SUMMING UP GRAND GALA: GREAT SHOW

AMSTERDAM — During the odd twenty years in which the European record-business has recovered so gloriously from the Great Economic Breakdown of World War II, the Kingdom of the Netherlands—15,000,000 inhabitants at this moment—has been playing a most important role in this field as well. In 1950, the special interest of the record-industry, practically all the companies plus its own large export—reporting companies like Philips, Bovema, Artene and Froid; there were over a thousand from the following countries: Hol-

The Grand Gal of the Disc Show Popular 1966, the Seventh in succession, presented by a Dutch juke—quarter.

The entire show was broadcast on first program TV, from 8 p.m. until midnight. A special attraction was added by means of a French Fashion Show (5-top-models) by Yves Saint-Laurent's latest creations in ladies' clothes. The fashion, the first event ever that the great King of Fashion showed his collection on TV. There was also a performance by the quartet of Ruth & Rudi Hildebrandt Group who took a fine show-dancing job between every performance.

The small army of top—stars came from all over the world, including the presence of Dolf van der Linden's large orchestra, while Astrid Gilberto and Dionne Warwick, now living in Amsterdam. Astrid was accompanied by a quartet including Pip Jacobs, piano and Piet Noordijk, alto—sax (probably the best alto-sax musician in Europe), the breath-taking beautiful Dionne Warwick by Dolf van der Linden's large orchestra. With the performance of Internationale, Miss Warwick made an enormous impression. There were one Dutch and one American vocal star left, both men doing a magnificent piece of show-business each in their own particular field: Ramesh Shanty and Sammy Bennett. Ramsey, actor, musician and composer, sends all his warmest greetings to the soloist some months ago. His captivat-

Another sound triumph: The RCA Victor soundtrack of "Sound of Music" has become the first disc to win an award in South Africa for sales of over one million. The record, which handles Victor in both countries, was presented with a gold record by Minister of Commerce and Industry, Mr. Stanley Bisset, at the recent opening of the new RCA Victor's vp of international liaison; Dick Broderick, Int'l merchandise manager, McGrath and Norman Racuscin, Victor Records.

Spain wins Mediterranean Fest

BARCELONA—Spain was the victorious winner at the Mediterranean Music Festival held in Barcelona recently. The number "Como Ayer" penned by Dino Dinamico was sung with terrific verve by EMI artist Bruno Lomas whose performance largely contributed to the overwhelming victory. Success is made even sweeter in the realization that this is the first time any song in the Spanish language has won this international contest.

EMI Launches New 'Secret' Series

LONDON—Because of the growing interest in R&B music in Britain, EMI has launched a new series to be known as Soul Supply. All disks will be issued on existing labels, with five records comprising the first release: "A Lot Of Love" by Homer Banks, "Baby I Love You" Jimmy Holiday, "Think" Jimmy McCracklin (all on Liberty) and "Fannie Mae" by Mighty Samer and "Pouring Water On A Drowning Man" by James Carter (both on Stateside). New issues will be made monthly.

Global Folk Music on Philips Tag

LONDON—A new album series entitled "Song And Sound The World Around" has been launched by Philips Records. Designed to showcase folk songs and country styled music peculiar to the title country most of the material has been recorded "live" in market squares and mountain villages.

Mexico’s Best Sellers

1 El Baile Del Hanky Panky—Los Hitters (Orfcon); Tommy James (Gama);
2 Miguel Angel (Musart); Los Hanky Panksy (Cine); The Ventures (Liberty)
3 El Sahara—Sorona Santanas (CBS) (PHAM)
4 El Ultimo Beso (Last Kiss)—Polo (Peerless)
5 Siempre Te Amare—Los Rer (Peerless) (Mundo Musical)
6 Sin Final (Senza Fine)—The Brass Ring (RCA); Los Aragon (Musart)
7 Dominican Del Pueblo—Dominic (Polydor)
8 La Prision De La Noche (Strangers In The Night)—Frank Sinatra (Reprise);
9 Marco Antonio Muniz (RCA); Alberto Vazquez (Musart); Los Rer (Polydor)
10 Perry Salinas (Capito); Irma Dorantes (Orfcon); Los Aragon (Musart)
11 Brazilia—Tony Motula (Gama); Herb Alpert (Tizone); Los Aragon (Musart)
12 Gorda—Javier Sols (CBS); Mike Laure (Musart); Dutois Musicia (Emmy)
13 Napoleon XIV (They’re Coming To Me Away)—Vicy Los Crazy Birds (Orfcon); Napoleon XIV (Warner Bro.)
14 Eva una Vez—José Pepe (Peerless); Mike Laure (Musart); Pablo Beltrán Ruiz (RCA) (Bramilia)

Well received: Pye Records recently hosted a reception to honor Herb Alpert & the Tijuana Brass, distributed in England by Pye. Shown (left to right): Mace Newfield, manager of the group; Alpert, Louis Benjamn, managing director of Pye and Garry Friesen, vp and general manager of A & M Records, the group’s U.S. outlet.

T.E. Cross Resignation Reshuffles EMI Exec Line-Up For Affiliates

LONDON—T. E. Cross has resigned his position as managing director of EMI’s French record company, Pathe Marconi, Francois Minchin, who has been managing director of Voice del Padrene, EMI’s Italian outlet, for the past five years, has replaced him. Minchin was for many years deputy managing director of Pathe Marconi before joining the EMI affiliate in Italy in 1962. George Alexander, at present in charge of EMI’s Spanish company, Odeon, will take over the management of the Italian firm. He will succeed in Spain by R. Maget.