VOL. 23 No. 735

SEPTEMBER 6, 1947

[Registered at the G.P.O.]

THREEPENCE

THE " Melody abnounce t a momentons Musicians Union decision that will be halled with delight by semi-pros, all over the country. The M.U. National Executive itas gines attacked for the opening of ever are delighed in London substrhan districts, which means that the large number of semi-pros, in the outer London area will at least have official and organised Union representation.

The five new branches will be situated at Tottenham (eatering for North London), East Ham (East London), Croydon (South London), Ealing (West London), and Woolwich (South-East London)

don). The significance of the Mational Executive's wise decision is farreaching. Although provincial organisers have been bringing more and more semi-bros. Into the M.U. fold, the part-time musicians of this country have always had a sneaking feeling that they could not be regarded as officially welcome by the M.U. while London semi-pros. remained outside the Union.

The reason for the apparent

the Union.

The reason for the apparent apathy of the London semi-pros. has been due to the fact that their normal work prevents them from attending the day-time meetings of the Central London Branch — the only branch in London up to now. They have felt that their own particular problems have so far had no chance of ventilation at M.U. meetings.

Now, the five Outer London branches will meet on Sunday mornings and will cover in every way the organisational requirements of suburban semi-pro

ments of suburban semi-pro musicians.

Preddy Byfield, of the Suburban Musicians' Advisory Committee, discussing this satisfactory result of their organising campaign, told the Mrlopy Maker.

Credit for the ploneer work "Credit for the ploneer work which has brought about the very welcome Executive decision must go to Mr. Alec Mitchell, General Organiser of the M.U., who has secured invaluable local help from Leille Marsh (North London), Eric Wade (East London), and Frank Abnett (South-East London)."

All musicians interested should

All musicians interested should write for full details of the opening dates of the new branches to Alec Mitchell, General Organiser, Musicians' Union, 7, Sicilian Avenue, Holborn, London, W.C.1.

Burns and Webb for 'Jazz Matinee

THIS Saturday (September 6).
At 6.15 p.m. on the Light
Programme, clarinettist Sid Programme.

Programme, clarinettist Sid Philips and his Band will make their bow to "Jazz Matinee" listeners, although Sid himself has several times been featured in this popular programme.

On the following Saturday (September 13), "Jazz Matinee" presents a two-band attraction, with Tito Burns and his Sextet, plus an outfit of complete contrast in the shape of George Webb and his Dixleianders.

The Tito Burns Sextet, have already achieved marked popu-

The Tito Burns Sextet, have already achieved marked popularity as a result of their Thursday "Accordion Club" airings. Webb's Dixlelanders—uncompromising exponents of New Orleans Style music—have previously broadcast on "Radio Rhythm Club" and several overseas services, but the "Jazz Matinee" airing will give radio listeners their first opportunity of hearing the reorganised Dixlelanders with Humphrey Lyttelton—on cornet.

MELACHRINO'S HIPPO. PLANS

THE orchestra for the new London Hippodrome show (which opens in late October) will, as exclusively announced in last week's MELODY MAKER, be supplied by the George Melachrino Organisation.

Personnel is not as yet fixed, but the outfit will comprise twelve violins, two violas, two 'celios, bass, harp, five brass, and drums—twenty-five in all, including the conductor.

In addition to fixing the band.

George Melachrino is both writing the music and carrying out all the arrangements. This is his first London show, his previous heavy commitments having been almost entirely with nims and radio.

In addition to all the work he is putting in, preparing every-thing for the London Hippodrom-enterprise, George is also very busy just now on the score for the film version of "No Orchids for Miss Blandish."



"Melody Maker" photographer, Jack Marshall, took this terrific photo of the world-renowned vocal quar-let, the link Spots, in their dressing-room at the Lendon Casino just before they greeted the British public on Monday night (1st). Appearing in the International Variety Bill at the Casino for six weeks, they have been a veritable riot

with their sweet and commercial style of singing that is so well known to record-fans. In the picture above you see (left to right) Billy Belwen, Bill Kenny, Herb Kenny and Charles Fuqua. An interview with the boys, and a report of the stage show which they are doing at the London Gusino, appears on page 5 of this issue.

ROY FOX SENSATI BAND AS "S MUSIC" OUTF

SENSATIONAL NEWS BREAKS THIS WEEK FROM THE ROY FOX CAMP, FOR, ON THE EVE OF COMPLETING A BUMPER SEASON AT THE PALACE, DOUGLAS, ISLE OF MAN, ROY INFORMS THE "MELODY MAKER" THAT HE PROPOSES TO DISBAND HIS PRESENT ORCHESTRA AND RE-FORM IT ALONG ENTIRELY NEW LINES.

intends to form and launch a new band with a complete change of style and instrumentation. It will be known as "Roy Fox and his Sweet Music," and will consist of five strings (including a viola), three trombones, three tenor saxes (one doubling baritone), three rhythm, and a harp.

Roy is so sincere about his new project that he has count his new these.

project that he has cancelled the theatre dates which he was due theatre dates which he was due to fulfil with his existing band immediately on leaving Douglas. He proposes to spend the next few weeks auditioning players and thoroughly rehearsing the band in the style he wants. Then he will take up the engagements that are waiting for him.

PLAYERS WANTED

In the meantime, he will be glad to hear from any violinists and viola players, also a harpist (preferably girl) who might be interested in touring with his new band. They should write to him at the Palace, Douglas, Isle of Man, immediately.

In an exclusive statement to the Millor Makker, giving his reasons for this sensational change, Roy Fox said:

"All during the time I was in the States, waiting for my visa to come back to England. I heard all the terrific bands over there, including Kenton, Harry James, the Dorseys, Goodman, etc., and when I first arrived back there from Australia, naturally, all these bands sounded pretty terrific to me. rific to me.

However, after hearing them

for a few years they seemed to grow louder and louder with their very large brass sections and the style of music they played. It did not seem to make any difference whether or not they were playing in a very large palais or theatre or in a com-paratively small room—they played just as loud in any case. "At first I thought that maybe it was on account of my always

"After seeing what is happen-ing here and in the States, and hearing so many people suggest that I follow along the same lines as before, I have come to the conclusion that the general public is fed up with going to the theatre or a ballroom and being blown out of the place. "I do not mean this as any

reflection on any particular band whatsoever, because I think there will always be a comparatively small proportion of the public that will prefer a certain type of music, whether it is known as ragtime, jazz, swing-

known as ragtime, jazz, swingmusic or jive.

"In other words, I come back
to the well-known fact that the
great majority of people still
like, and I believe always will
prefer, music they can easily
understand. By that I mean
music where they can easily distinguish the melody.

"In forming 'his new band I
certainly don't intend to go in
for out-and-out corn. Far from
it, but I think, as I have always
thought, that a sweet band can
be very commercial without
being corny. I shall, naturally,
have plenty of novelty along
with the sweet music.

with the sweet music.
"In other words, what I'm going to try to do this coming season will be to give the public, especially in theatre, plenty of entertainment and a band that they can listen to without too much strain on their eardrums.

PHIL GREEN'S BIG M.D. BREAK

it was on account of my always being a firm believer in a more melodious style of music which made me feel that these great bands were becoming more and more raucous, but as I understand there is a terrific slump in band business generally. In the States, maybe I was not quite so wrong when analysing this sensational trend in music.

"You probably wonder why, when I arrived back in this country and when I went out on tour. I should have formed a band with similar instrumentation to those in the States that I have just mentioned, and why I played the same type of music.

"My reason for doing so was that when I left the States, swing music was still very popular, and when I arrived in England I found that many of the bands were also playing the same type WEST-END leader, broadcaster, arranger and composer, Phil Green, gets a musical plum with the conductorship of "Finian's Rainbow." This show is at present running with phenomenal success in New York, and the English version is due at the London Palace Theatre around mid-

HARRY HAYES AT BRIGHTON.—
Swing fans in Brighton and district have an opportunity this Sunday (7th) to enjoy the music of Harry Hayes and his full breadcasting band. Harry and his boys are making a special appearance at the Princes Ballroom (Aquarium), from 7.30 to midnight. This appearance is in the series being promoted by Maurice I. Kann, which started last week, when Harry Parry and his Sextet were featured.

DEATH OF ARTHUR FENOULHET

IT is with the deepest regret that the Melout Makes announces the death of famous musicizn-arranger Arthur Fesoulhet, which occurred at the Westminster Hospital, London, last Sunday afternoon (Angust 21).

As reported in the Malour Makes last week, Arthur had undergone an operation for a serious internal complaint, but, over the week-end, his condition apparently improved.

His Skyrockets bendleader

His Skyrockets bendleader brother, Paul, on his way to do two concerts with the band at Southsea on Sunday, called in at the hospital to find Arthur much brighter, but, as he was about to go on the stage later that afternoon, he received the sad news that Arthur had a relapse. He returned to London at once, and Pat Dodd took over his bandleading duties.

CAREER

Arthur Penoulhet was 37 years of age, and most of his professional career was spent with Carroll Gibbons and the Savoy Hotel Orpheans, where he played trombone doubling trumpet. He was also with Jack Jackson at the Dorchester for a spell, and spent five years during the war in the RAP.

Since his demobilisation, he has concentrated entirely on arranging, for which he had a great flair. In addition to special arrangements for the Skyrockets and other bands, he also did a lot of music for films.

All who knew Arthur Fenoul-het will remember, and miss, his great charm of manner, his musical sincerity and his friend-liness, and the MELODY MAKER, on behalf of the whole profession, expresses its deepest sympathy to his relatives in their untimely his relatives in their untimely and sad loss.

The funeral is taking place this week from Arthur's parents' home at Worthing.

TWO VACANCIES. Cyril Brooker, leader at the Paramount, Tottenham Court Road, London, requires a first atto, doubling fiddle, and front-line



ACCESSORIES

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	attition to a series	****	***	***********	**
ME	***************************************		 ****		~~
DRESS			 	<i></i>	

M.M. 6/9/47



by Sammy Quaver

ITS been a beck of a race for top place on the racks past week, the "Hour finally winding up in the lead. Current three toppers are out on their own, chalking up figures that augur well for coming fall biz. . . "Little Old Mill" bowed in after long upfull srind and will prove menace to the panel dwellers. . . lasy Bonn's "Spanish Trail" platter with a Phil Green new-style arrangement will be a small seller. . .

Honorus Last Deri. — A Guiver diploma to Benny Lee, who rank Jehinny Green to compraintate him on his creat Briston Empress set, and to Sain Browne, who says Dethical Prets is unquestionably a terrific performer. Swell gestures, Mesers, Levand Browne. — Geraldo showcased a class ditty in "I Gotts Get Me Somebody to Love." — Lancham Productions now handling the Greene Sisters act, watch out for hig news from the swing harmony camp.

My Heart."

