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ABOVE: This sultry songstress is glamorous Carole Newton, vocalist with the new and sensational Malcolm Mitchell Orchestra. She is another very good reason why you should not miss the London concert debut of this great band at the Royal Albert Hall on Sunday week, March 20. BELOW: Jean Carson and Jerry Wayne try out a number for the Rank film, "As Long As They're Happy" in which they tar. The movie is reviewed in this issue.

# Don't miss it! **MALCOLM MITCHELL's**

**NEW ORCHESTRA** -LONDON CONCERT DEBUT ROYAL ALBERT HALL Sunday, March 20



RIGHT: On March 22, another British entertainment aggregation will fly from London Airportthis time for South Africa. Among the stars on that tour will be Jack Parnell and his Orchestra, and singer Eve Boswell. In singer Eve Boswell. this photo, taken in London this week, Eve is seen recording an Interview for the South African network, which will be broad-





ABOVE: Sunday night (6th) saw the departure of Ted Heath and his Orchestra for their Australian tour, and the NME photographer was present at London Airport to record the scene. Here you see Ted himself and his Australian singer Kathy Lloyd about to board the aircraft and (LEFT) the picture shows the whole party on the steps of the 'plane. As reported in our news pages inside, they have already run into some adventures.







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-cently really bad name.

-cently ba

Ballroom, suitable for background switch, the better I shall like music on say, Boxing Day Frankie."

Lothian.

"I'm grateful for the initiative of Ronnie Scott, the music of Freddie Randall, and to complete it all that terrific duet by Seaman and Feldman.

"Unfortunately we finished up with a combined effort which no more resembled 'Woodchoppers' than 'Come Into The Garden, Maud.'"

music on say, Boxing Day evening ... the Geraldo Orchestra, when I could hear them from afar, were evening ... the Geraldo Orchestra, when I could hear them from afar, were very good."

Frankie."
Finally a few words from a confirmed traditionalist, Keith Rodgers, of Bridge Lane, Bramhall, Cheshire.
"Ray Sonin says that traditionalist Freddy Randall stopped the show," he writes—" what we heard of him to could hear them from afar, were very good." could hear them from atar, were very good."

And: "Never before has dance music been so wrongly and crudely interpreted by the blaring of Heath, the lack of depth by Geraldo, and the usual 'spotlight on me' by Ronnie Aldrich," says W. Urquhart, of Viewfield Place, Dechmont, West Lothian.

The Squads drowned him! But he got as much applause as, if not more than, that horrible Ronnie Scott drum solo, 'I'll See You In My Drums.' Oh well—74 modernists and one Trad who stole the show!

"Now, after a ghastly modern concert, how about the Trads?"

CONCERNING CLAPPING
Following on our Albert Hall concert theme, we switch now to the recent Ella-Fitzgerald-Oscar Peterson concert at that venue.

"I would like to know other readers' opinions," says Barry Conley, of Duke Street, Grosvenor Square. London, W.1, "on the reason for the various shouts and hand clappings that have accompanied concerts by Billie Holiday. Sarah Vaughan, and again this week Ella Fitzgerald.

They seem to feel compelled to partake in the performance by adding their own shouts and off-beat accentuations, and it is this excess of rhythmic emotion that makes coloured be done about the audiences at the people generally such fine musicians.

We weren't at the "Show Business" premiere. Margaret Downey was, though, and we've a feeling we will be hearing from her on the

people generally such fine musicians.

We weren't at the "Show Business" premiere. Margaret Downey was, though, and we've a feeling we will be hearing from her on the subject. Keep it short, Margaret !

COOLIES CORNER

"No music has quite the same effect on me as the Sauter-Finegan group has on the crazy lot at Ellesmere College (NME last week)," writes J. M. Kennedy, of Hendon, London, N.W.4, "but I can appreciate their sentiments, as I am also 'sent' by that band to some extent. "However, it isn't 'Eddie and the Witchdoctor' that 'sends' me so much as the other side 'Midnight Sleighride,' along with 'Doodletown Fifers' and 'Yankee Doodletown and their version of Pee Wee Hunt's 'Oh' — by the way, any chance of the latter being issued over here in the near future? I've only heard it on AFN, but boy, what a record."

HANK WILLIAMS

"Would any reader who happens to have any photos, cuttings, etc., regarding the late great Hank Williams be kind enough to pass on any unwanted material to me," asks Alice Hall, of Prospect Hotel, Harrogate, Yorks.

Any reader able to help, please?

UNUSUAL COMPARISON "I should like to see the monkey that can beat Eric Delaney's Band for swinging," writes Mr. M. Cush-ing, of Front Street, Newcastle. So would we, Mr. Cushing!

DISAPPOINTED

we have observed, the hand-clapping at the Albert Hall concerts you mention has usually been started by the coloured section of the audience

WHO IS SHE? (5)

Here is a youthful photo of a British musical celebrity. Study the clues to her identity, and try to answer the guession in the heading—"Who is She?" The answer will be found on page 3 of this issue.

BISAPPOINTED

"After reading in the NME that be can voted the Year," writes on the Year," writes like Hank Snow, Slim Orothy Moodie, of Fourth Street, Gateshead, C. Durham, "I was thrilled to learn that he was coming to the City Hall in Newcastle.

But when I saw him I was very disappointed ... he seemed to make nine out of 10 runes, drum solos. He has a very fine trumpeter in Bert Courtley, and a saxist in Jimmy Skidmore, but could we hear them?

Skidmore, but could we hear them?

Watch for exciting news of this project in future issues of the NME.

CHILDISH?

"When reading the NME each week," writes Jacqueline Rothwell, of Victoria Avenue, Bredbury, Stockport, Cheshire, "I naturally read articles about singers whom I do not

articles about singers whom I do not like.

"I also read about my own particular favourites, and I am satisfied. I therefore think that if a lot more people followed my example, there would be no necessity for these silly, childish and spiteful letters which are being sent to you.

"Surely fans can admire a singer and leave others to admire their own

Surely rans can admire a singer and leave others to admire their own favourites. The NME covers the whole entertainment world, and everyone can find something to interest them."

SKYROCKETS BROADCASTS?

"Recently I went to St. Pancras
Town Hall," writes Mr. J. Vardon,
of Cliftonville Avenue, Margate, "to
hear a recording of Dickie Valentine with the Skyrockets Orchestra.
"Before the show, the band
played one or two numbers so well,
that I think they are one of the
greatest bands in England. Why
are they not heard on the air?"
Wel! — why aren't they? Why
not not write and ask the BBC, Mr.
Vardon?

COUNTRY AND WESTERN
Brya (Hank) Ward, of 1, Council
Street, Kibworth, near Leicester, has

a suggestion to make.
"Why not have a little bit in the NME each week on Western singing, by artists like Hank Snow, Slim Whitman, Hank Williams, etc.?"

Any other readers sufficiently interested in country and western music?

SHE became first violinist in the Sydney Symphony Orchestra, and subsequently joined the BBC Sym-phony Orchestra.

SHE has played violin under Bar-birolli, Sargent, Boult, etc.

SHE became interested in Latin-American music when she was on a visit to Portuguese East Africa.

entertainment.

SHE is featured in a weekly radio

SHE plays an instrument 'with bells on "-a modification that she in-

SHE is known as "The Blonde
Bombshell of Boogie,"

# Now Ready . . . ANCE DA A new Dance Band series suitable for any combination from Trio to Full Dance Band, arranged by BERT BARNES

SHE has now forsaken classical music for a more popular type of

SHE is married to a well-known musician and lives in Kensington. SHE records regularly and tours in

vented herself.



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7 by Medicy Concert Party; 6.30
9.45 Curt Massey and Martha Tilton; 6 p.m. Geraldo's Music Shop; 6.15
The Ovaltineys' Concert Party; 6.30
10 Dreamtime; 10.15 Harold Smart Quartet; 10.30 Portrait Of A Star—Primo Scala; 6.45 Frankle Laine; 7
Songs For The Million; 7.30 Sunday Sing-Song; 7.46 Winifred Atwell Show; 8 Vera Lynn; 8.30 Take Your Pick; 9 Melody Caravan; 9.15 Curt Massey and Martha Tilton; 9.30 Ted Heath; 10.45 The Eddic Calvert Show; 11 Top Twenty, Midnight: Close down, Monday Requests; 7 Spread Your Wings; 7.15 Dan Dare; 7.30
Your Mother & Birthday; 9 Hollywood Calling; 9.15 Primo Scala; 9.30
Perry Mason; 9.45 Scrapbook of Song; 10 Jack Jackson; 10.30 Bob Crosby & Orch.; 10.45 Italian Music And Sung; 11.00 Programme Announcements; 10.15 Pank And Ernest; 11.30 The World Of Tomorrow, Midnight: Close down, TUESDAY
6 p.m. Tuesday's Requests; 7.15 Dan Dare; 7.30 Personal Programme; 7.45 Gown, Tuesday's Requests; 7.15 Dan Dare; 7.30 Personal Programme; 7.45 Your Favourites and Mine; 8 Double Your Money; 8.30 Frank Chacksheld; 9.11 Revival Time; 11.30 The Pick Sake; 11 Revival Time; 11.30 The Pick's Sake; 11 Revival Time; 11.30
Oral Roberts, Midnight: Close down, Pick Sake; 11 Revival Time; 11.30
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Oral Roberts, Mi



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QUESTION-TIME WITH THE STARS

Readers' own queries personally answered by DICKIE VALEN

YOU asked for it—and we're with me from America last year, we have already made some plans as ever, I know better, delighted to oblige! Many stan Kenton, Woody Herman and Les Brown are among the orchestras furniture will be modern in style, completely new should not too Bohemian. One room often in the space

there is anythin, that you would like us to ask Don on your behalf, write without delay to "Question Time" (Don Cornell), New Musical Express, 5, Denmark Street, London, W.C.2, enclosing a stamped, addressed envelope for any replies that we cannot print for lack of space.

Will you please ask Dickie Valentine whether he collects records—and if so, what are a few of his favourite discs? (Jean Welch, Birmingham).

Why yes! I have been an avid record collector for the, past four or five years, I mostly buy LP's nowadays, and my favourites include several band sets that I brought home

I'm afraid I take a somewhat impertinent interest in the private lives of my favourite interest in the private lives of my favourite interest in the private lives of my favourite songs? (Arthur Bryant, Glasgow).

A Just to pick a few at random, I'll n a me Jerome Kern's "Dearly Beloved" and "The y Didn't Believe Me." Irving Berlin's Wenthing about Dickie Valentine's "How Deep Is The Ocean" and Harold Arlen's "Over The Rain-bow it is furnished, etc.? (Barbara Wells, Eastbourne, Sussex).

A the moment, my wife, Bettly, and I, haven't got a flat. We did have one when we were first married, but now the lady who owns it has returned from the Continent, and we have had to move out.

We are living with ny parents at we call to see them for a few hours every Sunday afternoon, between variety dates, which keep us nowadays, and my favourites include several band sets that I brought home subject will be Don Cornen, so there is anythin, that you would like us to ask Don on your behalf, impertinent interest in the private lives of my favourite tell me Can you therefore tell me

return of "Question Time" as a regular NME feature. In fact, it seems to have been the most popular of all our past series.

So here it is again. And to set the ball rolling, we have asked no less a star than Dickie Valentine to answer some questions addressed to him by our readers.

The replies are Dickie's own, 'phoned to us from Dublin (where he is currently appearing at the Theatre Royal) on Tuesday afternoon.

Our next "Question Time" subject will be Don Cornell, so if there is anythin, that you would like us to ask Don on your behalf.

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The truth is, I don't like any of them very much. But if you twist my arm, I'll admit that I've got rather a soft spot for 'Don't Leave Me Now."

I made this one about a couple of years ago, with Stanley Bluck directing the accompaniment. It never made the grade commercially—but it's still my favourite.

★ ★ ★ I have often wondered how a I have often wondered how a touring artist like Dickie Valentine rehearses his act when he arrives at a new theatre each week. Can you tell me, please? (B. Ingram, Sheffield).

Here's more or less what

band parts are distributed and we try each of the numbers through. Don and I set the tempos, which the conductor follows

We always wait for the other acts on the bill to rehearse before we do. This we have to do, because the orchestrations for a vocal act always take more time for the band to lick into shape than, say, those of a comedian.

I'd like at this point to say something in defence of the pit orchestras in variety theatres up and down the country. When I was with Ted Heath, I used to hear people grumbling about "those dreadful pit bands"—

and I agreed with them, Now, how-

ever, I know better.

A pit orchestra has to rehearse a completely new show every week, often in the space of two hours on a Monday afternoon. The musicians have to cope with all kinds of music, with frequent tempo changes for dance and balancing acts, with band parts that are virtually unreadable.

Maybe the results aren't always great. But my firm opinion now is that the theatre orchestras do an almost impossible job quite remarkably well. Musicians who sneer at them should have a go themselves, and see how they make out!

Is Dickie Valentine taking a holiday this year? If so, where does he intend to go? (Janet Scott, Hammersmith, London,

Betty and I hope to hire a A. Betty and 1 nope to the support of the support o

Does Dickie Valentine read all his fan mail? (Brenda Watson, Leicester).

Watson, Leice...

A I read every letter addressed to me at the theatre. Those sent to me through the fan club are sometimes dealt with by a secretary, to save time. But anything marked "personal" is sent on to me, I sometimes read on the NME letter page that various artists ignore letter page that various artists ignore requests for autographs, photographs, This I'll never do. I can't valuable experience of singing with the control of th letter page that various artists ignore requests for autographs, photographs, etc. This I'll never do. I can't always sign autograph books at the stage door of a theatre. The confusion is too great. But anyone who asks can have a personally autographed photograph. If you doubt this, try it and see.

