

**Oberstein to Coast  
On New Talent Hunt . . .**

Eli Oberstein, in his guise as pop recording boss for King Records, heads for the West Coast next week for a two-week talent trek. Last week Obie arranged a deal to use warbler Dick Brown on the King label as a house singer. Brown will be used as vocalist with several of the orks on the label and will be groomed in that manner for his own niche as a solo waxer. Brown last waxed for the Jubilee label.

**Arnold-Shaw Weds  
Mrs. Joseph Schillinger . . .**

Arnold Shaw, manager of Leeds' Duchess catalog, took the plunge Thursday (11). Shaw fractured the hearts of all the Leeds beauties by marrying Mrs. Joseph Schillinger.

**Coral Records  
Signs Dorothy Shay . . .**

Coral Records last week signed Dorothy Shay to a term recording contract. Miss Shay formerly recorded for Columbia Records and is noted as the "Park Avenue Hill-billy." She will do mainly special material waxings for Coral.

**Lawhorn Cashes in on  
Jazz in Oregon . . .**

An experiment billed "Jazz in the Afternoon" paid off for promoter Ray Lawhorn on Sunday (7), when more than 1,200 piled into the Playhouse Theater, Portland Ore., to hear his assemblage of top jazzmen at \$1.35 per copy. Lawhorn, himself a side-

man, said he hoped to take the group, some 15 tootlers and vocalists, to Seattle, Wash., and Eugene, Ore., for concerts. The downtown house was filled nearly to capacity by these performers, a top selection from among men working local spots.

**Jack Robbins  
Sings a Sad Song . . .**

Jack Robbins, back last week from a deejay tour thru the Midwest, reports that the largest Kresge store in Detroit closed down its sheet music department. Robbins bemoans the ever-dwindling outlets for sheet music and would like to see Music Publishers' Protective Association square up to the issue and take action. In Chicago Robbins sang tunes behind the counter of a Kresge store on State Street, with songwriter Marty Bloom playing piano for him. Robbins would like to see teams of songwriters tour the retail outlets across the country with the old-time demonstrations.

**New York**

Decca Records is rushing its Gold Label series recording of Brahms' "Quintet in B Minor," featuring clarinetist Reginald Kell and the Fine Arts Quartet of the American Broadcasting Company, to have the set on the market in time for tie-in promotions with the quartet's fall season concert appearances in and around the Chicago area. . . . Decca cut its first pop session with Dolores Gray, co-star of the legit musical, "Two on the Aisle." . . . Same diskery also cut its first sides with thrush Jeri Southern with Tutti Camarata doing the backgrounds and also made its initial wax under her new contract with June Hutton, whose hubby, Axel Stordahl, did her arranging and conducting.

MGM Records has scheduled four new albums to go into its 10-inch LP "Popular Classics" series on the diskery's mid-October release. Previously the MGM longhair wax has appeared on a sporadic basis, but, beginning with the new issue, the classics will be released regularly on a monthly schedule. . . . RCA Victor Records threw a cocktail party for deejays and press at Toots Shor's Thursday (11) to present Vaughn Monroe with a gold record, indicating a million sale, of his theme, "Racing With the Moon." It's Vaughn's fourth gold disk. . . . Capitol Records held a cocktail party Monday (15) in honor of Les Paul and Mary Ford, who open at the Paramount Theater Wednesday (17) on a show with Frankie Laine. Cap's party is being held at the Hampshire House here.

Audrey Williams, wife of top country artist Hank Williams, joins her husband on the MGM label as a solo recording artist. She previously had made a duet with her husband, who was billed under his nom-de-recitatif, Luke the Drifter. . . . Frankie Laine has been booked for concert dates early in November. November 2 he works Tuscaloosa, Fla., and November 4 he plays New Orleans. If details are worked out, the singer will sandwich-in Dallas November 3. . . . Cisco Houston, a local folk-singing vet who recently signed a deal with Decca Records, has changed his name to Gil Houston for his recorded bid for fame beyond the borders of Greenwich Village.

Marshall Robbins is doing disk promotion working out of Los Angeles. Among his first accounts is Don Cherry. . . . Sen. Fred Morit, counsel for the contact men's union, is doing English lyrics to a number of Puccini

melodies on commission of G. Ricordi Company. The works are due to go into the public domain soon. . . . Harold Desfor, publicity director for RCA Victor, was to arrive in Hollywood Friday (12) to flack for the annual convention of the Society of Motion Picture and Television Engineers. . . . Sam Wigler and Otis Pollard have changed the name of their pubbery from Pollmoor to Pollsam Music.

