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JANUARY, 1969

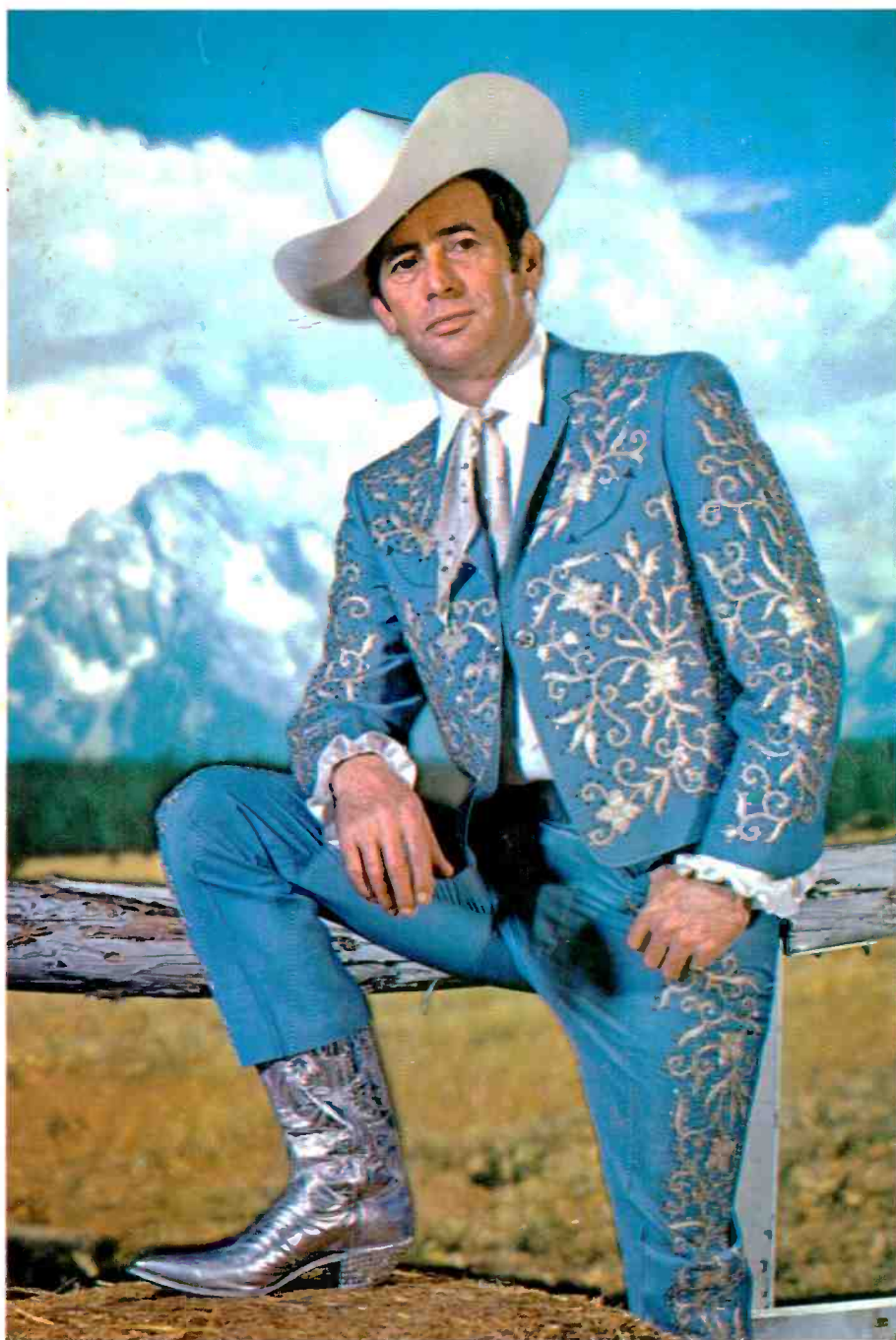
# country

**JOEY  
BISHOP**

**BLUE  
BOYS**

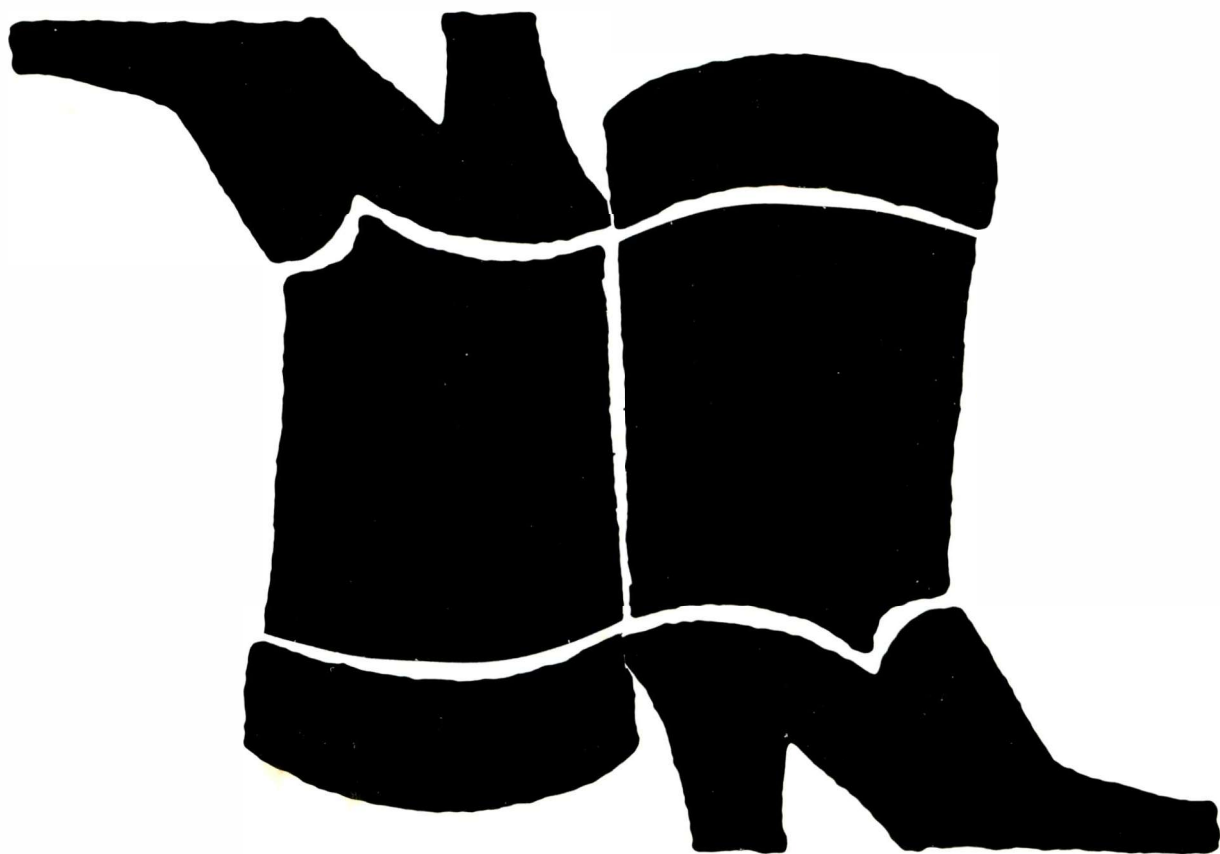
**THE  
BUTLERS**

**COUNTRY  
MUSIC IN  
ENGLAND**



**FREE GIANT POSTER INSIDE!**

# country



REAT A FRIEND OR RELATIVE TO A GIFT SUBSCRIPTION  
TO COUNTRY MAGAZINE. IT'LL BE GOOD FOR 'EM!

# WIRE country

## WIRE Radio

Star News Building  
307 North Pennsylvania St.  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46206

## ABOUT THE COVER

Joey Bishop, from the ABC record release,  
"Joey Bishop Sings Country Western."