How does Dickie Valentine choose the songs he records, and features in his stage act

and on broadcasts? (Don Ross, Edinburgh).

A Dick Rowe and Frank Lee

Dick Rowe and Frank Lee of Decca, send me a stack of new songs from time to time. I try them through, and those that I like best, I record.

For broadcasts, I feature the songs

Here's more or less what the theatre, get set up in the dressing room—and then get together with the resident musical director

Don Phillips, my accompanist, has a chat with him first, to give him an outline of our routine. Then the band parts are distributed and we try each of the numbers through. Don and I set the tempos, which the conductor follows

We always wait for the other acts on the bill to rehearse before we do. This we have to do, because the orchestrations for a vocal act always take more time for the band to lick into shape than, say, those of a comedian.

By the set this point to say some-

# 'MEET Mr. RAY' is an invitation well worth accepting!

number, but this was the only reminder in the show of the old
drummer Ellington. Marion Ryan
was featured in "Let Me Go Lover."
She has a warm voice and stage perminder in the show of the old
such are nothing new in variety, but
this one is well above the average,
"Meet Mr. Ray" will now tour
the Stoll circuit, and it deserves a sonality and is surely one of the best-looking of today's singers. She also duetted with Ray Ellington in "M'Lady Montmorency."

WHO IS S

Vivacious Audrey Jeans also scores heavily in the show. Tackling the

LONDON audiences are this week invited to "Meet Mr. Ray" at Hackney Empire. "Mr. Ray" being, of course, the one and only Ray Ellington.

Closing the bill with an act aimed straight at the variety-going public, the Quartet almost becomes an accompanying unit for vocals from Ray and Marion Ryan.

However, the whole thing is put over at a great pace, with plenty of the Ellington brand of attack, showmanship and fine humour.

The only instrumental feature was for pianist Dick Katz in 'Fanfare Boogie," a driving solo played with consummate skill and artistry.

Ray joined in on bongoes for this number, but this was the only reminder in the show of the allowed and paul kaye, for a sketch. Road-shows as possible production numbers.

DON WEDGE

WHO IS SHE? - See p. 2 DOLORES VENTURA

do any time it can be arranged. For one thing, Betty has never visited America, and it would be quite a thrill to show her around New York!

one thing, Betty has never visited America, and it would be quite a of work, preferably with a small of work, preferably with a small of work, preferably with a small local group, to anyone who is starting to make his career as a professional vocalist. It teaches you so much!

Will you ask Dickie Valentine for me which of the various mediums he has appeared in wince the professional vocalist. It teaches you so much!

But in time I found that having to sing at dance tempo in ballrooms is very restricting. In variety, I can choose the numbers I like, and interpret them just as I wish neet live people face to face.

a band—especially one as great as Ted's. I'd also recommend this kind

I like making records, of course, also broadcasting. Next to variety, however, I am happiest when working in cabaret—something I haven't done since I left Ted, but hope to

# Monday, April 11 at the Palladium will be

# **VALENTINE'S** NG-T

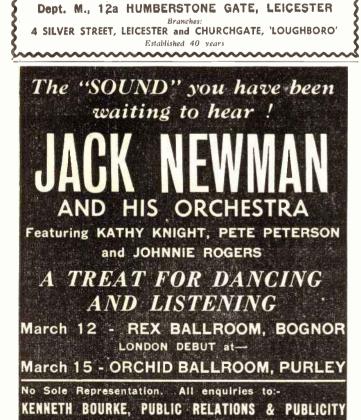
# the most important night in Dickie Valentine's career

In a revealing article specially written for the EMPIRE NEWS, Dickie, for the first time talks frankly about his big chance. "Why stick my neck out?" he asks. And he answers the question in his own words.

THIS WEEK-END IN THE



The paper with the best Sunday **Show Column** 



104 High Street, Harlesden, N.W.10 ELG 5266

# American Air-mail

AZZ-IN-HOLLYWOOD: Chet Baker becomes the first modern is Jazzman to be signed for a starring role as actor-musician in a full-scale movie. The picture, "Hell's Horizon," is a Jack Broder production in which Chet will play a pilot who blows trumpet for kicks. Shooting will already have begun by the time you read this . . . As soon as Ella Fitzgerald left England, she 'planed to Hollywood for a featured singing role in Jack Webb's film, "Pete Kelly's Blues." Ella will also be seen in a full-length CinemaScope jazz film produced by Norman Granz, and she has already finished the sound track (on which Frank Sinatra is also heard) for the animated cartoon film of "Finian's Rainbow"...

Marlon Brando, a top contender for this year's Academy Award, is an enthusiastic jazz fan, and he himself is acknowledged a betterthan-average wailer on the bongos, an instrument he likes to play

much excitement on records in some time, has had a successful opening at the Palladium in Los Angeles where he went on to percentage the first week. . Bill Haley's Comets move into Las Vegas March 10, following which engagement they're set for a Universal movie short in Hollywood . . . Johnnie Ray's second tour of

wood . . .

Johnnie Ray's second tour of Australia (beginning March 8) marks the first return engagement on that continent by a "name" American star, Seems only fitting since Johnnie was the first pop vocalist of stature to open that territory for American

A new singer to watch for in the popular field is Teddi King. Teddi has already attained a considerable reputation as a jazz vocalist, most notably for her two recent albums on George Wein's Storyvilie label. She also toured with George Shearing for some months a couple of years ago, the only vocalist George has ever used with his quintet.

Now Teddi is eyeing wider and more lucrative fields and her first pop record on Coral is out—"In The Year You've Been Gone" and "The Dragon." If she makes it, Teddi will certainly be the most musicianly singer in the pop field. She has had considerable classical training, and her ear is equal to that of the better jazz instrumentalists.

Frankie Laine has a new 12-inch Columbia LP called "Command Performance" in honour of Frankie's

Columbia LP called "Command Performance" in honour of Frankie's in two months ago, was singing 1954 appearance before Queen Elizabeth. The collection includes twelve Frankie Laine hits including "Jezebel" and "Gandy Dancer's gimmick. Danny relies purely on Ball."

According to RCA-Victor, the production of gold records has been atepped up this past year. Perry Como is reaching for a possible all-time high of three gold records in one year (three sides that sold over a million copies). He's already hit two with "Wanted" and "Papa third with "Ko Ko Mo"... The Ames Brothers are shooting for a gold disc—their second in a row gold disc—their second in a row since joining Victor—with "The Naughty Lady Of Shady Lane" which has already sold over 900,000 "Hold My Hand" and then after a which has already sold over 900,000 "Hold My Hand" and then after a brief announcement sang with sincerity the theme from the film "The Barefoot Contessa," "My Gypsy Heart."

They would whitfield has a new release

ADDRESS. (BLOCK CAPITALS)

# by NAT HENTOFF

at parties...

Frank Sinatra, according to Sheilah
Graham, presented his parents with
Cadillac on their 42nd wedding addition to trumpeter Phil Sunkel anniversary... Debbie Revnolds and trombonist Bob Brookmeyer.

Norman Granz has meanwhile issued Stan's first concert album, a boxed with Lou Levy hired on piano in addition to trumpeter Phil Sunkel anniversary... Norman Granz has meanwhile issued Stan's first concert album, a boxed set of two 12-inch LPs with a folio of photographs of Stan. It was recorded at the Shrine in Los Angeles THE JAZZ SCENE: Changes in There's talk that Judy Garland may play the life story of Sophie Tucker in the first large dance band to cause much excitement on records in some time, has had a successful opening at the Palladium in Los Angeles werk week

The Modern Jazz Quartet's second album has finally been released on Prestige. Included are two new John Lewis originals, "Diango" and "Milano"... Clarinettist Tony Scott has opened at Minton's in Harlem for what I hope will be a long stay. With him are drummer Osie Johnson, former Ellington bassist Wendell Marshall and guitarist Dick Garcia, who used to be with George Shearing... George Shearing . . .

×

Benny Goodman is attracting large and highly enthusiastic audiences to his series of Friday and Saturday night sessions at Basin Street. The band is the best small combo he's fronted in some time. The rhythm section is looser and more relaxed than the sometimes stiff theybre found than the sometimes stiff rhythm foun-dation he's often used in the past.

It comprises Milt Hinton, Teddy Wilson, drummer Bobby Donaldson, and the very gifted young guitarist, Perry Lopez. In the front line, former Basic tenor Paul Quinichette

is swinging tastefully.

Benny himself is more assured and at ease than in a long while; and the two youngsters—trumpeter Ruby.

Braff and trombonist Urbie Green are consistently excellent. It is these two—Braff and Green—who are responsible for the chief kicks in the



# THE BESSIE SMITH STOR Jazz records reviewed by HUMPHREY LYTTELTON age, the "Bessie or Philips procupy four 12-inch The first Volume Humphrey Lyttel Agent, Ease or Window Down, acc. by Irving Johns, plano. April 7, 1923. Ticket Agent, Ease or Window Down, acc. by Irving Johns (plano). Robert Robbins (viellin). January 24, 1925. St. Louis Blues; fortune (1927 onwards). He seems an unlikely candidate for composers' credit, and I am more inclined to guess that these simple Blues were knocked up by Bessie herself, with Longshaw's assistance. But the quality of Bessie's songs is not to be measured by the strength or weakness of the lyrics. For the fact is that, in contrast to the primitive school of country singers, with Bessie the words are of secondary importance.



Few of her songs were drawn from the common pool of traditional southern blues. They were in the main "composed" blues, fully equipped with introductory verses and all the symmetry and polish of consular songs.

and all the symmetry and polish of popular songs.

Read off the composers' credits—
W. C. Handy, Bradford-Layer-Davis,
Perry Bradford, Clarence Williams,
Spencer Williams, Hunter-Austin—
the list contrasts strongly with the
traditional "country" conception of
blues as personal property, the
direct expression of personal experience.

"Louis Armstrong with King Oliver" issue on London, I propose to discuss it in more detail next week, with particular reference to the accompaniments. By that time, I hope that many of you will have it in your possession in your possession.

## ROBBERY AT PREMIER DRUM FACTORY

direct expression of personal experience.

When Bessie sings "Careless Love," she uses not the folk-song version sung by Big Bill Broonzy, for example, but the re-hashed, re-harmonised Handy variation complete with "additional words by Martha E. Koenig and Spencer Williams (cf. "A Treasure Of The Blues." by W. C. Handy and Abbe Niles).

The original told a simple, direct story, but in the Williams-Koenig lyrics, it's still the old, old story but heavily camouflaged in sophisticated, "poetic" language. True, not all of Bessie's songs display this artificiality.

"Recklass Blues" and "Cold In "Recklass Blues" and "Cold In "Cold

"Poetic" language. True, not all of Bessie's songs display this artificiality.

"Reckless Blues" and "Cold In Hand Blues," both produced by a collaboration of Longshaw and Gee, strike a simpler note, and have the stamp of authentics personal blues. The Gee concerned was Bessie's mediately with the Premier Drum Co. husband, Jack Gee, a Philadelphia if they should be offered a cymbal policeman and handler of her affairs or cymbals which appear to be in an during the period of her decline in unfinished condition.



A new Variety show, "Meet Mr. Ray," opened this week at the Hackney Empire. The show is reviewed on page 3 and our cameraman took this picture backstage of leader Ray Ellington (in the bowler) diverting Audrey Jeans' finger of suspicion from himself onto the rest of the quartet—(I. to r.): Don Fraser, Dick Katz, singer Marion Ryan, and Bob Duffy.

# DANNY PURCHES SCORES IN VARIET

DANNY PURCHES who, until settle him, and he did not reward two months ago, was singing in the streets of London, made

"I Need You Now"...

David Whitfield has a new release here on London with "Beyond The Stars" and "Open Your Heart" slngs," the latter being greeted with and Vera Lynn's newest is "Adio loud screams from a gallery audience

their endeavours by playing to them their endeavours by playing to them but seemed as if he was singing more for his own pleasure than to entertain the people who had paid to see him. These sentiments were conveyed to nearly everyone in the audience and consequently the atmosphere seemed tense because of the feeling in his voice.

It is some time since a Middless.

It is some time since a Middlesbrough audience has been so attentive and appreciative. Following resounding applause for this finale "I Still Believe" which received tremendous applause.

### ENCORE

It appears that his advisers had not expected such a response, so unfortunately Danny was unable to sing an encore on the first house, because he had not provided the house orchestra with parts another number.

However, this did not daunt him second house for at this performance Danny sang with the barest piano accompaniment another very ap-number for his act, "Golden Ear-rings." This oldie was given new new treatment with admirable results.

With time and experience to rest s nervousness, Danny Purches his nervousness, Danny Purches should certainly stay top of the bill in variety for some time to come.

Outstanding in an excellent supporting bill were Canadian compressed with his easy style, and Roy Stevens, billed in the programme as the "Whispering Piano."

A word of praise must fall also to A word of praise must tall also to a capable house orchestra under the leadership of W. H. Horne for their interpretation of the arrangements for Danny's numbers scored by Albert Hall, well-known trumpet player with Eric Delaney's Orchestra

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LMcL



**BOBBY MILANO** "A King Or A Slave"
"If You Cared" (Capitol CL.14252)

THIS is the first Bobby Milano record that it has been my pleasure to review, and although I'm not mad about these two sides, I'm prepared to say that Mr. Milano has the type of voice that will soon establish itself, and a couple of good songs could put

him on the road to success.

"A King Or A Slave" is the better side, and Les Baxter and his orchestra give excellent assis-

My main criticism of the singer is that at times he sounds as if he is trying to sing like Al Martino is trying to sing like Al Martino ous mood.