Norman Granz's "Jazz at the Philharmonic" troupe, with Ella Fitzgerald, will give two shows at Taft Theater, Cincinnati, October 20. Others slated to appear with the troupe are Gene Krupa, Oscar Peterson, Flip Phillips, Illinois Jacquet, Bill Harris, Ray Brown and Hank Jones. . . . Harold F. Oxley, Hollywood, recently visited Don O. Robey, head of Peacock Records, and T-Bone Walker, for whom he is agent, in Houston. Robey, prexy of the entertainment service bearing his name, has completed a series of dates featuring Louis Jordan's band and vocalists Valli Ford and Fatman Smith.

**Chicago**

The big Record Week promotion, started by d.j.'s Jim Lounsbury and Howard Miller here (The Billboard, October 13), has spread thru the industry with Art Talmadge, of Mercury, as record manufacturer chairman. Herman Forst, of Hudson-Ross, is co-chairman representing juke ops and record retailers. In addition to Ralph Marterie's band, Don Cherry and Johnny Desmond, the line-up for the dance-concert November 5 includes Pee Wee King and His Golden West Cowboys, featuring Redd Stewart; Tennessee Ernie, with a possibility that Les Paul and Mary Ford, Georgia Gibbs, Lee Monti's Tu-Tones and a Columbia artist participating. Night's proceeds will go to a charity effort. Distributors here are making up a \$500 record collection as a door prize.

Clarence Lejcar, oldest son of Ben Lejcar, op of the Melody Mill, Riverside, Ill., is confined to the Berwyn, Ill., hospital, after he narrowly escaped losing his right leg in a construction accident. Young Lejcar is active in management of his dad's terpalace. . . . McConkey is putting its first orks into the week-long location date at Shepard Army Air Base, Texas, with Don Reid opening November 3; Leo Pieper, January 2, and Ray Pearl, January 16. . . . Tony Desantis, op of the Martinique here, is confined to his home with ulcers, but expects to return to work soon.

**Philadelphia**

Grimes Music Publishers here have become the sole selling agents for Superior Songs Publishing Company, taking over the three songs published by the local firm, "Ol' Jake," "Thru the Years" and "Just How Lucky You Are." . . . Norman Granz, who overflowed the Academy of Music last month with his "Jazz at the Philharmonic," returns the jazz concert to the Academy for a Thanksgiving night repeat. . . . After eight years with the same sidemen, Billy Kretchmer, clarinet-playing owner of the Jam Session, after-dark spot, brings in Fats Wright at the 88 and Steve Davis on bass. . . . Frankie Adams is back in action with his revived Sapphire Record Company. He also gets the Red Caps to record "Under the Stars," the number he wrote some time ago in collaboration with maestro Victor Hugo. . . . Dottie Malone leaves the canary spot with Chuck Gordon at Wagner's Ballroom to join up with Bernie Cummings. Set to take over the Wagner bandstand is Johnny Austin, making it a return trip to the terp temple.

**Milwaukee**

Thrush Lois Costello, appearing with the Ray Pearl ork at the Schroeder Hotel Empire Room, and Bill Darlow have cut a disk that has been adopted by the National Restaurant Association as a theme song. Title is "Pass the Meat and Pass the Potatoes." . . . Appearance of Woody Herman aggregation for one nighter at George Devine's Eagles ballroom netted about \$5,000 toward the building fund of St. John's Cathedral high school here, his alma mater. . . . Connie Baxter, appearing at the Towne Room with the Dante Trio, recently completed 58 weeks at Chicago's Blackhawk

Restaurant with the "Roaring Twenties" troupe. Connie has been inked by Television Productions, Inc. to handle vocal chores on the Singer's Sunday afternoon WTMJ-TV stanza for the next three weeks. . . . After close to 11 years of 88 work on local radio stations, Wally Behl has called it quits to open a tavern on the north side of town. . . . Ken Keck recently packed his Hammond organ and made his way out to try his luck in sunny California bistros.

Dave Waldman's ork inked as house band for the recently opened ballroom in the Patton Building. . . . Local 8 prexy, Volmer Dahlstrand, was presented with a watch by the Downtown Association for his civic contributions. . . . Banjoist Ken Harvey is showing signs of improvement in his battle with a serious ailment. Harvey is now a patient at the Goldwater Memorial hospital in New York. . . . Olympic Restaurant, Lawrence College rendezvous in Appleton, goes on a jazz kick each Wednesday night when the Jimmy James crew of sidemen take over. . . . Bert Hansen, bass fiddler with the Tommy Sheridan Trio, became the daddy of a baby girl, August 21.

