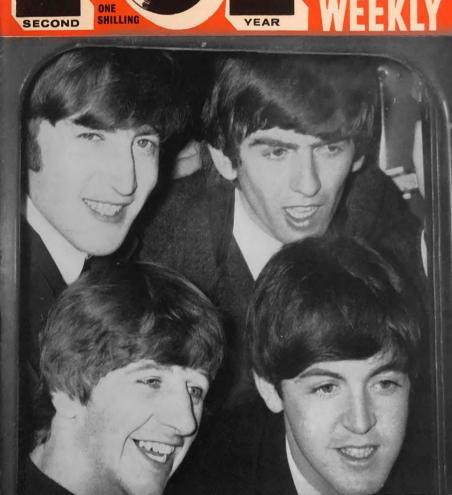
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NO. 34

Week Ending 18th April





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Postal Subscriptions: £3 2s. per annum

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SECOND SERIES WEEK ENDING 18/4/64 ISSUE No. THIRTY-FOUR



By Albert Hand and David Gardwell

How many times have you bought an LP of an artiste who has had some four or five hits and whose voice and style on those singles were good and yet, on the album, most of the tracks were more or less weaker than water? Quite a few times I'll bet. Yet do the artistes care? I don't think so. Unfortunately it wouldn't be fair for me to say that so-and-so group does it or so-and-so singer. Because almost every solo singer and nearly every big group in this country turn out an absolute load of tripe on some of their album tracks. Unfortunately they know that the LP will sell simply because their fans think that the LP will be as pleasing as their singles.

We all know that it obviously takes a long time to record an LP or rather it did. But the idea these days is that the album should have about twelve tracks. Four good ones, and then a bunch of songs not worth listening to. Every big group at the moment have had a couple of LP's out, the first of which was so bad that I wouldn't consider an amateur group could do any worse. Is it fair on the fans? Don't the groups and the singers male and female realise that the better the album is, the more people will buy, not only that one but the next one? To my mind an LP must be made up very carefully. Not all screaming, shouting tracks, but a mixture of soft and loud, fast and slow.

Reject numbers that a singer has written himself. Most singers like to put on one or two tracks, not because they're good tracks, but because it means extra cash. Forget it!! Extra cash may be available for the singer, but if he makes bad LP's there's the likelihood that the near future will see him without a single worth releasing or a chance at the hit parade. At a time when more and more LP's are selling and the general trend for singles is downwards, can't the artistes and their managers understand that the more quality the better.

In America the idea is to whip out an LP after one hit single, yet even this is dving out. Let the pop stars take a leaf out of the jazz singers' books. Jazz singers may not sell many singles but they sell a heck of a lot of LP's, not always in a rush but over a long period. If one isn't doing too well, it's nice to know that there is extra cash around the corner. So, come on groups and singers. Give the fans and the whole of the public a break and bring out a record or rather an album full of good numbers.

Believe me, it will pay off in the end.

BRITAIN'S TOP THIRTY

Can't Buy Me Love (I) 2 I Believe (2) 3 World Without Love (5) Little Children (3) 5 Just One Look (4) 6 Not Fade Away (6) 7 I Love You Because (7) 8 Tell Me When (9)

9 That Girl Belongs To Yesterday (8)

10 Good Golly, Miss Molly (13) Anyone Who Had A Heart (11) 11 12 My Boy Lollipop (15)

13 Theme For Young Lovers (14)

14 Diane (12) Move Over Darling (21) 15

Bits And Pieces (10) 16 Viva Las Vegas (16) 17 18 Everything's All Right (-)

19 Boys Cry (19) 20

Mockingbird Hill (17) I Think Of You (18) 21

22 Let Me Go Lover (25) 23 Candy Man (20)

24 Juliette (24) Over You (22)

∫ Hi-Heel Sneakers (—)

Stay Awhile (23) Think (-) 28

29 New Orleans (-If He Tells You (27) The Beatles The Bachelors Peter and Gordon Billy J. Kramer The Hollies **Rolling Stones** Jim Reeves The Applejacks Gene Pitney Swinging Blue Jeans Cilla Black Millie The Shadows The Bachelors **Doris Day** Dave Clark Five **Elvis Presley** The Moios Eden Kane The Migil Five The Merseybeats Kathy Kirby B. Poole/Tremeloes The Four Pennies Freddie & Dreamers

