

# M.U. CONFERENCE PLANS BRIGHTER FUTURE FOR PROFESSION: Full Report of York Discussions



EVERY THURSDAY Vol. XIX No. 525

**D**ETAILS HAVE THIS WEEK BEEN SPECIALLY RELEASED TO THE "MELODY MAKER" OF THE VITALLY IMPORTANT SUBJECTS DISCUSSED BY THE NATIONAL DELEGATE CONFERENCE OF THE MUSICIANS' UNION, WHICH MET IN YORK RECENTLY.

Post-war plans for brightening the future of musicians formed the keynote of the debates, and delegates particularly stressed the need for encouraging more municipal enterprise in entertainment.

The three-day Conference—the most successful the Union has held, and the first since 1928—enabled 21 delegates from all parts of the country, with the full-time officials, to meet the National Executive Committee to voice opinions on proposals made by branches. Top-liners and smaller men—straight men and dance—evinced the ideal fraternal spirit in discussions, on their common problems and aspirations—discussions that revealed the strong personalities of those who will shape the future of the profession.

The proper atmosphere was created by the opening address of the Chairman, Mr. Chris. Hoskins, of the Middlesbrough Branch, who reminded the Conference that it was exactly 50 years since the original Amalgamated Musicians' Union was formed, and spoke of the varying fortunes, and triumphs over past difficulties, of the M.U. since 1921.

### PRAISE FOR V.O.C.

The decline in membership after the "talkies" had been partly offset by enrolment of dance musicians, through the efforts of the Voluntary Organising Committee and the more progressive branches; but there were still many to be organised, and, now that the Union was much stronger financially, the Executive Committee were considering appointing special organisers to rope in dance men.

He thought present-day recognition of the value of music—exemplified by its use in factories—justified an optimistic outlook on the profession's future, for which the Union could plan.

Moving a resolution that new music should be encouraged, Ben Frankel said that boredom caused by hackneyed works would lessen concert-goers' support of music; he thought young composers ought to be en-

couraged, and musicians should perform new works to maintain public interest.

Ivor Mairants gave his opinion that the constant repetition of "commercial" numbers made it difficult for dance musicians to "put over good pieces of jazz," and agreed that opportunity should be given to those with new ideas.

In discussing a motion declaring that the B.B.C. avoided its obligation to sponsor the best performances in every field of music, the Conference deplored the disbanding of the B.B.C. Military Band. Ivor Mairants and Van Phillips suggested that the responsibilities of the Corporation should be brought home to them.

The entertainment-providing activities of municipal corporations also were discussed in one of the most interesting debates. After hearing Mr. Brooke (N.W. District Organiser) the delegates agreed that councils had insufficient legal powers to provide entertainment on a proper scale, and that the Union should take action to have them extended.

### MUNICIPAL ENTERPRISE

But members from various towns declared that the councils were too timid about expanding municipal enterprise in entertainment, even to the extent now permissible, owing to opposition from powerful vested interests.

It was agreed that the currently increasing popularity of music made the present a good time to urge the planning of municipal orchestras and dance bands; and delegates suggested efforts to enlist the support of representatives on local authorities for such schemes.

The contribution of musicians to the nation's war effort was discussed, and, after the General Secretary (Mr. F. Dambman) had explained the difficulties experienced by E.N.S.A., speakers suggested urging the finest instrumentalists to make some sacrifice to undertake E.N.S.A. work and to ensure (as a resolution expressed it) "that the best music and entertainment is provided to the mass of the people" . . . in industrial areas, factories and military camps.

References were made to the large number of M.U. members in the Forces, and, after one of the shortest (Please turn to page 2, col. 4)

## GENE KRUPA'S BAND BREAKS UP

ONE OF THE TOP-LINE SHOW BANDS IN THE STATES SINCE ITS FORMATION IN 1938, GENE KRUPA'S ORCHESTRA HAS BROKEN UP.

Brilliant drummer Gene was sentenced to 90 days in jail in San Francisco on May 18 on a charge of contributing to the delinquency of a minor in connection with drugged cigarettes. All his boys willingly signed an agreement promising to stay together until he was out again, and played several dates with Harry Jaeger on drums.

But now Gene's trial on the second charge of possessing narcotics has been postponed owing to illness, and the boys decided to scatter and take up other work.

Three of them have joined Teddy Powell; trombonist Tomny Pederson has joined Red Norvo; Herb Harper, trombone, is now with Charlie Spivak.

Ace trumpet player Ray Eldridge has been offered the use of Krupa's library, and may form his own band. As he is shortly due for the army, however, any important moves in this direction are unlikely.