"Pupalina" takes us almost back to normal, and this is a good commercial song, which surprisingly seems to have passed by unnoticed. We so rarely get new Durante issues

and I've a feeling we shall hear more of Bobby Milano (whose photo is on the left). Milano (whose

At present his voice lacks warmth and at times it has a rather harsh quality, but these are faults which should soon be over-

DOROTHY SQUIRES AND
THE RADIO REVELLERS
"White Wings"
"With All My Heart"
(Polygon P.149)
WHITE WINGS" is a firstclass side and Dorothy Squires
again proves that she is cill a

POPULAR RECORDS REVIEWED BY

**GEOFFREY EVERITT** 

The Radio Luxembourg

BEST SELLING POP

RECORDS IN BRITAIN

2 1 GIVE ME YOUR WORD
Tennessee Ernie (Capitol)
1 2 SOFTLY, SOFTLY
Ruby Murray (Columbia)

Last This Week

to learn before she can tackle songs as good as this.

Roland Shaw comes to the rescue with one of the cutest backings I've heard for a long time, but oh! how dreary Miss Brown sounds. I trust record companies will not start making records to drive us to sleep.

"Crazy Mixed Up Heart" also comes under the hammer, but Georgia does at least perform a little better on this bright and fastmoving melody.

I don't altogether blame the singer for records such as this; it's up to the company to find material to which the artist can do instice.

BEST SELLING SHEET MUSIC (BRITAIN)

Last This



This is a wonderfully bright and happy song, yet you fail completely to create a really gay atmosphere, and on this side you have a strange nasal quality which I find rather

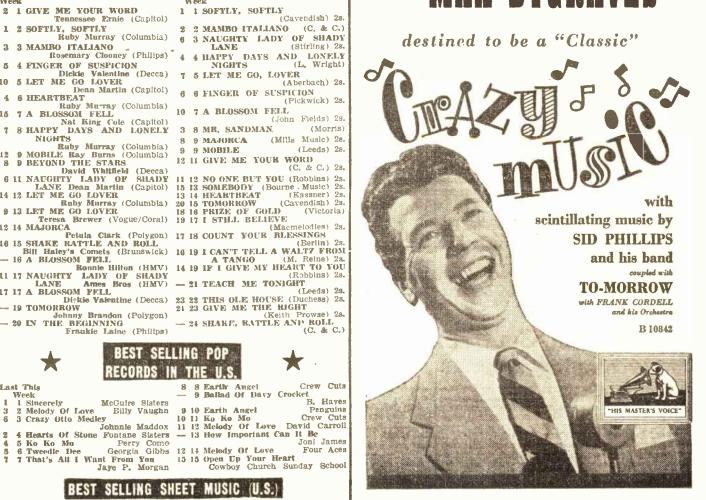
This is a wonderfully bright and happy song, yet you fail completely to create a really gay atmosphere, and on this side you have a strange nasal quality which I tind rather annoying.

"Shake The Hand Of A Stranger" is just a shade better, but perhaps

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# AT LAST! — A GOOD BRITISH MUSICAL FILM

WE'RE willing to bet that "As Long As They're Happy," now showing at London's Odeon Theatre, Leicester Square, will prove one of Britain's big box-office films of 1955.

It's about an American popular singer who comes to Britain to sing at the "London Hippodrome" (for which read "Palladium"—even Val Parnell's name is on the showbills in the film), and who gets involved with a typical

gets involved with a typical suburban family.

The singer, "Bobby Denver," is styled loosely on Johnnie Ray—he's known as the "Crying Crooner"—and is subjected to the usual fan adulation which NME readers will know to be no exaggeration, but which will probably come as a surprise to the lay public.

The girls wear sweaters with the singer's name woven across the front: they scream when he appears onstage, they faint on seeing him at the stage door.

RAY-ISMS

Styled loosely on Johnie Ray—be's known as the "Crying Crooner" and is subjected to the usual fan adulation which NME readers will know to be no exaggeration, but which will probably come as a surprise to the lay public.

The girls wear sweaters with the singer's name woven across the front: they scream when he appears onstage, they faint on seeing him at he stage door.

RAY-ISMS

The part is played in excellent style by Jerry Wayne, the American singer who came to Britain ton play. "Sky Masterson" in "Guys And Dolls," and who has stayed with us ever since. Jerry's only concessions to Ray-isms are the distortion of the word 'cry' to "cu-ry," and thus so fan occasional tear—which, laie in the film, we are informed; is induced by the judicial use of an onion!

Jerry looks good, sings well, and will make many people wonder why he hasn't been more successful here of lither to the hasn to need to worry ward and within the capabilities of The film is also a great boost for the lass to contain the film when the stage of the film are Jack Buchanan (highly amusing), Janet Gostown (highly as a bobbysox teen ager), Brenda de Banzie (disappoint and period ger), Brenda de Banzie (disappoint appears of the film are Jack Buchanan (highly amusing), Janet Gostown (highly as a bobbysox teen ager), Brenda de Banzie (disappoint appears on the support of the singer's name woven across the front: the singer who came to British in pushed in excellent style by Jerry Wayne, the American shing of an achievement. It's something of an achievement. It's something of an achievement. It's something of an achievement and a good by "As Long Early States" (Laghal) (C. & C. ) 2s. 11 (19 Malone Clearly Columbia) 2s. Something of an achievement and within the capabilities of the single department of the stage of the film are Jack Buchanan (highly smaller) of the stage of the film are Jack Buchanan (highly smaller) (John Fields) (Lot & C. 1988 A. FINGER OF SUSPICION (Scitting) 2s. 4 FINGER OF SUSPICION (Scitting) 2s. 4 FINGER OF SUSPICION (Scitting

Jean Carson, one of the brightest prospects in British show business today. Playing the part of an "unwilling Existentionalist," Jean sings two songs—one, "Crazy Little Mixed-Up Heart," the best song in the film—and is featured in a cute little dream dance sequence with Paddy Stone and Irving Davies.

Other stars of the film are Jack Buchanan (highly amusing), Janette Scott (brilliant as a bobbysox teenager), Brenda de Banzie (disappointing), Susan Stephen and Diana Dors (both wasted).

Musical director and composer Stanley Black comes out with slightly more credit than lyric-writer Sam Coslow, though in addition to "Crazy Little Mixed-Up Heart" there are one or two other pleasant pumbers including "Lize's Eves"

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3 2 Melody Of Love
6 3 Crazy Otto Medley
Johnnie Maddox 11 12 Melody Of Love
5 Ko Ko Mo
Perry Como
6 5 Tweedle Dee Georgia Gibbs
7 7 That's All I Want From You
Jaye P. Morgan

Bellad Of Davy
9 Ballad Of Davy
9 Bellad Of Davy
10 It Ko Ko Mo
11 12 Melody Of Love
12 Melody Of Love
13 How Important Can It Be
15 Open Up Your Heart
15 Cowboy Church Sunday School

RECORDS IN THE U.S.

BEST SELLING POP

Last This

1 1 Melody Of Love

2 Sincerely

3 3 Mr. Sandman

3 Open Up Your Hearts 5 Hearts Of Stone 6 Let Me Go Lover

7 7 Earth Angel 8 8 Tweedle Dec 9 9 That's All I Want From Yes 12 10 Ke Ke Mo

12 10 No No Moral 12 11 How Important Can It Be 10 12 Naughty Lady Of Shady Lane 11 12 Make Yourself Comfortable — 12 Unsuspecting Heart 14 15 No Mere

U.S. charts by courtesy of "Billboard."

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# Stan Kenton wants to play in Britain: makes plans for reciprocal exchange

HARD on the heels of Woody Herman's sensa-tional baton-exchange offer to Ted Heath (exclusively reported in the NME) comes further news from the States of another bandleader who is ready, willing and eager to appear in Britain-none other than Stan Kenton.

Interviewed at the Hollywood Palladium Ballroom by NME Managing Director Maurice Kinn on Wednesday of this week, Kenton said he intended to make every possible effort to visit Britain.

"I am willing," he said, "to do a straight swap with Ted Heath on a strictly reciprocal basis. This means that we would cross the Atlantic with our probastras and play the same number of dates with

the same number of dates with the same number of dates with the same number of musicians."

Should this straightforward scheme not meet with the approval of the British or American Musicians' Unions,

when the British of American Musicians Chions, Kenton has an alternative proposition.

"I am prepared, in that event," he said, "to come over to Britain by myself and conduct Vic Lewis's Orchestra on a concert tour. The band would play my arrangements (which it well knows how to do), and I am quite certain it would make a great job of my kind of music play.

of music.

"I feel," he went on, "that our unions should give full blessing to this proposition, because there is a precedent for it. The American Federation of Musicians allowed Mantovani to conduct in Canada last October, and is also permitting him to conduct American orchestres later this year."

stank this year."

Stan Kenton is hoping to discuss the projects in person with Ted Heath in America next month, when Heath is on his way back to Britain from Australia.

# MARCH 20 IS THE **GREAT DAY!**

ONLY nine days to go—to the long-awaited London debut of the sensational new Malcolm Mitchell Orchestra, already the favourite British band

of thousands of provincial fans who have seen, heard and danced to this great outfit.

On Sunday, March 20, the NME has the honour to be staging this event, which is undoubtedly one of the major concert dates of 1955, and one which will long be

major concert dates of 1955, and one which will long be remembered by those fortunate enough to be present. Tickets are going faster and faster every day, and only by completing at once the application form on page ten can readers be sure of their seats for the big occasion.

On page eight you can read about the other groups appearing on the bill—the great Ronnie Scott Orchestra, making its final major London concert appearance, the popular Quintet led by NME Pollwinning tenor-saxist Tommy Whittle, and Tony Kinsey's modernistic Quartet, which features altoist Joe Harriott.

The musicians themselves have every intention of making this concert an epic event: in fact, the finest concert of its kind ever to be held in Britain, We, for our part, can promise that the usual high standard set by previous NME-sponsored shows will be fully maintained We'll see you there!

## £50,000 Film Contract for singing star

AS a direct result of her fine performance in her new.

As a direct result of her fine performance in her new film "As Long As They're Happy" (reviewed on page five), red-headed singing star Jean Carson has been signed by the J. Arthur Rank Organisaton for five films, to be made over the next five years.

For this, Jean will be paid over £50,000.

The contract leaves her free to do stage work here, and to make films in America. In the autumn she goes to America for nine months' television work with the National Broadcasting Corporation, but before then will do another film for Raymond Stross, "An Alligator Named Daisy."

Named Daisy."

It was Stross who produced "As Long As They're Happy"; Jean is to appear in a third film for him on her return from America next year

PAT DODD, noted accompanist and pianist with the Skyrockets at the London Palladium, has been specially booked to play for Marlene Dietrich during her

next visit to London.

Marlene will commence in cabaret in London's Café
de Paris for an eight weeks' season on June 6.

# DORIS DAY IS MAKING HER FIRST-EVER VISIT TO BRITAIN IN APRIL

# Summer bands for Butlin's

ALL the bands are now fixed for the forthcoming summer at Butlin's holiday camps throughout the country, from Ayr in Scotland down to Clacton in Essex.

There is one notable addition to the Butlin's "line-up" this year—the inclusion, for the first time, of Harry Parry and his Orchestra. Harry will be going to Filey, fronting his band on clarinet, and opens on May 28. He will be sharing the Filey honours with Charles Amer's dance band and Wilf Green's "olde-tyme" combination.

This is also the date for the opening of the Clacton camp, where Eric Winstone and his Orchestra return again this season for the third time—although it will mark Eric's tenth consecutive season to. Buttin s. Len Rooker is the other bandleader at Clacton. There is also a small "olde-tyme" outfit.

"olde-tyme" outfit.

Joe Daniels will be at Skegness this year. He will be sharing the honours with Cecil B'ack—who returns for the umpteenth time—and also with straight orchestra leader George Freeman, and a six-piece all-purposes "relief" group. Skegness also opens on May 28.

Leslie Douglas and Val Merra! are both returning to Pwilheli (May 28). Butlin's long-service stalwart Al Freed will also be there, and there will be a small olde-tyme group. Dick Denny is at Ayr, sharing the honours with Scottish MD Harry Carmichael. This camp also opens on May 28:

DON SMITH

BACK TO

WIMBLEDON

DON SMITH and his Orchestra,

don Palais on Easter Monday.

They take over the bandstand from Eric Lawe, who will be finishing his six months' contract at Wimbledon. The NME understands that Eric will be going to Margate for the summer season.

JILL WITH JOE WITH singer Rose Brennan

resting her voice on doctor's orders, Joe Loss has booked Jill

Kinley — late of Wimbledon Palais, and now featured vocalist

Palais, and now featured vocalist on all Sydney Lipton airings.

Jill will be heard with the Loss orchestra this Saturday in the BBC's "Club Piccadilly" broadcast. Last Saturday, Jean Campbell deputised for Rose in the same programme.

JOINING BARRITEAU

Suzi Miller broadcasts in the Northern Home Service in "Club Night" next Monday (14th).

PRESENTATIONS

12 HOLLAND VILLAS RD.,

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STANLEY

currently at the Orchid Ball-m, Purley, return to Wimble-

yet visited Britain, is making two visits to London. For the first, she is to arrive here on April 12. She will stay for a week, and a special press and disc-jockey cocktail party will be thrown in her

Though Doris's reluctance to appear before a live audience makes it unlikely that she will be seen in public, she will possibly broadcast and record while she is

The big story behind Doris Day's visit to Europe, however, lies in her film commitments. She is set to make a dramatic movie, directed by Alfred Hitchcock, and entitled "The Man Who Knew Too Much." James Stewart will co-star, and her first-ever trips to London are tied up with the picture.

### LONDON RETURN

Much of the production will be filmed outside America, and after her week in London, Doris will fly to Paris, where she faces the cameras for further sequences. Shooting is scheduled to continue in Cannes and North Africa.

