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TUITION - MODERN SYSTEMS... 10/6

KEITH PROWSE... THE MUSICAL EXPRESS

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20, 1946

MUSICAL EXPRESS

Musical Express Mentioned in the House of Commons

READERS ALL OVER THE COUNTRY WILL BY NOW HAVE HEARD HOW A STARTLED HOUSE OF COMMONS WAS SURPRISED BY THE EXTRAORDINARY ALLEGATIONS OF BIRIBERY MADE AGAINST B.B.C. OFFICIALS BY WING-COMMANDER GEOFFREY COOPER, LABOUR M.P. FOR MIDDLESBROUGH...

After these allegations Mr. Cooper went on to enumerate the Corporation's inefficiency in other matters. He dealt with complaints of ex-servicemen and women that they could not get started again on the B.B.C. staff.

WITH REFERENCE TO THESE PRODUCERS, THERE WAS AN ARTICLE WRITTEN IN THE "MUSICAL EXPRESS" WHICH YOU MUST KNOW WROTE THE ORGAN WITH A SOMEWHAT SIMILAR NAME, BUT I THINK WE CAN TAKE IT TO BE REASONABLY ACCURATE.

AND THEN CAME THE WISEST SUGGESTION EVER HEARD IN THE HOUSE CONCERNING THE ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRY...

At this stage "Musical Express" wishes to add to its campaign against the administrative anomalies of the B.B.C. the following:

Joe Daniels and his Hot Shots, one of our most popular show bands, reports to this office that they, too, have got no satisfaction from persistent applications to the B.B.C. Daniels tells us that since he was demobbed he

MATCHETT'S OF BELFAST... 44 WELLINGTON PLACE

ACKROYDS... BRILLIANT BARGAINS... AMPLIFIERS

WHAT ARE THEY ALL DOING? Celebrated Bandleaders and Famous Musicians



Musical Express picture of the celebrities all deeply interested in hearing for the first time the new Vic Lewis orchestra.

Beecham's Model Conducting

I have never seen Sir Thomas take more pains in running the soloist and obtaining the maximum of grace and perfect cohesion between soloist and orchestra, than he did at the Albert Hall on December 14.

KARL RANKL'S BIG NEW APPOINTMENT

The Covent Garden Opera Trust have appointed Mr. Karl Rankl to be musical director of the new opera company which is in the process of formation.

DENNY VAUGHAN joins GERALDO

Denny Vaughan, well-known Canadian vocalist, arranger and pianist, is to join the Geraldito organisation on January 30 as a

Change of phone number

Joe Watson who has recently left the Geraldito Orchestra can now be contacted at Museum 0601.

CHARLIE STEEL AT YORK

Charlie Steel who has been playing many Hunt Balls and one-night stands in London since leaving the Prince of Wales Hotel, Scarborough, will be one Artie proper, the singers worked well as a team.

THEY'RE TALKING IT OVER

THEY'RE TALKING IT OVER... Beryl Davis talking over her prospective U.S.A. visit with vocalist Paul Carpenter.

Bert Lally at Hounslow

One of the well-known Lally brothers, Bert, has taken over from Billy Flax the residency job at the Odeon Cinema, Hounslow.

THE BIRDS AND THE BEES GOES BEFORE CAMERAS

Start of Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer's "The Birds and the Bees" heralded the return of the screen of Jeanette MacDonald and Fred Astaire.

BRILLIANT BARGAINS... KITCHENS... INSTRUMENTS... SECOND HAND... VALUES... RISK WHEN YOU BUY

BERYL DAVIS Ten Year Contract

The Vic Lewis band which was presented to the Press and the profession last week so successfully has already been booked for New Year's Eve at Kidderminster by Music Artists, Ltd., and they are at Hammermith Palais on December 27th.

Mendelssohn's Big Programme

Felix Mendelssohn and his Israeliters who have been playing at all Ballrooms in the country with great success during the past months will be appearing during Christmas week at The Grand Theatre, Bolton on Christmas Day.

ROSE ROOM RESERVATIONS

Sale of tickets for the Rose Room Christmas Party on December 29th is progressing exceptionally well.

SCOTS' CORNER

New lead trumpet with Bill Paterson at the West End Ballroom is Jimmy Boyle, both gentlemen should be pleased.

