

King Takes Over Bethlehem Distribution

CINCINNATI — Sydney Nathan, President of King Records, and Gus Wilde, President of Bethlehem Records, jointly announced last week the conclusion of an agreement whereby King will take over the exclusive world-wide distribution of all the Bethlehem product. The agreement is effective immediately, but the distribution does not take place until the near future.

In discussing the take over of Bethlehem by King, Nathan pointed out that this is only the first of several deals now in negotiation whereby King is getting a new look and expanding its product line by agreements with other labels.

Wilde will continue as President of Bethlehem and will supervise the operation from his New York headquarters. A big program of regular monthly new releases is scheduled, starting in August with new albums by Mel Torme, and The Australian Jazz Quartet. In addition Wilde has concluded contracts for a new heavy recording schedule which kicks off

this week by cutting two new albums with the Australian Jazz Quintet; a jazz version of "The Three Penny Opera" and a free blowing album of modern originals.

As a jazz line Bethlehem fills a void in the King distribution which previously was not strong in progressive and modern jazz or artists. Bethlehem has cut such artists as Chris Connor, Mel Torme, The Australian Jazz Quartet, Duke Ellington, Frances Fay, Herbie Mann, Julie London, Art Blackly and the Jazz Messengers.

King merchandises through twenty-two of its own factory branches plus key independent distributors in certain territories. World-wide coverage is through distribution contracts in Europe, Asia, Africa, Australia, Canada and South America.

To kick-off the new arrangement, Bethlehem will offer to all dealers a One Free for every eight L. P.'s purchased backed up by a general promotional campaign.

The complete King facilities will be used to work on the Bethlehem line.

Sunbeam Names Kaplan Eastern Sales And Promotion Manager

NEW YORK — Herman Kaplan of Philadelphia, Pa., has been named Eastern Sales and Promotion Manager of Sunbeam Records, the company announced last week.

Sherman Ford, Jr., of New York City, was appointed Production Manager for Sunbeam. Ford was previously with Independent Artist and Mark Records.

Kaplan, who has been in the record business for eleven years, was formerly associated with Marnel Distributors and David Rosen in Philadelphia.

Design Celebrates First Anniversary

CHICAGO — Design Records celebrated its first anniversary with a reception, cocktail party and dinner at the Palmer House, Chicago, on Sunday evening, July 20. Cy Leslie, President of Pickwick Sales Corporation, parent organization of the label, said, "We have grown, in one year from a new entity in the business with twenty four albums in our line, to a major factor in the low price field with the release of our seventieth album."

The dinner also served to announce the introduction of Design's new Stereo-Spectrum label. The new stereo line will retail at \$2.98 and will be packed in a fold over cover bound in gold and will feature a free "stereo-tex" cleaning cloth with each album.

A \$1.98 "Holiday In New York" stereo disk, featuring sounds of the city and a trip to Coney Island was demonstrated. Leslie announced Design's major promotion on a Dennis Day album, "Christmas Is For Children." A complete deejay mailing would be made and Day will be making personal appearances to back the retailers in their efforts. Jack Benny who appears on both the album cover and in the album will be prominently featured in the holiday promotion.

Decca Distributes Wakeley Label

NEW YORK — Jimmy Wakely's Shastone Record label will be distributed nationally by Decca Distributing Company.

The deal was consummated in New York between Wakely and Sidney Goldberg, Vice-President in charge of sales and Leonard Schneider, Vice-President and General Manager of Decca Records.

Sides currently being released are "By The Waters Of The Minnetonka" and "Lonesome Lover".

Siegel Signs For Two Universal Soundtracks

NEW YORK — Paul Siegel, American Representative for Heino Gaze's German publishing firm, "Edition Takt Und Ton", has signed two contracts, which will give Gaze the German-Austrian rights to two Universal International Pictures music soundtracks, "A Time To Love And A Time To Die", and "Touch Of Evil". The deal was made with Bill Downer, prexy of Northern Music, publisher of the scores here.

"A Time To Love And A Time To Die", which stars Lilo Pulver, John Gavin and Keenan Wynn, is a film based on the Erich Maria Remarque book, which deals with Germany during the Second World War. The score was written by Miklos Rozsa. "Touch Of Evil", is a suspense pic with music by Henry Mancini. The flick stars Orson Welles, Janet Leigh, Carlton Heston and Marlene Dietrich.

Siegel will fly to Germany for the premiere of "A Time To Love" in Berlin, and will exploit the music of the pictures in collaboration with Gaze's firm. Siegel will return to the U.S., and head for Hollywood where he will be involved with a new Jack Palance film, "Topoloblanco," which will contain music from a Siegel's Symphony House property, "Autumn Concerto". A lyric version of the "Autumn Concerto", "And That Reminds Me" was a big chart click last year.

Century Signs Gloria Shaw

PITTSBURGH, PA. — The story in the July 26 issue which stated that Century Records signed Gloria Wood should have read Gloria Shaw.

Mills In Copyright Deals

NEW YORK — Jack Mills, Mills Music prexy, has just returned from an extended trip on the continent, where he made several copyright deals.

In France, Mills acquired the copyright of three compositions from Pathe-Marconi, a publisher and diskery. They are "Platee" by Jean Philippe Rameau; and "Suite Delphique" and "Epithalame" by Andre Jolivet. The catalogue of Garrish of Milan, Italy, and Quiroga of Madrid, Spain will be represented in this country by Mills.

Decca Distributes Belock Stereo

NEW YORK — The Belock Recording Company has named Decca Distributing subsidiary of Decca Records, as national and world-wide distributor of its entire production of stereophonic sound recordings and tapes under the Everest label, Harry D. Belock, President, announced last week. "Decca will be expanding its sales and distribution efforts in the growing stereo field by the addition of Belock tape and disk recordings, according to Sydney Goldberg," Vice President of the Decca Distributing Co. The Everest tapes and disks are now being recorded and produced in Belock's recording studio at Bayside, Queens.

"Advanced techniques as well as extraordinary recording facilities are now being utilized by our recording company," stated Belock. "We believe this will assure greater enjoyment of music. We plan to have the first of what we call our sophisticated stereo recordings in both the popular and classical field available through Decca by September 15. Belock tapes and disks, as well as monaurals will be made and distributed under the Everest label."

The Belock Recording Company is a division of the Belock Instrument Corporation, College Point, N. Y., developers and manufacturers of electronic and electro-mechanical devices for the armed services.

Bob Kornheiser To Marry

NEW YORK — Bob Kornheiser, Sales Manager of Cadence Records, will soon marry Norwegian-born Ingrid Carlson.

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