"Quiet Rhythm" not off to a flying start, with Neal Arden. Oscar Graceo and Val Merrail histing Insteners with a brilliant thirty-minutes' hook-up. This new live series will cop top air honours. Come rain or come shine, you'll never be able to tell some bandlenders that corn is a necessity in every dance band programme.

"Chi.-Baba-Chi.-Baba" looks like making lighthing frame entry.

Alan Clark's Stoke-Liverpool commentary a push-over for the "Pamily Pavourites" acc.

The "Dutch Boy" now taking on the role of "The Crooners' Labour Eachange." Three mame vocalists fixed air-time shots in the Middox Street rendervous last week.

Down in Kenton Lane, where the local team entertained Middlesex C.C. last Sunday, the interval record sentuc

Britain's Top Tunes

The following list of Ten Best Bellers, irrespective of price, for werk ending August 28 has been compiled from lists supplied by members of the Wholesale Music Distributors' Associa-tion in London and the prestness:— 1. NOW IS THE MOUR

(1s.) Keith Prowie 2. PEOPLE WILL SAY WE'RE IN LOVE (25.) Chaptell

3. COME BACK TO SORRENTO

TRAIL (24.) P. Martice

5. I GOT THE SUN IN THE G tie. Brita 6. I DELIEVE (1s.) Morris 7. GOT A GIRL IN CALICO

S. MAM'SELLE .. (28.) Prancis, Day S. AMONG MY SOUVENIES

18. LITTLE OLD WILL .. (IS.) Dash

LATE FLASH: Arthur Tracey ("The Street Singer") is in Lander. He arrived on Monday (1st), and is doing four respective for Decay during his month's stay. Come along, E.B.C., here is your big opportunity!

Ceraldo showcased a class ditty in "I Godia Get Me Somebody to Love." Lameham Productions now hundling the Governe Sisters act, watch out for high means from the swing harmony camp.

Bow come that many massives who for years have turned a deal cir in home-grown somes have now decaded they're programme-worthy? My anti-British list is cetting smaller and honders at the Police Smaller? Why ded Burnen Seelsy rush to Doneaster on a depoint the prophecy for the mant-plained time air mean strip days.— Peg of My Heart.

"Quiet Bhotham" and a serious for the mant-plained time for its air mean strip days.— Peg of Tex Pay Atley Occupied.

The Pay Atley Occupied.

The Past Affert Oscass to Peggy
Reid for a class job on "My Pirst
Lave My Last Love for Always" with
Harold Geller's Ork. To Issy
Bonn for a smash job on a smash
sonr, "When You Come to the End
of the Day" on "Variety Band Box."
To the "Stardusters for a great
thirty-minutes' shot last Monday

CARTOON by Betts



guments put forward last week, my fellow-clarinettist. Frank eir. Your offer of the price of night's ledging and a cay of tea song-plugging, and does not interest me, sir."

Collectors' Corner

by Rex Harris and Max Jones

THIS week, we are turning over the whole of "Collectors' Corner" to Peter Tanner, who gives readers the following collectors' information gathered in the States.

Our scheduled "Corner" for this issue has been held over until next week.

week.
INFORMATION FOR COLLECTORS
By PETER TANNER

NOW that I have a little more
time, I am jotting down some
scrapa of information which I think
may be of interest to collectors in
seneral. This information was either
told directly to me or else comes
from very reliable sources, and I
think it can safely be taken as
accurate.

think it can safely be taken as accurate.

First of all, while I was in New York I had quite a chat with the famous bassist and tuba player Joe Tarto. During the course of conversation about the old days, Joe told me that it was not generally known that Louis Armstrong once recorded with Sam Lanin's orchestra. This recording took place at Columbia's old 14th Street Studios in New York and occurred at a time when Louis was playing opposite Sam Lanin's orchestra at the Roseland Baltroom with Fletcher Henderson's orchestra. Louis attended the Lanin session and sat in on at least two sides, in which he took solos, but Joe could not recall any of the titles recorded or even the recording date other than even the recording date other than it was around 1927 or 1928.

Naturally, I was a little sceptical about this, but when I mee Red Shoots an Hollyway was the condition of the Story and said that he too, was on the date. He could not recall the titles either, but added that he was sure that they were never issued. Next I tackled George Avakian, of Columbia Records. He went back through the files, but reported that all masters of unissued Lanin recordings had long since been destroyed, and the only remaining hope was that they were never issued. Next I tackled George Avakian, of Columbia Records. He went back through the files, but reported that all masters of unissued Lanin recordings had long since been destroyed, and the only remaining hope was that the might have come out in Errors that the information is passed on to Jack T. Incidentally, did you know that, that this been so, they would have been discovered by now, but perhaps readers will help. Come on, you junk shoppers!

Talking of Red Nichols, Chicago collector John Steiner reports that a second master of Red and Mit's Victor version of "Sugar" was issued for Continental release of Ben Pollack's Victor version of "Sugar" was issued for Continental release for the respective of the file of the respectative was up to the Harlem Thrift Shop. After getting extremely warm looking librough several hundred very commercial and very ancient records—the temperature was up in the was in search of some good jazz he shook his head and told me he was a collector himself and there was little use in my looking for. When I said that I was no search of some good jazz he shook his head and told me he was a collector himself and there was little use in my looking for When I said that I was no search of some good jazz he shook his head and told me he was a collector himself and there was little use in my looking through the records—the temperature was up in the was in search of some good jazz he shook his head and told me he was a collector himself and there was little use in my looking through the feet of the land of the land of the lan



Peter Tanner sent this picture from Hollywood. It shows Benny Carter (right) and Peter himself (left) being intervious by diss-jockey Alex Cooper over Station KNLA

Junr., added that his father was still searching for his recording files. They should make wonderful reading if ever

Jack Teagarden told me that he made a number of sides with Sam Lanin's orchestra on those old thick and heavy wooden Edison discs. Jack says he has never been able to trace any of these, but he is sure that he soloed and sang on several sides, and he would be very glad of information regarding them. If any one can help, please would they write to me. c/o the Millor Maker, and I will see that the information is passed on to Jack T. Incidentally, did you know that Jack Teagarden holds a pilot's licence and that his two hobbies are flying and model trains? Indeed, one of the reasons why he wants to come to England is because of the interest in model railways over here.

Andy Secrent, after hearing one of his own solos with the Whiteman band, just after Bix had left, on the air recently in a disc lockey show, commenced. "That's the nearest approach to Bix I ever heard. Who is that guy?" No comment!

Decca have just issued their Bunk Johnson and Kid Ory sides in an attractive album titled "New Orleans Revival." Bunk Johnson sides are: "My Maryland," "Alexander's Ragitime Band." "Tishomingo Blues."

"You Always Hurt the One You Love." The Kid Ory sides are: "High Society." "Maskrat Ramble." "The Oftle are Crasy About the Way I Walk "Obecca could hardly use the original (title!), and a Creole song. "Blanche Touquotoux." How about it, Mr. Sarton?

Talking of Chelsen Quealey, famous base sax piayer Joe Rushion told me that it is Frank Cush who plays trumpet on the University Six sides, and also probably all the Goofus Five sides, and not Chelses Quealey, as generally supposed. Abraham Lincoln plays trombone on the University Six sides. Who would have thought in

Bubber Miley is well featured in the Leo Reisman recording of "Sci Louis Blues," recently reissued in the States in a Reisman album. Reissue number is Victor E765.

Ragtime pianist Dink Johnzon now owns his own cafe in Los Angeles and plays there nightly. It is aptly named the Musicians' Café.

Teddy Bunn is playing with the Edgar Hayes Quartet in a small niterie at Riverside in California. He only uses electric guitar these days, and has been doing some recording for one or two of the small west coast firms. Keynote still hold the masters of the Teddy Bunn Teddy Bears sides, and not one has been irsued as yet.

Julia Lee just made sixteen sides for Capital records before returning to Kansas City. Some of these have Bobby Sherwood on trumpet, others have Red Nichols and also Red Norso, who played rylophone once again.

Rosey McHargue told me that he did not join Ted Weems' hand until 1914, and that Don Watt was the clarinet player on most of those old Weems' Victors and H.M.V.s. Dick Cunliffe was on baritone and Harry Turner on trombone. Joe Rushton was also with the Weems band for a while. Rosey added that "Winter Wonderland," recorded for American Columbia is his favourite Weems record, and has plenty of good solos. "I'm Growing Ponder of You" was another good side from this semion. Rosey also told me that he recorded with the Seattle Harmony Kings at Camden. New Jersey, in 1928, and that Earl Baker was the featured trumpet player.

By the way, it's Andy Secrest who takes the intro leading into Elx's

player.

By the way, it's Andy Secrest who takes the intro leading into Bix's solo on Whiteman's "China Boy," as if you didn't know!

Muggay Spanier told me that he did not record with the Benson Orchestra of Chicago, but that he was on a session comprised of Benson Orchestra idemen who accompanied Sechie Tucker on a Victor recording date. Can anyone add to or substantiate this information?

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Readers' Letters to The Editor

THANKS TO M.U.

MAY I, through the medium of the MAKLONY MAKEN, express my appreciation of the work of the Musicians' Union?

appreciation of the work of the Musicians' Union?

I was recently involved in a dispute over the cancellation of an engagement for my band, and could get no satisfaction through my own efforts. I was, consequently, faced with the loss of a considerable sum.

The M.U. took up the case for me, and, thanks to the work of the Branch Committee, the matter was brought to a satisfactory conclusion. I trust this will be the answer to all the musicians in this area who, when I approach them to join the M.U., answer: "Why should I pay a bob a week? What good can the Union do me?"

Around this area, which covers a large part of Doraet and Somerset, the dance band business is poorly organised and very few musicians belong to the M.U. May I appeal to them to join up and get things properly organised? With enough support a local branch can be formed, to the advantage of all concerned.

FRED TOLMAN.

Beaminster, Dorset.

Beaminster, Dorset. SAMPSON SUMMED UP

ON Thursday (21st) I heard Tommy Sampson and his Orchestra for the first time. Although I hadn't taken the various "raves" about the band too seriously. I confess I was a little disappointed.

I think it is ridiculous to compare

CALL SHEET

(Week commencing September 8)
Blanche COLEMAN and Girle' Band.
Pier Pavilion, Sandown, I.O.W.
Billy COTTON and Band.
Grand. Derby.
Dr. CROCK and Grackpots.
Metropolitan, Edgware Road
Lestie DOUGLAS and Band.
Pier Pavilion, Cleethorpes.
Teddy FOSTER and Band.
Green's Playhouse Ballroom.

Green's Playhouse Ballroom.
Glasgow,
Henry HALL and Band.
Palace, Blackpool.
Vic LEWIS and Band.
One-night Stands, N. Ireland and

go to your local dealer. Even
if he is temporarily out of
stock we can supply him
promptly. Off you go!

Seenaders.
Ritz Cinema, Birkenhead.
Sid MILLWARD and Nitwits.

Palace Leignater.

Empire, Chiswick,

Sid MILLWARD and Nitwits.

