





The end of another successful year for Britain's pop prince, Billy Fury. The New Year looks as if it will be even more successful for Billy with a new film, a new venture abroad, and the usual string of TV, radio and one-nighters to keep his many thousands of fans happy. Recently voted second only to Cliff Richard in a Radio Luxembourg poll for popularity, Billy is determined that he'll be using a lot of new songs and new styles on his discs. tho' fans who are expecting a Merseybeat approach may find themselves slightly out of the running.

Only record of Billy's that didn't really hit the high spots for Billy Somebody Else's Girl a swinger of a platter that failed to make the Top Three because of the deluge of Merseybeat waxings that smashed chart after chart with devastating force. His new single Do You Really Love Me Too? is certainly hitting the high spots to make up for this.

One film story that has been discussed and hoped for by many of the Fury fans, is a colour life story of Billy's life up to the present. This however won't be shown for some time, as Billy's manager thinks it may be a bit too early for such a film. As yet Billy still wants to conquer a few other countries and get himself known personally to the fans of those countries rather than just a name on a hit record. Certainly South Africa, Australia, New Zealand, Israel, France and Germany and other countries are very interested in seeing Billy and it can only be a matter of time before he leaves to fulfil engagements in all of these countries.

Like every pop star Billy worries about what new things the start of another year can bring, but with his immense popularity throughout the British Isles, where, believe it or not, there are over 16 big Fury Fan Clubs, it's highly unlikely that the New Year will see him anywhere but a lot nearer to threatening Cliff for Britain's Throne of the Pop Kingdom. Certainly his latest tour, over in the next few days, will show Billy that he has many, many fans all over the country who are quite prepared to stick by him through thick and thin, one indication of which is shown by the steady rise in sales of "Fury Monthly," Billy's own magazine.

Commented Billy, "It's been a gas of a year, but I'm hoping for even better things next year. I'll try and do as much for the fans, TV and radio-wise, plus the film, that I can, and somewhere I'll be arranging for a giant tour again so that my fans will also have the chance of seeing me live, which many of them don't always have the chance of doing. When I left Billy he was debating where on earth he could possibly put about 300 Teddy Bears, and eventually decided that many orphans at Christmas would love to have them!



Head Office riead Office and Advertisement Office Craven House, 234/238 Edgware Road, London, W.2. Tel. PADdington 7485

Editor: A. HAND, 41 Derby Road, Heanor, Derbyshire Tel.: Langley Mill 2460

Features Editor: D. CARDWELL 234/238 Edgware Road, London, W.2.

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SECOND SERIES

**WEEK ENDING 21/12/63** 

ISSUE No. SEVENTEEN

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* The Editor and Staff of Pop Weekly wish vou all a Real Swingin' Christmas

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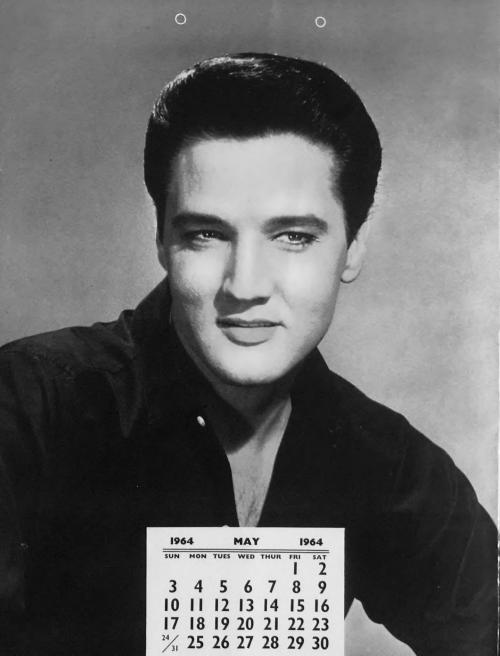


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# No Fun For John!

Christmas is normally a time when everyone has a real ball, when families get together, and when pop stars meet other pop stars at parties, and most of them have a real cool and swingin' occasion! This week I met one pop star who is NOT going to have a swingin' Christmas. In fact, he isn't likely to see much of Christmas Eve, Christmas Day or Boxing Day! Which is a pretty big blow all round. No parties, no fun, and certainly the only prospect was a Christmas drink—if that!!! The artiste? John Leyton, currently selling heavily with Beautiful Dreamer.

For John is scheduled to disappear to the States in early January, and before then he is lined up to record some numbers. The only chance he is going to have of doing that will be on Christmas Eve, Christmas Day and Boxing Day!!! The old theme about John

Leyton being "The Lonely One" looks like being true this year! What were John's views on spending Christmas in a large, rather gloomy looking studio with just a few musicians to speak to? "I guess it's part of the life and I'll have to put up with it' said John rather sadly. "You see, if I don't record on those days, I'm likely to be disappointing a lot of fans whom I have promised to see on one-nighters before Christmas, so I can't really do much about it."

This is the second disappointment for John inside a few weeks. First disappointment was the fact that his latest, and to me, one of his greatest waxings, never hit the Top 10, which to everyone was a shock as the disc whipped up over 40,000 advance orders and looked certain to really move into the Top Ten with a very strong possibility of a stab at the Top There! But although

the platter did show up inside the "Pop Weekly" Top Thirty, it's general performance was a mystery to everyone concerned.

Second big disappointment for John is that he is working over Christmas of course. When I realised how lucky Leyton fans have been this year, with the opportunity of seeing John on TV screen, radio, and cinema screen and of seeing and hearing him on disc and one-nighters, it seemed a tremendous shame that "Lonely Johnny" is proving to be a name that is likely to stick with John for many years to come.

So when you're happily munching Christmas pud, and having a gas of a time (including those who say they don't like spending a quiet Christmas at home with their parents) remember John Leyton, and the rather sad fact that he'll be recording from early morning to late evening over the whole of Christmas. Somehow, even tho' he does it strictly for the fams who have put him where he is—it still seems very hard on poor John Leyton!!!

