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# MELACHRINO MYSTERY

## The Famous 'Strings' INK SPOTS CAUSE will NOT appear in the new Hippodrome show

(Musical Express Staff Reporter)

IN SPITE OF A RATHER PRECIPITATE ANNOUNCEMENT IN A CONTEMPORARY PAPER LAST WEEK THAT THE MELACHRINO STRINGS WOULD BE A BIG FEATURE OF THE NEW SHOW TO BE PRESENTED AT THE LONDON HIPPO-DROME, "MUSICAL EXPRESS" HAS PLEASURE IN GIVING THE CORRECT DETAILS TO ITS READERS.

**ARTHUR** 

**FENOULHET** 

DEAD

Readers of "Musical Express

will be sorry to hear that well-

known arranger, Arthur Fenoul-

het, died last Sunday after a

serious operation. His brother,

his very tragic bereavement.

**NEW SERIES** 

"Sunday Pictorial" in aid of

the National Prevention of

Cruelty to Children Society and

the Church of England Society.

This fine vocal act are still play-

ing to packed houses at the Vic-

toria Palace show which is now

booking as far ahead as Febru-

Len Camber, that exceptionally

fine vocalist, left for a short holi-

day in America on Thursday.

Camber has been very busy in

variety and personal appear-

ances all over the country and

was able through a last minute

and will be returning to fulfil

Although George Melachrino is writing and scoring the music for the show, title of which has not yet been chosen, NEITHER THE MELACHRINO ORCHESTRA OR THE MELACHRINO STRINGS WILL BE APPEARING IN THIS SHOW. The true facts of the story are that the Melachrino organisation is to supply an orchestra of 25 musicians, consisting of 12 violins, 2 violas, 2 cellos, bass, harp, 5 brass, piano and drums, whereas the Melachrino Strings consists of 8 first violins, 6 second violins, 4 violas, 4 cellos, 2 bass, piano and harp. How such an erroneous impression was allowed to go into print is one of the unsolved mysteries of the music profession. The story as printed in the Press last week did not have its origin in the Melachrino organisation.

Melachrino is apart from writing the music for his first stage show also busy scoring for films and we feel sure that the new show will benefit by his customary thoroughnss and fine musical knowledge. The show will feature such well-known artists as Vic Oliver, Pat Kirkwood, Fred Emney and a sensational American dancer, Wally Boag. It has been reported that the book has been written by Eric Maschwitz.

#### Olga Gwynne with Tauber



Olga Gwynne well-known soprano who was Richard Tauber's leading lady in his operetta "Old Chelsea" will return to the fold when she appears as guest artiste in the "Richard Tauber Programme" on Sunday, September 7. Miss Gwynne will be the first English soprano to sing in the present series which will be a return visit as she has sung in the previous series. She is appearing regularly in the Monday feature "Songs from the Shows."

#### **Butlin's Concert** Orchestra on Air

Butlin's Concert Orchestra under the direction of Al Freid, from Filey Camp, will broadcast on Tuesday, September 23, from this week. He told "Musical portunity to dance to authentic 6.30 p.m.-7 p.m. A further Express" before he left that he Latin American and Spanish radio date is to follow. This will be the first time the Butlin Concert Orchestra has been heard



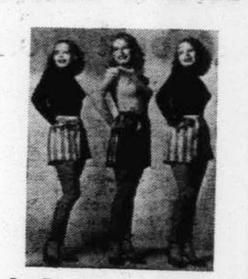
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#### BEVERLEY SISTERS FOR U.S.A



Joy Beverley, oldest of the Paul Fenoulhet, leader of the well-known vocal trio the Bev-Skyrockets, was at Southsea erley Sisters, left for New York with the band and was called last week. The sisters have had back to London ten minutes beoffers from America and hope to fore the show was scheduled to do both radio and vaudeville commence. Pat Dodd and Dick work to earn valuable dollars James carried on for him in his for England. The twins will folabsence. On behalf of the prolow as soon as engagement plans fession we would like to extend are settled and until that time our deepest sympathy to Paul in will continue to appear doing a duet. In the short time these girls have been singing and since their discovery by Cecil REVELLERS IN Madden, they have had tremendous success, particularly through their repeated appearances in Variety Band Box and other B.B.C. programmes. They have also had their own spot on Radio make their fourth appearance Luxembourg for six months and in Music Hall on October 4. have done many television dates. This Friday, September 5, the The sisters have made two film Revellers will be on the air in shorts for Pathe Pictures and Workers' Playtime and on recently have received an H.M.V. Saturday will be among the recording offer through wellspecial guests at the Film Garknown agent Alf. Preager. den Party organised by the

#### Santiago Augmenting For Film Ball

When Santiago and his Latin American Music appear at the September 29, he will augment his present outfit to present the largest Latin American orchestra ever to appear at any ball in England. Seizing this big chance Santiago is at present working on arrangements of numbers that will give the dancers who attend this big funccancellation to sail for the States tion at the Albert Hall the opis only going for a short vacation music played and sung in the manner in which they were commitments in this country originally written.

#### JACK WHITE **ACCEPTS** CHALLENGE

Following the Skyrockets chalenge printed in these columns last week to meet any entertainment side at golf, we now have pleasure in saying that through these columns Jack White and his band have accepted this challenge. Jack White is the present M.U. Champion and his brother Tommy White was the runner-up in the last championships. They have offered to play the Skyrockets eighteen holes at their own club

#### Stardusters' **Fixtures**

The Stardusters who are still packing the crowds in at the Samson and Hercules Ballroom, Norwich, are busy arranging future bookings and confirmed dates at present are Cleethorpes, October 13 to 25, Redcar, November 3 to 15, Seaburn Hall, November 17 to 29. The tentative date in which they will be leaving the Samson and Hercules it at present set for October 3, but this may be revised. The bank will be on the air again in Music While You Work on September 29.

# A TRAFFIC JAM

#### Phenomenal Success at London Casino

HE INK SPOTS OPENED ON MONDAY AT THE LONDON CASINO TO PACKED HOUSES. IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE TO WALK OR DRIVE A CAR DOWN COMPTON STREET FOR THE MILLING CROWDS. TRAFFIC BECAME UNMANAGEABLE FOR HALF A MILE WHILE POLICE WRESTLED WITH THIS GREAT HUMAN ASSAULT ON THE THEATRE.

Bernard Delfont has proved that capacity business can be The Ink Spots were last turn. achieved in spite of the crisis, the slump and the heat, with Number after number was a powerful bill. Headed by the Ink Spots, the programme greeted with tremendous acclathis week is full of top-line acts. A fantastically expensive mation. I find the similarity of bill-but drawing the customers in. It can be done.

# ARTHUR TRACY

ARTHUR TRACY, better known to the British listening public from his many broadcasts and appearances in this country prior | though I must admit that the reto the war as "The Street Singer," arrived in England this week. ception given to these interna-He told "Musical Express" that he will be staying in this country tionally famous stars as soon for a month during which time it is quite likely he may make several titles for Decca. Tracy may also arrange for some bookings and a film to be made later in the year, but he must return to America by October 1 to carry out his commitments on his own radio programme in that country. This is Tracy's first visit to Casino for two more weeks. this country for eight years and he told us that he finds it a little sad to see the damage that has been done during the war years and so many old friends missing.

#### NAT TEMPLE GIVES UNKNOWN



Nat Temple rehearsing Beryl Turner

When Nat Temple overheard a young holidaymaker humming a tune to which she danced past his bandstand one night last June, he was so impressed with her voice that he gave her an audition. He then introduced the girl, twenty-one-year-old Beryl Turner, to the B.B.C. and the result was that when Temple's band broadcast from the camp the other week this newcomer shared the vocals with 'Daily Express" Film Ball on resident singers Helen Mack and Dave Kidd. The photograph shows Temple coaching his new find and teaching her microphone technique at Butlin's camp at Skegness where he is

#### M.U. Meeting At Wycombe

On Sunday, September 7, a meeting will be held at the Swan Hotel, Paul's Row, High Wycombe, to recruit new members and form a branch of the M.U. in that district. Van Phillips and George Hurley will address the meeting together with several other well-known musicians. The meeting will commence at 11 a.m. prompt.