Palace, Leicester.

Gasic NGSLE.
Lyceum, Sheffield.

Oscar RABIN and Band.
New Britannia Pier, Yarmouth.

Harry ROY and Band.
Empire, Pinsbury Park.

Charles SHADWELL and Orchestra.
New Theatre, Oxford.

TROISE and Mandoliers.
Empire, Chiswick.

injustice to first-class bands such as the Squads, Skyrockets, Geraldo, Rabin, etc., to allow his enthusiasm to run away with him to the extent of claiming the Sampson Orchestra second to Ted Heath's.

second to Ted Heath's.

To be constructive, here is what I thought of the broadcast. The tone and attack of the trombone team was weak. The vibrate of the sax section was bad and could have been a lot smoother; tenor and alto solos weren't too clerant, either. Attack of the trumpets was solid, but second trumpet in the ad lib solos starting of the trumpet in the second tr

trumpets was solid, but second trumpet in the ad lib. solos, starting off with two super choruses, was a five minutes' wonder. He deteriorated andly by the end of the airing through being too ambitious.

Meticulous rehearsal and novel arrangements are not the only ingredients that go to make an outstanding band, and so, if our dance bands are to continue to make progress, let us keep a clear perspective. However, I admit that Tommy Sampson, in getting together a band of unknown musicians, unaided by famous cornermen, has achieved very good results that could well be an example to others.

Kingston-on-Thames, Surrey.

NOT ACCORDION

I AM a lover of accordion music, and, having just returned from service in Palestine, I tuned into Accordion Club. You can imagine my surprise, for it seems no different from any other band, with very little accordion in it. Going to Southsea for a month's holiday, I went to hear Tito Burns at the Savoy, and, good player that he is, I cannot see that you can call this an accordion band.

During my stay I was taken to hear a real accordion band. Cyril Rice and his Accordion Band. I can assure you they were the tops—in fact, one of the best combinations I have ever

"ACCORDION LOVER."

AIR TIME

You recently published a letter from Bill Badley, of Ripon. in which he gave the results of a record he had kept of the amount of airtime allotted to dance bands over a period of two months. I have made out a similar list for a period of one month, and have found the following interesting facts:

similar list for a period of one month, and have found the following interesting facts:

(1) \$3 bands (approx.) have broadcast and the ten bands with most airtime are, in this order, Billy Cotton, Nat Allen, tying with Geraldo, Howard Lucraft, Ted Heath, Harold Geller, Skyrockets, Billy Ternent, Pelix King tying with Mantovani.

(2) Bands below 20th position include the Squadronaires, Stardusters, Harry Parry and Cyril Stapleton.

this band with Ted Heath's (3) 25 out of the 63 bands have (apparently because of the big brass had only 36 and fewer minutes airsection), and I consider that reader time during the month. These Harold Naylor (22/8/47) is doing an include Jack Coles, Ivy Benson, Buddy

(3) 25 out of the 63 bands have had only 36 and fewer minutes' airtime during the month. These include Jack Coles. Ivy Benson, Buddy Featherstonhaugh and George Crow. (4s Chly four bands have had more than 200 minutes' airtime. The top band (Cotton) had 270 minutes. (I have not included bands in resular Variety shows; if so, Stanley Black would, of course, be an easy winner.) (5) Bands which did not broadcast at all include Joe Loss, Oscar Rabin. Vic Lewis, Teddy Poster and Roy Fox: also, surprisingly, the No. 1 choice of Joe Public. Victor Silvester.

I think the D.B.D.A. might well take up some of these matters.

Staises. Middx.

CARPENTER CHIPPED

CARPENTER CHIPPED

RECENTLY I went to see Ted

Heath at Hackney, only to find
that of the half-hour alletted to fine
band, quite half of it was taken up by
Paul Carpenter's fooling. Now, much
as I admire Carpenter's compering
and singing. I was bored by it on
this occasion; and it seems that I
was not the only one, for, much as I
deplore the words used by the gentle
man who shouled. I do agree with
what he said. If this was an example
of a band adapting itself to the start
of a band adapting itself to the start of a band adapting itself to the start then, please, let us get back to the Bad Old Days. FRANK W. HARDING.

Tottenham, N.17.

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Mo. Pror. the chord isn't a difficulty the chief. Db dim "withis it maght be called." Db dim "withis it maght be called." Db dim "withis it maght be called. The only the chord of the dominant major 13th with the minor 9th interval used. In the minor 9th interval used. In the interval of the interval used. In the interval of the interval of the chord on the fith it is that I take to be a misprint. It but that I take to be a misprint. It but what of the chord on the fith dental has slipped and should what does your symbol." Bbms."

resolves, quite correctly, upon the resolves, quite correctly, upon the tornic chord of F minor. Agreed? In ber 3 you've missed out Bhf on the 3nd quaser. but that's nothing compared with your first te chord symbol in ber 4. 'Bb add 5 and 9" my eye! 'That's as nice a dominant lith chord as ever I saw—and even if you don't want to call it Bhil, at least you could settle for Fmil.'

Nerlously, though, Iver, it we must borrow though the interest to much result in the L.U.M. taking a "dim." riew. So let's turn over a new test, shall we?

AM

I CHI

There are reasons why chord of symbols are used in dance music in and I am sure we can agree that and I am sure we can agree that generally they are these:

(a) To economise in the time taken to write out the full hardony.

(b) The inability of many in guitar players to read notation in the part of the arrangers to write in the part of the arrangers to write guitar parts which can be played as written.

The reasons are all bound to parts, you will assert to in dance music because, as a rule, in dance music because, as a rule, harmonically, they are more easily classificable than in straight the music. Even so, different arrangers use different arrangers use different arrangers use different chassings to thouse of an extrancous meledic note.

Resmember when you used to call the fish of the chord, George?

The passing of E Jackson's the Not only have they a much keener appreciation of harmony, but they also exploit it. Like so many of the older jazz school. Louis has not moved with the times in this matter of all types abounds. In come quence, he tends to sound some quence, he tends to sound some style and feeling which make him still perhaps the greatest artist of them all when it comes to real lazz, or swing, in its more conomical sheet Bobby Hackett was also on this session, but he does not spear to do anything. Mor. I was disappointed to find, are Guarnier of Casey featured to find are Guarnier or Casey featured as soloists, and I think it must be churus by "Peanuts" Hucko of was soloists, and I think it must be churus by "Peanuts of a good to the better one by Vic Dickenson, the other one by Vic Dickenson, the last word on this delightful tune of the pariophone R2560, issued here din 1939 and still available. years .

Record

Reviews

MIN NEW

diligies twenty years ago, and the pentrum of the years ago, and the pentrum of the pentrum of the pentrum of the pentrum of the military of the pentrum of the military of the pentrum of the military of the consequently bear military and forced.

Well, the fact is that except and military of the second of the conference of the consequently bear military of the pentrum of the consequently bear of the well, the fact is that except, and military of the pentrum of the conference of the consequently bear of the second of the conference of the pentrum the first while even the first and the period.

The desired the period the first and of the period of the first angular anything better than the conference of the military of the first anything better than the conference of the military of the first anything better than the conference of the military of the first anything better than the conference of the military of the first anything better than the conference of the military of the first anything better than the conference of the military of the first anything better than the conference of the military of the military of the first anything the the second of the military of th

Ad Blant, American (int. Vocalistics and "Manches (int. 1871); Sanda Tangardian (int. 1872); Sanda Tangardian (int. 1873); Sanda Tangardian (int. 1873); Anda Sanda Tangardian (int. 1873); Someone has just described that sweet int. 1873; Someone has just described this the wrong ways preferred give the fact of the court of the victor, standa (int. 1873); Someone has just described this follow the particular standardian (int. 1874); Someone has just described this follow to make a secretar than sweet int. 1874; Someone people may referred give the sanda (int. 1874); Someone people may referred give the sanda (int. 1874); Someone has fant the sanda (int. 1874); Someone has fant the sanda (int. 1874); Someone people may referred give the sanda (int. 1874); Someone people may referred give the sanda (int. 1874); Someone people may referred give the sanda (int. 1874); Someone people may referred give the sanda (int. 1874); Someone people may referred give the sanda (int. 1874); Someone people may referred give the sanda (int. 1874); Someone people may referred give the sanda (int. 1874); Someone people may referred give the sanda (int. 1874); Someone people may referred give the sanda (int. 1874); Someone people may referred give the sanda (int. 1874); Someone people may referred give the sanda (int. 1874); Someone people may referred give the sanda (int. 1874); Someone people may referred give

SON

HELL A SI

State in the States, An LEDMAND FEATHER resumes

erican Spotlight

MILE O'DAT, after completing an ongagement at a Milwaukee night dub, has returned to the west coast to serve a 90-day juli sentence for possession of marijuana. Her husband, Carl Hoff, received a sentence. Thus, with Billie Holiday incarcerated at Wanner's Endered Reformatory in Alderson, West Virginia, two of the country's top giff singers are out of circulation.

The reports about Jack Teaded the sarden's trip can be discounsed and sarden's trip can be discounsed Many American musicans have a series with suggests a European tour. They all like the idea of going, arise.

In Dizay Gillespie has received a facts many unexpected difficulties facts many unexpected difficulties arise.

Dizay Gillespie has received a facts many Gillespie has received a facts many unexpected difficulties arise.

It is seriously considering it.

Stan Kenton is getting ready to reorganise, but many of his former stars will not go back with the band. Trombonist Kai Windham and drummer Shelly Manne, but former cornerstones of the band, say they are happy with the band, say they are happy with Charlie Ventura's little unit and would rather stay there.

Capitol has issued an ingenious album called "Benny Rides album called the tets up to quartet, and all the tets up to sep—ending with two sides by the full band, on one of which Benny ing Duke and the band piano), trio, quartet, and all the tets up to sep—ending with two sides by the full band, on one of which Benny ing Duke and the band piaying other blues; an album of Billie Holiday on Columbia, and an album on the promising Vox label taken from one of the Bob Sestion shows on W.E.W.

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Member: Audit Bureau of Circulations 6, CATHERINE ST., STRAND, LONDON, W.C.2 Editor: RAY SONIN

American Visitors

NPARALLELED scenes of enthusiasm have greeted the Ink Spots at the London Casino this week. The traffic has been stopped by the crowds swarming to get in and out, the theatre is filled to capacity at each performance and the audiences are vociferous in their acclamation.

That is fine. It is the sort of thing that beats a slump, and we can do with well-filled theatres at this time, because, once an act like the Ink Spots encourages people to leave their houses and seek enjoyment in the Variety theatre, there is a likelihood that they will continue the habit.

