BRITISH DISK SALES MAKE 4% GAIN FOR MAY

LONDON — A large increase in sales outweighed falling exports to provide a bigger volume of business at the start of the British record industry in May, according to official figures just released by the Board of Trade.

It was the second successive month in which sales had risen as expected fell. There was a rise in volume of 3.4% compared with the same month last year.

Total sales for May, 1960, were worth $2,637,000. Of this value, £1,971,000 — a drop of 12 percent. The export value constitutes a 4% increase over the same amount and totalled $1,924,000.

During the production year, 3,698,000 45s — both singles and EPs. This was about 36 percent more than in May, 1959. There were 38 percent more than in the same month in 1958—about 349,000.

LPs were up by 13 percent to 1,377,000.

EMI Takes Over Top Rank Label in United Kingdom

No Money in Deal; Name To Continue

BY DON WOLDE

LONDON — The most sensational event in the British record industry since EMI bought the Decca label in 1960, and the release of the San Remo Festival of New York last year, will be the acquisition of Decca Records by EMI in September. The deal was revealed this week when the EMI chairman, Sir Joseph Lockwood, confirmed official business combine over the Top Rank label.

The acquisition is one of the most significant that followed the deal that was confirmed to the United Kingdom. Bank's U.S. companies, Rank Records of America, Inc., and Rank Records International, Inc., were formed in the purchase.

PASTOR FORESEES EARLY PASSAGE FOR HARRIS BILL

Salon Amendments Offer Hopes of Congress Agreement

BY MILDRED HALL

WASHINGTON—Senator Pat Hurst, Darien, Conn., today predicted the Harris anti-payola bill, which will allow free records to be given to radio performers, would pass this session of Congress.

Passed by the Senate Commerce Committee, hearings calling for the elimination of the controversial radio payola suspension penalty were held.

In addition to concessions to broadcasters, the Senate group included:

Chairman Portrait would reward the "completely innocent" offenders liable, rather than the broader category of "negligent" or "inadvertent," as a result of last week's Senate Commerce Committee hearings calling for the elimination of the controversial radio payola suspension penalty were held.

In addition to concessions to broadcasters, the Senate group included:

King Debuts New LP Line

NEW YORK — King Records is bringing out a new line of albums, the King International Series. The label acquired the producer during the trip to England, said to be the first time he was making arrangements on an exclusive basis with a group, and King, which the series will be a class line. In order to debut it with a new line, King is offering a deal for this month; buy four and get one free.

The initial release includes five packages. Nathan points out that is not a new technique, any one of which in order to get the deal, rather, the purchase can obtain the deal in various ways — buy four of any one record and get the same disk free, etc.

Atlantic ‘Lee’ Suit Dropped

NEW YORK — A court action recently brought by Atlantic Records against Triple X Records, regarding alleged infringements on the copyright of Albert U. Lee, was dropped, according to the Superior Court of New Jersey. This was brought by Atlantic, which never released the record. The suit was dropped for Triple X, and the side promptly hit the charts. Atlantic sued Triple X in New York in a claim that the girls were forbidden to record any of the songs. The suit was dropped after the Atlantic dicting. Atlantic also had charged song infringement on the original copyright, which has the copyright right between the Atlantic and Triple X publishing firms.