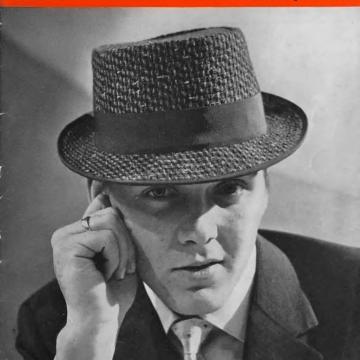
# WEEKLY ding 29th December

ONE SHILLING





# FIGHT FOR ELVIS?

In the next few weeks, if events turn out as I predict, I can see a heck of a lot of arguing goin' on over a guy named Elvis Aron Presley. Why? Because gradually more and more reports are coming in from U.S. news sources that Elvis is gonna film the life story of that immortal Hank Williams, the fantastic country singer, whose L.P.s sell in vast quantities particularly in the United States. Why will there by a hullaballu? For the simple reason that Elvis will either have to turn out the best acting performance he's ever done – or letters from Hank Williams fans will deluge the newspapers and in particular will start a chain of events that could lead to the biggest smearing of Presley's career since he first started hip-wriggling on stage!

Why and where are the Hank Williams fans in this country? Most of them belong to the c-and-w record clubs, buy nothing but c-and-w records by artistes as old as the hills, and only stir themselves when an artiste like Presley "ruins" the works of someone like Hank Williams! What will their anger mean if Presley does do the film, and record some of the songs that made Williams famous? Nothing, but as I've already mentioned a big smear – and letters flashing backwards and forwards from Williams fans to Presley followers! I'm sorry to say that I'm pretty well convinced that the Williams fans haven't got too much to beat the Elvis fans – for the Williams fans, when roused can be pretty rough with their letters!

still, personally I think Elvis will make the "Life Of Hank Williams" for he could really swing some life into those Williams songs and now that El has proved that he really can act (did you see the reviews of "Kid Galahad"") it could well be the film that could give him what he is really aiming for – an Oscar! For let's put things straight! It's about time ol' Elvis got an Oscar – but as yet nothing has materialised. I know the Elvis fans agree with me from the number of letters I have received and that many of them are spittin' mad at the very small reviews that Elvis gets in all the national newspapers!

Another point, is this! So many of them have given Elvis good reviews lately that it seems a crying shame that he can't be given as much space as other artistes – or should I say film stars? Some of the films are given a heck of a lot of space in the papers and yet when old Elvis makes a sparkling comedy like "Follow that Dream" all that happens is that about fifty words turn up as they did lately in the shape of Elvis's film reviews of "Galahad."

What do you say Elvis fans? A big campaign to make the nationals wake up to the fact that Elvis is a great film star and should be given more space? I'm afraid we're going to have no time to fight that one out with the Hank Williams fans just round the corner! Ready, El fans?



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FIRST SERIES

WEEK ENDING 29/12/62

ISSUE NO. EIGHTEEN

We Wish A
Happy and Successful
New Year
To All Pop-Fans
and Artistes



#### Great Britain's only Pop Star Chart! ast Week BILLY FURY 2 CLIFF RICHARD ELVIS PRESLEY SHADOWS 6 BOBBY VEE 594 JOHN LEYTON JAYWALKERS EDEN KANE FRANK IFIELD 13 10 JOE BROWN 7 11 ADAM FAITH 10 12 TORNADOS 17 13 R'D. CHAMBERLAIN DEL SHANNON 19 14 18 15 HELEN SHAPIRO MARTY WILDE 15 16 12 17 JET HARRIS EVERLY BROTHERS BUDDY HOLLY 16 19 MARK WYNTER

These artistes were voted the top stars of today by you. Whenever you write to "Pop Weekly", write the name of your three favouries stars in the top left hand corner of the envelope. Alternatively write your three favourite stars on a postcard, and send it to:

POP WEEKLY, HEANOR, DERBYSHIRE. For this is the magazine that gives you the stars YOU want to read about, and every letter automatically constitutes a vote.

Selected from the bottom half of the Chart this week: BUDDY HOLLY.