What is even finer is the scene that we saw back-stage at the Casino on Monday night. Bandleaders, music-publishers, musicians, and fans clustered around the Ink Spots, all interested, all excited and all anxious to meet and exchange views with these American

The moral to be drawn is that the visit of a first-class American musical combination is the thing that galvanises and revitalises this profession of ours. It is an augury of what could happen if only the barriers were down and the great bands of America were allowed

The scenes at the Casino reminded us of the shot-in-the-arm which the whole profession received during the war when the late Jienn Miller and his American Band of the A.E.F. played over here, and also Sam Donohue and his exciting U.S. Navy Band. By their very performance, those bands gave our bands the incentive to Improve just as Duke Ellington did many years before when he came to England in the early thirties and virtually laid the foundations of such high-class dance music as we occasionally enjoy over here to-

We say "occasionally" because the years have gone by and our musicians have forgotten their lessons, but there would be no need to use this word if the great American bands visited us regularly. Our standard would go up, and our listeners' standards of appreciation would also go up. Their visits, in fact, could do nothing but

The Ink Spots are a sign. They have only to arrive to whip up our profession into a healthy state of interest and excitement.

The sooner all festrictions are swept away in regard to the free and unfettered interchange of bands and artistes, the sooner our standard of performance in this country will improve.

M.U. and Semi-pros

THE news on our front page this week that the Musicians' Union is to start five new branches in London, represents a drastic change in M.U. attitude towards the semi-professional musicians, and, on behalf of that hardworking section of the profession, we welcome the move, and congratulate all those concerned.

During the war the MELODY MAKER and the Musicians' Union held several conferences in an endeavour to bridge the gap between the pros and semi-pros. Our well-meant efforts falled because of the M.U. attitude that there was no difference between those sections of the musical community.

Since the war the M.U. has realised that semi-pros have their own special problems and need organisational facilities in every district. The efforts of organisers such as Harry Francis in south-east England, and others, have resulted in hundreds of semi-pros being enrolled in their own local branches, and now the good work has at last spread to London.

The five new branches, meeting as they will on Sunday mornings, will enable the semi-pro not only to air his grievances and help get them rectified, but to take his full and rightful part in ensuring that the Musicians' Union is representative of, and caters for, every musician in this country who plays an instrument.

FELDMAN'S

MIA CANZONE D'AMORE

(My Song of Love)

Still the Top Songs

A RAINY NIGHT IN RIO - OH, BUT I DO! THROUGH A THOUSAND DREAMS

A GAL IN CALICO

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Billy Cotton's Smash Hit!

("Dove Sta Zaza")

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THE JOINT

Shut the windows, boys, and carry on!

An authentic picture of the early Chicagoans and a glimpse of a Harlem cutting contest, from "Really The Blues," by the famous U.S. clarinettist

country has ever coughed up. They may have been a drag and to me.

THE Austin High School Gang had among its charter members some of the finest and most dedicated white artistes this country has ever coughed up. They may have been a drag and headache to their mothers, but they were sure a jumping joy to me.

"Hey, Mezzrow!"

I gunned the kid—I'd never I gunned the kid—I'd never I gunned the kid—I'd never sure a jumping joy seen him before in my life. He was a tall, blond, good-looking roung blood, with dimples and a frame that might have hopped out of a physical culture maganine. He got in my face as I stepped into the lobby from the elevator at union headquarters.

"You're Milton Mezzrow, aren't you?" He seemed too honest for a bill-collector or a process-server, so I admitted it. "Just the one I want to see." he said with a big gin. "Are you doing anything? I've heard a lot about you and in the ments fitted mine like the bark does a tree. Jimmy MacPartiland to have you play in our band."

Teach and Dave were the two that attracted me most, because their music was heading for the ments fitted mine like the bark does a tree. Jimmy MacPartiland could get on the beam, too—he had a subtle tone that showed he had listened hard to Bix, and

Gall The Law! "Hey, Mezzrow!"

I gunned the kid—I'd never seen him before in my life. He was a tall, blond, good-looking young blood, with dimples and a

young blood. with dimples and a frame that might have hopped out of a physical culture magazine. He got in my face as I stepped into the lobby from the elevator at union headquarters. "You're Milton Mezzrow, aren't you?" He seemed too honest for a bill-collector or a process-server, so I admitted it. "Just the one I want to see," he said with a big grin. "Are you doing anything? I've heard a lot about you and I know the fellows would be glad to have you play in our band." The band was Husk O'Hare's Wolverines, and they were working for the summer at White City, a roller-coaster amusement park out on the far South Side.

HE WAS MacP

His name was Jimmy MacPartland, the cornet player who later became famous for his work on the Chicagoans' recording of "Nobody's Sweetheart."

"Nobody's Sweetheart."

The first night I showed up for work they threw a Frank Black arrangement of "K a menol Ostrow" at me. and I knew I was going to have plenty trouble trying to play notes the way they were written down. I figured this was just another woodsawing dance band, where musicians kept their noses buried in cornfed stock arrangements, so I decided to try and play it so as to keep them happy. I had made up my mind in advance that these cats weren't from doodlely-squat.

HEARING THINGS

old half-pint kid was squatted behind the big brass drum, with just his head sticking up, knocking out the rhythm of Baby Dodds. He was a cat named Dave Tough, and he was the only white drummer I ever heard, outside of Ray Eisel, who had mastered that South Side beat. My mouth flew open wider than a trapdoor, and Dave, bobbing up and down like a piston, rocking and rolling with a piston, rocking and rolling with a rhythm that wouldn't, quit, grinned back at me. The way they swung that arrangement sent me so much that when I took my chorus I forgot all about the written music and really. the written music and really ran wild.

Tesch and Dave were the two that attracted me most, because their music was heading for the real jazz idiom and their temperaments fitted mine like the bark does a tree. Jimmy MacPartland could get on the beam, too—he had a subtle tone that showed he had listened hard to Bix, and some of his passages were straight from Louis Armstrong. Then there was Flovd O'Brien, whose New Orleans trombone was really in there. Man, 'tain't no crack, but a solid fact—these kids from Austin, some of them still wet behind the ears, had latched on to the spirit of hot jazz so good you would have thought sometimes that they came out of the galleon instead of Chicago's manicured and well-groomed suburbs.

The above is reprinted from Mezz Mezzrofe's dook "Really the Blues," by permission of the Musicians' Press. Ltd., who have just issued it in this country, and is twoical of its exciting contents—as is the following account of a piano-battle between giants in Harlem.

THE coloured boys prove their musical talents in those competitions they call cutting contests, and there it really is the best man wins, because the Negro audience is extra critical when it Well. I had another think coming. The next minute it was like I was hearing things—a little old half-pint kid was squatted audience is extra critical when it comes to music, and won't accept anything second-rate. anything second-rate. . . .

4 A.M.

One morning a sensational cutting contest took place, just between plano players. Pats between piano players. Pats Waller picked up a gang of us at some café—Eddie Condon. Jack Bland, me and a couple of other whites, and two other coloured piano players, Willie "The Lion" Smith and Corky Williams—and we went up to his house about 4 a.m.

4 a.m.

Fats was a wonderful guy
he stood about 6 ft. tall and
weighed well over 200 lb., and his
feet, which were a stylish size 15,
he referred to as his "pedal extremities,"... He'd sit at the
piano all night long, and sometimes part of the next day, without even getting up to see that Tesch was the boy who could really read. He had studied the violin when he was young and had such a legitimate schooling he would even read a fly-speck if it got on the paper. He played weighed well over 200 ib. and his feet, which were a stylish size 15, he referred to as his pedal extremities. He'd sit at the piano all night long, and sometimes part of the next day, without got on the paper. He played

CALL THE LAW!

Willie played for a while and then Fats took over, sliding into the seat the same way Willie had done. . . It went on like that, the music more and more frantic, that plane not resting for even a fraction of a second, until finally Fats said: "I'm goin' to settle this argument good." He went into a huddle with his chauffeur, who left and returned about an hour later, but not alone. Fats had telephoned to Jamaica, Long Island, and woke up James P. Johnson out of his bed. When the chauffeur brought Jimmy in he was still rubbing his eyes, but as soon as he sat down at the plane that was all. He played so nuch plane you didn't have to yell: "Put out all the lights and call the law," because the law came up by request of the neighbours.

"We been sittin' downbours.

sittin' stairs enjoying this music," the constraint of us, "when we got a call from the station house to see who was disturbing the peace around here. Some people ain't got no appreciation for music at all. Pats, just close them win-dows and pour us a drink, and take up where you left off."
So for the rest of the morning

So for the rest of the morning the contest went on, with these two coppers lolling around drinking our liquor and li-tening to our fine music. It was great 1" Really the Blues," by Mezz Mezzrow and Bernard Wolfe. Kusscians' Press. Ltd., 114-116, Charing Cross Road, W.C.2. 15s.1

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Personal Points:

Born in London on June 3. 1921. Aubrey Frank began studying the violin at the age of seven. At fourteen he took up the alto sax, and a year later switched to tenor. year later switched to tenor. At the same time he turned full professional by joining the Savoy Junior Band, with whom he made his first broadcast. He has broadcast continually ever since. Jack Harris was the first "big time" outfit with whom he played, and since then he has featured with such leaders as Ken Johnson, Geraldo. George Evans, Ambrose, The Skyrockets, Harry Hayes, Ted Heath and most of the biggest pick-up groups for records and B.B.C. dates, He is a popular figure at jam sessions and is in constant demand for film

Goodman.



Favourite Bands: Raeburn, Ellington. Favourite Records: "Groovin' High," by Charlie Parker Sextet; "Things to Come," by Dizzy Gillespie Orchestra. Favourite Composers: Ravel, Delius, Borodin. Favourite Arrangers: Sy Oliver, Ed Sauter and Neal Hofts.

Favourite Food: Chinese. Hobby: Arranging, and avoiding one-night stands. Ambition: To attend a directors' meeting of the Ray Ellington Tea Corporation.

AUBREY FRANK TONALCOLOR figure at jam sessions and is in constant demand for film recording sessions. He topped the "M.M." poll on tenor sax in 1942 and 1944. He is currently with Frank Weir at the Lansdowne. Favourite Musicians: Charile Parker, Gillespie, Hawkins and STRAIGHT NUTE DORSEY STRAIGHT DORSEY PLUNGER PRICES INCLUDE P.1. Regd. in Gt. Britain Stand for leaflet



So well known in musical circles is the famous Rome family that any activity of theirs is a subjer event. That is why so many London musicians farmed by an Astalit 27 to the wedding of bassist Mickey Rome to Miss Sadie Brova. In this special "M.M." picture of the happy event, at Walm Lane Synagogue (Willendon) you will recognise, besides the bride and bridegroom, handleader Howard Lucraft, bassist Lou Nusabaum, Dave Rome, etc. Father of the family, Maurice Rome, is also one of the "follows" of dame band bass playing in this country. Recovering from a serious illness, he is seen in foreground in his wheel-chair. Besides Mickey (bass) and Dave (drums), the family boasts Rudy Rome (fiddle and saxes) and "Butch" Rome (trumpet).

