

WB/7A Distribbs New Dove Diskery Via Reprise

Pryor 1st Artist

BURBANK, CALIF. — Warner Bros.-Seven Arts Records, Inc., has entered into an exclusive and first-time distribution agreement with the newly formed Dove Records Company, a subsidiary of the diversified Hal Landers-Bobby Roberts film productions company.

Announcement was made by Mo Ostin, company Vice President as well as General Manager of Reprise Records, to release all Dove product.

Ostin disclosed that the first release under the agreement would be a comedy LP recorded "live" by Richard Pryor. Pryor, coincidentally, is also the first artist put under contract by

Dove. The Landers-Roberts unit plans to limit the number of recording artists if signs in order to maintain career direction for its artists in other media as well.

Ostin emphasized that the W/7 label entered into this association with Dove Records because of the structure of the Landers-Roberts organization and the manner in which the two would function. He stressed that all record releases would maintain a joint-label concept with each company's logo to appear.

Dove also plans to sign artists to the label who will encompass all styles on the contemporary music scene.

Hal Landers and Bobby Roberts who are extremely active in motion picture production

(Continued on page 14)

LIN Broadcasting Acquires Starday/King

NASHVILLE — Don Pierce, President and sole owner of Starday Records, joined Fred Gregg, Jr., president of LIN Broadcasting, in the announcement of LIN acquiring the entire stock of Starday Records which includes King Records and all other affiliated companies owned by Starday. The transaction, for an undisclosed amount, is reportedly in the heavy seven figure bracket.

Pierce stated that Starday was delighted to be a part of the LIN group. "Records are a way of life, and noting the fast-rising popularity of C&W and R&B music combined with the youth population explosion and the increasing abundance of leisure time, we expect now to be in an even stronger position to expand with the growing market."

Gregg said that the addition of Starday/King and the affiliated companies would give LIN a solid base in the music industry and should add an extra \$8,000,000 gross to the LIN group.

Both Gregg and Pierce emphasized that management and staff would remain as is with no change in policy. This acquisition will not effect distribution of Starday/King. The acquisition would do nothing to perpetrate present promises made by Starday and if anything it would only enhance any prior commitment made by the company. Hal Neely will continue as Vice President and General Manager and Jim Wilson as Vice President/Marketing; John Miller will continue to head the Cincinnati operations and as previ-

(Continued on page 42)

Tirk Smash, Fontana Mgr.

CHICAGO — Sheldon Tirk, head of Mercury Record Corporation's economy Wing label since July, has been named Product Manager of the corporation's Smash and Fontana labels, announces Exec VP Irwin H. Steinberg.

At the same time, Steinberg announced that Rory Bourke,

(Continued on page 46)



Sheldon Tirk

Kornfeld Forms Circus Label

NEW YORK — Artie Kornfeld, who heads up the contemporary music division at Capitol, is starting his own Capitol subsidiary label, which is tentatively called Circus Records.

Kornfeld wants the new label to be a "personality" label.

His first product will be out in December and will include an album called "The Artie

(Continued on page 14)

Bob Thiele Sets Flying Dutchman Complex

Bob Thiele, well-known production executive, has announced the formation of Flying Dutchman Productions, which will encompass not only talent acquisition and record production but such follow-through functions as promotion, publicity and merchandising as well. In addition, the new Thiele operation will incorporate both ASCAP and BMI-affiliated publishing entities.

The firm is located at 65 W. 55th St. in New York.

The new organization, Thiele said, will operate on the philosophy of maintaining a close and direct contact with the



Bob Thiele

more youthful elements of the pop and jazz scenes. In Thiele's view, this is where the really creative forces of today's music business are to be found

(Continued on page 46)

Love Helms Metromedia Promo, Merchandising

Freddie Love has been named National Promotion and Merchandising Manager, Metromedia Records, announces Leonard S. Levy, President of the new label.

Love will be responsible for all promotion of Metromedia Records' artists and product and will work in conjunction with the Sales, A&R and Publicity Departments in developing the image of the label and of its product. A network of regional promotion managers,

(Continued on page 42)



Freddie Love

Viewlex Acquiring Bell Sound?

NEW YORK — At press time, it was learned that negotiations were nearing completion for the purchase of Bell Sound Studios, one of the major record studios in the East, by Viewlex, Inc.

Bell Sound, headed by Al Weintraub, joins a long list of recent Viewlex leisure time acquisitions including pressing plants (Allentown, Sonic, Walnut, Phono Label, Dumac and American), Globe Albums, Andrews Nunnery, Kama-Sutra Productions and Buddah Records. Principals in Viewlex are Larry and Ben Piercez.

Thus far, Bell Sound had made known its intent for sale to SEC, with final negotiations expected within a week.

CMA TVer Now Set for Nov. 20

The second Annual Country Music Association Awards presentation which was to have been broadcast Oct. 30 as one of the Kraft Music Hall TV shows has been rescheduled for Wednesday night, Nov. 20, over NBC. The show which was taped in Nashville on Oct. 18 features top country music stars in addition to the CMA Awards presentation.