

Music

VIEWS

SEPTEMBER • 1953



NAT 'KING' COLE — 'TWO IN LOVE'

the
children's
all-time
favorite

in a
NEW
RECORD-
READER!



78 rpm Album No. DBX-3165
45 rpm Album No. EAXF-3165

WALT DISNEY'S

MICKEY MOUSE'S

Birthday Party

. . Mickey's big birthday celebration . .
with 35 of Walt Disney's most lovable
characters in song and picture-story !



"Mickey Mouse's
Birthday Party" is a new
film feature, too — soon
to be shown at your
neighborhood theater !

20 PAGE FULL COLOR
PICTURE BOOK

Music Views

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THE COVER

When the music business refers to the "summer slump," they obviously don't include records by Nat "King" Cole. In rapid succession this season came the hits, "Pretend," "Blue Gardenia," "I Am In Love," "Return To Paradise" and "A Fool Was I." Often as many as four of the Cole recordings were riding the hit lists at the same time. Nat's fall releases include a new album, "Nat Cole Sings For Two In Love." He is now once more on tour after a few weeks of rest following a recent illness.

on the stand

BILLY MAY

Coloma, Michigan 15 Aug.
Crystal, Michigan 16 Aug.
Salem, New Hampshire 17 Aug.
Carroll, Iowa 18 Aug.
Arnold Park, Iowa 19 Aug.
New Ulm, Minnesota 20 Aug.
Omaha, Nebraska 21, 22, 23 Aug.
Manitou Springs, Colorado 25 Aug.
Denver, Colorado 26 Aug - 8 Sept.

PEE-WEE HUNT

Sheboygan, Wisconsin 15 - 23 Aug.

LES PAUL and MARY FORD

Chicago, Illinois 15 - 21 Aug.
Springfield, Illinois 22 Aug.

MARTIN and LEWIS

New York, N. Y. 26 Aug. - 8 Sept.

RAY ANTHONY

Hollywood, Calif. 22 Sept. - 11 Oct.

LES BAXTER

Los Angeles 15 Aug. - 9 Sept.

AL MARTINO

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15 Aug.
Wildwood, New Jersey 17 - 24 Aug.
Reno, Nevada 26 Aug. - 8 Sept.

JAN GARBER

Des Moines, Iowa 15 Aug.
Marion, Iowa 16 Aug.
McClure, Illinois 19, 20 Aug.
Memphis, Tennessee 21 Aug. - 3 Sept.
LeRoy, Illinois 5 Sept.
Davenport, Iowa 10 Sept.
Cleveland, Ohio 13 Sept.
Houston, Texas 27 Sept.
Dallas, Texas 28 Sept. - 8 Oct.

STAN KENTON

Stockholm, Sweden 22 Aug.
Gotenberg, Sweden 23 Aug.
Copenhagen, Denmark 24 Aug.
Kiel, Germany 25 Aug.
Hamburg, Germany 26 Aug.
Berlin, Germany 27 Aug.
Hanover, Germany 28 Aug.
Dusseldorf, Germany 29 Aug.
Amsterdam, Holland 30 Aug.
Antwerp, Belgium 31 Aug.
Brussels, Belgium 1 Sept.

across the



Andy Russell shot to stardom via Capitol records several years ago. Here he checks score at Coral session. New release under latter label: "Heaven Help This Heart of Mine."



Vocalist Abbe Lane takes off from her chores in Universal actory to try sun at Malibu Lake. She's Mrs. Xavier Cugar in private life, is in 3-D film, "Wings of the Hawk."



A birthday kiss from Roberta Linn was songwriter Jimmy McHugh's anniversary present when he observed his 30th year as a composer in "Cafe Continental," KTLA, L. A.



Conductor Paul Weston throws himself into a background, ignoring a skeptical look from his wife, Jo Stafford. Jo's new disk, with Nelson Eddy, is "Till We Meet Again."

country



Shirley Wilson of Vogue Records is putting her best barefoot forward with "Two Is Company." Versatile Shirley formerly sang with Harry James and danced, sang in films.



Betty Clooney (left) visits her sister Rosemary on the "Red Garters" set at Paramount. "Rosey," now Mrs. Jose Ferer, has just recorded "Cheegah Choonem (I Haven't Got It)."



Flemish Cowboy Singer Bôbbejaan Schoepan (center), of Belgium, visits Roy Acuff (left) and "Oswald" in Nashville. Acuff's latest for Capitol is "16 Chickens and a Tamborine."



Donna Pearson, U-I's "Girl From Outer Space," helps N. Y. DJ Bill Silbert give away records at showing of 3-D short starring Nat Cole singing his Capitol hit, "Pretend."

Behind the

By BILL OLOFSON

EVER TRY to imagine how you'd sound if you were a young, talking kangaroo? This problem recently faced Mel Blanc, and his solution was an immature voice with an Australian accent. Thus was born the voice of "Hippety Hopper," a character you can see on your movie screens or hear on Capitol's records for children.