NEWS IN BRIEF Edited by CHRIS HAYES

MIDNIGHT MATINEE.—The big dance band interest at the special Midnight Matinee to be held at the Odeon Cinema, Whalebone Lane, Dagenham, Essex, on September 19, is being provided by the famous Skyrockets, under the ever capable baton of Paul Fenoulhet. This show is being organised by the Dagenham branch of the Royal Air Force Association during their "Battle of Britain Week." Other artists include the Western Brothers, Afrique, Sylvia Robin, Gerry Wilmot, etc.

QUARMEY CHANGES QUARTERS.

Trombonist-arranger Bert Quarmby, currently with Roy Fox in the Isle of Man. wishes to announce that he will be at liberty from September 15, and will be back at his Essex home.

Phone: Upminster 258.)

Phone: Upminster 258.)

PLANT POPS UP AGAIM.—Now up and about again after a serious illness, 46-years-old vocal celebrity Jack Plant is doing Sunday concerts as a soloist, and singing as confidently as ever. Jack sang for almost every bandleader of note after making vocal history by being the first British dance-band vocalist to breadeast to America, when he aired from Savoy Hill with Jack Hylton and his Orchestra.

Orchestra.

HAMMOND A HIT.—Lady-leader Theima Hammond, who is spending the summer as M.D. to the Skegness U.D.C., presenting three bands, has been a great success and has had her contract extended until October 4. Theima leads her seven-piece Girls Band at the Embassy Ballroom, and has the Sun Castle Orchestra under Nancy Scales and the Embassy Quartitle under Marie Gold, The season at Skegness has brought romance to her bassist, Peggy Boosey, who is to marry the son of a local business man on October 9, but will not be leaving the band. leaving the band

Singing Stevens.—Al Stevens.
Surrey vocalist, who sang with Harry
Allman and his Band at the recent
Garden Party and Carnival Night at
Hilden Manor, Tonbridge, in aid of
Tonbridge War Memorial Fund, is
featured regularly nowadays with Ted
Wix and his Band, who came third in
the Manory Makes South Coast Dance
Band Championship at Boenor in
August. First trumpet Ted Wix leads
Fred Weller (2nd trmp.); Vic Paywell



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(trmb.); Eric Wix. Norman Lilley, Don Orofts, Norman Burgess (saxes, etc.); Charles Gimble (bass); Bob Shearing (pno.); and Bob Perkins

(drums).

ALLMAN A BUSY MAN.—Drummer with Victor Silvester, Maurice Winnick and Jack Harris until he entered the R.A.F.. and with Felix Mendelssohn after his discharge through ill-health in 1942, Harry Allman now leads his own band on society gigs around London and plays every night with his trio at the Hilden Manor Country Club, Tonbridge, using Jack Drummond on plano and Jimmy Auid on lenor, violin, clarinet and vocals.

Icnor, violin, clarinet and vocals.

WENDY JOAN. — These are the names bestowed by Jack Goddard and Mrs. G. on their second daughter, born August 14. We join with the members of Cyril Stapieton's Band—of which saxist-arranger Jack is an outstanding member—and with all Jack's friends in the profession, in offering our heartlest congratulations, and best wishes for Wendy's future.

and best wishes for Wendy's future.

FORBES QUESTING.—Pat Porbes, leader of the South Sea Islanders, who are broadcasting on Priday (5th) from 1.30 to 2 p.m. (Home), and on September 17 from 12.10 to 12.30 p.m. (Home), is to be guest artist with Felix Mendelssohn and his Hawalian Serenaders on two Columbia records, being featured on Hawalian guitar in "South Sea Lullables." Duke Kahonamoku," "Trade Winds" and "Sweet Gardenia Lei."

TENOR FOR TANN.—Due to the

TENOR FOR TANN.—Due to the fact that George Britton is sailing for South Africa at the end of the month, bandleader Ernic Tann is in urgent need of a first tenor sax. He can be contacted at Seven Kings 2146. Incidentally, Ernic, tells us that brother Eric Tann, at present in Australia, has succeeded Brian Lawrence at Romanos in Sydney.

WINNEYT SYAVE ON Originally (30th), Johnny Denis and his

winnert stays on.—Originally booked for three weeks at Caproni's. Bangor, Co. Down, Al Winnett and his Band were first given a five weeks' extension, and now comes news that the contract has been further extended until September 14. This booking was negotiated by Guy Lane, of Brand Lane's London office.

PLEYDELL FOR **SOUTHSEA**

CONCLUDING the season with his own band at the Headland Hotel, Newquay, on September 14, ex-Skyrockets saxist Ronnie Pleydell opens on the 15th, for four weeks at the Savoy Ballroom. Southsea, where he will succeed Tommy Sampson and his Orchestra.

When the Pleydell outfit appeared at Hammersmith Palais some months ago, it was acclaimed by musicians, critics and fans as an outstanding band, and this Southsea booking—which was negotiated by Alf Preager—is another step up the ladder for this enterprising leader.

The band, which Ronnie will lead on alto and ciarinet, will consist of five saxes, trumpet piano, bass and drums.

The Tommy Sampson Band opened at the Savoy on Monday last (1st) at a Naval Ball, and was a conspicuous success.

was a conspicuous success

SALLY DOUGLAS AIR-SINGING AGAIN

A PTER an absence of seven months, well-known ex-Geraldo vocalist Sally Douglas returns to the air next week. Her first broadcast is expected to be with Cyril Stapleton and his Orchestra on Wednesday next

In an exclusive interview with the Melory Maker, Sally said: "For the past seven months, business commitments have been The Premier Drum Co. Ltd. (MT).
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Golden Sq., London, W.1 SER. 2327

INK SPOTS STOP THE TRAFFIC AND STOP THE SHOW!

Eric Arden Leaves **BBC** Dance Music for Light Music

Some surprise will be caused in dance-band broadcasting circles by the announcement that Eric Arden, of the B.B.C Dance Band Department, has given up dance-band producing, and has gone over to the Light Music Department, where he started last Monday (1st).

Eric is one of the few people in the Dance Band Department who has actually had experience as a dance musician, bandleader and arrapger. He started his career in his native Yorkshire, playing plano with Roland Powell's Band on the Midland Hotels circuit, and afterwards led his own band at the Royal Exeter Hotel, Bournemouth, the Majestic Hotel, Harrogate, etc.

During the war, he was a Major in the West Yorkshire Regiment and was a prisoner of war in Germany for four years. He lost his arm in action, and had to give up active participation in dance music, although he still

up active participation in dance music, although he still

Joining the B.B.C. on his demobilisation in October, 1945, he has produced all the Ted Heath broadcasts since Ted's "Top Ten" series, "Quiet Rhythm," etc.

JACK WHITE ACCEPTS **GOLF CHALLENGE**

THERE has been a quick reaction to the story, published in the MELODY MARKE last week, that the Skyrockets have thrown out an open golf challenge to the musical profession.

Jack White and his Band, from the Astoria, Charing Cross Road, London, have leaped into the fray with a public announcement that they will meet the Skyrockets anywhere as a team, and that Jack White himself and his drummer-brother Tom will play any two members of the

will play any two members of the Skyrockets.

As Jack won the Musicians' Union Golf Champienship this year and Tom was the runner-up, the challenge is not thrown out idly, and a thundering good match should result when the two bands meet.

match should result when the two bands meet.

Incidentally, Jack White tells us that he has not yet replaced Sonny Rose in his band at the Astoria, and still needs a good alto-player. With one eye on the impending golf match, he humorously asks us to help find him a good alto "doubling plus two"!

Big Dates for

Northumberland Hotel, Palm Bsy, Margate, last Saturday (30th), Johnny Denis and his Novelty Sextet have been invited to appear there again for Christmas and New Year's week.

Last Sunday (31st) the Sextet, with Billie Campbell, were heard in "Variety Band Eox," and the following day motored to Derby for two "Workers' Flaytime" broadcasts. This Priday (September 6) they televise in a thirty-minute programme at 9:30 p.m. The following Monday they inaugurate a weekly nameband policy at the Royal Star Hotel, Maidstone. On Friday, September 12, with Denny Dennis as guest star, they form the first of a series of attractions at the Royal Forest Hotel, Chingford.

After a week at the Winter Gardens, Weston - super - Mare (commencing September 22) Johnny and the boys return to the Bray House Club in Town on September 29.

El Marios Busy

EL MARIO'S All-Ladies' Latin-its "Variety Bandbox" airing on September 7, is rapidly be-coming one of the regular broad-

costing speciality bands.

Their manager, Desmond A.
Hart, of the Victor Silvester-Oscar Grasso Productions, Ltd.,
tells us that the girls are rehearsing for a series of theatrical
bookings both in this country

and abroad.

Impresario Maestro Mario, the originator of this band, has several new ideas up his sleeve to incorporate into the outfit

GOUGH BACK FROM CZECHO.

FTER a most successful and busy three months' season at the Cariton Hotel. Marianske Lazne, Czechoslovakia, ex-Roy Fox and Teddy Foster saxist, Geoff, Gough and his Boys, are back in London and looking for new worlds to conquer.

In a country where the British are looked upon with the great-est respect. Geoff. and the boys

have enjoyed a grand season.
With Geoff, on this Continental date were John Aubrey
(tenor); Ron Adams (trumpet);
Johnny Roberts (plano); Frank
Harriott (bass); and Frank Harriott (bass) Wright (drums).

THE INK SPOTS ARE HERE!
THEY CAME, SANG AND
CONQUERED IN THE INTERNATIONAL VARIETY BILL AT
THE LONDON CASINO ON MONBAY (1st), STOPPING THE
TRAFFIC OUTSIDE THE
THEATRE AND STOPPING THE
SHOW INSIDE. JAM-PACKED
HOUSES HAVE BEEN GIVING
THEM AN OVATION AT EVERY
PERFORMANCE, AND THEIR APPEARANCE MAS UNDOUBTEDLY
CREATED A SENSATION.
The MELODY MAKER INTERVIEWED

The MELODY MAKER interviewed

The Melody Maker interviewed the four boys who comprise this world-famed act in their dressing room before they made their bow to the British public, and here are the authentic facts that their legion of admirers have been waiting to find out.

The four Ink Spots are Bill Kenny (who sings the high notes and leads the quartet): his twin brother Herb Kenny (who does the low-toned recitative): Charles Fuqua (guitar): and Billy Bowen (rhythm singer) accompanied by their own planist, Haroid Francis.

The oft-repeated story that the Ink Spots were originally sweepers at the Paramount Theatre, New York, and were heard singing at the mike by the manager in between their work is, we now learn, not quite in accordance with the facts. Actually the act originally started in 1930 as the "Riff Brothers," and made a feature of dancing rather than singing. than singing.

HISTORY

They changed their name in the early 'thirties to the Ink Spots, and developed a hot and individual style of swing-inging. It was this act which Jack Hylton brought to London in 1934, and it included only one of the present-day personnel — 36-y-ar-old guitarist Charles Puqua, who has been with the act since its inception.

ception.

