

Accordions Times and... Musical Express... Editorial and Advertising Offices, 33, King Street, London, W.C.2

How Did YOU Start Series—No. 2

“HOW DOES ONE GET INTO THE BUSINESS?”

By Ronnie Selby

Dear Edgar, I think that you will agree with me that all critics are appointed, and once appointed they regard themselves as arbiters of public taste...

for example, your persistent refusal to distinguish between the various kinds of music...

me that if your allotment of one to five stars has significant bearing on the critical review...

quite right in amending this to Southern Negro folk ballad...

[That] question was given by one of my pupils the other day. Little does he know what he is asking...

THE VOICE

THE COMMERCIAL BATTLE

In the absence of commercial radio, enterprising firms which could find a market for their products...

FOR AND AGAINST

SPONSORS ESTIMATE

Sponsors estimate that they will be in a position to offer something in the region of 200 gramophone sessions per session...

HIGHER FEES

WHEN WE ASSUMED

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LIVE MUSIC

WE MUST NEVER LOSE SIGHT

We must never lose sight of the fact that it has always been, and always will be, the musician's Union to encourage...

S.U.S.—BRASS!

THE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

The Symphony Orchestra of C. N. Cohen, the excellent and progressive conductor of the Institute...

STORIC PARADE

by Jack Duarte

There are two broad ways of treating musical history, each with its own value and interest...

THE HOUSE OF HIT

THE LAST LINK

The last link in our chain has been playing, to which we are possibly not quite so close to form a true estimate...

THE NEXT NO. I HIT

THE ADVERSARY SONG

From the film "THE JOLSON STORY" coupled with THE GREAT SUCCESS EITHER HIS LOVE OR HIS TALENT

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Accordions Times

THE back of the accordion will tell you more about its condition than the front...

THE HOUSE OF HIT

More and more would-be members are writing to ask for the address of their nearest accordion club...

THE ADVERSARY SONG

From the film "THE JOLSON STORY" coupled with THE GREAT SUCCESS EITHER HIS LOVE OR HIS TALENT

JACK HEYWORTH

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Accordions Times

Many readers have asked for guidance on the possible future of the industry. Should I hang on to my present instrument?

Accordions Times

More and more would-be members are writing to ask for the address of their nearest accordion club.

Accordions Times

More and more would-be members are writing to ask for the address of their nearest accordion club.

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CAMPBELL CONNELL DENMARK ST. LONDON - W.C.2... THE ADVERSARY SONG... EITHER HIS LOVE OR HIS TALENT

KUP FLANAGAN'S PERISTENT SUCCESS... GIVE ME THE GOOD OVER THE BAD... I'LL CHANGE MY HEART

Drummers! Of course, EVERYONE wants PREMIER. Second best never has the BEST. You'll be glad you waited for the new PREMIERS!

More hard facts, the facts of "MUSICAL EXPRESS"

STILL THE COMPLAINTS AGAINST THE WAY B.B.C. OFFICIALS HAVE BEEN TREATING MUSICIANS AND BANDLEADERS POUR INTO THESE OFFICES. THEY COME TO US BECAUSE THIS IS THE ONLY MUSICAL NEWSPAPER IN THE COUNTRY WHICH HAS BEEN SUFFICIENTLY COURAGEOUS TO EXPOSE THE EXISTING ANOMALIES IN PRINT WITHOUT THE SLIGHTEST CONSIDERATION FOR THE SUSCEPTIBILITIES OF THOSE CONCERNED. "MUSICAL EXPRESS" COMMENCED ITS LIFE WITH A CAMPAIGN AGAINST EVERYTHING THAT WAS WRONG IN THE B.B.C. THAT CAMPAIGN IS AT THIS MOMENT BEARING FRUIT. THE RESULTS OF IT ARE ABOUT TO BE EXPERIENCED. NOT ONLY THE MUSIC BUSINESS, BUT THE ENTIRE ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRY IS IN NO MOOD TO TOLERATE ANY HALF MEASURES. OUR BUSINESS HAS SUFFERED LONG ENOUGH. THE FOLLOWING EXTRAORDINARY CASE WILL, I HOPE, BE ADDED TO THE LONG LIST OF COMPLAINTS WHICH SIR VALENTINE HOLMES IS INVESTIGATING.

