

# record world Country From The Continent

By MURRAY KASH

LONDON—The taping of the "George the Fourth" series for BBC Television took place in the Nashville Room, hosted by George Hamilton IV. Four of the programs have been completed with guest stars Slim Whitman, John D. Loudermilk, Little Ginny, Jan Holly and—Murray Kash. The remaining five programs of the present series will be taped at the end of the month.



Guests on these programs are yet to be announced. The popular Liverpool group, the Hillsiders are resident on the show, as is Bass player Brian Brocklehurst. The packed Nashville Room responded enthusiastically to the offenders. Production Assistant Douglas Boyd and Director Philip Lewis are very excited about the results this first country music TV series ever done by the BBC. The shows will be going out on a weekly basis beginning Nov. 9 Monday nights on BBC-2, at 10:10 p.m. The BBC will gauge its plans regarding future country music shows on the response by the viewing public to the present series. Hopefully, this series will be repeated on BBC-1 in the near future so that many more of the British public will have an opportunity of seeing the series, since the majority of the TV sets in the British Isles do not have the facility for picking up the BBC-2 channel at the present time.

One of the interested onlookers at the "George the Fourth" show was Bill Graham of Showbiz, Inc., who has been in London conferring with Gordon Mills (who handles the European music publishing side of Showbiz), as well as with BBC and commercial TV executives regarding showing future Showbiz product. . . . Despite inclement weather (like continuous rainfall), the Slim Whitman concerts played to packed houses throughout Ireland. Slim played to over 50,000 in the 36 dates over a period of three weeks. Before returning state-side, there are five more cities in Great Britain lined up,

Plymouth, Southampton, Blackpool, Manchester and Glasgow plus a number of radio appearances. While in London, Slim visited his favorite Saville Row tailor to order some more of his colorful stage costumes. The Whitman single, on Liberty, "My Heart Has a Mind of Its Own" (from his LP "Tomorrow Never Comes"), is receiving lots of air play on the BBC and looks like it could climb high in the charts.

## Loudermilk Chat

Managed to have a quick chat with John D. Loudermilk in between train and airplane. John had just returned from Newmarket to visit Mrs. Sayers, mother of his good friend, now based in Nashville, performer/TV personality, Pete Sayers, and was catching the plane back to Nashville with George Hamilton IV. It was John's first professional appearance on this side of the Atlantic (guesting on the "George the Fourth" show), and judging by the impression he made on the British country fans, it should be the beginning of many more.

## RCAers Honored At Convention



Rocco Laginestra (left), President of RCA Records, took the occasion of the RCA Records Country Music Association breakfast in Nashville to present plaques to Harry Jenkins (standing center), Division VP, Country Music, and Chet Atkins, Division VP, RCA's Nashville Operations, for their contributions in helping establish country music as a dominant force in music around the world, and in making RCA the leader in the field. Atkins was honored not only as executive, but also as artist and producer. Both plaques were signed "Rocco and your artist friends and colleagues at RCA Records."

# record world Country LP Reviews

## LITTLE JIMMY DEMPSEY PICKS ON BIG JOHNNY CASH

Plantation PLP-10.

Guitarist Dempsey rounded up all the old Johnny Cash hits and did his own instrumental versions of: "I Walk the Line," "Get Rhythm," "Folsom Prison Blues," "There You Go," "I Got Stripes," "Big River," "Don't Take Your Love to Town."

★★★★

## THE REAL THING

BOBBY BARE—RCA LSP 4422.

Bobby has worked with Chet Atkins and Jack Clement to come up with the best album of his career. It's full of good songs like "Sunday Morning Coming Down" (the CMA Award Winner), "Chicago Story," "Singer of Sad Songs," "Tulsa County."

★★★★

## ORGAN NASHVILLE STYLE

KOSSI GARDNER—RCA LSP 4419.

Tremendous album! But you hard hard country stations and fans forget it—it's strictly for the MOR people. It's organ instrumental on country standard tunes, like "Oh, Lonesome Me," "Sweet Georgia Brown," "A Fool Such As I."

★★★★

## GETTING TO KNOW STRANGERS

MERLE HAGGARD'S STRANGERS—Capitol 590.

This is the Strangers' second showcase album and it features Roy Nichols, Norm Hamlet, Bobby Wayne, Dennis Hromek, Biff Adam, all members of the group doing their thing. Some picking, some singing, but all of it's good!

★★★★

## ME & MY OLE CROW

STRINGBEAN—Nugget 102.

The "Kentucky Wonder" (his real name is David Akeman) has put down some ole time banjo picking and singing on tunes like "Twenty Cent Cotton and Ninety Cent Meat," "Fire On The Mountain," "Sourwood Mountain" and "The Nine Pound Hammer."

★★★★

## WILD AGAIN

BIG BEN COLDER—MGM SE 4674.

Ben has done it again. He's done parodies on country greats like "Is Anybody Goin' To San Antone," "The Carroll County Accident," "Once More With Feeling," "If I Were a Carpenter," "Games People Play," "What Is Youth." It's a fun-time thing.



## Burmese Label Formed

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artist to be recorded under this agreement. Kuper has also been signed to Great Purple Songs. In addition, Siegel, President and Chief Producer for Burmese Records, is currently

preparing an album of Sioux Indian music for Elektra. Siegel is also producing Alive 'N Kicking for Roulette.

A&R Coordinator is Shelley Snow.