#### **RADIO RHYTHM** CLUB **PROGRAMMES**

Radio Rhythm Club can be heard at 11.30 a.m. on Saturday Micky Grieves taking over on and 9.30 a.m. on Thursday in the drums from Lew Stevenson. General Overseas Service of the B.B.C .- 13 and 16 metre wavebands. The programmes arranged for September are as follows:-

September 6 and 11: Toots Camarata and Denis Preston in a specially recorded discussion in the series, "Talking of Jazz" —as announced in "Musical Express," August 1.

September 13 and 18: "The Quarter's Records," reviewed by

September 20 and 25: "The Function of Jazz Criticism "-a controversial programme presented by Stanley Dance.

September 27 and October 2: tion-III." Denis Preston's radio version of the jazz feature country coupled with broadcasts which appeared in "Musical and resident engagements. Express" in 1946.

The Directors and Management of

# PALAIS

wish to bring to the notice of BRITISH SONGWRITERS and all readers of the "MUSICAL EXPRESS," that their

and that they are not responsible for any contest organised by persons

borrowing the title "WRITE-A-TUNE" CONTEST. This name was

made nationally famous by LOU PREAGER AND ORCHESTRA AT HAMMERSMITH PALAIS, LONDON NO ENTRANCE FEES

have ever been asked for, nor will -TUNE" CONTEST DETAILS OF WHICH WILL BE ANNOUNCED SHORTLY

treatment of each number a litle monotonous, That's my criticism and I know others who share it. But who are we to criticise success spelt with a capital S? I would not say the house was filled only with Ink T Spot fans either. Looking

around me, I thought the crowd appeared to be the usual opening night vaudeville audience, alas they walked on the stage had the spontaneity of familiarity. The Ink Spots will remain at the



#### JACK COLES' NEW **ORCHESTRA**

IACK COLES' first broadcast with his new orchestra will be September 11, 6.15-6.45, on the Light Programme, in Douglas has been in a business the series "Home to Music." Known as the Orchestre partnership with her sister and Moderne, it will consist of twenty-two players with Coles | due to the fact that the business conducting. The new orchestra is in addition to the wellknown "Music Masters," who will again be heard in the Cafe on the Corner" series on September 10. The new orehestra had a;

special try out in July when it was broadcast in the Light Programme and billed as a Light Orchestra. We understand that tra will be light music specially arranged by Coles of new and old compositions and it is anti-cipated that in each programme from LOU one popular tune will be featured. Coles intends to present light music in the modern manner. The line up consists of Geoffrey Gilber and Lionel Solomon, flute and piccolo. Bernard Walton, clarinet; Jimmy clarinet and tenor; Alec Firman, Jackie Green, A. Piefsky, Joe Hitchener, Charlie Katz and Sid Williams, violins. Hubert Powell and Dennis Moonan, violas. Alan Ford, cello; Bob Roberts, bass; Charles Gregory, Ronnie Woods, G. Hamilton, horns; Laurie Clark, trombone; Freddie Phillips, guitar; Billy Hill, piano and Roy Rawlins, drums.

There is one change in the Music Masters' line up with

# PLEYDELL

Ronnie Pleydell and his Band will be entertaining visitors at the Savoy Ballroom and Restaurant, Southsea, for one month commencing September 15. We understand from Alf. Preager who arranged this engagement, that a quartette has yet to be fixed and as soon as details of this are available we shall advise our readers. The Pleydell band is rapidly creating a fine repu-Blue Print for a Record Collectation for itself and has been working consistently all over the

#### Ladbrooke at Southend

stands and private shows in the Midland area Vincent Ladbrooke and his Orchestra will be appearing at the Winter Gardens Ballroom, Southend, for the complete week commencing next Monday, September 8. This will be followed by a further week of onenight stands commencing at Wolverhampton, on September 15, Worcester, September 16, a private party in Birmingham, September 17, Walsall, Cheltenham and West Bromwich. On the week of September 22, they will pay a return visit to Birmingham, followed by Stoke-on-Trent, Bromsgrove and again West Bromwich.

**NEWS AND** PICTURES ON **BACK PAGE** 



# **AGAIN**

his new stage show at New Cross Empire this week, proved to his audience that in spite of the fact that he has been away from the variety stage for a very long time he has lost none of his personality or ability to present a first class stage show. The band not only plays well but each and every man is a first class comedy performer. To Maurice Sterndale and Hearne Lewis must go extra credit for their fine comedy and musicianship. Frankie Thornton, Roy's lead trumpet is given a great opportunity to show his fine solo work. Having heard him many times at the Astor with Roy, I would say that quiet style of playing so necessary to a club is not so much his forte as is the more open tone needed for stage work. His work is sure and never gives the impression of any strain whatsoever. The show is first class entertainment and will, in your reporter's estimation, prove a great success wherever it plays.

#### Sally Douglas Broadcasting with Stapleton " Musical Express" is able to

announce that after an absence of seven months from the music profession, well-known vocalist. Sally Douglas, has decided to return in a free lance capacity. Her first broadcasts will be with Cyril Stapleton and his Orchestra when they are heard on September 10, 3.30-4 p.m. and eptember 15, 5.45-6.20 p.m. We understand from Stapleton that there is every possibility that she will record a side with the band when they do their next titles for Decca. During her absence from the profession, Sally is now established and gives her more time she has decided to utilise this by returning to her first love—show beginess.

#### To the Editor of the main feature of the orchestra will be light music specially "MUSICAL EXPRESS" PREAGER

smith Palais have found it neces- broadcast in two series of eighsary to take space in this week's teen broadcasts each.

I am sure that you (as well Tune" Contests! as the many hundreds of com- In our contests, all Copyright, posers who have telephoned to Publication and Other Rights Hammersmith Palais since the remain the Sole Property Of publication of last week's "Ex- The Composers, and at no time press," asking for details about have any fees, expenses or any this), must have been quite remuneration of any sort been certain that Hammersmith accepted from winning or other Palais and myself, would surely entrants.

not imagine for one moment, to be connected with "The that any reputable person would British Songwriter", who asked have the impudence and auda- me if Hammersmith Palais city to announce a contest to be would let him have the list of run for the benefit of British names of the 86,000 entrants in Songwriters (at a fee of One our last contest. As we natur-Shilling A Try!) and that they ally regard these as confidential, would use, as an inducement to

You will no doubt have noticed originated at Hammersmith that the Directors of Hammer- Palais, and which has been

issue of "Musical Express," You would naturally have in order to make quite clear to thought that we at Hammereveryone concerned, that they smith must in some way have have no connection whatsoever been connected with the new with the person or persons who venture and, I assume, thus gave had the brilliant idea of "bor- it your "front-page blessing ".

rowing" the title "Write-A- I am enclosing the Rules gov-Tune" Contest, for a scheme in erning our Contests, from which which British Songwriters were you will see that at no time have to be asked for a shilling entry entry fees ever been asked for, fee in the hope of winning prizes nor will they be in our future Hammersmith Palais "Write-A-

have had some connection with I would like to inform you that I was approached some I am certain that you could time ago by a person purporting



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#### THE VOICE

THE PLAN

Long before the austerity announcements "Musical Express" had a plan. Since the measures to deal with the crisis were announced, this newspaper's plan is more significant and more important than ever. Britain has the talent and, despite statements to the contrary, has also the resources to present that talent to the wide world. British entertainment MUST be utilised for the purpose of advertising British goods abroad. This would result in a dual export programme. The medium MUST be a powerful wavelength of the B.B.C. The "Voice of Britain" during the war must be mobilised now as the "Voice of Britain" in the search for world markets. Austerity is one of the repercussions of the crisis. If the loss of the Third Programme to a Commercial Wavelength is the price we must pay for advertising British goods abroad it would be a tolerable austerity for the means justifies the end. There exist still the diehards who, on principle, will not hear of commercial radio via the B.B.C. But no argument can override the desperate necessity for export on which the recovery of these islands depends.