Imagining himself to be an animal is no new experience for Mel. He does it frequently in order to create the voices for such famous characters as Bugs Bunny, Daffy Duck, Tweety Pie, Sylvester Cat, Porky Pig, Hennerly Hawk, and dozens more. When a radio, TV or movie producer wants a "different" voice or sound effect, Mel's phone is sure to ring. His voice has probably been heard by more people all over the world than that of any other artist.

ONE OF THE most challenging aspects of Mel's varied career is cutting children's disks. He feels there's never a dull moment when you have to ask yourself a question like: "How would I sound if I were a duck singing Liszt's 'Hungarian Rhapsody No. 2?'" The result of this query produced "Daffy Duck's Rhap-



Scenes with Mel Blanc

sody," a favorite with the nation's kids.

Nothing in the field of recording calls for more precision than children's entertainment. Synchronization of voices to musical score and sound effects demands the timing of a human metronome. Since the music is recorded to fit a script, Blanc must read each line so that it ends at exactly the right split-second. Often, as was the case with the "Rhapsody," the music is done "ad lib," so he can't even depend on the rhythm of the score to aid the timing.

THIS CALLS for the versatility that has made Mel one of Hollywood's mainstays. On the Benny show, where he plays five or six characters in a single half hour, he was once called upon to sneeze for Benita and Ronald Coleman and their English butler. When the butler's sneeze came out with an English accent, the cast broke up in unrehearsed laughter. And when Jack tells Rochester to "get out the Maxwell," Mel has to imagine himself to be an old car — a sound effect that happened by accident. During a rehearsal, the sound effects man missed the cue for the old auto. Benny turned to Mel and

jokingly said, "Make like a Maxwell." Mel did, and Benny liked it so well he's done it ever since.

A COUPLE OF years ago Mel racked up another triumph by cracking the popular record market wide open with a million-seller disk called "I Taut I Taw a Puddy Tat." The record has become a standard item and is still selling, especially in the foreign market. His more recent popular record successes include "The Little Red Monkey" and a brand new album titled "Mel Blanc's Party Panic."

This "man with the cast-iron vocal cords" started his professional career as a musician in Portland, Ore. At the age of 22 he was the youngest pit orchestra director in the United States. His second try at Hollywood, in 1935, produced the breaks which led to his unique and successful career. With his wife, Estelle, and their 14-year-old son, Noel, he's made his home in Hollywood ever since. Noel is already interested in music and "voices," and shows signs of someday becoming the successor to his father's title, "the man with who-knows-how-many voices." #

Kenton To Continent On First Europe Tour

After months of negotiating, Stan Kenton has left the U. S. for his orchestra's first concert tour of Europe. The twenty-piece crew, which broke attendance records during its U. S. one-nighter, was to open in Stockholm, Sweden, Aug. 22, and close four weeks later, Sept. 20, in Dublin, Ireland.



Kenton

The Kenton tour also includes dates in Denmark, Germany, Holland, Belgium, France, Italy and Switzerland.

Arrangements were made with Air Force Special Services to fly Kenton and the orchestra to Stockholm, with stop-over performances for Air Force installations in the Azores and Tripoli. A concert may also be played for GI's at Wendover AFB just north of London.

Four-time consecutive winner of the Down Beat popularity poll, Kenton has enjoyed great success in this country, but the demand for his music in Europe has been phenomenal. For two years Europeans have besieged Kenton with offers, but the controversial maestro has nixed them all, feeling that the band was not ready.

Upon his return in September, Kenton will play Birdland, New York, for three weeks.



Ella Mae Morse of "Cow Cow Boogie" fame has a place for the cream in "Forty Cups of Coffee," her new Capitol disk. It's backed up by Dave Cavanaugh and his insomniacs.

● SMALL FRY DEEJAY

The Romper record trade around Cleveland, Ohio, is being treated these days to the deejaying of one of the youngest, 11-year-old Candy Lee. Broadcasting over WDOK, Candy spends Saturday mornings whirling wax in the western groove. She's going into her third year with the station's "Kiddie Korral." In addition to AM, she's had two years of TV experience. When Candy isn't spinning songs she models clothes for a local moppet store.



Candy

IT'S HORRIBLE

The worst has happened to Horrible Records, an independent company formed to exploit the possibilities of intentionally irritating records. Some customer resistance has been expressed toward the outfit's first release, "Fish" and "There's a New Sound," and company executives have admitted that their initial disk was "a bit too horrible." "Fish" reportedly was cut in the Holland Tunnel and the flip side 3400 feet beneath the sea. Horrible Records' new release, according to an announcement, is a novelty called "Don't Cast Aspersions on the Persians."