Tommy Tucker Dusty Springfield Brenda Lee B. Elliott/Fenmen Adam Faith

POP STAR CHARTS ARTISTES

TOP GROUPS

Last Week

Group Position Position Artiste THE BEATLES **ELVIS PRESLEY** CLIFF RICHARD BILLY FURY BILLY J. KRAMER ROLLING STONES THE SHADOWS DAVE CLARK FIVE **GERRY & PACEMAKERS** ADAM FAITH 5 DUSTY SPRINGFIELD THE SEARCHERS B. POOLE/TREMELOES JOHN LEYTON **SWINGING B. JEANS HELEN SHAPIRO** THE HOLLIES HEINZ 8 ΙĬ 10 **FREDDIE & DREAMERS** 10 MARK WYNTER CILLA BLACK 10 GREAT MIKE SARNE 13 12 KATHY KIRBY 14 BRENDA LEE BOBBY VEE 12 15

BRITAIN'S ONLY ★ POP STAR CHARTS ★ Send the names of your 3 favourite stars to: POP WEEKLY, Heanor, Derbyshire

AMERICA'S Can't Buy Me Love Twist And Shout She Loves You I Want To Hol Idl Hello Dolly Suspicion Suspicion Suspicion Suspicion Asse, Please Me The Beatles The Beatles Louis Armstrong Terry Stafford The Beatles Louis Armstrong Terry Stafford The Beatles Louis Armstrong Terry Stafford The Beatles Louis Armstrong The Beatles Touis Armstrong Terry Stafford The Beatles The Beat

Hello Dolly
Suspicion
Please, Please Me
Glad All Over
Shoop Shoop Song
Don't Let The Rain
Come Down
The Way You Do
The Things You Do
My Heart Belongs
To Only You
Needles And Pins
Dawn (Go Away)
Stay

Serendipity Singers The Temptations

Bobby Vinton The Searchers Four Seasons Four Seasons

(By courtesy of Cash Box) 16 Do You Want To
Know A Secret The Beatles
17 Ain't Nothing You
Can Do
Bobby Blanc

Think
You're A
You're

Bobby Bland Brenda Lee

FATS DOMINO

LAZY LADY H.M.V. POP1281



AND THE PACEMAKERS With Orchestra conducted by GEORGE MARTIN DON'T LET THE SUN CATCH YOU CRYING



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HELEN SHAPIRO LOOK OVER YOUR

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FACTS ON THE STARS COMPETITION



No. 31—Elvis Preslev

At present the subject of much controversy, but still turning up in the charts regularly, Elvis is this week's competition star. Now is your chance to air your knowledge of him, all you have to do is answer the three questions below and the first correct answer drawn out wins the LP chosen. Send your answers on postcards only to 'Facts On The Stars," "Pop Weekly," 41 Derby Road, Heanor, Derbys.

- 1. What is the flipside of his hit disc. Viva Las Vegas?
- 2. How many movies has he made. up to "Love In Las Vegas"?
- 3. How old is Elvis?

Don't forget to put your full name and address on the card and the LP you choose should you be the winner.

COMPETITION WINNERS

The winner of "Pop Weekly's" Facts On The Stars Competition No. 28 (Billy J. Kramer) is Miss M. RAY, 16 Norreys Rd., Cumnor, Oxford, who will receive a copy of Billy J's "Listen" LP

The winner of the "Fury Monthly" competi-tion is E. JONES, 34 Ty Melyn Terrace,

Pwilheli, Caernarvonshire, N. Wales, who has asked for the "We Want Billy" LP.

The winner of the "Teenbeat" competition is M. J. HOLLAND, 9 Kirkless Street, Tottington, Bury, Lancs., who has asked for the "Meet The Searchers" LP.

SWOP SHOP

Offered: It's Love That Really Counts, Merseybeats; Last Night Was Made For Love, Billy Fury; or two Kenny Ball hits. Wanted: Come On and I Wanna Be Your Man, The Rolling Stones. Katie White, Oxenbourne House, East Meon, Petersfield, Hants. Oxenbourne House, East Meon, Petersfield, Hants.
Offered: Shindig: Guitar Tango: Lovesick Blues;
Swiss Maid; Bobby's Girl; Let's Dance; Tower Of
Strength and others. Wanted: Needles And Pins;
Sweets For My Sweet; Atlantis; Kon-Tiki; Do You
Love Me (D.C. 5); Johnny B. Goode; Memphis
Tennessee (Berry). Susan Mackey, Il Lovedale
Road, Balerno, Hidlothan, Scotland.

Road, Balerno, Midlothian, Scotland.

Offered: "It Happened At The World's Fair"
LP, by Elvis (Brand New). Wanted: Any Peter,
Paul and May LP or 25/. Christopher Clark,
Carnabane, Upperlands, Co. Derry, N. Ireland,
Offered: One for one). Adam Faith singles:
Don't You Know It: How About Thot: Easy Coing Me.
Wanted: Any Gene Pitney singles (except
That Cuir Belongs To Yesterdoy), or 3s. 4d. for each
record. Particia Wright, 119 Kinfauns Road,
Goodmayes, Illord, Essex.

