear an Eton Blazer or his Coronation robes, Lord Foley's mother, the Rt. Hon. Lady Foley, will take a more active part than does Liberace's. Her Ladyship will appear and even sing. Instead of the all-glass piano, His Lordship performs on a 130-year-old Erard piano of ivory and mother-of-pearl, which has the family crest and motto inlaid in precious stones. Instead of the traditional piano bench, Lord Foley will be sitting on a blue velvet throne chair on which he sat during the Coronation.

Oh yes, His Lordship also has dimples.



One of the top country artists, Ferlin Husky declares that "Nothing Looks As Good As You" on his newest disk. Flip is "Waiting"

CRIX TIPPLE

The dramatic critics are currently "Most Happy Fellas." Producers of the Broadway musical of that name have made a tie-in with the Beau-lieu Vineyard of California's Napa Valley. 500 bottles of vino, labeled "Most Happy Wine" from "Most Happy Fella," were recently sent to drama critics throughout the country. Napa Valley is the locale of the musical.

● IKE (NOT PRES.) WAXES

One of the all-time top selling record artists, Cliff (Ukelele Ike) Edwards, has returned to the wax fold. Edwards, who claims to have sold over 50,000,00 records on the old Vocalion and Pathe labels, can now be heard again on a Disneyland Records album, "Ukelele Ike Sings Again."

Among the tunes which he established as hits were "I Cried For You" and "June Night." More recently he was heard as the voice of Jimminy Cricket in Walt Disney's "Pinocchio" in which he sang "When You Wish Upon a Star."



Karen Chandler and Jimmy Wakely pose with CBS record librarian, Irv Faskow (left), during recent Decca party. The singers duet on newest wax effort, "Crazy Arms."

vamp till ready



Brief History of Popular Music

A FEW million years ago, a love-sick caveman discovered that "moon" rhymes with "June." Thus was born the first popular songwriter. The song laid a bomb with the cavegirl for whom it was written, but broke well in several caves known as "the sticks." Of course all this was B.A. (before ASCAP) so the young songwriter found that everyone was grunting his tune without paying any royalties. He didn't mind, though, because he figured he had to start someplace.

Then a guy in a nearby cave got a bright idea. He found out that the songwriter talked in his sleep, so he crept into the cave one night and took down several choice ditties that the songwriter was humming. He accidentally got a few of the snores into the manuscript. This was the first novelty song.

Then the sharpy crept back to his own cave and set himself up in business as the first publisher. He had to chisel each piece of sheet music out of stone. There are those who maintain that publishers have been chiseling ever since. The guy charged four dinosaur teeth per copy, and made a fortune. The poor songwriter was later discovered playing Neanderthal jazz in a waterfront dive, without a dinosaur tooth to his name.

The publisher meanwhile expanded and hired a guy to carry the stone tablets around to all the neighboring caves, pitching them to the top grunters. He was the first song plugger. One day the publisher got hold of a particularly hot song and was really raking in the dinosaur teeth, when he heard a big commotion. Forty-four guys were outside his cave and they all claimed to have written the tune. He managed to settle out of court, but lost a lot of teeth in the process.

For the next few million years, history just kept repeating itself. Some guy would discover that "moon" rhymes with "June," someone else would cash in . . . and so on. All the

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songwriters ended up playing jazz in waterfront dives.

Then a guy named Tom Edison got into the act by inventing a recording machine. A little dog heard his master's voice over Edison's machine and set up his own recording company. From then on it's been dog-eat-dog. 750,000 people all discovered that "moon" rhymes with "June," and began suing each other for copyright infringement. One guy sang a song about shortnin' bread . . . the first singing commercial. Another guy made a record that sold 150,000 copies and this was the first million-selling record. A nearsighted vocalist came to a record session without his glasses. He couldn't see to read the music so he made up his own melody. He was the first song stylist.

Editor's note—The author of this piece is currently playing jazz in a waterfront dive. In his spare time he is trying to find a rhyme for the word "orange." He feels that this will revolutionize the music business.



Gene Vincent and his Blue Caps, still riding high with their click disk "Be-Bop-A-Lula," have a new release on Capitol which shows signs of being at least as big. Tune is titled "Race With the Devil" and was penned by Vincent and Sheriff Tex Davis, co-authors of their previous hit.