Wishing You a Merry Christmas
and a Happy and Successful New Year

from

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-ROLF HARRIS

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POP Weekly 21/12/63

## BRITAIN'S TOP THIRTY

I Want To Hold Your Hand (I)

2 She Loves You (2) Secret Love (6)

3 You Were Made For Me (4)

5 Don't Talk To Him (3) 6 Maria Elena (8)

I Only Want To Be With You (10)

Glad All Over (9) Dominique (13)

10 I'll Keep You Satisfied (7)

11 You'll Never Walk Alone (5)

12 Geronimo (22)

13 24 Hours From Tulsa (24)

14 It's Almost Tomorrow (-) 15 I Wanna Be Your Man (18)

Money (15) Deep Purple (16)

Stay (22)

19 All I Want For Xmas Is A Beatle (-)

Swinging On A Star (-) 21 I (Who Have Nothing) (13)

22 Kiss Me Quick (-)

23 Twist And Shout (E.P.) (-) 24 With The Beatles (L.P.) (-)

25 | Blue Bayou/Mean Woman Blues (17)

Be My Baby (11)

**ELVIS PRESLEY** 

**CLIFF RICHARD** 

JOHN LEYTON BILLY FURY

THE SHADOWS

**BILLY J. KRAMER** 

**HELEN SHAPIRO** 

R'D CHAMBERLAIN

**FREDDIE & DREAMERS** 

**GERRY & PACEMAKERS** 

THE BEATLES

ADAM FAITH

**BOBBY VEE** 

**BRENDA LEE** 

FRANK IFIELD

10

12

Hungry For Love (21) 28 Beautiful Dreamer (20)

29 The Beatles Hits (E.P.) (26) 30 If I Ruled The World (-

The Beatles Kathy Kirby Freddie & Dreamers Cliff Richard Los Indios Tabajaras **Dusty Springfield** Dave Clark Five The Singing Nun Billy J. Kramer **Gerry & Pacemakers** The Shadows Gene Pitney Mark Wynter **Rolling Stones** B. Elliott/Fenmen Stevens & Tempo The Hollies Dora Bryan

The Beatles

Big Dee Irwin Shirley Bassey **Elvis Presley** The Beatles The Beatles Roy Orbison

The Ronettes J. Kidd/Pirates John Leyton

The Beatles Harry Secombe Send the names of

#### GREAT BRITAIN'S ONLY POP STAR TOP 30 ★ POP STAR CHART ★ Position Last Week Position

your 3 favourite stars to POP WEEKLY, Heanor, Derbyshire. Artiste Last Week HEINZ 18 JOE BROWN 15 19 23 22

17 18 MARK WYNTER 19 MIKE SARNE ROY ORBISON 20 21 **EDEN KANE** 22 THE SEARCHERS 23 HAYLEY MILLS 24 THE JAYWALKERS 25 24 29 28 25 **BUDDY HOLLY ROLLING STONES** 27 SHANE FENTON RAY CHARLES 30 26 **DEL SHANNON** THE ROULETTES

8

10

12

13

11

14

16

Dominique The Singing Nun Kingsmen I'm Leaving It Up To You Dale & Grace There! I've Said It

Bobby Vinton Again Everybody You Don't Have To Tommy Roe Be A Baby To Cry She's A Fool Caravelles Lesley Gore Stevens & Tempo

She's A Poo.
Deep Purple
Be True To Your
School Beach Boys Dion DiMuci Drip Drop Since I Fell For You Little Red Rooster It's All Right Lenny Welch Sam Cooke

Impressions Talk Back
Trembling Lips Johnny Tillotson

16

Sugar Shack Loddy Lo Walking The Dog Wives And Lovers

19 Washington Square Can I Get A Witness Marvin Gaye 20 Have You Heard

22 Forget Him Midnight Mary 24

Wonderful Summer Quicksand

The Nitty Gritty Maria Elena

Village Stompers The Duprees Bobby Rydell Joey Powers

J. Gilmer/Fireballs

Chubby Checker Rufus Thomas Jack Jones

Robin Ward Martha/Vandellas Shirley Ellis Los Indios Tabajaras

Popsicles & Icicles The Murmaids 24 Hours From Tulsa Gene Pitney (Down at) Papa Joe's Dixiebelles

## POP TEEN PAGE

## **FACTS ON THE STARS COMPETITION**



Win the L.P. of your choice

He's probably the only member of The Shadows who you could recognise without a face. His "specs" give him away in two minutes flat!! Who other than that grinning jolly character, lead guitarist Hank B. Marvin. And this week, he's our Star in the "Facts On The Stars Comp." The prize is any LP of your choice and all you have to do is answer three simple questions and send them on a postcard straight away to:

Pop Weekly Ltd.,

41 Derby Road. Heanor, Derbys.

Here are the questions. Not too difficult we hope!

- 1. How old is Hank?
- 2. What does the "B." in his name signify?
- 3. Has he been with The Shadows more than two years. Answer "Yes" or "No."

That's that. Answers will be picked out of a drum, and the first one out gets an album of his or her choice, so don't forget to mark it on the card!!

#### **COMPETITION WINNERS**

The "Fury Monthly" winner is Miss CHERRY DICKENSON, Broadshaw Farm, Stapleton, Leics., who will receive a copy of the "We Want Billy" L.P.

This week's winner of the "Elvis Monthly" Competition is Miss T. ELLIS, 34 Croft St.,

09086 T

Here are fifty winners in "Teenbeat Poppo" (December issue).

Leominster, Herefordshire, who has asked for the "With The Beatles" L.P.

The winner of "Pop Weekly's" Facts On The Stars Competition No. 12 is Miss J. SMITH, 5 Miles Close, Shirecliffe, Sheffield, 5.

50048 T 50131 T

55075 T 55859 T 56236 T 52066 T 56236 T 52969 T 57354 T

POP	WEEKLY	RECORD

00570 T 03894 T 07086 T 00570 T 03796 T 07731 T 01192 T 04493 T 09118 T 01248 T 05176 T 09519 T 02979 T 07142 T 10427 T

00477 T

We do our very best to answer your questions on whether certain records are available, and wherever possible even help you to get the

records you are after. Send a stamped addressed envelope with your query, to:

#### POP WEEKLY RECORD INFORMATION 41 DERBY ROAD, HEANOR, DERBYS.

and then leave the rest to us. service is free, but if an artiste's complete list of recordings is required, a secretarial and/or printing charge of a 6d, P.O. must be enclosed with your request. PLEASE NOTE. Answers will be strictly confined to records available. Requests for actual dates of release, positions in charts, will be ignored.