Offered: Hei, Sure, The Boy L. Loye, Cresteling

Goodmayes, Illord, Essex.

Offered: He's Sure The Boy I Love, Crystals;
Teenage Letter, Jerry Lee Lewis; Boby Face, Little
Richard; Just You And I, Guitar Red; Who Do You
Love?, Bo Diddley and others. Wanted: 2s. 6d.
per record or two of my records for one of
Pretty Thing, Bo Diddley; I'm Talking About You,
Chuck Berry; Chinese Checkers, Booker T.
R. N. Browning, Woodpecker Lodge, Beacon
Hill Road, Hindhead, Surey.

PEN PALS

Ann Railton, 27 Harcourt Street, Hopetown, Darlington, Co. Durham. Female, 18, Billy J., Gene Pitney, Peter and Gordon, Hollies, Cilla B. Margaret Stokes, 27 Mulwych Road, Tile Cross Estate, Birmingham 33. Female, 18, Beatles, Elvis, Fabian, Cliff and The Shadows.

Ley Rogers, 7 Friary Gardens, Handsworth, Birmingham 21. Female, 16, Beatles, Dave Clark, Merseybeats, Searchers.

Announcements for these columns should be accompanied by a 2/6 postal order.



POP Weekly

Photo News







Top Left: Another star from down-under who is making his mark on the British scene, Bryan Davis, whose next disc is due for release in a few weeks time.

Weeks to a real swinger citled Money Honey.

Bottom Left: No. you haven't lost count, it is four of the The Migli Five, who have jumped into the charts with their latest, Mockingbird Hill.

Bottom Right: The big boys with a big sound and a diac called Big Betty, Bobby Sansom and The Glants.

Buzzin' Dozen



ELVIS PRESLEY revealed that if he is going to marry it would probably have to be a girl with some money. "I couldn't afford to keep her otherwise" he

is reported to have said. We just heard that Elvis has grossed nearly £40,000,000 for RCA Records. Somehow we've got an idea that Elvis is kiddin'! For those of you who have heard that The Beatles may be selling more records than Elvis, consider that Elvis has sold 103,000,000 records in nine years. Average of eleven million records a year. Let's hope that The Beatles can keep that up.



THE BACHELORS are knocking up million sales throughout the world with their records, are almost convinced of one thing. They don't want another

No. 1! Mad? Not really, say the boys.
"We've just not had time for anything.
Life is too hectic already." Proof of this
is that they had to turn down a trip to the United States, where they're rapidly becoming one of the biggest groups ever. No plans have been made for a new single yet, as *I Believe* is still selling so strongly. I believe that the boys are going to get another No. 1, whether they want to or not.



We hear rumours that DAVE CLARK has been offered a chance of being groomed as a top film star, and with Dave's outstanding good looks, we can

well believe it. However, with the Five still hitting the charts in a big way, it's doubtful whether Dave will have the time to spare for much movie work. Otherwise The Dave Clark Five are trying to make sure that they can keep their fans at bay. So far every member of the group has been almost strangled by over-enthusiastic fans mobbing the boys after personal appearances at theatres.



Everyone knows DEL SHANNON'S big appetite—for girls. Yet although he likes London girls, the last time we were in the

Midlands he said he liked the girls there a lot. "Why?" I asked to be told. "Well, they talk a lot like American girls. But the London girls wear a bit too much make-up. certainly didn't know that most of them wore that all day and all night." In the Midlands, Del walks about the streets and doesn't get mobbed, funnily enough. But in London he can't walk more than two yards. "But as long as I can see the girls I'm alright" he says.



FREDDIE of Dreamers may act the fool on-stage, but off-stage he is more of a business man. Some months ago before

his first hit I met him at the Albert Hall, and he was booking his own dates without worrying about managers, etc. "If a date's worth it" says Freddie, "and you know you're not booked, then book it yourself." Much of a traveller as he is however, Freddie still keeps plenty of time to see his wife and new baby. "They're a hit with me" he grinned.





JOHN LEYTON says that he would prefer to marry a blonde but any girl would do if she has personality. Like everyone else John bemoans the fact

that he doesn't have time for a girlfriend but when we asked him to add up how many girls he had seen lately the total came to ten. Said John blushing, "Well, I don't really have time to take them all out more than once. But it's nice to know that they don't mind me calling up when I have the time.



EDEN KANE has said that he'd like to make a film again. How many times has the poor guy got to say it before people will give him a chance. They

had their chance when he had four hits in a row. Now it just so happens that he may have another four hits. Certainly some film company should take a chance.



A group that originated in Manchester, but moved to Nottingham to find success, TONY D. AND THE SHAKEOUTS, have

been booked to appear on A.T.V's "For Teenagers Only." The recording will take place on Monday, May 25th for expected showing on May 28th. The boys' latest disc, Is It True on the Pye Piccadilly label, is confidently expected to hit it big. A really solid number, backed with Never Let Her Go.