SING A "GAY" SONG - PLAY A "GAY" TUNE

GREETINGS to our many good friends for their wonderful co-operation. We made a lot of songs and a host of good friends. Hope next year to improve on that.

BRILLIANT BARGAINS... KITCHENS... INSTRUMENTS... SECOND HAND... VALUES... RISK WHEN YOU BUY

Accordion Times and MUSICAL EXPRESS

Editorial & Advertising Offices 33, King Street, London, W.C.2. Telephone TEMple Bar 4988-9

THE VOICE

WHITEWASHING AGAIN

Once more our contemporary, the "Melody Maker" white-washes some of its past... This time it is the Programme Engineers...

UTTER NONSENSE

The "Melody Maker" rambles on about the Balancer's job being simplified... It is a good sense of internal balance...

VOCAL ACCOMPANIMENT

And what has our contemporary to say against the real truth that he vocalist in a band has his own microphone... He is HARDLY EVER AUDIBLE TO THE BAND AT ALL...

NEW ORCHESTRA ON B.B.C.

The B.B.C. are often criticized Val Merrill, who recently made for an apparently official policy a name for himself in his own town... Mr. Martin is striving for a sound music department...

PETER MAURICE FOUR CORPS

WISHES YOU A Very Bappy Xmas AND A Prosperous New Year WITH FOUR GREAT 'HIT' TUNES

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The Swan Song of a wing has been sung... SAYS FELIX MENDELSSOHN

NEARLY A YEAR AGO, I MADE A STATEMENT IN PRINT THAT I CAUSED SOMETHING OF A SENSATION... BOTH AMONG A CERTAIN SECTION OF THE DANCE MUSIC PROFESSION AND AMONG ITS COUNTERPART IN THE LAY PUBLIC.

UNDER THE TITLE OF "SWAN SONG OF SWING," I SAID: "THE END OF A WAR THAT HAS BROUGHT THE POODLE, BUG AND THE JITTERBUG, THE SIREN AND THE SWING ORCHESTRA, IS BRINGING PEACE AGAIN TO THE BALLROOM... IT IS DAWNING UPON MUSICIANS THAT, AFTER SIX YEARS' FREEDOM BOTH TO CALL THE TUNE AND PLAY IT AS THEY FEEL INSPIRED, THE TIME HAS COME TO KNUCKLE UNDER AND PLAY MUSIC FOR DANCING, OR GO UNDER..."

My article brought hundreds of indignant letters from the so-called swing fans. The jazz-boss went so far as to say that I didn't know what I was talking about... But, up and down the country, the editors not only of the musical press but of the lay press also—men whose job it must be conceded, to keep their fingers upon the pulse of public sentiment—reprinted my words because they agreed with them to be true.

Twelve months later, I repeat this article for the first time in view of the fact that time has proved them to be right for being driven around by a being driven around the dance floor.

To-day I have behind me not only the fact that a melody was lifted, reverting to its original source, but also the fact that the very jazz bands and that, in the very jazz bands that are all that even exist today for being driven around the dance floor.

Already the slump has set in among the music publishing fraternity... People who never danced before are being asked to dance to it... By all means, let us have individually in the interpretation of a dance music. But let us not forget, in our desire to show our fellow musicians how we have done so since before the war and during the war, when the influx of American troops and American five band was swamping the nation's ballrooms.

Some three weeks ago I mentioned a suggestion sent along by Edwin Humphries, who was adjudged the "Average Accordionist of Great Britain" in the 1938 B.B.C. MR. HUMPHRIES ASKED THAT CONSIDERATION SHOULD BE GIVEN TO THE POSSIBILITY OF FORMING A NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ACCORDIONISTS... IN THEIR VOTE FOR OR AGAINST THE IDEA, THEIR OPINIONS SHOULD BE MADE KNOWN TO THE ORGANISATION... FOR AN ASSOCIATION OF THIS NATURE MUST BE MODELLED ON THE NEEDS OF ITS PURPOSE AND NOT DESIGNED TO LINES THE PATTERN OF A SELECT FEW.

During these three weeks that have elapsed since I mentioned the idea, letters have poured into me from teachers, club leaders, professional players... Others are simply keen amateurs looking for an organisation which will bring them into contact with other players... I have discussed the possibilities of such an Association with numerous players and amateurs as well as with famous artists... In every case I have found enthusiasm, a spirit of "Let's get on with the job."

