

ROUND THE WAX CIRCLE

NEW YORK:

The town was buzzing this week with all the rumors of the changes at Columbia. Many of the shifts are coming as a terrific shock to the people in the music trade. . . . Henry Stone of Stone Distributors, Florida, in New York for a visit with his manufacturers reports a healthy upswing in record sales. . . . Vaughn Monroe's home in West Newton, Mass., was flooded with six inches of water over the Xmas holidays. Vaughn and the family spent Christmas in N. Y. and when they returned found that the pipes had frozen and burst. The kids were able to skate in the living room. . . . Dick Cowitt, sales manager for Zenith (MGM distrib) bursting wild with Billy Eckstine's "Bring Back The Thrill." . . . Eddie Fisher off for Florida again, this time for two weeks at the Casablanca. . . . King Cole is planning a sequel to "The Thing" called "Nothing." . . . Burl Ives whose Columbia contract expires February 1st is being pursued by the major waxeries. . . . Spike Jones makes his television debut on the Colgate Comedy Hour on February 11. We can do without such tasteless opuses from Spike as "Tennessee Waltz." . . . Dick Linke is branching into the management field with Pat Terry who appeared with Frank Sinatra and WNEW's "Boy Meets Girl," and the Three



BILLY ECKSTINE

Notes a new trio who have just finished six weeks in Atlantic City and are now in the Darberry Room in Boston. . . . Dick is also now acting as NY disk jockey promotion man for Sammy Kaye. . . . Johnny Desmond moves to Hollywood for three weeks shortly with Don McNeil's Breakfast Club. . . . Willard Alexander added newcomer Harry West Orchestra to his stable based on excellent showing of the band on new Dorset record label. . . . Cab Calloway may open his own Broadway night spot. . . . When Frankie Laine returns the contract signed, he will belong to Columbia. The switch from Mercury nets him a reported \$50,000 a year guarantee. . . . Jack Bergman of Tempo Record Dist. on the coast for a week to contact his recently acquired record manufacturers including Modern and Swingtime. . . . Wonder whether Joe Delaney can develop an English accent in a week. He should at least come back with a monocle. Delaney has been in England confabbing with London Records pres. E. R. Lewis.

CHICAGO:

Reports by well known columnist that no more juke boxes would be manufactured brought this column a large number of inquiries. Juke box manufacturers are continuing right ahead. They are, naturally, not building the same quantity of automatic phonos that they were building some months ago. This is due to lack of materials. But, they are producing new units, and will continue to do so, for as long as they possibly can. . . . Sherman Hayes is doing a very fine job at the Oriental and, like always, Sherman continues to seek for "that one big disk." He's cut some grand material in the past. Here's hoping he'll cut one soon that'll go right over the top. . . . Tony Fontaine and Ralph Marterie are being plugged by Mercury who believe that they have two greats here. Tony's "Bring Back The Thrill" disk is winning much praise. And Maestro Marterie's music is capturing lots of attention. . . . Friend Chick Kardale called to wonder why his grand Xmas card wasn't reported. It was, Chick, but, we ran 'way over our usual space and our editor simply chopped. But, Chick, once again let me state that this was one card we carried about with us for days showing it to many in the field. . . . Myron Barg is clicking on his deejay show and reports are current he's coming up "with a big one very soon."



TONY FONTAINE

. . . It is satisfying how Patti Page's dinking of "Tennessee Waltz" is holding first place here week after week. The gal's just simply grand—as a vocalist—and as a sweet person. No one better deserves success. So, Patti, now that you've passed 1,300,000 on "Tennessee Waltz," let's hope for "over 2,000,000." . . . The juke box biz is heading into one of the biggest booms in its history, according to experts in the field. Seems like a reversal of play time in juke box field. With TV keeping people home during Fall and Winter seasons, juke boxes pick up in Spring and Summer. Complete change from the old days. And, with more people working, more in uniform, and all other factors adding up, these experts claim that "juke boxes are heading into the biggest boom play period in all their history."

