

THE WORLD'S BEST! THE PETER MAURICE PIANO ACCORDION TUTOR

BRITAIN'S LARGEST WEEKLY ENTERTAINMENT NEWSPAPER

Two New Mambo by PETER MAURICE MORE MORE MAMBO SAXOPHONE MAMBO

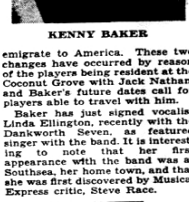
BOB HOPE Star's Request for the Famous "Banbox"

WHEN BOB HOPE COMES TO GREAT BRITAIN FOR HIS VARIETY SEASON AT THE PRINCE OF WALES, HE WILL FIRST BE DOING THREE CONCERTS IN THE PROVINCES AND WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY BILLY TERMENT AND HIS ORCHESTRA.

There will be one show at Belle Vue, Manchester, on Friday, April 20, and two shows at the New Opera House, Blackpool, on Saturday, April 21. At each performance Billy Terment and his Orchestra will provide their own offering for an hour and a quarter, and will then accompany Bob Hope.

BAKER BREAKS RECORDS AT SOUTHSEA KENNY BAKER, who played his first ballroom date with his newly-formed outfit last Saturday...

There are two changes in the line-up of the group, with Peter inde replacing Joe Muddell on piano and Johnny Flanagan replacing Jack Kirchin on drums...



Sir Malcolm Sargent To Address Music Students

SIR MALCOLM SARGENT is to address teachers and music students in the Music Room of the Y.W.C.A. Central Club, Great Russell-street, on the subject of "Music and the Film," at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, April 4.

Burns Airs Again TITO BURNS will be featured in his first "Music While You Work" on Thursday, April 5, at 3.45 p.m.

New Mairants Composition ERALDO has his Orchestra recently had the first broadcast of a new composition by guitarist Ivor Mairants.

On its way to the top Mockin' Bird Hill

Other current hits: BAR ROOM POLKA LOVE ME MY LOVE SO GOES MY HEART THE LITTLE WHITE DUCK

SOUTHERN MUSICAL PUBLISHING Co., Ltd. 8, Denmark Street, London, W.C.2

Bob Hope specially asked for Billy Terment and his Orchestra to accompany him at these concerts. It will be recalled that when Hope visited this country during the war for troop concerts and broadcasts in 1944, Billy Terment was the leading B.B.C. Dance Orchestra...

This will be the first time for several years Terment has undertaken the broadcasts and for a further month he will remain in residence there until Saturday, May 26. He will be accompanied by one-night stands prior to opening at Douglas, Isle of Man, for a nine-week season commencing June 30.

In the meantime, the Stapleton Orchestra is broadcasting this Friday evening, March 30, from 8.30 to 11 p.m. from the Savoy Hotel, Friday, April 20, 11.15 to 1.45 p.m. and Thursday, April 26, 12.15 to 12.45 p.m.

Immediate Sunday concerts include Guildhall, Southampton, Sunday, April 8, and on Sunday, April 15, at the Theatre Royal, Liverpool Empire, where they will be star attraction at the West Lancashire National Dance Band Championships.

Maple Leaf Four Those popular Canadian singers the Maple Leaf Four will be appearing in another "Music Hall" programme on Saturday, April 7. Further "Happy Hour" Down programmes are also due to follow.

More Trouble for Loss FIRST casualty of the French rail and cross-channel strike was the South of France and was due to return Good Friday to fulfil a Saturday engagement at the Ardres Ballroom, Redworth, a Sunday concert at the Montfort Hall, Leicester, and Easter week at the Empire Theatre, Nottingham.

More Name Bands For Ireland DAVID RABIN, of Rabin-Davis Productions, who has been exclusively booking bands for Irish committees since 1947, has had a considerable period, informs us that he has booked more English name band attractions to visit Eire.

Love Sextet Debut THE Geoff Love Sextet made their debut in a series of six concerts at the Festival Hall, London, on Wednesday, March 28.

Esquire Signs Harris "New Sound" CARLO KRAEMER, enterprising chief of Esquire Records, has brought off another capture in the recently-formed George Harris Trio, which he has signed to Esquire, has formed this outfit with an eye directly on the commercial dance music field.

Ladies in Distress TWO leading female performers have had to cancel personal appearances during the last week owing to illness. One of the ladies, Devon, returned home to London prior to her date there.

