



Tubb And Snow Announce Plans For 1956 "Jimmie Rodgers National Country Music Day"

NASHVILLE, TENN. — Ernest Tubb, president of the Jimmie Rodgers Memorial and Health Foundation, and Hank Snow officially announced here this week that plans are already underway for the 1956 "Jimmie Rodgers — National Country Music Day" celebration. Indications are that this year's program will be far greater in scope and activity than any previous such celebration. The annual event falls on Saturday, May 26, in Meridian, Miss. It was Ernest Tubb and Hank Snow who originally organized the "Jimmie Rodgers Memorial Day" program in 1953, which today is recognized throughout the nation as a 'tribute' to Country Music.

Coinciding with the announcement of increased activities, it was also disclosed by Tubb and Snow that all arrangements for this fourth annual celebration are being handled by the Charlie Lamb Agency, Nashville, Tennessee.

As in previous years, highlights of the affair will be the appearances of most of the major artists in the country music field. There will be the grand-scale dances, parades and performances at which the artists will appear and hold forth. All of the proceeds will go to the Jimmie Rodgers Memorial and Health Foundation and will be used to benefit country music entertainers and those closely associated with the business, Tubb and Snow advised.

In making the announcement of this year's program, the two entertainers advised of the foundation's plans and future program. Of great importance will be the annual presentation of two awards which will undoubtedly stand as important incentives to higher goals on the part of country music folk. One, the "Jimmie Rodgers Achievement Awards", will be presented each year (one female and one male) to the outstanding entertainer as decided by trades-people and fans.

The other, "Jimmie Rodgers Hall of Fame Award", will be presented to someone who has contributed most to country music for a minimum of five years. This award will be presented, and voted upon by members of the trade only.

The long-anticipated "Country Music Hall of Fame" is nearing completion in the planning stage. It was disclosed that the building would house a year-round souvenir concession in addition to the actual awards and

mementos of memorable occasions and persons in country music.

The long-proposed "Jimmie Rodgers Memorial Hospital" is not included in the immediate plans for the future due to the tremendous funds required in such an undertaking. However, it was announced, proceeds from the various activities executed in the name of Jimmie Rodgers will be used to assist country music folk who are in need of such assistance during the time of illness, emergency, accident and cases of dire need. Help in these cases will go out to those wherever they may be. Details on this plan will be released more fully later, according to Tubb and Snow.

Officers serving on the committee in addition to president Tubb, include, Lester F. Williamson, Vice President, and Nate S. Williamson, Secretary and Treasurer. Directors of the Jimmie Rodgers Memorial and Health Foundation include: James H. Skewes, Executive Committee Chairman; Ernest Tubb, Hank Snow, Mrs. Jimmie Rodgers, Lester F. Williamson, L. D. Walker, and Nate S. Williamson. C. H. Phillips of the Meridian Star who has worked very hard and unselfishly on all past Jimmie Rodgers Memorial Day programs will be in complete charge of coordinating the activities of this year's program for the city of Meridian.

A committee membership composed of eight top people from the music industry will work very closely in all activities associated with this year's celebration, and the Jimmie Rodgers Foundation in general. The names of the various committee members will be disclosed shortly.

Johnnie & Jack, Kitty Wells Sign Pact With Acuff-Rose

NASHVILLE, TENN.—It was announced here this week by Wesley Rose of Acuff-Rose Publications that the music firm has signed Johnnie And Jack and Kitty Wells to an exclusive writer contract. The term of the contract is for three years.

Johnnie & Jack, for the past two seasons, have been voted the number one duet of country music. Kitty Wells has for three consecutive years held the number one spot for female country vocalists.

CINCINNATI CUT-UPS

The Boone County Jamboree was revived on WLW radio from 7-8 and from 10-11 Saturday night, with Clay Eager at the reins doing a bang-up job as MC. Since Saturday night has always been the night in the Week for Country Music, we think it smart that the Crosley Station revived the show after so many years. Although the old familiar theme was missing, and there were too many similar acts on the show, it is the opinion of this writer that if the big station's brass will let Eager build the show (which only can be done over a long period of time) with a capable manager to do the hiring and firing who knows folk talent, we can't help but believe that WLW radio will regain their Country audience it had many years ago. Certainly it's worth a try.

Bonnie Lou into New York this week to cut a session for King Records. Her Daddy-O release is now #11 in the pop field. . . . Merle Travis, former WLW-er, celebrated the success of his hit song "Sixteen Tons" by having a plaque put up in the Central City, Ky. high school. . . . Frank Fontaine and that wonderful act The Lancers are currently booked in Beverly Hills with Gaby Monet. . . . Margaret O'Brien in town for stage appearances in connection with her latest movie "Glory," along with her co-stars, Byron Palmer and John Lupton, helped to pick winners in the Junior Miss Contest sponsored by a local paper.

