

## London

A delegation from the Soviet agency (VAAP) has been visiting London, comprising Boris Pankin (chairman); A. Lebedev (international relations); J. Gradov (export/import) and V. Pogulyaev (senior consultant planning). During their stay they had discussions with copyright licensing societies, music and book publishers, literary and dramatic authors' agents and others with a view to strengthening and developing the relationships already established by VAAP with British copyright interests. The VAAP delegation also discussed the detailed implementation of the contract for reciprocal representation in the field of musical performing rights which was signed between VAAP and PRS in Moscow last year and are discussing an agreement with the British Copyright Protection Association (a body associated with PRS) for reciprocal representation in the field of recording rights.

Phonogram's fifty managing directors converged on Amsterdam's Sheraton Hotel last week having already attended Polydor and Polygram meetings in Ham-

burg. The conference was a new style get together replacing the large scale international convention of two years ago in Utrecht. Chaired by Phonogram international president Piet Schellevis the meeting ranged from future exploitation of popular repertoire to the expansion of the strong classical catalog as well as new marketing methods and extra promotional duties.

Mike Beaton of Wes Farrell's Chelsea Records is currently on a European jaunt seeking new artists and new product for the company's label. Already signed to a two-record contract is former Tremeloes lead singer Chip Hawkes whose first single "Friend Of A Friend" is now on release. Chelsea are currently on the U.K. charts with "I Wanna Dance Wit' Choo" by Disco-Tex and the Sex-O-Lettes.

United Artists creative services manager Pierre Tubbs is to assume additional duties in a&r and will become actively involved in the a&r department as a recording manager for the company. First result is a new single "He's Got Magic" by Jackson. Tubbs is also an experienced songwriter having penned songs for Gene Pitney, Lyn Paul, J.J. Jackson, etc.



**BRITISH KIBBITZING** — Celebrating completion of one of his tapings for BBC-TV during a recent concert tour of Britain is Glen Campbell and friends (from left) Terry Hughes, who produced and directed the TV series, Campbell, special guest star David Gates and Jeffrey S. Kruger of Ember who developed the TV package as part of the tour.

## Japan Disk Output Shows Increase

TOKYO — According to a survey just released by the Tokyo office of **Cash Box**, the output of disk and music tape for Japan in Apr. 1975 has increased compared to the same month of last year. The details are as follows.

Disk: 14,428,898 copies (17 cench: 8,159,811, 25 cench: 49,558, 30 cench: 6,319,529), 4% more than the same month of the previous year and 2% more than the previous month respectively.

Japan's music represented 9,954,868 and international repertoire was 4,474,030. At the same time, this was 10,416,868,286 yen (\$34,722,894), (17 cench: 2,856,794,347 yen, 25 cench: 16,227,567 yen, 30 cench: 7,543,846,372 yen. Japan's music: 5,888,278,765 yen. International repertoires: 4,528,589,530 yen), 11% more than the same month of the previous year and 2% more than the previous month respectively.

Music tape: 2,347,807 reels (cartridge: 1,122,567, cassette: 1,218,332. Open-reel: 6,908. Japan's music: 1,850,068. International repertoires: 497,739), 10% more than the same month of the previous year and 12% more than the previous month. On the other hand, this was 4,325,965,621 yen (\$14,419,885) (cartridge: 2,567,892,878 yen, cassette: 1,748,763,218 yen, open-reel: 9,309,525 yen. Japan's music: 3,522,440,148 yen. International repertoires: 803,525,473 yen), 19% more than the same month of the previous year and 23% more than the previous month respectively.

## Eagle Firms Foreign Affiliation Deals

HOLLYWOOD — The Eagle Record Company has announced three new foreign label affiliations. EMI Bovema Holland will distribute Eagle products in Scandinavia, and deals have also been signed with EMI Spain and RCA Mexico. This was announced by Peter Tevis, general manager of the label.

The first release in Mexico and Spain on the label will be by Johnny Maya, whose "If I Could Love You" ("Si Pudiera Amarte") has been released in the U.S. The LP "Pachuco" will be the first release in Holland.

