

The Billboard Music Popularity Charts COUNTRY & WESTERN RECORDS

• This Week's Best Buys

THE RICHEST MAN (Showcase, BMI)

I WALKED ALONE LAST NIGHT (Reis, ASCAP)—Eddy Arnold—RCA Victor 6290

Arnold has come up with another disk that shows signs of sweeping both the country and the pop fields. "Richest Man" in particular is doing equally well in places like New England, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Baltimore, Milwaukee, etc., as it is in Richmond, Dallas, Durham and Nashville. "I Walked Alone Last Night" is doing well in traditional country markets, but does not have similar pop appeal. A previous Billboard "Spotlight" pick.

IT'S A GREAT LIFE (Central, BMI)

FOR THE LOVE OF A WOMAN (Central, BMI)—Faron Young—Capitol 3258

Young's latest offering is stepping out quickly and should be represented on the national listings before long. Action is on both sides, but "Life" is leading at this time. All major country markets are grabbing up the platter. A previous Billboard "Spotlight" pick.

WHY, BABY, WHY? (Starrite, BMI)—George Jones—Starday 202

Jones, who has enjoyed great popularity in the Texas-Louisiana-Arkansas area in previous releases, shows signs of breaking out into the larger country market with this record. Already high on the New Orleans and Houston territorial charts, the record is moving up into Little Rock, Dallas, Memphis, St. Louis and Nashville, and from there could spread quickly to both coasts. Some good action is also reported on the flip, "Seasons of My Heart" (Starrite, BMI).

Saturday (22), with Floyd Tillman the special guest for the night.

"Grand Ole Opry TV Stars" gave two performances to good houses at Memphis Auditorium Sunday (23). Packaged by Hubert Long, the show featured Jimmy Dickens, Moon Mullican, Rod Brasfield, Jean Sheppard, the Wilburn Brothers, Hawkshaw Hawkins, Eddie Bond, Texas Bill Strength, and Ray Price and the Western Cherokees, who replaced the ailing Faron Young. . . . Hank Locklin, of "Big D Jamboree," Dallas, last week kicked off an extended tour in Colorado that will take him thru California and Arizona. Also in the package are Wanda Jackson and Mitchell Torok. "Big D" road man, Lawrence Thacker, is accompanying the unit to pitch books.

The first country and western troupe to play Denver this season pulled a full house with a three-hour show at City Auditorium Arena there October 16. Talent line-up comprised Marty Robbins, Porter Wagoner, Homer and Jethro, Slim Whitman, Hank Locklin, Mitchell Torok, Autry Inman and Wanda Jackson. . . . Charlie Lamb Agency, Nashville, has signed with Tubby Williams to handle the latter's promotion and publicity. . . . Charline Arthur, the Belew Twins, Sonny James and the "Big D Jamboree" band played the fair at Beaumont, Tex., October 20-24, set thru Music Corporation of America.

Gary Williams (Capitol) appeared on "Louisiana Hayride," Shreveport, Saturday (22), and recently held down a spot on the Webb Pierce ABC-TV network show which originated from Nashville. Williams is working under the management of Steve Stebbins, Hollywood. . . . Rocky Coleman, of Kansas City, Mo., whose Hollywood Playboys are currently appearing thru Kansas and Missouri, is framing an all-girl Western swing combo to work in conjunction with the Playboys in larger halls and auditoriums. Don (PeeWee) Nelson has returned as assistant manager and featured vocalist for the Coleman crew. Nedra Canfield, of Cosby, Mo., is president of the newly organized Rocky Coleman Fan Club.

Al Defoe, former ork leader and Cadillac recording artist and now Southern rep for Decca Records, and Jean Branch, c.&w. songwriter, who recently tied the knot at Jacksonville Beach, Fla., are now residing at Neptune Beach, Fla. Miss Branch is the writer of "Tennessee Moon." She also penned "Some Day You'll Call My Name," a new release on M-G-M by the late Hank Williams. The same tune was done by Jimmy Wakely on Capitol a few years back. . . . Skinny Garrett's Rhythm Rangers have just cut two sides for Bob-O-Link Records, new diskery with headquarters in Newcastle, Ind. Ditties are "Won't You Tie Me to Your Heartstrings?" and "I Wonder What They're Doin' Down Home Tonight?" Leon Black and Fougou Selks handle the vocals. Bob Levell is business manager for the Rhythm Rangers.