A well-known Manchester bandleader was invited to London at the Manchester headquarters of the B.B.C. as long ago as January, 1946, by Mr. Bowker Andrews, who was at that time newly appointed in Manchester. The bandleader attended and presented a programme of dance music. After the audition Bowker Andrews asked the bandleader where the band had worked. He was told that it was an organisation catering exclusively for gigs. Mr. Bowker Andrews then told the bandleader that if he was prepared to be given a date as he might not have the same personnel on every occasion. The applicant pointed out that his business organisation gave him the call upon the regular services of some forty musicians or more, and that at any time he could be certain of producing an efficient band for any occasion. Nevertheless, the application was at that time fruitless. Yet at exactly the same time radio dates were given to two bands, one of which was NEWLY FORMED FOR THE OCCASION WITH, IT IS ALLEGED, NO REGULAR ENGAGEMENT, and the other was a regular band which had COMMITTED TO TWELVE MEN FOR THE PURPOSE. Does this comply accurately with B.B.C. rulings on such matters?

But bearing in mind the declaration of policy as outlined by Mr. Bowker Andrews on the occasion, the bandleader wrote again when he had booked his musicians for a regular engagement last summer. It was an engagement of some importance. The applicant was at that time stating that the management should be glad to co-operate in any way concerned if perhaps an outside broadcast could be arranged. Now Mr. Bowker Andrews writes that he would do everything possible to hear the orchestra with a view to including it in their programmes. That was on May 6, 1946. On May 21 the bandleader wrote again.

On May 28 the bandleader met Mr. Bowker Andrews in Piccadilly, Manchester. That B.B.C. official is alleged to have written an official a p o l i g r a m for the purpose of pressure of business. (May I ask at this juncture what business any B.B.C. official has to do that involves him of the responsibility of dealing with musicians?) But he did not start the regular engagement which was actually in operation at another audition at the studios. Our long suffering friend attended the audition with his second time. Having heard it for the second time, Mr. Bowker

Andrews for November 7 to enable the gentleman to hear the records. On attending for the appointment our determined friend was told that unfortunately, Mr. Bowker Andrews was away ill. But a Mr. Jack Dobson heard the records. Mr. Dobson said that, of course, these records would have to be left for Mr. Bowker Andrews to hear. (I would like to know why Mr. Dobson wanted his own time the bandleader's time and the phone records over which, on his own admission, he had no jurisdiction. You see, I am inquisitive by nature.)

Hope springs eternal in the human breast. Our undaunted bandleader rang the B.B.C. several times between November 7 and November 20, but he was back at work, and November 18 to enquire if his records had been heard. On November 20 he received a reply. Mr. Bowker Andrews said he was sorry he had not heard the records, but it was only on the previous night that he had an opportunity of hearing them. If the bandleader would care to call and collect his records, he would be ready any time, and if he (Mr. Bowker Andrews) was there, he would be pleased to see him and have a chat with him. The bandleader called for his records and gave to Mr. Bowker Andrews a card with his telephone number and what he suggested.

But our applicant left a card with his telephone number and was told that Mr. Bowker Andrews would ring him when he was free. Nothing further happened. And if you think that's the end of the story, well, of course, you're wrong. Again.

Now a strange thing happened. Our bandleader received a call from another bandleader who broadcasts regularly in the North-Eastern region, and who broadcast locally with "being able to influence matters in the B.B.C." That he has some influence is proven by subsequent broadcasts. The bandleader said that his desire was to help any bandleader who has any special right to represent the B.B.C. in arranging auditions and other bandleaders. What special powers or privileges are being vested in one particular bandleader giving him advantages over his contemporaries.

I offer these columns to Mr. Bowker Andrews to answer these questions so that he may tell the entire profession the whole truth about this country which never has short of cereals. And the band!

After all my remarks about Orleans (they are getting brighter and brighter and vivid), the whole thing is set out in a hand when a girl joins in the fray. Who is the temerous fiddler? Guess may be not, for she is not getting the breaks that Orleans is expected to have in New York premiere this month.

Without comment I offer you the following extract from such rank and file as the following: Ellington, Woody Herman, Count Basie, Earl Hines, Lena Horne, Billie Holiday, Louis Armstrong, Mead "Luk" Lewis, Barney Bigard, Buck Johnson, Kid Ory, Zutty Singleton, Charlie Beal and many others. You saw some of the stuff in last week's "Musical Express" and the picture should prove a real feast for the jazz fan's eye.

Very busy in New York these days is the Duke Ellington band, whose "London Town" album, now retitled "My Heart Goes Crazy" is shortly to be released in the States. Apart from supervising the Decca recording sessions, Duke Ellington is director for the C.B.S. Jean Seiler programme, and is negotiating for yet another series. Inside information reaching me from the Skywriter City reveals that the special pre-view of "My Heart Goes Crazy" was received with very few feelings—in spite of all that rehashing.