#### BEING CONSIDERED

I am in a position to state that the "Musical Express" plan is having some consideration in Parliament. It has been generally hinted (elsewhere) that the Prime Minister is not in favour of Commercial Radio. But I can safely say that certain of our friends in the House are strongly in favour of our campaign. They agree with us implicitly that the B.B.C. should be used in the national interest. My own letter to the Prime Minister, published in our issue of August 15, is having serious attention. Other publications (not in the entertainment sphere) have printed articles recently on the possibility of Commercial Radio in Britain and in one of these it is stated on "inside information" that an advertising transmission is almost a certainty. For my part I cannot predict what will happen. I am only concerned with the campaign FOR Commercial Radio via the B.B.C. The entire export trade needs it desperately. They have the resources to pay for it and will do so willingly. The fees paid would remain in this country in contradistinction to the bad practice of buying air time from foreign stations.

#### PREPARATION

Sometimes it is necessary to put the cart before the horse. A wise general doesn't wait for something to happen -he anticipates it. Such is the case with certain elements in business to-day. I am in a position to tell you that a big movement is afoot to jump quickly into commercial programmes as soon as the B.B.C. is mobilised for it. One organisation of my acquaintance is ready with all the facilities to book air time, produce shows, book artistes and bands and sign script writers, authors and composers for the gigantic task. If the efforts of "Musical Express" in this direction are successful it will put British goods into lucrative markets abroad and-most important of all to ourselves-will put British entertainment on the world map.

#### THE NATIONAL DANCE BAND CHAMPIONSHIP

A small preliminary announcement was made in last week's issue that the first publication devoted to Dance Band Contests would make its appearance on September 26. It is published by the owners of "Musical Express" and will be the same size as that newspaper. Our publishers believed that a mammoth scheme such as the "Musical Express" Championships, about to commence, warranted more space than would have been available in these columns alone, For this reason we refrain from making any announcements until the appearance of "The National Dance Band Champion" on September 26. That periodical will contain the fullest details. So that our readers shall not miss it, it will be distributed JOINTLY WITH "Musical Express" on that date.



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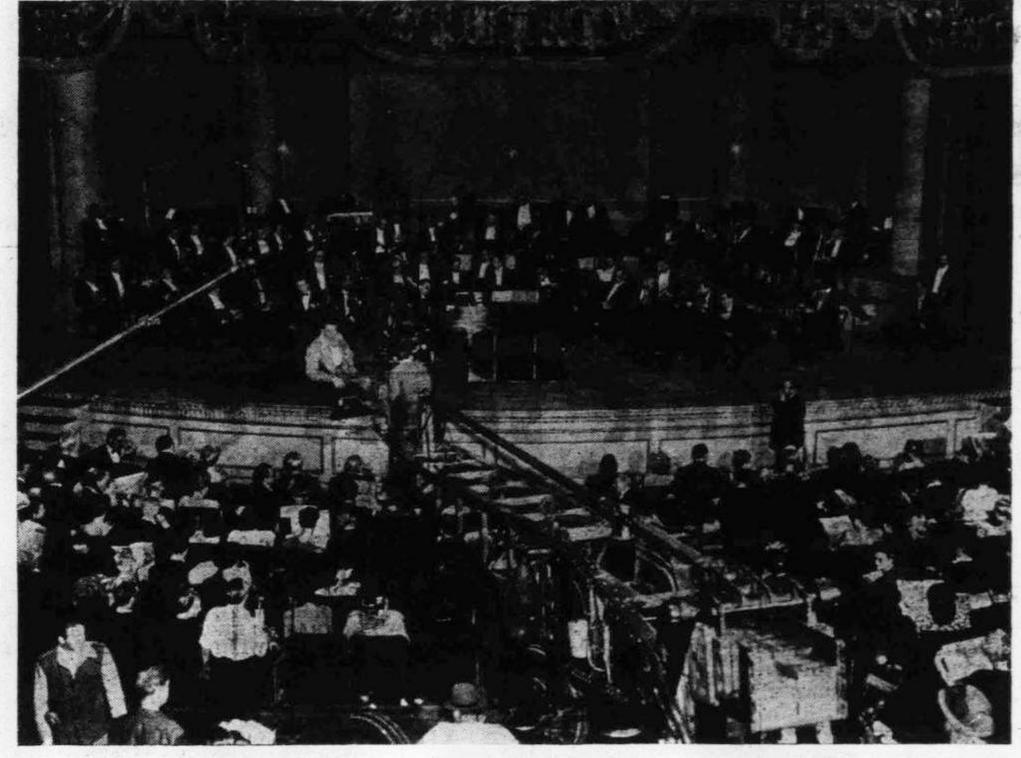
S.O. 3/2 IMAGINEZ

Let's Go Back & Kiss the Girls Goodnight Again JOIN OUR TWO-WAY ORCHESTRAL CLUB

ON SALE SEPTEMBER 26

"THE NATIONAL DANCE BAND **CHAMPION**"

A Giant Newspaper which will be distributed with "Musical Express"



Camera crane moves in for close shot in concert hall sequence of Warner Bros.' Picture "Reception" starring Bette Davis. Film opens at Warner Theatre, London on September 19th.



British writers you'll ever have! five years ago. and-for the benefit of those who want to throw hot bricks (incidentally, why GRAPES-not being a plugger I have no axe to grind) my "DAIRY TALK" quips are actual snatches of conversation overheard-check mate? \* \*

Three publishers anxious to publish Ralph Butler's "Spiv Song" (Down at the Little Crooked Stile) but Ralph, "outspiving" them all, is doing very nicely thank you and frankly he couldn't care less about publish- CHAD-Charlie Chester in Music ing it-it's already netted him chickenfeed even to-day-buthaving heard the song, if it WERE published (with a good plug) I would tip it for tops.

COME BACK TO SORRENTO'

Heard this song during my days with the forces. I knew then by the way the boys used to sing it that it was a hit, and GRACIOUS ME-No. 1 and 2 am happy to know that to-day it is nearing top! There are several others that I heard at the same time waiting for some- HANDS ACROSS THE SEAone to have the foresight to exploit-one particular song I am certain would sell half a million copies-I heard it again to-night (that tavern again)-however, I'm not a seller of songs, but the INVITATION-To the Irving day I see a copy of this on the market-and it's bound to happen-I'll personally invite the publisher to a slap-up lunch with my congratulations.

Jimmy Lally (the arranger) turned publisher—sneaking in a few nice spots for his first song, 'Remember Me," which was a strong runner-up in the Ham- LIKEABLE FELLOWS - Jack mersmith Palais competition. A great number of people voted for this-let's hope they will buy MORE PLEASE! - Scotchit. Good luck, Jimmy!

Australia. Shouldn't be surprised to hear some new heavy ballads being made. He has steered more ballads into the hit OVERDONE-Those records of class than any other singer I know. Broadcasting on September 5-and they tell me at 65 his voice is better than ever.

What's happened to that B.B.C. ruling about a song only being allowed twice on each wave-length per day? Heard one particular song seven times one day last week.

BING CROSBY FILM

F.O. 3/8

Might I suggest to Mr. Arthur Rank that before he signs up anyone to write songs for Bing he contacts ALL the HIT writers in the country with at least a few HITS to their credit. From what I have heard-mark you this is only a rumour-America's Toots Camerata is to be in charge. Canada's Bob Farnon is to make the arrangements. Two writers, one American and one British, are to write the songs, and neither of these two boys are in the real HIT class. UNIVERSAL APPEAL - Doc Think hard, Mr. Rank, or you may have another score like "London Town"—you couldn't go far wrong in contacting the Songwriters Guild. I'm sure that every bona-fide writer in the country wouldn't mind submitting what they considered their best "Crosby songs."

shortly, and this number which has had so much success over a period of 34 years is now a number one favourite in the States. Its revival was started by the Harmonicats, a Midwest mouth- YOU TELL ME-Why there is organ trio, who recorded it, and a Chicago disc jockey, Eddie Hubbard, who plugged the recording into popularity. Alfred Byron, who is now 75, and wrote the lyrics, will get some return ZERO-" The Gay Nineties"from this return to popularity,

Peg O' My Heart is due here

SEEM to have started a civil but Fred Fisher, who wrote the war in the Dairy by my tune is not alive to see this rearticle regarding certain song- vival. Ill and no longer able to writers! Don't be so touchy turn out hit tunes, his depression boys-I'm the best champion of caused him to commit suicide

#### TIN-PAN ALPHABET

ARTISTS-The Peters Sisters-Fat and Jolly-a certain cure for melancholy.