SHARON TOURS THREE COUNTRIES RALPH SHARON and his Sextet are back again with a mammoth tour of three countries during the coming three months. Commencing April 9 in Scotland, the sextet open at the West End Restaurant, Edinburgh, for a two-week engagement, followed by one-night stands on April 22 and 23 at the Beach Ballroom, Aberdeen.

DAWSON MOVES PREMISES HARRY DAWSON ENTERPRISES, Ltd., Star Direction move from their present office on Monday to new premises at 13, West-street. Their telephone numbers will remain the same.

WINSTON DISCOVERY AT CELEBRITY BARRY KENT, the young singer who won an Eric Winston contest two years ago and consequently broadcast with Tito Burns, Bob Gibson, and George Evans, sang to an enraptured audience at the Clarendon last Saturday evening.

STAPLETON CONTRACT EXTENDED

CYRIL STAPLETON'S season at the Savoy Hotel has been very successful and his contract has been extended by a further month. He will remain in residence there until Saturday, May 26.

STEVE RACE WRITES NEW BALLET O.U.K. critic, Steve Race, recently entered a new field of music with the completion of a ballet score for the new British Company, the Ballet Eros. Titled "Skyline," the story takes place in a New York setting, and will feature the work of principals Melia Carter and Noel Kavanagh.

SHARON TOURS THREE COUNTRIES RALPH SHARON and his Sextet are back again with a mammoth tour of three countries during the coming three months. Commencing April 9 in Scotland, the sextet open at the West End Restaurant, Edinburgh, for a two-week engagement, followed by one-night stands on April 22 and 23 at the Beach Ballroom, Aberdeen.

Maple Leaf Four Those popular Canadian singers the Maple Leaf Four will be appearing in another "Music Hall" programme on Saturday, April 7. Further "Happy Hour" Down programmes are also due to follow.

More Trouble for Loss

FIRST casualty of the French rail and cross-channel strike was the South of France and was due to return Good Friday to fulfil a Saturday engagement at the Ardres Ballroom, Redworth, a Sunday concert at the Montfort Hall, Leicester, and Easter week at the Empire Theatre, Nottingham.

More Name Bands For Ireland

DAVID RABIN, of Rabin-Davis Productions, who has been exclusively booking bands for Irish committees since 1947, has had a considerable period, informs us that he has booked more English name band attractions to visit Eire.

Love Sextet Debut

THE Geoff Love Sextet made their debut in a series of six concerts at the Festival Hall, London, on Wednesday, March 28.

Esquire Signs Harris

"New Sound" CARLO KRAEMER, enterprising chief of Esquire Records, has brought off another capture in the recently-formed George Harris Trio, which he has signed to Esquire, has formed this outfit with an eye directly on the commercial dance music field.

Ladies in Distress

TWO leading female performers have had to cancel personal appearances during the last week owing to illness. One of the ladies, Devon, returned home to London prior to her date there.

STEVE RACE WRITES NEW BALLET

O.U.K. critic, Steve Race, recently entered a new field of music with the completion of a ballet score for the new British Company, the Ballet Eros. Titled "Skyline," the story takes place in a New York setting, and will feature the work of principals Melia Carter and Noel Kavanagh.

SHARON TOURS THREE COUNTRIES RALPH SHARON and his Sextet are back again with a mammoth tour of three countries during the coming three months. Commencing April 9 in Scotland, the sextet open at the West End Restaurant, Edinburgh, for a two-week engagement, followed by one-night stands on April 22 and 23 at the Beach Ballroom, Aberdeen.

Maple Leaf Four Those popular Canadian singers the Maple Leaf Four will be appearing in another "Music Hall" programme on Saturday, April 7. Further "Happy Hour" Down programmes are also due to follow.

More Trouble for Loss FIRST casualty of the French rail and cross-channel strike was the South of France and was due to return Good Friday to fulfil a Saturday engagement at the Ardres Ballroom, Redworth, a Sunday concert at the Montfort Hall, Leicester, and Easter week at the Empire Theatre, Nottingham.

More Name Bands For Ireland

DAVID RABIN, of Rabin-Davis Productions, who has been exclusively booking bands for Irish committees since 1947, has had a considerable period, informs us that he has booked more English name band attractions to visit Eire.

Love Sextet Debut

THE Geoff Love Sextet made their debut in a series of six concerts at the Festival Hall, London, on Wednesday, March 28.

Esquire Signs Harris

"New Sound" CARLO KRAEMER, enterprising chief of Esquire Records, has brought off another capture in the recently-formed George Harris Trio, which he has signed to Esquire, has formed this outfit with an eye directly on the commercial dance music field.