According to Gene's manager, Frank Verniere, if Krupa is acquitted on the second charge, he will re-form the band on his release, recalling several key men to rejoin him.

Gene—says Verniere—is not afraid to face the public again, and already has a number of bookings available.

## "Basin Street" On Records

THE "Chamber Music Society of Lower Basin Street" has been put on records.

Recently the Decca Record Company recorded four titles by Phil Green with the full all-star orchestra which he uses whenever the boys are fortunate enough to be on leave for the "Society's" regular Tuesday night broadcasts.

The other day a "M.M." representative heard one of the sides—"St. Louis Blues." If the others are up to the same standard they are likely to create a sensation.

"Not only," says our news sleuth, "is the recording brilliant (the Decca recording is to-day far and away the best in the country), but Phil was also lucky enough to be able to secure all on the one day the services of:—

"Max Goldberg, Tommy McQuater and Tim Casey (tpts.); George Chisholm and Jack Bentley (tms.); Nat Temple (1st alto and clarinet); Jack Miranda (alto); Benny Greenwood and George Harris (tenors); Frankie Johnson (alto and baritone); Pat Dodd (pno.); Joe Young (g'tar); Joe Nussbaum (bass); and Johnny Marks (drums)."

The four titles recorded were "St. Louis Blues," "Anchors Aweigh," "St. James' Infirmary" and "Bugle Call Rag." Last two are scheduled for release on September 1.

HIS admirers will be sorry to learn that Harry Lewis, famous saxist-clarinetist of the R.A.F. "Squadrons," and husband of Vera Lynn, is in hospital owing to a severe nasal operation. He is recovering and should be out in a week or two.

## SHELTON AND COTTON FOR PALLADIUM

ONE of the most important developments this month in the London musical and theatrical world is the return of the Palladium to a season of high-speed Variety on August 24.

We can now announce that the star attractions to be presented will include Max Miller, Anne Shelton, Issy Bonn, and Billy Cotton and his Band.

"Best Bib and Tucker," the record-breaking George Black production, with Tommy Trinder, and Edmundo Ros and his Band, has to finish on August 21, for one reason because Trinder is undertaking a big series of concerts for the troops.

With this imposing list of stars, it looks as if the Palladium's new Variety programme will be more than an echo of the grand style which originally made it famous for the presentation of the finest acts and some of the best dance bands in the world.

Fans in town will flock to see Anne Shelton, whose ability on the radio, films and stage has become a household word.

Dance band enthusiasts will also be anxious to give a big hand to Bill Cotton, whose band has been on tour and has not had any regular London "billet" since 1940, when it was a big feature at the Palladium with "Garrison Theatre."

## KRAHMER SWINGS AT NEW GREMLIN CLUB

LATEST London niterie specialising in swing is the "Gremlin," at 12, Archer Street, W., which opens to-day (Thursday, August 12).

At the head of affairs musical is young coloured drummer-vocalist Cab Quaye. Cab is featuring his own rumba outfit, of which more details will be given when it has settled down. This appointment will not affect Cab's nightly appearances at the Orchard Club, in Wigmore Street.

On the swing side, Cab has handed everything over to the late Jamboree Club's heat dispenser, Carlo Krahmer. Carlo, on vibes, leads his own five-piece band at the "Gremlin," which contains Ronnie Chamberlain (saxes); Harry Nixon (piano); Bert Howard (bass); and Tony Crombie (drums).

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## NEW U.S. AIR SHOW FOR B.B.C.

THE B.B.C. is about to give us a new American radio feature.

It is none other than the famous "Charlie McCarthy" programme, featuring ventriloquist Edgar Bergen with his impertinent creation "Charlie McCarthy," and Ray Noble and his Orchestra.

Show, which will take the place of the Jack Benny programme for at least thirteen weeks, as a result of the latter's customary annual summer holiday in the States, will run as a Friday nights series, commencing next Friday (20th) at 9.20 p.m. on the Forces wavelength.

Ray ("Good-night, Sweetheart," "Cherokee," etc.) Noble is, of course, the brilliant British pianist-arranger-composer-bandleader who first sprung into prominence by winning the "M.M." arrangers' competition in 1927.

Shortly afterwards he joined the Lawrence Wright Music Co. as arranger, and later took a similar post with Jack Payne.

Subsequently he went to H.M.V. as M.D. for dance music, and the many records he made with studio bands under his own name earned him a reputation which enabled him to go, in 1935, to the U.S., where he soon established himself as one of the country's most successful bandleaders.

