

# THE CASE BOX RHYTHM N' BLUES Ramblings

## NEW YORK:

The women are back. Take a look at the charts. Whereas some months back the only fem represented in the charts was Lula Reed, today the lists are headed by Ruth Brown, Atlantic; Faye Adams, Herald; and Dinah Washington, Mercury with two. Also, headed straight for the big numbers is Ruth Brown's latest, "Mambo Baby." Shirley Gunter on Flair was a recent occupant of the charts and still is in certain cities with her "Oop Shoop." . . . Lee Magid brought his two releases on the Dawn label to the office. Lee thinks highly of both and is excited by the reaction accorded them by local jockies who were the first to hear them. Initial reports favored the "Oh Baby" side by Helen Thompson and "I Was Dreaming" by Bobby Shields. Magid also bubbling over the new Wanderers Decca etching, "The Wrong Party Again." Lee manages the group and wrote the song. . . . Jerry Wexler advises Atlantic Records has changed the name of the Chords to the Chordcats to avoid confusion with another performing act of the same name. Things getting back to hectic normal at the Atlantic offices after a week of recording sessions. . . . Gaining in momentum is Herald's "I Love You Madly" by Charlie and Ray. Reports coming in



THE CHORDCATS

from Detroit, Nashville and L.A. indicate it will be a real big one. Surprisingly New York, always one of the tardy cities in breaking a disk, shows the heaviest sales. Herald also reports it will release a new Faye Adams in a week. . . . Syd Nathan, King and Federal prexy, in an interoffice communication to his A & R staff, advised them that he was strongly against "blue" material and urged them to pass up such songs or revise the lyrics. Nathan pointed out the growth of R & B to its present stature and stressed the industry's moral obligation to the youth of America. . . . We goofed last week in describing the recoupling of the Midnigher's "Annie Had A Baby" with "Moonrise." The correct pairing is "She's The One" and "Moonrise." Says Mary Lou Smith, "We are pairing 'She's The One' with 'Moonrise' in order to get d.j. plays on 'She's The One' because we figured since it was paired with 'Annie' many stations didn't program it. We began to get a good reaction in many spots of 'She's The One' and in order to promote it properly have re-paired it with 'Moonrise' so the jocks can now play it and have two clean sides." . . . The Balentines mentioned last week on Old Town should have been spelled The Valentines. . . . Imperial coming up with new Hawks and Spiders releases. The Hawks doing "That's What You Are" and "All Women Are The Same" and The Spiders chanting "She Keeps Me Wondering" and "21." . . . The Bihari's hit the jackpot this week with two hot items. B. B. King's "You Upset Me Baby" and "Whole Lotta Love" on RPM and Marvin and Johnny's "Kiss Me" and "Sugar." . . . Willie Mabon has his best in several releases with "Poison Ivy" and "Say Man." This one could be the one to put Willie back into the charts and heavy sales. . . . Joe Davis, Jay Dee Records, optimistic about his newest, "How Sentimental Can I Be" by the Mellows. Platter has already been showing strong sales reactions in several localities. . . . Those hard hitting Dominoes, now on Jubilee, breaking up the house at Basin Street nitery in New York. Also on the bill sharing the spotlight are Gene Krupa and his group and Don Elliot Combo. . . . Joe Davis, who published a great deal of Fats Waller tunes, will release eight Waller originals, previously unpublished and unrecorded, in LP form. Don Redman and his Orchestra will do the honors. . . . George Goldner, Rama prexy, has a strong one going in the Wrens "Love Is Something That's Made For Two." Goldner is also doing well with Peacock and his Mambo Combo's "If I Give My Heart To You."



