

# ROUND THE WAX CIRCLE

## NEW YORK :

Orkster Lawrence Welk opened this past week at the Roosevelt Hotel in a blaze of glory. Lawrence starts his new network show via ABC June 1st for Hi-Life Beer, and has his first Mercury platters skedded for early release . . . Look for "Brother Bill," the platter that skyrocketed the Charlie Spivak band years ago, to be among one of the hot re-issue items . . . Sylvia Langler, sparkplug at National Records, back at her desk after being hospitalized for the past two weeks . . . Apollo Records sales chief Irving Katz informs us that the plattery now has complete distribution in Canada via Monarch Records in Toronto. The latter will press and distribute Apollo on their own label. Apollo has also added Belmont Distribs in Newark, and Delson-Stoken in Los Angeles . . . Ed Levy of Major Distribs passing out cigars this week. Ed's wife gave birth to a 6 lb. 10 oz. girl, named Candas Jill. Congratulations, Ed! . . . Spike Jones opening at the City Center, White Plains, New York, pulled some of the B'way crowd who were simply amazed at the way those Westchester folk jammed the place . . . Gene Austin and Jose Melis doing a grand job at the Raleigh Room. Dick Bradley of Tower Records, and the very charming Mrs. Bradley, in town. Dick's hotel suite jammed night and day with music biz figures . . . Jimmy Dorsey opening at the Cafe Rouge, Hotel Statler brought brother Tommy down, with the pair turning in a bit of jam for old time sake . . . George Ilsen in town visiting . . . The Messrs. BVC wild about their new acquisition, "You're Always There" . . . Paul Cohen of Decca, caught dancing with his lovely daughter at the Dorsey opening . . . We hear Harry Link looks forward to becoming a granddaddy mighty soon . . . Mary Louise, former Cab Calloway chirp, now featured on Gotham Records, in town making her debut at Cafe Society . . . Jimmy Durante named Laff King of America by the National Laugh Week Foundation . . . Gloria Friedman, well known disk figure in the city, has a big deal on tap with one of the major platteries . . . It's "What's My Name Week" in New York for Fran Warren's great RCA Victor cookie.



SPIKE JONES

## CHICAGO :

Lots of luck to Myron Barg who started his new disk jockey show over WMOR this past week . . . Jack and Sid Mills of Mills Music in town recently to get a line up on the midwest setup . . . Archie Levington of Leeds Music here was visited this past week by Al Gallichio of Leeds' New York firm . . . Jack Fulton's Tower waxing of "Sunflower" selling like mad. Sales have already topped the 50,000 mark . . . Andy and Della Russell bowed out of the Mayfair Room of the Blackstone, March 21, after a very successful run. We hear that Andy and Della are negotiating with NBC for a "Mr. and Mrs." air show . . . Orkster Al Trace has added a barber shop quartet singing contest to his Monday night Dance Frolics with the winning quartet featured later in the evening on the Frolics broadcast . . . Norman Granz presented another of his "Jazz at the Philharmonic" concerts at the Civic Opera House March 25. Ella Fitzgerald was featured as vocal star . . . Moe Wells all hepped up over his new tune "Downhearted" which will be released shortly by Al Trace on the Damon label . . . If you like rumba music, be sure and give a listen to Jose Murand's RCA-Victor disk "Rumba Cocktail," a sure fire winner . . . Maestro Eddy Howard ended his run at the Aragon Ballroom March 22 when Chuck Foster and his ork stepped into the band spot . . . Nate Platt, booker for the Chicago Theatre, has lined up a nice array of talent with Eddie Cantor set for one week beginning April 15, Desi Arnaz taking over on April 22, Frances Langford inked for May 6, Guy Lombardo coming in June 5, and Peggy Lee and Dave Barbour pacted for a two-weeker starting June 24 . . . Look for Don Reid's Peak disking of "Hurry, Hurry, Hurry" to be among the nation's top ten tunes shortly. Really picking up in popularity in the Chi area.



EDDY HOWARD

## LOS ANGELES :

Syd Nathan of King Records really getting around while out here. Sid went all the way out to the wilds of Pasadena where he visited with Bill McCall and told the 4-Star topper what a good thing Bill had in the forthcoming release of Nick Esposito's "Empty Bedroom-Blues" . . . Nathan's own outfit, headed locally by Al Sherman, doing a fine job on the DeLuxe disking of Roy Brown's "Rockin' At Midnight" . . . Nat Cole's version of "Portrait of Jenny" has given that pretty tune just the shot it needed, with the Capitol disk finding its way on to the most juke boxes in this area. Discovery Records, the Albert Marx outfit, looks as if it could have a real hit in the juke field after doing a nice job entering the disk biz with the progressive jazz of maestro Phil Moore. The Discovery plattery now comes up with Martha Raye on "Ooh, Dr. Kinsey." Ad and promotion men Howard Hutchinson and Dick Bock spun the platter for us and we'll predict it's a cinch to clean up in the boxes, if handled properly. Ditty has been banned from the air—supposedly slightly risque . . . Ops with western locations should latch on to Tommy Duncan's first for Capitol, "Worried Over You" and "I'm Thru Wastin' Time On You." . . . Tempo Records' Brother Bones skedded for the Pittsburgh Courier "Find Of The Year" award at New York's Carnegie Hall this coming April 9 . . . Irving Fogel major domo of the firm in New York for the occasion, and also to huddle with Jack Bergman, Milton Saltzman, D. J. MacKillip and Franco Passigli, the latter all the way over from Florence, Italy . . . Leo Mesner of Aladdin Records in New York, while brother Eddie recovers from chicken-pox of all things . . . Dee-Jay Joe Adams' pre-release contest tabs Amos Milburn's new "Jitterbug Parade" as an all time winner.



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