## Ace U.S. Band At Watford

LONDONERS will have one of their few chances of hearing the famous dance orchestra (directed by Warrant-Officer Frank Rosato) of the U.S. London Base Command Band when this exciting combination appears on Friday, September 3 next, at the Watford Town Hall.

The occasion is an evening dance to be presented by Reg. V. Bates in aid of the Prisoners of War Fund and Wembley, Harrow and District Prisoners of War Relatives' Association.

Tickets will be strictly limited to 750, the maximum number permitted under the local A.R.P. regulations.

Any remaining unsold by the night will be available at the doors, price 5s. 6d., but wise ones who do not wish to be disappointed will make immediate application for theirs in advance (price 4s., and you must enclose s.a.e.) from Reg. Bates, 64, Crofts Road, Kenton, Harrow, Middlesex.

## CALL SHEET

(Week commencing Aug. 16)

Carl BARRITEAU and Band.  
Hippodrome, Bristol.  
Billy COTTON and Band.  
Winter Garden, Morecambe.  
Herman DAREWSKI and Band.  
Opera House, Leicester.  
George ELRICK and Band.  
Empire, West Hartlepool.  
Gloria GAYE and Band.  
Tower Ballroom, New Brighton.  
Carroll GIBBONS.  
Palace, Blackpool.  
GREENE Sisters.  
Palace, Dundee.  
Carroll LEVIS Carries On.  
Empire, Finsbury Park.  
Joe LOSS and Band.  
Hippodrome, Birmingham.  
Felix MENDELSSOHN'S Hawaiians.  
Hippodrome, Lewisham.  
Harry PARRY and Sextet.  
Palace, Chelsea.  
Oscar RABIN and Band.  
Green's Playhouse, Glasgow.  
Monte REY.  
Hippodrome, Boscombe.  
Harry ROY and Band.  
Garrick, Southport.  
Lew STONE and Band.  
Empire, Kilburn.  
Maurice WINNICK and Band.  
Empire, Newcastle.  
Eric WINSTONE and Swingtette.  
Granada, Harrow.

## SOUTHERNS IN VARIETY

THE Southern Sisters, who have been doing radio work for some time, are now going into Variety.

Next Monday (August 16) is their first date, at the Tivoli, Aberdeen, to be followed by a week at the Palace, Dundee, with several further dates pencilled in.

Led by Betty Knight, remainder of the Southern Sisters' quartette comprises Sybil Jason, Vera Havell and Dorothy Warby. They have broadcast extensively in the past few months—both as the Southern Sisters and, in the case of Sybil Jason, in several solo airings.

## No Loaf-ing for Whitebread!

NED WHITEBREAD has recently made several changes in his combination at the Maurice (late Quagmire's), Bury Street, London, W.

Two notable tenor stylists have joined the band, in the persons of Micky Deans, late of Johnny Claes' Band, and Sammy Leigh, Glasgow tenor-man who has been on tour with Carl Barriteau.

With Ned leading on drums, remainder of the outfit remains unchanged, but further augmentations are in prospect for September.

## "Tribute to Swing" Concert: More Attractions

A NUMBER of fresh attractions have been added to the already imposing list of star features for the big "Tribute to Swing" concert, to be held at the London Coliseum on October 3, commencing at 2.30 p.m.

As announced, big items already included in the bill are the Feldman Trio, with their own special swing orchestra; and a 30-piece symphony orchestra, built up largely from well-known dance players and conducted by world-famous figure of the straight world, Albert Goossens.

There is also to be a band composed of the famous "old-timers" of jazz, brought from retirement, in some cases, especially for the occasion, and led by erstwhile drum expert, now famous star of stage and screen, Max Bacon.

Also already announced is a band of swingsters from the Feldman Club, with George Shearing, Tommy Bromley, and stars from their respective outfits.

Among the new attractions which will definitely appear are Buddy Featherstonhaugh and his Radio Rhythm Club Sextet; famous classical pianist Eric Henderson, playing some of the "classics of jazz"; the new coloured West Indies Sextet led by sax stylist Bertie King; and one of the outstanding discoveries of 1943, young boogie-woogie pianist Roy Cooke.

The whole will be compered by David Miller. A number of other star attractions are to be added, and will be announced later.

Tickets are obtainable at the Feldman Swing Club, 100, Oxford Street, W., each Saturday or Sunday evening. They may also be obtained at these premises (Mack's Restaurant) at any time during the week. Postal applications, enclosing money and stamped, addressed envelope, to Secretary, 9, Oakleigh Gardens, Edgware, Middlesex.

