

## FOLK TALENT & TUNES

By BILL SACHS

### Around the Horn

WLW's "Midwestern Hayride," which June 3 inaugurated an every-Friday-night show and square dance policy at Milt Magel's Castle Farm, Cincinnati, introduces the same idea at Dale McFarland's Lyric Theater, Indianapolis, beginning July 10. The WLW unit will do a matinee and night show at the Lyric each Sunday, with continuous square dancing from 5 to midnight in the ballroom located underneath the theater. A similar plan is being hatched for Rollerland, Columbus, O., to start soon. . . . The "Pee Wee King Show," heard each Monday night on ABC-TV, has just added 18 more stations to its coverage, making a total of 58 in all, Gene Carroll, the show's producer, announced last weekend. New addition to the roster is Charlene Mills, country thrush.

Hal Smith, Carl Smith's personal manager, left Nashville early last week to go over the route of fair dates that Carl is playing to see that his boy is exploited in the proper manner. . . . Justin Tubb, Goldie Hill and Ray Price and band have just concluded a 15-day trek thru the Pacific Northwest. . . . Decca's Paul Cohen hopped into Nashville last week to wax the Wilburn Brothers. . . . Ernest Tubb and the Texas Troubadours were guests on Pee Wee King's TV show from Cleveland Monday night (20). On Wednesday (22) they appear at the Circle Theater in the same town.

Wayne Johnstone and His Bluebonnet Playboys, heard on El Paso, Tex., radio and TV the last two years, left there last week for an extended tour of the Pacific Northwest. . . . Rocky Rauch and the Western Serenaders, who shifted from Denver to El Paso, Tex., some months ago, made a string of dance dates thru New Mexico last week. They were the feature at the new LaFonda Club, Deming, N. M., last Saturday (18). . . . Hawkshaw Hawkins is now a regular on the "Grand Ole Opry" staff. . . . It's grandpappy Cowboy Copas now! Cowboy's daughter, Kathie, presented her husband, Randy Hughes, with a boy June 5.

Some 3,000 c.&w. fans jammed Denver's City Auditorium recently to catch the unit made up of Marty Robbins, Tex Ritter, Tommy Duncan, Tex Williams, Merle Travis and Hank Morton. . . . Jimmy Kish, who has been broadcasting with his western crew over Cleveland radio and TV more than two years, has changed the name of his band to the Flying K Ranch Boys. He plans to launch a ranch entertainment spot soon in Northern Ohio under the same title. Kish, who operates a square dance club in his native Painesville, O., is calling dances with the Pee Wee King unit on the ABC-TV coast-to-coast show which emanates from Cleveland each Monday night. Kish is on every other week.

Kenny Roberts, still a regular on TV over WHIO, Dayton, O., is working a barn dance at Suburban Park, Manlius, N. Y., as guest next Saturday night (25). On July 4, Kenny makes his second appearance of the year at Shorty Long's Santa Fe Ranch, Reading, Pa. On the afternoons of July 9-10, Roberts will work the Box 21 Rodeo in Dayton, doubling at nights at Middletown, O., with his entire TV unit for a stagershow sponsored by the Elks Club. On July 17 he works the American Legion Festival at Maria Stein, O. Inasmuch as he's only had two record releases in two years on Dot Records, Roberts says he's leaving them as soon as his contract is up in a few weeks. Smiley Burnette is due in Dayton soon for a guest appearance on Kenny's kiddie TVer.

Look for a number of changes to be made soon in the "Grand Ole Opry" Tent Show No. 1, currently playing thru New York State en route to New England and the Canadian Maritime Provinces. Something's brewing! . . . Skeeter Bonn, of WLW's "Midwestern Hayride," has just had his fifth release on the RCA Victor label. It's "Yodeling Man" b.w. "Second Choice." . . . Jimmy Wakely was one of the top features at the Edmonton (Alta.) Indoor Rodeo June 13-18. . . . Slick Norris, of Highlands, Tex., is on a three-week promotion tour for Dot Records on recent releases by Jimmy Newman, Jimmy Work and Mac Wiseman. He'll take in Charlotte, N. C.; Nashville, Richmond, Va.; Louisville, Chicago, St. Louis; Kansas City, Mo.; New Orleans, Birmingham; Montgomery, Ala.; Atlanta, Dallas and Fort Worth. He was a visitor at the home office of The Billboard in Cincinnati last week. After Newman's appearance on "Grand Ole Opry" next Saturday (25), Norris will take over as his personal manager.

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## RHYTHM-BLUES NOTES

By BILL SIMON

In Martinsville, Va., where Lewis Compton holds forth for about four hours daily on station WHEE, the r.&b. mail tops the stack. This, despite the fact that Compton spins 55 minutes of r.&b. as opposed to three hours of pop fare. He drove over to Roanoke, Va., recently with his tape recorder to interview the stars of the touring Roy Hamilton show—Hamilton, Lavern Baker, Jimmy Reed, etc.