We of the "Accordion Times" are prepared to assist in any way possible in the formation of the proposed Association... We are not in the least interested in our view it must be run by the members themselves for the benefit of the members... We ensure that the management cannot get into any financial difficulties who would use it for their own ends.

For the same reason, the members of the committee would have to be elected at a general meeting of members, and not appointed by the management... Candidates for a committee would have to be given a clear indication of their probable duties and obligations, and their nomination would not be accepted if they were not prepared to carry them out... Numerous famous players have expressed their interest, and it is possible that we may be in a position to make an appeal to the active players... I am interested in the active players in a very early issue... In the meantime, please continue to send us your ideas and suggestions.

I have received a long and interesting letter from one of our regular "Eye-witness" correspondents in America... He writes of the "Swing" articles of Hilding Bergquist, and they will be pleased to hear that he is preparing for him to avoid heavy exertion... Hilding considers that the greatest swing accordionist to date is Cornell Smeleser... Smeleser's work, says Hilding, was carried on by Charles Bergquist... Smeleser's work was equally prominent in New York during the "thirties"...

This week STUART S. ALLEN takes over this feature * Next week RIP REYNOLDS

C.B.S. HAVE A new and novel idea for a radio series. It is like the answer to the famous Broadway pluggers who suffer from "Wattin' for Clayton," and lasts 15 minutes. Sounds good for the B.B.C.

Although the Harry James office is constantly issuing denials of the orchestra's permanent disbandment, all signs point to the fact that the Music Makers are a thing of the past... My article brought hundreds of indignant letters from the so-called swing fans.

Now in the middle of a big publicity build-up campaign in New York, the band has been broken up... Now in the middle of a big publicity build-up campaign in New York, the band has been broken up...

Look at my date-book, and you will find a record for every day... By all means, let us have individually in the interpretation of a dance music.

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respondents is Tommy Dunn, publicity manager of the American Accordion Association... Mr. Dunn told me that he was mighty glad to hear of the reincarnation of the American Accordion Association...

Tommy enclosed a letter which he had received from John Gerstner, Editor of the "Accordion World" magazine... Mr. Gerstner expressed great interest in our reborn "Accordion Times," and a desire to see it revived.

Readers who saw the London Evening "Star" on December 10th would have been interested to see the photograph of Lady Mary Strachey playing a piano... Mrs. Strachey is the wife of Major Anthony Strachey, and is a daughter of the Earl of Selborne.

Accordions again have two good spots to listen for in the New Year... On Saturday, at 9 a.m., the "New Year" concert will be broadcast on the radio.

PRINCIPLES OF SMALL BAND ORCHESTRATION Part One By JACK DUARE

ONE of the simplest jobs in music is to play a small band... The writer of this article is a pre-war issue of "A.T." were, in fact, the work of Magzante.

Another of my American correspondents is Tommy Dunn, publicity manager of the American Accordion Association... Mr. Dunn told me that he was mighty glad to hear of the reincarnation of the American Accordion Association...

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AMERICAN COMMENTARY By Stuart S. Allen

Ex-G.I. and Tommy Dorsey jazz notes... Woody Herman's new replacement for Pete Condon who left to become a band leader... The Wildroot Fire Tonic company, sponsors who gave Herman that radio break a while back are the new sponsors for N.B.C.'s King Cole Trio programme.

With one of the biggest slumps the American music business has had in decades breaking up... Now in the middle of a big publicity build-up campaign in New York, the band has been broken up...

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IN THE NORTH Musical Express Correspondent. At the Harpurhey Baths, Manchester, a re-union of band took place last Monday.

A Happy Christmas To All FROM STRAUSS - MILLER SWEETHEART WE'LL NEVER GROW OLD SALLY WATER O.S.

RUMOURS ARE FLYING ONE NIGHT IN OLD SEVILLE Count Basie's, Harry James, Artie Shaw's, Woody Herman's.

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CLASSIFIED ANNOUNCEMENTS All advertisements must be prepaid (cash and order) and copy and any inventory of the rate of 6d. per word.

The five bands in order of appearance were Jimmy Taylor and his Band, The "Stardusters", Dick Hunter and his Band, Charles Atter (Charles of Butlin's) and Orchestra, Joe Hurst and his Band.

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