**Hollywood**

Abe Diamond, of Diamond Record Distributing Company, has been named by Bibletone Records exec Don Becker to rep the line on the Coast. . . . Northwest Tempo distributors in Seattle have informed Vita Records that the latter's disk on "They Say" is over the 10,000 mark. . . . Four-Star topper Bill McCall leaves in three weeks for New York to huddle with Broadcast Music, Inc., regarding performances. . . . Les Brown plays the University of Arizona (Tucson) dance November 16. . . . Abe Olman due here the end of the month to outline plans for Lion Music, a Robbins Feist and Miller affiliate. . . . Tempo Prexy Col. Irving Fogel is in Vienna in the middle of a three-month junket over the Continent. . . . Fogel will return early in January. . . . William Lava will score WB's "Carson City," the Lucille Norman pic. . . . Billy May, whose diskings are being released nationally by Capitol once clefted kid tunes for the plattery. He also fronted a full ork for Nellie Lutcher's latest "Birth of the Blues." . . . Denise Darcel cut "I Don't Know Why" for Metro's "Young Man In a Hurry." . . . The Jerome Kern-Dorothy Field perennial, "A Fine Romance," added to MGM's "Lovely to Look At." . . . Bruce Humberstone will meg "She's Working Her Way Thru College" at Warners. . . . Max Steiner is scoring "Room for One More" at Warners. . . . Ginger Crowley, ex-Horace Heidt chirp, checks in at Warners for a minor role. . . . Al C. Meyer, Local 47, AFM, financial secretary, back after an illness of several weeks. . . . Georgie Stoll will score Metro's "Glory Alley," which features Louis Armstrong and Jack Teagarden in acting as well as tootling roles.

**Detroit**

Robert F. Calder, who owns the Studio Record label, is adding a music publishing sideline, forming the Fergus Music Company. . . . The Sam Kart Trio, lately of Providence, moved into the Sapphire Room at the Wardell-Sheraton Hotel, replacing Mr. and Mrs. Duke of Melody, slated for a South American tour. . . . Vince Mackey's orchestra is new at Thomas Edgewater Inn in Windsor. . . . Shangri La is offering customers four different orks weekly—Marion Green Quartet, Thursday thru Sunday; Andy Carlo, rumba specialist; Monday; Cecil Gates, Tuesday, and John Sadrack, polka specialist, Wednesday. . . . Andy Blaine, former vocalist and trumpeter with Sam Donahue, and now fronting his own band, and Joel Nash, pianist, have been signed by Park Avenue Music Publishers on recording contracts.

**Toronto**

Norman Granz' "Jazz at the Philharmonic" group packed the house at Massey Hall. . . . Bill Butler, newest dance band in the city, introduced Frankie Eagan as vocalist at Columbia Hall. . . . Lanny Ross played a week at the Casino Theater. . . . A triple-barreled music week is planned beginning November 1 with the

local appearance at Massey Hall of Stan Kenton's Innovations Ork, followed by George Shearing and Billy Eckstine, November 2 at the Mutual Street Arena. Bringing the week to a close, Louis Armstrong and his All-Stars come in November 3 at Massey Hall. In addition, Pee Wee Hunt will be at the Colonial Tavern all that week.

Larry Mann left Station CHUM recently after six years spinning platters, to take a TV spot in Rochester. . . . Sid Bechet opened to big reception at the Colonial for what is believed to be first return engagement on this side of the Atlantic. . . . Ellis McLintock and his quintet returned to the Cork Room. . . . Noro Morales and his quartet have the spotlight at Club One Two. . . . Lanny Ross goes into the Casino Theater for one week. . . . Mart Kenney has reopened his ranch at Woodbridge for winter patronage. . . . The Starliners keeping things hopping at the Plaza Room. . . . Ethel Smith goes in for two nights at the Brant Inn. . . . Moxie Whitney and his band have returned to the Royal York hotel after summering at the Banff Springs hotel. Betty Jean Ferguson and Johnny Lindon are still handling vocal chores. . . . Jack Leonard is appearing with the Merrymakers Trio at the Concord. . . . Frank Palmer and the Holiday Music Makers are entertaining at the Holiday, after Billy O'Connor and his group moved over to the Silver Rail.

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