BRAND NEW-Ivan Brown (a guitar and a song). This singer's a humdinger.

Hall-Wot! No Gang. £100. You must admit that's not DAIRY TALK-" Who is this Troubadour, anyway?" EASY ON THE EAR-Danny McCall-I hope one broad-

> cast isn't all. FUNNY MEN - (Frankie laughter over this Frankie. For a laugh in a sad world -Thank'ee Frankie!

in the Hit Parade (People Will Say and Sorrento) both 2/- copies-makes you think! To Mack David, Al Hoffman and Jerry Livingston for a swell ditty, "Chi-Baba Chi-Baba "-should make it here

about a British Song now and again?

JUSTIFIED-A No. 1 plug for "First Love, Last Love For Always."

KISS-To Jane Lee for her consistently good vocals.

and Tommy White-glad to see you any night.

Sorry I'm back in that low tavern again. Peter Dawson back from NEVER MIND EH!-So much British being talked-so much American being played

-up Guild and at 'em! Spike Jones-especially when they murder one of my round, don't you think? favourite oldies.

POPULAR SONGS-Since hearing "I Wonder I Wonder "-I Wonder!

and over again. REPORTING-Jack Simpson's new cockney discs will

Kent Road-Jack on Another Track. SOMEDAY-Soon, some of the shelves-give them a dusting and an "airing."

THINGS YOU WILL NEVER SEE-Frank Sinatra billed as England's Johnny Green. (You're good enough to stand on your own feet, Johnny!)

White's record of "One Meat Ball"-(And a little child shall lead them). VEXING - Songs about the

should know better.

Royal Wedding-our writers

WORST SONG OF THE WEEK -Well, you should know! X MARKS THE SPOT-"The Running Horse," Harrow Road, counted 15 pluggers there in one evening-was it a social gathering, or could it have been Bill Cotton's

broadcasts? hardly a record programme that doesn't include a Gracie record-with all due respect -surely three broadcasts a week are enough.

Oh Henry Reed!

#### Roving with Robin Richmond! A MATTER OF LIFE & DEATH Cine-Variety is in for a Boom stored a trip to the United States to infect him with the MAY be a bit old fashioned, More orchestras will be required.

but I don't care for films that show scenes in Heaven or mythical lands above the clouds. ee Heaven and the hereafter idea being that the folk from above descend to earth. The same sort of place was porand Death" and I just didn't like it. After all, there is plenty to burlesque without encroaching on these grounds which I think should be treated with respect. If you joke even about dead people and the hereafter, then there doesn't seem to be anything serious left to fall back on and on which to turn your thoughts in the more serious moments of this very topsy turvy life. No. As far as I'm con-Howerd). They swoon with cerned I wish they'd leave this sort of thing alone.

Wish the old BBC would reconsider their rule not allowing band leaders to announce their Berlin and Edwin Morris Chappie D'Amato for instance, gans don't generally mix, but Music Companies. How he has a definite personality of they are closely connected in the adds to the general atmosphere at Swindon. of the show. Bill Cotton announces, so does Paul Carpenter but I assume that Harry Davis with Oscar Rabin is no longer allowed to add his vocal personality to the Rabin shows. Why? I know all the band leaders. If their particular voice screams "I come from the North-or bonny Scotland-or the heart of Cockney London "-so what? Many of the listeners do, too, and it would be a matey thing all

I'm very interested to hear QUESTIONS-Has John Shar- from the manager of one of our man really decided not to leading West End cinemas that use the same old names over he has had instructions to put the air I am told that John once. Apart from the fact that and interesting talent and we agents and bookers are buzzing shall hear many artistes other knock 'em cold in the Old about, I can say no more for than the old faithfuls. I like the of cine-variety are at least being will turn out to be a well publishers might take some seriously considered to meet the balanced mixture of both old and of those songs off their film crisis. Good thing this, new.

Last week I spent a very insure you that I commit the usual our leading Cathedral organists, everyday sins that ordinary who is in London on holiday. people do-but I do not like to First he played the cinema organ in the Dominion Cinema burlesqued. In the new Rita and then he came over to the Hayworth picture, the opening Astoria Dance Hall and played is set in a celestial place, the the Hammond. This erudite gentleman is the most broadminded serious musician I have ever met. To hear him play trayed in "A Matter Of Life Bach in the Astoria, followed by a Mel Powell arrangement he took off a record, was something to wonder at . You would be surprised if I told you who he was and what distinguished company was present, but unfortunately he and a handful of his associates are still rather in the minority in their broadmindedness and names for the present might cause them embarrassment. But it is good to know that there are at least a few eminent classical musicians who are not afraid to openly admit and demonstrate their interest in popular music.

Although this column is now own programmes. I attended covering a much wider field, I Edmundo Ros' last broadcast must still keep faith with my and, charming as the announcer organ fans, and I know they will looked and sounded, her very be interested to hear that Bobby correct English voice did not Pagan is playing a guest week seem in keeping with the Latin at the Regent, Swindon, one of American atmosphere of the our great Railway centres. show. Again, in the case of Railway engines and cinema orhis own which permeates his case of Bobby, whose original music and on the odd occasion intention was to become a locowhen, as a special favour, the motive engineer and did, in fact, announcer allows him to tell the serve a complete apprenticeship listeners what the next tune is, in the LNER shops at Doncashis voice is personaltiy plus and ter. He should be in his element

> Great interest is being shown in the arrival of the Ink Spots. I think they will prove to be one of the biggest of all the American attractions to visit this country. The London Casino is a hive of activity and the recording companies are reporting renewed interest in their recordings. I expect also a great increase in the number of comics and impressionists who will mimic them in some way or another.

When Music Hall returns to his stage in working order at Sharman has lined up some new the present, but it certainly does old faithfuls as well as the new begin to look as if the old days and I hope that the new show



Arthur Madden, of the Squadronaires, at Butlin's Clacton Camp, gets in the way during a bout between "Man Mountain Benny" and his opponent.

### THE STRANGE CASE OF MR. ELIZALDE

#### By John Davis & Gray Clarke

jazz, and it is in just that sense problem. that the word may be used to Did Elizalde justify himself in describe Fred Elizalde at the his choice? The answer appears beginning of his career. Even to be a firm negative. He did now, twenty years after most of not build a band; he saddled the events concerned, it is still himself with a bunch of expentime enough to consider the sive stellar temperaments, and, strange case of the jazz amateur at its best, the orchestra sounded who tried to put his theories like a collection of star musicabout jazz into practice. And jans enjoying themselves in their the vital question remains to be own way. Those few recordanswered: was Elizalde ahead of ings that do "come off" are his time, or did he really prove reminiscent of the California that altruism is no match for Ramblers rather than anything materialism?

most of the concrete facts of records, simply because the lat-Elizalde's stormy career will be ter orchestra was very firmly known to our readers. And yet controlled by its directorvery little can be known of Edward Kirkeby Wallace. Walseveral aspects thereof which would be of absorbing interest now. Elizalde's were not the days when half-a-dozen jazz journalists lurked around every corner to catch and record the lightest utterance of anyone having any connection with the subject. We still do not know what his views on jazz were, nor by what processes he came to form them. Everything suggests, however, that he was too level-headed and sophisticated a young man to have States to infect him with the lace wasn't a talented musician bug of hero-worship: his theor- of Fred Elizalde's class, but he les on jazz were probably formu- knew the band business and he lated long before that visit with knew how to control the perits opportunities of hearing and sonalities who make up bands. meeting the important figures of Clearly, Elizalde's amateur I'm no saint and hasten to as- teresting morning with one of the jazz world of the Twenties, background had not given him

We have two lines of approach to Fred Elizalde's theories—the first through his own recordings, the second through the writings of "Needlepoint." It is no secret that "Needlepoint," the Melody Maker's first record reviewer was, in fact, Edgar Jackson, nor that Jackson was greatly influenced by Elizalde in his day. The two most obvious characteristics of Needlepoint's" reviews were his lack of sympathy with, and understanding of Negro jazz, and a passionate desire to appear a little ahead of current fashion-a trait which persists in Jackson's work to the present understanding of the subject at day! And, allowing for certain physical obstacles which will be mentioned in due course. Elizalde's records give the same general impressions.