Ladies in Distress

TWO leading female performers have had to cancel personal appearances during the last week owing to illness. One of the ladies, Devon, returned home to London prior to her date there.

SHARON TOURS THREE COUNTRIES

RALPH SHARON and his Sextet are back again with a mammoth tour of three countries during the coming three months. Commencing April 9 in Scotland, the sextet open at the West End Restaurant, Edinburgh, for a two-week engagement, followed by one-night stands on April 22 and 23 at the Beach Ballroom, Aberdeen.

GERALDO BAND GIVES HOSPITAL SHOW

On Wednesday, April 4, Geraldo and his Orchestra will give a concert at Stoke Mandeville Hospital for the disabled and convalescent. On April 5 Geraldo plays two concerts at the Guesmont Club, Wilbur, with his Concert Orchestra. The concerts are at 8.15 and 10.15 p.m.

CAMBRIDGE CREW AT EMPRESS

The victorious Cambridge crew celebrated their win last Monday by visiting the Empress Hotel. A big surprise was in store for them on their arrival when Harry Roy greeted them with "Can I Canoe You Up the River" and the chef brought in a cake made in the shape of a boat complete with oarsmen.

GOLD EIGHT ONE-NIGHT STANDS

LEWIS BUCKLEY ENTERPRISES, LIMITED, announce venues for a further period of one-night stands booked for Harry Gold and His Pieces of Eight. The open on Sunday, April 15, at the Empire Theatre, Swindon, followed by dances on Monday (16) at Liverpool, Tuesday (17) Hull, Wednesday (18) Brigg, Thursday (19) Penrith, Friday (20) Crews and Saturday (21) Manchester, terminating the tour with one-night stands at the Royal on Sunday (22). Featured with the band on all these dates is the young star of the Jolson singing sensation, Jimmy Day.

DAWSON MOVES PREMISES

HARRY DAWSON ENTERPRISES, Ltd., Star Direction move from their present office on Monday to new premises at 13, West-street. Their telephone numbers will remain the same.

Dawson informs us that Tommy Bryan who was for many years manager of the Star, is to join him as general manager and they will be commencing a new series of course continuing to have the services of singer Harry Dawson and Freddy Randall, and Harold Smart.

ENESCO RETURNING

GEORGES ENESCO, the Rumanian musician who is almost equally well known as conductor, composer and violinist, is paying another visit to England in April, and will conduct several broadcasts. He will also conduct two symphony concerts from the studio with the B.B.C. Symphony Orchestra, and a series of four chamber concerts in the Third Programme, which will include all the Bach Suites, as well as some modern music.

WINSTON DISCOVERY AT CELEBRITY

BARRY KENT, the young singer who won an Eric Winston contest two years ago and consequently broadcast with Tito Burns, Bob Gibson, and George Evans, sang to an enraptured audience at the Clarendon last Saturday evening.

PHILLIPS GROUP AT FELDMAN'S

CID PHILLIPS is taking a Disraeli land music tour with the Phillips Group at Feldman's for four Wednesdays, commencing April 11.

FIRST BIG TOUR for MITCHELL 3

JACK FALLON, MANAGING THE FAMOUS MALCOLM MITCHELL TRIO, HAS JUST ANNOUNCED A MOST IMPORTANT DECISION ON POLICY FOR THE BOOKING OF THE STAR ATTRACTION. WHEN THE TRIO'S NEXT TOUR IN LONDON IS CONCLUDED AT THE DOBCHESTER AND 96 FRODOBALLE, THEY WILL EMBARK UPON AN IMPORTANT PROVINCIAL TOUR.

This decision was made over lunch last Tuesday after a conference between Mitchell and Fallon. The decision was made through overwhelming inquiries received by Fallon from provincial management and bookers keenly competing to engage the Mitchell Trio.

Mr Fallon, chief of Jack Hyton Corporation, Ltd., is now arranging for the Mitchell Trio to embark upon a provincial tour of concert and dance halls, theatres and other engagements. A tour in Paris has been keen on booking the Mitchell Trio, and Fallon has arranged for Maxims to have the Mitchell Trio for these week-end engagements.

BIG LINE-UP FOR WARD 3

THE Hedley Ward Trio, with no fewer than eight broadcasts between March 22 and April 21, face the busiest of their careers. Five of these are within a fortnight and include "The Rose, Rose, Rose You" on Thursday, March 29, "Variety Fanfare" on April 2 and repeated on April 4, "Variety Bandbox" on April 13, and a repeat on April 15.