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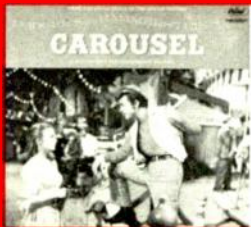
THE KING AND I—In High Fidelity, the exciting recording of the score from the film starring Deborah Kerr and Yul Brynner. **W 740**



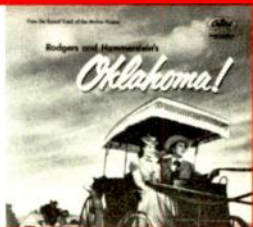
SONGS FOR SWINGIN' LOVERS — Frank Sinatra — To the jubilant acclaim of critics Frank sings sixteen happy songs about love, in his romantic and marvelously skillful style. **W 653**



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THE MISTY MISS CHRISTY—June Christy—Bittersweet Christy performances of some misty, moody songs. **T 725**



NIGHT WINDS—Jackie Gleason—The gentle, lovely sound of many flutes imparting new richness to familiar love songs. **W 717**



Batoneer Freddie Martin peeks across the pretty shoulders of (l to r) Miss Sweden, Miss Germany and Miss Universe, at the Cocoanut Grove in Los Angeles, where Martin ork holds forth (he's wearing the bow tie)

● PIC TUNES PICKED

Title tunes from motion pictures continue to provide the recording companies with hit discs and the motion picture producers with a box-office boost. The most notable ones in recent months have been "The Man With the Golden Arm," "Picnic" and "The Proud Ones," the latter breaking currently with a Nelson Riddle slicing. Most recent to climb on the bandwagon are "Somebody Up There Likes Me," recorded by Perry Como, and "Bus Stop," by the Four Lads.

COME AGAIN?

The names by which listeners (who evidently don't listen very carefully) refer to songs, has long been a source of amusement for disc jockeys. A Roanoke, Virginia, deejay was recently baffled by a request for "that there alligator moon," until he tumbled to the fact that the listener meant "Allegheny Moon."

Perhaps the gentleman really wanted to hear "See You Later, Allegheny."

SO CLAM UP!

Pianist Jackie Lee spotted the following sign outside a bar in Atlantic City: "Wanted—Piano player who can open clams and oysters apply within." Jackie didn't know one end of an oyster from the other, so he went back to his job at Carlie Johnson's in Wildwood.

Incidentally, a "clam" is a sour note in musician's jargon.




Kaycee Jones never drove a locomotive but she's recorded a tune which might have expressed the other Casey Jones's sentiments. The title is "Wait Little Darlin'."



Tommy Leonetti follows up his hit "Free" with another fine ballad, "Secretly." Flip is "Go Buy the Ring." Gordon Jenkin backstops.



Newcomer to Capitol's country and western roster, Louise Duncan has come up with a disk which is rapidly climbing to hitdom, "Gossip" and the flip, "Wherever You Are."



Titles of Dick Haymes' new release on Cap are slightly contradictory: "Love Is A Great Big Nothing" backed with "I Never Get Enough of You." You can take your choice.

● TEAMS MAY TEAM

Two of Broadway's top teams may soon collaborate on a musical version of "Life With Father." Playwrights Howard Lindsay and Russell Crouse, who originally adapted Clarence Day's sketches into the longest running play in the history of Broadway (3,224 performances), may team up with tunesmiths Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein, who wrote the score of "Oklahoma" which was the longest running musical play (2,248 performances).

Lindsay and Crouse are currently preparing the book for "Happy Hunting," a musical slated for winter production.



The Jodimers are insisting, "Eat Your Heart Out, Annie," on their new Cap platter, while other side describes "Rattle Shakin' Daddy."



Warner's Natalie Wood is taking singing lessons in preparation for musical parts and possible nitery stints. Anyone for swimming?

HE SURE IS

When a fellow named Paul Denis took \$350 from a widow, he promised to organize a "pianothon" for her 19-year-old musician son. The pianothon didn't materialize but a police officer did and a Montreal, Canada, judge gave Denis four months to pay the money back. Denis goofed and was finally sentenced to six months in jail.

Ironically, Denis lists his occupation as a "blues singer."



Jody Lawrance found her singing voice in Paramount's "The Leather Saint." Was her first singing role.

● DONEGAN COMPLAINS

English guitar-vocalist Lonnie Donegan is quite disgruntled by the state of show business in the U.S. Following a recent tour here, Donegan commented that: "There almost isn't any, and what there is is poorly produced."