Rex Griffin, writer of such oldies as "Won't You Ride in My Little Red Wagon?" and "The Last Letter," has a new one clicking, "Just Call Me Lonesome," which Eddy Arnold has cut for RCA Victor. The tune has also been recorded by Red Foley on Decca. Griffin, now settled in Gadsden, Ala., has been forced to give up entertaining due to ill health. . . . Ray Guyce and Little Jo, currently touring New England with the Lonesome Valley Boys, have signed with All-Star Records, with their first release skedded for October 28.

(Continued on page 51)

• Review Spotlight on . . .

RECORDS

HANK THOMPSON

Don't Take It Out on Me (Brazos Valley, BMI)
Honey, Honey Bee Ball (Brazos Valley)—Capitol 3275—Thompson's latest offering has double-threat potential. First is a pleader that has a mighty pretty melody and gets his usual warm and tender treatment. Flip is an upbeat novelty tune about a little shaver who sings "Honey, Honey Bee Ball" to himself wherever he goes. Both sides have big appeal.

CARL SMITH

You're Free to Go (Ross-Jungnickel, ASCAP)
I Feel Like Cryin' (Mallory, BMI)—Columbia 21462—These both are real wet weepers that have break-out potential. Plenty of effective, tearful vocal sound in evidence and on the "cryin'" item the weepy guitar sound adds even more to the mood. Smith rarely misses with this type of material.

MARTY ROBBINS

Pretty Mama (Acuff-Rose, BMI)
Don't Let Me Hang Around (Acuff-Rose, BMI)—Columbia 21461—Robbins also may have a two-sider on his hands. On top is one of those "best friend stole the gal" items that has a fine jumping beat. The low-down r.&b. type lyrics get a fine reading. The flip finds his voice at its best in a warm and tender delivery on a true weeper. Plenty of hit potential either way.

• Reviews of New C & W Records

JOHNNIE AND JACK

S.O.S.79
VICTOR 6295—The boys send out the S.O.S. signal for the lady's heart. It's a cute idea, and the tune gets a spirited reading. (Hill & Range, BMI)
Weary Moments77
This side's a weeper, and the lads give it plenty of that tearful meaning. Good country wax. (Cedarwood Music, BMI)

MARVIN RAINWATER

Tennessee Houn' Dog Yodel77
M-G-M 12090—There's a load of interesting sound here. The houn' dog barks, the singer yodels and the drum comes thru with a good sustained beat as the pair take off on a coon hunt. Because it's different, it could stir up some attention. (Acuff-Rose, BMI)
Tea Bag Romeo73
Sounds like the plaint of a guy whose wife neglects the house to watch TV. But it's a cute story, ably sung. (Montauk, BMI)

COWBOY COPAS

Blue Yesterday77
KING 1507—Cowboy croons sincerely on an attractive blues-lament with effective lyrics. (Cedarwood, BMI)
Tell Me More74
A happy-sounding wax treatment of an up-tempo ditty with okay warbling by Copas and a vocal group. Stand out guitar work on backing. (Cedarwood, BMI)

BUCK GRIFFIN

Let's Elope, Baby76
LIN 1015—A solid country novelty with a rocking beat gets an excellent performance by Griffin. Great for deejays and the boxes. Watch it. (Lin, BMI)
Bawlin' and Squallin'74
A city slicker lured her away, and now he's bawlin' over her. Griffin belts out a solid performance to good instrumental backing. Good novelty lyric. Fine for jocks. (Lin, BMI)