This Week's TOP4 Discussed by

Peter Alderslev

I hope you had a really wonderful Christmas, with all the joy, music and food to make it memorable! I made a right pig of myself and am still suffering! Still, "music hath charms . . . . ", and some of it on these L.P.s will soothe away all the after-effects! Try first-

The GEORGE SHEARING OUINTET: "SOFT AND SILKY"

M.G.M. MGM.C.912 And, indeed, it really IS "soft and silky"—enough to soothe the most "savage breast." Here is virtuosity! The Shearing touch is electric and, fan or no, you are subconsciously commanded to listen as he strokes inspiration into the keys and gives a very vital new life to melodies like Over the Rainbow; September in the Rain: How High the Moon: Don't Blame Me and Summertime. The group is on form throughout and the whole recording is beautifully produced. Some may say this is for "specialists" only and I disagree very strongly; I'm by no means a specialist in the Shearing field but this one is for me in a mood of relaxation. Such is the Shearing magic. Other titles are: I Hear Music; A Ghost of a Chance; Tenderly; Wait till you see Her; Changing with the Times; As Long as there's Music; East of the Sun; When Lights are Low: I Hear a Rhapsody.

CHUBBY CHECKER: "ALL THE HITS for YOUR DANCING PARTY"

CAMEO-PARKWAY P.7014

The "King of Twist" now comes up with a selection of all kinds of dances for your party. There's the Twist, of course; and the Hully Gully, "Mashed Potato", "Limbo" and the "Popeye" among others. It was a good idea to put them all on one disc because the variety helps a party to really move. I think you must regard this as a "purely for dan-cing" record and not examine it too closely. It serves its titled purpose but the almost entirely rhythmic backing lacks the body and drive one normally expects behind Chubby—and on occasions he sounds rather lonely! But that won't stop you from rolling back the carpet and twisting the hully-gully into a rocking mash of potato, man! See the New Year in with this one.

RUTH BROWN: "ALONG COMES PHILIPS. 652 012 BL.

This is a platter with a limited appeal. I think you either love a blues singer— or hate! In Ruth Brown we have a most accomplished blues singer; she's forthright, dramatic and faithful to her art. I do not pretend to be a lover of this type of music, but I can appreciate Ruth's technique and integrity. Her in-terpretations have the fire of the gospel singer, the emotions of love and pain— all without any obvious superficiality. Jerry Kennedy's orchestra supplies very 29/12/62



solid, and equally dramatic accompaniment that helps to make the L.P. quite an experience-blues fan or not. Titles are: Mama, He treats your Daughter Mean; Cry, Cry, Cry; Why don't you write Me; It's too Late; Jim Dandy; So Little Time; Sea of Love; Shake a Hand; Love, Love, Love; I Cried a Tear; Please Accept My Love; and The Treasure of Love.

KARL DENVER "ACE OF CLUBS" ACL. 1131.

Karl, Kevin Neill and Jerry Cottrell give us a nicely varied programme of 12 songs on this one; and Karl's vocalising is refreshingly varied, too. For the most part he is off his screaming kick and also concentrates on his lower registers, which shows that he is more than capable of interpreting songs with warmth and intelligence. I was particularly struck by his Three Lovely Lassies from Bannion; and the restrained Moon-light Becomes You. In his version of the Canoe Song (made famous by Paul Robeson in the film "Sanders of the River") he makes good use of his "scream", which proves that there is a right place for everything! However much one likes Karl, I think a whole L.P. of his Wimoweh and Never Goodbye would be a strain; variety is the spice of life and I am delighted to discover that Karl has plenty of spice. This L.P. shows sense, intelligence and music—and should be a big hit. His songs include: She Moved Thro' the Fair; Careless Love; Silver and Gold; O'Brian the Brave Engineer; Walk on Boy: Sierra Sue; Weary Blues; Far Away and Highland Fling.

POP Weekly

### LOVE and MARRIAGE

Since I wrote a feature some time back on how ambitious Cliff is -1've had many letters from readers (mostly in the female category) asking when and if, Cliff will do some steady dating! Well, all I can say about Cliff's future dates and maybe ultimate marriage is that it's really his business and not mine! However, so I won't disappoint you too much I will say that Cliff is perhaps the most ambitious pop singer we've got in this country – which I find rather surprising after all his success which should enable him to be rather more inclined to relax and do less than do more! But – Cliff is so very determined that he just can't give up work or settle to a slower pace of life!

After all. Consider that Cliff has done almost everything short of cabaret towards his career - but I think Elvis and Cliff share each other's dislike of singing in cabaret, and I don't really expect to hear of Cliff ever doing this kind of entertaining. But filmwise, disc-wise, and show-wise, Cliff is undoubtedly still the pop star of Great Britain - the No. 1 Pop Idol! That is the reason why you will not often see a picture of Cliff actually on an evening out with a girlfriend! Admittedly, he does have a few infrequent girl-friends but nothing (as far as I know) very serious! If I were in Cliff's position, after all the hard work Cliff does, I don't think that I'd feel very up to going out any night of the week, to be honest!