Ned Lukens, former "Nite Owl" on WAOK, Atlanta, gets up early now to do the "Wake Up, Atlanta" seg. . . . At WSWN, Belle Glade, Fla., Dick Harvey is intrigued by the continued requests for two fairly old disks, neither of which was ever a smash hit. One is the Spiders' "You're the One" on Imperial, and the other is Chuck Willis' "You're Still My Baby" on Okeh. "It baffles me," says Harvey.

Jack Allyn, r.&b. spinner at WROV, Roanoke, Va., has just rounded out his eighth month of r.&b. record hops at the Star City Auditorium, promoted by Chris Morris. He hasn't missed a Saturday and reports that what started out as teen-age affairs are now full-fledged adult dances. . . . Jimmy Brisbane at WKBO, Harrisburg, Pa., did a live show recently with Chuck Willis, Gene and Eunice, Dean Barlow and the Crickets. Brisbane also spins a mess of progressive jazz, and reports that the progressive diskeries are backward about sending him their LP releases. For example, he has urgent need for the latest by Gerry Mulligan, Chet Baker and Stan Getz. Phillip Jenkins, at WBEU, Beaufort, S. C., reports the same deficiency in his library.

Johnny Huff, at KVIC, Victoria, Tex., is looking very hard for an r.&b. version of "Red Rooster." Can anyone help him out? . . . Florence Wright, a ballad thrush who waxed several years back for the National label, has just been signed by Savoy. . . . Jem Records of Pittsburgh has recorded its first sides with a new r.&b. group, the Smoothtones. Both tunes were clefted by A. J. Gaitwood, a member of the group.

### NEW PROCESS

## RGA's Idea Cuts 25% From Cost

NEW YORK, June 18. — The Record Guild of America, a leading producer of children's records, has developed a new disk manufacturing process which, the company claims, will cut vinylite disk production costs by about 25 per cent.

The diskery, which acts as exclusive disk industry representative for the Waterbury Company of Waterbury, Conn., claims to have perfected a sealed-edge lamination process which permits a saving of about two-thirds the amount of vinyl used in an ordinary pressing. RGA's Larry Press, who developed the new disk, has used the method for several years in the diskery's six-inch picture record line, but only recently has found a way to prevent warpage, thereby making the method practical for 10 and 12-inch records as well.

Presently, RGA will try out the disk via a new 10-inch children's picture-record line, to be tested in several markets at several prices ranging from 69 cents to 99 cents, retail. These will be launched next month. The outfit expects to enter into contract pressing for the trade by the first of next year.

The process, according to Press, utilizes vinyl in a new form and makes possible the sealing of an edge around the two vinyl faces which surround a paper interior. By using pure transparent vinyl, an effective array of colored or picture disks may be produced. RGA, by marketing colorful disks in a transparent sleeve, also saves about one half the cost of an ordinary children's disk jacket.

## RCA Markets Battery Phono, AM Portable

NEW YORK, June 18. — RCA Victor is marketing a battery-operated portable radio-phono combination, marking the first time such a unit has been brought out by a major manufacturer. The new model, which features an optional powerpack for AC power operation, highlights RCA's new line of portable phonos.

The battery-operated portable combination has a single-play 45 phono and four tube radio, with a lid containing storage space for nine records. Packaged in a lightweight plastic case, it retails for \$59.95.

Other new RCA portable phonos include a three-speed single play model, which operates on AC power with one tube and rectifier and lists at \$29.95, and an automatic 45 phono with a permanent-magnet, electro-dynamic speaker which lists at \$39.95.

## Armo Vs. Modern Over 'Annie' Tune

NEW YORK, June 18. — Armo Music filed suit in Federal Court here last week against Modern Music and Criterion Music, charging infringement of its copyrighted tune "Work With Me Annie." Armo alleges that "Wallflower" ("Dance With Me Henry") was pirated from "Annie."

An injunction, damages and an accounting is asked.

## Seco Rights Go To British Decca

NEW YORK, June 18.—British Decca has acquired the exclusive rights to the Seco Record catalog for Europe, South Africa, Australasia and Canada. Sidney Siegel, Seco president, returned from Europe last week after completing the deal with Decca topper E. R. (Ted) Lewis.

This pact now gives the predominantly Latin-American diskery world-wide distribution. Seco has several long-standing arrangements with major diskeries in various Latin-American countries, and in several others operates its own branches.

## W'minster Fair Trades Lines at 23% Off List

NEW YORK, June 18. — In a unique step to limit price cutting, Westminster Records has fair traded two new record lines, but at a level about 23 per cent below the suggested list price. The lines will be fair traded only in New York State. The effective date is June 20.

The affected lines are both in Westminster's 18,000 Series, due for trade introduction later this month. Due to be the label's major series, the disks carry a suggested list of \$4.75 per 12-inch LP in a de luxe package, and \$3.75 each in a standard pack, the latter without art or liner notes. In each case, tho, the identical record is used.

Under the fair trade agreement a minimum price of \$3.65 has been set on the \$4.75 line, and a minimum of \$2.98 on the \$3.75.