Donegan, who recorded the hit "Rock Island Line," criticized the quality of musicianship he met on his tour and the inefficiency of show management.

● EVERYBODY'S SUING IT

Italian composer Nino Rava-sini is suing the writers of the tune "Love Is a Many Splendored Thing" for plagiarism. This sort of thing happens so frequently that it wouldn't even be worth mentioning if it weren't for one complicating factor: Ravasini is also being sued by another Italian composer, Costantino Ferri, who charges that Ravasini took the song from one of his (Ferri's) compositions.

The tune was written as the title song of the picture by Sammy Cahn and Jule Styne. They aren't suing anybody.



British saxophonist Cliff Townsend makes Capitol debut with a pair of instrumentals, "Avenue L'Opera" and "Song for Sweethearts." Ronnie Aldrich ork backs singing sax.



The Don Elliott Quartet performs a concert for students at Sarah Lawrence College. Jazz unit has album, "A Musical Offering by Don Elliott."



"Just Give Me Love" is the request of country stylist Jean Shepard in her current Capitol release. Flip is "Thank You Just the Same."

CONSOLATION

If it's true that misery loves company, American parents should find solace in the fact that the elders of other countries are also being subjected to the rock 'n roll craze of their teenage offspring. Gosta Andree, a recent visitor to this country from Sweden, told newspaper reporters that his teenage son's favorite record is "Rock Around the Clock." Andree stated that each time the recording is played his son exclaims, "That's music!"

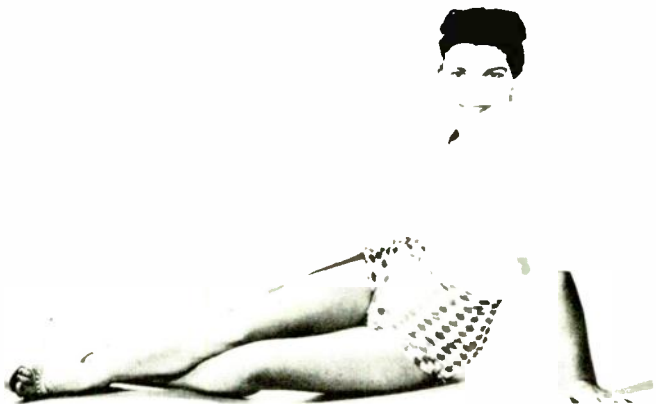
BY ANY OTHER NAME

Buck Ram, songwriter and manager, has decided to change the name "rock 'n' roll" to "Happy Music," because of the bad connotations which the r 'n' r tag has picked up in various minds. Hereafter his act units will tour under the billing, "Buck Ram Presents Happy Music."

Ram represents such acts as the Platters, Shirley Gunther, the Flairs, the Cues, Dolly Cooper, Joe Huston and Young Jesse. Slogan will be "The Happy Beat for Happy Feet."



Les Baxter continues his string of hits with "Giant" & "There's Never Been Anyone Else But You," both from the Warner Bros. pic "Giant."



Jan Winters has other talents than looking pretty. She's a singer and waxes on Piv Records. First release is "So Naive." Mebbe so, mebbe so.

● ITALO TUNERS IRKED

Italian composers feel they may find themselves in the position of prophets without honor in their native land. The influx of American music into the Italian scene has so agitated the composers that they have registered protests with the local radio stations. As a result, the stations have been cutting back the number of spins given American ditties, in favor of the home-grown product.

Popularity of American tunes is said to have been on the increase ever since the U. S. Armed Forces were in Italy.



The vivacious Nilsson Twins, introduced recently on Capitol, have new one on the label, "Hot Dog! Ting-a-ling" backed up with a new ballad, "For This My Heart Sings."



These four caper-cutters are natives of Germany, the Das Hansen Quartet. First U. S. release is on Capitol, "Banjo Boogie" backed up with "Dudel-dudel-dandy." The group is a top act in Germany.



Always strong contenders for hit honors, newest by the Five Keys, "Out of Sight, Out of Mind," is no exception. Tune was written for them by "Ivory" Joe Hunter.



Singer Joanne Gilbert perches atop Frankie Carle's piano during rehearsal for Carle's NBC-TV show.

● TUNES AID RELATIONS

Newspaper columnist Vince Thorpe feels that American music is contributing toward better understanding of the United States by other countries. Writing in a recent column from India, Thorpe states, ". . . In music and literature the people here like the American way. U. S. music from Gershwin to 'Sixteen Tons' is played everywhere. A popular pastime is gathering at someone's house and listening to the latest American records."