I undoubtedly feel that Cliff will not get married for the next five or more years - and if he does, and when he does, I believe nobody will wish his wife more luck than the teenagers who have supported Cliff throughout his career! But I have a sneaking feeling that Cliff will want to do everything career-wise for as long as he can before he even remotely starts to think of settling down! I can't picture any girl seeing Cliff about one hour out of every day, and having to realise that she was married to Cliff! For that's what it would be like! But as far as Cliff's concerned the last time I spoke to him about girls he just said it "was a bit too early at present and I don't really contemplate marriage at the moment.

So if there are any young ladies who have doubts at the thoughts that Cliff is likely to disappear to the altar in the near future – I'd think again for another (at least) four years! In fact – I'm going to give you a prediction! If Cliff does get married it will be sometime around 1969. So if anyone can keep a note of that date for the next six years maybe I'll be proved right – but that's my guess when Cliff will have slowed down from working!! Maybe now you'll believe mehen I tell you how hard Cliff works!



### ★ BRITAIN'S TOP THIRTY AMERICA'S TOP THIRTY

2

3

4 Telstar

Return to Sender (1) Lovesick Blues (2)

3 Sun Arise (3) Next Time (4) 5

Bobby's Girl (5) Let's Dance (6) Swiss Maid (7)

Guitar Man (8) 9 Telstar (9) 10

11 Devil Woman (11) It Only Took a Minute (12) 12 13 Main Attraction (13)

Desafinado (14) 15 A Forever Kind of Love (15) Sherry (16) 16

17 Dance On (17) Venus in Blue Jeans (18) 19 Must be Madison (19)

20 Bachelor Boy (20) 21

No One Can Make My Sunshine Smile (21)

Love Me Tender (22) 23 Baby Take A Bow (27)

Like I Do (24) 25 Love Me Do (25)

26 Locomotion (26) 27 Me and My Shadow (-) Your Cheatin' Heart (28)

Up On The Roof (-)

29 30 I Remember You (30) Elvis Preslev Frank Ifield Rolf Harris

Cliff Richard Susan Maughan Chris Montez Del Shannon Duane Eddy

Tornados Rockin' Round the Christmas Tree (10) Brenda Lee Marty Robbins Joe Brown

Pat Boone S. Getz/C. Byrd Bobby Vee 4 Seasons

The Shadows Mark Wynter Joe Loss Cliff Richard

Everly Brothers

Rd. Chamberlain Adam Faith Maureen Evans The Beatles Little Eva Sinatra/Davis **Ray Charles** 

Kenny Lynch Frank Ifield

(By courtesy of Cash Box)

Tornados

The Orlons

Return to Sender Elvis Preslev Limbo Rock Chubby Checker Bobby's Girl Marcie Blaine

5 Big Girls Don't Cry 4 Seasons 6 Lonely Bull Tijuana Brass Brenda Lee All Alone Am I Ray Charles 8 You Are My Sunshine

Don't Hang Up

10 Dee Dee Sharpe Dida 11 Dance With (The Guitar Man) Duane Eddy Esther Philips Release Me

Keep Your Hands Off 13 Little Eva My Baby Nat 'King' Cole **Dear Lonely Hearts** 15 Go Away Little Girl Steve Lawrence

The Crystals 16 He's A Rebel Dion 17 Love Came To Me 18 Zipp-a-Dee-Doo-Dah Bob B. Sox and Blue Jeans

19 **Brook Benton Hotel Happiness** 20 Rumors Johnny Clifford Stan Getz and 21 Desafinado

Charlie Byrd Wiggle Wobble Les Cooper 23 Chains The Cookies

My Own True Love The Duprees 25 Eso Beso Paul Anka 26 Ruby Ann Marty Robbins

27 Let's Go (The Pony) The Routers 28 My Dad Paul Peterson 29 Tell Him The Exciters 30

**Push and Kick** Mark Valentino

Chart Newcomers

Is there really such a thing as The Clan? Do Messrs. Sinatra, Martin, Davis (Jnr.) and Miss Shirley MacLaine REALLY dominate the show business

scene in the States?

