



Picks of the Week

MERLE HAGGARD (Capitol 3024)

Soldier's Last Letter (2:10) (Norma Music, BMI—E. Tubb, H. Stewart)

Reviving the ancient Ernest Tubb classic, Merle Haggard and his Strangers will have another monster on their hands. Easily a number one tune. Flip: "The Farmer's Daughter" (2:54) (Blue Book Music, BMI—M. Haggard)

BUDDY ALAN & DON RICH (Capitol 3040)

I'm On The Road To Memphis (1:52) (Timkerbell Music, ASCAP—Collings, White)

Following their first joint effort "Cowboy Convention," this great new country tune will serve to further establish the already popular duo. Looks like instant chart success. Flip: "I'll Be Swingin' Too" (1:48) (Blue Book, BMI—D. Rich, B. Owens)

STONEWALL JACKSON (Columbia 45291)

Wings Of A Dove (2:24) (Moss Rose, BMI—B. Ferguson)

Stonewall Jackson does a fine remake of the classic Ferlin Husky tune. Record is guaranteed lots of extra airplay and is certain to do well on the charts. Flip: "Save A Little Place For Me" (2:39) (Turp Tunes, BMI)

CARL SMITH (Columbia 45293)

Don't Worry 'Bout The Mule (Just Load The Wagon) (2:30) (Acuff-Rose, BMI—G. Barber)

This up tempo swinger by Carl has all the makings of a hit record. Will be getting lots of listener attention in weeks to come. Flip: "Darling Days" (2:48) (Blue Crest Music, BMI—Frazier, Shafer)

JOHNNY AND JONIE MOSBY (Capitol 3039)

Oh, Love Of Mine (2:35) (Central Songs, BMI—Pat Floyd)

A likely candidate to cross over into the pop field, this is by far the Mosby's best single effort to date. Must give this one special attention. Flip: "Closing Time Till Dawn" (2:31) (Central Songs, BMI—J&J Mosby)

WARNER MACK (Decca 32781)

You Make Me Feel Like A Man (2:47) (Page Boy, SESAC—Warner Mack)

Warner gets into a fine ballad with this new single release. Should do well in chart competition. Flip: "Changin' Your Style" (2:16) (Same Credits)

Best Bets

GAIL WYNTERS (Hickory 159)

Help Me Make It Through The Night (2:41) (Combine Music, BMI — Kristofferson) Gail Wynters could do what Sammi Smith has already accomplished with this brilliant Kristofferson tune. Could be a hit all over again. Flip: "The Rainbow Sign" (3:04) (Milene Music, ASCAP — Chadwick)

SONNY THROCKMORTON (Hilltop 3032)

Daddy Stand By Mama (3:27) (Fescue Music, ASCAP — B. Throckmorton, B. J. Ross) A strong vocal performance of a fine, well written ballad that deserves lots of extra attention. Flip: "Baby, Hang On" (2:53) (Tuff Music, BMI — S. Throckmorton)

KAREN WHEELER (Hilltop 3031)

Mama's Kitchen (2:02) (Southtown Music, BMI — G. Chrysler) Excellent up tempo song all the way around. Could come from out of left field to gain audience acceptance. Flip: "Stand By Your Man" (2:36) (Gallico Music, BMI — Sherrill, Wynette)

DIXIE LANE (Country Artists 1030)

Where Does Love Go (2:30) (Car-

music, BMI — Ray, McGuirt) Dixie Lane asks the musical question "where does love go when it goes away?" To find the answer, listen to the fine performance of this ballad. Flip: "Manhunt" (2:05) (Chu-Fin Music, BMI — Blufield-Lane)

JERRY WALLACE (Decca 32777)

After You (3:07) (4 Star Music, BMI — Monda-Johnson) A nice soothing ballad by Jerry that should easily hit the country charts. Flip: "She'll Remember" (2:38) (4 Star Music, BMI — M. Harris)

