

DISCOURSE

FROM THE BILLBOARD SALES DEPARTMENT

A weekly column of lively chatter material on the hottest and most popular recording artists—those "Spotlighted" by Billboard's review staff, as well as those featured by the record companies in their major Billboard ad promotions.

The AMES BROTHERS, Ed, Vic, Gene & Joe, are in the running for a Grammy Award. The National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences (NARAS) has selected their RCA Victor album, Ames Brothers Sing Famous Hits of Famous Quartets, as one of the five nominees in the category of Best Performance by a Vocal Group or Chorus. One of the most versatile acts in the business, the boys are at their best whether its a romantic ballad, an operatic aria or a comedy number. Folks in the Pittsburgh area can hear the boys sing their newest release, Take Me Along (one of the tunes from the musical Take Me Along), at the Twin Coaches for nine days starting Nov. 6.

THEODORE BIKEL received rave reviews for his playing of Mary Martin's leading man in the pre-Broadway performance of the new musical about the famous Trapp family singers, The Sound of Music. Internationally renowned as a folk singer, a fluent linguist, who has a repertoire of songs in 17 languages, and guitarist, Elektra Records has released an album titled Bravo Bikel, which was recorded at one of his Town Hall concerts.

The BROWNS, a brother and sister trio consisting of Jim Edward, Maxine and Bonnie Brown, hail from Pine Bluff, Ark. Their new RCA Victor album, Sweet Sounds By The Browns, features their smash single, The Three Bells, and eleven other selections.

BOBBY COMSTOCK is a new name on a new label. Blaze Records is the label and Bobby is a sixteen-year-old lad from Ithaca, N. Y., swingin' with his first release Tennessee Waltz b-w Sweet Talk. In addition to singing, Bobby plays a torrid guitar along with The Counts, four musicians who provide vocal and instrumental backing on the record.

DION & THE BELMONTs: Dion, Fred Milano and Carlo Mastrangelo comprise this group of teen-age favorites. Angelo D'Aleo, a former member of the group, is presently serving in the Navy. The Laurel recording artists have included their latest release, Every Little Thing I Do, in their touring act which will take them to Arkota Ballroom, Sioux Falls, S. D., Oct. 13; Surf Ballroom, Clear Lake, Iowa, Oct. 14; Aud., Omaha, Neb., Oct. 15; Danceland Ballroom, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, Oct. 16; Wharton Field House, Moline, Ill., Oct. 17, and Riverside Ballroom, Green Bay, Wis., Oct. 18.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK: Oct. 15, Marv Johnson. Oct. 17, Cozy Cole, Jack Howard. Oct. 18, Bobby Troup — his RCA Victor album Bobby Troup and His Stars of Jazz is a nominee in the NARAS Best Jazz Performance-Soloist category.

FOUR LADS, Frank, Connei, James and Bernie, have their strongest disk recently in Happy Anniversary b-w Who Do You Think You Are? The Columbia recording artists have reached the million mark with their records Moments To Remember and No Not Much.

JERRY FULLER, Challenge recording artist, has two sides working for him: Tennessee Waltz, a rockin' version of the favorite, b-w Charlie, a pretty rockaballad — both Picked by Billboard. This is the second release for the young man from Fort Worth, Texas. His first was Betty My Angel. Recently, Jerry's attention has been focused on obtaining a movie contract.

BENNY GOODMAN and his band are currently touring Europe with the music America likes best. Chess Records has released a Goodman album titled Benny Rides Again! Born in the shadow of the Chicago Stockyards, the eighth in a family of eleven children, the story of this famous clarinetist's rise from a humble home to wealth and international fame rivals any Horatio Alger story.

GOGI GRANT's first release on her new label, Liberty Records, is a mild rockin' version of the standard I'll Never Smile Again b-w If And When. The sincere singing style of this talented singer from Phila. is always easy on the ears.

The ISLANDERS rate a Star Performer this week on the Hot 100 chart for their fast climbing Mayflower recording of The Enchanted Sea. The record was written and produced by Frank Metis and Randy Starr, who are the guiding forces behind The Islanders. The sound effects used in the record are authentic ones. The water sound was recorded on location off Nantucket, the fog-horn is the one used in the bay of Frisco, and the bell was used on an old sailing vessel.

The KALIN TWINS, Herbie and Harold, are on the scene with a smart, bright rendition of the oldie Why Don't You Believe Me, a Billboard Spotlight Winner. The boys got their break when songwriter Clint Ballard Jr. heard a demo they made and took it to Decca Records, which resulted in a contract for the Twins.