WHERE'S THAT?

A Variety Magazine reporter was curious, when taken to a near-Munich seaside spa, a charming retreat called the Hotel Bachmair in Egern on the Tegern See, whether Oscar Hammerstein 2nd and the late Jerome Kern were ever actually "In Egern on the Tegern See" (excerpt from their "Music In the Air" score). To which the librettist replied:

"I make a specialty of writing songs about bodies of water that I have not seen. I didn't get to the banks of the Mississippi until 20 years after I had written 'Ol' Man River.' Dorothy (Mrs. Hammerstein) made me stoop over and put my hand in its muddy waters."



Tabby Calvin and The Rounders make second appearance on Cap with strong entry "Make Me Yours" & "You Turned the Tables on Me."

Ray Anthony puts down his baton and picks up his trumpet for his latest wax effort, Cole Porter's "I Love You Samantha" and "I Am In Love." Gordon Jenkins backs.



NO FREELOADERS

American youngsters have found that they can spend a pleasant hour or two enjoying free music in the listening booths of the local record mart, often without even buying a record. At least one French record dealer, however, has decided that this is too much of a good thing and turned thumbs down on the freeloading. The disc shop in the Gare de Lyons (railroad station) charges 200 francs (about 60 cents) per half-hour listening, unless a platter is purchased.



Margaret Whiting couples two beautiful tunes from "The King and I" for her most recent Capitol disc release. Tunes are "Hello Young Lovers" & "We Kiss In a Shadow."



In addition to her singing, Philippa Fallon wears 100 hats in her nightclub act. Does Hedda know?

● LECTURES WAXED

Leonard Bernstein's musical commentaries, broadcast on CBS-TV's "Omnibus" series last fall, will be put on Columbia wax. Included are Bernstein's analysis of the history of Jazz and his discussion of Beethoven's Fifth Symphony. He'll also record some of his own compositions as conductor and pianist.



Gordon MacRae, who is currently being heard on about three of the top ten albums in the country, also has a new single taking off, "Obey" backed by "Without Love."

FLOODS, TOO?

The Mississippi River will be moved to Italy! This sizeable engineering feat is being attempted by jazz impresario Albert Carlo, who will redecorate four river barges into a jazz emporium to be called "Mississippi Show Boat" and located on the Tiber River in Rome, Italy. He'll import American jazz performers and feature hot dogs and hamburgers on the menu.

How do you say "Mississippi" in Italian?



Always a threat to the top of the hit lists, Dean Martin has new one, "Mississippi Dreamboat," and it's climbing fast. Flipside is a fine ballad "The Test of Time."



Surely it isn't coincidence that Teresa Brewer appears here as a "Sweet Old Fashioned Girl?" We didn't really believe so either.

● SWEDES WAX JAZZ

A series of 30 LP's will be recorded by top Swedish jazzmen for release in the United States. Packages will be waxed by Philips in Holland and released in this country by Columbia. Included among the musicians will be Kenneth Fagerlund, Willy Lundin, Bengt Hallberg, Nils-Bertil Dahlander, Rune Gustafsson, Bengt Carlsson, Bengtarne Wallin—all Swedish—and Knud Jorgensen, a Danish Pianist.



Jerry Colonna, a rather good trombonist, performs here with Billy Schaeffer for Colonna's Liberty album, "Swing Down Dixieland Highway." Colonna composed tunes.



Country team of the Louvin Brothers has a new disk, "You're Running Wild." Flip has financial twist, demands "Cash On the Barrel Head."



Newcomer Martha Lou Harp has promising disk for first release on Cap, "Come Here, Dear" backed up with "When Your Guy Is Gone."

● TV OPERA DEBUTS

The NBC-Television Opera Theatre will give the first of six monthly Sunday-afternoon performances on November 18. The NBC Opera Company also has a touring unit which will launch a 10,000-mile tour of 47 cities on October 11, by presenting a performance of "The Marriage of Figaro" at St. Mary's College in South Bend, Indiana. Tour will last until December 8.

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Most freshmen get a little time off during the summer, but the singing Four Freshmen were too busy recording their new Capitol release "You're So Far Above Me" and "He Who Loves and Runs Away." They also have a new album, "Freshmen Favorites," and their "Four Freshmen and Five Trombones" package is high on hit lists. They're busier than seniors.