Well, obviously it exists - despite the denials of most of the founder-members. And this group of mates, with so much talent stacked up between them, crash the charts this week. Title in question is Me and My Shadow, in at Number 27, with Sinatra and Sammy Davis sharing the vocal in a good-humoured display of virtuosity. Dean Martin conducts the orchestra. And for good value the flip has Sinatra

conducting the orchestra on Sam's Song, with Messrs. Martin and Sam Davis sharing the singing bits. When Sinatra's Reprise label first announced plans for this single, people tended to think it just a gimmick. Just a load of fun-having between mates who were also, in passing, just about the biggest names in the business

Fun-having it may be. But it's also highly commercial. And Frank has said: "I believe in artistes mingling among themselves, ringing the changes on the old formulas. It leads to a new approach and, if they are really friendly, to a spirit of comradeship which somehow communicates itself to the listeners.

Hey, Kenny Lynch! You up there on the top of that building. Come on down and tell the readers how you feel about seeing your Up On The Roof there in

the charts at Number 29.

Kenny: "Every artiste wants a hit. But in my case there's a secondary, but very important, reason. It's because so many stars in show business have been kind enough to say that I should be getting hit records. People like Cliff Richard and Frank Ifield - real nice

guys who have always supported me.
"The critics, too. They've always
helped me. You see, I feel it is important to prove that they're right. Gosh, it's wonderful to have so many real friends."

Don't miss out on No. 19



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### PHOTO CAVALCADE

CLIFF is seen in two shots from "Summer Holiday," an Associated British Picture Corpora-CLIFF is seen in two shots from "aummen Holiday," an Associated British Picture Corporation release. ELVIS is by Keystone Press Agency.
BILLY FURY—Willoughby Gullachsen. HELEN SHAPIRO by Richi Howell.
SHADOWS is a Pop Weekly exclusive: photographer, Leslie A. Lee.
JET HARRIS by Philip Gotlop.
CHUBBY CHECKER—Michael Denning.
JOHN LEYTON is by Mirrorpic.

# "THE BLACK SHADOW"

Fairly tall, thin-faced, dark brooding look. Dresses usually in a black leather jacket, very reminiscent of Gene Vincent in fact they could have been brothers! Plays a bass guitar skilfully - or come to that - any type of guitar as skilfully as any other guitarist in this country! Can also sing - has a good powerful voice! Name of this guy? Jet Harris. Jet closes this year with many happy memories. 1 - That he has proved what he set out to do. That is to show that he can be successful without the Shadows. 2 - That he has one of the slickest stage acts in this country ably assisted by his own hand-picked Jet-blacks. 3 - That a solo instrumentalist CAN get into the bestsellers if he tries a new and unusual sound - which Jet certainly has got with that single-string bass guitar he carries wherever he goes!

What plans does he have for the future? Well, he is teaming up with Tony Meehan on a new single for release on Jan. 4, on which on one side Tony plays drums and Jet plays bass, and on the other side they sing together! Viewers of the old telly will hear the number no doubt on "Thank Your Lucky Stars" on January 5. What other plans are there for Jet in the coming new year? Well, there are two films lined up but no titles yet. Plus these, there are plenty of recordings, and naturally there will be an album on which Jet and Tony will be together again – which should show a few instrumentalists throughout the country that here we have two of the brightest hones in years on the recording scene.

Anything else? Yes - after Jet's fantastic reception in Holland, he is being asked back by other Continental countries all eager to see and hear the man known to us as Jet Harris - but in many other places as "The Black Shadow!" The British fans are also well catered for by Jet as he has a big tour lined up in the next few months. On top of this there are plans for charity shows, which being the nice guy he is, Jet has arranged himself. There is one point which many fans will be interested in. Does Jet mean to team up with that fantastic "stickman" Tony Mechan for good? It may well be that Jet will have Tony not just as his right-hand man, but as his "second partner" - in other words a "double act" by the two boys for the rest of their careers. Will this result in Jet losing any of his fans? No – I shouldn't think so! In fact, I would say that with such a great drummer as Tony is - this could well be the beginning of something very, very big!

After all, with two ex-Shadows showing all their skills combined how can they fail to miss? I wouldn't like to be in competition against them!









- oligaer and his "Only The Lonely" album is one of her towards.

  It was to be a service of the proper towards and the exchange a little beat handsome head of Cliff Richard and he exchange a little beat powdy with American rocker Friedo Cations.

  One of the Country, But he waited doe Brown to teach them the Madienocopolath Lark Springer. "On Assay Little Girl" a proving a real bay follow-up to "Venus In Illus Girl", a proving a real bay follow-up to "Venus In Illus Girl", spring any smaller III—A naturalizer and soon for the Country In Illus Cation." Mark Young away hunter!— A naturalizer and soon for the Country In Illus Cation." Mark Young away hunter!— A naturalizer and soon for the Country In Illus Cation.