## SON FOR TWO STARS

HEARTY congratulations to H bassist-guitarist-arranger Harold Griffin and Mrs. Griffin (well-known percussionist Joan Donaldson) on the recent birth of a son!

Joan Donaldson was with Ivy Benson, leaving the band in order to continue with a University course. Fairly recently she has been playing at the New Theatre, Oxford, and the Harrow Coliseum.

Harold Griffin, who was at the Cabaret Club before joining the R.A.F., now leads his own R.A.F. swing outfit in the Shetlands.

## U.S. HIT PARADE

HERE is the latest available list of the ten most popular tunes in America, as assessed by the weekly nation-wide ballot conducted by the American Tobacco Company, and broadcast in their "Your Hit Parade" programme over the C.B.S. network:—

1. COMIN' IN ON A WING AND A PRAYER (1-2--3-3-3-x 10).
2. YOU'LL NEVER KNOW (2-3-2-5-5-x-9-9).
3. AS TIME GOES BY (4-5-6-2-1-x-1-2-1-2-4-3-3-6).
4. LET'S GET LOST (3-1-5-8-6-x-0-10).
5. IN THE BLUE OF EVENING (5-0-9-10).
6. DON'T GET AROUND MUCH ANY MORE (6-4-1-1-2-x-2-1-3-4-6-8-7).
7. TAKING A CHANCE ON LOVE (9-10-7-9-10-x-6-0-10-10-7-6-10-0-3-10).
8. IT'S ALWAYS YOU (7-7).
9. IT CAN'T BE WRONG (8-6-4-4-x-5-3-6-7-9-0-0-9).
10. JOHNNY ZERO.

Figures in parentheses indicate previous placings. x—Placing unascertained owing to unfavourable reception conditions.

## M.U. CONFERENCE

(Continued from Page One)

debates, the Conference decided unanimously to support the Labour Party's demand for increased rates of pay for all men in the Armed Forces, who, as Harry Gold said, "were entitled to the best the country could give."

Much of the debate dealt with the Union's internal organisational affairs; but the Conference expressed approval of co-operation with other organisations to form a federation of Unions in the entertainment industry.

The Executive Committee supported a proposal, unanimously approved, that delegate conferences of the union should be held every two years; and the M.U. members will be asked to pass an alteration of the present rules to provide for such conferences, which will in future decide matters of Union policy and receive a report on the work of the Executive Committee.

The Conference is a subject of great interest to M.U. members—but the Union is out to capture the interest also of those in the profession who have not yet joined up.

A recommendation supported by all the delegates urged the waging of an intensive recruiting campaign aimed particularly at organising music students entering the profession. And dance-musicians will not be overlooked, for it was explained that they, especially in the provinces, will be the main target for organisers.

## LEADERS' SECTION

It was also announced that as part of a plan to build up a stronger and more active Dance Band Directors' Section, whose development the delegates pledged themselves to assist, the secretaryship was being taken over by Hardie Ratcliffe (the Assistant General Secretary).

Speaking of the many lesser-known bandleaders, who were unprotected, he said he hoped they could be convinced that they could best help themselves by helping the Union to build the more powerful and influential organisation that would result from co-operation between leaders and players in the dance-band world.

An interesting discussion took place on the unfortunate position of many provincial theatre orchestras, whose employment has become gradually more casual owing to the travelling of top-line pit bands from London.

It was recognised by London and provincial representatives alike that their interests were in the long run identical in this problem, which the Executive Committee will discuss further.

At the close, the Chairman referred to the heavy extra work involved for officials before and after conferences of this kind; and thanks was extended to the General Secretary, the Assistant General Secretary and Mr. L. L. Key, a member of the Executive Committee, who had made the accommodation arrangements.

The Chairman, whose personality and skilful chairmanship contributed largely to the dignified and business-like conduct of the proceedings, was warmly thanked; and in a closing speech he agreed with the view of delegates that the undoubted success of the Conference—which, he thought had shown satisfaction with the management of the Union—justified the intention to make similar ones a regular feature.

In giving MELODY MAKER readers this first authorised report of the Union's Conference, we would comment that the subjects discussed by to show the Union to be a live organisation with ideas that can help the profession, and further conferences of this kind must give impetus to the growth of an already influential body.

But the fullest power to operate its plans will come to the Union only when every musician supports it; and, in our view, it is surprising that, in these days, any musician should fail to do so.

THE "Melody Maker" would like the address of Derrick B. Griffiths, who proposes to start a Lew Stone Fan Club.