BILLY FURY may not have been seen around for some time. Reason is that he started breeding dogs as a hobby, but now he is at the point where he has

so many dogs that he hasn't been able to do any shows. "Gettin' a bit much" said Billy when I spoke to him. After all, even Billy has to relax now and again. Lately he has been sprinting around the park to keep the dogs happy. "They may be fit but I think I'll stick to one-nighters," says Billy. Really, tho' he has literally had hundreds of letters from fans asking for one of his dogs. "All very difficult" he told me. "I guess I need to go back on tour before I end up with a dogs home."



Blond bomber HEINZ is discovering that his blond hair can be quite a nuisance. He walks about most of the time muffled up to the ears with big "Trouble is" he told me,

overcoat. "I've only got to walk into the street"and then bang! Poor old Heinz is flat on his back! "Pop Weekly" suggested that Heinz dyed his hair black. S'funny but since then we haven't heard from Heinz. Actually, he's one of the nicest guys possible. Even when, as he found out the other day, there were two girls inside the boot of his car. Gets a bit difficult when you find out they've been in there for fifty miles and want to know the way home!!



Favourite life for THE TORNADOS is getting their fans together. tho' to have a chat" grinned Drummer Clem Cattini. "We still have our

water pistols from our last tour and we have a big fight usually. They're very useful as well to keep the fans away from the stage door so that we can get out.' Only trouble was that the last time they used their water pistols the fans let fly with "potato guns" (they fire small bits of potato) and Clem now insists that he has a small potato growing in his ear. "Could be true" one of the other members of the group said, "he never washes his ears.



BILLY J. KRAMER still suffers from the same kind of shyness that leads many people to believe that he is bigheaded. "Sometimes when I'm with some

fans they'll just stand there and not talk" he said. "But really I can't think of anything to say. It's all very difficult to say anything when there isn't any-thing to say. The craziest time was when I met my first load of fans and no one said anything. Then one of them asked if I was 'Really Billy J. Kramer. I naturally said I wasn't'." Lately however, there hasn't been much time for talk. Billy has a new film soon which is likely to keep him very, very busy!

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DISCussion

Hello then—and a pretty exciting crop this week—so let's not get stuck in the groove but proceed with all haste to the hole in the middle and meet:

Frank Ifield, whose new Columbia release "Angry At The Big Oak Tree" offers us a different Ifield than on many previous "singles." A very pleasant slow ballad with a distinct folksy-flavour and a good lyric. Frank has shed his famous yodel on this one and pitched his voice very much lower than usual; the result is more than satisfying, if not necessarily an undoubted pop hit. But his past successes plus the quality of this performance should ensure something!

At long last! After about six months absence from the new release lists. The Everly Brothers make a welcome return, on Warner Bros., with "Ain't That Lovin' You Baby?" Very much in the current pop style, it jangles and bounces its way quite happily—but the performance from Don and Phil will be a disappointment to those who used to flip over the boys' earlier hits. There is little to stick in the mind from the song's point of view but, whether or not this particular style suits you, it must be admitted that The Everlys cannot give an actually bad performance.

*** BOUQUET *** Without a shadow of a doubt, and with a great deal of pleasure, I award this week's top slot to Gerry Marsden (with his Pace makers plus strings, and a spot of * discreet brass). Columbia's Don't Let The Sun Catch You Crying is Gerry's own composition which was recently recorded by Louise Cordet with little success. It is an attractive song, and within the tirm grasp of Gerry's tonsils it assumes a great, but gentle, * impact. Here, yet again, we have yet another vocal style from the versatile Mr. Marsden-a soft, soulful tone with lots of appealing pathos. This, combined with a nicely controlled beat plus strings, places the platter among my top-five-best since January, An exciting and adventurous artiste is Gerry-you never quite know what he will do next; and, tike his different You'll Never Walk Alone and his still more different I'm The One topped by the current beauty, his accomplishments ensure ★ his future. Very exciting. ★

Another disc I like is the happy-goucky bouncer, on Philips, from Jackie And The Raindrops. "Come On Dream, Come On" has that kind of repetition which grows on you plus a beat that will insist you get up and dance. Not not bear in the properties of the properties of the but certainly an insistent foot-tapper.

On Decca there is a young lady by

the name of Lulu whom you might well want to bring to a party! The fast-paced "Shout" really sweeps along and Lulu's voice makes a decided impression. I rather care for the change of tempo in the middle, which certainly gives dancers the chance to take the breath they'll definitely need for the increased pace at the end which really does whip up a storm!