When the quartet returned to the States after its English visit, business was so had that they were, about to disband when Philadelphia college graduate Bill Kenny joined the act and changed its fortunes.

His amazing voice with its

changed its fortunes.

His amazing voice, with its natural soprano range, was made the focal point of the quartet's numbers, and a distinctive commercial style was hit upon which has resulted in the lik Spots hecoming not only the world's greatest song-pluggers on records, but also the most imitated act in the world.

Gipay." not to mention "Bless You," "Whispering Grass," "Do I Worry?" and dozens of others. From the professional point of view, their act is thoroughly commercial and very piea-ing, dominated by the outstandingly charming personallity of Bill Kenny and the humorous antics of Billy ("Butterball") Bowen. While they are singing, Herb Kenny plucks a 'cello in the style of a double-bass but, as far as we were concerned, this seemed to add nothing to the rhythm engendered by the plane and guitar.

STAGE-ACT

Beautifully dressed in white uniforms, the Ink Spots put over the numbers which every listener to a B.B.C. request programme will know by heart, and their only concession to the swing idiom from which they emanated is "Java Jive," featuring Billy Bowen.

While it is perhaps invidious to criticise an act that is so world-famous on the stage and records, we thought that Bill Kenny talked a bit too much, and that his announcements were overlong and occasionally rambling. This might have been due to first-night nerves.

This might have been due to firstnight nerves.

The only other point is that,
when Herb Kenny does his spoken
interpolations in the famous
deep voice, he shakes his head
(apparently at the perfidy of
life!) while he is talking. The
result is that his voice keeps on
fading, and, as his interpolations
are the high-spot of every performance to the British public,
this small point might well be
rectified.

rectified.

However, those are just minor criticisms. The truth of the matter is that the link Spots have taken London by storm. A traffic jam, the like of which we do not remember seeing outside the London Casino since Bing Crosby appeared there in 1944, is just one example of the way in which the Eritish public have taken the eminently likeable link Spots to their bosom.

eminently likeable Ink spots to their bosom.

Fans should note that the Ink Spots are appearing at two special concerts, with Harry Parry and his Sextet, at the Trocadero, Elenhant and Castle, on Sunday (7th) at 4.30 and 8 p.m., and at the Gaumont, Hammersmith, on the following Sunday (14th). They are broadcasting from the Casino next Monday (8th), 7.35 p.m., Light.

the world.

Their records now sell in millions, and discs such as "If I Didn't Care," which they made in 1937, are still selling as strongly as ever. They have only to sing a number and record it to make it a hit. and they did this with the British song "The large of the large



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the Contest News

THE WEEK'S

AREA FINALS

*

*

Next Thursday (11th) the "All-Scotland" Area Final will be held, at 8 p.m., in the St. Andrew's Hall,

Glasgow.
The following bands have qualified

R.A.F. Wig Bay Quartet of Stran-

Individualists' award for Tenor (John Daniel Spines).

be destred.

acclamation.

HELD on Wednesday of last week HELD on Wednesday of last week (27th) at the magnificently appointed Docking Hall, the Mid-Surrey Champsomship affracted more normal Saturday average for the hall of 250 which is the record attendance figure since the hall was de-requisitioned early this year. Handled by Syd Morris, the organisation itself was as near perfection as is possible. A veritable triumph for all concerned.

Dorking Halls, Wednesday, August 27. Judges; E. O. Pegson, Edgar Jackson.

Jackson.

Jackson.

Winners: Ron Davis and his Danée
Grobestra (four saxes, three trumpets, trombone, piano, bass, drums).
All coms.: 160, Church Hill Road,
Cheam, Surrey. ('Phone: Fairlands
9090.,
Individualists' awards for: Alto
(Phit Leasock): Trumpet (Dorek
Seweff): Trombone (Jack Borney):
Piano (Bert Gramper): Bass (Doug
Woolgar). Hon mention for: Trumpet
(Tommy Stanley): Drums (Sarry
Benns).
Second: Ted Wix and his Music
(four saxes, two trumpets, trombone,
piano, bass, drums). All coms.: 71,
Brook Road, Merstham, Surrey.
Individualist's award for: Tenor
(Den Gravis). Hon mention for Trumpet (Ted Wicks).

Third: Gil Gasson and his Harmoniques (plano, secordion, guitar, bass
drums). All coms.: 14, Gordon Road,
drums). All coms.: 14, Gordon Road.

Third: Git Gassen and his Harmoniques spiano, accordion, guitar, bass drums; All coms; 14, Gordon Road, Kingston-on-Thames.
Individualist's award for: Guitat (Githert M. O. Gasson): Hon mention for: Accordion (Laslie Mace); Plano (George A. Clarke).
Raymond and his Music of Scale secured Individualist's awards for: Clarinet (Frank Morton); Drums (Ken Ward). Hon mention for: Alto (Frank Morton); Bass (Richard A. Thomas). DONCASTER

ON Thursday (28th) the South-East
Yerkshire District Championship,
presented by Lewis Burkley at the Corn
Exchange, Don'ssier, became a battle
between a modern awing group and an
eld-time juzz outfit which granted no
concessions to modernity and which was

J. and D. Howcrett's "Asterians," 1947
Lincoln County Chanpieca, acted as house band and kept up the interest between the competing bands a speak was a seried as house band and kept up the interest between the competing bands' appear-

ances.

1967 South East Tockshire District Championship, Curn Exchange, Doncaster, Thursday, Angust 28.

Judges: Les Evans, Jerry Dawson.
Winners: The Len Marshall Dance Orchestra (four saxes, two trumpets, trombone, plano, bass, drums and conductor). All coms: "Arcadia," Hallam Gouve, Western Avenue, Lincoln. (Thone: Lincoln 6362.) Individualists' award for Alto (Arthur Edward Simpson). Hon. mention for: Drums (Frank "Brum" Prier) and Clarinet (Alfred Edward Stafford).

Price) and Clarinet (Alfred Edward Stafford).

Second: The Jazz Heands (Clar/Sop. sax, trumpet, piano, guitar, bam and drams). All coms: Duncan Ballantyne.

"Grasmere," Moorgate, Rotherham. Individualists' awards for: Piano (Dem Waterhamse): Guitar (Matt Hopewell); and Bass (Eric Green). Hon mention for Drums (Jimmy Feighery).

Third: The Ken Louis Swinglette (Trumpet, tenor clar, piano, bass and drums). All coms: Louis Tindall. 19, Burngreave Bank, Pitsmoor, Sheffield, Individualists' awards for: Trumpet (Harry Tindall): Clarinet (Bernard Harrison): Drums (Ken Wilson).

The Geznd Embassy Band, of Doncaster, secured Individualists' award for Trumpetone (Geoffrey Newman) and the R.A.F. (Scampton) Dance Sand secured

ALTO SAXOPHONES
John Grey, ED. Kohhe E.P., SE. Levin
ULA. Sis. Bearcher, St. Rew Broaswick,
SS. Betteney (USA:, £50, Selmer, 516,
Bearcher, ES. King, £55, Com., £65,
Promylvann, £50, Engelber Aristocral, £76,
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Congresse). Hon mentions for: Alto (George Massan); Trumpe: (Matthew Davison). Second: The Gordon Kitto Quintette (Trumpet, alto'clar. piano, bass, drums). All coms: Gordon Kitto. 24. South View, Wheatley Hill, Co. Durham. Individualists' awards for: Alto and Clarinet (Derek Hamble): Bass (John Hamble). Third: Alee Laws and his Embassy Band (Tenor, trumpet, piano, haus, drums). All coms: Alec Laws, E. St. Margaret's Avenue. Benton. Newcastle. Individualists' awards for: Trumpet (Chas. Rowlands): Tenor (Ossi Riani). George Netson and his Band, of West Hartlepool, secured the Individualists' award for Drums (Danny Jones). CONTEST

BEDWORTH, WARWICKSHIRE.—Tomorrow, Friday, September 3, 1941 (8 p.m.
10 1 s.m.), at Arden Bailroom, Bedworth,
near Nunration.—The 1947 West Midlands
Champhonship, Organiser Mr Arthur
Kimbrell, 28, Rugby Road, Hinckley,
Leics. ("Phone: Hinckley 563.)
CHELTENHAM.—To-morrow, Friday,
September 5 (8 p.m. to midnight), at The
Town Hall.—The "Three Counties"
Championship, "House Band." Blue
Serenaders, winners of the 1947 Gloucestershire County Championship, Organiser;
Mr. Lewis Buckley, 28, Carr Lane, Birkdale, Southport, Lancs. (Ainada'e 75278.) dele. Southport. Lancs. (Arnsdale 18128.)
WHGAN.—Sanday next. September 7
(7 p.m. to 9.30 p.m.). at The Bits Cinema.
before a seated audience.—The 1947 West
Lancashire Championship. (Entry list
full.) Organiser: Mr. Lewis Buckley. (See
Chaltenham.)

BANDS at the 1968 Morthern Counties Champtenetter) Paints do Economical Champtenetter) Paints do Steme inst Priday (Segmi S), were interested to Stat judging ofth Edgar Rechass a Northern personality new in "M.M." contents. He was tandleader-penalst Rack Judan, well known for his "Playmost dan, well known for his "Playmost Pingers," "Staythus Time" (In Which he directs his coing group), and "Bins Stong" breadcasts.

ALL arrangements are now complete for the 1947 North Britain (Enstern Region) Arta Final at the sun Royal Mail, Bridlington, at 7 p.m. this Sunday (7th), before a seated audience—the first of the eight Area Pinals which are the semi-dinals for the great All-Britain Final at Manchester on Sunday, October 19. the following bands are due to

Aubrey Hirst and his Westheurne Players of Huddersfield. J. and D. Howeroft's Asterians of Poncester.
Fred Manders' Quintet of Sheffield.
Lan Marshall Orchestra of Lincoln.
George Mason and his Stand of
Ashington.

display of his terrifle; plans technique

1927 Nobrussen Countries ChaffPictopinty, Friday, August 25, at Levenshulme Palais to Danes, Hanchester,
Judger: Jack Jordan, Bilger Seakeste,
Winners: Al. Wowelld. opennyters
(Alto, plano, gutter, ham, denna). dl.
Parkgate Bond, Chaster. Individualist
awards for: Alto (Danele Williams),
Plano (Humy Chaffeurs), Guitar (KenHorgan), Drunn (Harrolt Jeans), Hot.
mention for: Bass (Kolfa Etsmerier).
Hecand: Mintendot-Weitschaft Silkyre
(Trumpet, vibraphone, plano, gutter,
has, drums), Ballsbury Hotel, Munga,
Oldham. (Phone: Main (Oldham) 2554.)
Individualists' dwards for: Trumpet
(John Lawton), Vibraphone (Jack Bacter),
Third: Jonsiny Bullion, three hands,
plano, bass, drums). 181, Liverpool
Hoad, Ot. Bankny, Warrington. (Phone:
Friketh 2524.) Individualists' awards
for: Trunc (John A. Farmer), Bass
(Robert Spensor). Hon. mentions for:
Princ (John J. Dutton), Drums (Gorden
Bally). Ashington.