Elizalde's recordings do not give pear modern and progressive Regular "Savoyards" are un- thought blindly, without conusually unanimous in finding sidering whence the path led the records disappointing, and him. Most of the imported at least one has told us flatly stars in his orchestra could, no that it is difficult to believe that doubt, have given Elizalde sound they were made by the same and sensible advice about sym-

of Elizalde's theories. It seems of orchestration, and so little that he believed it possible to connection with native American buy a great band ready-made,

THE word "amateur" has provided one knew which players acquired a sinister ring to buy and had a long enough these last few years. Yet its purse to buy them. And he meaning is perfectly clear by possessed both the knowledge derivation and as applied to and the means. When he'd finthe arts is a complete and com- ished "shopping" for talent the pact description of the man personnel of his band read like whose interest stops short of the list of winners of a Popuseeking an active artistic career. larity Poil of 1927. It was the In that sense, the non-playing amateur's dearest dream come jazz student may often fairly true, and a typical amateur apbe described as an amateur of proach to a very practical

else, but they are not as good We are going to assume that as the best of the Ramblers'



#### Edited by DENIS PRESTON

pulling in opposite directions. And it was only occasionally that General Elizalde was permitted to direct his own cam-

But when Elizalde was in full control, results suggested that things were rather better the other way . . . If he really inand-mash as "Heart of a Nigger" and "Bataclan" to be considered as jazz then the question is whether he had any all. Yet it is difficult to believe that the man who composed these "symphonic" jazz pieces also wrote and played "Melancholy Weeps."

The indications are that It should be stated at once that Elizalde was so anxious to api just picture of his band, that he followed a trend of phonic jazz, which had little to But the relative poorness of do with true symphonic music his records is itself a criticism beyond a few elementary tricks

(Continued on page 4)

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Interest:

#### TRUTH ABOUT GIPSY MUSIC

By Matyas Seiber

THERE is a good deal of conworld, consisting as it does of country.

qualities in common-free im- Wagner. range, use of rubato, and the we have received, hardly any belief in the enthusiasm of the written that full use is made of same "home-made" instru- have been unsuitable, though large, ever-growing public for its potentialities in the absence time, it bears resemblance to Indian music in the extent of its melodic embroidery.

On a higher level the Gipsy becomes the popular musician of the big cities, to be heard in every restaurant and hotel. These urban Gipsy bands are often very sophisticated and polished, while many of the

but the bulk of it has little or studied that music and found myself." nothing to do with folk music. Just as popular dance bands have a way of "jazzing" certain tunes, the so-called Gipsy bands "gipsify" their music with instrumental tricks and clichés. Their repertory consists largely of tunes from Hungarian light operettas of the last century, and, of course, there are literally hundreds of Hungarian fantasies and czardas with a superficial Gipsy flavour.

Another parallel between Rhapsody in Blue.

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Radio:

#### THE "FORCES PROM" By Monica Chapman

fusion about the true nature REQUEST programmes are One might have expected the due largely to Liszt, who was re- general listener, but it may come arrived for the Mendelssohn the dance band, and George sponsible for the theory that as a surprise to learn that there Violin Concerto, Tschaikovsky's Shearing's recent remarks about Gipsy music is, in fact, the folk is one request programme which "Romeo and Juliet" music and its usefulness and adaptability music of Hungary. It was only finds an enthusiastic audience Mozart's "Eine Kleine Nacht- in small band work need no at the beginning of the 20th cen- among serious music lovers— musik." But things like Sibelius' further endorsement. tury that the real Hungarian "Forces Prom," a gramophone Fourth Symphony and the In view of the fact that the peasant music was discovered programme of requests from Arthur Bliss Piano Concerto are accordion is now featured in through the scientific researches Forces overseas, which has been another kettle of fish. And such a large percentage of dance of Bartok, Kodaly and their fol- running almost continuously we've even had requests for un- bands, both professional and lowers. Bartok spent the last since the Autumn of 1943 in the usual modern works which are amateur, it is surprising that forty years of his life collecting General Overseas Service of the not yet recorded! and collating material in this B.B.C.—the General Forces Pro- Requests come to us from recognition to the instrument in field, and his work contributed gramme of the war years. Dur- every corner of the globe: we their standard orchestrations to making the Hungarian Folk ing the war it was also to be have had them from India and The present system of a com-Music Collection one of the most heard in the Forces Programme China, from the Middle East, bined Piano Conductor and accomprehensive of its kind in the by listeners stationed in this from South and West Africa, cordion part is unsuitable for a

always popular with the hundreds of requests that the "accepted" instruments of

from America-everywhere, in variety of reasons. For example, some 10,000 tunes in manuscript "Forces Prom" sets out, fact, that British troops are, or the method of using symbols for form and on gramophone where possible, to present have been stationed. They come the bass is very inadequate, and records. So therough was this miniature concerts on gramo- from Army, Navy and Air Force many chords in the treble of the

which the tunes varied from Concerts. In the forty minutes Requests are catalogued under of these right-hand chords prove village to village! The unspoiled at our disposal, we give whole the composer's name, and, after superfluous. Hungarian folk music shows an works—never snippets, though four years we now have a very Some parts in standard or amazing similarity to the music sometimes, it's true, requests substantial index. Listeners are chestrations often go unused in of certain Asiatic tribes, especi- come in for major symphonic always notified when their par- small amateur bands 2nd and ally Cheremiss folk music from items which cannot possibly be ticular request is to be broad- 3rd saxes, trumpets and tromthe Volga region—amazing be- broadcast in their entirety. cast, and, in return, we have bones; banjo, guitar and violin cause it is over a thousand years

Then, and then only, do we many letters of thanks in apa—yet it is interesting to rememsince the Hungarians migrated make cuts—by playing, perhaps, preciation of the music. As far her that the accordion is capable from that part of the world

The Gipsies come into the pic
The Gipsies come into the pic
The cause it is over a thousand years

Then, and then only, do we many letters of thanks in apa—yet it is interesting to rememsion that part of the world in a possible we try to play the of handling the melodies or the work in question. A typical newest recordings of the pieces chords scored for such instruture as the professional musi- "Forces Prom" is this recently requested in order to keep over- ments. I am not suggesting that cians of village life—playing for broadcast programme — Over- seas listeners in touch with accordion parts be published in the local festivities. The rural ture: "The Hebrides," Meadel- what is going on at home, place of existing parts in Gipsy music may be compared to ssohn; Max Bruch Violin Con- though very often they ask for "Small Orchestra" arrangethe primitive folk music of the certo-Soloist: Yehudi Menuhin; their favourite works not only ments, or that the arrangements American Negro; it has many and "Ride of the Valkyries," by name, but complete with be altered in any way. Instead, artist and even record numbers. arrangements should be suppleprovisation, limited harmonic Of the thousands of requests All of which helps to justify our mented by accordion parts so

Without Comment:

#### **EDGAR JACKSON** ON JOSH WHITE

Gipsies are virtually outcasts on make up your mind immediately South American Negro folk- Leading authorities on the Morenita, and Gems of Melody; and a prize of Accordion music the fringe of society, but the and say whether you like or dis- ballad music, I have not heard accordion would, I know, gladly 3, Miss Sally Walker's Accordion to the value of 7s. 6d. was popular virtuosi are important like it. But your opinion will no enough of it, or rather not assist arrangers and publishers Band, of Sheffield, who played offered to the writer of the best personalities and much admired more be worth a great deal, even enough different singers of it, to in the inclusion of accordion Over the Waves and La letter. the Duke Ellingtons and to yourself, than you will be able be able to give a sufficiently exparts in standard orchestrations, be able to give a sufficiently expand if this could be achieved it The commercial exploitation instance of the music is good or pert criticism of Josh White to would mark a further develop-

violinists are first-rate virtuosi, "AS with most other types of out something of its history and nusicianship of these players, not a few of whom have studied 'specialised' music, you purpose. . . While I know a who, in many cases, have to use music seriously. The village have the right, if you so wish, to little of the background of this improvised arrangements.

