

# THE CASH BOX RHYTHM N' BLUES Ramblings

## NEW YORK:

Jerry Wexler's raves about the Atlantic Budd Johnson etching of "Off Shore" finding support in reports coming in from his distribs in all parts of the country. Now comes the Earl Bostic etching on King. The weird mood piece seems made to order for the mellow horn. Both treatments mighty sweet on the ear. . . . Rama Records has an ultra sock dish in The Blue Notes "Too Hot To Handle." The group is a fine team, polished and with a style that sells. To back the group, George Goldner borrows Joe Loco, keyboard stylist, from his Tico label. George is soft on the flip, "If You'll Be Mine," which is the wedding march with lyrics sweetly presented in ballad style. . . . Joe Davis, Jay Dee Records, announced the signing of Dobbs of Dallas as distributors for its territory. At last count Davis had received over 100 requests from TV stations for his Christmas moving picture short with Irene Treadwell singing "Dear Santa, Bring Back My Daddy To Me." . . . Herald Records off again. Orders coming in from all over the U. S. on Faye Adams' new two siders, "Happiness To My Soul" and "I'll Be True," make it look like the gal might have one even bigger than her sensational "Shake A Hand." A tip-off on what has made the



FAYE ADAMS

Al Silver, Jack Angel, Al Braverman so meteorically successful is their meticulous attention to detail and quality. Only last week Herald signed a new group and cut a session with four Joel Turner tunes. Results were disappointing in that the session turned out "only fair." Dubs were at least as good as many items on the market, but rather than hit the distributor with mediocre merchandise the two Als and a Jack decided to scrap the session, take the loss of about \$600, and hold the tunes (which they feel are hit material) for the proper artists. . . . Johnny Otis, top ork leader now signed to the Peacock label, in Houston last week for the purpose of waxing Little Richard, Lovey Lewis and Joe Fritz. Peacock also cut another new artist, Robert Ketchum, and the disk "She's Gone From Me" and "Stockade." Prexy Don Robey expects great things from Ketchum and his initial etching. . . . Irv Marcus, where are you? Your friends are calling in almost every day with inquiries as to your whereabouts. Last heard from Irv a couple of weeks ago and on the doctor's orders, he has to slow down a bit. Doc told him sleep might help. . . . Herman Lubinsky, Savoy Records, calls Varetta Dillard's newest, "I Ain't Gonna Tell" and "(That's The Way) My Mind Is Working" her best yet. . . . Gem Records just cut Frank Motley and his crew. Frank Motley's the man who blows two trumpets simultaneously. Etching due out in about a week is "Keep Your Head Up High" and "What's That Stuff Joe's Got." . . . Pete Dorain's got one over at Allen. His new release, "I'm Gonna Chunk You Down" by Jimmy Newsome, has that infectious novelty sound and distinctive styling that could break it for a big one. Pete's percentage is ok when you consider the short time he's been at Allen. He had another that made the charts all over the country in The Five Willows' "My Dear Dearest Darling." . . . Apollo Records continues its fantastic run of hits with the "5" Royales latest release "All Righty" picking up steam and heading straight for the charts. Their last "Too Much Lovin'" is still a top seller in most of the r & b locations. Another that is keeping Bess Berman happy these days is the Mahalia Jackson "I Believe" on Lloyds. Lloyds is also a Berman label. Things in a bit of a hassle at the Apollo offices now as Bess and Ike are putting in a studio for rehearsal and maybe recording sessions. . . . Lee Magid, Central, signed a vocal quartet, The Rag-Muffins. Lee is slowly building a stable and held his first recording session last Friday. Lee cut Emmett Jopson and Georgia Lane and should have the disks on the market in a week or ten days. . . . Sidney Siegel, president of Seeco Records, just back from South America leaves again for a trip to Mexico. Siegel is excited about a new High Fidelity phonograph which he has designed especially for the South American market.