The Pramier Players of Otley. Gladys Tathot and her Medernaires of Doncastef.

The Top Ven Orchestra of Liveraedge, Yorks.

The Anton Forrest Quartet of North Shields, and the 4-Star Quartet of Leeds, who also had qualified for this Area Final, are unable to compete. Supporting the competing bands there will be Tito Bisras and his B.B.C. Accordion Club Band.

They will close the afternoon with a special stage presentation.

shop window they could have wished for when, at the 1947 South Wales Championship last Sanday evening (August 31) they were given the full facilities of the magnificently lighted and equipped stage of the Capitat Casema, (ardiff, to present themselves before a seated audience of nearly 1,500 Weish enthusiasts.

Supporting the bands was swing organ virtuoso Robin Richmand, who sprang a surprise by singing swing numbers and blossoming out as a great showman, as well as playing the theatre's Hammond. The final touches were put to a great evening by Leslie Adams. SOUTH WALKS bands had the firest

The following bands have qualined for this event:

Broadway Swingers Dance Orchestra of West Lothian.

Jimmy Colquinous and his Music Makers of Paisley.

Imperial Dance Band of Alloa.

The Heart Morrison Quintette of R.A.F. Wig Bay Quartet of Stranraer.

The New Style Sextet of Dunder,
who also had qualified for this Area
Final, are unable to compete.

This contest will be in the form of
a special late night dunce, and the
Chalmers Wood Dance Orchestra will
be there as "house" band to support
the competing bands.

For further details of these two
Area Pinals and the North Britain
(Western Region) Area Final, to be
run in two sections at the Empress
Bailroom, Blackneel, at 2 p.m. on
Sunday week (18th), with the Tito
Burns Band again appearing as a
special attraction see Fixture List
below.

evening by Leslie Adams.

1947 SOUTH WALES CHAMPIONSHIP,
Capitol Cinema, Cardiff, 3 und 6 y.
August 31, 1947.

Judges: Billy Penrose, Edgar Jackson,
Wisners: ANEURIN THOMAS AND
HIS COLLEGIANS (three sames, trumpet, accordion, piano, bass, drums, conductor). "Blagdon," Princos Avenue,
Caerphilly, Glam. ("Phone: Caerphilly
1110.) Individualists' awards for: Allo
(Vivian Milcheff): Accordion (Desmis
Jones). Hon. mention for Trumpet
(Garfield Bretand).

Second: BERT MILLER'S MAYFARE
SEXTETE (alto/clarinet, renor, trumpet, piano, bass, drums). 18, Beauchamp
Street, Riverside, Cardiff. ("Phone: Cardiff 1872.) Individualists' awards for:
Trumpet (Ren Hewings): Bass (Reg
Chick). Hon. mentions for: Alto and
Clarinet (Bert Miller); Drums (Frank
Fitsgeraid).

Third: ELWYN DAVIES QUINTET

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE
HELD on Friday last (29th), in the
spacious Oxford Galleries, where
the management; co-operated wholeheartedly with organizer Clement Millard, the presentation of the Northumberland County Championship left little to Third: ELWYN DAVIES QUINTET (tenor, piano, guitar, basa, drums).

34, New Road, Loughor, Swanses, Glam.
Individualists' awards for: Tenor (Flwys Davies); Piano (Charlie Thomas); Guitar (Alwyn Davies).

With a packed home of almost 1.502 dancers, compère Leslie Adams introduced the aix competing bands, while the two resident home hands kept the show moving amouthly along.

An added last-minute attraction was a former and the statement and the shown and the shown and the shown are the shown as the shown as the shown are the shown as the shown One of the largest attendances seen at the sumptuous Walthamstow Town Hall was present last Memday (1st) at the North-East London Championship.

Among the guests were the Mayor, Alderman Shiney Chaptin, J.P., who presented the prizes, and the Mayoress, Mrs. Chaplin.

The Entertainments Manager had cooperated enthusiastically with the the appearance of Tommy Sampson and his new Orchestra, which made a tre-mendous impression on the assembled dancers and fans and received riotous

The Entertainments Manager had cooperated enthusiastically with the
"MM's" O.L.A.C.O.C. to provide
special facilities for presenting the contest, even to building a special stand for
Teddy Lawford and his Music, who
acted as home band.

With so many of the larger bands having already qualified for their Area
Final, the contest consisted mainly of
small combinations. But they put up a
good show. acciamation.

The contest produced an outstanding musician in the person of a sixteen-yeara-old sax and clarinet player who was awarded the individualist's prize for both his instruments, and was adjudged to be the best musician of the evening.

1947 Northumberland County Cham-pionship, Oxford Galleries, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Friday, August 29. Judges: Les Evans and Jerry Dawson. Judges: Les Evans and Jerry Bawson, Winners: George Masson and his Band (three saxes, two frampets, trombone, piano, guitar, bass and drums). All coms: George Masson, 164, Juliet Street, Ashington, Northumberland. Individualists awards for: Trombone (Wiffred Priestley): Piano (Edward Watson); Guitar (Henner Congreve). Hon mentions for: Alto (George Masson); Trumpe: (Matthew Davison). 1947 NORTH-EAST LONDON CHAM-

1947 NORTH-EAST LONDON CHAMPIONSHIP. Town Hall, Walthamatow,
Monday, September 1, 1947.
Judges: Tito Burns, Freddie Gardser.
Harry Hayes, Moss Kaye.
Winners: REGENCY SWINGTETTE
(violin, clarinet/tenor, piano, bass,
druma), All coma: Cooff May, 20, The
Vale, Woodford Green, Essex. (Phone:
Buchurat 5405.) Individualists' swards
for: Violin (Geoffrey T. May): Tenor
(Anbrey P. Denney): Bass (Jack Surridge): Drums (Frank E. Ditcham).
Second: WILL BOUSE SWINGTETTE
(clarinet, piano, guitar, bass, drums).
77b. Hamlet Road, Chelmsford, Essex.
Individualists' awards for: Clarinet
(Frederick Chapman): Pinno (William F.
Bouse): Guitar (Romald Attleberry).
Third: KEN ELMS QUINTETTE (tenor,
trumpet, piano, bass, drums). 224. North
Street, Romford, Essex. Individualist's
award for Trumpet (Lea Griffithe).
mention for Piano (Cecil Newbury).

FIXTURES

at the Empress Ballroom. Winter Gardens (2 to 5 p.m.), before a seated audience.—The 1947 North Britain (Western Region) Area Final, Sections "A" and "B." Special stage presentation by Tite Burns and his B.B.C. Accordion Club Band. Organiser: Mr. Lewis Buckley.

Special slage presentation by The Barms and his B.B.C. Accordion Club Rand. Organiser: Mr. Lewis Buckley.

LONDON.—Thursday, September 18, at the Lyceum Theatre "Mecca" Bathroom, Weilington Street, Stread, W.C.2 (7.30 pm. to midnight).—The 1947 Greater London Area Final. Hon-stop dancing to the competing bands and Les Ayling's (resident) Band. Organisers: The "M.M." G.L.A.C.O.C. Tickets (at the doors) 4s.; or in advance, from Mr. Lyn Morgan, 50, Kings Gardens, N.W.S. Mr. Bill Waller, "Red Ridge," Epsom Downs, Surrey; or Ed. Waller, 154, South Norwood Hill, S.E.25.

LONDON.—Tunday, September 22, 21 the Bammersmith Palais de Banse (7.15 to 11.30 p.m.).—The 1947 Senth Beitain (Eastern Region) Area Final, Section "A." Non-stop dancing to the Resident Pa'als Bands. Organisers: Mylody Marra Contests Control Committee.

BATH.—Wednesday, September 24, at the Payllion (7.30 p.m. to midnight).—The 1947 South Britain (Western Region) Area Final,—South Britain (Western Region) Area Final,—South Britain (Bantern Region) Area Final Special stage presentation by Tho Burns and his B.B.C. Accordion Band. Organiser: Mr. Lewis Buckley.

LEMESTER.—Sumbay, September 28, at the de Montfert Hall (2.30 to 5.50 p.m.), before a mated sudience.—The 1947 Mid-Britain (Ensiern Region) Area Final, Section "B" Non-stop dancing to the competing bands and the Resident Falais Bands Organiser: Mr Arthur Kimbrell.

LONDON.—Tuenday, September 30, at the Hammersmith Palais de Bunse (7.15 to 11.30 p.m.).—The 1947 South Britain (Fastern Region) Area Final, Section "B" Non-stop dancing to the competing bands and the Resident Falais Bands Organiser: The "M.M."

BISMINGHAM.—Sunday, October 5, at the Odeon Cinema, Warier 16 to 9 p.m.; before a seated audience.—The 1947 Mid-Britain (Western Region) Area Final, Organiser: Mr. Arthur Kimbrell.

1947 "ALD-BEITAIN "FINAL"

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PUBLIC MITTEES #4 per word Resident Description of the Police Season 1967/1980. Tenders are nested for the epocationest of an 4-or standard lineary of the Police Standard In the Police St will be under the control of the Municipal Dance Organiser. Tenders, giving full details of the Orchestra, the name of each member and the instrument played, whether available for auditions and the terms of engagement, should be sent in scaled envelopes endorsed "Dance Orchestra," to the undersigned not later than 12 neon, on Thursday, September 11, 1947.—W. P. Errington, Town Clerk, Municipal Others, 54, High St., Seunthorpe, August 28th, 1947.

SPECIAL MOTICES DL per word

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Leader of the Band



FREDDY PLATT
With the exception of a few months spent at Margate last summer, Freddy Platt has been at the Cariton Ball-room, Rochdale, since its epening 13 years ago. Has breadcast (North) in "R.S.Y.P.," "Band of the Week" and "The Dansant," also in "Saturday Night at the Palais." Can be heard again in "Northern Palais" on September 16.

GOSSIP

RECEIVED a surprise 'phone call a day or so ago from drummer Bert Johnson, father of drummer Les Johnson, who recently migrated from Stockport to South Africa. Bert has returned home to settle his affairs and take his wife back to the Union with him. He tells me that Les is now settled down at the Bohemian Night Club in Capetown. Planist Arthur Abbott, who has been leading for the summer at the Empress Ballroom. Wigan, is now at Llandudno with Art Gregory. A peculiar situation has apparently arisen at Wigan, where Billy Forrest was due to return after his season at Duncon. Empress proprietor Ed. Farrimond tells me that the members of the Forrest Band are returning, with trombonist Dick Unsworth temporarily leading. Billy appears to have other plans for the future. Maestro Richard Valery has contracted to instal a band at Urmston Baths, Manchester, for the local Council on two nights each week during the winter season, playing one night each of Olde Tyme and modern dancing. Nine strong, the Valery Band will be led by planist. "Pip" Walker. Wanted Dept. Reub Platt could use a planist for his band at Chorlton Palais, Manchester, whilst Norman Heap ttelephone Central at Choriton Palais, Manchester, whilst Norman Heap ttelephone Central 8188 can fix a drummer vocalist for three nights per week. The vocal part is a "must, space pawson

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DANCE MUSIC AT EDINBURGH

BRIGHTON

THE formation of a new double act by Brighton musicians, Ken Lyon and David Mason, who made their debut in the current show at London's Windmill Theatre (as reported in the "M.M." August 16), has caused one or two changes in local bands. Ken, who has been sharing bandleading honours with Al Feld at the Bussex Country Sportsmans' Club has handed over to local maestro's Howard Lee and Bill Siviers to keep the good work going there.