Overture; 2, Jack Shemwell's vited readers to co-operate in cess. Students must understand who, in many cases, have to use Staveley Accordion Band, of discovering the most satisfactory that they are never given any his own teaching methods, and

Technical:

#### ACCORDION AND THE S.O's

By Douglas Fellowes THE accordion has now taken

its rightful place among

music publishers do not give full research that every minute phone records of the type in almost equal quantities, with, plane are much too cumbersome variant of the music was noted, of music to be heard at perhaps, the Navy leading the for the accordion. If full use is right down to the manner in the Henry Wood Promenade way by a short head.

> not using accordion could disto utilise the accordion owing dionists. to the lack of an adequate part could then do so.

accordionists so successfully, chant of Venice Overture and

lishment of the instrument.



"Sorry Boys . . . . Mister Winnick Says NO!"

THE Cleethorpes Accordion Festival, held recently at the Pier Pavilion, Cleethorpes, was a great success, and it is hoped that these East Coast Accordion Championships will become an annual event. Great credit is due to the Organisers, Mr. H. A. Ingham, Entertainments Manager of Cleethorpes mental technique. At the same quite a few have been surprising. the best that music has to offer. of other instruments. A band cal Dealer. Adjudicator was Perritt, go-ahead Grimsby Musi- ham.

Here are the names of the suc- Hessle. cessful competitors:—Accordion It is of interest to record that Band Open Championship: 1, the two first prize winners in the It is surprising, in view of this Band Open Championship: 1, throughout the country employ Leicester, who played The Mer- Sally Walker. and it speaks well for the Orpheus in the Underworld In our issue of August 8, I in-Morenita.

Accordion Times

most of my readers.

his student:

Perspiration."

thing they can't do, but they will

something which is new to them,

and that in the process of learn-

(1) Absolute faith and obedi-

ence. If the student cannot

satisfy these requirements, then

he will be well advised not to

that all possess, but few use.

(3) Capacity for hard work.

nearer to perfection than the

member, therefore, that A GOOD

Edited by J. J. BLACK

Accordion Solo Championship, ceived, and various tutors have of Gipsy music is world-wide, bad of its kind until you have be fair to you, to him, or to ment in the permanent estab-Advanced Class: 1, Douglas been named. Without any doubt termination. Therefore, every naturally comprehensive, and M. Smith, of Manchester; and 3, ject came from Mr. Edwin W.

VELOPED. Here is a simple test that anyone can try: Take a common object such as a pencil, study it carefully for a few moments. Observe every detail, such as colour, shape, Corporation, and Mr. Charles Douglas Parmenter, of Notting- Carpenter, successful Organiser length and any disfigurations. of the Aldershot and District You will then be able to recog-In the Intermediate Class: 1, Accordion Club, to whom the nise that pencil from 1,000 simi-Captain J. Reilly, R.M.S.M., of Jean Naylor, of Pontefract; 2, prize is awarded. Here is Mr. lar pencils. In other words, you card the part, but bands unable the British College of Accor- Frederick Parnell, of Notting- Carpenter's letter, which will, I will know that pencil.

ham; and 3, Marie Hogarth, of am sure, be of great interest to Now apply that idea to your music: look at it, hear it, feel it (always with the same fingering), compare one phrase with lack of parts, that bands The Cowling Accordion Band, of solo sections are pupils of Miss I feel that before making any another. You will find that you recommendations it should be can memorise. Progress may be emphasised that even the best slow at first, but with practice

MEMORY DEPENDS ON THE

POWER OF OBSERVATION

AND THE POWER OF OB

SERVATION CAN BE DE-

with the tutors and text books often find that they are given which he uses.

Even the best tutors are ining they will certainly encounter Several entries have been re- obstacles which can only be clined to have a poor psychoovercome by patience and de- logical effect. The best are teacher and tutor requires from although it is to the student's through, he nevertheless feels at times that he is faced with a Herculean task. He feels rather like a traveller compelled to a proceed further, as all his efforts straight and difficult road, the

will be a waste of time and end of which is never in sight. The best tutor I have met is the "Mathis Method of Accor-(2) Common Sense. A gift dion Playing," by G. S. Mathis, which is suitable for instruction with or without a teacher. It is This involves serious application thorough and well graded. To be of the conscious mind to the used in conjunction with this, I work in hand. If several repeti- recommend the two excellent tions of a passage are necessary, works by Professor Eustace St. each repetition should be a step George Pett: "Just Music," and

" More Music." previous attempt. Bear in mind Here are my own methods, that "Inspiration is 99 per cent. which I find give the best results for beginners, for class or (4) A good memory. Many individual tuition. Having replayers feel that they are handi- ceived instruction in the system

capped by a poor memory. Re- of staff notation, the pupil is continued on page 4



By STUART S. ALLEN

GERrard 4573

THE boys are at it again! And tion to the way Benny was perjust in case you don't know forming. After hot words (much Western popular music and who "The boys" are, I will tell hotter than the music they were Gipsy music can be drawn from you. They are Benny Goodman playing) Tommy took a punch George Gershwin's attempts to and that not so sentimental at B.G., who kicked him in the create a symphonic structure out gentleman of swing, Tommy shins. Tommy's temper grew of certain jazz elements, and Dorsey, who held up production worse, but Benny didn't retaliate Liszt's attempts to present cer- last week on the Samuel Gold- any further, and came out the tain elements of Gipsy music in wyn set of the new Danny Kaye superior of the argument. I an acceptable symphonic form. film, "That's Life," now retitled haven't heard the result of the In matter of fact, his Second "A Song Is Born," by coming to conflict, but my guess is that Hungarian Rhapsody is, in its blows about the way a certain Mr. Goldwyn didn't permit this way, no more authentic than musical number was being per- disturbance to jeopardise his Gershwin's equally famous formed. True to type T.D. was production for long. I'll bet the the aggressor who took excep- boys are pals again by now.

> Thirty-four-year-old pianistarranger-composer Jack Fina, formerly of the Freddy Martin Orchestra, with whom he recorded the hit sensation, own numbers with the band.

my earlier reports on the re- ber reunion. formation of the Stan Kenton Orchestra reached me just too Beach Rendezvous Ballroom, placing the Jack "Open The He wrote it while he was acting ing example was quoted: scene of his first success, on Door Richard" McVea band, for as accompanist for Gertrude After a tour of the West Coast, plane is Earl Hines, while singer fifty dollars. When she saw its Show transcription for Fitch commence a tour of concerts in been signed up by R. C. A. Studios have just paid him an Finally the Union remembered the mid-west and eastern cities Victor to cut a couple of special additional ten thousand dollars that M.C.A. booked the band and of the U.S. about November. In records with Tommy Dorsey on for the right to call their film by that M.C.A. booked the band and of the U.S. about November. In records with Tommy Dorsey on for the right to call their film by they had to pay. Then M.C.A. a statement mailed to me from the maestro's next session. . . . the same name. . . . That's a Hollywood. Stan said that these Count Basie is currently at the heck of a lot of dough! concerts will feature most of the New York Strand Theatre. In new music he has written while order to play this date, Basie Tommy Dorsey is scheduled to rently probing the muddled convalescing. This is more suit- had to cancel the last few weeks able for stage presentation than of his Atlantic City Paradise days, September 3 to 6, for the which have resulted in so much for dances, and the concerts will Club engagement. . . The King California State Fair. . Charlie of this kind of thing. The story band perform many of his will not reform their harmony special recorded works, so far group, while the Dinning Sisters only performed in the Capitol have replaced sister Lou with Studios and on theatre locations. someone else. Lou wants to go be another "Skyliner." . . Desi and Million Dollar Theatres in No additional cots or soloists out as a single.

Arnaz is reported to have Los Angeles, up-and-coming will appear with the band. Stan tells me that only his own outfit will be en the hill (this is conterary to the normal American Paramount has decided to following his leaving the Bob September 9. She records for custom of dressing up a band show with acts). He believes that within three years he will have built up these concerts to the point where he will be devoting three months of his winter



Contrary to my reports (which were based on first hand tipe) not every member of the former orchestra will return to the fold.