THE WILSONS

First Degree Love75
DECCA 29668—The pair get over well with some mighty cute lyrics, on a tune that borders on the pop vein. Middle chorus finds the ork swinging in a barrelhouse Dixie beat. (Harman Music, ASCAP)
I Trust You70
More Dixie sound from the band here, but side doesn't measure up to the flip. (Goday Music Corp., BMI)

MYRNA LORRIE

Life's Changing Scene75
ABBOTT 185—The gal takes her rejection philosophically in this throber. A good side. (Dandelion, BMI)
Listen to My Heart Strings67
This side is a brisk blues in which the thrush is not at home. (Dandelion, BMI)

JIMMY WAKELY

Keep No Secrets74
CORAL 9-61509—Here's a sensitive reading of this pretty ballad. Wakely's good performance is supported by a chorus and tasteful instrumentation. (Riverside Music, ASCAP)
Steal a Penny From a Beggar71
Leisurely-paced ballad nicely done. (Tee-Kaye Music, ASCAP)

THE CROSSROADS QUARTET

I've Heard About a City74
M-G-M 12099—A song with a religious lyric, but this side has quite a novelty touch to the lyric. Fine delivery. (Lynn, BMI)
The Fourth Man73
Good religious side, delivered by the quartet with sincerity and a good beat. (Lynn, BMI)

TABBY WEST

Chat-Chat-Chattanooga74
DECCA 29698—The home town angle gets the treatment here on a tune that swings along nicely. Shows some juke potential. (Copar Music, BMI)
They Accused Me69
Gal gives it a good try on some

pretty dull material. (Northern Music, ASCAP)

HAWKSHAW HAWKINS

Standing at the End of My World73
VICTOR 6298—This is a real melancholy tome of the wasted life. Voice gets the mood over fine. (Volunteer Music, BMI)
I Gotta Have You72
The "Hawk" registers well on a ballad that's got a nice slow swingin' beat. (Bellemade Music, BMI)

BERNIE ANDERS

Too Late I Learned73
KING 4832—This is a typical twangy country voice, show-cased in a rockin' rhythm and blues tune. Anders shows plenty of r.&b. savvy. (Armo, BMI)
My Heart Believes72
Anders offers a show-wise effort on a slow pleader. (Armo, BMI)

JIMMIE DAWSON

Walkin' Round in Circles72
BONANZA 1925—Forceful, energetic warbling by the clefter-warbler. The tune is pleasant. (Fairway, BMI)
Devil-Eyes72
Same comment for this somewhat bouncer item. (Fairway, BMI)

MRS. SUNSHINE (JANE SWANSON)

Two Car Garage72
M-G-M 12100—One of the two cars will be gone when he looks across the driveway, is the theme of her plaint. A weeper with a good lyric idea. (Northern, ASCAP)

MR. SUNSHINE (CARL SWANSON)

Along the China Coast66
A country weeper with a different locale—a sailor on a ship at sea. He tells how he longs for home. Lacks sparkle. (Cenora, BMI)

DAVE DUDLEY

This Is the Last Time69
KING 1508—New King warbler Dudley sings with directness and simplicity on an appealing weeper. Title (e.g., "This Is the Last Time I'll Be a Pastime for You.") (Mar-Kay, BMI)
Cry Baby Cry69
Dudley hands an okay weeper (his own composition) a sincere vocal. (Lois, BMI)

BUDDY GRIFFIN

Bartenders Girl68
EKKO 1017—Good country voice tells a cute story, tho the backing lacks color. (Pacific, BMI)
A Red Rose, a Bouquet or a Room Full67
Expressive singing on a pleasant ballad. (Jari, BMI)

WALKIN' CHARLIE ALDRIDGE

Oklahoma Joe68
SIERRALEN 1002—Western novelty type ditty chanted in fair style by Aldridge, with honky tonk backing. (ASCAP)
Cowtown Undertaker68
Another Western novelty. Lyric is good for some chuckles. (ASCAP)

