Fox Sets Block

In a move toward emphasizing its single product, 20th Century Fox Records has appointed Bernie Block as eastern regional promotion man. Block previously was with General Distributing in Baltimore. A West Coast representative will also be announced soon.

Gateway A & R Chief

PITTSBURGH — Robert W. Schachner, President of Gateway Recordings, Inc., has announced the appointment of Ronald L. Lenhoff as Director of Engineering and A&R Chief. A veteran of 12 years in the recording business, Lenhoff brings to Gateway almost 20 years of recording business experience. Prior to coming to the Pittsburgh firm, he was Chief Engineer for King Records, Cincinnati. He has also served as Chief Engineer for the Senior Manager of Fidelity Recording and Chief Engineer at Herzog Recording.

MGM Repackages ‘Fantasticks’

MGM Records is rushing a repackaging of its original cast LP of the Tom Jones-Harvey Schmidt off-Broadway musical success, “The Fantasticks,” with new liner notes by Stanley Green, in honor of the show’s sixth anniversary celebrated on May 3. It was recorded with the original cast, headed by Jerry Orbach, Rita Gardner and Kenneth Nelson. The album has more than doubled the sales of its nearest rival, “The Threepenny Opera,” also an MGM recording. “The Fantasticks” continues to sell out at the Sullivan Street Playhouse.

UA’s Party For Jordan Christopher

At the Danny’s Hideaway party in New York, United Artists Records’ Jordan Christopher, upon completion of his film, “The Return of the Seven,” are, top: Mr. and Mrs. Christopher, Mike Stewart, President of UA Records; the Christophers, Mr. and Mrs. Eddie Adams, UA Records’ French rep who will be supervising Jordan’s recordings and promotion in Paris next month; and UA’s Lloyd Leipzig, Director of Creative Services, Murray Deutch, VP of Unart Music, and the Christophers.

Top Pop—5 Years Ago

May 15, 1961

1. Mother-In-Law
2. 100 Pounds of Clay
3. Runaway
4. Brand New Broken Heart
5. Daddy’s Home
6. I’ve Told Ev’ry Little Star
7. You Can Depend on Me
8. Lee-Osco
9. Shep—Scepter
10. Travelling Man

Top RGB—5 Years Ago

May 15, 1961

1. Mother-In-Law
2. Daddy’s Home
3. Mama Said
4. 100 Pounds of Clay
5. Dance the Mess Around
6. Runaway
7. Some Kind of Wonderful
8. Driving Wheel
9. One Mint Julep
10. Funny

Coast Capers

BY JACK DEVANEY

Russ Shaw making the rounds this week with the new We Five single, “There Stands the Door,” which looks like another smash for the red hot A&M label. . . . Columbia Records held a cocktail party for Michael Lee on the set of “How To Succeed In Business Without Really Trying” in which she is starred . . . Brenda Lee will make her West Coast night club debut May 24 at the Cocoa-Nut Grove for a two-week engagement, first of one year for the next three years . . . Joe Tex, Dial’s hot rhythm and blues singer, booked solidly with single-nighters for the next two months beginning May 1 in Detroit and ending July 2 in Toledo.

Maurice Hart, former dj and longtime ASCAP member, tapped by L.A. office of Brazilian publisher Permuta Internation- nal Melodies to compose English lyrics to three of their ASCAP tunes, two Brazilian and one from Italy . . . Bobby Vee’s new hit, “Bubbles,” produced by Snuff Garrett, who produced all of singers early hits . . . Roy Orbison in town for a week’s promotional visit to perform his current MGM release “Twinkle Toes” on all the major pop record shows emanating from Hollywood . . . Earl Perrin and Bobby Boyd of Presta Records in to huddle with producer Jordan on a project for the next Presta artists Floyd and Jerry. The boys’ first single for the label “Believe In Things” currently climbing the charts.

Tower Records has signed new artist Ray Chavin with first single “Summer Wind” set for release this week . . . Hoyt Axton set for a two part “Daniel Boone” to be shot in Mexico . . . As a result of her performance of the award-winning “Shadow of Your Smile” on the Oscar show, Barbar McNaIr is talking with Blake Edwards regarding title role for producer’s “Billie Holiday” biopic . . . New Dot Records recording group The Mystics have a hit breaking nationally in “Didn’t We Have a Good Time” spearheaded by a number 1 rating in Dallas on KLIF . . . Steve Topley of Hanna-Barbera Records reporting the Scatman Crothers single of “That’s a Nice Kind of Song Doing In a Place Like This” breaking for them both pop and R&B . . . The production team of Hitmakers, Inc., are planning a new jazz-oriented rock and roll sound for Warner Brothers duo Dick and Dee- Dee . . . David McCallum’s second “Music a Part of Me” LP released this week to follow up his first chart-riding album. Both packages were produced by Dave Axelrod . . . Managers Charles Greene and Brian Stone have signed Michael Shere to produce the Bob Lind concerts during his forthcoming tour in England . . . Don Blocker, General Manager, and Jack Bratel, Sales Manager of Liberty Records both on the road to promote the label’s all-guitar LP program . . . The Sunnys, Tower recording artists, play their first college concert date in the Los Angeles Valley College in Van Nuys this Thursday evening.

Ruth Olay will record an album for Impulse with backing by a group of all-star jazz musicians . . . Rond Productions of San Jose has signed James Lewis to a recording contract with Rhythm and Blues product set for early release . . . Hal Belfer, producer of the Adam (Batman) West personal appearances tours, has set Ernie Freeman to prepare special orchestrations for the actor-vocalist . . . Herb Newman, president of Era Records, has signed vocalist Guy West and new group the Goodtime Four to recording contracts.

Barbara McNaIr

Joe Tex

THE ORIGINAL THE MOJO KID

Sings

"GOT MY MOJO WORKING"

by Hy Tyde

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