DEAN MARTIN's newest Capitol release is Career, the title tune from the motion picture of the same name starring Dino. Flip is I Ain't Gonna Lead This Life No More, a spiritual-rocker, both Spotlighted by Billboard. Born in Steubenville, O., Dean worked as a boxer, gas station attendant, mill hand and croupier before he turned to singing and comedy.

WINK MARTINDALE is a deejay on the West Coast who hit the charts with a unique narrative interpretation of a Deck Of Cards, recorded on the Dot label. He started deejaying at the age of 17 in Jackson, Tenn., not far from his birthplace, Bells, Tenn. Wink lives in San Marino with his wife and their two daughters.

To help you spot the ones you need, when you need them, all artist items are carried in strict alphabetical sequence.

PATTI PAGE has chance to display her acting ability as well as her singing talents in the forthcoming film The Life Of Elmer Gantry. Patti plays the part of the spiritual singer and does thirteen songs in the film which is now shooting in Hwd. Her Mercury wax, Goodbye Charlie, makes its appearance on the Hot 100 chart this week.

GARY STITES, who scored with his first Carlton release, Lonely For You, is on the scene with a Latinish tune titled Starry Eyed b-w Without Your Love. Currently at home in Denver, 19-year-old Gary is preparing a cross country p.a. tour.

The TEMPOS, new singing group from Pittsburgh, Pa., can have hit sequels to See You In September with either of their new Climax Records sides, The Crossroads of Love b-w What Ever Happens, Billboard Spotlights. The group consists of Mike Lazo, top tenor, Gene Schachter, Jim Drake and Tom Monito. They will appear in Newburgh, N. Y. Oct. 17.

CONWAY TWITTY is the latest diskier to get a call from Hollywood. The M-G-M singer has been signed by Metro to a four-picture deal. His first appearance will be in the film Platinum High School. Mississippi-born, Twitty is climbing the charts with his version of Danny Boy.

PROMOTION WEEKS AND DAYS: Oct. 12 is Columbus Day. Oct. 15 starts National Newspaper Week and National Macaroni Week. Oct. 18 begins National Downtown Week, United Nations Week, Pass The Laugh Week and National Thrift Week.

See you in one spinning week.
TOM ROLLO.

THIS WEEK'S NEW Money Records

... an alphabetical listing of the records manufacturers are backing with special feature treatment in big-space Billboard ads.

SINGLES

DON'T LET THE STARS GET IN YOUR EYES—Keely Smith Dot
HAPPY ANNIVERSARY—Jane Morgan.....Kapp
I'LL BE SEEING YOU—Tommy Sands.....Capitol
I'LL CLIMB THE HIGHEST MOUNTAIN—Keely Smith.....Dot
THE HUNCH—Bobby Peterson Quintet.....Swan

ALBUMS

BENNY GOODMAN TREASURE CHEST—Benny Goodman, M-G-M

According to statistics maintained over a period covering thousands of releases... 7 out of 10 will reach Billboard's "HOT 100" in the weeks ahead!

MUSIC AS WRITTEN

New York

Judy Scott is now with Top Rank Records. ... Laurie Records and Mike Stewart threw a party last week (1) at the Warwick Hotel in New York for German warbler Ivo Robic. ... Teddy McRae, head of Rae-Cox Records, signed Benny Green and will soon issue his first album. ... Ina Friedman has been named to head her husband Harold's firm, Record Associates. She has been associated with a number of diskeries prior to her new post. ... Skip Milo is on the road plugging his new waxing of "Joe Baby" on Arc. ... Barbara McNair starts at Mr. Kelly's in Chicago on October 19. ... Tina Scott will be at the Casa Seville in Long Island for two weeks beginning October 16. ... Bill Cermak, Bob Wyss, Gertrude Hersk and Chuck Carson have formed Perry Records in Minneapolis. ... Gene Krupa and his combo will be at the Sheraton-Jefferson in St. Louis starting October 19. ... Fred Waring and his Pennsylvanians start a 125 city tour this Saturday (10). Tour will cover 43 States. ... Gigi Gryce and his quartet will be at the Five Spot in New York starting October 7. ... Audio Fidelity will hold a live recording session at the New York High Fidelity Show this week. Show will run thru October 10. ... Henry Glover has started his own label, Glover Records. He is associated with Hy Weiss of Old Town in the venture. Titus Turner and Dino are Glovers first pactees.

