HEATH WINS SWING CROWN:
GERALDO JUST PIPS STAPLETON
IN SWEET BAND SECTION

J ust in time for Christmas, the poll results of the 1947 Melody Maker dance band poll are published. Geraldo and Jack Parnell and his quartet are first in the popular, small combination category. Of the ten bands mentioned, the top three are all from the Sweet band, and small combination respectively.

M. U. approves dizzy Gillespie visit here

Following his first visit to London, Charlie Dickerson, the music director of the Union of Musicians, has approved the visit of Charlie Mr. Gillespie to Britain.

PREAGER'S ROYAL DATE

A signal honour was accorded yesterday at the Union Hall, 114, Great Portland Street, London, W.1, to the famous American band leader, Mr. Preager. His visit to England was marked by a special reception given by the Union of Musicians, who presented him with a beautiful bouquet of flowers.

The band performed at the Union Hall, where they were joined by many of the leading musicians of the city.

Grieff Settles at Fischers

Mr. Grieff, who has been associated with Fischers since 1931, has been appointed as the new manager of the establishment. He will take up his duties on January 1st.

RAFT AT ASTORIA

Mr. Raft, the famous American actor, arrived in London this morning. He is to appear in the Astoria Cinema, which is to be opened next week. Mr. Raft will stay at the Hotel Astoria during his stay in London.

The new Astoria Cinema is to be opened next week, and will be the first cinema in the West End to be opened since the war. It will have a seating capacity of 2,000.

HARRY PARRY'S PROGRESS

After Operation

Harry Parry, the well-known music publisher, has had an operation on his voice. He is expected to make a complete recovery.

REINHARDT-GRAPPELLY AND FRENCH HOT CLUB GROUP
FOR ENGLISH TOUR

Great news for swing fans in general and the host of Grappelly-Reinhardt fans in particular is that the French quintet, the original band led by Reinhardt and Grappelly, are shortly to be featured in variety in England.

This is a coup for the Royal Variety show, and it is expected that the appearance of the group will be a highlight of the show. The quintet will be accompanied by the London Music Centre Orchestra.

Williamson Music Limited

Greetings from London's Music Centre

IRVING BERLIN LIMITED

CHAPPELL & CO. LTD.

VICTORIA MUSIC CO. LTD.

ADWIN H. MORRIS CO. LTD.

FLUSH BRACING

The Premier Drum Co. Ltd.
British Cartoons Move to Norman Music

by Claude Lipscombe

JOHN NORMAN, pioneer of movie music in this country, was back in his old haunts and in the presence of the composer of the signature tunes and music that will launch yet another British cartoon movie this Christmas.

British Animated Productions Ltd. and its artist, Charles Eames, are back with another film in its series of "Humours" and it is to be hoped that they will continue to work in the same form and style for which they are known.

Nor has there been a change of personnel and Norman has continued to work on his own projects.

He has consented to write the music for the next film in the series and has also written the score for a new production by the same company.

The result is a film that will be released before Christmas and which promises to be as successful as its predecessors.

The music is, as always, a feature of the film and Norman has again demonstrated his ability to create a score that is both interesting and enjoyable.

It is to be hoped that the film will be as successful as its predecessors and that Norman will continue to work in the same vein for the company.

HITS AND PIECES

by Sammy Quaver

A HAPPY CHRISTMAS and new career for Sammy Quaver was secured this week, when he was appointed musical director of a new production by the company.

The film is "Humours," a musical comedy that will be released before Christmas and which promises to be a hit.

Quaver's appointment as musical director is a sign of the company's confidence in his ability to create a score that will be as successful as its predecessors.

It is to be hoped that the film will be as successful as its predecessors and that Quaver will continue to work in the same vein for the company.

BOOKSHELF

Britain's Top Tunes

1. Apple Blossom Wedding
2. How is the Honeymoon Going
3. Little Red Hen
4. I'll Make Up for Every Hour
5. Oop 'O My Heart
6. My First Love
7. Stormy Monday
8. A Piece of the Action
9. The Top of the World
10. Tuesday Night ...

SAX

Overheard at Broad's

'Hey, what's that coming from the top floor?'

'Oh, that's just the saxophone section, they're rehearsing for the Christmas concert.'
Let's make it a Jazz-Happy New Year!

Ned Wartand

He's a great guy — with a great band!

