

# 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.

**PAUL ANKA**, singer and composer, swings this Christmas with two strong entries. It's Christmas Everywhere b-w Rudolph, The Red-Nosed Reindeer. ABC-Paramount will release his first 1961 single, Story Of Love b-w Don't Say You're Sorry, in January. After spending the holidays with his family, the versatile young showman heads for the Caribe Hilton, San Juan, P. R., December 31 for a week's engagement.

**BROOK BENTON'S** golden hits are now packaged in album form via the new Mercury release, Brook Benton Golden Hits. Included are his Endless, The Same One, It's Just A Matter Of Time, etc. Brook hails from Camden, S. C.

**CAMELOT:** The original Broadway cast recording of Camelot is now available on Columbia Records. Goddard Lieberson, Columbia's head man, produced the album of the new Alan Jay Lerner (book and lyrics), Frederick Loewe (music) musical. This is the same team that gave us My Fair Lady, Brigadoon, Paint Your Wagon and the movie, Gigi. Based on the book, The Once And Future King, Camelot stars Richard Burton as King Arthur and Julie Andrews as Guinevere.

**BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK:**  
Dec. 28, Oscar Levant. Dec. 28, Dorsey Burnette, Earl Hines, Billy Williams. Dec. 30, Vincent Lopez. Dec. 31, Jonah Jones, Jule Styne. Jan. 1, Xavier Cugat.

**RAY CHARLES** continues to climb Billboard's Hot 100 with his ABC-Paramount release, Ruby. Presently, Ray is represented on the scene on two labels, ABC-Paramount and Atlantic Records. His moving rendition of Georgia On My Mind is on the Atlantic label.

The **CRESTS**, featuring singer Johnny Mastro, have two winners in their latest for Coed Records, Remember (In The Still Of The Night) b-w Good Golly Miss Molly. The boys put themselves in the record limelight with their million seller, 16 Candles. Previous hits for the boys also included Six Nights A Week, The Angels Listened In, Step By Step and Trouble In Paradise.

**AHMAD JAMAL** is one of the few pianists represented on Billboard's Essential Inventory Top LP Chart. His album But Not For Me qualified him for this distinction. Right now, Jamal is busy at the newly opened Chicago bistro, The Alhambra.

**BRENDA LEE**, artist voted Most Promising Female Vocalist of 1960 in Billboard's Deejay Poll, will be in the New York area Christmas week for appearances at the Brooklyn Paramount Theater. Decca will ship her new release Emotions b-w I'm Learning About Love, this week (26th). Little Miss Lee's record, Rockin' Around The Christmas Tree, is a fast climbing Star Performer on Billboard's Hot 100 this week.

**PEGGY LEE:** New York's Basin Street East is preparing itself for record attendance when Peggy Lee opens January 12. On the scene with a new Latin album, Ole A La Lee, she will appear on the Perry Como TV show January 25, then she hops to Miami Beach's Eden Roc before making her first overseas trip for a date at London's Club Pigalle.

The **LIMELITERS**, new, young RCA Victor recording artists, are in the record limelight via their album Tonight: In Person, a refreshingly different blend of vocal and instrumental folk music combined with a little satire. Their "folk songs for moderns" include: There's a Meetin' Here Tonight, Molly Malone, The Monks Of St. Bernard, Headin' For The Hills, etc. The set was recorded live last summer at Hollywood's Ash Grove. Before the chance meeting in L. A. which resulted in their merger, Lou Gottlieb, Alex Hassilev and Glenn Yarbrough had worked as single supper club acts. Glenn had been singing at a club in Aspen, Colorado, called the Limelite—hence the group's name.

**PATTI PAGE** is back in her old country groove on her newest, Don't Read The Letter. She sings this weeper about a quarrel with her boy friend. Flip is That's All I Need To Know, a bright and smart novelty over first-rate backing by the orchestra. Miss Page opens at Blinstrub's in Boston, January 9 for one week and the Copa, N. Y. C., January 19 for two weeks.