In addition, the trio have concerts lined up at the Capitol, Cardiff; R.A.F. Camp, Hemswell, on April 9, Wembley Stadium, on April 10, the London Palladium concert with Hedley Ward and his Band beginning on Thursday, April 30.

DAWSON SIGNS WITH DECCA

HARRY DAWSON will cut his last side for H.M.V. this month prior to commencing a London contract with Decca in April. Dawson will record his first sides for this company on April 1 accompanied by Ray Martin and his Orchestra. We are given to understand that Dawson will be recording an operatic series for release in both America and England.

DENZ with HOAGY CARMICHAEL

FRANK DENZ, guitarist with the famous Hermanos Denis, has been given a distinguished appearance at the London Palladium to accompany Hoagy Carmichael. Denis appears on stage together with three members of the resident "Skyrocket" Orchestra and with the star. The other musical keymen distinguished to appear with the band are George Fierstone—drums, Jack Reid—bass, and Norman Impney—clarinet.

PETER MAURICE

- HARBOUR LIGHTS DA-DIM, DA-DOM (LA RAINY DAY REFRAIN) ALL MY LOVE AUTUMN LEAVES LEEDS MUSIC THE ROVING KIND SO LONG WITH THE STAR C'N CANOE YOU UP THE RIVER THE PETITE WALTZ BOURNE MUSIC I LOVE YOU BECAUSE THIS IS THE TIME

NEW PRICES: SMALL ORCHE. 2/6 FULL ORCHE. 4/6 DOUBLE ORCHE. 5/6 OTHER BANDS 1/6-2/6 SINGLE ORCHE. SMALL ORCHE. 2/6 FULL ORCHE. 4/6 DOUBLE ORCHE. 5/6 OTHER BANDS 1/6-2/6

THE TRAINER SISTERS signing autographs on the H.M.V. stand when they visited the Ideal Home Exhibition.

Musical Express

Editorial and Advertising Offices
38, Store Street, London, W.C.1
Telephone: LAMHem 2131

Editor-in-Chief for Venture Publications, Ltd.: JULIEN VEDEY
Editor of Musical Express: GEORGIE VEDEY

Read throughout the wide world

THE VOICE
Mickey-Taking
Go to any show or variety house and the biggest laughs come from gags taking the mickey out of the Festival of Britain.

The Apalling Cost
THREE or four weeks ago Mr Morrison said the Festival would cost the taxpayer £1,500,000. That was staggering enough. But a week or so later he announced (to his own dismay) that a further £1,000,000 would be needed.

What Business?
JUST how much business will be done in the Festival Gardens? If I were visiting New York and heard a symphony concert, I would be sadly disappointed if it were not in Carnegie Hall.

What Benefits?
THE next question arises concerning the benefits that will accrue from the Festival Gardens to the entertainment professions.

GREEN GRASS AND PEACEFUL PASTURES
BENNY STRONG'S RECORD HIT REVIVAL ON CAPITOL CL13452
TESSIE, STOP TEASIN' ME
Both Dance Orchestras by JIMMY LALLY — 3/- each

Let the Postman bring it!
MUSICAL EXPRESS
delivered in your letter-box by the first post on Friday mornings!

THE NEXT FORTNIGHTLY ISSUE OF MUSICAL EXPRESS WILL BE PUBLISHED ON APRIL 13

WHICH THE TIME IN WHICH WE MUST USE A DELICATE THEATRICAL TERM "RESTING," THERE WAS NO SYMPATHETIC ACTION ON THE PART OF THE RECORDING COMPANY. THEY WILL BE TUNED TO RELEASE NEW RECORDS 19 TO THE DOZEN. ONE HARDLY EXPECTED THEM TO DO OTHERWISE, OF COURSE.

Teddy Johnson
Tennessee Waltz
I'll Always Love You
Cat. DB2170

Donald Peers and Merry Macs
Tennessee Waltz
My Heart Cries for You
H.M.V. 81003

Vanessa Lee
Flinger, Please Return
I'm So Lonely
H.M.V. 81002

Harry Dawson
My Love and Listen To My Song
H.M.V. 81003

Bobby Wayne
When the Wind Was Green
Buena Vista
London 1224

Tony Martin
I Don't Stand a Ghost of a Chance
September Song
Bruno 61633

It would be hard to find two more and more true songs "ghosts of a chance" and "I don't stand a ghost of a chance" seem to be coming into their own after a longer trial than most songs allowed by their publishers. It's my guess that this

The Mixed Easter Fare

A GOOD EVENING HAS ITS QUOTA OF ESSENTIALS—NOT MUST HAVE GOOD MEN AND BAD MEN—SO, TO THIS STANDARD MIXTURE COME THE ADDITIONS OF BANDITS AND HEROINES, IN "RIO GRANDE" DIRECTOR ROBERT ALTMAN HAS MADE WHAT WOULD HAVE BEEN ANOTHER OF HIS FINEST FILMS IF HE HAD BEEN CONTENT WITH THE BASIC STORY, THE STRUGGLE OF A MEXICAN FRONTIER COACH AGAINST THE APACHE INDIANS. UNFORTUNATELY, HE WASTED IT.