#### The things we're asked ...

- Q Is Where Have All The Flowers Gone? by The Kingston Trio still available please?—Tony Beery, Walton-on-Thames.
- Yes it is, CL15242.

| 10674 T | 21613 T | 34901 T | 37044 T | 44216 T | 10757 T | 24146 T | 35645 T | 38117 T | 44216 T | 11366 T | 26157 T | 31615 T | 41154 T | 46316 T | 11979 T | 26387 T | 36443 T | 42200 T | 47471 T | 19934 T | 3376 T | 36651 T | 43045 T | 47910 T |

- 0 Can I get Pet. Clarke's A London on a single please?

  —Jane Barlow, Ruislip. Sorry, no. E.P. only.
  - Can you supply me with Bert Weedon's China Doll please?—Sandy Wilson, Reigate, Surrey.
  - Yes, certainly we can, POP 946.
- Is the late Edith Piaf's No Regrets still obtainable please?—Elizabeth White, Warrington, Lancashire.
- Yes, it is and selling very well indeed. DB4642.
- Has Connie Francis recorded Heartbreak Hotel?— Keith Burton, Woodford Green, Essex. Q
  - Yes, she has, but on L.P. only.
- Is Gene Pitney's Town Without Pity still available please?
  —Stewart Green, Ashbourne, Derbys. 0

Yes, both on a single and an L.P.

Postcards only to "Pop Weekly," Heanor, Derbys. Mark "Pen Pals" or "Swop Shop." Although every care is taken, and these announcements printed in good faith, the Editor and Publishers can accept no responsibility for the condition of articles offered or persons advertising in or replying to the Pen Pals Column.

If you wish to "jump the queue" enclose 2/6 postal order, which will ensure immediate insertion.

#### SWOP SHOP

Offered: James Bond Theme, John Barry; Ice Cream Man, Tornados. Wanted: Blue Bayou, Runnin' Scared by Roy Orbison or Me And My Shadows. P. Cloudsdale, Eden Mount, Birch Rd., Ambleside, Westmorland.

Offered: Beatles' From Me To You, "It All Happened At The State Fair" LP, Elvis. Wanted: Not Responsible, Helen Shapiro; any Helen Shapiro P or Brenda Lee LP. David Smith, 22 Maritime Street, Graig, Pontypridd, Glamorgan.

Street, Graig, Fontypridd, Gamorgan.

Offered: 19:9 "Xmas With Everlys," "How Do You Like It?" Gerry, "Steptoe & Son." Wanted: LP's "Crying," Orbison, "Bobby Yee's Golden Greats," "In Style With Crickets." R. J. Townsley, 35 Hardie Road, Dagenham, Essex.

Offered: "Tops With Me" LP, Helen Shapiro. Wanted: Any Del Shannon LP. James Smillie, 251 Old Castle Road, Simshill, Glasgow, S.4.

Wanted: Any Records of Frank Ifield's before vvanced: Any Records of Frank ffield's before I Remember You or Duane Eddy's Guitar Man. Offered: Walking Back To Happiness, Helen Shapiro, The Young Ones, Cliff. Miss L. Smith, 78 Brookdale Rd., Nuneaton, Warwickshire. Wanted: Complete collection to date of Belgian realized: Complete collection to date of Belgian magazine "Pick-Up" with pic of Elvis. Will pay 1/6 each. Keith Arnold, 45 Gorsy Bank Road, Hockley, Nr. Tamworth, Staffs.

Hockley, Nr. 1amworth, Stans.

Wanted: "Elvis Monthlys" 1960 issues No. 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10. 1961 issues No. 2, 3 and 5 and 1962 issue No. 2. 2/- good copy. H. Snowden, 38 Phillips Park Rd., Beswick, Manchester 11. Offered: Good Luck Charm by Elvis and Running Bear by John Preston. Wanted Tell Laura I Love Her and Girl On The Floor Above, J. Leyton. Miss M Bulpitt, 'Casita', Highbury Rd., Anna Valley, Andover, Hants.

Offered: How Do You Do It by Gerry/Pacemakers, others. Wanted: Adam Faith's Lonely Pup In A Christmas Shop and Ha, Poor Little Baby. Christine Davis, 58 Merevale Road, Gloucester.

Offered: "Elvis" L.P., Golden Records. Wanted:

Offered: "Elvis" L.P., Golden Records, Wanteu: Any L.P. by Shadows or Sandy Nelson. I Woodhouse Down, Almondsbury, Bristol. Offered: Elvis's "Blue Hawaii" and others. Wanted: Any Shadows L.P. Miss Kay Hill, 32 Commercial Rd., Cadoxton, Barry, Glamorgan.

#### PEN PALS

Diann Helsdon, 4 St. Leonard's Square, Surbiton, Surrey. Female, 16. Rolling Stones and Beatles. Jean Nunn, 21 The Street, Cavenham, Nr. Bury, St. Edmunds. Female, 15. Most pop stars.

1948088 B.E. Thomson, D. M., Room 20 'K' Block, 'K' Flt. 2 Sqdn., No. 1 B.E.T.W., R.A.F. Hereford, Male. Heinz, Elvis, Gerry and The Pacemakers. Marlene Peters, 30 St. Albans Road, Parliament Hill Fields, London N.W.5. Female, 14. Beatles, Searchers, Pacemakers, Billy J., Elvis.

Barry, Glam., S. Wales. Female, 16. Beatles, Billy J., John Leyton and Bobby Vee.

Jenny Lamacraft, 9 Ashburton Road, Newton Abbott, Devon. Female, 17. Elvis, Beatles and Jet and Tony.

Jean Lindegger, 20 Westcroft Close, Cricklewood, N.W.2. Female, 17. Beatles, Elvis, Billy Fury. Bill Morphew, 2 Balfour Road, Southall, Middlesex, Male, 19. Frank Iffeld, Billy Fury, Billy J. Kramer. Susan Taylor, 29 Brendon Way, Westcliff-on-Sea, Essex. Female, 17, John Leyton.