Then Doris returns to London, with the entire company, for further work on the film. She will be here for a fortnight then, commencing May 20. It is understood that during this period, Danny Kaye may introduce

her to the audience at the London Palladium, where he will then be

starring.
"The Man Who Knew Too Much"

is not, of course, Doris's first dramatic picture. Several years ago she scored a major success with Ginger Rogers in "Storm Warning," a movie dealing with the Ku Klux

# **DENIS LOTIS SOLO DATES**

THE first variety dates which will be played by Dennis Lotis when he leaves the Ted Heath Orchestra to become a solo

music hall star are now to hand.

Dennis, as already announced, leaves the band immediately upon his return from Australia, and his first appearance in a solo role will be at the Palace, Blackpool, on Easter Sunday.

be at the Palace, Blackpool, on Easter Sunday.

This will be followed by a number of top line variety dates which are officially released by the Ted Heath office this week. These include the Hippodrome, Manchester (week commencing April 11), to be followed consecutively by the Empire, Edinburgh, the Empire, Glasgow, and the Empire, Newcastle.

Booked as personal accompanist to Dennis Lotis is Norman Murrells. The show with which he will tour will also include the instrumental Dargie Quintet, who will also accompany Dennis in some of his numbers.

## TUBBY HAYES BAND WAXES

THE new Tubby Hayes Orches-

THE new Tubby Hayes Orchestra had its first recording session at the Decca Studios yesterday (Thursday, 10th)
Titles to be waxed were not available at press time, but it is believed the two sides recorded would be drawn from original material by Jimmie Deuchar, Harry South and Victor Feldman.
No trumpeter has yet been fixed to take the place of Les Condon who, although announced as joining the Hayes group, has now decided to remain with Tony Crombie. Jimmie Deuchar played on yesterday's recording date.

# Squadronai

THE Squadronaires, one of Britain's longest-established name bands, is to be completely reconstituted as from the begin-

week-end.

Ivy Benson and her Girls were snowbound—and at one time immovable for more than an hour—when returning from a U.S. camp show at Sculthorpe on Sunday night.

They reached town frozen, dispirited, but more or less unharmed, at 5 a.m.

Ining of next month.

The driving force responsible for changing the band's policy and stylistic trends is the tremendous furore for rhythm-and-blues music which is sweeping America

The new Squadronaires intend to jump on the r-and-b band-wagon

THE MAE JONES ENSEMBLE I walked into the garden; Tenderly he watches F 10486 THE REGENT BALLROOM

Softly, softly—W.; Let me go, lover!—W.; F 10487

GEORGIA BROWN My crazy li'l mixed up heart; Before we know it F 10489

THE JOHNSTON BROTHERS The right to be wrong; Hot potato mambo F 10490

Ready, willing and able; Bambino



ning of next month.

# THIS WEEL

DEC

DEAN MA Under the bridge What could be more bea

STAN KEN A-ting-a-ling; Malagu

**DUKE ELLIN** Echo tango; All day l

NELSON R The pendulum song; Brot

THE DECCA RECORD COM

# DORIS DAY, one of the few American singing stars who have never

Another newcomer to the Butlins set-up will be Norman Burns, who is taking his seven-piece to Butlin's Ocean Hotel at Saltuean, near Brighton. Norman opens on May 14.

Musicians in blizzard NUMBER of leading bands and musicians have been involved in

> Ivy Benson and her Girls, although not injured, were among the many who suffered frustrating delays and difficulties on the snowbound roads.

bound roads.

Most serious of the crashes was that sustained by Norman Burns. Returning with his boys from Bristol in the early hours of Sunday morning, Norman's brake skidded on the icy road near Maidenhead Bridge, ran into a fence and overturned. Police were quickly on the scene, when it was found that whilst the Burns car was wrecked, none of the boys was really seriously injured. All were taken to hospital for a check-up.

The Bonnie Scott coach skidded to his right hand. Later in the week, after a check-up with his doctor, John Smith ald deep and severe cuts to his right hand. Later in the week, after a check-up with his doctor, John Smith also have in the week, after a check-up with his doctor, John Smith also have in the week, after a check-up with his doctor, John Smith also found he had sustained severe facial bruising. The boys were later conveyed to town in hired cars, and all are out and about this week—Norman with his ribs strapped up, and still look-ning pale and shaken.

COACH SKIDS

## Billie Anthony for BBC Festival

that Eric will be going to Margate for the summer season.

Don Smith will be returning to an environment in which he is already very popular, following his previous run at Wimbledon. Featured with his outfit of five reeds, four trumpets, and three rhythm will be his up-and-coming singer Shirley Wilson.

The management of the Orchid Ballroom, Purley, have not yet fixed a replacement for Don Smith.

Don Smith is under the aegis of the Ted Heath organisation, and a picture of Ted signing the contract for Dan to appear at Wimbledon is on page 12. VIVACIOUS Billie Anthony, one of Columbia's brightest recording singers, is a last-minute addition to the next BBC "Festival of Dance Music" broadcast-concert, to be held at the Royal Albert Hall on Monday (March

Albert Hall on Moliday (March 14).

Billie's future variety dates include weeks at the Finsbury Park Empire (commencing March 21) and the Empire, Liverpool (April 4). She televises in "Variety Parade" on April 2.

### WINNIE HELPS OVER £8,000 has been raised

for victims of the New South Wales flood disasters by the "Lord Mayor's Tivoli Command Show"

TRUMPETER Harry Smith of Derek New's Orchestra at the Celebrité is joining Carl Barriteau. Harry replaces Gordon Sardella who has joined Vic Lewis. Carl Barriteau is also looking for an outstanding fenor stylist to replace Art Ellefson, who, as reported in another column, is also joining Vic Lewis. For the Barriteau band's airing next Wednesday (16th), both Kern's Sims and the Canadian vocal group, the Three Deuces will be making their first broadcast.

Mayor's Tivoli Command Show' in which Britain's piano celebrity, Winifred Atwell, was the star. Not only that — but Winnie suggested the concert. The theatre, the Tivoli, Sydney, was loaned for the occasion by Managing Director David N. Martin, and all seats were sold out within 24 hours of the concert being announced. As a further contribution to the fund, Winnie will also appear in a classical concert on Sunday, March 20, in the Sydney Town Hall. She will perform the Grieg Piano Concerto in A Minor, accompanied by the famous Sydney Symphony Orchestra Orchestra.

The modernistic Tony Kinsey Quartet makes its first commercial broadcast this Saturday in "Club Piccadilly." Previously, the group had been featured only in all-jazz airings.

The proposed visit of U.S. show-man-pianist Liberace to Britain this summer has been cancelled. The star allegedly feels that he should further consolidate his British repu-tation via records before making a personal trip.

The victims include Norman Burns and his Band, the Ronnie Scott Orchestra, drummer Bobby Kevin, and trumpeter Benny Perrin.

It was, however, discovered that Norman himself had broken a rib, bassist Ronnie Stone had a badly cut head and severe bruising, and pianist John Smith had deep and severe cuts to his right hand.

Later in the week, after a check-up with his doctor, John Smith also found he had sustained severe facial bruising.

The Ronnie Scott coach skidded on ice and crashed into a deep ditch while returning from Bolton last Sunday. The whole band was involved, except tenorist Pete King, trombonist Ken Wray and pianist-vibesman Victor Feldman who, by chance, were not in the coach.

The vehicle was badly damaged, but fortunately, the boys' injuries were slight

Drummer Bobby Kevin, of the Oscar Rabin Band, had a car crash when driving home from work a few nights ago. His car skidded violently on an icy road, and only an unusually high kerbstone prevented it from crashing through a glass window.

Benny Perrin West End free lance.

from window.

Benny Perrin, West End free-lance trumpeter, damaged his car in a 4 a.m. crash in the Edgware Road last

HMMY YOUNG

The sand and the sea F 10483

**ORCHESTRA** 

CYRIL STAPLETON Elephant tango; Gabrielle F 10488

BILLY COTTON

# STARS FOR ROYALTY







Alma Cogan

**DOPULAR** music is to have several representatives in the first-ever out-of-London Royal Variety Show, which is to take place at the Opera House, Blackpool, on Wednesday, April 13.

American singing star Eddie Fisher is among the artists who will appear before the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh on this great occasion, and British recording and variety singers are worthily represented by Alma Cogan and Joan Regan.

Geraldo and his Orchestra are to appear, as well as Ronnie Munro and the Victoria Palace Orchestra, while Billy Ternent is also in the star-studded cast

in a solo capacity.

The performance has been arranged by Jack Hylton and, in addition to the stars of popular music, in-cludes such favourites as Arthur Askey, Gracie Fields, the Crazy Gang, George Formby, Jewel and Warriss, Wilfred Pickles, Al Read, the Five Smith Brothers, Reginald Dixon, Albert Modley, etc.

# SHEARING COMING HOME!

# Visit to Britain planned for next month

AT last, after many months of rumour and disappointment, it is definitely announced that British-born pianist George Shearing will be returning to this country next month on a short visit.

George arrives on the "Queen Elizabeth," on April 26. The length of his stay is not yet known, but it will almost certainly last for at least three weeks.

Although he is not likely to under-take any professional engagements while in Britain—the fact that he is now an American citizen makes this virtually impossible—George will be in close contact with his British publishers, Robbins Music.

### *MONTH'S REST* FOR LEE

SINGER Benny Lee has suffered a very unlucky break by being stricken with illness while in the middle of a string of very success-

ful variety dates.

Benny was taken ill last week while appearing at the Windsor Theatre, Bearwood, Birmingham. He is suffering from stomach ulcers, and has been advised by his doctor that at least four weeks of complete

# IVY BENSON FOR AUTUMN

IVY BENSON and her Girls' Orchestra will be making a big return to the variety stage this

BIG WELCOME

Robbins handled several Shearing originals, including "The Fourth Deuce" and "Man From Minton's," both over here and in America. The same firm also handles numerous Shearing plano transcriptions of popular songs.

George will make the journey with his wife, Trixie; and a right royal welcome will be waiting for the "local boy" who will be returning from the U.S; as one of the greatest jazz stars of today.

autumn.

Following her summer season at the Villa Marina, Douglas, I.O.M., Ivy will be spending several weeks on the Stoll circuit, prior to returning an extra autumn for a further spell at Lyons' "Quebec Cafe' (in the Marble Arch Conner House)
The stage dates which Ivy will be playing are the Hippodrome, Manchester (September 26) and then in consecutive weeks, the Hippodrome, Bristol; the 'New Theatre. Cardiff, and the Palace Theatre, Hull, Many other variety dates have been offered, but cannot be accepted because

other variety dates have been offered, but cannot be accepted because of Ivy's Lyons' contract.

Ivy will not now be visiting the German Trade Fair at Hanover.

This is because it has been impossible to come to any arrangement which Ivy considers reasonable regarding working hours "We should be expected to work from 8 p.m. until 4 a.m.," she told the NME, "and this is far too much for anybody—so. I have cancelled the for anybody—so I have cancelled the

Ivy is frantically worried at press time by the disappearance of one of her girls, eighteen-year-old trumpet player Joyce Alder. Joyce has not been heard of for several weeks, and the police have been informed.

and has been advised by his doctor that at least four weeks of complete rest will be necessary if he is to avoid an operation.

In consequence, Benny has been forced to cancel immediate dates at Norwich, Manchester, etc., plus other impending variety bookings, but he hopes to be well in good time to tackle his new TV series in a couple of months' time.

Singing star Betty Hutton was married in Las Vegas on Tuesday; to Alan Livingston, the Vice-President of Capitol Records. Mr. Livingston was in London last week for conferences with officials of EMI about the latter's proposed purchase of Capitol.

BEVERLY GETZ, wife of U.S. poll-winning tenorist Stan Getz, and one of their three children, were seriously injured in a car crash last week (writes Nat Hentoff).

The accident occurred in Oklahoma, and the driver of the -a family friend-died in the

collision.

Mrs. Getz sustained a broken back, which will keep her on the sick list for at least a year. The injured child has a fractured skull, but a brain surgeon saved the youngster's life after almost all hope

but a brain surgeon saved the youngster's life after almost all hope had been abandoned.

When he received news of this terrible accident, Stan was touring with the Birdland Show, an all-star package which also includes Sarah Vaughan, Lester Young and the Count Basie Orchestra.

He left the tour immediately to fly to St. John's Hospital, Tulsa, Oklahoma, where his wife and children are detained. After a few days, however, he was advised that the patients were out of immediate danger, and last Saturday he rejoined the show

The other two Getz children were not seriously hurt, though they, too, were in the car at the time of the accident.

## JOHNNIE RAY MOBBED JOHNNIE RAY'S current Australian trip is proving even more successful than had been

anticipated (cables Maurice Kinn)
Upon his arrival "Down Under" last Sunday a seething mass of fans ripped Johnnie's suit and severely bruised him.

After a seventeen-day tour, Johnnie leaves Australia for a holiday in Italy and France Then he comes to Britain for a long series of appearances, as already announced.

# res changing policy, name, control

and have already taken their first steps into the new idiom by their recent Decca waxings of "Ko-Ko-Mo" and "Rock Love." Their first appearance in their reconstituted popular outfit. So in future the propular outfit. So in future the soluble at Folkestone on April 9.