Moss Kaye

GLOCCA MORRA
Your Poll

This issue—which comes out before Christmas and will, therefore, be on your doorsteps right until January—gives you an opportunity to express your view on the matters of the day. It is a healthy exercise for the reader to take and give an opinion on the matters of the day. The bands and musicians who finish at the top have the incentive to play well in order to stay there; the others have the equal driving incentive to climb higher up the voting ladder next year.

Some bands may, of course, emerge from the placings—the most illuminating of which is a flattering sign of the interest in dance music displayed by our readers, and their keen and perceptive understanding of the subject.

We always make it clear with our Polls that we do not ask any people or influence our readers' choice. That is why we do not publish interim reports of how the Poll is going, for fear of influencing the results. Readers may find their judgment confirmed or challenged by the published results, but we only look to them to realise that we do not need to be told or guided; they know.

In the positions of second and fourth, respectively, were the Charlie Scott and Cyril Stappleton groups. The latter, particularly, a most interesting Poll, sometimes a little too academic in its approach in some areas. Cyril Stappleton, too, is not too constant in his listings these days, but he has a bright future in the EMI Club which he does not hesitate to tell us. In fact, there is very little from the public point of view that we do not know and admire.

But it is not positivity that guides our readers: it is quality, and consistent free broadcasts by these two combinations have earned their just rewards by the number of votes they have received.

The Poll, as a whole, operates with such a good combination of English groups, that there is a sense of surprise, foreseen, certainly, but a sense of surprise, none the less, when the results are	examined closely.

We stand ready to publish the results of the Melody Makers' assessment of the ratings of the British dance-band fraternity.

In every section new names appear, and up-and-coming personalities are fast gaining credit for their performances. We congratulate the "old-timers" and the "new boys" whose names we have not had the pleasure of mentioning this issue.

As last year, we particularly congratulate Ted Heath, who again dominated the Poll with an imposing lead, and by justifying his brilliant individual musicians. And we congratulate Ted the same on his handling of the Teddy Shoes—"Grand" Maurice, whose success in the Sweet Band Poll was expected and the result of a good combination of bands who are outstanding in the mystery poll section is a surprise, though certainly a pleasant one.
HAYES OPENS IN GUERNSEY
Leader of the Band

O' Tuesday of last week (16th) at the Victoria Hotel, St. Peter Port, Guernsey, there was a well-known and well-liked band and entertainment in the shape of The Chief Swing Band. The band is made up of the most popular and hard-core musicians of the region, and it was a pleasure to see them all in one place.

Gossip

TRENDSETTER! Ernie Mason has just left Peter Pan. He had been with them for quite a long time, and his departure will be regretted. He will now be joining the BBC, where he will continue to make his mark in the industry.

Old Time Dance

Moonlight on the Nile

The Sweetheart of Sigma Chi

When You Were Sweet Sixteen

DANCE MUSIC PUBLISHING CO.
111, CHARING CROSS ROAD, LONDON, W.C.2

FOR EVERYTHING SEASONABLE

Christmas Greetings and Good Wishes from
Len Davis and The Staff

- We are closed
Dec. 25-28
FOR EVERYTHING MUSICAL.

LEN DAVIS

December 27, 1947

BILLY FORREST'S
SOUTHWEST BREAK

Since his opening on Christmas Eve, the band has been in demand for concerts and events throughout the area. His music is always a hit, and the audience is always treated to a great show.

SAX SWITCH AT SOUTHWEND

A popular saxophonist, John Smith, has taken over the role at Southwold, replacing the previous saxophonist, Tom Jones. The change has been well-received by the audience, and the band is looking forward to a successful new year.

HONEYMAN CLIKS NORT'S EMBASSY

Victor Honeyman and his band, who recently played at the Embassy, are now playing at the Moonlight. Although the venue has changed, the music continues to be top-notch.

HEATH & LEWIS IN NORTH WEST

New Year visits to the home of the Burton, Runcorn, Wulfrun, and Wirral. The band will be playing throughout the year, and their music is always a hit.

Jimmy Luft's "Wight" Winter

ELEVATED to be the only doctor in the world! Dr. Luft has become a household name in his home town, with his music being played on the radio and in the streets. His popularity continues to grow,

Glasgow

CLARO! Clarinetcet has had a week of battles with the city's biggest bands. He took on the Glasgow Symphony Orchestra, the Glasgow University Orchestra, and the Scottish National Orchestra. He emerged victorious each time, with his music being praised by critics and audiences alike.

Our grateful thanks for your continued confidence.
We pledge ourselves to meet your future favours.