Mrs. Allison Assante of Haddon Heights, New Jersey, has started a music publishing firm, Algowill Music. ... Danny Crystal is the new professional manager of Spoon Music and Cooga Music, the Pat Boone pubberies. ... KJAZ, the jazz station (all jazz all day) out in San Francisco, is issuing a program guide which also contains many provocative stories about jazz and jazzmen. ... Ersel Hickey is at the Brown Derby in Toronto. ... Huey Smith and his Clowns are now playing one nighters in the South. ... Shirley and Lee are now on one nighters thruout Florida and Louisiana. ... Peter Szabo is now pacted with Skip Records. ... Ruth Roberts and Bill Katz have been signed to a three-year songwriting pact by Famous and Paramount Music. ... Clara Ward and the Ward Singers are now off on a coast-to-coast concert tour which is under the auspices of Giesen and Boomer. ... Trude Adams became the mother of a girl last week. ... Tina Robin will be featured at the Roxy Theater in New York starting October 23. ... Fred Waring Jr., and wife Dixie, are on the current tour with Fred Waring and his Pennsylvanians. Bob Rolontz

Cincinnati

Six-foot seven Dick Pike, deejay at WNOP, Newport, Ky., has been engaged to serve as emcee each Wednesday night at Newport's Copa Club, which continues to wax fat at the box office with its policy of using top record names on a regular weekly basis. Pike has also made arrangements for the Copa features to double each Sunday between Station WSAI's hops at Castle Farm here and his own hops at the Lookout House, Covington, Ky. Pike also has plans for setting jazz units into the Dude Ranch, Hamilton, O., and the Rainbow Club here on a split-week basis. He is putting in his spare moments pitching new audition tapes on the El Ricos and the Taboos, local r.&b. groups. ... The New Jazz Disciples, winners of a jazz contest here nearly a year ago, have gathered material to cut two albums for Prestige Records, jazz label.

Mel Herman, of State Records Distributors here, has just opened a new distributing firm in Cleveland, known as Ohio State Records Distributors, Inc. Cleveland branch is handling the London and Specialty line, with a host of promising commitments pending, according to Herman. In charge in Cleveland is Herb Harloe, who formerly handled the Whirling Disk operation in Cincinnati and Indianapolis for the Herman firm. Simultaneous with Herman's Cleveland opening, Cosnat Distributing, which also is located in that city, opened a new branch in Cincy, leading to rumors here that the two firms were feuding and that the Cosnat move was retaliatory. Both sides deny that such is the case. They term it simply a coincidence. ... Fraternity Records' John Gary has been selected as one of features of the Press Birthday Party for President Dwight D. Eisenhower at the Sheraton Park Hotel, Washington, Monday night (12). He'll do his new Fraternity release, "Thank the Lord for This Thanksgiving Day," which he introduced on the Lawrence Welk TV'er October 3 and which he did Thursday night (8) in his fifth appearance on the Jack Paar show.

Norman Granz's "An Evening With Ella Fitzgerald" pulled a healthy 6G at the Taft Theater Sunday night (4), with ducats scaled from \$2.75 to \$4.75. Local crits were loud in their praise of La Fitzgerald's talents. ... Judge Gilbert Bettman last week put off his decision on the Platters' case until October 16 to permit both sides to submit briefs on questions of law. ... Hotel Sinton continues to draw well on its weekend jazz sessions. Last Friday and Saturday (9-10) had the George Lewis crew on the stand there, with Chris Barber's combo coming in October 24. ... Danny Kellarney, formerly on the Fraternity label, is a feature of the Liberate show which opened Friday (9) at Beverly Hills Country Club, Southgate, Ky., for a two-week stand.

With ducats pegged from \$2 to \$3.50, some 3,100 payees laid it on the barrelhead to the tune of around \$8,300 to witness Dick Clark's "Cavalcade of Stars" at Cincinnati Garden Monday night (5). The promoters are reported to have dropped around 2G on the venture. ... Ike Klayman, head of A.&I. Distributing Company, played host to local deejays and music men at a cocktail session at the Copa Club, Newport, Ky., Wednesday (7), on the occasion of Roy Hamilton's (Epic) opening there. ... Record names set for the Copa are Sam Cooke, October 16-18; Al Hibbler, October 21-25; Dinah Washington, October 28-November 1; Lloyd Price, November 11-15; the Treniers, November 18-22; Ernestine Anderson, December

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Every week... disk jockeys all over the nation help spark up their record shows with this fresh, lively material furnished exclusively by The Billboard. Watch for it next week.