One of Britain's top vocal groups, the modernistic Polka Dots, are changing their name to the Counterpoints, but for American consumption only. Seems the Yanks are digging the OLD polka style of dancing and might be mistaken about the group's style . . . Belated 21st birthday greetings to Hank and Bruce of the Shadows . . . Adam Faith now equipped with a brand-new wardrobe of clothes, all bought on the cheap in the Hong Kong area.

Heinz Burt, of the Tornados, polishing up his singing - says his main ambition now the Gold Disc is tucked away is to make a solo vocal recording . . . New Year's Eve birthday for John Allison, of the Allisons . . . Joe Brown really WAS near a complete breakdown recently and he's wise to take things a little easier for a while . . . Anthony Teague, 21-year-old American good looker has the personality (disc debut 'Like I Don't Love You') to make it big here, via Decca . . . Helen Shapiro off to Nashville, Tennes-

see, during February - and her recording manager Norrie Paramor will be doing the chaperone bit . . . But she'll have fitted in a three-week tour of Israel before then .

Look out for Patsy Ann Noble becoming the next Aussie artiste to make it big here. She's an old cobber of Frank Ifield . . . Eddie Calvert off to New Zealand with Vera Lynn for three weeks early February . . . Repercussions about that Johnny Mathis "Juke Box Jury" appearance still happening round the BBC. Seems that most viewers did NOT like him . . . Pop fans should be knocked out at the amount of disc shows planned for the extended broadcasting hours by the Light Programme from February. Or knocked out by lack of sleep .

leader to get on Bossa Nova kick with "Abandonado" and "O'Pato"... Cherry Roland, now finished filming "Just for Fun", has bought herself a leopard skin coat - a present to herself.

Johnny Dankworth latest British band-

Peter Jay, leader of the fab Jaywalkers, has forked out £300 for a new drum kit, each item having a silver grey crocodile finish to add even more colour to the act . . . Frank Kelly and the Hunters becoming regulars at the smart society parties round London. Recently they wowed 'em at a shin-dig run by a well-known Countess . . . More sartorial notes: Sounds Incorporated (all of them) have each bought a sheepskin coat . And, still on the money kick, that eccentric disc-jockey Jimmy Savile takes delivery of his new Rolls Royce around

with her natural personality in front of the cameras. Now she's waiting for news . . . Mark Wynter anxious to try his hand at some rhythm 'n' blues material soon . . . Here's a surprise: Frank Sinatra is including the old Elvis hit "Are You Lonesome Tonight" on an upcoming album . . . Bobby Darin. conducting his own anti-cigarette campaign, has been elected "Pipe Smoker of 1962" - but he says he chews more than he smokes it .

Cliff Richard lost a little weight during his recent bout of slimming and is now back to normal diet.

Shadows getting extra-special exploitation in Argentina of all places. Seems they dig that sound in those parts . Chris Barber lined up for dates in Switzerland, America, Austria, Hungary and Czechoslovakia . . . Beatles now definitely fixed to tour Britain with Tommy Roe and Chris Montez next year. Little Richard, meanwhile, is still raving about the group in America . . . Most consistent album attraction in Britain? Don't laugh, but it is the "Black And White Minstrels" gathering . . . Lovely quote from ever-amusing Alma Cogan: And now, ladies and gents, I'd like to sing a medley of MY HIT" . Picture in magazine of Rolf Harris holding "an aboriginal instrument". Actually he'd stuck his forefinger through the centre of a 45 r.p.m. gramophone record . Australian poll-topper Johnny O'Keefe now having his "Sing" biggie released in Britain . .

Memory of the year: Paul Anka, millionaire-for-sure, STILL calling even waiters "Sir" – and saying it with the utmost respect, too.

And a Happy New Year to one 'an

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The Next Time Return To Sende Because of Love Can-Can '62 Elvis Presley Billy Fury A Forever Kind of Love Bobby Vee Rock Around the Christmas Tree Swiss Maid
Dance On
Kid Galahad (E.P.)
Lonely Johnny
No One Can Make My
Sunshine Smile
Batchelor Boy

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Let's Dance She's Not You Guitar Man
It Only Took A Minute
Venus In Blue Jeans
It'll Be Me
Once Upon A Dream
Devil Woman

mas Tree
Brenda Lee
Del Shannon
Shadows
Elvis Presley
John Leyton

Everly Brothers Cliff Richard Chris Montez Elvis Presley Duane Eddy Joe Brown Mark Wynter Cliff Richard Billy Fury Marty Robbins



### **DISCussion**

Now that Christmas is over it's time to take stock. First, and most important, did YOU have a wonderful time? I hope it was the biggest Hit Christmas ever for you. We shall soon be thinking of visiting the record shops again, so let's see what's what.