BUD & BUD (Tonka 32)

Howard Hughes Is Alive And Well (2:23) (Glad Music, BMI — Hall-Rainwater) The title of this tune speaks for itself, though the flip side is as strong, and could also be getting airplay in the future. Flip: "You Don't Have To Be From Nashville" (2:30) (Talta Grande, BMI — B. Polard)

BRENDA BYRES (MTA 193)

Homeward Bound (2:30) (Charing Music, BMI — P. Simon) Fine mellow piano highlights Brenda's rendition of the classic Paul Simon tune. Deserves instant recognition. Flip: "The Other Side Of Me" (2:46) (Famous Music, ASCAP — Bernstein, Millrose)

JIM SINGLE (Starday 9241)

Bobby Joe (2:41) (Tarheel, BMI — J. Single) A sentimental ballad beautifully and honestly performed by Jim. Record should stir your emotions. Flip: "Don't Hurt Me Anymore" (2:12) (Same Credits)

WHITEY SHAFER (King 6335)

I Gave Up Getting Over You Today (2:59) (Tarheel-Airefield Music, BMI — Shafer-Robb) This fine ballad with soft piano and good lyrical content should be attracting lots of chart attention in the near future. A great song. Flip: "Violet Mae" (3:17) (Same Credits)

Durwood Haddock says, "Some folks are wise and some are otherwise" . . . One of Music City's most popular young entertainers. Roy Acuff, Jr., has signed an exclusive booking contract with Buddy Lee Attractions. Roy Jr., son of famed opry star Roy Acuff, records for the Hickory label, and his new single, "Back Down To Atlanta", is also penned by young Acuff. Roy, Jr. has pursued a very active career of personal appearance tours throughout the United States, England, Germany, and the Caribbean. On a recent military tour Roy, Jr. performed on stage with Tex Ritter, who later commented, "I would select Roy Acuff, Jr. as one of the guest stars of tomorrow, carrying on one of the greatest names in our music industry".

CBS-TV's Roger Mudd is making a special news story on Hollywood's noted tailor, "Nudie" . . . A whole lot of taping has been going on with Charlie Louvin, back from Alaska, taping the Del Reeves Country Carnival Show; Hank Locklin and Liz Anderson, the Hugh X. Lewis Country Club syndicated TV show; Jean Shepard, the Jim Ed Brown syndicated TV show; with Mel Tillis off to California again to tape three appearances on CBS-TV's Glen Campbell Show. It was recently announced that CBS has contracted Mel as a regular on the Campbell show.

Tommy Cash, Epic recording artist, has accepted an invitation from President Richard Nixon to the annual President's Prayer Breakfast on February 2 in Washington. Tommy and wife, Barbara, have accepted the invitation and will join other top entertainers including John Wayne, Pat Boone, and Dick Van Dyke. Dr. Billy Graham will serve as speaker. The breakfast precedes a seminar dedicated to discussion of the ways entertainers can improve their business spiritually and morally. The President is expected to meet with the entertainers during the seminar.

Danny Davis and The Nashville Brass just completed a very successful 5-weeks engagement at Las Vegas' Landmark Main Show Room and was off again to perform for the National Convention of The Junior Commerce in Memphis, Tennessee. During the convention, the Jaycees presented awards to Elvis Presley who attended the affair, and other outstanding citizens. The Nashville Brass then flew to Minneapolis, Minnesota for a Sunday concert date with The Minneapolis Symphony Concert. Their program included The Music City Montage, first performed last spring with Nashville's Symphonv. A skillfully assembled medley, The Music City Montage was arranged by Bill McElbiny, and includes such numbers as "Oh Lonesome Me", "King of the Road", "Honey", "Jambalaya", "Your Cheatin' Heart", and many other hit songs made famous by Nashville singers and writers. The Nashville Brass now include The Music City Montage as a featured portion of all their concert dates. Upcoming dates in the very near future include appearances in Ohio, North Carolina, Texas, Nebraska, Florida, Chicago and Lake Tahoe.