MAC AND JAKE

Yakety Yak68
METEOR 5022—A rhythm tune based on "Grandmaw's tiresome yackety yak." Adds up to pretty so-so stuff. (Meteor, BMI)
A Gal Named Joe66
Swing piano and guitar spots help this one but the boys have a tough workout with the material. (Meteor, BMI)

CARROT TOP ANDERSON

Such a Beautiful Evening68
SIERRALEN 1003—A beautiful warbling job by Anderson of a sentimental poppish Western. The material isn't up to the performance, however. (ASCAP)
Mope Along64
Anderson is an impressive Western warbler, tho this novelty isn't any ball-of-fire as material. (ASCAP)

▶ FOLK TALENT & TUNES

By BILL SACH

Around the Horn

Zeke Clements, who sustained a broken left leg at the knee while on a fishing expedition six months ago, has suffered a relapse and has been put back on crutches and in a special brace. He'll be confined to his Nashville home for some time. Mail will reach him at his Blazon Music Company, Box 35, Nashville. Zeke, after seven years with M-G-M Records, has just signed with Randy Wood, of Dot Records, with his first release due soon. Zeke's ditty, "There's Poison in Your Heart," which Kitty Wells has cut for Decca, is enjoying good sales.

Buddy Griffin (Ekko) inaugurated his own weekly television show on Sundays, 12 noon-12:30 p.m., over KFJZ-TV (Channel 11), Fort Worth. Billed as "Buddy Griffin and His Buddies," show features Griffin's band, with Jimmy Kelly doubling as comic, plus guest stars weekly. Griffin's band also appears three nights a week at the Westerner in Dallas and troupes with traveling units of "Big D Jamboree." . . . Dub Dickerson has his band working seven nights a week at the Round-Up Club, Dallas.

Dub's wife, Dorothy, recently presented him with a new heir, Ricky Wayne.

Elvis Presley plays the fair at Prichard, Ala., October 26-28, in a deal arranged by Presley's manager, Bob Neal, and Jack Cardwell, of WAIP, Prichard. Neal has also set details with Yankie Barhona-vich for Presley to play Biloxi, Miss., November 6, and Keesler Air Force Base, Biloxi, November 7-8. Presley, along with Porter Wagoner, Wanda Jackson, Johnny Cash, Jimmy Newman and Bobby Lord have just completed a tour of West Texas.

Redd Stewart, who recently left the Pee Wee King organization after many years' association, now has his own half-hour TV show on WGN, Chicago, each Wednesday night. He commutes from Louisville for the date. . . . Texas Bill Strength hops into Cleveland Saturday (29) to again headline "Circle Theater Jamboree." Set as "Circle Theater" features for November 19 are Ferlin Huskey, Porter Wagoner, Jean Shepard and the Browns. . . . Riley Crabtree, of "Big D Jamboree," Dallas, has a new one out on the Ekko label, "Meet Me at Joe's," b/w "Don't Turn Away From Me."

Slim Whitman (Imperial), a feature of "Louisiana Hayride," Shreveport, the last five and a half years, joins WSM's "Grand Ole Opry" in Nashville Saturday (29) as a permanent staff feature. Whitman is managed by Ray Bartlett. . . . Rod Brasfield and three members of Little Jimmy Dickens' Country Boys, Jimmy Gosset, Buddy Emmons and Johnny Johnson escaped serious injury recently when their car collided head-on with a truck near Macon, Ga. They were treated at a Macon hospital for lacerations and bruises.

Bob (Luke) Jones and Tex Daniels and the Lazy H Ranch Boys are back in the Baltimore territory after winding up an extended tour of Southern fairs at Augusta, Ga., last week. The Lazy H Ranch gang's latest release on the Blue Hen label is "It's Raining Roses," with vocal by Fran Daniels, b/w "Garden of Sweethearts," vocal by Eddy Gittings. . . . Carl Smith headed up the Prince Albert portion of "Grand Ole Opry" last

ALREADY A HIT IN MEMPHIS-NEW ORLEANS

"DOUBLE DUTY LOVIN'"

b/w

"TALKING OFF THE WALL"

By

Eddie Bond

Ekko Record 1015

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