## "K.P."—24<sup>TH</sup> STAR PARCEL

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# BRAND'S ESSENCE

**N**EWs has lately come to light that **DAVID MILLER** (now touring with the latest stage hit, "Radio Fun and Games") has become adviser to the Feldman Trio, and will expertly supervise most of the future activities of these famous boys.

It has been obvious for some time that David has had more than a passing interest in the virtuosity of nine-year-old drum genius **VICTOR FELDMAN**.

This has been evidenced both by David's featuring of the Trio in his B.B.C. "Airfinds" Series and by his many assignments as compere with the boys at their stage appearances, plus the frequency with which he has turned up to enjoy a "basinfull" at the Feldman Swing Club.

In these circumstances it is no surprise that "Hello Again" Miller has been asked to give the benefit of his long experience in helping the lads in their many interesting future undertakings.

No mention of Victor would be complete without stressing the enormous part which **MAX BACON** has played in shaping the young wizard's early career.

Nowadays, however, Max is so extensively fixed up with his Variety, radio and film work that he is only too pleased to think that Victor's future activities will be guided by such an experienced figure of the business as O'd Man Miller. Good luck to them as they travel the highway of swing!

Talk around town this past weekend has been fairly buzzing over the mammoth Coliseum concert on October 3, at which one of the big features will be Victor Feldman, but some of the lay public who have seen the Kid Krupa in his two films have actually been saying that it just isn't true: that no boy of *only nine* could play like this one does; in short, that he is really a grown-up midget.

The "Melody Maker" cannot too strongly refute this absurd nonsense. We needn't assure our readers that when we say he is nine he is nine—and that's all there is to it. But if any sceptics read this they may like to know that we have seen his birth certificate. He was born on April 7, 1934.

**U**P in Town on leave last week was dapper ex-B.B.C. producer **LESLIE PEROWNE**, now 2nd Lieutenant in the Royal Fusiliers, and looking very pleased with life.

Leslie—whose part in the launching of the Radio Rhythm Club will never be forgotten by the fans—entered the Army as a footslogging private, and finally secured his commission despite the setback of a very serious bout of pneumonia.

Those of you who heard Harry Parry's broadcast on Sunday (8th) will have caught our Leslie doing a spot of talking, but, if you missed it, you can have another chance of listening to his cheery voice.

He is compèring a "Three-Band Session" on Sunday (15th) at 1.45 p.m. in the Forces programme. The bands featured will be the Casa Loma Orchestra, Count Basie, and the Lecuona Cuban Boys.

**T**HAT king of song-pluggers, Southern's **SYD GREEN**, has got another ingenious "stunt" whereby he draws attention to his firm's products in easy and unconventional style.

When you walk into Syd's office you will notice a large wooden cigarette-box on his desk. Before you have been there long, the lid mysteriously flies open and inside it you espy a notice saying, "Have one on me, and stick in 'Frenes'!"

Across to professional manageress **PHIL ELLIOTT'S** office, and you find her with a cigarette-box inside whose lid the wily Sydney has inscribed,

"Have one on Phil, and stick in 'Brazil'."

Most ingenious of the lot, however, you will see in general manager **DAVE TOFF'S** office, "Have one on Toff, and start 'The Saints' off."

**RUDY STARITA**, who was featured last week with his "Starlites" for the Whitehaven "Holidays at Home" week, arrived in this town on the Sunday morning with a load of trouble on his mind.

Rudy's pianist was taken ill on the Saturday night, and, being August Holiday week, he knew that it would be almost hopeless to find a deputy up there and at such short notice.

However, miracles do sometimes happen. Rudy had not been in the town long before, with a yelp of incredulous surprise, he found himself shaking hands with **HAROLD PATRICK**, staff arranger with the Sun Music Co., who was in Cumberland on holiday.

Harold immediately agreed to help Rudy out with his Sunday concert at the Queen's Cinema. Rudy introduced him to the audience, and explained why the band for once had a male pianist.

Harold came through with flying colours, playing several piano-solos, including his new composition, "Strings n' Things." The concert broke all records, and over three hundred people were turned away.

And, finally, so much did Harold Patrick enjoy himself, that he played with Rudy and his girls' band for the rest of the week.

Rudy Starita and his Girls have put in many months of work playing for the American troops, under the auspices of U.S.O. Recently, they were asked to do two shows in a big aircraft factory, and played to 9,000 people.

During the course of his travels for U.S.O., Rudy sometimes meets American musicians from Boston who worked for his famous brother, Al Starita, before the war.