A startling new set-up for the Squads finds not only new music and even new music stands—but also a new constitution within the band of the name Squadronaires be used to the squadronaires to the squadronaires be used to squadronaires to the squadronaires to the squadronaires to used the squadronaires to use th

DDLE

her John CL 14262

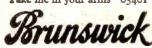
# K'S RELEASES OF

All these records are available in 78 or 45 r.p.m. form

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Ko ko mo; Heart throb HL 8128

THE HAL HOPPERS

Mother of pearl; Baby I've had it HL 8129

**OSCAR McLOLLIE** 

Take your shoes off pop; Love me tonight HL 8130

### time for first Concert TLL-FORTUNE has dogged the Ted Heath entourage on their transworld flight to Australia! The band left London Airport last Sunday night - according to plan - but they have since sustained delays which may well jeopardise their opening date at Sydney, through mechanical troubles which grounded the plane on Monday

and Tuesday at Karachi.

The position is in a state of flux as we close for press. Already Ted Heath has notified the promoters

Heath has notified the promoters

It is already known, however, that in far-off Sydney that he and his musicians are many hours behind

RELIEF CREW

Arrangements now being rushed through at the Australian end will ensure that when the aircraft touches down at Darwin—its first port of call on Australian soil—a fresh plane, fully manned by a relief crew, will be ready to take off immediately in a final desperate effort to get the entire Heath company to Sydney for their much-heralded opening night (Friday).

Arrangements before the continuation of the flight to its next refuelling station at Bombay.

BON VOYAGE'

Reverting to the band's start from England last Sunday night, the NME found the departure lounge at London Airport packed almost to capacity when we went to bid the boys bon voyage."

Besides relatives, friends, business acquaintances and music publishers.

in far-off Sydney that he and his musicians are many hours behind schedule in their 10,000-mile flight. But in Sydney, the promoters have accepted the challenge inherent in Ted's plight.

RELIEF CREW

HEATH PLANE DELAYED

Dramatic attempt to reach Australia in

their much-heralded opening night (Friday).

At the time of writing, however, it is touch and go—with the fervent hope of all this great band's fans that the intrepid travellers make it on the other side of the world.

Besides reauves, acquaintances and music publishers, a large contingent of faithful fans turned up to wish the musical ambassadors from Britain a good that the intrepid travellers make it on journey to their exciting commitments on the other side of the world.



Famous American music-publisher Lou Levy, head of Pickwick, Duchess and Leeds music companies, arrived in London on Wednesday for one of his periodical business-trips. In this NME photo, he is seen (right) with Cyril Simons, chief of the three companies in Britain.

# VIC LEWIS MAKES IMPORTANT SIGNINGS

BANDLEADER Vic Lewis announced the signing this week of two important captures for his orchestra. They are Canadian tenor-sax stylist Art Ellefson and well-known modern altoist Roy East.

Ruby Murray,

Ronnie Hilton

with Show Band

RUBY MURRAY, who has

made such a meteoric rise to the top flight of vocal stardom in such a short time, will make her

first appearance with the BBC Show Band tonight (Friday) in the Band's late night dance music

broadcasts, Another up-and-coming vocal star

with a bright future—Ronnie Hilton—will be making his début with the Show Band on Friday next, March 18. Jean Campbell is the Show Band's vocal guest the following Friday.

YOUR CHANCE TO

**MEET THE 4 ACES!** 

Art has been a star member of Carl Barriteau's Orchestra for some time, and Roy has been with Oscar Rabin for the past

with Oscar Rabin for the past two years.

Another Lewis signing is Australian trumpeter Carl Shafto. He takes the place of Ronnie Baker, who is joining Jack Parnell. Carl ioins the band on Monday, Roy East and Art Ellefson on March 21. Kevin Neal has recently joined Vic on trombone, from Leslie Douglas's Orehestra.

All the newcomers will be in the Lewis band when it commences its tour with Johnnie Ray on April 4.

# **GEORGE SMITH Cafe de Paris**

AFTER an absence of five months, bandleader George Smith is to return to the Cafe do Paris, London, on March 21, taking the place of Simone and

Airport to meet the Four Airport to meet the Four Awhen they arrive at 4 p.m. on Wednesday, March 23.

The coaches will depart from Marble Arch, London at 3 p.m.; fans wishing to join the party should send remittance for 5s., with a stamped addressed envelope, to Four Aces (Coach), 8, Denmark Street, London, W.C.2.

All those travelling to the airport will receive a photograph of the Four Aces, plus a free bottle, of Pepsi-Cola presented by the manufacturers.

The Aces commence their British at Glasgow Empire on March bill at the London weeks combined to be included in bill at the London weeks combined to be included in bill at the London weeks combined to be included in bill at the London weeks combined to the pressure of the Four Aces, plus a free bottle, of Pepsi-Cola presented by the manufacturers.

The Aces commence their British of Glasgow Empire on March bill at the London weeks combined to the pressure of the Four Aces, plus a free bottle, of Pepsi-Cola presented by the manufacturers.

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The Aces commence their British of Glasgow Empire on March bill at the London weeks combined to the pressure of the Four Aces, plus a free bottle, of the Four Aces, will be leading George Worthington (planot); John Flangan (drums); Ronnie Black (basyocals); Colin Nichols, Stan Flaum (altos); Micky Seidman (tenor) and a trumpet who has not yet been fixed. All the reeds double violins.

Of this line-up, only Seidman and the trumpeter were not with the drumpeter

Palladium for the two weeks mencing May 9.

On completion of their tour, they return to America to appear in a Hollywood film, "Week-end in Las Vegas."

Of this line-up, only Seigman and the trumpeter were not with the band at the Café last October.

Contacted by the NME on pressday, Simone told us that he had not yet fixed any fresh engagement, but was working on several plans.

## Parnell bass ill: May miss Africa trip

I Short has been ill this week and it is now doubtful if he will be able to make the trip to South

Jockey Bill Frince was a complete success.

Prince, in Johannesburg put through an Inter-Continental call at 7.30 p.m., our time, and Jack spoke to him from the manager's office of the Pavilion Ballroom, Ipswich, for about five minutes.

Afterwards, Jack said: "I heard the whole of the call quite clearly."

in which his life-story and rise to

world fame will be depicted.
According to the film company, shooting was due to start this week.

YOUTHFUL vocalist Jimmy ("Tell Me A Story") Boyd has been added to the cast of "The Second Greatest Sex," the Universal-International film star-

ring Kitty Kallen.
Kitty has been signed to a long contract by UI, and it seems that her projected British tour is now indefinitely postponed.

internal injuries (including a number of broken bones) when she recently slipped and fell in an

## More dates for **Purches**

SINGER Danny Purches, whose opening at the Empire, Middlesbrough, is reviewed on page 4 of this issue, now has a further string of stage dates

But first, Danny makes his Columbia recording debut this Sunday.

For the next two weeks, Danny

For the next two weeks, Danny has not accepted stage dates because of other commitments, but for the week of April 4 he is at the Empire, Liverpool, followed by Hackney Empire (his first London variety booking); the Palace, Hull; the Empire, Sunderland; the Grand Theatre, Bolton; and the Hippodrome, Bristol.

Orchestra broadcast again on April 1 in "Teatime Cabaret" on the Midland Home Service (4.30 p.m.). Various personnel changes in the

Douglas group have brought in Harry Brown (trombone and guitar), who comes from the Tomasso Band at the Scala: Leeds, replacing Kevin Neal, Trumpet Done Leather—who was with the Douglas band last year

# **MODERN STARS JOIN CROMBIE**

Crombie Orchestra, and the addition of tenorist Don Rendell to

signed to join the band.

They are trumpeter Jimmie Deuchar, altoist Derek Humble, and trombonist Ken Wray.

Jimmie, who was recently been free-lancing around town, started

Crombie ranks when Ronnie Scott's band (with which they are now featured) breaks up next month.

Trumpeter Les Condon has now elected to stay with Tony, instead of going with the forthcoming Tubby Hayes group, as previously announced.

### LINE-UP

TEMPLE FOR TV

NAT TEMPLE and his Orchestra are to be featured in the new which starts on June 3.

Singers Pearl Carr and Benny Lee will also be seen in the series, which is to run each Friday for six weeks. Pearl, Benny and Nat have, of course, been associated with Bernard

LINE-UP

The full line-up of the new stellar Crombie aggregation, therefore, now reads as follows: Jimmie Deuchar and Les Condon (trumpets); Ken the Celebrite Restaurant—are being replaced by Leslie Collins and his Quartet, Leslie has not been permanently on the Mecca circuit will take over at Liverpool.

Afterwards, Jack said: "I heard the whole of the call quite clearly."

LATE U.S. NEWS

SINGING celebrity Nat "King" SINGING celebrity Nat "King" Solurated, Leslie has not been permanently on the Mecca circuit will take over at Liverpool.

Afterwards, Jack said: "I heard the whole of the call quite clearly."

LATE U.S. NEWS

SINGING celebrity Nat "King" SINGING celebrity Nat "King" Singer pear and Flash Winstone (vocals). Tony Crombie, needless to add, leads from the drummer's less to add leads from the drummer's stone (vocals). Tony Crombie, need-less to add, leads from the drummer's

Pearl, Benny and Nat have, of course, been associated with Bernard Braden's radio programme since it started and appeared with him when it was previously televised in July, 1953,
Nat Temple is frequently appearing on TV Children's Hour with his "Jack In The Box" comedy-music show. On March 31, however, he will be responsible for the music of a more serious programme called "Dance Music Through The Ages"

I ESLIE DOUGLAS and his Orchestra broadcast again on April 1 in "Teatime Cabaret" on the Midden'd Heart Service (4.26).

Stone (vocals). Tony Crombie, needless to add, leads from the drummer's stool.

Two bands-within-the-band will be featured—the Don Rendell Sextet (Rendell, Condon, Ross and the hydrom section) and the Jimmie Deuchar group (Deuchar, Humble, Wray and rhythm).

The complete outfit has its first broadcast in "British Jazz" on March 28, this being the last programme of the present series Other dates lined up include Winsford (tonight, Friday), Stanford (March 12), Hanley (March 13), Darlington (March 18), and Keighley (March 19).

Two famous American stars have been bereaved this week. The mother of Nat "King" Cole died in Chicago, and Harry James' father died in Hollywood.

# FOLLOWING last week's sensational news concerning the Tony

the personnel, together with several other star musicians, it can now be announced that three further instrumental "greats" have been

with Tony last Sunday.

Derek and Ken will join the Crombie ranks when Ronnie Scott's

just published.

MECCA BAND

**SWITCHES** FURTHER "general post" is A FURTHER general poor announced on the Mecca dance halls circuit. The Blue Rockets leave the Royal, Tottenham, on March 21. They will be replaced by Jan Ralfini and his

the Locarno, Liverpool.

Meanwhile, Ken Hewitt and his Band, who are new to the Mecca circuit, will take over at Liverpool.

At London's Lyceum. Ted Taylor's group—who are going to the Celebrite Pestaurant are here.

but the NME understands that they have auditioned this week at a popular restaurant in town where a girls' orchestra is currently employed

Orchestra, who come down from

## FRENCH ASK FOR RENDELL

Two famous American stars have been bereaved this week. The mother of Nat "King" Cole died in Chicago, and Harry James' father died in Hollywood.

Perry Como and Dinah Shore have been voted America's top TV singers in the National Award results published.

The concert will be held at the Olympia Theatre, and continental attractions to be featured include the Bobby Jaspar; Henri Renaud and Martial Selal groups, plus many other noted bands and instrumentalists.

PENORIST Don Rendell has been invited to fly to France next Wednesday, to take part in the "Festival of Modern Jazz" concert which marks the twentieth

mentalists.

# JACK PARNELL bassist Charlie

Africa with the band.

As previously announced in the NME, the whole party is due to fly to Johannesburg from London Airport on March 23.

Jack's phone conversation last Saturday with South African discipockey Bill Prince was a complete success.

FILM star Pier Angeli suffered

aircraft. arcraft.

Doctors anticipate that the life of her unborn baby has not been affected by the accident, however.

Pier is, of course, married to

singer Vic Damone.

# CCA-GROUP 78 & 45 R.P.M. RECORDS

# Meet the stars at the great NME Concert on March 20! LBERT HALL FAREWELL TO RONNIE SC

the Ronnie Scott Orchestra—but it will also have its under-current of sadness. For this is the last time that Ronnie's present group will ever play at the Royal Albert Hall,

The band, which was formed ings which now runs to four twelveonly two years ago, breaks up next month. Then Ronnie will set about signing members for his new, bigger aggregation, which Apart from specialised jazz airings, which has been given only two makes its bow later in the year.
His current crew, though its story

is brief, will undoubtedly retain a permanent place in British jazz history, however. Seldom has a band so modernistic made such an impact on the public-at-large. Never, to our knowledge, has any combo more our knowledge, has any combo more and the public of the publi

our knowledge, has any combo more completely captured the imagination of this country's younger jazz fans. It was in Manchester that the Ronnie Scott Orchestra made its bow in March, 1953. The personnel then comprised Jimmy Deuchar (trumpet); Ken Wray (trombane): Derek Ken Wray (trombone); Derek Humble (alto); Scott and Pete King (tenors); Benny Green (baritone); Norman Stenfalt (piano); Lennie Bush (bass), and Tony Crombie

Apart from Deuchar, Stenfalt and Crombie, who have been replaced by Hank Shaw, Victor Feldman and Phil Scaman respectively, that's how the line-up stands today.

sell excitement.

Drum features, brass screams, reed siffs, showcases for all the star solomicists—these were the foundations on which Ronnie built his musical structure. Surely you'll remember the frantic "Lover Come Back To Me," Derck's "Humble Pie," Jimmie's "Dear Old Southland," "Stringing The Jug" and, of course "Seven Eleven"?

Rookings didn't exactly come roll—

Rookings didn't exactly come roll—

Whom he subsequently worked included Johnny Claes, Lew Stone May.

To fulfil his Capitol contract, Jack Mann ends his six years' run at the ROF ballroom on April 23. Midami in 1946 he made his first records with Harry (HMV). The following the Heath—association which lasted until 1952.