194749 BE James, H., Room 20, Manser Block, EFIt., 4 Sqn., 2 B.F.W., Royal Air Force, Hereford. Male, 16, Bobby Vee, Beatles, Cliff, Kathy Kirby. Andy Wilson, 4 Bessingby Gate, West Hill, Bridlington, E. Yorks, Male, 16, Freddie/Dreamers, Chadruse Raselles.

Shadows, Beatles. Jean Ryder, I Eleanor Road, Stratford, London, E.15. Female, 19, Beatles, Billy J. Kramer.

Pauline Cable, 9 Elm Road, Forest Gate, London, E.7. Female, 20, Billy Fury, Beatles, Gerry Marsden, Jess Conrad.

1947982 B/E Dickinson, P. M., Room 27, Hannah Block, 'E' Flt., 3 Sqdn., Royal Air Force, Hereford. Male, 17, Elvis Presley, Buddy Holly, Billy Fury, Freddie and The Dreamers.



# oon Club" Teenage Idol

The full results of the Radio Lux "Swoon Club " Teenage Idol Poll were announced by "Pop Weekly's" columnist and D.J. Peter Aldersley and are given below. This year a change in the structure of the voting has been made and instead of voting for one idol, the listeners had to cast their votes in three sections; Male Solo Vocalist, Female Solo Vocalist, and Group (vocal and/or instrumental).

On Monday, December 9th "Swoon

Club" held an all-Beatle night as a tribute to the outstanding group of the year.

It is worthy of note that Cliff and Elvis held their positions at the top of the Male Vocal section for the fifth year running

#### MALE VOCAL

- 1. CLIFF RICHARD
- 2. ELVIS PRESLEY
- 3. BILLY FURY

SEASON'S GREETINGS BAYIS and THE COLONEL

- FRANK IFIELD
- 5 ADAM FAITH
- ROY ORBISON MARK WYNTER
- DEL SHANNON
- **BOBBY VEE**
- **BUDDY HOLLY** JOHN LEYTON

#### FEMALE VOCAL

- **BRENDA LEE**
- KATHY KIRBY
- CILLA BLACK
- SUSAN MAUGHAN
- HELEN SHAPIRO
- DUSTY SPRINGFIELD
- SHIRLEY BASSEY
- PATSY ANN NOBLE PETULA CLARK
- 10. CONNIE FRANCIS

#### GROUP

- 1. THE BEATLES
- 2. THE SHADOWS GERRY/PACEMAKERS
- BILLY L/DAKOTAS
- THE SEARCHERS
- 6. FREDDIE/DREAMERS
- **EVERLY BROTHERS**
- 8. BRIAN POOLE/TREMELOES
- THE CRYSTALS
- PETER JAY/JAYWALKERS

# A WINNER FOR

ALTHOUGH Billy Fury's last disc didn't really hit the high spots, his latest, Do You Really Love Me Too? is being freely tipped as a real winner.

A bright, swinging, up-tempo number, this disc could well put Billy back at the top of the charts.

## BRIAN POOLE and the TREMELOES

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A VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS

and all that you would wish yourselves for the

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## ATESIDE TOUR FO DATES YET TO BE FIXED

THE SEARCHERS are definitely set for the United States in the New Year! Although they have had no big chart successes in the American Hot 100 their Sweets For My Sweet single passed over 100,000 sales in the three months of promotional treatment.

When they do visit the States next year they will not necessarily be promot-ing another single, but trying to establish their name alone. So far no TV dates or tours have been confirmed, although there is a strong possibility of the boys appearing on the Ed Sullivan Show. America's biggest entertainment programme!

The boys went to the recording studios on the 16th December and recorded five or six numbers, among them two numbers that were hits for Ben E. King some years back. Their publicity agent Roger Stinton said it is highly likely that the boys will record a "slower number than the last two!"

# Disc Date

SOUTHERN group, Johnny Devlin and The Detours, have signed a recording contract with Pye and have had their first recording session. This session lasted for five hours and four numbers were recorded. all of which have been written and composed by members of the group.

The first record will be released in January which will consist of two vocal harmony numbers with the tenor saxophone and organ of the group supplying solid beat through both numbers. Alan Freeman, who was directing the recording session was very pleased with these numbers and feels there may be

It seems likely that Johnny and The Detours will be appearing on certain TV shows when the record is released and there are pending offers of tours.

At a later date The Detours will be releasing some of their own instrumental

numbers recorded at this session.

WHO says pop singers have the hardest life? Disc-jockey Brian Matthew should hold the title for the most overworked dee-jay in the business. Every week he hammers out "Easy Beat. 'Thank Your Lucky Stars," "Saturday Club" plus rehearsing for his role of Idle Jack in the pantomime Whittington."

All this in one week, plus recording nine radio programmes for various companies, and also playing a major part in two record sessions! All in one week! Comments Brian, "I'm just trying to wonder what I can do between getting up in the morning and having breakfast. There must be fifteen minutes there that might come in handy!

Next year looks like being even harder for Brian, for he is likely to have a starring role in a new comedy film.

# **Warm Christmas**

LIFF RICHARD and The Shadows will spend Christmas in the Canary Islands, the location for their new movie Wonderful Life.

Also with them will be Susan Hampshire, who is playing the lead opposite Cliff in the film.

Cliff, who is currently riding high in the charts, had recording sessions before leaving, The Shadows also had separate sessions at the studios.

#### AMERICAN VISITORS

DEL SHANNON, after two visits here this year will not be back until the autumn of next year. Big Dee Irwin the Swingin' On A Star hitmaker is scheduled for spring tour starting February 8 here next year, and Bobby Vee is set for late spring tour.

#### JULIE STARTS NEW CRAZE!! JULIE GRANT selling heavily

with her latest record, Hello Lover, has started a new craze amongst the girl fans! It's wearing knickerbockers! Seriously, the craze is catching on, and Julie, who started it all for "a laugh" has had tons of letters from female fans wanting to know "where can we get them!"

For once, we have nothing to add . . . !!

#### CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

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JOHN LEYTON Fan Club—s.a.e. Mary Brigette, 234/238 Edgware Road, London, W.2

MIKE SARNE Fan Club—s.a.e. Penny Masters, 234/238 Edgware Road, London, W.2. BILLIE DAVIS Fan Club—s.a.e. Ann Douglas, c/o 234/238 Edgware Road, London, W.2.

