

Bradley Modernizes Studio

NASHVILLE—Bradley Studio, this town's oldest and largest independent studio, has recently installed a modern new control board at a cost of \$50,000.

Owen Bradley, decca a.&r. exec and partner in the studio with his brother Harold, said this week the studio has added the most advanced facilities available in order to help provide the sound the increasing number of recording companies and other customers coming to Nashville are looking for.

The new equipment was installed by Glenn Snoddy, Bradley Studio chief engineer, who said it is the most modern board in the South.

Bradley Studio regularly serves Decca, Columbia, M-G-M, Mercury, Capitol and other major labels as well as numerous smaller ones. Besides serving dozens of recording companies, the studio has long been established as a leading recording studio for commercial jingles.

Seeco Focus On Pop, Jazz

NEW YORK — Seeco Records, along the lines of a new policy calling for concentration on pop merchandise, listed a new release of 13 albums this week with six of these aimed strictly at the pop and/or jazz market. A distributor discount plan accompanies the release.

Getting the full-blown promotion treatment will be new pop albums by Larry Kert, star of "West Side Story," who sings songs of Leonard Bernstein; and French star, Lilo, in a new album of her typical routines. On the jazz front, there is a new set by Julius Watkins and Charlie Rouse, and an effort simply titled, "Cool Jazz." Also included is a live set by a group known as the "Saints and Sinners," and done by the La Plata Sextet.

King Debuts New LP Line

NEW YORK — King Records is bringing out a new line of albums, the King International Series. Syd Nathan, King president, acquired the product during his trip to Europe last February, at which time he made leasing arrangements on an exclusive basis with various labels. Nathan states the series will be a class line.

In order to debut the new line, King is offering a deal for this month; buy four and get one free. Initial release includes five packages. Nathan points out that it is not necessary to buy one of each in order to get the deal; rather, the purchaser can obtain the deal in various ways — buy four of one record and get the same disk free, etc.

Mercury Sets Field Meets on Fall Agenda

CHICAGO — Mercury Records, to introduce its fall sales program, will hold a series of distributor meetings on the West Coast, in the Midwest and in the East. The conclaves are set for Los Angeles, August 19 and 20; Chicago, August 21 and 22, and New York, August 26 and 27.

The forums have been designed, according to Mercury prexy, Irving Green, so that distributors, salesmen, regional deejay contact men and field deejay men can meet in

BRITISH DISK SALES MAKE 4% GAIN FOR MAY

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

It was the second successive month when home sales had risen as exports fell. There was an over-all gain of 4 per cent compared with the same month last year.

Total sales in May, 1960, were worth \$2,637,000. Of this, exports comprised \$713,000—a drop of 12 per cent. Home sales increased by the same amount and totaled \$1,924,000.

Dominating the production were 3,090,000 45's — both singles and EP's. This was about 36 per cent more than in May, 1959. There were 38 per cent fewer 78's produced — about 349,000.

LP's were up by 13 per cent to 1,377,000.

Audio Fidelity To Launch EP's Abroad

LONDON — Audio Fidelity is breaking its LP-only policy this fall to launch EP's in Britain and on the Continent. The move follows an "intensive market survey" by A-F President Sidney Frey.

Both mono and stereo disks will be issued. Like the LP's in the current A-F British catalog, they will be pressed here from mothers made in America. They will sell at between \$1.95 and \$2.10.

In October, A-F will make the initial release of Elektra here. They will include albums by Josh White and Theodore Bikel. Like future A-F issues, they will be released in LP and EP form—made in Britain from U. S. mothers.

TALMADGE HELMS NEW COURSES FOR UA

NEW YORK — United Artists Records has come up with a lot of new policies and new operations plans since Art Talmadge took over the firm two months ago as record boss. And at the same time the label has come up with a new strong album and single product that is grabbing sales.

Among the new operations policy is the end of regular monthly album releases. The new plan encompasses releases of groups of albums whenever the firm feels distributors, dealers and consumers are ready for them, and each group of album is to be sold with a special discount or dating deal, and a dealer plan.

First group of albums to be re-

leased under this new policy is the firm's first group of five "sound" albums. Talmadge believes the sound album field is a very potent one, and is sure that the UA "Ultra Audio" LP's spearheaded by Terry Snyder, will turn into big sellers. Every exec in the firm will hit the road to plug these albums, from Talmadge and Dave Picker, to sales chief Andy Miele, and Jerry Raker, Norm Nelson, and Harry Goldstein. First Ultra Sound albums feature Snyder, Don Costa,

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EMI Takes Over Top Rank Label in United Kingdom

No Money in Deal; Name To Continue

By DON WEDGE

LONDON — The most sensational move in the British recording industry since EMI bought the majority interest in Capitol was revealed this week when the EMI chairman, Sir Joseph Lockwood, disclosed that his group had taken over the Top Rank label.

