



MAN ABOUT MUSIC

The James Brown Case

By Bob Rolontz

The dispute between King Records and Mercury Records over the James Brown contract (King claims he is still under contract while Mercury says no) will become the most important court case of the year according to insiders. One of the top men in the legal firm of Rosenman, Colin, Kaye, Petschek & Freund, will handle the defense for Mercury, while Gallop, Climenko & Gould will do the job for King. . . . Speaking of King, Syd Nathan informs us in a recent letter that there is no deal pending between King and Columbia. He says "I have at no time talked to anyone at Columbia."

No Go Go

The Whiskey a GoGo in Los Angeles is now called the Whisk a GoGo — says

promotion man George Jay. He reports that in California an alcoholic beverage is not allowed to be used on a sign at a saloon. . . . Peter Leeds is now managing thrush Virgie Till, Lamont Washington (understudy to Sammy Davis in "Golden Boy") and Yetta Zoe, South African folk singer. Leeds formerly handled The Orchids. . . . Regency Records has signed The Avantis. . . . Dick Clark has been named "Salesman of the Year" by the National Association of Direct Selling Companies. . . . Capitol Records has signed The Travelers 3. . . . Joe Bill D'Angelo, George McCoy and Charles Wright have set up Select Artists Recordings in Mesquite, Texas. . . . Columbia Records has signed French star Jean-Paul Vignon. . . .

Dick Carney' has set na-

tional distribution of his new label, Carney Records, with Jamie-Guyden Distributing Corp. of Philadelphia. . . . Billy Marvin, new singer on Capitol, will soon appear in his first movie, "Swingin' Summer," which will star Jim Stacey, Bill Wellman, Jr., and Martin West. . . . Ivan Mogull, who is publishing the score of "The Folies Bergere" now playing in New York, has set a deal with Audio-Fidelity Records to record the cast album. Set will feature stars Patachou, George Ulmer and musical conductor Joe Basile. Eddie Heller, of Tribute Records, just cut one of the songs from the score, "La Munique."

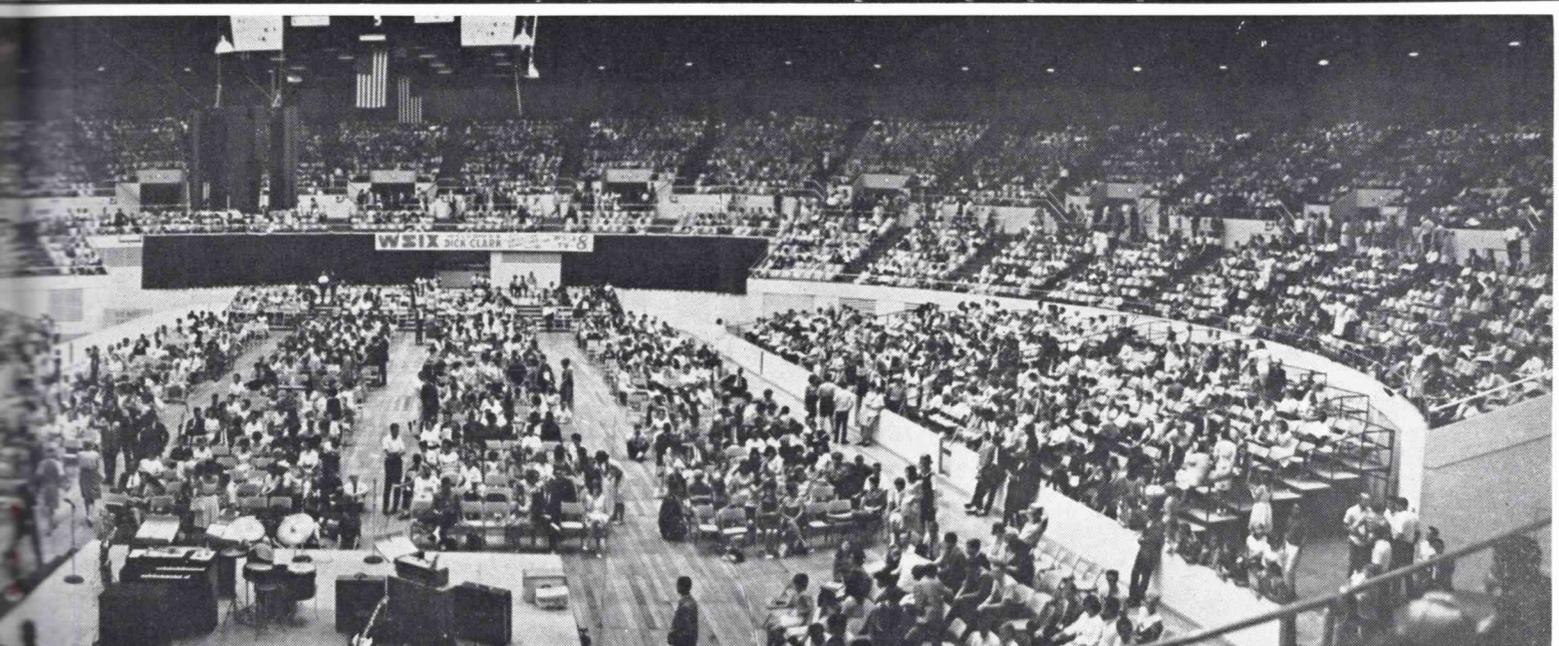
Tessie to Command

Enoch Light, Command chief, has signed Tessie O'Shea, British vaudeville star who made a name for herself via her performance last season in "110 In The Shade". . . . Johnny Cymbal's recordings on Kapp will be produced by his manager Jack Gale from now on according to a tele-

gram received last week from Gale. He has already cut two new sides with Gale, which will be issued next week.

Epic Records, hotter than ever, has signed organist-pianist **Eddie Layton**. He has been, for the past few years, official "International Organ Soloist" for the Hammond Organ Company. . . . **Andrew Kazdin** has been named music editor of Masterworks a. & r. at Columbia Records.

RCA Victor expects to be first in the Broadway musical sweepstakes this coming season. It will record "Fiddler On The Roof" on September 27, the Sunday following the show's Broadway premiere. Show, based on **Sholem Aleichem's** teyve stories, has music by **Jerry Bock** and **Sheldon Harnick**, who wrote the scores of "Fiorello" and "She Loves Me." It stars **Zero Mostel**, whose performance in "A Funny Thing Happened On The Way To The Forum" won him a flock of Broadway awards. **George Marek**, head of RCA Victor, will personally supervise the recording of the show.



DATES FOR THE FALL CARAVAN OF STARS NOV. 13 to DEC. 6

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