

THE CASH BOX RHYTHM N' BLUES *Ramblings*

NEW YORK:

With Ruth Brown's "Mend Your Ways" and "Wild Wild Young Men" certain hits, and Hal Paige's "Drive It Home" looking like a big one, Atlantic Records is really sitting pretty. . . . Sol Handwerger, M.G.M. Records excited about the early reaction The Crickets' newest, "I'll Cry No More" and "For You I Have Eyes," is stirring up. . . . Joe Cohen, Essex Distributors, Newark, N. J., tells us the Savoy-Varetta Dillard "Mercy Mr. Percy" looks like a strong seller.



FUQUA'S INK SPOTS

Joe is sporting a flaming red sunburn picked up on the golf course at Grossingers last week-end. Looks like it made a new man of Joe. In fact with the aid of Jennie's blintzes it looks like it made two new men of Joe. Irv Cohen also sun darkened. But this was gotten walking his two and one-half year old cutie around on her pony. . . . Harry Apostoleris, Alpha Record Distributors, New York, tells us the Big Town "Tin Pan Alley" shows definite signs of breaking into a big one. . . . George Goldner, Tico Records A & R, back at the new office after a week of rest and relaxation. Couldn't stand the inactivity and just busting at the seams for some record session action. . . . Watched Syd Nathan

and Henry Glover, King Records, cut some sides with Annisteen Allen. Expected to find them tense and perhaps jumpy because of the concentration demanded, but instead they were cool, calm, and enjoying themselves. Nathan and Glover also cut Sugar Ray Robinson on a couple of novelty sides and surprise of surprises—Sugar Ray really sings well. Two good sides, and with Sugar Ray's adulatory following, should really sell. . . . King Records announced the signing of Charlie Fuqua's Ink Spots. . . . Rose Marks, personal manager of Billy Ward's Dominoes, announced the appointment of Milton Horowitz as legal representative of the group and the Ward-Mark Music Co., Inc. Also, Mike Hall Associates have been appointed national public relations advisors for both enterprises. . . . Load of friends in the music business turned out at Snookies to salute Bill Graham, new Peacock artist. . . . Don Robey and Irv Marcus, Peacock and Duke, feel they have another "hit" in "Ain't That Good News" by the Duces of Rhythm & Tempo Toppers. . . . Stop Tune Record Distributors in Miami, Fla., really doing a job. President Vincent Klobe and Norman Dupree handle the sales for their complete line which includes Coral, Imperial, Specialty, Jubilee, Prestige, Chance, Job, Trumpet and Allied. . . . Carl Lebow, Apollo Records, announces the signing of a new blues group, "The Jumping Jacks," and a spiritual group, "The Melody Echos."

CHICAGO:

The great songwriting team of Benny Benjamin and George Weiss, responsible for such hits as "Oh, What It Seemed To Be," "Wheel Of Fortune," "Shoulder To Weep On," and many more, in town for a few days plugging their latest, "I'm Not Free." Tune has been cut on the Judson label with Wendy Waye, who is also in town. Another of their recent numbers, "Don't Call My Name," is really catching on. Song has been covered by several labels. . . . Leonard Allen of United Records very much concerned over controversy involving disk called, "Please Wait For Me" cut with Debbie Andrews. Leonard feels tune would really click if he could release it. Believes Debbie Andrews possesses one of the warmest sounds on wax today. . . . Hear Willie Mabon headin' for New Yawk City's Apollo Theatre. . . . Following engagement at The Black Orchid, Mary Kaye Trio heads for the West Coast. Opening at the Mocambo, June 14. Schedule also includes a movin' pitchur with Bing Crosby. Their MGM'er, "Did He Ask About Me," getting lotsa spins around town. . . . It happened in Miami Beach. Jockey Jack (Gibson) of Radio Station WMBM announced that the first person to come to his studio and tell the significance of Ballantine's 3 Rings would get a free case of beer. A terrific traffic jam resulted. For this, both Jockey Jack and Station Mgr. Jim Vaughan arrested. (Aside to Jack: Well, Jack, at least you know you have a terrific listening audience. . . . The Bee Hive here is switching its policy to name attractions as of June 12. First of these will be Coleman Hawkins. With a possible followup of Roy Eldridge. . . . Fats Domino, whose "Goin' To The River" is No. 3 according to The Cash Box R&B Top Ten, has begun a Midwestern tour. Into Dayton for four days, followed by a series of one-niters.



FATS DOMINO

LOS ANGELES:

That B. B. King etching of "Crazy, Man, Crazy" starting to take off around these parts. . . . Lowell Fulson and Lloyd Glenn, Swingtime record artists, off on a national tour that will extend for two months and some 30,000 miles. . . . Leo and Eddie Mesner, Aladdin Records, both house happy these days, what with Eddie having just completed his Pacific Palisades palace and Leo's Valley Vista mansion in the final stages. It's nice to know that we'll be able to swim at Leo's pool and use the cabanas, or will Leo install a turnstile ala Jack Benny? . . . Lew Chudd, Imperial Records prexy, off on a quick trip thru the midwest and south, and then back to sunny Los Angeles. Don't know the exact figures, but we'd wager that Lew travels 100,000 miles a year. . . . Latter's Bobby Mitchell recording of "I'm Crying" starting to make noise around these parts. . . . Local 47, AFM just issued a complete list of companies granted recording licenses in the southern California area, and the thing totals more than 300. Of these there are about 60 that are active, and about 20 that should be. . . . Jazz still jumps around town, with Jack Teagarden, Wingy Manone, Kid Ory, Howard Rumsey, Teddy Charles, Gerry Mulligan all working locations around town. . . . New Lloyd Price release has hit marked all over it, but the



LLOYD PRICE

side we go for is "Where You At." . . . Mrs. Art Rupe leaves the Specialty office to become a lady of leisure, and altho we're sorry cause we'll miss her, it'll give her a well deserved rest. . . . The Vocaleers' rendition of "Is It A Dream" pushing "Red Top" for honors around town. . . . ditto that Fats Domino recording of "Going To The River."

Block Wins Clef Award



NEW YORK—The heads of four associations pay tribute to Martin Block as he receives the Clef Award symbolizing his outstanding achievement as a disk jockey. Above are: Charlie Tobias, president of the Song Writers Protective Association; Walter Douglas, chairman of the Board of Music Publishers Protective Association; Martin Block; George Goodwin, founder and sponsor of the Clef Awards; and Bob Miller, president of the Music Men's Contact Association.

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