The Chimes' "Till Be Waiting," on Decca, doesn't register very favourably on my ears mainly because the rather thin, raucous vocal tones with a lightweight, rather staccato beat backing lacks any appeal of warmth or body. On top of that, there is little melodic attraction to make it individually outstanding. But along with many other discs, you'll be able to dance to this one just as well, though.

H.M.V.'s "Lovesick" gives Mike Berry a good opportunity to show a more definite side of his talent and he takes it with both tonsils! On a distinct R 'n' B kick, the song has strength with a pronounced, medium-paced beat to help it along the road to success. I like the way Mike handles the lyric and The Innocents are in fine form with a neat line in harmonica blowing. A very neat and effective platter.

- BRICKBAT -

London's My Girl Sloopy by The Vibrations is one of those discs which sound as though it has been recorded through three lavers of blanket; the backing is so muzzy that it is almost impossible to distinguish anything but a dull and thudding beat-and even that gets very monotonous for the lack of any other attraction to make a contrast. There is no distinction in the composition itself—and I get no vibrations of any kind of message at all. It'll be O.K. to dance to at some time or other, I have no doubt-but I often wonder why some people are just content to make a record, seemingly, with the idea that it is just another dance-able offering! That motivation alone leads to no individualism and, therefore, no progress. That's how this one strikes me. How about you?

Peter Wynne, now recording for Polydor, has come up with a peach of a beat ballad called "I'm A Fool To Want You." Very much in the present bigheat ballad idiom, Peter's fluid, darkbrown voice does full justice to an excellent lyric. Plenty of light and shade, bags of feeling and this combined with a strong orchestration which gives plenty of beat, makes this a well worthwhile platter in its field.



And The TOP 3 L.P.s

PRINCE BUSTER. "I FEEL THE SPIRIT"

BLUEBEAT BBLP. 802

Here is Jamaica's uncrowned King of Blue Beat in all his blue beat gloryand the LP is a veritable feast for all devotees of the cult. This is pure and simple blue beat with that compelling rhythm at its most compelling. Mind you, if you play the LP right through just for listening pleasure it gets a bit of a bore—but, then you're not really supposed to sit and listen to this rhythm. If you want to dance, then this is most definitely IT!

DJANGO REINHARDT AND STEPHANE GRAPPELLY with The Quintet of the Hot Club of France. ACE OF CLUBS: ACL. 1158

Here is the very best of jazz guitarists and jazz violinists on an LP which will bring back many memories for Django's and Stephane's original fans of the late thirties and early forties; and one which will open the ears of some newer, younger fans. Many of the old favourites are here including Honeysuckle Rose; Sweet Georgia Brown and Django's own famous Nuages. Django's virtuosity hasn't dated—despite the fact that his guitar is acoustic!!

ALL STAR. "SOUTH PACIFIC" REPRISE F.2018

Frank Sinatra, Bing Crosby, Rosemary Clooney, Sammy Davis Jnr., Dinah Shore and The Hi-Los are but some of the stars who re-create, in their own images, the melodies of "South Pacific"; the result is like a soundtrack of the show—but imagine how expensive would have been the cast! Great listening pleasure here and it is fascinating to see what artistes like Sammy Davis and Sinatra do with already well-loved tunes.

"Bye for now.

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FAB FUTURE FOR CLIFF

In America The Beatles smash onward regardless, taking more of the charts than anyone has ever known. Searchers. The Swinging Blue Jeans. Bern Elliott, The Dave Clark Five, and all the other groups are making the Americans hang their heads in shame. Yet no one seems to have noticed that one solo singer is still packing theatres making million-dollar films and is currently rated as having almost two discs in every world chart. Take a look at the world charts via "Billboard" the American musical paper. In Holland I'm The Lonely One stands at No. 3. In Norway the same disc stands at No. 5. In Switzerland No. 1 is Rote Lippen, and so on and so on. The singer is of course Britain's hit-maker, Cliff Richard.

In about four weeks' time, there will be a new release for the other countries and again he'll either be No. 1 or at least in the Top Ten in every chart. So for those Cliff fans, and there must be many millions who are feeling a bit left out of things, don't get disgrantled. Cliff is making better films, better records and is breaking the American charts in a much slower but far more subtle way than The Beatles. He wants his hits in American to be of lasting value. Not four or five quick hits and then

miss, miss, miss!

He wants to make sure that in five years' time the Americans will be absolutely certain in their own minds that Cliff Richard is the guy to hit the charts at all times. It's pretty certain that nothing is going to knock Cliff off his perch as world No. 1 solo male singer. Indeed, it's highly unlikely that with his film career progressing nicely, Cliff will ever be taking any kind of back seat. At the moment one feels that he is content to let The Beatles smash away at the charts, whilst he just waits until the excitement dies down a bit and then he can come storming back with "Wonderful Life" (the film) plus a strong single and a big selling album from the film.