Rio Grande
John Wayne, complete with Kitchener moustache, is colonel of the fort, fighting a losing battle against a band of Apaches. The great thrill of the film come from these Apaches, and even the best of these young men is the training of a bunch of volunteers. One of these young men is the colonel's son, whom he has not seen for 15 years, owing to a rift in the matrimonial life. So far so good, but Momma (Maureen O'Hara) arrives, dragging her skirts in the Western dust, intent on taking her boy away. Dad doesn't want him, so Miss O'Hara has to bang her fists and clutter up the plot in the most unnecessary manner.

Hotshots
Boogie for Googie
Who's Sorry Now
Paris. 7243

Rehwid
Susan Hayward is a true heroine in this good Western drama, an essential and very fiery part of the story. With Tyrone Power, Miss Hayward and her baby niece are imprisoned in a music station on the California Road at the time of the gold rush. Four desperados hold them there, waiting a coach. Susan bites, scratches and fights with the best of them, and also sports a cleavage which is handy in keeping with the period.

Sonny Burke Orchestra
Mambo Live (Mambo)
Bruno. 6645

Rumberto Morales
Rumberto's Jump
Mambo Live (Special Order)

El Negro Chevalier y Orquesta Rafael de Paz
La Mambaca
L.M.V. 20235 (Special Order)

Steve Conway
All My Life
Good Luck, Good Health
Cat. DB2309

Line Renaud
My Cabin in Canada
Au Revoir Again
Cat. DB2306

Jane Russell
I Can't Get Started
Dear Dear! Dear!
London 12516

Melamed Mitchell Trio
Minkins, Sing, Minkies Moo
Your Feet's Too Big
Bruno 68211

CLAIR LENO on FILMS

Storm Warning
Perhaps I waited too long and too eagerly for this film, dealing with the Ku Klux Klan. I think it is very good, but too tedious. I am a little disappointed in the leaders cooking the books; and I am a little disappointed in the case against the Klan's movements were strong enough without any kind of trickery.

Faust and the Devil
Children should be stern, not hard, and there is a little of the latter in the preface and tailpiece tucked on after the Men who Built America.

I'll Get You For This
George Raft, not perhaps my favourite actor, comes off far better under British direction than I ever thought in an American film. This mystery kicks off to a promising start, but doesn't keep up the pace.

Bedtime for Bonzo
Did you know that chimpanzees have to wear a wig on their rear in American films? Until Bonzo dressed like a child in the puerile film, you can see his dear little rear sticking out from the back like a grasshopper. I don't know when I've written more under-handled situations and dialogue as I did with this opus.

BRONN'S
29-31 OXFORD ST., LONDON, W.1
7/9 PIECE (err.) 3/- each

THEY'RE ALL PLAYING
HARRY GOLD
JIMMY LEACH
LAWRENCE WRIGHT

WAKE UP YOUR LIVER BILE
The liver should be kept in good order by the use of a natural and safe laxative.

ART LARG
EXPERT REPAIRS TO WOODWIND Instruments
25 years' experience with leading brands of instruments.

Continued on Page 4

STEVE RACE
On Record

the most advanced, and was accompanied by a (then) progressive rhythm section. It is well worth hearing. It was high time we had a recording of this kind. The music is by Steve Race and Good-good-fans.

Billy Eckstine
Only a Moment Ago
The Lonely Shepherd
M.G.M. 502

Steve Conway
All My Life
Good Luck, Good Health
Cat. DB2309

Line Renaud
My Cabin in Canada
Au Revoir Again
Cat. DB2306

Jane Russell
I Can't Get Started
Dear Dear! Dear!
London 12516

Melamed Mitchell Trio
Minkins, Sing, Minkies Moo
Your Feet's Too Big
Bruno 68211

Schoenberg's "Style and Idea"

Also the scores of British works reviewed by MALCOLM RAYMENT

Arnold Schoenberg's "Style and Idea" which has just been published by Faber and Faber (London, 1s. 6d.), is one of the most interesting books I have read for a very long time. But it is more than that, for although Schoenberg deals with a variety of subjects, he does so in a way that reveals much of his own mind.