HELEN SHAPIRO Official Pen Pal Club-s.a.e. 136 London Road, Temple Ewell, Near Dover, Kent.

SUSAN SINGER Official Fan Club-s.a.e.
11 Blisworth House, Whiston Rd., London, E.2. CARTER-LEWIS & THE SOUTHERNERSs.a.e. Celia Brooke, 4th Floor, 93/97 Regent Street, London, W.I. FAN CLUB PRINTING

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Leeds, 12 **BOOKS AND MAGAZINES** 

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#### RECORDS

ANY RECORD you require obtainable from Heanor Record Centre, Heanor, Derbyshire.

## PHOTO CAVALCADE DICK BURROWS provided the picture of

Mike Sarne.
TONY PUGH that of Freddie and The Dreamers.
PHILIP GOTLOP—Cliff Richard.
HUGH THOMPSON—Julie Grant.
ELVIS is seen in a shot from "Fun In Acapulco."
A Hal Wallis Production. A Paramount Picture.
JOHN LEYTON is by Tom Blau, Camera

THE BEATLES & BILLY FURY from A.B.C. 'Thank Your Lucky Stars.

POP Weekly

21/12/63



## **DISCussion**

With my sincerest wishes for a really swinging Christmas comes this selection of recently released Festive platters for your guidance, should you still be faced with the problem of which dises to buy for Christmas. On the whole, I think this has been the worst year for quite a few in the way of good original Festive dises; so many have been revivals of old-established "annuals" and, overall, the spirit of Christmas has been a little more obscure; but then I think Christmas seems to get less like Christmas all-round year by year—more's the pity! Before this one just flashes past let's look at what's available in your record shop:

What has been established as Harry Belafonte's Christmas Song— "Mary's Boy Child'—comes up on Columbia in the simple, but effective guise of Michael's boy soprano tones. A very straight treatment but inclined to be a little stilted here and there, mainly due to Michael's phrasing. Nevertheless, this one will hold much charm—especially for Mum and Dad.

Last Christmas Oriole issued "The Infant King" by Tony Raymond and I am delighted to see they have revived it this year. I gave this disc my Festive Bouquet last time, for its tasteful blending of the religious and the pop; a most effective offering and I have seen no reason to change my opinion this year. It remains fresh and appealing with an attractive lilt and gentle, but insistent beat. Tony handles the lyric with an unaffected simplicity and the overall atmosphere of the platter should gain much general attention.

\*\*\* BOUQUET \*\*\* \*\*\* \*\*

This year's top award goes to \*\*

Bing Crosby and Capitol's Do \*\*

You Hear What I Hear?. This is \*\*

very much a Christmas song with \*\*

a well-balanced "heavenly choir" \*\*

a and the melody is very easy on the \*\*

ear. Bing Crosby's tones are \*\*

admirably suited to this type of \*\*

song nowadays and the whole disc \*\*

A really ideal spin for the family \*\*

A really ideal spin for the family \*\*

A really ideal spin for the family \*\*

A and technical achievements I'd \*\*

say this is the best of the Yuletide \*\*

discs this year. One which could \*\*

quite well become a hardy annual, \*\*

perhaps. \*\*

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

"The Little Drummer Boy" has been beating his drum in many directions

"The Little Drummer Boy" has been beating his drum in many directions this year! As far as I know the now famous two versions by The Beverley Sisters and Michael Flanders have not been re-issued on a Christmas release but there have been two or three new ones. The best of these is the Stateside one from The Harry Simeone Chorale. Well controlled chorus work here with the predominant theme sung by the female section nicely offset by the male voices "beating the drum." This effective little number gains much charm through this treatment and is as relaxing as ever.

In last week's DISCussion, Wonderful Summer on London, was credited to Robin Day. This should, of course, have been Robin Ward.

coloristmas the words of busted," collation a and of disc faths this time should be viss or no Beat.

A straight Seasonal tour Nancy Wilson and tour handles the

21/12/63

I wouldn't know why Columbia issued Nina and Frederick's version of "Puff. The Magic Dragon" so late in the life of that fairy tale. Coming a few thousand spins after Peter, Paul and Mary's charming treatment makes it even harder for this new disc to establish harder for this new disc to establish itself, anyway. The impression I get here is that Nina and Frederick try too hard to "sell" the song's basic charm and simplicity and I entirely disagree with two points of their treatment; one, the calypso-style backing which comes to the fore every now and again robs the tune of its melodic charm and two, the couple's harmonies also detract on the same score. I am convinced that this little fairy tale does not require such individualistic treatment and although I admire the work of Nina and Frederick I don't think this is their cup of dragon's blood!!

If you're going to have a bit of a knee's up with the family over the holiday no doubt there will be a place for the party sing-song type disc from happy and homely Mrs. Mills. A few rousing choruses jangled out in true party style with a robust chorus of voices adding to the general enthusiasm of Parlophone's "We're Gonna Throw A Little Party."

#### - BRICKBAT-

With all the festive goodwill in the World I can't quite get the idea of the Colpix disc I Wish You A Merry Christmas (apart from doing what the title suggests). Big Dee Irwin and Little Eva join forces in a little thing that has quite a lot of danceable beat but not much else! The rather monotonous repetition of the title by both singers rather gets on my nerves and the more I hear it the less sincere it sounds. It strikes me that somebody said to Big Dee and Eva—"We must make a Christmas disc or bust." And, in the words of Ray Charles, they're "busted," man! A rather cold collation at any time on my bill of disc fare—but especially at this time when festive offerings should be warm and sincere. Beat or no Beat.

A straight love ballad with the Seasonal touch is the present from Nancy Wilson, on Capitol, and she handles the lyric of "That's What I Want For Christmas" with warmth and sincerity. A gentle lilter this and very "soft lights"—just right for a bit of romantic background at this time of year.