Cliff fans who are also fans of The Beatles have admitted that Cliff is their favourite choice when they want to listen to albums without jumping around the floor. Said one fan in a letter to "Pop Weekly." "I think that all Cliff fans, even if they like The Beatles, still find Cliff the most soothing singer ever. To me, he's the greates and always will be. One just can't help liking him." She has taken the words out of my mouth. One just can't help liking Cliff—for he's always ready to help—and he knows that he's going to make it anyway.



Double Success for D.C.5

Talk about double success!! The Dave Clark Five are succeeding in the States in exactly the same way with Blist And Pieces and Glad All Over as they did in this country. In other world charts they are progressing nicely but at the moment America is making very big bids for the boys plus a film offer from Hollywood. They used to say the streets of London were paved with gold, but at the moment New York looks like coming the closest to making that phrase come true. Dave Clark anyway has showed that when he wants to he can still make The Beatles sit up and keep their eyes anxiously on the scene as his two hits thunder towards the Top Five.

At the same time however, he is being fiercely pursued by The Searchers and The Swinging Blue Jeans over there. The same thing is happening in this country and it's going to take a very strong third disc to break the grip of The Beatles and everyone else, to reach the top of the charts. Naturally, at the moment Dave and his group are very pleased with the way things are going, but they're not resting on their laurels. "We need some very good numbers to keep in the American charts against all the competition" says Dave and it's highly likely that he'll be doing a lot of recording in the next few weeks to make that statement ring true!

In fact, with TV, films, radio, personal appearances, and many other signs of a top group's talent hitting the boys left, right and centre it's pretty certain that an extra holiday will be asked for this year. Already they have suffered almost as much TV exposure as The Beatles and, as yet, have had hardly any rest before starting a series of radio, Press and personal appearances. Soon they'll be on their way back to the United

States for another basinful. Then back to Britain for another bill-topping appearance at the London Palladium on June 10th. "It's All Go" ought to be the title of their next single I think.

Now that the Dave Člark Five have proved that their Do You Love Me wasn't just a fluke or their Glad All Over, I think this smart, good-looking team will find themselves in demand in many of the European countries where their records are becoming available. Their unusual sound, different again to what The Beatles or anyone else is doing, gives them an edge on the countless groups who are getting small hits simply by recording good numbers. "Sound is an important thing" says Dave. "We intend to get the best sound possible and show everyone that we can also do different sounds with our particular line-up."

At the moment that's not the group's big problem. That is trying to eat and get from venue to venue without being mobbed!! "But what a nice way to live" smiles the happy Dave Clark.

POP Weekly

18/4/64



+ + + New To You * * *

INDA SAXONE

She's vivacious. beauty queen. And a gal who sings like the proverbial dream. Require further confirmation on the star quality of Linda Saxone? Then listen to her fine, big-voiced version of Love Is A Many Splendoured Thing, on the Pye label.

And Linda should not surprise people with the maturity of her vocal stylings. For she's been singing in public since she was a mere toddler of five. She'd been on holiday in Margate, with her family, and wandered on to the bandstand at the open-air Lido Theatre. She was lifted up on to the piano. And she sang. And sang. For an hour, her act went on. And the audience loved

So Linda got her first taste of show business. The bug bit her deeper and deeper during her days at school in Great Yarmouth and by the time she was 14, she was determined to make show business her full-time career.

Linda next entered a contest at the Marina, Great Yarmouth, won the first three heats . . . then was "discovered" by comedian Max Wall, who thought she was so good he immediately offered her a national tour in his show. Says Linda; That tour really clinched it for me. I knew there was nothing else I really wanted to do. And sure enough I found the breaks coming along-you know how one thing snowballs into another.' This actually snowballed into a threeyear job with the Gordon Edwards band as a vocalist.

Then came the news that the Edwards band was going to disband. On one of the last dates, at an American Air Force base. Linda met Jack Segal who became her manager and helped her to gain worthwhile work as a solo singer in cabaret and on package shows. Now Linda is managed by Stan Ritter, a man who believes heart and soul in her talent and her ability to hit the tops in

Linda, with her cool good looks and her vibrant personality, had little difficulty in winning a "Dairy Maid" contest at Norwich. But she also has a very modest personality . . . which prompts her to say: "Well, I didn't find it difficult to win-after all, my dad WAS a farmer, so I knew the answer to the questions."

Since making her debut disc (which really is worth a listen), Linda has been busy on television shows around the country. What's more, the "Juke Box Jury" panel pondered on her record and came up with it as a resounding "HIT."

Her disc has been released in the States, via the Dot label. Her follow-up single for Britain is already planned and in the can. So it is obvious that things are swinging highly successfully for the shapely young lass. Which is great news. There is plenty of room for new faces to get up there in the charts.