This revelation would not be of such prime importance had it not been written by one of the contemporary composers, for Schoenberg's music will be known to him as the great artist that he is. The many are under the erroneous impression that he writes music in the cold and calculated manner of a mathematician. Schoenberg is a thorough romantic. He uses his brain, of course, but without the slightest sacrifice of his heart.

Irishman, Tippett and Britten
Joseph Williams, Ltd. have entered the field of miniature scores for the first time with their "Overture to Satisfy". The score is a very fine one, and it is good to see Williams' name on the list of composers of "O.K." His

Continued on Page 4

# The State "Voice of America" Broadcasts "Jazz Capital of the South"

## LEONARD FEATHER FEATURED

THE STATE DEPARTMENT'S "VOICE OF AMERICA" HAS SIGNED LEONARD FEATHER TO DO THE FIRST INTERNATIONALY-SYNDICATED JAZZ DISC JOCKEY SHOW. PROGRAMME WILL BE PIPED WEEKLY TO ALL FOREIGN COUNTRIES, AND IS SCHEDULED TO REACH INTO IRON CURTAIN TERRITORY. THE FIRST SERIES OF BROADCASTS, TITLED JAZZ CLUB, U.S.A., WILL RUN FOR 26 WEEKS, WITH PLANS IN PROGRESS TO KEEP IT A PERMANENT FEATURE OF "VOICE OF AMERICA."



Ray Anthony, whose aggregation has come to the fore as America's top dance band, chats with famed songwriter, Johnny Mercer, who is also an executive of Capitol Records, the firm for which the Anthony orchestra records.

shows that originate in Hollywood. The jazz business has probably been more eagerly listened to than any other in the entertainment field. Leonard Feather, one of America's foremost authorities on jazz, has written what is known for his articles in "Metronome" and "Down Beat" magazines. The latter of which he serves as New York editor, and for his various articles in other music publications both here and abroad. His book, "Inside Be-bop" published by J. J. Robbins, was widely read, and many of his musical compositions have been popularized by the outstanding jazz artists of the day. He is now on a tour of the world and currently conducts his own show from 8.30 to 4.30 each week on WOR.

On the "Voice of America" broadcasts, Leonard Feather will take advantage of his linguistic talents and will speak in several different languages, including French, German, and Italian.

**FRANK SINATRA** will remain on CBS-TV for the same sponsor until June 16, at which time he'll head for Hollywood and a summer of movie-making. The Bulova Watch Company has picked up his option on the "Frank Sinatra Show," which has been building steadily since Hooper rating in recent weeks. Frankie is also in great shape with his "Meet Frank Sinatra" radio show, which is now carried each Sunday afternoon on the CBS network of stations with three sponsors in the annual campaign to raise funds for the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, and with his own orchestra has recorded a 30-minute musical programme and March of Dimes appeal, which will be released to more than 1,500 radio stations.

**PAUL WESTON** has been appointed chairman of the National Dance Band Leader Division in the 1951 March of Dimes campaign. Maestro Weston will co-ordinate the efforts of all the nation's name bands in the annual campaign to raise funds for the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, and with his own orchestra has recorded a 30-minute musical programme and March of Dimes appeal, which will be released to more than 1,500 radio stations.

**BILLY DANIELS**, the nation's top singing personality, has been signed to a long-term recording contract by Mercury

## A personal pen-picture of the conductor, composer, musician and the man

★ THERE'S NOTHING ABOUT BOB FARNON TO SUGGEST THE RESERVE, OR TO REFLECT THE GENIUS THAT SHINES THROUGH HIS MUSIC. NO, THAT IS, IF YOU EXPECT HIM TO RESEMBLE THE OTHER GREAT MUSICIANS. THIS TALL, BROAD-SHOULDERED HUSKY YOUNG CANADIAN WITH THE CREW-CUT AND THE INEVITABLE POLISHED WEATHERED SEEM TO BE AN AGE WHEN SWINGING AN AXE IN THE BACKWOODS OF THE ROCKIES THAN SITTING AT PIANOFORTE WITH MUSIC OF SUCH FRAGILE BEAUTY AS "HOW BEAUTIFUL IS THE NIGHT" OR "PICTURES IN THE FIRE."