Currently in Hollywood without a regular band Harry James is due to reorganise towards the latter section. During the war Claude was pianist in Artie Shaw's New York band. He was return to Hollywood for another film. Woody Herman, who has been in the States for some time, intend to reform their bands with cheaper sidemen very soon. In the meantime, Columbia Records, who have the James, are getting ready to sign him under contract, are getting restless; their backing of masters is being exhausted.

Down Beat announce that their rules for next year's poll will probably attempt to prevent a repetition of this year's coup by the Ellington band. Leaders will have to announce in advance what polly they may be divided into the swing and swing categories. The result may be divided into many surprises. First there is the phenomenal rise to top popularity of the Duke Ellington band which came second in the swing section. During the war Claude was pianist in Artie Shaw's New York band. He was return to Hollywood for another film. Woody Herman, who has been in the States for some time, intend to reform their bands with cheaper sidemen very soon. In the meantime, Columbia Records, who have the James, are getting ready to sign him under contract, are getting restless; their backing of masters is being exhausted.



Fortnightly Feature. "IN CONFIDENCE" By the CON-MAN

WHEN are the B.B.C. going to give us some Jazz, and I mean Jazz? Even though their choice of instrumentalists, particularly in the rhythm section of the Jazz Octet, is very questionable at least "The Jazz Directory" is a step in the right direction, or could be in the right hands. Once again people who don't really know have selected more people who don't really know so that they can discuss in their knowledgeable manner even less. So much air time wasted.

Another thing that makes yet think is the Jewel and Warris musical bodies. In the main due to musical troubles, or as the folk say, "too bloomin' much." After all my remarks about Orleans (they are getting brighter and brighter and vivid), the whole thing is set out in a hand when a girl joins in the fray. Who is the temerous fiddler? Guess may be not, for she is not getting the breaks that Orleans is expected to have in New York premiere this month.

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BOOK REVIEW by GEOFFREY NEVILLE-BAGOT

LETTERS OF COMPOSERS, 1803-1945. Publishers, Knopf, New York. French musicians during the 1914-18 war. Musio Clementi is content with having bought a Beethoven symphony, overture, piano concerto and violin concerto for the grand sum of £200 in 1807. While some of the letters are familiar, the book as a whole, can make a useful addition to the library of every musicologist.

HANDEL, by Weinstein. Publishers, Knopf, New York. The autobiographer of Tchaikovsky proves his versatility in writing of the master of British Oratorio. Weinstein is a psychologist and historian as well as a conscientious and interesting musical biographer, who is far too scrupulous to favour his writing with imaginary or questionable romances. After extensive research, the evidence he admits that he can find no conclusive trace of a love affair in Handel's seventy-four years. His mastery summing up of the different attitudes towards Bach and Handel are worth quoting in full—

Bach: "The cantankerous musician-merchant of Prince Leopold of Anhalt-Cöthen, who was the most profound and accomplished subjective, and, in perspective, and spiritual composer of the century," while Handel is analytically labelled as "grandest and most brilliant objective, extraverted and broadly human composer of the century."

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Trumpet, ABBOTT, brass L.P. 218
Soprano, HAWKERS CATION, K.P.
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Poll winners Stan Kenton and Jini Christy with trumpet ace Ray Wetzel. (Continued on Page 4)

ASCHERBERG'S THE SUCCESSOR TO "SPEAK TO ME OF LOVE" IN THE HEART OF MONTMARTRE

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AT THE CONSOLE IN THE NORTH with ROBIN RICHMOND By Billy Butler

DEGS square, holes round... That, very often, has been the sad state of affairs in our broadcast music...

TRANSATLANTIC (Continued from page 3) covered by the Beat's Mike Lovin and have caused quite a stir in music circles.

British ACCORDION Manufacturers Repairs - Tuning - Bellows

CHARLIE SHORT OF TED HEATH'S BAND

Waterproof Canvas Covers for VIOLIN, CELLO

CLASSIFIED ANNOUNCEMENTS REPAIRS

Bert Brunser and his Orchestra are playing regularly to capacity... The first three programmes have dealt with "Ten for Two"

HISTORICAL PARALLEL (Continued from page 2) I would not wish to strain the above parallel overly, but there is an unmistakable similarity in the process of Classical and Jazz Evolution which seems to be...

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