Readers' Pop Shop Talk

Cilla Black best female singer of today . . . Dave Clark Five would be nowhere without Mike Smith . . . last record . . . Ringo-FAB . . . About time Tommy Quickly had a big hit . . .

Four new singles out at the moment are all old Elvis discs . . . Rolling Stones Britain's best R & B group . . . Gene Pitney's That Girl Belongs To Yesterday his best yet . . . Searchers' stage act a

Billie Davis prettiest singer on scene ... Duffy Power deserves more recogni-tion chartwise ... Will Eden Kane's comeback last? ... Promising first disc from Chick Graham . Heinz should forget acting . Joe Brown most versatile pop singer? . . Great backing from Manfred Mann for Crystals on current tour . . . Ronettes fab in every way . . . New disc from Fourmost overdue . Hollies better with every record . Lesley Gore, Big Dee Irwin one-hit wonders?... Why doesn't Iain Gregory make more records? . . . Jess Conrad's latest record his best yet . .

All My Loving by Marylin Powell better than Beatles' version . . . Are You Cetting Tired Of Your Little Toy by Lorraine Gray swingin' disc . . . One for the top, Millie's My Boy Lollipop . . . Coming up, I Love How You Love Me by Maureen Evans . . . Adrienne Poster and Louise Cordet could both make it with new records given plugging . . . School Is Over by Billie Davis rings the bell . . .

Bachelors' I Believe much better than Lee Stirling's version . Mike Smith (Dave Clark Five) deserves more credit than he gets . . . Gene Pitney's latest disc his greatest yet . . . Jim Reeves only real singer in Hit Parade . . . Shadows' new disc best since Wonderful Land . . . Freddie and Dreamers pathetic Hollies' Just One Look more worthy of No. 1 spot than Beatles' Can't Buy Me Love . . . Ezz Reco's King Of Kings best blue-beat number . . . Dave Clark Five look smarter than The Beatles, also better-looking . . . Stupid having two

Dave Clark Five ten times better than Beatles; far better-looking too . . . Searchers best Liverpool group . . . Saints deserve more recognition . Can't think what people see in Cilla Black . . . Peter Jay and The Jaywalkers' latest single should be at top of charts

Del Shannon new discs out at same time.

. . Heinz best solo male singer to hit

charts in a long time... What happened to Crystals' I Wonder? ... Freddie and Dreamers FAB on Palladium ... Are Beatles getting just a little big-headed over all their successes? . . Cliff Richard definitely slipping . . That new Shadow—Mmm! . . . Isn't it about time The Rolling Stones rolled along to the barbers? . . . Where does Dusty Springfield get all those "King" is really back in form . . . World Without Love by Peter and Gordon a cert for the Top Ten . . .

This feature is contributed by a number of readers each week and the Editor does not necessarily agree with the views expressed.

At the time of going to press the increase in the number of members of the official Elvis Presley Fan Club since January 1st is 8,102, that is an average of 96 joins per postal day.

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PHOTO CAVALCADE

ASP INTERNATIONAL provided pictures of Cliff and The Dave Clark Five. MIRRORPIC those of The Beatles and The Rolling Stones.
PHILIP GOTLOP, The Shadows.
TONY PUGH—Billy J. Kramer.

Linda Saxone "LOVE IS A MANY SPLENDOURED THING"

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Extracts from letter received from Helen Shapiro from Tokyo Hilton Hotel, Tokyo.

Everything is going fine here. We had a big reception at Kai Tak Airport (Hong Kong) on our arrival here, and the shows went very well. We're now in Tokyo for approx. 10 days, and so far the audiences have been very good.

During our stay in Hong Kong, we went on a tour of the New Territories, and up to the borders of Communist China. It was a very interesting trip, and I took quite a lot of film with my

movie camera.

In Hong Kong we met up with Chas. McDevitt and Shirley Douglas and spent most days with them. They took us up to the Peak which overlooks the whole of Hong Kong Harbour and Kowloon. The view was really breathtaking and was well worth the hair-raising journey to the Peak by tram-car!

Since arriving in Tokyo, we haven't had much free time to look around because I've been busy with Press conferences, rehearsing the shows and TV appearances. Anyway, we hope to have a few days off before we leave.

In Hong Kong we attended a reception given by my Japanese Fan Club, and spent an hour or so with the members (about 200 attended).

All best wishes, Helen.

Does It Matter

Does it really matter whether The Rolling Stones are rhythm 'n' blues or not? So far as I am concerned they are but it is of no importance. They produce a fabulous, exciting sound, are different and original and have a sensational stage act. On top of this they are good looking and extremely nice boys. I happen to know them personally and can youch for that last.