PEACOCK

## CHICAGO:

It's been a long time since two disks have taken off so quickly as have Willie Mabon's "Poison Ivy" and Muddy Waters' "I'm Ready." Looks like Len Chess was right about these. . . . Chicagoans once again giving a listen to Sid McCoy at the hour of midnite. Sid now holds forth on the Windy City's WGES from Midnite to 1:30. . . . Leo Kolheim tells us that the El Dorados have been playing several spots in Canada and have met with grand receptions all over. They are currently at the Maple Leaf Club in Montreal. Their "Annie's Answer" has really taken off. . . . Mickey Cooper, prexy of Ruby Records has moved his headquarters to Chicago. Says he has 26 sides already cut and will soon be ready to accept orders on his tunes. Also told us that Carl Jones will take over distribution at present, until his distribution lineup is completed. Mickey also pointed out that he had the actual copyright on the song title "Wish You Were Here" as of October 14, 1952. . . . The Duke Ellington Concert at the Civic Opera House (10/24) had the audiences begging for more. The Duke, Dave Brubeck and the rest of the gang were certainly at their very best that nite. . . . The next concert at the Civic Opera House brings Billy Eckstine, Peggy Lee, The Drifters, and several others to this auditorium very soon and tickets are already selling like mad. "Mr. B." hasn't played Chicago for too long. . . . Our town's movie audiences eagerly awaiting the premier of "Carmen Jones." . . . Orchestra Hall will house what is being called "Mambo USA" on Saturday, November 6. Concert will star Joe Loco and his quintet, Machito, Carlos Ramirez and many others. An added attraction will be expert mambo dance exhibitionists from the Arthur Murray Dance Studios. . . . Mahalia Jackson was among the very first stars to be asked to appear at the Tenth Annual Harvest Moon Festival here on 11/20.



MACHITO

## "Champagne"



NEW YORK—Tommy Mara, young MGM singing star visits the operators on New York's Tenth Avenue plugging his latest record, "Champagne (With My Compliments)". Seen above from left to right are Sid Ascher, record promotion; Barney (Shugy) Sugarman, owner of Runyon Sales, distributor for AMI phonographs; Tommy and Lou Capone, personal manager.

## LOS ANGELES:

Here's all the latest news from smogville or as Mae Williams puts it;—"This crazy mixed up town". . . . First it was the "big" band era, then vocalists suddenly took the nation by storm, next came vocal groups and now the present trend seems to be packaged shows. Night club and ballroom operators don't even want to book artists anymore unless they are included in a package deal including other big name attractions. . . . Roy Milton and Shirley Gunter and The Queens are teaming up with Camile Howard, Micky Champion, The Penguins and The Flairs for a package unit that will hit El Paso November 1st. Other dates include Tucson, Phoenix, and Imperial, Calif. The unit also played Santa Barbara, 10/29 and San Pedro 10/30. . . . Then, of course, there's the big Mambo USA package that will hit the Coast the latter part of November. . . . Specialty records prexy Art Rupe has been mighty pleased over the fine reaction he's getting throughout the country on his new group called The Holidays and their first release of "Aw-Aw Baby". He also reports that Guitar Slim's "Sufferin' Mind" is causing quite a fuss too. . . . After appearing for several months in Kansas City Little Willie Littlefield is back on the West Coast again for a series of night club dates and a new recording session with Ralph Bass. A & R head for Federal Records. . . . After closing at the Club Oasis The Chords (Those "Sh-Boom" boys) joined Percy Mayfield and his band for 15 one-nite engagements in Texas and Oklahoma. Johnny Otis and his Band took over the reins at the Club Oasis Nov. 1st for two weeks. . . . Arthur Lee Maye, new blues chanter, bows in on the Modern label this week. The chanter is also a bonus baseball player for the Milwaukee Braves. His first release is "I Wanna' Love" and "Set My Heart Free". Joe and Saul Bihari are also introducing another new artist, Buddy Milton, with two new sides which they feel are unusual and entirely different. Titles are "Please Understand" b/w "Say Another Word" on the RPM label. . . . Al Savage and Joe Morris' Band closed at Billy Berg's Five-Four Ballroom Oct. 24th and left for dates in San Francisco over the 30th. They'll be back in LA again at the 5-4 emporium on Nov. 5th for a three day stand. Joe is plenty excited over his new 16 yr. old vocal find Ursula Reed. Her first Herald slicing of "Tyn' Up The Time" b/w "Blue and Lonely" is due out this week. . . . Gordon Wolf of Sunland Music Sales Co. is getting a kick out of the way the new Kicks label is kicking up such a fuss here in LA. The kickeroo is "Why Must I Wonder" by The Emeralds. . . . George Shearing opens at the Hollywood Crescendo Nov. 12th. . . . T. Bone Walker and his band has been booked for two week-end dates at The Savoy Ballroom Oct. 12th and 19th. . . . The popular Ink Spots open in Honolulu Nov. 10th for a seven week engagement. . . . Joe Houston is now on tour thru Colo., New Mexico and Texas. His waxing of "All Night Long" on the Money label is now one of the top sellers in the Southern California area. . . . Oscar Peterson opens at Zardi's on November 10th.



THE FLAIRS

A Great Record Becoming a Smash Hit!

# "LOVE IS SOMETHING THAT'S MADE FOR TWO"

The Wrens

220 W. 42nd Street

New York, N. Y.