## CHICAGO:

ASA (Artists Society of America) is planning a Thanksgiving Music Festival. Two concerts on November 28. A benefit for ASA. All star cast, with Ray Robinson, Billy Ward's Dominoes and Count Basie's ork heading the list. . . . Hear tell that Sidney Bechet opening a nitery in Paris. And calling it the Orleans Club. Sidney, incidentally, has just finished an autobiography which is now in the hands of a publisher. . . . The Flamingo's, who have just been signed by Associated Booking Corp., currently on tour with Duke Ellington. . . . Leonard Chess leaving for New Orleans to cut four new sides with Sugar Boy. Len claims the grand reception to Sugar Boy's first disk, "I Don't Know What I'll Do" b/w "Overboard" has put him in the topnotch class as far as sales are concerned. . . . Phil Chess advises that Muddy Water's "Mad Love" has now passed the 5,000 mark. "In fact," Phil stated, "any new release, if made on Friday, sells a minimum of 1,500 over the weekend. The Maxwell Street record dealers," he concluded, "never order less than 100 of any new Muddy Waters' disk." . . . Muddy opened November 12 at the Crown Propeller Lounge. Sharing top billing with that "real gone gal," Nellie Luther. The Propeller is revising its policy. Plans

to feature only name attractions. McKee Fitzhugh has been put in charge of talent for the club. Skedded to follow current show is Valaida Snow. . . . Interesting to note that Willie Mabon is currently running third in The Cash Box Poll. Leading such all-time favorites as The Orioles, The Dominoes, Johnny Ace, etc. Definitely shows what hit records can do for an artist. . . . Eddy Boyd now clicking like crazy at Ralph's Club on West Madison Street. . . . Our nomination for the most played disk on the air as of today . . . Nat Cole's "Lover Come Back To Me."



MUDDY WATERS

# King Signs LeBow



CINCINNATI—Syd Nathan president of King announced this week the signing of Carl LeBow as A & R head of King's recently re-activated DeLuxe label. LeBow was formerly in the A & R position with Apollo records during which time the "5" Royales hit the charts with their recordings of "Baby Don't Do It", "Help Me Somebody", "Crazy, Crazy, Crazy" and "Too Much Lovin'". He will continue his existing personal management agreements with the "5" Royales and Charlie Ferguson. LeBow has also formed a BMI publishing firm, Franklin Publishing Co.

King feted LeBow with a welcome party in Cincinnati inviting local dee jays and distributors.

He is leaving shortly on an extended road trip through the South in search of new talent.

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## LOS ANGELES:

The popular Ink Spots were well accepted here at Larry Potter's Supper Club. People who tried to get in opening night without reservations found that they had to be satisfied with standing room only. . . . The Tiny Bradshaw band chalked up a very successful stand at Billy Berg's Five-Four Ballroom even though Tiny himself wasn't present. He took sick during their tour so held over at a Cincinnati Hospital to recuperate while the band continued on without him. . . . After touring through the midwest and east, Johnny Otis, is again headed for Southern California with an engagement slated for San Diego on November 19th. He will be in Los Angeles over the Thanksgiving holidays. . . . Over in Beverly Hills the Modern Records Plant seems to be caught in a sudden flair of activity. Joe Bihari reports that their latest B. B. King release, "Blind Love" and "Why Did You Leave Me" has really perked things up with some big orders. Joe also announced Lawrence Stone's newest release "Too Much Lovin'" backed with "New Love." Other new numbers among Modern's current release include: Joe Houston's "Blowin' Crazy" and "You're Gonna Be Sorry" with Maurie Jones and



TINY BRADSHAW

Young Jessie. . . . Percy Mayfield completed a successful Eastern tour and now heads for the Northwest where he opens in Seattle on November 17th. . . . The San Francisco area now has numerous appearances slated for many artists. Jazz Organist, Wild Bill Davis, closed recently here at Tiffany Club and opened at the Black Hawk in the Bay Area. Oscar Peterson now holds down the spotlight at the Hawk. At the Down Beat, Vido Musso and Roy Eldridge take over November 24th for a limited engagement. . . . This week many new artists were signed on by several of the Indies. Art Rupe of Specialty Records announced the signing of Eddie "Guitar Slim" Jones from New Orleans. Art's pretty wife, Lee Rupe, says that the boy plays a mean guitar and sings a mean blues, so watch out for his first releases!