Generally, there have been no releases since the holiday and here are a few discs from the last little lot to get us into the swing of things until the flood starts next week.

On Fontana Cleo Laine gives us You Gotta Have Love on which Cleo's rich voice really swings into a strictly "pop" treatment of a fast, beaty ballad. Johnny Keating's backing has strength and adds considerable interest to a disc that should win many hearts. Cleo puts so much life and vitality into a rather ordinary lyric that it's not easy to imagine the result in less capable hands—or is it? However, this is hit material and it's up to you whether it will be one in reality.

And what about the last Top Tribute of this old year? With all my greetings for a very successful 1963, I present my

to the Frank Barber Five for their refreshingly original sound and general treatment of "Fly-Vore". Here is simplicity which tactches the imagination more than table and an infectious little melody to be a bady arranged big orchestra. It is an infectious little melody payed with a succession of short, the staccato notes accompanied by the faintest suggestion of rhythm in the background. This merry little the melody, excellently recorded on the terminal properties of the suggestion of the thing you can hear again and the again. Very simple, extremely effective and worth your full attention. Just fly over to your record the shop, lend an ear and see if you agree.

The season for parties is still with us and Winnie Atwell is with Pye for a Twist Party, which is a double-sided affair. Both move at a fair lick with Winnie "twistin" "up her own arrangements of a few favourite melodies, but I find this sort of thing suitable for the party spirit only – and doubtless that is

the spirit in which the disc was cut. Add this to your party platters; the "sameness" throughout won't be noticed while you're twisting away.

Well, well, well! What have we here? None other than a return of The Highwaymen with a catchy number called Well, Well, on United Artists. Here is a Spiritual-type song given the benefit of the boys' superb group-work, with guitar accompaniment. If vocal groups were really in vogue in this Country, I'm sure The Highwaymen would be right there in the charts fairly consistently; there is much life and warmth in this slow-ish, rhythmic performance – and lots of charm. Go on, be a devil! Give it a hearty hearken!

Having switched labels, Mel Torme is comin' Home, Baby on London and shows himself in his most "pop-like" style to-date. Complete with organ and repetitious background-chorus, he almost talks his way through a very simple lyric, without any apparent effort, making it come to life. I have heard better balance between singer and backing but there is a lot to be said for the effectiveness of the overall beat. Clap hands and catch on to this mediumpaced hand-clapper!

That very steadfast oldie, Charmaine is given a further lease of life on Decca by The Bachelors. "While there's life, there's hope – " and there is hope for this crisp, up-tempo version. The boys give a nicely balanced performance with plenty of zip and the whole thing is clean-cut and very well recorded. I liked it immensely – the restrained, modern treatment – the polished style of the group and the personality and technique of the soloist.

A second double-sided platter in this week's batch, 2,000 Pound Bee by The Ventures on Liberty, has one distinction and that is a bee buzzing in the amplifiers of the guitars. Apart from that, and the undenied technique of the boys,



there is little to commend it as being anything new or exciting. It "goes on" a bit and I found that Part One was enough, especially as Part Two sounded exactly the same.

It seems a pity that so much technical and artistic expertise should be spent on such an ordinary, run-of-the-mill composition. And I doubt if even the beesa-buzzing will give it a sting.

On to something I didn't like anywhere immensely - in fact it qualifies for my:

BRICKBAT-

It's "Diddle-de-dum" by the Jeff Rowena Five on Oriole. This is the kind of stuff that is very reminiscent of Dion but not nearly as effective. It is all big beat and lots of noise, with little melody, and I find it gets very monotonous mainly because vocalist and chorus show no contrast of tone and tempo; this makes it, for me, an unmusical sound with no attraction whatsoever. If you want a disc to give you just one big solid beat, O.K., this might be for you - not for me; but I suspect that most people expect a little more, however much a beat attracts - even if it's a warmth of personality.

There we are! The last DISCussion for 1962. On the whole it has been a good year, I think, and I look forward to the mysteries and excitements of 1963. I'd like to wish YOU, personally, a very swinging New Year with both happiness and prosperity, permanently, but permanently, in the No. I slot! Thanks a lot for your kind attention, and all your letters; very much appreciated. I hope you'll be joining me throughout 1963, as well, for more DISCussions on our favourite subject!