Not that there was ever any doubt about his own conviction. No one could doubt it who saw the 11-year-old Bob behind the drums in his brother's recital band. When, three years later, he could play every instrument in the band, that just clinched it. He was leading a brass section and doing all choral arrangements for the great variety orchestra. Learning all the time—Robert Farnon's mind was at this time decidedly on-track. The young man was now beginning to recognise the difference between boys and girls. He was beginning to see for such big bands as Whiteman and Kosteletzki, the while furthering his musical education by his studies with Louis Waxman, a former pupil of the great Johann Strauss.

A pleasant job as staff arranger for C.B.S. was cut short by the outbreak of war. Bob, then just 16, was leading a band of 12, quite prepared to subdue his musical talents for the duration. He was in the States when the arrival here of the Canadian Band of the A.E.F. under Captain Robert Farnon, was enthusiastically followed by the brilliance of their U.S. counterpart led by Glenn Miller. They became the happiest couple you could find anywhere, in or out of the States. It was not long after the increased joy before Christmas with the arrival of a third and very different partner who is now

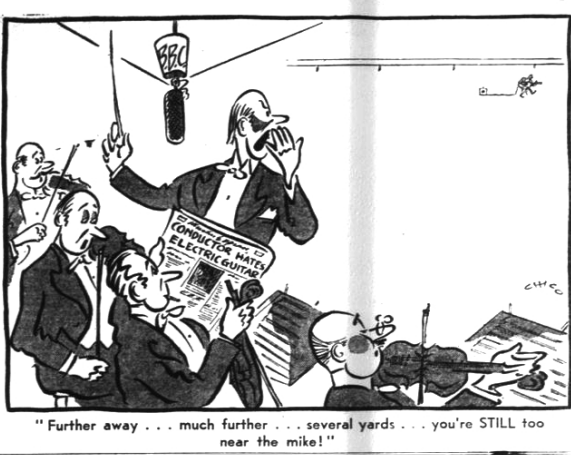
Robert Farnon, who is now the complete boss of the Farnon method. Maybe young Paul has inherited his father's "Star is Born!"

To cope with this juvenile intrusion into music's household, the Farnons have exchanged their New York apartment for a more spacious abode at Park Royal, New York. It is that is not so inconceivable for the young Bob, who, with ex-A.E.F. band colleagues, many of them now in the States, are still playing the corner to watch, and maybe join in the Earl's Court Rangers' practice games.

What of Bob Farnon's own musical tastes? Let's have a look through the organised chaos in the spacious and business-like music room where Farnon and spot the favourites in Bob's record collection (the surest index to a man's tastes). We find most needle-wear on the majority of Bartok works, Stravinsky's ballets, Ravel's "Vals" and "Daphnis et Chloe," Debussy's "Prelude," and a complete Spike Jones collection. In jazz, Bob has a taste for modernism, though paying tribute to the Duke's great stride music and swing, and being well to the fore.

Outside of music, Bob's singular interests are in sports, and fellow Canuck, Bernie Braden, and hopes to work with him again. He remembers that pretty often he and Bernie wrote together. He has a "Your Name and Number?"

Right now, the name of Farnon is being used in the States. Yet his one ambition is to retire to his native Canada, where he can live in peace and quiet, and do his own thing. He has been persuaded to face the mike, in his "Record Rendezvous," when he and Cliff Michelmore threw away the book and went to work. These have earned Bob Farnon the respect of all who hear him. If you have heard him on the only occasions I can remember, you will be well persuaded to face the mike, in his "Record Rendezvous," when he and Cliff Michelmore threw away the book and went to work. These have earned Bob Farnon the respect of all who hear him. If you have heard him on the only occasions I can remember, you will be well persuaded to face the mike, in his "Record Rendezvous," when he and Cliff Michelmore threw away the book and went to work.



"Further away . . . much further . . . several yards . . . you're STILL too near the mike!"

## THE FARNON STORY

By ARTHUR JACKSON

THE critics have been complaining that the big comics on television are not doing it in the medium. Heads of video production have been quoted as saying they are constantly on the lookout for new and, if possible, more suitable comedy stars. If this is true it is an admission of failure. But it is great pity because it reflects on the comics, and believe it or not, it is not the fault of the video comedian. The fault, in my view—and I shall give some proof here to substantiate that view—lies in the presentation itself.

NOBODY seems to have delved deeply enough into the history of the video comedian, and the cause seems to stand out a mile. It would appear that TV producers believe that what you see on the stage or in films you should be able to enjoy through the TV camera. But this is not necessarily true. Let us take first the case of TV comedians. I will be kinder to the eyes and the ears of those who are playing to a screen than to those who are playing to a stage. And no comic can play to empty houses and raise laughs.