● VERDI 'PREMIERED'

The first U. S. concert performance of Verdi's "Hymn to the Nations" was conducted in New York this summer by Alfredo Antonini, of CBS Radio. Verdi wrote the "Hymn" for a convention of nations in London during the reign of Queen Victoria, but Antonini comments that "the words are such that you would suspect they had been written for the United Nations today." In the "Hymn," Verdi incorporated snatches of the national anthems of France, England and Italy.



Brunette Helen Westcott puts the charge in "The Charge at Feather River," Warner Color 3-D. Studio is considering her for singing role in a new film, an untitled musical.

Keyhole to Keyboard— That's George Greeley

PIANIST George Greeley is one of the few really good musicians who ever learned to play by ear through a keyhole.

Greeley, 55-year-old conductor and soloist on half a dozen widely known record albums, accomplished this feat between the ages of four and six behind the bedroom door of his home in Westerly, R. I.

"My father taught stringed instruments," he recalls, "and instead of going to bed I'd crouch by the door listening to him give lessons. When he began teaching me mandolin at the age of six, I could play everything I had heard him teach—by ear."

The elder Greeley lost no time in applying his oldest son's talents to the piano, a decision which ultimately won George a scholarship at the Julliard School of Music, then a career with Tommy Dorsey, Abe Lyman, Glen Gray and other name bands before he joined the music department at Columbia Pictures five years ago.

Between pictures, for which he plays solo and in the orchestra, Greeley has conducted and arranged for such Capitol albums as "The Merry Widow," "Ro-



Karen Chandler of Coral's "Rosebud," is the first in a series of "names" to play Sampson Air Force Base, N. Y. Non-com clubs in U. S. are paying artists' fees out of dues.

berta" and Jane Froman's famous "With A Song in My Heart." This fall he pitched a doubleheader, so to speak, for Capitol — "Piano Demitasse," an album of solos, and "Student Prince," a Dorothy Watenskjoeld-Gordon MacRae album for which he conducted and arranged.

Greeley, who lives in Los Angeles with his wife and two sons, says recording is the hardest work in a musician's life. But Columbia Pictures gave him a stiff workout in a new film, "The 5000 Fingers of Dr. T.," a fantasy on a musical theme in which Greeley and three other pianists in one scene play all "5000 fingers" on four pianos.

—Robert L. Johnson.



Impish Doris Day mugs over Johnnie Ray's shoulder during a recording session at Columbia. The session also produced "Candy Lips" and "Let's Walk That-A-Way." Chummy?



Maxine, Patty and LaVerne Andrews and Decca Boss Lou Gilman celebrate resumption of The Act and a new record, "Tegucigalpa." The Sisters are sisterly again.

WITHOUT A SONG

"Records are today the greatest instruments of promotion show business has ever had because of their ability to reach the masses. It is difficult to think of a "name" in the past few years who wasn't helped at least partially by records. Julius La Rosa got his start on radio-TV . . . but it was the big selling force of the juke box operators and the retail record stores that made La Rosa popular all over the country . . . It is almost axiomatic in show biz today that any singer without a record . . . is a drug on the market."

—Bill Smith, *Billboard*.

● 'MOULIN' TOP SELLER

"The era of the 1,000,000-copy seller has now faded completely into the past." Weekly Variety reports in a footnote to current sheet music history. Except for "Tennessee Waltz," which sold some 2,000,000 copies two years ago, the song hits of the late 20th Century are good for a present top of 500,000 copies. Currently expected to hit that figure is "Song from Moulin Rouge," recorded by June Hutton and Axel Stordahl for Capitol and Percy Faith for Columbia. The recorded versions have sold more than 1,000,000 disks.

THE MAN WITH 250,000 HOBBIES

IT would take Jacob S. Schneider, a genial New York attorney, 12,500 hours to listen to all his phonographs records.

Since 1915 Schneider has gathered 250,000 disks into a collection valued at \$250,000. "H'mm, a dollar a record," you might think, but that's not the way it works.

"Some platters have cost me a nickel," the world-famous collector says. "For others I've paid as high as \$100."

The collecting fever broke out eight years ago when Schneider bought his son a phonograph for his birthday. Bewildered when he had to pay two or three dollars for jazz records which had sold originally for fifty cents, he started on a tour of New York record shops. His discovery that "out of print" records came dear gave birth to his urge to trace down these rarities.

THOUGH his legal business has kept him working in New York for thirty years, Schneider's hobby has taken him all over the United States. Specializing in recordings made before 1910, he acquires most of his treasures by trading, and sets up most of his trades by correspondence. Letters

from every state in the Union and many foreign countries reach



Schneider, often addressed simply: Jacob Schneider, New York City; or, Jacob Schneider, Lawyer-Record-Collector,

Jazz, Dixie-land, Blues, sweet, pops and novelties, make up 95 per cent of this store of treasure, while the rest are hard-to-get operatic records.

Schneider's collection is stored in a four-room suite behind his law offices. "Each record," he says, "is my hobby." But he takes particular pride in such items as Valentino singing "The Kashmiri song," the only record the great screen-lover ever made, and a record of a bugler blowing the charge up historic Juan Hill for Teddy Roosevelt's Rough Riders.