#### And The TOP 4 L.P.s

THE BEATLES. "WITH THE BEATLES" PARLOPHONE PMC. 1206

Sssh! It has been whispered that this LP is not quite as good as the boys' first one! I have heard it said, but I don't subscribe to that view one little bit. Throughout the 14 tracks I think John, George, Paul and Ringo show a renewed power which only reflects the benefit of much more experience since they recorded the "Please Please Me" album. And I'm sure it is the type of LP that would have sold AFTER hearing just as well as it did do before it was heard at

all! There is much warmth and excitement generated on every track and the

whole platter is a further tribute to their own special sound and their own very special talent. PAT BOONE, "GUESS WHO?" LONDON HA-D 8109

LONDON HA-D 8109
Even if you didn't know beforehand, one look at the titles on the sleeve would tell you that the "who" is Elvis! In a "tribute" to El (that sometimes does sound rather like mickey-taking, I must confess) Pat never ceases to hold the interest regarding what he will do next with songs like Teddy Bear; Hound Dog; All Shook Up; Love Me Tender; Don't Be Cruel; Blue Suede Shoes and Heartbreak Hotel. None of the treatments is anything like the originals, and with our Elvis-conceived ideas of them the songs sound strangely different. Full marks for lots of ingenuity and some fascinating backings but I think the basic interest in such a disc must remain on the curiosity level.

KENNY BALL. "THE BIG ONES" PYE JAZZ NJL, 49

Kenny and his Jazzmen inject new life into 12 solid hit numbers including Acapulco 1922; Love Me Tender; Walk Right In: A Summer Place and Never On Sunday. All the Ball clarity and drive is ever-present making for exciting listening. A very polished album.

#### WALT DISNEY'S "THE LADY AND THE TRAMP" CAPITOL T. 3260

Here's an ideal Christmas present for your young brother, sister or even your young mother and father. Walt Disney is for all ages and these tracks featuring members of the Original Cast will please every fan. As a bonus there is added Mr. Toad and Rob Roy. A real festive bargain. And a very festive good wish for happiness to you.

Bye for now.

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# BILLY J. IS TOPS!

If someone told you that you'd be topping the bill at the London Palladium after only a couple of records you'd probably think they were daft. wouldn't be far out from what Billy J. Kramer was thinking when he hit the top of the charts, with Bad To Me and found out that the next day almost he was to appear at the Palladium!!! Two No. 1's and a definite solid platter smashing the Top Ten isn't bad out of three releases, and there are only a few stars on the scene who have ever bettered this. But Billy J. Kramer, the lad who looks something between a Billy Fury and an Elvis Presley, is making sure of his future by carefully vetting all the songs that have been sent in for him to record.

"Of course, I hope I'll be able to rely on John Lennon and Paul McCarney for some time" he said. "But naturally, should a really great song come along, my recording manager will probably let me do that." Unknown to Billy, he is the subject of a great deal of talk among London promoters and people in show biz. All are speculating whether this Brian Epstein discovery can make the grade over the next few years. Hailed by Epstein as a potential rival of Cliff and Billy Fury as Britain's likely No. 1 Male Vocalist, everyone has been taking him apart when he has appeared on-stage or TV and watching

his progress carefully.

One can almost hear the hushed whispers throughout Tin Pan Alley as to whether or not Billy J. Kramer and The Dakotas are going to be the biggest solo vocalist and group or whether it will be Freddie and The Dreamers or Gerry and The Pacemakers. The fact that Brian Epstein is also manager of the fantastic Beatles, Gerry and The Pacemakers, and other topline stars is a great advantage, and certainly he has seen that Billy J. gets the biggest build-up possible. A year of worry for Billy J. Kramer looks almost definite. Will his next disc be as big, will his next TV appearance win or lose him more fans?

Can he survive with the songs that two of The Beatles have been writing for him or will he change to a new style? Should he leave the country for promotional tours, or make sure that he's big enough here first? So many factors go to make up the life of a pop singer whom everyone has grown to like, and just one of those factors could bring to Billy J. Kramer a lotta disappointments! All we need to know is whether he can stand the pace. "Pop Weekly" stands by what it said when Kramer hit the scene a few months ago. That with a strong following, and numbers along the style of Bad To Me which suit his voice best, Billy J. Kramer will have the biggest impact ever on next years Male Vocal Popularity Charts!!!



## HAPPY, HIPPY FREDDIE!

You can't, say the so-called experts, take the mickey out of pop music, especially where the teenagers are concerned. Recently they have been proved utterly and completely wrong. Dora Bryan's done a take-off of The Beatles on her latest record, and so have many other big-name stars, most of them indirectly. But one guy who has the teens screaming with laughter as well as hysterics is Freddie of The Dreamers. His stage act is a combination of music hall variety, circus clowning and sheer happy, hippy music. Proof of the pudding is in the sales of his discs, with three chart smashes out of three discs.

If You Gotta Make A Fool Of Somebody, I'm Tellin' You Now and You Were Made For Me have proved successful sellers and received a great deal of enthusiastic record-buying by many people who can't tag themselves as teenagers, and I have yet to meet an adult who says that Freddie's act doesn't create something inside of him or her. Either it's fits of laughs, wonderment, or sheer happiness. Freddie is, of course, something of a phenomenon in show biz. Whereas the field was open to anyone who looked like he or she had been to a funeral, and sang mournfully about the death or losing of his latest romance, Freddie delightfully pounds out ditties as cheerfully as cracking walnuts with a hammer!

Two weeks after he had smashed the charts with his first disc and most of the promoters had seen him on-stage his manager was receiving offers for Freddie and The Dreamers to visit and tour the whole of the United Kingdom. Needless to say, the amount of executive treatment Freddie gets hasn't made the slightest bit of difference to him or his group, The Dreamers. "We've been too long in the business to think that we're always going to be in the charts" they told me. "But we're hoping that if we

can turn out enough good platters we should be well in the running for one of the best groups out." Personally, with the exception of one or two of the overseas groups, I don't recall anything about members of the Olympic high-jumpers being on stage, but that's what it seems like when Freddie and the boys hit the stage.

Such has been the popularity of Freddie and the boys, and so wide their appeal to the public of all ages that they have already been signed to appear in two films, both of which are likely to make more money for the film people than some giant epic. Freddie, however, is still taking everything in his stride, and it's unbelievable that when he is not on-stage, he can still prove that he is one of the hardest working guys OFF-STAGE!!

I think Freddie (and naturally The Dreamers) have got the talent, the energy and a terrific appeal to people of all ages that MUST make them the most popular group from Manchester in the New Year!!