If you sit in a crowded vaudeville house and watch, say, Max Bygraves, you cannot help but be amused. He is a comedian. Watch him playing to half a dozen people (this is only the beginning of the trouble). Bygraves is an attraction and draws the crowds in, and you would not expect him to have watching comics on your television screen there will be an atmosphere of cold air and of no more than two or three people—maybe only one. How can you expect him to have such circumstances? And how can you expect him to have the same under such conditions as he would be in a packed variety house with an atmosphere and excitement one associates with it?

BUT there is a cure for all this. The TV producer must not put on their comics stone cold. They must present them in an atmosphere of creative laughter. By the way, I do not mean productions of scenic material. The situation of a vast audience and the reactions of the audience must be made for artificially for every comic's performance. The producer must be able to film shots of B.C.C. audiences arriving in some of the studios could be made for subsequent showing. Further shots could be made of these audiences laughing and reacting. Sound tracks of laughs and applause could be secured. Now we come to the modus operandi of plying the whole together.

THE comedian should never look directly into camera. He should appear to be playing to the audience. As he is seen on the screen, at the end of the act, he should give a sound track of the laugh. When the comic gets to his big piece, he should cut out from him to a film of the audience. He should be aware of it. A matter of technique, that's all. But I honestly believe that the solution of the problem of TV comedy is not to be found in the studio. I guarantee that in any body's home—with an audience of one or two—any comic could not fail to react in a healthy way to the gaze of any good comedian.

AS I write this column in time for the New Year, it has not yet been run. But the plans are already made. The B.C.C. engineers fear that the video comedian will not come to a launch, will make a stagers' sea-sick through the pitching of the boat. I would have thought that contingency could be met by the schoolboy. In films they use model-actors to stand in for the stars. Models in a bathtub with a fast camera to slow up movement. This is not possible.

### ★ SHOW BIZ ★

Variety at the Prince of Wales

**BILLY COTTON** and his Band. Britain's greatest showman. The comedy genius. The most commercial musical aggregation. Billy Cotton brings up to top of the bill in the West End and scoring one of their greatest triumphs. The comedy genius, for all their robust presentation, are riotously received by the audience at the Prince of Wales during this three weeks' vaudeville tour.

Both aurally and visually, Billy Cotton and his band are characters beyond criticism. Their show is so nationally popular that with the Easter holidays the Prince of Wales must have been packed. Billy Cotton and his band are the most original act chained together, and Laville and Francis Preston are a talented and very versatile dancing duo.

Business should be capacity.

### TRANSATLANTIC American Commentary

by CHICK MADISON

### FRANK SINATRA

will remain on CBS-TV for the same sponsor until June 16, at which time he'll head for Hollywood and a summer of movie-making.

### PAUL WESTON

has been appointed chairman of the National Dance Band Leader Division in the 1951 March of Dimes campaign.

### BILLY DANIELS

the nation's top singing personality, has been signed to a long-term recording contract by Mercury

### Announcing

In response to tremendous demand from Bookers, Room Managers, Sunday Concert Promoters, etc.

### The First Provincial Tour of the MACDONALD MITCHELL commencing MAY 7

### "BLOESOM VAN SERINGEN"

If the above sounds Double Dutch to you, you are half right. This song has been the rage of Holland, and with a brilliant new lyric by Tommie Connor, is all set to climb the British Hit Parade.

### "MARY ROSE"

(Recorded by STANLEY BLACK with DICK JAMES, the STARGAZERS and the GEORGE MITCHELL GLEE CLUB)

MAGNA MUSIC CO., LTD. 4, Denmark Place, W.C.2

### Campbell Connelly & Co. LTD.

10 DENMARK STREET, LONDON, W.C.2

NOW READY!! A Great New Double Orchestration

## LOVELY DREAMS, LOVELY LIPS, LOVELY HEART

Coupled with

## TO THINK YOU'VE CHOSEN ME

Coupled with

## THE FERRY BOAT INN

Coupled with

## IF I DIDN'T MISS YOU

WRITE NOW FOR DETAILS OF OUR "THREE WAY" CLUB

### DO YOU LIKE MUSIC?

If so, buy a Tapes Recorder and record continuously for over 30 minutes of GRAMOPHONE RECORDS! No more waste of time. You are able to hear your favourite words or articles whenever you wish. The complete set available from the radio and gramophone departments for 15/- or 20/-.

Apply for further details and demonstration to:

### ARCADIA MUSIC

24 GERRARD STREET, W.1