Scren Eleven "?

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Whom he subsequently worked included Johnny Claes, Lew Stone May.

To fulfil his Capitol contract, Jack Mann ends his six years' run at the ROF ballroom on April 23. Midami included Johnny Claes, Lew Stone May.

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Bookings didn't exactly come rolling in at first. Ballroom managers and concert promoters frankly expressed bafflement.

But they were wrong. Within a few months Ronnie had established himself as a leader. The kids ate up everything he provided for them. Even the dance-hall tycoons had to admit that these musicians had something, for they could play strict-tempo stuff with the best of them when required.

The 1953 NME poll found Ronnie and concert promoters frankly expressed bafflement.

But they were wrong. Within a few months Ronnie had established himself as a leader. The kids at up everything he provided for them. Even the dance-hall tycoons had to admit that these musicians had something, for they could play strict tempo stuff with the best of them when required.

The 1953 NME poll found Ronnie Scott's Orchestra right at the top of the "Small Band" division, by a wide margin. The same thing happened again in 1954.

Visiting American instrumentalists from the Stan Kenton and Woody Herman outfits heard Ronnie and his men at USAF camps—and went home raving about them. Esquire brought out a series of Scott record—

Apart from specialised jazz airings, the band has been given only two broadcasts throughout its existence. This, however, served to make the fans attend every possible public

made their first appearance at the Royal Albert Hall under Scott's direction. On March 20, they will play together at this venue for the last time.

No admirer of the Ronnie Scott Orchestra—and they must run into hundreds of thousands—will want to

### miss this important event. TOMMY WHITTLE

TOMMY WHITTLE, Britain's top tenorist according to the latest NME poll, hails from Grangemouth, Stirlingshire.

EXCITEMENT

The band had a positive policy right from the start. It meant to sell excitement.

Drum features brase screens and

BIRMINGHAM-BORN Tony Kinsey came to London with his friend, Ronnie Ball, six years ago. Their careers took separate directions directions then-for drummer Tony joined the Johnny Dankworth Seven, while pianist Ronnie worked "on the boats" for

Heard at least twice a week at Jeff Kruger's Flamingo club, the Quartet now records for Decca, and broadcasts frequently—both in jazz and commercial airings. Each of the boys in the group is

worked "on the boats" for several months.

Then, however, their paths crossed again. Ronnie was asked to lead a resident trio at London's Studio '51, and Tony became his drummer.

A few months later, Ronnie emigrated to America. Tony took over

THESE THREE BANDS WILL
The leadership of the group—and the
Tony Kinsey Trio came into being.
Until last May, the Kinsey Trio
comprised Dill Jones (piano), a succession of bassists, and "permanent guest" tenorist Tomny Whittle.
When Tommy left to form his own

THESE THREE BANDS WILL
BE FEATURED AT OUR GREAT
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SHALL PRINT A SPECIAL
ARTICLE ON THE CONCERT'S
TOP-OF-THE-BILL—THE GREAT
NEW MALCOLM MITCHELL
When Tommy left to form his own



On Monday evening (7th), the Ronnie Scott Band celebrated its second birthday with an evening's jazz and revelry at the Manor House Jazz Club, London. Here, Ronnie blows out the candles on the birthday cake baked for the occasion by Norah Bristow, wife of the band's road-manager.

# by RON DRAKE

JACK MANN and his Band fit which will take the name formerly will be resident for Saturday used by the YVO—the Johnny will be resident for Saturday used by the dances at the Capitol Ballroom, Leeds, throughout the absence of

Gordon Homer's resident outfit.
Gordon will be joining the summer line-up of bands in the

year found him with Ted Heath—an association which lasted until 1952, when Whittle decided to settle in town.

He joined the Tony Kinsey Trio at Studio '51, took over his present chair with the BBC Show Band, and started recording for Esquire.

Last May, the Tommy Whittle Quintet was launched at Studio '51 (where it is still resident) with a personnel comprising Poil-Winner Harry Klein (baritone); Dill Jones Lew Barnfather (drums).

SAXIST Alf Carritt—formerly with leader Les Garratt—who left the profession for a post with a commercial firm only last month, has returned to music and has joined Jack Tumelty's group at the Kiosc Ballroom, Castleford.

Jack Tumelty has dispensed with tumpet and reverted to a five-sex (frumpet): Barbara Tyler (frumpet): Barbar

trumpet and reverted to a five-sax front line.

OMORROW (Saturday) will see

Tomorkow (Saturday) will see the curtain ring down on the ill-supported Variety season at the Theatre Royal, Huddersfield MD Paul Burnett, who has been in charge of the pit band since Christmas, is to join Frances Day's touring show on Monday, Currently with the show—as personal MD to Frances—is Tommy Sampson.

LANCASHIRE jazz enthusiasts can now add two more venues to their vising list. Opened this week at the Wheatsheaf Hotel, Manchester, the "Club 43" boasts an impressive resident line-up of Northern musicians who feature an unusual array of instruments in their offerings. ANCASHIRE jazz enthusiasts can

offerings.
Three NVO men, Roger Fleetwood (alto-sax and clarinet), Geoff Alderson (tenor-sax) and trombonist Gib Wallace head a list of instrumentalists which is completed by ex-Teddy Foster trombonist Percy

**BRITAIN'S BRIGHTEST BAND** 

CARL

Carter, ex-Kathy Stobart drummer Ralph Green, former Charlie Short pianist Brian Fitzgerald and bassist Les Clark.

Sessions are to be held weekly

ings at the Verona School of Daneing, Blackpool, and is organised by Blackpool bandleader Tony Carr.
Featuring a resident five-piece group comprising Barry Ogden (trumpet); Barbara Tyler (tenor); John Bennett (bass); Pete Benn (piano) and Barry McCullough (drums), the object of the club is to impart knowledge—musical and historical—to jazz initiates.

It is proposed to feature a number of "name" musicians in the future.

ONE of the best known floors in the North of England, the dance floor of the Spa Royal Hall, Bridlington (Yorks), which was laid down when the hall was built in 1932, is to be replaced at a cost of £2,300.

f £2,300.

The floor has been danced on year taught Kenny Baker to play trumpet, ther year, conferences have been eld on it, RAF men have done PT in it, Rotherham United Football with the Tivoli Theatre Orchestra am have trained on it for a cuper and it has been flooded.

The floor has been danced on year after year, conferences have been held on it, RAF men have done PT on it, Rotherham United Football team have trained on it for a cuptie and it has been flooded Mr. Neil Munro, Entertainments Manager, said that in places the floor was worn paper thin. "It has done well but it was time for it to be replaced. It will take a fortnight and will be the first break in Saturday night dances for many months."

BARITONE-SAXIST Alan Greenhaulgh is due to leave pianist leader George Roberts at the Carlton Ballroom, Rochdale, next week to join Phil Foster's Band at Bolton Palais. George has yet to sign a replacement.

Ken Hart is now permanent bassist

Ken Hart is now permanent bassist at the Carlton.

NME congratulations go to trombonist Frank Brierly and his wife Audiey on the birth of a daughter, Karen. Frank and Audrey were at one time both members of the Rabin band, Audrey being the vocalist.

HARLES DE GROOT and his CHARLES DE GROOT and his Orchestra commence their second summer season at Filey on May 28. They will be resident for fifteen weeks and will play for dancing at the Southdene Pavilion and—in addition—Charles will headle the concepts.

\*

tion—Charles will handle the concerts at the Crescent Gardens. He will be leading a seven-piece group for this contract \*

For the sixth successive time, the Fred Rawson Band which plays at the East Park Ballroom, Hull, has signed the contract to play there for the next 12 months. The band is led by Fred Rawson (alto-sax).

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# COUNTY COACHES

13. Finsbury Boad Phone : Bowes Park 4351. Wood Green, N.22



British singing star Vera Lynn went backstage after the recent Royal Albert Hall concert by Ella Fitzgerald and Oscar Peterson, and she is here seen talking to these two great American stars.

season this year he will bring with him what is virtually a new band, with the exception of saxophonist Alan Clarke and vocalist Terry da Costa.

George tells the NME that as he will not be giving morning concerts as last year, he will concentrate more on dance music.

Alan Clarke was no newcomer to the season this year he will concentrate more on dance music.

Alan Clarke was no newcomer to the season this year he will bring with bis composition of University last Wednesday and their transfer to LP hasn't been managed with complete success. A couple of awkward "joins" give the game away.

But I can still listen to the solos (especially Lester Young's tenor) and the simple, direct ensemble figures (no other group could ever make so much of a roup could ever make so make a roup could ever make so much of a roup

on dance music.

Alan Clarke was no newcomer to Scarborough, even when he first came here with the Blue Mariners, for he was stationed here during the war at the Royal Naval School of Music. Terry da Costa made her first appearance in Scarborough with the band last year.

The Sunday night shows will be continued this year.

Were runners-up.

Alan Dandy, pianist with his own Quartet from Birmingham, Quartet from Birmingham, Altogether, nine bands competed, Altogether, nine bands competed, arawn from Bangor, Birmingham, Leeds, Leicester, Liverpool, Manchester and Newcastle Universities.

Over 500 students attended the contest.

Band Concert ever held in this country took place at Liver-

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# MODERN MOOD

The Norman Granz gets his records released in Britain, most of us can never hear the great new Count Basie band on wax. Meanwhile, however, many of the Count's earlier sides remain.

Has nothing to do with Basie but is nevertheless wholly sympathetic. It comprises Johnny Guarnieri (successfully emulating Count at the piano), Slam Stewart (bass) and Sid Catlett (drums). of the Count's earlier sides remain

of the Count's earlier sides remain available—and a couple of recently listed LP's shouldn't be overlooked They are:

"THE OLD COUNT AND THE NEW COUNT" (LP)

"The World Is Mad?"/"Miss Thing"/
"Nails"/"I'll Remember April"/
"Howzit"/"Little White Lies"
(Philips BBR.8036)

COUNT RASIE AND LESTED

COUNT BASIE AND LESTER
YOUNG GROUPS (LP)
"Lester Leaps Again"/"After Theatre
Jump"/"Destination KC"/"I Never
Knew"/"Just You Just Me"/"Afternoon Of A Basie-ite"/"Sometimes
I'm Happy"

### (Mercury MG.25015)

George Crow back
to Scarborough
WHEN George Crow returns to
the Spa Ballroom at Scarborough (Yorks) for his sixth
to Spa Ballroom at Scarborough (Yorks) for his sixth
the Spa Ballroom at Scarborough (Yorks) for his sixth
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the Spa Ballroom at Scarborough (Yorks) for his sixth

The octet tracks achieve a warm ballad mood, largely set by the arranger (Neal Hefti) but maintained throughout the solo spells of Wardell Grav (tenor), Clark Terry (trumpet). Buddy De Franco (clarinet) and Count himself (piano).

Wardell also blows well enough on "Nails" (a blues) and a full measure of typically economical Basie piano helps "Howzit" (another blues). On the whole, however, I'd say that the 1951 band, for all its competence and star sidemen, wasn't a patch on Count's current crew.

We return to 1944 for both sides of the Mercury, the first three titles of which were made by a seven-piece contingent from the full Basie band. You may find this music sloppy and uninspired at first—but keep listening!

If you're not yet a Lester wor-

POWELL devotees will automatically want this—and they'll like it when they've got it. Others should get the previously released EP from the same session first (Vogue EPV. 1030). It's that much better. Few other jazz pianists, however, could rival the swing and inventiveness of "Burt" (a "Lover Come Back To Me" variation, previously recorded by Coleman Hawkins as "Bean And The Boys") and "Bags," the emphatically personal ballad statement of "Devotion," or the expressiveness of "Stella" (despite a doubtful chord change in the thirteenth bar).

Bassist George Duvivier and drummer Arthur Taylor complete the trio—except for "Stella," which is an unaccompanied piano solo.

an unaccompanied piano solo.

DAVE PELL OCTET (LP)

"Why Do You Suppose"/"You Are
Too Beautiful"/"Mountain Greenery"/"Ship Without A Sall"/"Sing
For Your Supper"/"It Never Entered
My Mind"/"Lady Is A Tramp"/

"Ten Cents A Dance"
(London H-APB.1034)

×

TENORIST Pell, leading a group

TENORIST Pell, leading a group of Les Brown sidemen, made an enioyable "Irving Berlin Gallery" LP which London released last year (H-APB.1020). I therefore looked forward to hearing this follow-up "Rogers and Hart Gallery." But it has turned out to be a definite disappointment,

The tunes are fine, the playing immaculate. Yet the whole thing leaves me thoroughly bored. Maybe that's what happens when eight that's what happens when eight accomplished musicians make ruth-less, heartless efficiency an end in

STAN GETZ QUARTET
"The Song Is You"/"It Might As
Well Be Spring"
(Vogue V.2292)

The apparent casualness comes from complete relaxation, and those close to the heart of jazz will soon "get with" the feeling of Count and his men: Lester Young (tenor), Buck Clayton (trumpet), Dickie Wells (trumpet), Dickie Wells (trombone), Freddie Green (guitar), Rodney Richardson (bass) and Jo Lones (drums).

(Vogue V.2292)

GOOD mid-period (1950/1) Getz coupling, in which Stan's persuasively cool tenor is backed up by Jimmy Raney (guitar), Horace Silver (piano), Leonard Gaskin (bass) and Roy Haynes (drums) on the first side; Silver (piano), Joe Calloway (bass) and Walter Bolden (drums) on the second

Finally, the last four tunes listed find Lester at the height of his powers, with a supporting trio that "Song" as well as "Spring."

Reviewed by BBC Show Band Guitarist and NME Poll-winner, Bert Weedon

Arranged by Ivor Mairants
(published by Latin-American

Music Co., 4s.)