Carlos Gastel, Stan's manager, Martha has her eyes on bigger nose," amongst other things, Bumble Boogle," is now a band who also manages June Christy, things. . . . Currently in San during the winding up of the eader in his own right, and has among others, reports that he Francisco, Buddy Rich and his first session of investigation. been one for about a year, may be able to keep little June new band will follow Frankie The labels "Despot" and although I have only just working as a single, thus pre- Masters and his orchestra into "Dictator" were hung on James learned of the fact. Jack is cur- veting her rejoining her former Tommy Dorsey's Hollywood gold C. Petrillo by L. A. Weiss, Board rently leading his stylish or- boss. Drummer Shelly Manne mine, The Casino Gardens at Chairman of Mutual Broadcastchestra at the Starlight Roof and trombonist Kai Winding are Ocean Park. . . . Stan Kenton ing System during his stand as Restaurant of New York's Wal- currently with Charlie Ventura, has been booked for New York's a witness. He charged the dorf-Astoria, and has signed an at the Chicago Hotel Sherman, Pennsylvania Hotel on Novem- Union boss with "ruthless and important contract with M.G.M. and will remain with the tenor ber 18 for four weeks. He will illegal demands to be paid Records to record a series of his saxist, while Vido Musso is still be followed by Frankie Carle ... twice" for Eastern transcribed mulling plans for another band Ray McKinley and Mel Torme shows which, he asserted, had to of his own. Pete Rugulo is have replaced Sam Donahue and be piped through Hollywood in already with Kenton, preparing Perry Como at Frank Dailey's order to be rebroadcast through Long-awaited confirmation of the new scores for the Septem- Meadowbrook at Cedar Grove, the Network's 43 stations. The

following Carmen Cavallaro, who is expected to last a good two months, he has lined up Desi Arnaz and Marion Hutton,

New Jersey. The new policy is Union grants M.B.S. the privia terrific success.

atlantic. Stan will call his first in the "A Song Is Born" pic- Johnny Green, now one of not hear the shows unless he rerehearsal on September 15, and ture, is doubling his studio work America's leading songwriters, cut the transmission in Hollywill open, as already announced with an engagement at Billy once had to fight hard to get his wood, for which Petrillo insisted in this column, at the Balboa Berg's Hollywood night spot, re- hit "Body and Soul" published. on a recording fee. The follow-September 27, for two days only. an indefinite engagement. On Lawrence, and sold it to her for he will record a new album, Nellie Lutcher, already appear- hit possibilities, our Gerty resold Concerts in Progressive Jazz," ing at the spot, will share billing it to Johnny for the same price. for Capitol, his first for five honours with Armstrong. . . . Since then it has earned him months. The band will then Capitol singer Matt Dennis has a fortune, while Enterprise

> Barnet is causing quite a bit of continues. . . . excitement among disc jockeys with his new recording of "Dark Denying that the New York the first six weeks of his tour Silhouette, in Chicago, on change its stage show policy, Hope Show.—I told you it did Musicraft. . . Anybody heard Bob Weitman announces that him a lot of good. Remember Eddie Howard's band? I've been Kenton?

can Contrary to my reports (which were based on first hand tipe)

Contrary to my reports (which were based on first hand tipe)

Contrary mamber of the former orchestra will return to the fold.

Stan Marion Hutton, THE PRTRILIO STORY news just as soon as my news schedules to feature them across than Kenton, (PART UMPTHEN). — C. L. items are elaborated. . . Frank leading cities on the American Devol, formerly of the swell ton for future attraction. . . . who had taken the chair on the "California Melodies" show, has last day of the Senate investigation of the AFM, to deny new N.B.C. "Village Store" processed on first hand tipe)

Contrary to my reports (which willow Morris Agency to charges that he had prempted a gramme. Watch out for some wife the former orchestra will return to the fold. Seems as though McCann with a "punch on the here.

lege of transcribing shows for later transmission, but Weiss late for last week's Trans- Louis Armstrong, who is also DID YOU KNOW THAT . . . asserted that his stations could

was billed to Station KHJ, who turned it down. Both Mutual and the agency also rejected it billed Mutual, who billed KHJ and they wound up where they

Town Strutters' Ball "-it may After playing at the Lincoln grossed a total of two-hundred- young coloured singer Sarah tipped he's a winner. He is reported to be doing big things over there, so I'll give you the PETRILLO STORY news just as soon as my news

A REALLY GREAT BATCH OF TUNES HEARTACHES

AN APPLE BLOSSOM WEDDING

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#### FIRST PROM DISAPPOINTING

were too many wrong notes, piano.

The first Promenade Recital rhythm was bad and the music ever held in London at the just swam in a mass of pedal-Atbert Hall, on Sunday, August ling. But as there is something 31, was a dispappointment. The to be learnt in every performprogramme consisted of works ance, I would suggest that the by Debussy, Chopin, Beethoven students who were present

Printed for the Publishers, VENTURE PUBLICATIONS LTD., 25, King Street, London, W.C.2, by MACAULAYS' ADVERTISING SERVICE, LTD. (T.U.), 12, Folgate St., E.1. Trade Win's "An American in Paris".



Informal picture of the ten finalists in the "Miss Merrie England" Beauty Contest held at Ramsgate Olympia last Sunday. Can you spot the winner



Ramsgate Beauty Contest. Celebrities on board the Yacht "Lady Enchantress" carrying the finalists to Ramsgate, L. to R. John Thompson (Director of Ramsgate Olympia) Benny Lee, Lou Preager, Bunny McGibbon Lewis, Jack Jackson and resident bandleader Gordon Homer.



Stewart Granger with the winners. Extreme right, 1st. Extreme left second and centre 3rd.

PROMS: By Malcolm Rayment

#### WALTON EVENING

THE week beginning August 25 was notable for two things -the large number of British works included, and the fluctuation of the standard of performance between very good and appallingly bad. Most of Tuesday evening's programme was devoted to the music of William Walton. The B.B.C. Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Sir Adrian Boult, excelled themselves in the difficult "Scapino" Overture, and with Ernest Lush in the "Sinfonia Concertante for Orchestra and Pianoforte," ar early work which has recently been revised. The climax of the evening, however, was inevitably the highly dramatic "Balshazzar's Feast," in which the Orchestra, conducted by the Composer, were joined by the B.B.C. Choral Society, Dennis Noble and two Brass Bands. After the interval Elizabeth Lutyens' "Petite Suite" was given, and although rather small beer after the magnificence of Walton, it was nevertheless good entertaining music on a small scale. The concert ended with a brilliant performance of the second series of Symphonic fragments from Ravel's Daphnis and Chloe.'

It was on Wednesday that the rot began to set in, the performance of Brahms' Second Piano Concerto by Denis Matthews, in particular, being unworthy of that artist. On Thursday, Bach's Second Brandenburg Concerto was the work that suffered most; to begin with the performance was absolutely lifeless, which was hardly surprising in the circumstances, for the whole conception was a gross misrepresentation of Bach's music. In the first place the number of strings employed was far too large, secondly the continus was missing, and thirdly entirely the wrong kind of trumpet was used, playing (most of the time) in the wrong octave and producing the wrong tone while the texture of the whole was quite foreign to Bach's music. Bartok's Third Piano Concerto with Louis Ketner as soloist followed, but unfortunately the Orchestra was only able to recover sufficiently to give a second rate performance. Such is the quality of this music, however, that its greatness was still evident. By the time the interval had arrived things had much improved and Lennox Berkeley's delightful and witty Divertimento and Sibelius's "Pohjola's Daughter" which followed, made one realise what a

On Friday, Sir Arnold Bax's Violin Concerto, a most attractive work with a strong Celtic flavour was extremely well played by Basil Cameron, and on Saturday the same Orchestra gave an exceptionally fine performance of Sibelius's

good Orchestra the B.B.C.

really is.

#### TEN BEST SELLERS

BEST SELLERS, irrespective of price, for week ending August 28, 1947, has been compiled from lists supplied by members of the WHOLE-SALE MUSIC DISTRIBU-TORS' ASSOCIATION in London and the Provinces:

1. Now Is The Hour-Keith

2. People Will Say We're In Love-Chappell, 2/-.

3. Come Back To Sorrento-Riccordi, 2/-. 4. Down The Old Spanish Trail-Peter Maurice, 1/-. 5. I Got The Sun In The

Morning-Berlin, 1/-. 6. I Believe-E. Morris, 1/-. 7. Gal In Calico-B. Feldman, 1/-.