Rudy's greatest ambition these days is to get his "Starlites" the airing which he feels they well deserve.

**BANDLEADER NAT ALLEN**, whose chief regular overseas airing is the Malta programme, was much impressed when a swing tune, written by three A.A. gunners during the George Cross Island's worst spell of air raids, was sent home for his inspection.

Nat immediately played the number in his Malta programme, with vocal by Anne Shelton, giving its three far-away composers a new kick in life. Now, to-night (Thursday, August 12), he is going to feature the number in his "Tunes With a Tale" programme (8-8.30, Forces). Whole idea of this series is the fostering of unknown talent.

Title of this song from Malta is "Siggi, Wiggi Swing." It may sound queer, but it's not really all that crazy, because "Siggi, Wiggi" is the troops' usual pronunciation of Siggiovi, a Maltese village, where the soldiers dance during their (often seldom) periods of quietness.

For to-night's version a special hot section of Nat Allen's main 12-piece band will be featured. It will include **Tommy Bromley** (bass); **George Fierstone** (drums); **Sid Manikin** (tenor); **Archie Slavin** (guitar); etc. Vocalist will be **Dorothy Carless**.

A recording made by Nat Allen's New Swing Septet, with above boys, plus Nat himself on guitars, **Rex Owen**, clarinet, etc., will be going into one of the "Starlight" programmes shortly. Nat, besides his Malta and other overseas programmes, also has several "Music While You Work" and other airings coming off in the near future.

**SEPTEMBER 6** will be another big milestone in the life of woman song-plugging ace **ROSIE DOYLE**. At present holiday-making in her

native Yorkshire, with a fortnight at Blackpool in prospect, Rosie will return in September to take up an important position on the exploitation side with the Cinephonic Music Co., following in the footsteps of Harry Compton, who recently went over to Noel Gay.

One day Rosie should write a book about her experiences in the profession, which range over everything from playing piano in a cinema, through every angle of song-plugging, right up to the important exploitation posts which she has held with Southern Music Co., Messrs. Paxtons, Messrs. Francis, Day and Hunter, and now Cinephonic.



Rosie finished up close on two years' happy association with F. D. and H. last Friday (Aug. 6), and after the aforementioned holiday for recuperation, and the gathering

of new ideas, she brings her well-known personality to join **DON WILSON** and the other exploitation experts of Cinephonic.

Big news from the Cinephonic Co. concerns their forthcoming change of location. Round about the end of August they will move from Dean Street, after seven years, to excellent premises at 100, Charing Cross Road, W., where, on a date to be announced later, General Manager **SID COLMAN** hopes to welcome all old friends at the new address.

**EVERYBODY** in the West End knows \*pianist-song-plugger-accompanist **JOHNNY FRANZ**, who spends his days at Messrs. Francis Day and Hunters and his nights at piano and novachord in **WALLY CHAPMAN'S** Dorchester Hotel Dance Band.

Now Johnny's young brother, **Harold**, has also come into line as a song-plugger, having lately joined Messrs. F. D. and H. after two years' useful experience with Messrs. Dix and other firms.

Harold will look after the exploitation side of the business as concerns cinema organists, whilst Johnny, whose professional eye has been extensively trained upon the organist fraternity in the past, will now turn his attention more to the Variety profession.

Harold Franz is also studying hard on piano at the London College of Music.

**WELL-KNOWN** ex-Henry Hall trumpet player-vocalist **CHARLIE PRICE** has just been discharged from the Army on medical grounds, and after a short rest plans a return to the profession. To start with, Charlie would like a position that is not too strenuous, until he begins to feel his feet again.

## "DETECTOR"

(Continued from page 3)

**MONDAY (16th):** 7.0 p.m., "Command Performance"; 8.0, R.A.M.C. Dance Band.

**TUESDAY (17th):** 1.30 p.m., Geraldo; 9.35 p.m., "Music Society of Lower Basin Street."

**WEDNESDAY (18th):** 3.30 p.m., Geraldo; 5.30 p.m., "Southern Serenade," directed by Reg Leopold.

**THURSDAY (19th):** 6.30 p.m., "Radio Rhythm Club" presents "Johnny Claes in 'Nascent Jazz'; 9.25 p.m., "Mail Call," with Dennis Day, Gertrude Neissen, The Lou Mel Morgan Trio, Pat O'Brien (M.C.), et al.; 11.15 p.m., R.A.F. Dance Band ("Squadronairs").