But vast as his collection is, Schneider isn't through yet. "I'll stop collecting records," he says, "when I have obtained every record ever made by prominent personalities in all fields since the invention of the gramophone."

Lucy Meyer.

STRICTLY PERSONAL

*She sings in such a cozy way,
So confidentially,
That as I listen, I am sure
She's singing just to me.*

*She's mine, I'm hers — and I
will not
Believe it if I'm told
That what I call "my song"
has had
A million copies sold.*

—Richard Armour



Singer Kathryn Grayson adds new chapter to her career by portraying Grace Moore in Warner Bros. "So This Is Love." She dyed brunette hair blond for Technicolor musical.

● HEARD IT BEFORE?

Three new records making use of television program theme songs are finding their keenest audiences and severest critics among song publishers and their attorneys. Mood Records' "TV Rhumba" uses parts of 12 themes, such as Lucky Strike, Arthur Godfrey, Kate Smith, "Show of Shows," "Dragnet" and other program identifications. At least two of the themes, reports Billboard, are copyrighted, the publishers having approved their use. But a satire on the "Dragnet" theme by another independent, Bayou Records, reportedly has been withdrawn from circulation, and attorneys for the program say they are "looking into" Modern Records' "Dragnet Blues."

● CAP VEEP LECTURES

Alan Livingston, vice-president and production chief of Capitol Records, and Margaret Whiting, Capitol recording star, were among guest lecturers for a course in lyric writing conducted by the University of California at Los Angeles. The course opened June 23 under the direction of songwriter Hal Levy (ASCAP), other top music personalities holding down the speaker's rostrum included Johnny Mercer, Bob Russell, Ned Washington, Leo Robin, Walter Schumann, Johnny Green, Harry Warren, Harold Arlen and Victor Young.

MERRY DE DION

Three of America's favorite singers latch onto a high note while cruising down a Las Vegas street in a 1900 De Dion Bouton. The iron belongs to James Melton (left), a collector of old rolling stock. With him are Gordon MacRae and Robert Merrill. The touring trio were appearing at Las Vegas' Thunderbird, El Rancho Vegas and Sands respectively, but they had afternoons off pour le sport.





Discovered in Paris, 9-year-old Christian Fourcade plays Bing Crosby's son in "Little Boy Lost." Crosby sings three songs in the film, two of them in his very own French.



Amateur photographers interested in curved objects relish this study of singer Peggy Lee, whose "Heart Belongs To Daddy" on a Decca disk. Flip: "I've Got You Under My Skin."

Summer Brings Crew Cut to Longhair Tunes

The low rumble being heard these days along Tin Pan Alley can be traced to the collective remains of Liszt, Dvorak, MacDowell, Brahms and Schumann, spinning in their hallowed graves. In the past few months their works have been consistently borrowed by pop songwriters and show up on records with modern lyrics and jazzy tempos.

The most successful bit of buccaneering was performed by K. C. Rogan (Johnny Burke) on a theme by Robert Schumann. Perry Como's "Wild Horses" was the result, and the other tunesmiths

climbed on the bandwagon. Rogan tried again with "Now That I'm In Love," from Rossini's "William Tell Overture," but with less success.

Since then, Sunny Skylar has turned Dvorak's "Humoresque" into "Pretty Butterfly," and MacDowell's "To a Wild Rose" has become "Wedding Day" via re-vamping by Buddy Kaye, Phil Harrington and Frank Stanton. Milton Kellm and Lee Kauderer have turned Liszt's "Second Hungarian Rhapsody" into "Tonight Love," and a Brahms theme has become "Till Now" under the pen of Albert Gamse.

Exciting Jazz

a
dazzling
array
of
**NEW
ALBUMS**



**GERRY MULLIGAN
AND HIS TEN-TETTE**

45 rpm Album No. EBF-439
33 1/3 rpm Album No. H-439



THE GOODMAN TOUCH

45 rpm Album No. EBF-441
33 1/3 rpm Album No. H-441



PREMIERED BY ELLINGTON

45 rpm Album No. EBF-442
33 1/3 rpm Album No. H-442

Great Instrumental Music.

Spectacular Vocal Music



JOE "FINGERS" CARR AND HIS RACTIME BAND

45 rpm Album No. EBF-443
33 1/3 rpm Album No. H-443



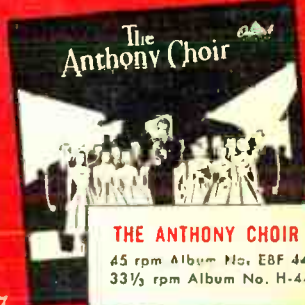
INCA TAQUI

— Yma Sumac & Moises Vilarco
45 rpm Album No. EBF-423
33 1/3 rpm Album No. L-423



PIANO DEMITASSE

— George Greeley
45 rpm Album No. EBF-438
33 1/3 rpm Album No. H-438



THE ANTHONY CHOIR

45 rpm Album No. EBF-442
33 1/3 rpm Album No. H-442



MOODS FOR STARLIGHT

— Francis Scott
45 rpm Album No. EBF-446
33 1/3 rpm Album No. H-446



THE STUDENT PRINCE

— Gordon MacRae &
Dorothy Warenskjold
45 rpm Album No. EBF-407
33 1/3 rpm Album No. L-407

Hollywood Snapshot: Audition by Mercer

"THE MELODY'S fine, but the lyric is from nowhere."