8. Mam'selle-Francis. Day & Hunter, 1/-9. Among My Souvenirs-L. Wright, 1/-.

10. Little Old Mill-Dash, 1/-

#### **MUSICAL WEDDING**



Betty Franks, daughter of Len Franks the well known saxophonist married George Veazey last Sunday. Two hundred guests were entertained. In this M.E. picture, front row: Sid Wright, the bride and groom, Rex Owen, Mr. and Mrs. Yeazey. Back row Len Franks (Jnr.) Leg Franks (Sen) and Jack Evetts



Felix Mendelssohn and South Sea Lovelles-net Hendlulu bet Ramegate, where they appeared at the Core nation Ballroom.

# OPEN LETTER CM YOU SPELL :-

1 September, 1947. To the Editor.

On July 4, 1947, we addressed he following letter to the Sec-

retary of the D.B.D.A .: -

Dear Mr. Ratcliffe, I am directed by my com-

mittee to ask if you will be good enough to bring the following emarks to the notice of your nembers.

On October 30 next, we are holding a Tin Pan Alley Ball at the Lyceum in aid of the M.P.C.P.A. benevolent fund. We shall make this a notable social function for the whole of our business

There will be two resident bands in attendance but we should naturally like to feature some name bands in addition. You will appreciate that it would be invidious to approach individuals and we should therefore welcome any suggestions you may have to offer. I should like to mention that we shall be happy to pay transport and porterage xpenses, etc., and after speakng to the Secretary of the Musitans' Union on the matter. I feel sure there will be no difficulty in obtaining the Union's permission for musicians to give heir services

We realise that the date is omewhat distant for definite knowledge of commitments, but our early consideration and rely would be appreciated."

No reply being received we again wrote on the 13 August, in the following terms: -

Dear Mr. Ratcliffe.

I have received no reply to or acknowledgment of my letter of July 4. I thought I would drop you a line to remind you."

No reply has been received to either communication. We cannot believe that the members of the D.B.D.A. or its committee are aware of either f these communications, otherwise the courtesy of a reply would have been received. To

have approached individually our many friends among the Dance Band Leaders would have been simple and evidently more fruitful. Yet we consider that we pursued the right course in approaching the Representative Body. Can it be that the organiexistent or disinterested as RONNIE would appear from this situation?

The M.P.C.P.A. has worked steadily since its foundation for goodwill and understanding between music business and its closely allied professions. We are endeavouring to furnish a little dignity in a sphere of business activity where it has been sadly laoking for many years.

On February 12, 1947, a letter of goodwill was addressed to the D.B.D.A. from this Association. No acknowledgment or reply to this letter has ever been received. Individually we are in every day business contact with many leading members of the D.B.D.A. Many of them are our personal friends. Their individual businesses are conducted on sound lines. It is therefore very evident that the D.B.D.A. organization is sadly lacking in

essentials. This letter is written in order to bring to the notice of individual members of the D.B.D.A. a situation of which they are probably in complete ignorance. given manuscript on which he

Yours faithfully. Music Publishers Contact

Personnel Association.

REG. EVANS,

Honorary Secretary.

#### Denis Returns To Margate

Johnny Denis who with his

Novelty Sextet has been resident at the Northumberland Hotel, Margate, this summer has been day. September 8, they will inaugurate a weekly name band policy at the Royal Star Hotel, Maidstone. On Friday, September 12, with Denny Dennis as guest star they will be the first of a series of well-known names to appear at the Royal Forest Hotel, Chingford. On September 22, they will be at the Winter Gardens, Weston-super-Mare, for a week, followed by a Sunday concert at Cardiff, and the following week they will commence the Winter season at the Bray House Club.

#### LOU PREAGER (continued from page 1)

glad that it was so.

I think that the idea of colhave been a very tempting one. I want to make it quite clear. should be made to benefit British Song-Writers and the Interests of The Profession generally-but please no more good jazz record should be! plagiarism!

Surely if our competitors (?) wish to help the British song- case of the amateur who tried writers, they could use their to approach jazz as an executant brains and find another title? | without making any concessions all whom it may concern that if a warning to all others who may it should be found necessary my be tempted by simflar aspira-legal advisers will be consulted tions. And his experience points in the matters above referred to. an unusually clear moral. The Yours sincerely,

LOU PREAGER. Musical Director. Hammersmith Palais.

#### POPOCATEPETL POPOCATEPETL

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ACCORDION TIMES (continued from page 3)

proceeds to place notes at random. He then places under each note the name of that note. This must be done entirely from memory. He commences either with the Treble or Bass Clef and continues for about six lines of 1 with "One Night Stands" in each, gradually cutting down until the stage of alternate lines of Treble and Bass is reached. Within a week most of the difficulties and confusions between Hall, Sunderland travelling ov-Bass and Treble Clef have been overcome, and our beginner is in the happy position of being abie to concentrate on the practical

side of playing. To feel that he is able to play | ter, from October 6 to 11. Ar nvited by the management to a piece is the best possible incen- announcement concerning the return there for Christmas and live to the beginner, and for this Blue Rockets forthcoming Vari New Year's Eve week. This purpose I use "Melodies in ety Tour will be made in the Friday the Sextet will be on Miniature," by Warren Smith, an next fortnight but they will dentelevision at 9.30 p.m. and Mon- excellent publication for the initely commence the tour at the

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#### The Blue Rockets finish,

their week following Band Parade" on Monday September the Lancashire and Yorkshir area with a Concert at Rhyl on September 7. Next week they open for a week at Seaburn to Morecambe for a Sunday Cun cert at the Winter Gardens of September 14

The Rockets are appearing at the Astoria Ballroom Manches-Pavilion, Liverpool

#### STRANGE CASE OF MR. ELIZALDE (continued from page 2)

jazz that it is likely to be re- to suppose that anyone else membered - if at all - by working from that a not not

Krenek's opera: "Jonny Spiert will are relative Program. Auf!" The Grofé suites- failed Metropolis," "Grand Canyon and the rest-are all but for gotten: Gershwin's Prano Con certo in F is little heard, and even "Rhapsody in Blue" i slipping gently into the "light orchestral" class. The Nazi sledge-hammer knocked "Jonny" out of the operatic repertory, but it may well come back again, for it has the enduring virtue of taking itself not too seriously. It would be pleasant this information was refused, to believe that Fred Elizaide. and in view of the announce too, wrote with his tongue CHICK WEBB. ment of their contest. I am very firmly in his cheek. But the ordinary ten-inch records for which he made the arrangelecting in 86,000 shillings must ments imply that he took his "symphonic" experiments very seriously indeed. His Parlothat I think that every effort phone recording (R.1291) of "Nobody's Sweetheart" can probably be accepted as Elizaide's own idea of what a

Viewed now in perspective. Fred Elizalde remains the one In conclusion I wish to inform to practicability. He stands as ability to buy a paper dream band, even when backed by ev-

RECORD RECOMMENDATIONS FROM A TO Z

#### Each week this column lists

ten outstanding records by leading jazzmen and bands, drawn from the current English gramophone catalogues. In strict alphabetical order we continue this week, with CHICK WEBB and TEDDY WILSON.

1. Rusty Hinge. Cryin' Mood. Brunswick O2470.

2. Azure. I'm Just A Jitterbug Brunswick O2631. 3, Undecided. In The Groove

At The Grove, Brunswick O2743. 4. Wacky Dust. Spinnin' The Webb. Brunswick O2669 5. I Ain't Got Nobody. In A Little Spanish Town. Webb's

#### Little Chicks.) Brunswick O2546. TEDDY WILSON

Parlophone R2823

6. Sugar. More Than You Know. Parlophone R2660 7. I'll Get By. I Cried For You.

8. Warmin' Up. Blues In C Sharp Minor. Parlophone R2871

9. Blues Too. I Can't Get Started. Parlophone R3046 port knowledge of musical trends 10. Blue Mood (I-II). Teddy and fashions, is simply not Wilson Quartet) Parloemough. And there is no reason

phone R2741

#### and List. Planist Francis Cassel should take it as a perfect exgave a poor performance. There ample of how not to play the