The **PLATTERS** should have one of their biggest hits with their newest, If I Didn't Care, a classy performance of the old Ink Spots hit, b-w True Love, a swiny, bouncy tune sung brightly by the group. They are performing their million-sellers, Great Pretender, My Prayer, Only You, Smoke Gets In Your Eyes and Twilight Time, during their current night club, auditorium, theater and TV tour of Mexico. This is their second tour of Mexico.

**JACK SCOTT**, Top Rank recording star, comes thru with a solid rendition of a warm and tender country-oriented weeper, Is There Something On Your Mind. Billboard rates it "one of his best sides in a long time and he sells it powerfully." Flip is Found A Woman, cute rocker.

**GEORGE SHEARING** and his combo continued its two-year reign as the Favorite Instrumental Group of the country's deejays in this year's 13th

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

Annual Disk Jockey Poll conducted by The Billboard. Mr. Shearing and the group offer an unusual dishing, Honeysuckle Rose, their newest for Capitol.

**CONWAY TWITTY** has two stylish tunes on his new disk for M-G-M, C'est Si Bon, a solid, driving performance, b-w Don't You Dare Let Me Down. Harold Jenkins (his real name) first scored with It's Only Make Believe. The young man from Mariana, Ark., has an album titled Conway Twitty's Greatest Hits.

**ROGER WILLIAMS** was the receiver of two awards in Billboard's Deejay Poll: Favorite and Most Played Solo Instrumentalist. This is the second year in a row pianists swept the favorite, most played and most promising categories of the Solo Instrumentalists poll. From Omaha, Roger Williams' latest album is Temptation, a package of expressive piano solo treatments of some lush themes... a Billboard Spotlight Winner.

**PROMOTION DAYS & WEEKS:**  
December 31 is New Year's Eve.  
January 1 is New Year's Day.  
January is Break-A-Cold Month and Wheat Bread Month.  
January 1 begins Hot Chocolate Milk Time, the Centennial of Petroleum Industry, and Louisiana Yam Supper Season.

Have a great 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**

CALCUTTA—Lawrence Welk .....Dot  
GHOST RIDERS IN THE SKY—The Ramrods .....Amy  
IF I DIDN'T CARE—The Platters .....Mercury  
JIMMY'S GIRL—Johnny Tillotson .....Cadence

**ALBUMS**

HUMOROUS WORLD OF JUSTIN WILSON—Justin Wilson .....Ember  
WILDCAT—Original-Cast Album .....RCA Victor

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

Continued from page 21

Life Insurance Company, Phoenix, Ariz. Gordon, who has been heard on a number of the major labels, has appeared with the Chicago, St. Louis Municipal and St. Paul opera companies and for many years toured the nation's leading niteries.

Music trade members and deejays from a four-State area gathered at the home of Syd Nathan, King Records president, Sunday night (18) for the latter's annual Christmas party which attracted some 150 strong. . . . The McGuire Sisters are slated to make a pilot film in January for a new situation comedy series. Written around the singing sisters, the new seg will be interspersed with a liberal musical score woven by their musical director, Burt Farber, a localite by way of Brooklyn.

Bill Sachs

### Hollywood

**TALENT TOPICS:** Stuart Woodruff, Warner Bros. Records former West Coast operations manager, was promoted to Eastern District divisional sales manager. He will headquarter in New York, handling label's sales and promotion in the Eastern markets. Gene Benson was named to replace Woodruff as operations manager here. . . . Warners started production on "The Music Man" last week, but what label will get the album rights to the film is still up in the air. Picture company's subsid diskery is shooting for it, provided Capitol, who owns the Broadway original cast package, doesn't hold any strings.