It's Johnny Mercer, curled up pretzel-style in a comfortable chair, talking to attractive Jane Wamboldt, assistant on KNX-CBS Radio's "Johnny Mercer Show," who's spinning pre-release records for the Savannah-born musician.

Mercer personally "auditions" scores of records per week, sent him by recording companies, publishing houses, managers and artists. He listens to the platters in a small, high-ceilinged room of CBS Radio's Guild Theatre in Hollywood. Some are played all the way through, others are hurriedly lifted from the turntable by Miss Wamboldt on an "eye signal" from Mercer.



Mercer

"The lyric on that one is real great," says Mercer, "but the tune's the fiftieth variation on the so-and-so song. Singer's good, though. Who is he? Ah, that's a dandy. Pencil the label, Jane, and we'll spin the record on one of our shows next week."

Sipping black coffee, Mercer doesn't budge from his chair as record after record is played.



Marian Burke, Charles Fredericks hoist one in "Guys and Dolls," now rounding out second year on the road and third in New York. It was produced by mentors of "Can-Can."

HE STAYED

Perry Como arrived in Chicago recently on a disk jockey and juke box operator tour to learn that Tony Benner and Vic Damone were already in town. Informed that Bing Crosby would arrive the next day, Como is quoted as saying: "Lemme outa here!"

When finally the last disk has been spun, he gets up, stretches, and says "Man, where do they all come from?"

Mercer's monitoring of all the new tunes, however, has helped many a new songwriter or lyricist get started on the road to fame.

—CBS, Hollywood.



Campaign Emphasizes Self-Service Records

Your neighborhood record store may do an ugly duckling into a modern self-service outlet this winter as the result of a unique campaign by Capitol Records. The educational drive emphasizes the advantages of self-service merchandising.

Record dealers in all parts of the country are being presented with hard-learned details on the benefits and problems of self-service, and are being treated by Capitol's long-range planners to a movie dramatizing what happens when a shelf store goes self-service.

Capitol Sales Chief Bill Fowler says it has required a year's research and an expenditure of \$50,000 to assemble reliable estimates and information for dealers who want to convert to self-service. The material includes full-color brochures and reports from self-service dealers who claim their business tripled when they abandoned "horse and buggy" retailing.

The movie dramatizing self-service stars Mel Blanc, the "man of a million voices" featured on scores of children's records and Jane Easton, a leading Hollywood model.



Matador Pat McCormack gives Diana Lynn a bullfighting lesson for "Plunder of the Sun." Diana is artist on "Piano Moods," "Piano Portraits," outstanding Capitol albums.

Bedlam in Birmingham As Saints March In

"He's flipped!" was the general reaction to DJ Stan Vainrib's recent program over WBRC, Birmingham, Ala., when he played a single Ray Anthony record — and nothing else — for an hour and forty-five minutes.

Chosen for the stunt, which Vainrib called "an experiment to see if a hit could be made locally overnight," was Anthony's Capitol waxing of "When the Saints Go Marching In' March."

Introduced over and over again during the 195 minutes by differ-



Vainrib

ent titles, the record created havoc in Birmingham. "After the third playing," Vainrib says, "the phone began to ring. It never stopped."

Local switchboards were so jammed the Bell Telephone supervisor was called out of bed to handle the emergency. Western Union turned down 68 telegrams to Vainrib which it couldn't handle. And the manager of a Birmingham country club called Vainrib to announce: "All hell is breaking loose out here!"

It seems the club was using Vainrib's program for dance music. The guests were having a



And this is "Cheesecake from the Sky," title of tune written to welcome International beauties in Miss Universe Contest. Annual contest was staged in Long Beach, Calif.

● WAKELY FILMS ON TV

Jimmy Wakely has been signed by KLAC-TV, Los Angeles, to emcee and introduce twenty of his Monogram films for the station. The Wakely starrers were produced in 1949 and 1950 and have not previously been seen on TV. Deal runs for two years.

strenuous evening keeping up with 30 successive playings of the vigorous "Saints."

Now called "The Saint" by fellow workers at WBRC, Vainrib is still getting requests for the record. "The station almost fired me," he says, "but the experiment was a success. All eight copies of the record available in Birmingham were sold out next day." #

He strikes out for a hit!