## New to You THE PARAMOUNTS

And now it's the Southend Sound. The Essex resort, usually noted for candy floss and jellied eels, has turned up trumps on the big beat scene with The Paramounts and their swinging debut disc, Poison Ivy, backed with I Feel Good All Over.

A Coasters' revival for the top side, notice. Which is fair enough, pianist-lead vocalist Gary Brooker originally led a group in Southend called . . . The Coasters. Gary was, with Rob Trower, a founder member of The Paramounts some three years back.

How did the disc scene open up for them? Says Gary: "We seemed to be going very well on our dates in Southend and all these people came up to us and said we ought to be on records. We started thinking along the same lines... so we turned out a demo disc which we sent to recording manager, Ron Richards at Parlophone.

"Then he called us up to London . . . and Hey presto! here we are."

Rob is 18, was a laboratory assistant until turning pro. musician in August this year. At school, he had piano lessons and formed The Coasters, along with two guitarists.

He hands over the story to 18-yearold guitarist Rob Trower . . .

"I started work as a window cleaner but then hopped in and out of several jobs. I remember being a trainee printer, then managing my dad's coffee bar. But I also worked in three other rock outfis before joining The Paramounts with Gary."

Diz Derrick, bass guitarist, enters

He says: "I turned professional in August, too. Before that, I'd worked at the BBC as an Alexandra Park Technician and also had a stab at a career in the Civil Service. When I'm not working, I like to drive for relaxation—and I drink gallons of milk to keep up my energy."

The fourth member of the quartet, Barrie Wilson . . .

"I'm 17 and as the youngest I have to put up with a lot of extra work thrown upon me by the other gentlemen."

Barrie was an office messenger after leaving chool, then a printer's assistant. He also had a spell in a factory before joining The Paramounts a few months

Says recording boss Richards: "The boys have got a very definite edge to their work. It came through on that demonstration disc they sent me. It's kind of rough and raw and they can be

very exciting indeed.'
Ron knows how

Ron knows how to pick winners. Give this fabulously swingin' Poison Ivy a good long spin and you'll see what all the fuss is about. Given just the finest touch of luck, these boys'll be swingin' the Southend Sound right into the charts.



Julie Grant deserves success for her new single, Hello Lover . . . Pye Records making headway both chart-wise and popularity-wise . . . New singing duo called Billy and Ben . . . John Leyton surprised that Beautiful Dreamer didn't reach Top Ten. So are lots of other people . . . Surprisingly it's possible now to get into charts with sales of ten thousand. Reason? The Beatles have sold almost every record worth selling Something tells me critics won't be so kind to Cliff's new film if it's along the "Summer Holiday" lines . . . Tony Hatch to pen Bobby Rydell's next? . . . Why no support from fans for new Tornados line-up?-better than they've ever been before . . . More and more groups hit scene, yet none of them seem to be any better or worse than what's gone before . . . Congratulations to "Disc" on improvement of style . . .

John Leyton recording on Christmas Day . . . New group The Leroys could be biggest thing since Spiders, sorry Beatles . . . First Xmas card to arrive at "Pop Weekly" offices was from Elvis Presley . . . Brian Poole rumoured to have said that his latest, I Can Dance, is not like previous platter Do You Love Me? No comment! . . So much happening behind the scenes in show biz since groups became the rage that no one talks any more . . . Joe Meek has spate of discs worthy of Top Ten . . . Robert Stigwood showed infinite skill in booking Big Dee Irwin for tour next spring before disc even entered British best-sellers . .



 Wee Willie Harris's comeback?... No hints Peter Jay but we think your action paintings are great!.. What happened to Orlons, one of best U.S.A. groups ever?... Sorry, The Orchids just aren't our cup of tea... New rage among the pop stars, sealskin suits... Our top female singer vote for New Year, Kathy Kirby...



Helen Shapiro badly needs hit to sharing the sharing haven't been too helpful... What does Frank Sinatra think of John Leyton?... Trini Lopez must have been worried about sales of latest platter... The day Gene Pitney left Britain, his disc hit Top Twenty! Similar situation with Johnny Tillotson last year... Why doesn't Brian Epstein make a disc, talking about "you know who"?... Daryl Quist one of most hectic stage performers ever seen...

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# JULIE HAS DATE WITH TOP TEN

One of the most under-rated artistes this country has ever seen, had or likely to have femalewise is Julie Grant. It's only lately however, that many of the so-called experts have noticed her many Good-looking, a cute voice charms. that can also blast with the best of 'em and one heck of a personality ensure that Julie will be still a reigning queen of pops in the next ten years-that's if one of her many, many fans from the male quarter doesn't run off with her. This year however, her luck has certainly changed discwise. Two records Up On The Roof and Count On Me have both been very, very big sellers for her.

Now she's making a third and very heavy date at the Top Ten with a number released a couple of weeks ago titled Hello Lover backed with an equally inviting swinger called, It's Alright. Both numbers are "Alright" in my book! With plenty of help from her many ardent fans, we could see Julie ripping the charts asunder with this well-timed, well-sung, platter. Currently being grabbed for every radio, TV and personal appearance she can make, Julie is likely to become the not too surprising Top Popper among

the families next year.

Certainly if she manages to produce records of the quality that she has been doing I'd be not too surprised to see her back in the Top Ten with her usual sparkle, and her usual air of gaiety, one and only one, of her many charming points that everyone in show biz knows and has become used to. One of the things that first strikes you about Julie is her tremendous professional manner on-stage, and yet she is only 16 years of age! In fact, she has played at venues all over the country, and could become one of our biggest cabaret stars with her warm and friendly approach to an audience. Being a teenager too, helps her to understand more of what the younger record-buyers of today want.

"I think it's very handy being so young" she told me. "You see, although I like The Beatles and the Liverpool sound, I rate most kinds of pop singing as good. Certainly, I couldn't copy a style like the Beatles sound. It's their individual style, and I've got my own style. So far most of my fans have flipped over the discs I've released this year, but I'm still hoping that we, that's my recording manager and I, can always come up with something different."

By the way, for ardent male fans, Julie isn't thinking of getting married, but she still gets three proposals a week!! Don't be too disillusioned tho' for Julie loves meeting all her fans, and chatting with them after her shows. Why not take a copy of Hello Lover along to one of her shows—and get the charming miss to talk to you herself!!!