His relief band at the Regent Dance Hall has been taken over by planist Cecil Creamer, who will also be looking after Ken's extensive gig connection in conjunction with planist Claude Sadier who leads the Ken Lyon Music Makers at the Restaurant Imperial.

David Mason's place at the THE formation of a new double

Makers at the Restaurant Imperial.

David Mason's place at the plano with Syd Dean has been taken by Frank Harlow who has been spending the summer with Ken Lyon at the Sussex Sportsmans' Club after a long association with Ronnie Pleydell.

Frank is well known for his super arrangements for the orchestra in the B.B.C. Monday night feature. "Songs from the Shows." and he will find himself with further broadcasting activities now he is with Syd Dean who

ties now he is with Syd Dean who has fixed a series of "Bright and Early" airings to augment his airendy long list of air dates.

RITCHIE TAKES OVER AT SCARBOROUGH

WITH the retirement of Leon Hampson from the leader-ship of the resident band of the Olympia, Scarborough Charles

ship of the resident band of the Dlympia, Scarborough Charles Ritchie has taken over, and his "Skyliners" have become very popular with the local dancers.

The "Skyliners" consists of Charles Ritchie and Maurice Sheardley (tpts.); Allan Smith (trombone); Eddie Edwards and Neville Coates (altos); Bud Abbott and Norman Binns (tenors); Bill Holland (drums); Ken Smith (piano); Charles Lee (bass); and Kay Varley (vocaliste). Lee (bass) (vocaliste).

The Olympia is the biggest palais in the town, and, by the attendances so far this season, it is enjoying a boom.

Some very encouraging remarks have been passed about the hand, and it is 'nor'd their o pularity will not pass unnoticed when next the B.B.C. travel North for "Round the Coast" broadcasts.

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FESTIVAL

EDINBURGH'S Festival of Music and Drama has given a fillip to dancing in the Capital, and at the Festival Club in George Street, late night dances are proving one of the most popular features of the Festival.

In the Music Hall, and the Assembly Rooms, which have been specially prepared and adapted for the purposes of the club, two orchestras play nightly for dancing from 10.30 to 1 am. (midnight on Saturday, as a concession to the Scottish Sabbath).

Both Orchestras are under the agency of Alex Walke, whose own combination is featured in the music-hall. Alex (violin tenor) leads a 7-piecer; other members of which are Jimmy Harrower (plano); Johnny Campbell (alto); Jimmy Todd (tenor); Jimmy West (tpt.); Leslie Alen (drums); and Billy Stewart (bass).

The Assembly Rooms orchestra

(bass). The Assembly Rooms orchestra Ine Assembly Rooms orchestra is under the leadership of Alex Loughlin (alto); and comprises Tommy Loughlin (alto/bari-tone); Tommy Burgess (tpt.); Dave McRae (piano); Jackie Bain (tenor); George Rutherford (drums); and Douglas Rellly

bass). Both Both orchestras are well equipped to tackle the Scottish country dance music requested so frequently by members of the

ANOTHER "MISS WANTED

THREE former "Stars in Battledress," now in their eighth week at the Blue Bell Hotel, Scunthorpe (Lines), are anxious to augment their line-up by the inclusion of a girl instrumentalist.

by the inclusion of a girl instru-mentalist.

Under the title of "Three Hits and a Miss," the outfit is led by drummer Larry Cassidy and com-prises "Variety Band Box" pianist Peter Johnstone and "The Voice of Romance" Clifford Houston. The "Miss" is vocalist Gloria Mayne. For this com-bination a girl swing xylophonist or clarinettist is asked to con-tact Larry at the Blue Bell Hotel without delay.

SCOTLAND

GLASGOW

NOT so well known to local dancers, but quite familiar to radio listeners, the Blue Mariners, led by George (Herrs Crow, and featuring Rae Whitaker, are playing a season at Green's, this being their first visit. Accent here is on danceable rhythm rather than fireworks.

Pollowing the departure of trombone Billy Hall, Jack Chapman sats goodbye this week to bassist Tommy Renwick, who has been at the Albert since Jack's start in 1910. Tommy saw service in the R.A.F. during the war, and is now taking a job in clvil aviation.

Music at the Dinnon Pavilion, local Town Coupail promotion, is being supplied during September by a band from Glasgow which was being recruited at the time of writing by trumpet Jimmy Couper, who recently played with Louis Freeman's Band at Lamlash, Arran.

During September, Glasgow's Kelvin Hall will be occupied by a signantic Youth and Recreation Exhibition but

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HOT NOTES

During September, Glasgow's Relvant Hall will be occupied by a signatic Youth and Regreation Exhibition, but the important question of music has not been forgotten. The dance floor and skating rink will be reopened, and the music supplied by Willie and the music supplied by Willie and the music supplied by wither wilson's Band will be available to

Wilson's Band will be available to exhibition natrons.

Bertie Toolas, once with Oscar Rabin, and now settled down at home is temporarily on tenor at the Berkeley white leader Alec Henter reconstructs. "M.M." notability Edgar Jackson was an interested visitor to the recording studio operated by Bertie and his partner Leslie Perguson, and as a result of this they will record the proceedings at the Scottish Area Contest Finals on September 11.

Hugh Hinshelwood Hugh Hinshelwood

EDINBURGH

WHEN his reinstatement claim against Tim Wright. Edinburgh band leader and dance-hall owner, was rejected on the grounds that it was "hopelessly late." Alex. Loughlin, leader of the Assembly Rooms Orchestra at Edinburgh Festival Club, complained to Edinburgh Reinstatement Committee that prior to demobilisation Servicemen did not get enough advice about reinstatement procedure. Larger crowds than ever are being advice about reinstatement procedure.

Larger crowds than ever are being attracted to the Burma Palais. Kirk-caldy, Pife, by Johnny Clark and his orchestra, who were brought back to the hall after a month's absence which followed the expiry of their original contract.

Under Johnsoy (1st tpt.): are Harold Steward (2nd tpt.): Bobby Clark (trombone): Ronnie Baker. Bob Johnstone. Sam Steward and George Keillor (saxes): Jack Taylor (piano): George Riggans (bass): Ian Miller (drums): and Netta Rigrans (vocals). Bill MacIntyre, late M.D. and violinist under the Clive Parsons agency for the Union Castle Steamship Co., is currently at the Plaza, Kirkcaldy, with Archie Lambert's band.

Bill also does a lot of gig work with his own outfit, which often includes George Miller (plano); and Ian Miller (drums).

(drums).

NORTHERN IRELAND

ON September 1, Norman White's Band made way for Ernie Black-burn and his Band at the Memorial Hall, Londonderry. The Blackburn outfit has been resident at the Kingsoutfit has been resident at the Kingsway Ballroom in Belfast for the past
two years, and with Ernie himself
leading on tenor the band lines-up as
follows: Deasie McDermot talto and
clar.; Bill Thompson (trumpet);
Johnny Graham (drms.; and Pierce
Quinn (pno.), Vocalist and comedy
man with the band is Jack Cox.

An outfit which has become very
popular with Northern Ireland listeners is the Ted Teare Novelty Quintet. Their many fans will have
further opportunities to hear them on
September 12, and again towards the
end of the month on the Northern
Ireland Home Service.



In lighter voin, Bill Hawkins and his boys, at the flitz Palais, Bury, disport themselves in appropriate garb prior to playing an election session. L. to r. are (bask): Dick Mawson, Phil Freeman, Johnny Green, Jimmy Hargraaves, Jimmy Hope ("driving"), Bill Hawkins, Tommy Hicking and Jimmy Duxbury. (Front): Ted Tweedale, George Pears, Albert Sampson and Norman Poynton.

REQUISITIONED during the war, but now completely renovated, the Tower Ballroom, at Edgbaston, Birmingham, is to reopen on September 27, with an eight-piece band led by well-known saxclarinettist, Peter Rose, who has been touring with Ronnie Munro, David Miller, Nat Allen, Phil Green, Billy Cotton and other stage bands, since leaving the Royal Artillery, in which he served as a Regimental Sergeant Major.

Which means, of course, that two famous ballrooms in Birmingham, which are being revived, the Tower and the West End, are to have bandleaders named Rose, for Sonny Rose is to lead at the West End from early October, while Peter Rose, a close friend, but not related, goes to the Tower! to the Tower!

Peter Rose first attracted at-tention with Jack Hylton many years ago. A sound saxophonist, playing chiefly tenor, he has also featured as a bandleader at clubs and dance-halls all over the country.

At the Tower Ballroom, where he will lead on tenor, using three additional saxes, trumpet and three rhythm, the managing director is former bandleader, Bert Thomas, who was M.D., licensee and manager of the Palais de Danse, Birmingham, for 14 years, Bert left the Palais to take his band to the Opera House, Covent Garden, in 1936, and went back to Birmingham as manager of the Tower Ballroom before the war.

VINNERS of the 1947 Mersey-side Championship, held at Liverpool recently, Bobby Nick and his Swingtette are profiting from their success, and amongst the dates which they have in the book is one aboard s.s. "St. Seriol" for a river cruise. INNERS of the 1947 Mersey-

HIGH WYCOMBE M.U. MEETING THIS SUNDAY

FAMOUS London musicians,
Van Phillips and violinist
George Hurley, will be the chief
speakers at a musicians' rally
which will be held this Sunday
(7th) at the Swan Hotel, Pauls
Row, High Wycombe, at 11 a.m.,
when it is hoped that sufficient
support will be forthcoming to
enable an M.U. branch to be
formed. formed.

Providing that enough new

Providing that enough new members are enrolled, the meeting will be declared an inaugural one, and officers and committee will be elected on the spot.

The meeting has been convened by Harry Francis, enterprising South-East Area Organiser for the M.U., and all musicians in the district should make a point of attending. attending.

A FTER a brief holiday, following their season at Hammersmith Palais de Danse, Vincent Ladbrooke and his Orchestra
are playing this current week
(commencing 8th) at the Winter
Gardens Ballroom, Southend.
This will be followed by a
further two weeks of one-nighters
around the Midlands which will
include a number of "Battle of
Britain" dances.

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