Two men out, bases loaded, mighty DiMaggio, Nishimoto (r), Yokohama home run king, steps to the plate in the final inning to save the day & pennant on Harry Stewart's new "Harry Kari" disk for Capitol. "Nishimoto at the Bat." Here Stewart as Nishimoto enacts the story of what happened after "umpire have goofed" and called "Strike one!"

1. "Bowing with dignified motion," Hon. DiMag' "are smiling to quiet crowd; then he pose like hero in painting," unaware that pitcher "are throwing very fast ball."



2. Strike two! "Now Nishimoto are worried. He not have to be detective like Hawkshaw to know that if he are fanning out now, next season he will be pulling rickshaw."



3. As in the Mudville of "Casey at the Bat," there's no joy in Yokohama after the third pitch. Nishimoto "no get bonus this season ... mighty Nishimoto struck out."



● ON TOP ABROAD

Nat King Cole and Rosemary Clooney are the favorite singers of service men and women and civilians attuned to the American Forces Network in Europe, Stars and Stripes reports from Frankfurt, Germany. Cole



Froman

was named top male vocalist and Clooney top female singer in a poll conducted by Airman Al Wolters, of Twin Falls, Ida., who conducts "Late Date," a disk request program with an audience of 6,000,000. Listeners rated "I Believe," theme song of Jane Froman's TV show, their most popular song, and named Canital's Billy May the best band blowing. Other high ratings on the GI popularity chart went to Ray Anthony, Frankie Laine, Doris Day, Les Paul-Mary Ford, Stan Kenton and Kay Starr.



Laine

● JONI 'JOINS' ARMY

The gentlemen who prefer blondes are evidently not members of the 761st Tank Battalion, Combat Command B, 3rd Armored Division, Fort Knox, Ky. These tank gentlemen have chosen Joni James as "Miss 761st." Miss James reportedly defeated Marilyn Monroe in the balloting.



In case Ford repeats the June show that made television history, here's Mary Martin piping up for the program with Broadway Producer Leeland Hayward at the keyboard.



Actor Merv Griffin (Warners), former Freddie Martin vocalist, spends an evening at home with Les Paul-Mary Ford's current "Vaya Con Dios," "Johnny Is The Boy For Me."



Alice Lon of Dallas, selected from six "finalists," is Lawrence Welk's "Champagne Lady." She'll do radio, TV, personal appearances with band at \$500 a week; make records also.



Although TV star on NBC's "Ladies Choice," singer Johnny Dugan likes his trailer. What's more, his wife, two children, seven kittens, two parakeets and a goldfish live there!

● A&R MAN BITES DOG

Composer-Arranger Paul Weston of Columbia Records has come out in favor of the downtrodden public in an interview with Vernon Scott of United Press.

"The American people have much better taste than what the music industry has been throwing at them," says Weston, who pitches for Jo Stafford, Doris Day, Johnnie Ray and Rosemary Clooney.

Demoaning the production effort that went into Jo Stafford's "Pretty Boy" when the other side of the record — "You Belong To Me" — became the big hit, Weston went on to declare:

"The people got a better break musically when men like Tommy Dorsey, Benny Goodman and Glenn Miller were running the band business. They wouldn't have touched a song like 'Doggie in the Window' for all the tea in China."

CLASSIC

Billboard magazine reports it has found a music publisher who complains about one of his songwriters: "He thinks everything he writes is a masterpiece — a Rembrandt!"

College Revues Become Hasty Pudding For TV

College musical productions, some budgeted as high as \$30,000, will be presented in a series of one-hour television programs being prepared by Ward-Villani Productions. W-V has signed with 48 universities to film the annual productions, all based on original student-written scripts. The schools will get a cut of the gross.

Undergraduate talent discovered in the process may also get a professional break. One show, the University of Miami's "Sketchbook," already has been filmed, and, according to Barney Ward, president of W-V, is attracting attention from TV talent executives.

Among shows to be filmed this school year are the University of Pennsylvania's "Mask and Wig" and the University of Oklahoma's "Sooner Scandals," as well as a college rodeo, winter ice carnival and an aquacade. Five of the 48 productions will be filmed outdoors.

The venture recalls the attention paid by Capitol Records and booking agencies to winners of *Metronome Magazine's* recent college dance band contest. Bob MacDonald's Los Angeles City College Collegians, first-place winners, are featured on a current popular record, "Cream Puff" and "September in the Rain."



The camera catches Dean Martin and Jerry Lewis in a zany pose, which ain't hard, at the London Palladium. Martin's new Capitol disk is "Don't You Remember?"

● FOR HE'S A JOLLY, ETC.

Stock in Al Martino's scrapbook went up by leaps and bounds this summer as a result of the former Philadelphia bricklayer's tour of England and the Continent. Martino "captured British hearts by the millions," reviewer Cecil Wilson wrote in the *London Daily Mail*, because he "mercifully refrains from weeping, melting, panting, sinking to his knees, or making maudlin speeches. He simply sings." Other reviewers predicted that his personal appearances, staged in response to hit records, "should send their sales rocketing again."