LOS ANGELES:

Looks as if Syd Nathan of King picked a winner in Ralph Bass to handle his blues and rhythm A & R on the new Federal label. . . . Or so it would seem by the quick success won by the first Federal release, "Do Something for Me" by the Dominoes. . . . And our good friend and King distrib topper Al Sherman admits that he's overdue a hit in the blues and rhythm dept. . . . Speaking of Syd Nathan, we came across a Jan. issue of Saga magazine, in which Syd's success story is dramatically set off with the blurb: "Starting on junkyard machinery, brassbound nerve and credit, Sydney Nathan has built a big business out of music for the little people." . . . And to top it off, there's a handsome full page picture of Syd fronting the article. . . . Capitol has Mary Solle at Leuenhagen's Record Bar and many of her operator customers baffled with the new release of Stan Freberg's "John and Marcia," largely consisting of the two title names in its lyrics played again and again in a multitude of expressions and intonations. . . . But maybe Stan and his co-writers, two of 'em yet, know what they're about: We actually witnessed several ops play it over and over, trying to figure out what the gimmick was and, when



THE DOMINOES

Mary couldn't shed any light on it, they wound up buying several to try on the cash customers. . . . John Dolphin is just about ready to move into his new, expanded and beautiful quarters two doors east of his present Vernon Ave. location. . . . The color scheme calls for a chartreuse ceiling, jungle green top trim and lower walls in pea green. . . . His office will be up on the balcony of the former Water and Power office site, and there'll be seven listening booths with the KGFJ window broadcasting unit enlarged and facing right out towards busy Central Avenue.

This week's New Releases ... on RCA Victor

RELEASE # 51-3

POPULAR

**THE HONEYDREAMERS with
The Potato Bugs**
Potato Bug Boogie
The Beanbag Song
20-4023 (47-4023) *

**PHIL REGAN with
Skip Martin and his Orchestra**
Pretty Kitty Kelly
Sweetheart Darlin'
20-4024 (47-4024) *

**BUDDY MORROW
and his Orchestra**
The Happiest Day Of My Life
In The Land Of Make Believe
20-4025 (47-4025) *

**GENE KRUPA
and his Chicago Jazz**
Panhandle Rag
Blues My Naughty Sweetie Gives
To Me 20-4026 (47-4026) *

COUNTRY

**TEXAS JIM ROBERTSON
and his Panhandle Punchers**
You Can't Do Nothin' With A
Woman
Don't Angel Me (You Little Devil)
21-0427 (48-0427) *

**CHET ATKINS
and his Guitar Pickers**
Indian Love Call
Music In My Heart
21-0428 (48-0428) *

**PEE WEE KING and his
Golden West Cowboys**
No One But You
Within My Heart (La Golondrina)
21-0429 (48-0429) *

POP-SPECIALTY

**JOHNNY VADNAL
and his Orchestra**
Clap Hands Polka
Blame It On The Waltz
25-1186 (51-1186) *

* 45 rpm cat. nos.

NOTE: All records in this panel are listed alphabetically by song title.



\$. . . indicates records which, according to actual sales, are recognized hits. The trade is urged to keep ample stocks of these records on hand, or to reorder promptly when current stocks begin to approach the "sold-out" stage.

WEEK OF JANUARY 13

\$ **Tennessee Waltz**
Spike Jones
20-4011—(47-4011)

\$ **Be My Love**
Mario Lanza
10-1561—(49-1353)

\$ **The Thing**
Phil Harris
20-3968—(47-3968)

\$ **Zing Zing, Zoom Zoom If**
Perry Como (Sigmund Romberg)
(Mitchell Ayres)
20-3997—(47-3997)

\$ **A Bushel And A Peck**
Perry Como and Betty Hutton
20-3930—(47-3930)

\$ **You're Just In Love**
Perry Como with the
Fontane Sisters
20-3945—(47-3945)

\$ **There's Been A
Change In Me**
Eddy Arnold
21-0412—(48-0412)

\$ **My Heart Cries For You
Nobody's Chasing Me**
Dinah Shore
20-3978—(47-3978)

\$ **The Golden Rocket**
Hank Snow
21-0400—(48-0400)

\$ **Thinking Of You**
Eddie Fisher with
Hugo Winterhalter's Ork.
20-3901—(47-3901)

\$ **I'm Movin' On**
Hank Snow
21-0328—(48-0328)

\$ **Patricia**
Perry Como
20-3905—(47-3905)

\$ **Tennessee Waltz**
Fontane Sisters
20-3979—(47-3979)

\$ **Who Kicked The
Light Plug**
Betty Hutton
20-4000—(47-4000)

The stars who make the hit are on **RCA VICTOR Records**
RCA VICTOR DIVISION RADIO CORPORATION OF AMERICA, CAMDEN, NEW JERSEY
JAN FEB MAR The APRIL MAY JUNE Swings JULY AUG SEPT to OCT NOV DEC '45