HERE is a novel idea for those among us who have a liking for Latin-American music, Ivor Mairants has taken half - a dozen of the most popular Latin American pieces and arranged them so that the purchaser of this book has the vocal line together with the lyrics, and a guitar accompaniment given in the ukulele style of "window - pane" chord shapes, so that the merest beginner can pick out the right chords immediately.

There is also a solo guitar arrangement of each number all correctly fingered, and, for good measure, a second guitar countermelody and rhythm part. So one can have three guitars and voice or any combination of these—each part having its own line. each part having its own line throughout the book. There has obviously been a lot

WALLY DUNN

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at 4s.

I can foresee lots of "Hermanos Deniz" types of combinations springing up all over the place, and even more strolling vocalists serenading the world with guitars. The tunes selected are "Granada," "Sway," "Taboo," "Frenesi," "Tico Tico" and "Anna."

A word of warning to the beginner—on page two, the first chord shown in the ukulele-style chord-shapes is wrong, but don't worry about it. The correct chord worry about it. The correct chord is immediately next to it and is the one that should be played through the first five bars of "Granada" where the chord shapes start.

Apart from this trifling error (which I have mentioned only because it is the very first chord-shape given in the book, and may have given some worry to

have given some worry to readers) the book reflects great credit on both the publishers and and arranger Ivor for his hard and detailed work. Take a bow, gentlemen ! and the second second second

# Yet another provincial top-liner plays-

# 

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THE KEN MACKINTOSH BAND SHOW with RUBY MURRAY, RONNIE HARRIS, EDDIE ARNOLD, NORMAN VAUGHAN

3/- to 6/- EDM 5223



Bing Crosby sings several songs in his new and highly-praised film, "The Country Girl." In our picture taken at the Paramount studios during a break in the shooting of the Alm, Crosby (centre) and his co-star, lovely Grace Kelly, are seen talking over one of the songs

# BING STAKES HIS CLAIM

Star Is Born," we said we felt confident that the star of that film, Judy Garland, would win the Academy Award this year for the Best Actress.

This week, after seeing Para-mount's "The Country Girl" (Plaza, London, now), we feel pretty certain that in Bing Crosby we have seen the man who will receive the award for the Best Actor.

Bing may not be quite as convincing a winner as Judy. Competition will run him close. But we feel he will succeed in carrying off the coveted Oscar on March 30 for one reason above Il others.

He achieves a magnificent per-

formance in the type of role which had never previously been associated with him.

The singer-actor whose charm and personality have always been bound up in his relaxed, casual style of working, portrays in "The Country Girl" a weak, shambling character no whit less believable

character no whit less believable because the credits tell us Bing Crosby is playing the role,
As the fallen - from - grace drunkard, ex-singing star Frank Elgin, Bing gives the performance of his career, and will surely get the reward that such a performance deserves. ance deserves.

In his triumph he is almost-

In his triumph he is almost—but not quite—bested by another performance which has also earned an Academy A ward nomination, that of Grace Kelly. As his wife she is brilliant. Easing the tension now and again are four songs from Ira Gershwin and Harold Arlen. "You've Got What It Takes" should sell a few thousand, but we doubt if much more will be heard of "It's Mine—It's Yours," "The Land Around Us" or "Love And Learn." Musical direction — which in-

"Love And Learn."

Musical direction — which involves the provision of a haunting theme and some sinister stabbing chords at dramatic moments—is in the practised and capable hands of Victor Young.

PIP WEDGE.

Tennessee Ernie Ford is featured "Hollywood Entertainment" on larch 25 (Light), Gordon MacRae in the same series next Friday

Shand Wallis, who is scoring a terrific success in "Wonderful Town," is in the BBC's "Star Bill"

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The NME Managing Director, now in the U.S.A., sends us his show business impressions and starts off from Florida with

# MERRY-GO-ROUND

from Miami to London is a long way—but I am prepared to stick out my neck that far. and voice the opinion that in Dickie Valentine, Britain has a superb artist comparable with any other of the world's greatest stars!

Even this vast distance from Britain, I seem to hear the cries "anti-American," "prejudice" and the obvious disgruntled retorts from followers of other artists; but whatever anybody else's feelings are, I stick to my guns.

### Valentine

Having visited America three times since the War, it has been my good fortune to have seen in action just about every "big name" in show business; add to these the U.S. stars who have visited the London Palladium for the past seven years, and I feel justified in voicing an opinion, having seen all the great stars "in the flesh."

I have searched my memory from

I have searched my memory from every angle, and have now reached a final verdict. DICKIE VALENevery angle, and nave now reached a final verdict. DICKIE VALENTINE—AS A VOCAL PERFORMER
—IS EQUAL TO, IF NOT BETTER THAN, ANY OTHER STAR IN THE WORLD!

All the evidence for and against has been examined. No, I have not forgotten anybody Before arriving forgotten anybody Before arriving Airpor at my decision, I gave full consideration to Frankie Laine, Johnnie Ray, Nat Cole. Sinatra, Fisher. Tony Floridi Martin and Billy Daniels—even Sammy Davis, Jnr., a name not yet famous in Britain but a superb next. artist, who is one of America's biggest and highest-paid stars.

It is always difficult to define on what grounds a particular artist is selected from a glittering array of names and labelled by somebody Tony one of the world's best "—but just as if you were voting for a singer in a popularity poll, it boils down to gan C personal choice, plus the courage to France

personal choice, plus the courage to support your own conviction.

On records, to my mind Dickie has

Support your own convection.

On records, to my mind Dickie has yet to attain the same class as Frank Sinatra; as a visual performer, the suave perfection of Tony Martin comes only with years of experience; as an impressionist, I consider Dickie superior to Sammy Davis, Jnr. (acknowledged as the best in America); but taking everything into consideration, as an all-round performer—embracing radio, records, TV., variety, cabaret—and modesty, I plump for Dickie Valentine.

Here is a young man blessed with every natural attribute. Now that he has joined the ranks of hit recordmakers, all he needs is a success in the U.S. on a big-selling disc, and I guarantee that Dickie could appear with auspicious success at any venue in America.

Well your might consider these

in America.

Well, you might consider these fighting words; it can be rightly argued that talk is cheap—but time, and only time can tell. My prophecy is that Dickie is recognised within two years as a vocal performer, equal to, if not greater, than any other star in the world!

### Seeing Stars

Having got that off my chest, perhaps you will be interested in my views on some of the artists I have encountered during the last ten days in America. Before visiting Miami a three-day stay in New York included an evening at the Statler Hotel, and the pleasure of a personal meeting with Woody Herman.

No doubt you read in the NME on February 25 of Woody's ambiguiest to explanate hotels with

on February 25 of Woody's antibi-tious project to exchange batons with Ted Heath; he is genuinely sincere in his desire to complete this unique "hands across the ocean 'reciprocal scheme, and is anxiously awaiting the arrival of Ted Heath in New York next month to discuss the plan York next month, to discuss the plan personally with him. As for the Herman "Third Herd,"

As for the Herman "Third Herd," this is a slick aggregation, and under Woody's shrewd guidance, they provide the right type of music for the occasion. Obviously the volume is modified, and certain orchestrations are resting in the band room whilst the "Herd" play the ballroom of a smart Naw Verb total. the "Herd" play the ballroom of a smart New York hotel for a dinnerdance clientele, but you can jump for safety when this crew jumps on a one-nighter.

On TV, I was highly impressed by the 15-minute presentations by ver-satile Jo Stafford from Hollywood, satile Jo Stafford from Hollywood, and the usual weekly Perry Como Show from New York. As usual, Perry is the relaxed, good-natured type we have grown to expect from his recordings—if it is possible, Perry often appears too relaxed and an unaccustomed overseas visitor could easily think that his over-casualness approaches the borders of an "I-couldn't-care-less" attitude. Thursday, February 24, marked the date of two great opening nights Thursday, February 24, marked the date of two great opening nights

# MAURICE

in New York—the new Cole Porter musical-comedy "Silk Stockings" main bar—usually a comedian, two which uncarthed a new Broadway star in Hollywood screen personality, Don Ameche, and a superb musical offerings can be judged on the fact that the Milt Herth Trio are appearance the created boys will be a resident attraction in the

Porter melodies from this show. The opening was a smash-hit, and the critics are agreed that "Silk Stockings" will be sold on Broadway for many months ahead.

At the Copacabana Restaurant later the same evening, "Black Magic" personality, Billy Daniels. was in his element, headlining a dazzling floor show in cabaret. With Benny Payne adding the ingredients, Billy had the audience cheering for nearly an hour; it helped him to take his leave at the end by creating embarrassment—to me—when hintroduced "My very good friend from London's 'Musical Express,' Maurice Kinn". otherwise an enjoyable evening!

Hotel. They provide the music in the bar—not in one of the leading of both Tony Martin and Sophie Tucke headlining on the same show at the Beachcomber—and on good authority I understand that between them Tony and Sophie will receive them Tony and Sophie will receive them Tony and Sophie will receive them to take his leave at the end by creating embarrassment—to me—when hintroduced "My very good friend from London's 'Musical Express,' Maurice Kinn". otherwise an enjoyable evening!

Hotel. They provide the music in the bar—not in one of the leading of both Tony Martin and Sophie Tucke headlining on the same show at the Beachcomber—and on good authority I understand that between them Tony and Sophie will receive them to

### Sunshine

The following morning, New York streets were covered in snow—but in 3½ hours, I had landed at Miami Airport, in glorious sunshine and a sweltering heat. Will it ever be possible to forget this first visit to following morning New York streets were covered in snow—but in 3½ hours, I had landed at Miami Airport, in glorious sunshine and a sweltering heat. Will it ever be possible to forget this first visit to following morning New York streets were covered in snow—but in 3½ hours, I had landed at Miami Airport, in glorious sunshine and a sweltering heat. Will it ever be possible to forget this first visit to hotel is more fabulous than the next. It would take hours to describe the seemingly endless breath taking scene—and from an entertainment viewpoint, here are just some of the names now appearing at Ornestra with Abe Lane, Ed Sulling or Norve, Perry Como and Eddie Tisher.

Yony Martin has already enlisted a keen fan in yours truly with his three visits to the London Palladium; to enjoy the tonsils showed signs of the times, but for sheer artistry, personality and charm. Tony proves that stagecraft became second nature to him—long before hit-selling records. A quick survey of stars I have with ressed performing here, reveals that Billy Eekstine has improved his act considerably; he now closes by playing trumpet with a vocal-horn impersonation of Louis Armstrong whilst other take-offs include Vaughn Monroe, Perry Como and Eddie Lester on his engagement to Miss Maureen Clayton, of Hayes, whilst other take-offs include Vaughn Monroe, Perry Como and Eddie Lester on his engagement to Miss Maureen Clayton, of Hayes, whilst other take-offs include Vaughn Monroe, Perry Como and Eddie Lester on his engagement to Miss Maureen Clayton, of Hayes, whilst other take-offs include Vaughn Monroe, Perry Como and Eddie Lester on his engagement to Miss Maureen Clayton, of Hayes, will of the manes now appearing at the same personation of Louis Armstrong whilst other take-offs include Vaughn Monroe, Perry Como and Eddie Lester on hi

I guarantee the errand boys will ing as a resident attraction in the be whistling many of the lilting Bamboo Room of the Roney Plaza Porter melodies from this show. The opening was a smash-hit, and the the bar—not in one of the leading

act—and occupies ninety per cent. of

city—Samny Davis, Jnr.

NME readers will remember that Sammy sustained the loss of an eye in a recent automobile accident, but this tragedy has not impaired his insurerable energy.

has musical entertainment in the main bar—usually a comedian, two or three vocalists, and a musical trio. The standard of these musical offerings can be judged on the fact that the Milt Herth Trio are appearing as a resident attraction in the Bamboo Room of the Roney Plaza Hotel. They provide the music in the bar—not in one of the leading shows.

To-night I witnessed the opening of both Tony Martin and Sophie Tucken headlining on the same show at the Beachcomber—and on good authority I understand that between nearly £12,000 pounds—for one week!

Here are two supreme artists in their own sphere; Sophie Tucker still sings those witty, "near the knuckle" ditties, and although she is nearly seventy years of age, she personifies a real trouper, looks regal, and can make an audience laugh or cry as she wishes.

Tony Martin has already enlisted at keen fan in yours truly with his tragedy has not impaired his insuperable energy.

For more than an hour—twice nightly—Sammy explodes with his vocals, impressions, a sensational ance routine, and in particular, a version of "Birth Of The Blues," which is absolutely great.

Remember this name I can visualise for the future—Dickie Valentine versus Sammy Davis, Jnr.—a World Championship contest, to be judged by the public to select the No. 1 vocal performer Unknown to me before visiting Miami, but now my favourite vocal-entertainment group—the Vagabonds. This four-handed partnership own their transportation in the insuperable energy.

For more than an hour—twice nightly—Sammy explodes with his vocals, impressions, a sensational voc



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sufficient practical progress on wind or percussion instruments to qualify with a maximum of 12 months training. Initial engagement is for five years. Age limits 17½ to 21.

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BIRTHDAY—Three years ago this week, the "New Musica' Express" was born. In its short history, it has made its mark on the musical profession and has had an enormous influence on the business as well as creating. business, as well as creating a world's record with a guaranteed sale of over 100.000 copies weekly. No wonder we feel proud . .

VALENTINE COACHES — More names and addresses of girls organising coaches to London for Dickie Valentine's Fan Clubs Convention at Hammersmith Palais on April 10:
Glasgow: Miss Lillias Wilson, 24, Motherwell Road, Billshill, Lanarkshire.