'Bye for now.



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BRIAN HYLAND

POP Weekly

29/12/62



### "DISCS—OR FILMS?"

"Delightful, refreshing, heading towards stardom filmwise, the cutest face in the world." These and many other remarks are being flung back and forth over a girl whose name appears on many occasions in our Popularity Poll, but has only had one hit record in her life! Title? "Let's Get Together" which naturally gives you the name of that swingin' kid, Hayley Mills! Many of you have asked us to feature her lately, particularly as there are countless faas amongst you who have been to see her latest film, "The Castaways." For those of you who have been missing the famous voice of Hayley, famous because she admits she can't sing! – then you will be pleased to know that in the "Castaways" she sings and acts with great charm and great skill!

Hayley, of course, comes from one of the most successful British acting families in the world - with Mum, Dad and practically every other member of the family either making a name for themselves or have already made a name. Unfortunately, record-wise, it doesn't seem as if Hayley is very bothered about her platters much, tho' one must say that Hayley has her own career already laid out for her in the movies—and to add discs to her schedule simply because she is a one-hit swinger is not really fair to Hayley! Can we expect any more recordings after her E.P. from the "Castaways"? One can't really say—and the record company will have to wait and see what Hayley feels is best—to Take Records Or Leave Them?

Personally, I think it would be better for Hayley to leave her record career and continue instead with her film career – unless she gets another song as good as "Let's Get Together." Let's Enjoy Hayley – as she is NOW!

### READERS WRITE

. BUT ARE NOT ALWAYS!

LET US HEAR YOUR VIEWS Address your letters to: The Editor POP WEEKLY, Heanor, Derbyshire

#### **Break For Billy**

I am writing to thank you for putting that picture of Billy Fury on the front of issue number 14 of *Pop Weekly*. It shows to everyone what a sincere

and friendly personality Billy has. To think he gives up his spare time, precious little as it is, to talk to children who are ill. My reaction – I've a good mind to go right out and break my leg this minute. Just so I could see Billy looking down

at me in my hospital bed. Carol Gibson (St. Albans).

Polite Popster

I read in Pop Weekly that the deciay Brian Matthew said that Bobby Vee was the "politest" American teenager he'd met. I saw Bobby when he was in Brighton and I agree with Brian. I think Bobby is one of the most polite persons I have ever had the pleasure of

seeing. I did not meet him, but all through his performance he showed his politeness in the nicest manner. Janet Teague (Brighton).

States-side Appreciation

We received a copy of your Pop Weekly from an English pen pal, and enjoyed it very much. The write-ups were very interesting. We have a few British songs over here and like them very much. We enjoyed the comparisons of American and English songs, on the top tunes.

Keep up the good work! Mag Fans of America, Mary Jane Tarr and Maryanna Quilty (Newton, Kansas, U.S.A.)

### . . . . We Duck!

You are slipping! In your 14th edition of *Pop Weekly*, you say in your article on Patrick McGoohan that, and I quote: "... everybody associates him with being *Paul Drake*..."

Well, I don't know if you associate him with Paul Drake, but I most definitely do not! I, and the rest of Patrick's fans, associate him with JOHN Drake. Does this mean that we have been under an illusion all this time or (dare I suggest it?) have you made a "ghastly" mistake?

Paul indeed! It really is too bad of you! Lucy Ross (London).

#### Sutch a To-Do

A letter in your columns signed by 57 Sutch Fans challenged you to publish a picture of "Screaming Lord Sutch." May I say that I think you are right to stick to pics and features on serious Pop Stars and ignore such comedians as "Lord Sutch." I don't believe he has 57 fans anyway!

Janet Briggs (Nottingham).

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## "SUMMER HOLIDAY"

Vou remember last year's fantastic film? Title - "The Young Ones"? Now get ready for Cliff's second swinger out soon, "Summer Holiday" and it's gonna be a real holiday for Cliff fans all over the country - and if it's released abroad a whacking great hit all over the world! For "Summer Holiday" has all the ingredients to make this the biggest musical film of the century! This time those who said Cliff's dancing wasn't up to the standard they expected in the "Young Ones" will be eating their words for I have seen Cliff actually on the set, and believe me, he turns out a truly professional performance!