MERRY CHRISTMAS and a HAPPY NEW YEAR from

## LARRY PARNES

and his organisation

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MARTY WILDE DARYL QUIST



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TONY, CHRIS, MIKE & JOHN

THE SEARCHERS



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#### Top Thirty

I have been compiling a popularity chart based on the one given in "Pop Weekly" for the first quarter of "Pop Weekly's" second year. I thought that your readers might like to see how their favourite star has rated in this chart. The points have been awarded by giving 30 points to the first star, 29 to the second etc.

Congratulations on a swinging mag., but please let us have more about Eden

cane i	n it.	
Pos.	Points	Artiste
1	390	Elvis Presley
2	368	Cliff Richard
3	358	Billy Fury
4	354	Beatles
5	340	John Leyton
2 3 4 5 6 7 8	320	Shadows
7	309	Adam Faith
8	296	Billy J. Kramer
9	247	Helen Shapiro
10	227	Brenda Lee
11	226	Mark Wynter
12	225	Jet & Tony
13	223	Gerry & Pacemakers
14	219	Freddie & Dreamers
15	202	Richard Chamberlain
16	192	Bobby Vee
17	152	Joe Brown
18	151	Eden Kane
19	143	Heinz
20	140	Buddy Holly
21	135	Frank Ifield
22	100	Roy Orbison
23	99	Searchers
24	95	Tommy Roe
25 {	94	Mike Sarne
	94	Shane Fenton
27	87	Jaywalkers
27 28	56	Hayley Mills
29 {	38	Springfields
27	38	Rolling Stones
		Ann Burnard (Plymouth)

#### Shurrup!

I don't think 'Miss June Beatle' has ever seen anyone shake their head before. True Beatle fans would not drown the music they play. If The Beatles agree to this screaming, why do they keep telling the crowds to "SHURRUP." People pay a good price to go and see their favourite stars and do not want the show spoilt by STUPID KIDS! If they want to let go of their feelings do it when no one is around, otherwise people will be sending for doctors to give tranquilizers to Beatle fans, and we don't want that. I like to listen to The Beatles when I see them in the flesh.

Deafened Beatle Fan (Bilston)

Congratulations Mark on getting your great, fab record into the Top Twenty. Let's hope it goes straight up into the Top Ten and stays there for a long time to come. I was glad to see it given the 'Bouquet of the Week' tag. It's Mark at his best and is one of those songs that catches on easily and sticks in your mind for a long time.

Now for John Leyton, who has just made a marvellous recording of Beautiful Dreamer which is just the sort of record for the hit parade at the moment. This is the record I won through 'Poppo' (that was a pleasant surprise) and every time I play it I think of the great fan club concert I went to in London a few weeks back. John must have stood for an hour or more shaking hands with over 800 people.

Must go as "It's Almost Tomorrow."

Eileen (Nottingham)

#### And Against

Why can't some of our pop stars leave the old songs alone? We now have a new, sloppy and monotonous version of It's Almost Tomorrow by Mark Wynter; and John Leyton trying his hardest to get "with it" and making an awful mess of Beautiful Dreamer.

Jean Markham

#### Talking Sense

This is a letter in reply to the ridiculous letter John Davies wrote in "Pop Weekly."

Billie Davis may sound childish to you, but lots of my friends have bought her records and I think they are good. John Leyton's record is not horrible and it is not only me that thinks so but a lot of the public because last week his record jumped from nothing to the 18th position. I would like to hear you get up to those high notes like Roy Orbison, and as for Adam Faith, I think he has gone out of circulation because we hear so little about him now. Kathy Kirby's record has gained almost top position in the charts. It is Dusty Springfield's first solo record so how can you expect it to be perfect? The Beatles are Britain's top group so I think you will have to put up a little longer with Beatle Talk. You are supposed to give your opinion on "Juke Box Jury," and that is what Cilla Black was doing. Billy J. and Cliff must be good or else they would not have been on the Palladium Show. The only person who talked sense in that letter was the Ed! Linda, Sheila, Jeanne, Pauline, Linda

and Valerie (Blackburn)

A pop star or group have to have something different, no matter what, to get themselves away in this day and age, and to make their names stick in the minds of the general public. One such singer is Mike Sarne. A brilliantly intelligent guy, Mike could have had a number of very interesting jobs whilst preparing for yet more honours degrees at university. In fact, the people who claim that all pop singers have to be morons need their own brains examining especially when they come face to face with Mike Sarne.

Mike has recently had his own book published, has spoken in Russian over the radio to Moscow, can speak in lotsa languages, has done more and travelled more than most guys, and is a great student of other people. He writes articles for national newspapers that one would believe would have been written by someone else a great deal more well-known in the literary world. Yet, basically, he treats his fans better than

the average pop singer.

A few days ago Mike dropped in the office, shortly after winning £500 on "Double Your Money" answering questions on Shakespeare's plays, and giving answers straight away with hardly any hesitation. Personally, I didn't know more than two of the answers and I think that most people would be prepared to admit that they too, weren't too sure of any of the exact replies. Mike gave me one of the frankest interviews about his life that any pop singer ever has, and I print the answers strictly as they were given to me. "I don't do pop singing for the money" said Mike. "When I first started, I agree I liked having a lot of money coming in, but now it doesn't bother me any more. That's not because I've got a lot of money in the bank either. I usually spend most of my money as soon as I make it."

I asked him why he carried on making pop records when he could be a strictly acting type or do any of a number of important jobs, particularly with all his qualifications. "If you really want to know, the real answer, corny as it may sound is that the teenagers are just marvellous audiences. You can't get that enthusiasm from a theatre crowd or an ordinary cinema audience. But with teenagers on a one-night stand, one can feel a terrific sense of being with them. They're so nice too. Sure, once in a while you get a bit mad when they mob you or someone kicks your car door in, but I nearly always manage to spend some time talking to them after a show. When they have got over their shyness, we usually end up talking about "what jobs they do" and things like that.

"Really" said Mike Sarne, hit-maker, "I think if it weren't for such marvellous fans I'd pack up tomorrow-but they're great-just great!!!" Let's hope that the fans keep on wanting Mike-or we could, just could lose one of our best ever and most talented vocalists on the beat scene!!

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Pariophone PCS3047 (stereo LP)
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