### Discount Control

Westminster execs are of the opinion that the list price of the disks will be cut in any case, but hope to be able to control the extent of discounts offered. They insist they will police the trade vigorously.

They also don't believe it is nec-

### WARING OUTING

## At Shawnee We're All Just Buddies

NEW YORK, June 18. — The music fraternity showed again that it's just that, when it turned out 170 strong for the annual Fred Waring outing held at the popular maestro's Shawnee Inn and Country Club, Shawnee-on-the-Delaware, Pa., last Tuesday (7). Attending were song pluggers, recording men, artists, deejays and Waring's Pennsylvanians — all as Waring's guests for a long day of golf, swimming, tennis, baseball and impromptu assorted games of chance.

The weather was perfect; according to custom, several fine rounds of golf were turned in. In the official tourney, Joe Linhart of Frank Music recorded the low score for the music men with a gross of 77 and a net 72. Ed Callahan, Washington deejay, with the same handicap, tallied the same winning figures for the guests. Actually, the low gross for the day was racked by Howard Everett, Waring's public relations man, a no-handicap golfer who scored a 69. He was promptly disqualified by his boss, who ruled him a non-competitor.

### Also Good

Following up were Perry Como and host Waring, each of whom carded 75. Glen Gray, Mitch Ayres and Lanny Ross all scored nets of 79.

Jack Rael, Patti Page's manager, received a special prize from Waring for cutting his score from 200 to 100 in just one year.

In the annual softball tilt, the Pennsylvanians edged out a victory over the pluggers, their first in about five years. The committee for the affair consisted of Murray Luth, Mickey Addy, Mickey Class, Joe Santly, Leo Distan, Hy Ross and Bernie Pollack.

## Murdoch Hits Can. Private Stations

TORONTO, June 18.—The man sometimes referred to as the "Czar of Canada's musicians," Walter M. Murdoch, Canadian head of the musicians' union, has little use for the private broadcasters in this country.

His complaint is that they use too little Canadian talent, his feeling being that of 153 private radio stations in this country, only 40 give employment to musicians. He said the 40 private stations had paid out about \$526,000 to musicians last year, compared to about \$1,417,000 paid out by the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation. In addition, CBC had paid fees for composing, arranging and copying.

essary to fair trade in other States, since it is New York discounters who often set the price pattern followed in other cities. As a by-product of the fair trade policy, it is also expected by the label that trans-shipping of Westminster vinyl will now become less attractive.

None of the other Westminster disk series will be fair traded.

### 'CC-DD'

## J. Marshall, Dealers Chat On DJ Show

NEW YORK, June 18.—Jeffrey Marshall, leading deejay over local indie radio Station WNEW, has set up a direct pipe line to record dealers around town for a special gimmick seg on his "Make Believe Ballroom" show.

The feature, tagged "Double C, Double D" (e.g. cross counter, disk data), spotlights telephone interviews conducted by Marshall with local record dealers picked at random from New York, New Jersey and Connecticut. Marshall chats with them about the music business in general and current trends. Then he plays a record they recommend as "hot."

Marshall has conducted "Double C, Double D" interviews with the following retailers to date: Ralph Colucci, Record Shop, Hartford, Conn.; National Music Shop, Montclair, N. J.; Colony Record Shop, New York; Music Makers, Bronx; Windsor, Bayside, N. Y., and Ambrose Radio, Brooklyn.

## Sparkle, Calumet, Nitelife Disks Set

EVANSVILLE, Ind., June 18.—Sparkle Records, Inc., began operations this month with three record labels.

The first of the three labels to be issued by the firm will be Sparkle Records. This label will release one 12-inch LP per month. This will contain 18 top songs of the month and will retail for \$2.98. Sales will be principally conducted by mail with concentrated newspaper, magazine, and radio advertising. A few small retail outlets will also be set up as well as a door-to-door retail set-up. A Sparkle Record Club will also be formed with a free membership with the purchase of the first record.

The second label, Calumet Records, will contain general releases including pop, r.&b., spiritual, kiddie, c.&w., and international releases. This label will concentrate on 78 and 45 r.p.m. disks.

Nitelife Records, the third label, is designed to spearhead a jazz line with releases on 78, 45 and special LP's. Officers of the corporation are Edward Rees, president; Dr. Albert C. Stocker, vice-president; Michael Cook, secretary, and Donald Phillips, treasurer.

## Theater Music Service Firm

HOLLYWOOD, June 18.—Formation of Intermission Music, Inc., firm devoted to servicing motion picture theaters with recorded music, was announced here this week by Gene Landy, president of the company.

Landy, formerly with Coral Records and Label "X" in New York, will supply theaters with records to be played during intermissions. Negotiations with the Los Angeles chain of Fox-West Coast Theaters have been concluded, according to Landy, in addition to a number of independent houses both here and in Las Vegas.

Further negotiations with RCA Victor, whose records would ostensibly be exclusively featured in contracted film houses, have been entered into. Landy will pay the theaters a per diem scale, with RCA Victor considering picking up the tab for the promotion of its disks.