**FRIDAY (20th):** 9.10 a.m., Geraldo; 3.30 p.m., "From Spirituals to Swing," records impression of "An Evening at Carnegie Hall, New York, with Jazz Stars"; 7.30 p.m., Fred Hartley; 9.20 p.m., Charlie McCarthy Show, first of a new American series featuring Edgar Bergen (with "Charlie McCarthy") and Ray Noble Orchestra; 11.25 p.m., Billy Ternent.

**SATURDAY (21st):** 9.30 p.m., Geraldo.



★ ON August 8, 1940, Edmundo Ros formed his Cuban Band for their first job. On Sunday, August 8, 1943, he gave a party at Oddenino's to his boys to celebrate an anniversary when the band are at the top of the tree, trebling the London Palladium, the Bagatelle and the Astor. Jack Marshall's picture above shows Edmundo (centre, seated) with Cecil Madden (B.B.C. Director of Overseas Variety) seated on his right, famous comedian Tommy Trinder on his left, "M.M." Editor standing on his right, and the boys of the band gracefully draped around in all directions. Wish we could tell you the Marshall gag that amused everybody so much, but it wasn't that sort of a gag! Full report of the dinner will appear in "Essence" next week.

## U.S. JIVE JOTTINGS

ALTHOUGH Duke Ellington is scoring one of his greatest personal successes ever at the Hawaiian Club on New York's Broadway, his personnel problems are assuming large proportions.

Latest key man to leave the band was Rex Stewart, who took a month off for a trip home to California, while trombonist Lawrence Brown, tenor star Ben Webster and bassist Junior Raglin are all in line for drafting shortly.

Jimmy Hamilton, formerly with Teddy Wilson and Benny Carter, has taken over the clarinet chair left vacant when Chauncey Haughton answered the call to arms; Taft Jordan is now occupying Stewart's trumpet chair and Nat Jones has taken over on alto from Otto Hardwicke.

Beverly White, blues singer and up and coming, is now appearing in the Hawaiian floor show, although the ducal vocals are still being handled by Betty Rocke and Jimmy Britton.

Also suffering with man-power troubles are the CASA LOMANS, who in quick succession have lost trombone-vocalist Pee Wee Hunt, tenor-man Pat Davis, pianist Gil Stevens, and their drummer veteran Tony Buglia.

At press-time only replacements are Hollis Birdwell—late of Heidt—for Davis, and Rod Ogle—from the Herman herd—for Hunt.

Curious set up in New York recently when Art Hodes and his jazz band had a date to play for Uncle Sam's lads at an east side social centre.

Art and the boys arrived on time, except trombonist George Brunies.

They waited and waited, but still no George. So finally they started, but after playing the first two numbers Art noticed that nobody was dancing and a few officers were looking puzzled.

Halfway through the third number a redcap stopped the band and asked what they were doing there anyway. In the ominous silence that followed, the strains of a solo trombone could be heard coming from another room in the same building.

Yes, George was on time—and on the right job!

We regret to hear of the death of 48-year-old William Stein, executive vice-president of the Music Corporation of America.

Stein, who died in Los Angeles from a painful heart ailment, was one of the guiding forces behind M.C.A.'s success in booking top-line radio, stage and screen personalities, and he was personally responsible for the terrific buildup of the Kay Kyser and Guy Lombardo outfits.

Flashback.—Five years ago this time, Tommy Dorsey fined \$900 for breach of union rules.—Saturday Night Swing Club celebrated its second air birthday with C.B.S.

—Chick Webb received an honorary degree from the New York University, "Master of Drums" was the title.—Hugues Panassié arrived in New York to collect impressions for the second volume of "Le Jazz Hot."—Kay Weber, then Bob Crosby chirpette, married Ward Silloway, team player of the same outfit.—Lips Page formed his own band for Harlem's Plantation Club.—Benny Goodman opened at the Ritz-Carlton in Boston, and that select resort saw its first jitterbugging.—Ben Pollock re-formed his band for the nth time, and an unknown leader got his first break at Cleveland's Statler Hotel—Sammy Kaye was the name.

'Tis rumoured that BUD FREEMAN, slightly jealous of Pee Wee Russell, is also in the running for the betrothal stakes. More about that shortly.

New jump trio for the 52nd St. Onyx Club is made up of Johnny Guarneri (piano), Hank D'Amico (clarinet) and Cozy Cole (drums).

All three are also working with Raymond Scott's C.B.S. Ork, which is fast making the grade now that talking troubles are over.

## Mummy Diane Airing Again

HER many fans will be delighted to know that famous singer Diane is returning to the air.

Diane (Mrs. Bernard Rabin) retired from active life a few months before the birth of her baby son Michael.