So let's stop pinning labels on the boys, appreciate their greatness then settle down and enjoy them. Esther Chamberlaine (Leighton Buzzard)

Not Slipping

Recently you put an article in "Pop Weekly" 'Beatles' Influence Slipping?' But I don't agree with it at all. I think The Beatles' influence is definitely not slipping. I've never before known a group's record to go straight to the top or the Hit Parade as soon as it is released. As for the other groups like The Rolling Stones and the Dave Clark Five, they owe nearly all their success to The Beatles. For their haircuts and their dress. I'm not saying that The Beatles are like The Rolling Stones and I hope they'll never be as scruffy as them. Jacqueline Hook

Better Than Ever

After reading 'Brickbat' on your Discussion page, I must write to say how glad I am you have expressed my own feelings so well. Elvis sings now better than ever before, and though I enjoy this record after seeing the film "Love In Las Vegas," I too see the film "Love In Las Vegas," I too see the film credits rolling over the screen every time I hear it, and I do feel that to those who do not see the film or who do not love Elvis at all times, it will not make much impression. Can't somebody do something about Col. Parker and whoever else is responsible for these inferior songs? El is still capable of reaching No. 1—given the right material, and for his sake we demand that he shall be given a chance.

Jessie Guillon (Nottingham)

Smart Five

So Hilary Sawyer thinks the Dave Clark Five are overrated and owe their success to The Beatles. Well, in my opinion The Beatles are much more overrated. Surely they owe a large part of their success to good publicity and the fact that they were first on the scene when groups really became big. Admittedly George and Ringo are good instrumentalists and Paul and John can write some good songs, but I wouldn't say that they can sing any better than the Dave Clark Five or a lot of other groups. As for saying that Mike Smith tries to be like John Lennon, that's plain ridiculous. Mike is a better singer and instrumentalist than John Lennon will ever be, and he doesn't act so stupidly as John Lennon sometimes does. I think the Dave Clark Five are a much better-looking group than The Beatles and also much smarter, as they always look smart, whereas The Beatles, who can and often do look real fab, sometimes look downright scruffy, and their hair is too long now!!

Lisebeth Peacock (Royston)

Dave's The Best

In a recent "Pop Weekly" we were disgusted to read that Hilary Sawyer from Waterlooville said The Beatles were better than The Dave Clark Five and that The Dave Clark Five cannot sing or play their instruments. Who does she think she is? The Dave Clark Five can sing and play better than The Beatles. The Beatles don't sing but how, like dogs!

Two Dave Clark Five Fans

The Editor does not necessarily agree with the views expressed by readers in their letters printed on this page.

SKILFUL SHADS

It's disgraceful! Disgusting! It shouldn't be allowed!! That's my reaction to the fact that The Shadows' disc Theme For Young Lovers hasn't had a chance to reach the Top Five. It's a marvellous number well played, with a marvellous melody line. But instead of reaching the Top Three, which it should have done two weeks after release, it is still floating around the Top Twenty!! Not even a Top Ten entry. How stupid. Don't tell me that all The Shadows' fans have gone on holiday or become Beatles' fans and nothing else? It's a bad day for The Shadows when their fans suddenly can't be bothered, or whatever it is, to buy one of their greatest-ever discs.

On speaking to five of the top groups in the country, I discovered that they all thought this one of the best-ever Shadows records. But unfortunately, The Shadows haven't had the chance to even put this point over, due to the number of beat vocals on the market. I only hope that The Shadows don't suddenly decide to become vocalists on their next few discs. That really would put the cap on everything. The Shadows are possibly the best four guitarists in the country, as a team. They have had world sales of many millions without their boss Cliff. They have tremendous skill and a great deal of thought, time and recording goes into

every one of their singles. I'm not saying discard The Beatles, but let's face facts. The Shadows have a great deal more musical experience to my mind than The Beatles. They should be given every opportunity to have more and bigger hits. But what happens? As soon as they (The Shadows) produce some darn good discs, plus some new instruments, everyone starts to say that they've had it. It's a great pity because The Shadows are probably wondering whether it's a bad disc. To Hank, Bruce and the other two, Brian and John let me say that on behalf of the many fans who did buy it, that it's one of the best platters ever. A chunk of more solid wax hasn't come my way for many a

month. Give The Shadows a break. Don't forget that writing and making a hit with every record is difficult, but for The Shadows it's doubly difficult. There aren't many big instrumental hit composers on the scene. In fact, there are hardly any. That's why The Shadows should be praised more than The Beatles for their achievements, for in a way, every Shadows hit constitutes two hits plus making sure that more musical talent is used. The Beatles are good musicians, but not in the class yet of The Shadows. Even The Beatles will admit that The Shadows are a good group, and admit too, that writing a darn good instrumental is pretty difficult.

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