Shadows fans are well catered for also

in "Summer Holiday", and this time their roles require them to do more than just play a few numbers! The dancing scenes that Cliff does with his leading lady, Laurie Peters are just fantasticand every person I spoke to on the set said how hard-working and nice Cliff was! Although I haven't had a chance to hear all the tunes I did manage to listen in on one or two which were real beauts! You remember Cliff's single "The Young Ones"? How it shot straight up to No. 1, and from there

straight up to No. 1, and from there went on to set a new record for advance orders of over half-a-million copies – and a week later had presented Cliff with yet another Gold Disc?

You can take my word for it that when this film and the single and L.P. are released from it, that Cliff will be No. 1 in the charts for both L.P.s and singles! One of the tracks, so I understand, has been tipped for a definite hit as a single, and this should be an extra thrill to the fans of Cliff, for the title of the platter is "Big News" which is of course, the waxing that Cliff wrote himself, in collaboration with his road manager, Mike Conlin! It is obvious that Cliff has been wasting his talents as a song writer by not writing any numbers! Take his latest disc, or rather the flipside - which is proving very strong now chart-wise, "Bachelor Boy"!

So start saving you Cliff fans - by January or early February you will be able to have a "Summer Holiday"!

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### "THE SHADS - P & L!"

Why do the Shadows have so much success? Some say it's impossible to answer and I wouldn't like to try and sort out the arguments if I did ask you - but there's one thing the Shadows have got on and off-stage! And that is personality - personality - PERSONALITY! On stage, not all their movements are always exactly timed! The reason is that if everything was exactly correct - and their timings perfect - it would just be a great stage performance and nothing else! Yet the boys, although they don't wander all over the stage (naturally) do move in different directions and do help to show to their audiences that they are individuals and not just one solid team!

It's the same with their fans! Every real Shad fan knows that he or she can name every one of the boys' first and second names straight off – and can name the boys' hits in order – and what records the boys have sung on as well! That's where, in my opinion, most of the groups in this country go wrong! Too many of them try too hard for perfection

and all they succeed in doing is learning how to be one group and not individuals. Take Hank & Bruce. Hank is known for his large spectacles and his surname! Bruce for the air of leadership, and the other two boys are now rapidly approaching their personality individualism Brian Bennett the drummer is now becoming well-known for his engaging smile and his fantabulous drumming!

Liquorice, naturally, is well-known already for such a "sweet" name! I can just imagine the ragging that he gets from Hank over that! But this is where the Shadows also shine over many other groups, their terrific sense of fun – and being able to take a joke without worrying if it's directed at yourself. Sure, there are small disagreements between the group, but these are usually only caused when they are arguing over what new styles to use on their discs! But – if you know any groups who want to get into the top – then tell them to copy two things about the Shadows – Personality and Laughter!

# PLENTY OF KARL!

The life of a pop singer, as I have always pointed out thru my columns is not all a life of laughter and fun! Today I point to one artiste who deserves credit for the way he has kept up to the old stage tradition of "the show must go on"! Earlier this year he was hurt in a car accident, but like Karl, inside a couple of weeks he was back on his feet with a smiling grin ever ready - as per usual - to to make sure that his fans all over the country would not be disappointed and miss him at all the places where he was booked to appear! To me, and many other people in show business, Karl is the very picture of a hard-working pop singer - especially as he can go on stage with a new song and remember the words after one reading!

There is one question I asked Karl which I think many of you may be interested in, and that is how much influence the American singers have on our British teenagers. Karl, as many of you know, was in the States for a couple of years singing in and around Nashville, Tennessee. Said Karl, "I think that apart from Presley, and maybe Darin, there are hardly any American singers who have much influence over the teenagers in this country. When I was over in Nashville it was fantastic the number of teenagers who went to the country shows in those days!" Grinned Karl. "Still, they had Elvis as a country singer then, so I guess that many of them just turned up to see him!" Karl omitted to mention the fact that he was also a very good c-and-w performer in the States at that time. But to get back to the subject. Why do some of the American singers have so much influence over the teenagers in this country whereas it is always regarded as an achievement when one of our singers gets in the charts or goes down really well with the Stateside teens?

Karl offered his explanation, and I think he hit the nail right on the head: "Well, Dave, when most British teenagers first start thinking about the States, they get the idea that it's so very different from this country, which it is in a way, but I think lately the guys and dolls in this country have got the idea that not all Americans are tall, sunbrowned singers with terrific voices-except, perhaps, Presley?" Is Karl right?

I think so, for if one cares to look at the charts, Karl's style of singing is gradually knocking the best-sellers both here and in the States, the commercialised c-and-w style which (funnily enough) started hundreds of years ago in the United States! – and is now being sold to their charts by singers like Karl' As Karl would say, "British Is Best – but let's all stick together."!