The official announcement that followed said that the deal was confined to the United Kingdom. Rank's U. S. companies, Rank Records of America, Inc., and Rank Records International, Inc., would

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Pastore Foresees Early Passage For Harris Bill

Solon Amendments Offer High Hopes of Congress Agreement

By MILDRED HALL

WASHINGTON—Senator Pastore looks for early passage of the Harris anti-payola bill, which also will allow free records to be aired without announcement, as a result of last week's Senate Commerce Subcommittee hearings calling for elimination of the controversial license suspension penalty provided in the original bill.

In added concessions to broadcasters, the Senate group under

LANDI IMPORTS NAPLES FESTIVAL

NEW YORK — Producer Eberto Landi, who brought the San Remo Music Festival to New York last spring, will bring the recently held Naples Song Festival to Brooklyn in September. It will be presented at the Academy of Music in Brooklyn on September 16, 17 and 18 and will feature top Italian pop vocalists who will sing unpublished Neapolitan songs. The Italian singers who will star in the show are: Aurelio Fierro, Enrico Fiuma, Daisy Lumini, Miranda Martino, Tullio Pane, Maria Paris, Emilio Pericoli and the conductor Carlo Esposito.

U. S. Branch Stays; Pacts Now Problem

By REN GREVATT

NEW YORK — News of the sell-out by the Rank Organization of London of its Top Rank record label to Electrical and Musical Industries, Ltd., was greeted here with some irritation and discouragement this week by a number of American music men.

Beyond this, there was considerable uncertainty voiced on such points as the future of the American Top Rank and Jaro International labels, the disposition of various artists pacted to Top Rank of England as far as the American release of their records is concerned and the release in England of records from a number of Stateside diskeries whose British release rights had been assigned to Top Rank. It has been pointed out that in some of these releasing agreements, the contracts were non-assignable; that is to say, in the event of a sale of the firm holding the agreement (Top Rank) the releasing rights were not assignable to another company (such

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Acuff-Rose Getting Hotter

NASHVILLE—Acuff-Rose Publications, which has long been one of the hottest publishing firms in the country, continues to get hotter. Over the past few months they have published "Teen Angel," "I Can't Help It," "Cathy's Clown," "When Will I Be Loved," "Only the Lonely" and "Just One Time." Their upcoming releases look mighty strong, too. New Acuff-Rose songs include "Far, Far Away," with Don Gibson, "Let's Think About Living" with Bob Luman, "Midnight" with Katy Linden, "I Can't Stop Loving You" with Tommy Zang, "Come Back to Me," with Mark Dinning, and the Everly Brothers record, "So Sad."

Acuff-Rose's publishing activities are not confined to the U. S., but the firm now has representation throughout the world. In the U. S., Acuff-Rose chief Wesley Rose has added Jerry Teifer to handle the

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Atlantic 'Lee' Suit Dropped

NEW YORK — A court action recently brought by Atlantic Records against Triple X Records, regarding alleged infringements on a recording of the song "Who Shot Mr. Lee," by the Bobbettes, has been discontinued.

The action arose out of the fact that the fem group had originally recorded the song for Atlantic, which never released the record. They recently recorded the song again for Triple X, and the side promptly hit the charts. Atlantic had acted in view of its claim that the girls were forbidden to record the song for five years after the Atlantic disking. Atlantic had also charged song infringement on its original copyright of "Mr. Lee." The settlement was arrived at upon agreement to split the copyright between the Atlantic and Triple X pubbing firms.

Schwartz Bros. Deny FTC Payola Charges

WASHINGTON — Schwartz Bros., Inc., record distributors of this city, have denied Federal Trade Commission charges of payola to TV and radio deejays, and call the agency's complaint "vague and ambiguous." Joining in the company's answer, and asking dismissal of the FTC complaint, are officials Harry, James, Bertram H., and Stuart D. Schwartz.

FTC says undercover payola to deejays deceive the public and constitutes unfair business competition. Schwartz Bros. say the agency complaint does not show that the firm has engaged in any unfair method of competition.

Sensitive Area

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