Manchester: Miss Pat Dines, 62, Darnley Street, Old Trafford, Manchester 16.
Leeds: Miss Maureen Ford, 25, High Street, Farsley, nr Leeds, Anyone living in these areas who whole the convention, thould contact the young lady conserned right away.

PURCHES CLICKS—Ex-street finger Danny Purches made a bigst filt on his TV appearance in last Saturday's "In Town Tonight" programme. Danny sang "Golden Barrings" and if we are to judge him on this appearance, then he assuredly will score a hit with oudiences throughout the country during his present provincial variety tour which began at Middlesbrough this week.

\*\*

LINCS LYRIC—An open competition for a lyric to publicise Cleethorpes (Lincs) has been announced "Catchy words" are wanted, and the music will be added afterwards At the meeting of the Hotel and Carthy A.M. 5.05 Hillbully Gasthaus; 6.15

Boarding House Association at which the idea was discussed and approved, a spokesman said: "We want something like 'Sussex By The

Quite a tall order, but do you know what they are prepared to pay for their winning lyric? Don't all rush, but the handsome cash prize is one

DAWN CHORUS—Vocalist Julie Dawn, who has been broadcasting a lot from the Continent lately, will be singing with Alya Alnsworth and his Orchestra when they broadcast in the "Spotlight" programme from Manchester on March 22

\* BENNETT STAYS — Drummer George Fierstone tells me that despite George Fierstone tells me that despite persistent rumours and the fact that one musical paper (not the NME) has already stated that bassist Arthur Bennett is leaving George, such is not the case. Arthur is definitely staying with George and will continue to play and appear with his band on all its future TV and radio dates.



Bandleader Jack Newman is caught by the NME as he rehearses his reorganised orchestra. At present busy on one-night stands, Jack gets a big break this summer as relief band on the CMA dance hall circuit, including the Astoria, London.

Poll-Winner top tenor-man Tommy Whittle and his Quartet will be mak-

Whittle and his Quartet will be making one of their rare out-of-town appearances when they play at a dance to be held in the South Baths Hall, Bristol, tomorrow (Saturday). Tommy's many fans have been looking forward to this date for some time, as is proved by the fact that all tickets have been sold out well in advance. well in advance.

SONGS UP THE WALL! essential part of a bandleader's life is to be inundated with trade copies of publishers' latest efforts. While

cats and gates!

LAURIE'S "PET." RECORD.-

record which is rising rapidly the popularity List is one which

Jack Payne has featured more than once on his Sunday disc programmes. This is the record of "Fascinating Rhythm" sung by Petula Clark with excellent orchestral backing by Laurie

OUR FRIEND WALLY—Well-known stage star Wally Peterson is to produce the Songwriters' Guild annual show "Our Friends the Stars" at the Victoria Palace on March 20 It will be his first stage production in this country, although he has had a wide production experience in America and Australia.

Among artists that will be appear-

WHITTLE AT BRISTOL—NME top tenor-man Tommy Whittle and his Quartet will be making one of their rare out-of-town ippearances when they play at a lance to be held in the South Baths Hall, Bristol, tomorrow (Saturday). Tommy's many fans have been sold in the South Baths all tickets have been sold out well in advance.

SONGS UP THE WALL!—An her husband was in the provinces on Sunday, Mary Aldrich, wife of the Squadronaires' leader, decided that clearing out must be done. The bathroom of their flat badly needed decorating, so she combined both jobs and papered the walls—with song copies' Now there is plenty of inspiration for singing in the bath in the Aldrich home.

And just in case anyone is thinking of taking a bath with too much warm water, "Journey Into Space" is over the hot tap.

Johnson and his Orchestra.

Laurie told me that the musical backing played by such a large orchestra as this one, was in fact of an experimental nature, but such favourable reports have been received about this record that Laurie said he warm water, "Jour is over the hot tap. about this record, that Laurie said he hopes to make some more of these attractive discs in the near future.

MUSIC IN THE RANKS—The new J. Arthur Rank musical "As Long As They're Happy," reviewed in this issue, includes several new songs by American writer Sam Coslow.

in this issue, includes several new songs by American writer Sam Coslow.

One in particular, "Crazy Little Mixed-Up Heart," is receiving attention from several recording companies; Jean Carson, who sings it in the film, is, we hear, to wax it for one of the EMI group (not for Philips, to whom she was at one time under contract), Georgia Brown has made it as one of her first recordings under the two-year contract she's just signed with Decca, and Joy Nichols has covered it for Parlophone.

It's a catchy little piece, and might easily take the public's fancy.

America and Australia.

Among artists that will be appearing are Bill McGuffle, Harry Dawson, Anona Winn, Yana, Neil Arden, the Jerry Allen Trio, the Coronets and Cyril Stapleton, Harold Berens, Camillieri, Gate Eastly, Doreen Harris, the Lewis Sisters, Monty Norman, Tommy Trinder, Jeff Warren, Jimmy Wheeler and Charles Shadwell and his Orchestra.

Tickets for the show are nearly all sold—except a number of "standing" tickets at 3s. and 5s.

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It's a catchy little piece, and might easily take the public's fancy.

It's a catchy little piece and, who married lovely actress Betta St. John a couple of years ago after playing opposite her in "South Pacific," is feeling mighty pleased with himself Reause ago after playing opposite her in "South Pacific," is feeling mighty pleased with himself Reause ago after playing opposite her in "South Pacific," is feeling mighty pleased with himself Reause ago after playing opposite her FAN-TASTIC — Twenty - nine - year-old John Goff of New Cross, London, must surely be Winifred Atwell's most ardent fan. John has

steeve; 7.30 Groucho Marx; 9.45 Mood
For Moderns; 10,30 Late Request Show:
11.05 Late Request Show:
11.05 Late Request Show:
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11.05 Late Request Show:
10.05 Sauter-Finegan and Orch.; 10.30
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lather certainly sends me Week beginning

BOURNE MUSIC LTD. 21 DENMARK STREET, LONDON, W.C.2 And (later still); back with the prominent; he wears matching cuffand:

Girl vocalist: "Just listen! Jim's buys specially made cigarettes also
iving it real hot tonight!"

Trumpeter (blowing furiously at We wish we had a "W.A." tie-clip

what appears to be a BBC microphone, and with one of those delightfully fluffy "thinks" balloons above his head): "I'm back in the groove his collection "the using "I'm back in the groove his collection to the collection of th now I'm using —."
Another bedtime story next week,

## WHEN A JAZZ KING **ABDICATES**

" JAZZ King Abdicates," screamed the newsvendors' hoardings on Wednesday of last

hoardings on Wednesday of last week.

A wave of speculation swept the lazz world: had Geraldo gone into retirement? Was Mantovani giving up the only music he really loved? Did Victor Silvester feel it was time he went back to being a ball-room dancer?

Remount had it that Humphrey

room dancer?
Rumour had ft that Humphrey
Lyttelton phoned his agent to ask
who had issued such a ridiculous
statement, that Jack Newman
had an anxious call from the
Astoria, and that Ted Heafth
fished out his plane ticket for a
reassuring glance.
Musicians everywhere rushed

reassuring glance,
Musicians everywhere rushed
to buy papers. To read: "King
Norodom Sihanouk, the 33-yearold jazz-loving monarch of
Cambodia, abdicated today in
favour of his father..."

AMBITION REALISED- Nearly every singing star can look back to the days when his experience con-sisted of occasional outbursts in the bath and some day-dreaming when at a more menial occupation. Hair-dressing, in the case of Monty Nor-

Before starting on a singing career, he worked in a saloon opposite the stage-door of the Victoria Palace Theatre, London. He constantly glanced across the road at the theatre hoping to sing on the stage there some day.

The ambition comes true a week on Sunday. Then, he will be featured

gone further than the usual fan—he hoping to sing on the stage there collects every picture he can buy, every newspaper mention he sees—and lets everyone know about his interest in his favourite artist.

On his lapel he wears a special badge with the initials "WA" Songwriters' Guild.



At London Airport, just before he and his band flew off to Austrain last Sunday (6th), Ted Heath signed the contract whereby bandleader Don Smith MALOLM MITCHELL ORCHESTRA
Tonight (Friday) Baths Hall, Scun
thorpe; Saturday; Palais de Danse,
Lowestoft; Sunday; De Montfort
Hall, Leicester; Monday; Guildhall,
Southampton.

Southampton.

SQUADRONAIRES

Tonight (Friday): Burdan Hall, Weymouth; Saturday: Winter Gardens, Eastbourne; Sunday: State Theatre, Kilburn.

Eastbourne; Sunday; State Theatre, Kilburn.

KEN MOULE SEVEN
Tonight (Friday) Binbrook; Saturday; Himckley; Sunday; Victoria Hall, Hanley; Monday; Liverpool; Thursday; Weymouth.
TONY CROMBIE ORCHESTRA
Tonight (Friday) Winsford; Saturday; Stamford; Sunday; Victoria Hall, Hanley.
FRANKIE VAUGHAN
Monday; Week; Empire Theatre, Glasgow.

Glasgow,
NAT GONELLA
Monday: Week; Palace Theatre, Monday: Week; Palace Theatre, Chelsea.
PENNY NICHOLLS
Monday: Week: Royalty Theatre.
Chester. The OFFICIAL Fan Club

AT LAST!!

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344, 271, 547 METRES

Today's The Day; 6.30 Tips And Tunes; 7.05 Forward March; 7.15 Curt Massey; 8 Junior Miss; 8.25 Woman's World; 8.30 7th Army Presents; 9.05 Merely Music; 10 Meet Millie; 10.30 Noon Request Show; 11.55 Les Paul, P.M. 12 Martin Block; 12.30 Strictly. rom Dixie; 1 Outpost Concert; 2.05 Stickbuddy Jamboree; 2.30 Bud's Bandwaggon; 3 Enchanted Hour, 4 Requests; 5 Bob Crosby; 6 Music In Tre Air; 7 News World; 7.30 Arthur Godfrey; 8.30 Quiz Of Two Cities; 9 The Whistler; 9.45 Blues For Monday; 10.05 Xavier Cugat; 10.30 Late Request Show; 11.05 Late Request Show; TUESDAY

A.M. As for Monday, except 8

Show.

FRIDAY

A.M. As for Monday.
P.M. 12 Martin Block; 3 Music From American; 4 Requests; 5 Bob Crosby; 6 Music In The Air; 7.05 Paul Whiteman Varieties; 8.30 Onstage — Kalserslautern; 9 The Big Story; 10.15 Lennie Herman; 11.03 Late Request Show.
SATURDAY
A.M. 5.05 Hillbilly Gasthaus; 5.30 Morning Request Show; 7.05 Eddle Cantor; 9.05 Merely Music; 10.30 Noon Request Show.
P.M. 12 Cobhail Concert; 1 Saturday Salute In Music; 4 Requests; 6 Music In The Air; 7.05 Grand Ole Opry; 7.30 Record Parade Of Hits; 6 Music In The Air; 7.05 Grand Ole Opry; 7.30 Record Parade Of Hits; 10.30 Late Request Show; 11.05 Late Record Show In Trumpeter (in bath): "Boy, this lather certainly sends me ..."

Trumpeter (to friend, later): "Well, and tuse you any more ..."

Trumpeter (to friend, later): "Well, on the last time. I just don't get it."

Friend: "Oh, everybody thinks you're a terrific trumpeter, Jim ..."

Our Hero: "You're holding out on me—what is it?"

What, indeed? There follows a detailed description of what can detailed description of what can tuse you any more ..."

Well, 10 oks like we've played together for the last time. I just don't get it."

You're a terrific trumpeter, Jim ..."

What, indeed? There follows a detailed description of what can tuse you any more ..."

Well, 10 oks like we've played together for the last time. I just don't get it."

You're a terrific trumpeter, Jim ..."

What, indeed? There follows a detailed description of what can tuse you any more ..."

Well, 10 oks like we've played together for the last time. I just don't get it."

You're a terrific trumpeter, Jim ..."

Until (Later, of course ...):

Trumpeter (in bath): "Boy, this later certainly sends me ..."

JOHN BRETTON

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Pantonime (Q.S) | Mambo in The M'nlight | Mambo No. 8 | Count Your Blessings | White Xmas White Xmas
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Lazy Piano Man
Little Rock Get Away
Livery Stable Blues
Long John Stomp
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Royal Garden Blues Russian Rag Saints Go Marchin' In Satanic Blues Shimme Sha Wabbis Since My Best Cirl South Rampart Street Strut Miss Lizzie Stumbling Sugar Foot Stomp Sweet Georgia Brown Sweet Sue The Dixieland Band Tiger Rag Tin Roof Blues Twelfth Street Rag Wabash Blues Washington And Lee Swing Weary Blues Wolverine Blues Yankyana New Dixieland Parade Oi: Man Mose Panama Parade Of The Pieces

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Peterborough; Sunday: Chatham;
Monday: Swansea; Wednesday:
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March 11

RONNIE SCOTT ORCHESTRA

Tonight (Friday) Drill Hall, Camberley; Saturday: Town Hall, Torquay; Sunday: Empire, Kingstone; Wednesday: USAF, Sculthorpe; Thursday: Town Hall, Wimbledon. JOHNNIE GRAY BAND
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Hinckiey; Saturday: Pavilion, West
Runton; Sunday: New Theatre,
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Manchester; Thursday: Casino,
Warrington.

GRACIE COLE ORCHESTRA Monday: Town Hall, Cheltenham: Thursday: New Theatre Ballroom, Amesbury.
THE KIRCHIN BAND

Saturday: Seymour Hall, London; Sunday: USAF Camp, Greenham Sunday: Common.

Printed for the Publishers, New Musical Express, Ltd., 5, Denmark Street, London, W.C.2, by The Walthamstow Press, Ltd. (T.U. all depts.), 644, Forest Road, E.17.