Tree's Jack Stapp and WSM's Irving Waugh in New York recently reviewing plans for the 4th Annual Kraft Music Hall/CMA Awards Special . . . John Lair, one of the original founders of Kentucky's Renfro Valley, has rejoined the organization as coordinator of talent for the famous Sunday Morning Gatherin' & Saturday Night Barndance. Lair will also edit The Renfro Bugle, a monthly publication . . . Hank Williams, Jr. set for Jamboree USA spectacular show in Wheeling, West Virginia . . . Demetriss Tapp was at Woodland Sound Studios in Nashville last week to put the finishing

touches on her LP for Nashboro Records. Wearing producer's hat was husband, Bob Tubert.

Nashville's newest session singers, Sound Seventy, has completed the taping of nine shows on the Jim Ed Brown TV series this month. The group has also been busy working with the now Nashville-based Tiffany label belonging to Tommy Downs . . . The Fabulous Four Guys of Nashville's Grand Ole Opry have encoed consistently since their opening on January 7 at the famed Landmark Hotel in Las Vegas. The group, consisting of Dan Stephens, Brent Burkett, Sam Wellington, and Rich Garratt, who have backed many of Nashville's top artists for the last four years, as well as recorded under their own name, are appearing for their second month-long stint at the Landmark. Their first appearance there was in February 1970 with singer-actor Jimmy Dean.

According to Jim Foglesong, Dot's A&R director, C&W division, the LeGarde Twins first dot release will be out the first week of February. Jack Roberts, the Australian duo's personal manager, was in Nashville recently to coordinate promotional plans . . . Liner notes on Lynn Anderson's Rose Garden album gets an X rating for X-ceptional job of writing by 11 year old Chip Monk, son of music industry's Charlie Monk.

Mega Records star Sammi Smith is currently flying high in the national charts, both country and top 100 with her recording of the Kristofferson ballad, "Help Me Make It Through The Night". Mega reports sales close to the quarter million mark with continuing average sales of 18,000 daily. Sammi is scheduled to do several upcoming Eddy Arnold shows, and numerous TV appearances are in the offing . . . Dallas Frazier and Ray Baker just completed production of new Country Club Malt Liquor jingle.

Tom T. Hall, songwriter and recording star, has joined the Grand Ole Opry as a regular member according to an announcement by E. W. "Bud" Wendell, Opry general manager. Tom T. penned such hits as "Harper Valley PTA" and "Margie's At The Lincoln Park Inn". Hall's recent success on Mercury Records is "One Hundred Children" . . . The Kitty Wells-Johnny Wright Family Show recently Alaska for an appearance at the Kashim Club of Elmendorf Air Force Base. For the group it was the first time they had played a personal appearance in Alaska and, according to club manager, Graham Keesee, "They made their first visit to the State of drew the biggest house in the history of this club". Several times Kitty and Johnny, and featured artist Bill Phillips, drew standing ovations.

Liberty/UA artist Rex Allen, Jr. moves from LA to Music City this month to be closer to "where it's happening". The handsome six-footer has signed a management/booking pact with Moeller Talent at the recommendation of his father, the famous Western Six-Shooter. Rex's wife, Judy, is a Hollywood fashion model and actress . . . Carl and Pearl Butler set to work Toronto's Horse-shoe Tavern first week of February.

Jimmy Dickens and Band leave Music City for a 10-day mid-February workstay in the California sunshine . . . Moeller Talent's Jack Andrews working fair/carnival and outdoor attractions circuit at Illinois and Michigan state conventions . . . Lester Flatt and The Nashville Brass, plus emcee T. Tommy Cutrer set to entertain at national convention of Baptist Sunday School Board in Music City February 24th. . . Don Gibson, recovered from surgery at Duke University, works first post-operation gig February 6 in Clarksburg, West Virginia, with Dot tie West and Mayf Nutter.

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