Diane returns to broadcasting next Saturday (August 14) in Jay Wilbur's "Melody on Strings" Programme (7.50-8.30 p.m. Forces), and is also in Jay's next programme the following Friday.

## WEEK'S BEST SELLERS

(Week ending August 7)

1. WHISPERING GRASS (Campbell, Connelly) A
  2. ALL OUR TO-MORROWS (Campbell, Connelly) E
  3. I'VE HEARD THAT SONG BEFORE (Chappell) A
  4. DARLING (Peter Maurice) E
  5. WHY DON'T YOU FALL IN LOVE WITH ME? (Chappell) A
  6. AS TIME GOES BY (Chappell) A
  7. REALLY AND TRULY (Peter Maurice) E
  8. YOU'D BE SO NICE TO COME HOME TO (Chappell) A
  9. SILVER WINGS IN THE MOONLIGHT (Dash) E
  10. WHEN YOU KNOW YOU'RE NOT FORGOTTEN (Sun) E
  10. A FOOL WITH A DREAM (Keith Prowse) A
- A—American. E—English.

IT is good news that famous saxist-vocalist-arranger George Evans, who was badly scalded in an accident recently, is now out of hospital and quite well again. George has spent his convalescence working out a system of tuition for arrangers, of which more details will be given later on.





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**ALTO SAX**, King model, as new, perf. cond.—Inquiries, Rogers, 42, St. Maur Road, London, S.W.6.

**BESSON PROTEANO** trumpet, B flat L.P., G.L., slide ch., perf., almost new.—Taylor, 18, Upper Milburn Avenue, Dumfries.

**HAWKES** 20th Century E flat alto with case, excellent cond., £30; also Albert B flat clar., £6 10/-—Hemming, "Treloyhan," Hemsby, Norfolk.

**JETEL E FLAT** L.P. Clarinet, wood, Albert, 13/2, as new, case, etc., £9; clarinet accessories; cases, £2; mops, 1/9; cork grease, 1/6; sets of pads, 10/6; pull-through chamois weighted cleaners, 2/6; screwdrivers, 1/6, few reeds. Post only.—Syd Hooper, Tower Cottage, Four Crosses, Mont.

**B FLAT** Boehm Clarinet, H.P., case, perfect, £20.—Offers, J. Christie, Main Street, Strathkinness, Fife.

**SHAFTESBURY** model "T" Carbon Mike, as new, with stand, nearest £7.—Hall, Southend, Wotton-under-Edge.

**PIANO ACCORDION**, Riosa, 80 bass, practically new, exc. tone, with case, 35 gns., or offer.—Spink, 5-16, Courtfield Gardens, London, S.W.5.

28 in. **GLITTER G.** b.d. and cover; Premier Dominion Ace d., and case, with spare lapped B and S. skins, and stand; cym. and holders; spurs; peds; damper; sticks; brushes; t-t.m., £45.—Dowsett, 48, Grove Rd., Eastbourne.

**FRENCH HARMONIUM**, perf., full size, tymps., less skins; vibraphone, 24 oct. clockwork Hohner L'Organola, 120-41-4, offers for the lot or separately, or exch. for good Italian accordion, or 3-neck console guitar and amplifier.—Langley, 4, St. Andrew's Prde., Bath Rd., Clippenham, Slough.

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**GUITAR**, Epiphone "Blackstone," excellent condition, case, £24.—Watson, 49, Apsley Road, Bristol 8.

**MATCHETTS**, of Belfast, offer 3 octave "Ajax" Soloist Xylophone, C to C, ball-bearing wheels, n.p. stand with silver cellulose frames, complete with beaters and strong case, exceptional bargain.—Matchetts, Ltd., 44, Wellington Place, Belfast.

**CONSOLETTA**, console, sneeze and paper-thin cymbals, hi-hat, bass and snare drums, sticks, brushes, tunable tom-toms, metal offbeats, maracas, claves.—S.A.E., Johnny Frost, 5, Normanton Avenue, Wimbledon Park, S.W.19. Wim. 4594.

**DRUM KITS**, wire brushes, tunable t.t.s., Krupa cymbal arms.—S.A.E., Ron Mathews, 17, Malwood Road, Balham, S.W.12. Battersea 4879.

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**DRUM KIT**; hi-hat, Zildjian, Zilco, Rassen cym., deep s/d., Carlton c./flash, b.d., £60; also Beverly hi-hat, cym., £7; Cramer grand piano, £30, club selling up.—De Barr, 51, Beresford Road, E.17. Lar. 3781.

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