Cincinnati's Union Terminal will take on the air of a gigantic broadcasting studio Tuesday when the March of Dimes RCA Victor Starliner pulls in, for there will be many top-flight recording stars aboard including Eddie Fisher, Jaye P. Morgan, Eddie Arnold and loads of others that we'll be telling you more about next week. At least two radio stations will have remote broadcasts from the train, and we'll be there with bulbs poppin'.

Country Roundup (continued)

Ray Price going strong on his current Columbia waxing of "Run Boy". Manager Al Flores is opening both promotional guns on the soaring song and indications are that the recording will be a solid smash for Price.

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Bob Jennings, with "Gosh, I Miss You All The Time" and "I'd Be The Last To Know", is racking up lots of response to both sides. The MGM dinking couples two great sides, with a mighty strong reading of the oldie "Gosh I Miss You All The Time".

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Murray Nash reports a strong action on the Marshall Pack recording on Republic of "A Mail Order From Heaven". Pack penned the tune himself which has already been covered on several other labels.

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Lou Millet reports that he is back at the turntables at WLCS, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, keeping up the good work for country music. He reports a lot of attention to the Rex Allen recording of "I'm A Young Cowboy".

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|----|---|----|
| 1 | SIXTEEN TONS
Tennessee Ernie Ford
(Capitol 3262; F3262) | 1 |
| 2 | LOVE, LOVE, LOVE
Webb Pierce
(Decca 29662; 9-29662) | 2 |
| 3 | I FORGOT TO REMEMBER TO FORGET
Elvis Presley
(RCA Victor 20-6357; 47-6357)
(Sun 223; 45-223) | 4 |
| 4 | EAT, DRINK AND BE MERRY
Porter Wagoner
(RCA Victor 20-6289; 47-6289) | 3 |
| 5 | WHY, BABY, WHY
Red Savine & Webb Pierce
(Decca 29739; 9-29739)
George Jones
(Starday 202; 45-202) | 5 |
| 6 | JUST CALL ME LONESOME
Eddy Arnold
(RCA Victor 20-6198; 47-6198) | 6 |
| 7 | BEAUTIFUL LIES
Jean Shepard
(Capitol 3222; F3222) | 7 |
| 8 | ALL RIGHT
Faron Young
(Capitol 3169; F3169) | 10 |
| 9 | LONELY SIDE OF TOWN
Kitty Wells
(Decca 29728; 9-29728) | 8 |
| 10 | YOU'RE FREE TO GO
Carl Smith
(Columbia 21462; 4-21462) | |

THE TEN COUNTRY RECORDS DISK JOCKEYS PLAYED MOST THIS WEEK (PLUS THE NEXT TEN)

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| 1. SIXTEEN TONS | Tennessee Ernie Ford (Capitol) |
| 2. WHY, BABY, WHY | Red Savine & Webb Pierce (Decca)
George Jones (Starday)
Hank Locklin (RCA Victor) |
| 3. LOVE, LOVE, LOVE | Webb Pierce (Decca) |
| 4. I DON'T BELIEVE YOU'VE MET MY BABY | Lauvin Brothers (Capitol) |
| 5. EAT, DRINK AND BE MERRY | Porter Wagoner (RCA Victor) |
| 6. I FORGOT TO REMEMBER TO FORGET | Elvis Presley (RCA Victor/Sun) |
| 7. YOU'RE FREE TO GO | Carl Smith (Columbia) |
| 8. RUN BOY | Ray Price (Columbia)
Carlisles (Mercury) |
| 9. JUST CALL ME LONESOME | Eddy Arnold (RCA Victor) |
| 10. IT'S A GREAT LIFE | Faron Young (Capitol) |
| 11) YOU'RE NOT PLAY LOVE. 12) THE RICHEST MAN IN THE WORLD. 13) GOD WAS SO GOOD. 14) THIRTY DAYS. 15) YONDER COMES A SUCKER. 16) ALL RIGHT. 17) BEAUTIFUL LIES. 18) I FEEL LIKE CRYIN'. 19) LONELY SIDE OF TOWN. 20) LOOK AROUND. 20) WHAT AM I WORTH. 20) SO DOGGONE LONESOME. 20) TENNESSEE TODDY. 20) I'VE KISSED YOU MY LAST TIME | |