Johnny Cash, accompanied by the Tennessee Two, and his manager, Stew Carnall, return from Germany where they toured U. S. Air Force installations. Cash is spending the holidays with his family at his Encino home here and then starts on a Midwest tour in January. . . . Liberty's Le Garde Twins (Tom and Ted), start a seven-week tour of their native Australia, opening in Sydney, sponsored by the Australian Broadcasting Company. This is their first return to their homeland after three years in the U. S. Lee Zhitto

### Pittsburgh

**MANUFACTURER'S NEWS:** Lenny Martin, head of Robbee Records, and Ben Herman, head of Standard Distributors, co-hosted a party at the Swanky LeMont Restaurant for area deejays to promote Martin's LP, "Two Bucs at the Holiday House," co-starring Pittsburgh Pirate baseball stars Elroy Face and Hal Smith. Among other guests were Dick Groat of the Pirates; Bob Prince, who broadcasts the Pirate games, and Jill Corey, the Columbia recording star, who is spending the holidays with relatives here. Jill reports to the Holiday House, Milwaukee, January 5.

Radio Stations WAMO and WEEP are giving an intensive plug to a new recording, "A Wonderful Time of the Year," which was waxed by Marie Moss Mansfield, a local songwriter and long-time pianist at Frank Blandi's Park Shenley Restaurant. The words and music to the tune were written by 22-year-old Dan Kinley, a New York TV actor, who died suddenly last summer while visiting his parents over a weekend. The platter features baritone Bob Mosley, and its reception has been so encouraging that Delaware Kinley, father of the late Dan, hopes to get national coverage for the tune.

**TALENT:** Gino James spent a day here this week plugging his Epic single "Popularity." Also in town were RCA Victor's Mickey and Sylvia promoting their "What Would I Do?" . . . The Jerry Lewis comedy, "Cinderella," now at the Stanley has provided the impetus for the encouraging sale of the Dot album from the sound track of the Paramount comedy. . . . The zero weather and heavy snow caused the cancellation of Jackle Wilson's one-nighter at the Town House night club, sponsored by WAMO's Sir Walter Raleigh, so the show will be rescheduled for early February, according to present plans. Leonard Mendlowitz.

### Toronto

**MANUFACTURER NEWS:** Newest firm in the manufacture of jackets is Modern Album of Canada Ltd., Toronto. . . . Arc Sound has a special budget for advertisements for spot ads in the newspapers being placed through Willis Advertising as a test, to register the labels being handled by the organization headed by Phil Anderson.

Strong play is reported by Wray Rutledge of a single by Connie Francis, "Where the Boys Are." On one side is the English version and on the other side is a French version, which might be used for the French stations in the Province of Quebec. . . . Wray also reports considerable interest in movie theme music from "Exodus" and "The Magnificent Seven." . . . Heintzman's store in downtown Toronto was mobbed with teen-agers when Johnny Mathis, Columbia recording artist, made a personal appearance.

**TALENT TOPICS:** Terry Gibbs is pounding the vibes at Town Tavern. . . . The Lamplighters joined the Jack Kane Show. Woody Herman, who guested on the Kane TV show, took over the host's chores for Jack who was ill and needed about 10 days' rest. Herman himself ran into trouble in coming to the city when deejay Phil MacKeller had to drive to Buffalo to rescue Herman from a snowstorm which had delayed him. . . . Howard Fogarty and his orchestra have the music chores at Cloud Room, Skyline Hotel, while Ruth Walker, who has finished her TV chores, went into the Le Cabaret Lounge. . . . The Billy Van Four have been signed up by the Rodeo label for two tunes by trumpeter Johnny Cowell, "I Miss You" and "Sunrise." . . . Toronto Musicians' Association hosted the first of a series of big band concerts at the Masonic Auditorium with Doug Kemp's 15 pieces providing music for an afternoon of dancing. The finances come from the Trust Fund of the recording industry granted to the Musicians' Union. Albums were presented to winners of spot dances by Moxie Whitney, Peter Appleyard, Pat Riccio, Jimmy Namaro, Bill Butler, Oscar Peterson and Phil Nimmons. . . . Tenor Brian Sullivan of Met Opera was one of the leading artists on "Patterns of Music," written, produced and directed by Len Casy.

Harry Allen Jr.

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.