

THE CASH BOX

"Folk" and "Western" Record Reviews

BULLSEYE of the WEEK

"Johnstown Polka" (2:37)
"Castle Of My Dreams" (2:59)

TEX WILLIAMS
(Capitol 57-40159)



TEX WILLIAMS

● With the trend to polkas growing greater thruout the nation and

with more ops asking for them, along comes Tex Williams to pipe "Johnstown Polka," a dedication to the big Johnstown, Pa. flood. It's Tex's own composition, and the way this grand western star sings the speedy tempo of this tune, is something every op in the nation will want to feature. On the flip, "Castle Of My Dreams," Tex slows down the tempo, and with grand support from his Western Caravan, produces one of the best of the western tunes he's sung in many and many a moon. Grab a boxful and spread 'em around.

"Everybody's Sweetheart" (2:47)

"I'm Backin' Up" (2:35)
ART GIBSON
(Mercury 6194)

● Art Gibson singing two tunes that he composed is something to listen in to. On the topside, "Everybody's Sweetheart," Art and his Mountain Melody Boys cut a grand side in medium fast metro, grand fingering of the 88's behind it, as Art himself gives out with the piping to produce one of the best sides he's yet cut. On the flip with "I'm Backin' Up," Art slows down the tempo somewhat and with the grand instrumental backing of his Mountain Melody Boys again cuts wax that deserves your complete listening. Listen in.

"Riders In The Sky" (3:00)

"I Wish I Could Call You My Sweetheart" (2:50)
STAN JONES
(Mercury 5320)

● Without any doubt this is one of the very finest renditions of this grand, grand ghostly cowboy tune that is catching on everywhere. Stan Jones and his Death Valley Rangers produce an unusual and outstanding side here and do it with an echo chamber effect that is sure to please listeners. On the flip, "I Wish I Could Call You My Sweetheart," Stan slows the metro but cuts wax here as is wax. Get next to this platter.

"Afraid" (2:45)

"Cottage In The Clouds" (2:47)
REX ALLEN
(Mercury 6192)

● Rex has always been a juke box favorite and has won his spurs, especially with the many personal appearances he's made at ops' affairs. With his Arizona Wranglers behind him and with Jerry Byrd to help, Rex pipes the sweet, slow and sentimental lyrics to "Afraid" in beautiful style. The rhythm here is matched right to the lyrics and melody of the song. On the flip, in medium slow tempo, Rex Allen and his boys come up with, "Cottage In The Clouds," and again sell a neat and sentimental tune that has plenty of style to it. Either side is good. Listen in to this platter.

"On The Banks Of The Sunny San Juan" (2:46)

"One You Must Choose" (2:54)
EDDIE DEAN
(Mercury 6195M)

● The romantic voice of Eddie Dean on any platter is usually sure-fire for any location in the hills or out on the plains. The boy's got that smooth, romantic touch in his tonsils that always get the gals sighing and the fellows wishing. Just listen in to him singing, "On The Banks Of The Sunny San Juan," a ballad in slow tempo with gorgeous lyrics and lots of meat to it. On the flip, Eddie speeds the tempo somewhat and again cuts one that's sure to go great, "One You Must Choose." This is one you can order by the boxful.

"Country Boy" (2:51)

"I'm Fading Fast With The Time" (2:59)
"LITTLE" JIMMY DICKENS
(Columbia 20585)

● "Little" Jimmy Dickens has always been known to the juke box trade as a "typical folk singer" and he doesn't fail the boys with this newest release. On the topside, "Country Boy," Jimmy pleases with lyrics that somehow match the average country boy's belief of what's what and how. The tune's a medium fast tempo and the melody is catchy. On the flip, "I'm Fading Fast With The Time," Jimmy goes into a very typical hillbilly lament. A sentimental tear jerker that doesn't impress too much.

"Our Shotgun Weddin' Day" (2:42)

"Easy Pickin'" (2:40)
HOWINGTON BROTHERS
(DC 4114)

● One thing that can be said for the Howington Brothers—they sure do know how to add just the right touch of novelty and humor to any tune they undertake to cut. On the topside of this platter, "Our Shotgun Weddin' Day," the boys come thru with a honey that is bound to get a laugh wherever it's played. It's in lively, toe tapping rhythm with one of the cutest windups you've yet heard. On the flip, "Easy Pickin'," the boys show off their instrumental artistry and feature harmonicas that are going to please lots and lots of folks. Get next to this platter.



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