## Grand Funk Gets Toshiba-EMI Gold

TOKYO — Toshiba-EMI has awarded a gold disk to Grand Funk Railroad, who visited Japan to hold concerts in major cities May 18-23.



The presentation was made at the Hilton Hotel in Tokyo on May 23 with Noboru Takamiya, president of Toshiba-EMI, presenting the plaques to members of the group.

Pictured here are Mr. Noboru Takamiya and members of Grand Funk Railroad at the awards ceremony.

## Japanese-Victor Prexy Urges Fighting Spirit

TOKYO — Toshio Yagisawa, president of Victor-Musical Industries Co. has taken an aggressive stand on the economy urging the music industry to busy itself with the task of selling records, not griping about poor market place conditions. In a recent speech Yagisawa said, "It is imperative for us to maintain positive behavior to challenge the difficulties we face."

He continued: "Our company has been hit with severe conditions resulting from inflation and the general economic depression in this its third year of existence. Our first two years were normal

despite these factors, and I suggest that effort can turn 1976 into a plus year also. Even though faced with desperate battles, we have reached sales of 27,000,000,000 yen this year through the concerted hard work of all our employees.

From now on, we're going to concentrate on 1976 and face up to the challenges before us. Times are expected to be severe, so we are going to take an extra measure to ensure that we'll be at the top again next year just like we were in 1975."

## Gordon Schedules European Meets

HOLLYWOOD — Marc Gordon, manager of ABC recording group the 5th Dimension, heads to London and Paris June 16 for a week of meetings to discuss a potential European tour this fall for the group. Accompanied by his wife, 5th Dimension member Florence LaRue Gordon, Gordon will be conferring with top music promoters in Europe to negotiate possible concert dates in England, France and Germany.

Gordon will also be meeting, in London, with Ian Ralfini, head of Anchor Records, the ABC affiliate, to determine the English release date of the new 5th Dimension album, "Earthbound," which will be released here in the United States on ABC Records later this month.

## Bachman Inks Major MCA Deal

VANCOUVER — Randy Bachman, leader of Bachman-Turner Overdrive, was met at Vancouver airport by MCA president Mike Maitland, later resulting in a \$3 million deal for Bachman's new Legend label. The deal is rumored to be similar to that given Elton John's Rocket label, but does not include the BTO group which is contracted to Mercury.

Legend, one of Canada's biggest independents without a release, but with an almost guaranteed, international audience, will be managed by Bruce Allen, the manager responsible for much of the success of BTO since their name change from Brave Belt to Bachman-Turner Overdrive.



**EH, TO!** — While in the midst of their successful European tour, Bachman-Turner Overdrive stopped off at Morgan Studio in Brussels. They are pictured being interviewed at the studio by Bernd Radtke of the Screen Gems-Columbia music exploitation department in the Belgian city.

## British Respond To Carpenter LP

HOLLYWOOD — "Horizon," the Carpenters new album which has been shipped this past week, has the biggest-ever advance British sales of any Carpenters LP, according to A&M sales manager Bill Groves.

The group's "Singles 1969-1973," on the British charts for 72 weeks and recently back to number 3, has become their biggest album seller to date with 1.3 million units.

"Horizon," Richard and Karen Carpenter's first new studio album in two years, contains their current single "Only Yesterday" and their recent world wide hit, "Please Mr. Postman." According to Groves, A&M will be promoting "Horizon" via 30-second television spots throughout the United Kingdom, plus extensive retail store displays. The Carpenters make their return to Britain on Nov. 14 with a tour already scheduled.



**"TECHNICOLOR" AMAZING IN SO. AFRICA** — The MCA album "Joseph and The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat," written and produced by Tim Rice and Andrew Lloyd Webber has sold over 18,000 copies in South Africa, according to MCA. To celebrate the occasion, MCA licensee Gallo (Africa) Ltd. threw a party and presented Tim Rice, the lyricist, with a silver album. Left to right: Tim Rice and Peter Lotis, Gallo a&r, dressed in their own "dreamcoats."