Martino



Nightclub singer Joanne Gilbert recently celebrated a film stint at Paramount with a party in Hollywood's Mocambo. Here she chats with Frank FAYLEN. —Globe Photo.



National President George Miller of the Music Operators of America (right) with Gloria Wood and Tex Ritter. Their records are pulling dimes into the MOA juke boxes.

Grocery Clerk Chalks Up One Song

Here's a new twist in song writing—a gross of chalk.

Five years ago a New York grocery clerk named Alex James wrote a tune and tramped the fatilliar path to record companies and publishers with no results. So he bought a supply of chalk and began writing the title all over Manhattan.

New Yorkers saw the words on steps, walls and pavements. The title was seen so often that some people felt cheated unless they saw it in a new spot each week,

although no one knew what the four words meant. Even the austere New York Times wrote about the provocative slogan and Broadway columnists mentioned it.

In 1950 James got a record on his song but nothing happened. So the chalk-rounds were continued. Recently, however, vocalist Betty Clooney, who had seen the slogans, too, cut the tune for Round Records, a new label on the market. It has now been released. Title? "An Onion and You."



Playing next door to each other at New York's Bandbox and Birdland respectively, Lionel Hampton and Billy Eckstine talk over times old and new. Both drew hit reviews.



Dancer Virginia Mayo, snapped between scenes of Warners' "South Sea Woman," is retiring temporarily pending birth of a baby late this year. She's Mrs. Michael O'Shea.

● HUTTON HIT IN VEGAS

Betty Hutton's triumphant return to the nightclub circuit this summer forced critics and reviewers to thumb through their



Hutton

Thesauruses for new adjectives to describe her. Miss Hutton's stint at Wilbur Clark's Desert Inn, Las Vegas, was her first night club act in fifteen years, and the usually blase scribes welcomed her home with a gusto rare in show business.

Daily Variety called her a "female phenomenon doing a terrific act," and the Hollywood Reporter summed up: "The audience is left holding stinging palms from steady applause."

Hoagy Says There's

Hoagy Carmichael, turning guest newspaper columnist during the vacation season, says the gates of success as a songwriter are wide open to "young amateurs with fresh ideas" if they do two things — "keep writing and keep trying to sell."

Personal contacts among artists, publishers and recording executives are "just as important as what you have on paper," the composer of "Stardust" admits. "But even this," he says, "is no guarantee of success. I happen to have several songs which I am quite sure constitute a proper 'wedding' of words and music and have hit



"Television's Tough on Love," "A Little Western Town Called Beverly Hills" are tunes sung by Dorothy Shay in new Cap album, "Park Avenue Hillbillie," for fall release.



Peter Lind Hayes (r), Mary Healy (l) of night club fame recently were party guests of Lucille Ball, Desi Arnaz of "I Love Lucy." Occasion was Hayes-Healy opening in L. A.

Still More Stardust

potentialities, but so far nobody has seen fit to publish or record them."

Carmichael advises against mailing songs to publishers ("the songs are just returned") or sending tunes to other songwriters ("they have too many of their own problems to get involved with your worries").

"But what about the songs themselves? For whatever my advice is worth, I suggest that when you pen a tune and think it's great—that's the time to write about 50 more. After the fiftieth, you're apt to feel that the first wasn't so tremendous after all."

● THE NOVEL MAY WYNN

"The characters came alive" was a typical comment on the novel, "The Caine Mutiny." And now, in the strange ways of show business, it has happened. May Wynn, night club singer from the book, actually exists.



Wynn

Picked from 100 girls interviewed for the part by Producer Stanley Kramer, who is filming "The Caine Mutiny" at Columbia, she is Donna Lee Hickey, a singer who changed her name to May Wynn for the role. She is well-remembered by patrons of the Copacabana in New York where she sang and danced for three years.

ER — CORRECTION

Editor,

Capitol Publications, Inc.,
Hollywood, Calif.

Dear Sir:

Just read latest edition of **MUSIC VIEWS** (July '53) and as usual enjoyed it thoroughly. **BUT** just have to say **PU-LEEZE** give us back Duke University. Picture on Page



T. D., J. D., R. A.

18 was most certainly taken at Duke University, Durham, N.C. (not S.C.). I should know 'cause I was just a few feet away from that wild foot of Ray Anthony's.

Musically yours,
Kelly McClure
Thiem's Record Shop
Raleigh, N.C.

● GRANZ INTO NEW CLEF

Jazz impresario Norman Granz is joining the ranks of independent diskeries by forming Clef Records, to release his own pressings. Records will be distributed as in the past by Mercury, but will bear the Clef label, Granz believing it will receive added attention. Granz's jazz line includes some 800 masters, including the "Jazz at the Philharmonic" series.



Granz

● HEAR AMERICA FIRST

Europe is losing its attraction as the place to cut classical records. Billboard Magazine reports, noting a new emphasis on domestic longhair waxing by Capitol, Decca, MGM, Mercury and other companies.



Milstein

Within the next year domestic recordings are expected to predominate the Decca label, Billboard reports, while Capitol will concentrate on at-home recording sessions with such newly acquired artists as Violinist Nathan Milstein and Pianist Sascha Goro-dnitzki, and with Pianist Leonard Pen-nario, the Hollywood String Quartet and the Pittsburgh, St. Louis and Indianapolis symphonies.



Goro-dnitzki

vamp till ready



ARRANGER Denny Farnon, who did the background for Hammerlock Records on wrestler Sandor Szabo's "Take Me In Your Arms," is taking a ribbing along Vine Street. They're calling him "Half-Nelson Riddle" . . . Dick Stabile's background for Dean Martin's new record, "Don't You Remember?", features a sound you don't hear much any more — a saxophone slap-tongued throughout . . . Peggy Lee recently told a columnist what she thinks about while singing "Lover": "Miles and miles of sand. Then suddenly a group of Foreign Legionnaires gallop into view. But they never reach me."

NEW YORK — Chinese DJ Wong Bek Fay of WHOM-FM interrupted a record to say she'd have to leave the studio, turned the program over to her husband, Louis Chu, went to a hospital and gave birth to her fourth child.

Pee Wee Hunt's "Oh," his biggest hit since "Twelfth Street Rag," owes its existence to the long memory of Capitol A & R Man Voyle Gilmore. Voyle remembered playing the tune with Griff Williams' Band

several years ago in San Francisco. He decided it was still good and recommended it to Hunt . . . Disk jockeys favor 78 over 45 r.p.m. records, according to a publisher's poll . . . After 43 years, Violinist Mischa Elman's contract with RCA Victor expires this month. Fifty years ago, he was a child prodigy . . . "There are 450,000 juke boxes in the U. S.," says Mike Connolly of the Hollywood Reporter. "It just seems like more."

PHILADELPHIA — Dr. Louis L. Menaker, a dentist who writes songs in his spare time, has filed a \$150,000 lawsuit for head injuries allegedly suffered while attempting to pitch a tune to a popular recording artist.

"While waiting for the clutch to be adjusted on his 1952 Jaguar," notes Army Archard of Daily Variety,

Continued on next page

"Donald O'Connor bought a 1953 model" . . . Dean Martin and Jerry Lewis gave a free show for 1000 kids who could not get into the Glasgow theater where they played and so chartered a special train to London . . . Asked how Universal will age him in "The Glenn Miller Story," James Stewart replied, "Just keep taking off the makeup" . . .

Met Opera Star Marguerite Piazza, newly signed by Capitol, may do pop songs with Gordon MacRae . . . Duke Ellington is forming an organization to aid young hopefuls in show business . . . Headline of the month appeared over a Variety story on songwriters Arthur Schwartz and Howard Dietz hitting the road to plug MGM's "Band Wagon" album: SCHWARTZ & DIETZ HAVE MEDLEY. WILL TRAVEL.

DONCASTER, ENGLAND — Juke boxes have been licensed for five locations here provided that: 1) they are not played after 11 p.m.; 2) they are not played on Sundays; 3) they are placed "well away" from the doorways.

DJ Sherm Feller of Boston and Sid Feller of New York, Capitol's eastern production chief, have been getting each other's wives bills from a New York department store . . . Tennessee Ernie ("Hey, Mr. Cotton Picker!") has been cited by a Hollywood columnist for "adding to the color of our language" with the figures of speech he uses on the air: "hot as a fox in a pepper patch;" "squirming like a worm in hot ashes" . . . Ernie says the Andrews Sisters are returning to records "like a tall hawg at the trough."

A Los Angeles jury of 10 women and two men, which heard records and saw movies before deciding, voted 9 to 3 against Freddie Rich in his \$600,000 plagiarism suit against Jay Livingston and Ray Evans over "Buttons and Bows."

Frances Faye sings only two words on a new Capitol record — "Uh" and "Huh." Its title: "Uh Huh" . . . There's something domestic and sexy about Gisele MacKenzie's new disk, "Till They've All Gone Home."

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Daffy Duck Meets Yosemite Sam
Porky Pig In Africa No. EAP-3178

Hopalong Cassidy And The
Story Of Topper
Hoppy's Happy Birthday No. EAP-3180

Woody Woodpecker And The
Animal Crackers
The Ugly Duckling No. EAP-3182

Country Cousin
Three Orphan Kittens No. EAP-3184

Elmer Elephant
Bongo The Circus Bear No. EAP-3185

The Noisy Eater
Cleanliness & Good And Bad
No. EAP-3186

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California's Mrs. Earl Warren and daughters "Honey Bear" and Virginia congratulate Capitol's Roger Wagner after his chorale's Coronation performance at the Royal Festival Hall, London. The famed choral group proceeded to Continent, drawing lavish praise from critics and listeners.