## INSIDE

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COUNTRY Magazine is published by Goodway, Inc., Philadelphia, Pa. Subscription \$5.00 per year in the United States, foreign rates upon request. Single copy price 50 cents. Copyright 1968 by Goodway, Inc. All rights reserved. Reproduction in whole or in part without written permission is prohibited.





# new home of **w<sup>✿</sup>ire**

Construction of WIRE's new studio-office-transmitter is now underway at 4560 Knollton Road. The new home of WIRE will be among the most modern in the country featuring the latest in solid state radio equipment and the available production area will more than triple that of the current setup. The NEW WIRE will be ready about May 1, 1969.



Countryopolitan  
Radio 1430

# NOW NUMBER 1

## With Adults in Indianapolis

6:00 — 10:00 A.M.			10:00 A.M. — 3:00 P.M.			3:00 — 7:00 P.M.		
Men	25-34	WIRE #1	Men	25-34	WIRE #1	Men	25-34	WIRE #1
Men	25-49	WIRE #1	Men	25-49	WIRE #1	Men	25-49	WIRE #1
Women	25-34	WIRE #1	Women	25-34	WIRE #1	Women	25-34	WIRE #1
Women	25-49	WIRE #2	Women	25-49	WIRE #1	Women	25-49	WIRE #2

### PLUS

1. WIRE is number 2 in number of Different Households reached during a DAY.
2. WIRE is number 2 in number of Different Households reached during a WEEK.
3. WIRE is number 2 in number of Different Men reached during a WEEK.
4. WIRE is number 2 in number of Different Women reached during a WEEK.

Source:  
Pulse Survey April-May 1968

*Audience measurement data of all media are estimates only . . . subject to defects and limitations of source material and methods. Hence, they may not be accurate measure of the true audience.*

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**YOUR NEAREST EAST/MAN**

# bob wills





# EDITORIAL

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## which way country music?

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Editorially, COUNTRY Magazine has never taken a stand, never stopped to look over country & western music as a whole to see where it's going. Perhaps such a survey is needed. Perhaps fans would like to hear arguments, have some discussion, make their own comments on what they like and don't like about this music—which was, after all, here before most other kinds of music were.

Country music has come a long way from the traditional ballads carried over by the early settlers. With origins in the broadside and the gallows songs of the 18th and 19th centuries, country music has broadened until it just isn't certain *what* it's supposed to contain.

There are two schools of thought; one, harking back to a time of acoustical, un-amplified guitars, five-string banjos and perhaps a fiddle, prefers bluegrass and simplicity, flat-picks and frailing. The other, keeping up with the tempo of the times, allows for pianos, trumpets, electric everything, with a mixed chorus of voice thrown in for good measure. *That* school of thought advocates sophistication, complexity, fancy finger licks.

Listen to the supporters of that contemporary sound and they'll tell you everybody's picking up on the "country sound." But isn't it just the reverse? Hasn't country borrowed from Al Hirt, Herb Alpert, Liberace, Peter Nero, Henry Mancini, Old Uncle Tom Cobbler and all, as the folksong goes?

People in the record business are forever trying to figure out—is any particular "sound" a result of public demand, or does the public demand it because

that's all there happens to be at the time? An insoluble problem, probably.

But one that bears thinking about. How original is the combination of pop forms with country forms? In past pages of this magazine, we have written about the Nashville Brass, and about the Byrds (rock group), about Glen Campbell, John Hartford, plus Ernest Tubb and Hank Snow. Is *any* of these to be thought of as *pure* country? Pure pop? Half and half?

Nobody has yet taken a survey of people who buy country records and who listen to c&w radio stations. And who go regularly to shindigs and concerts. What exactly is the public state of mind?

We are asking a lot of questions here, and we think it's about time somebody did, so that a whole bunch of assumptions can be settled once and for all. COUNTRY is in the process now of compiling a questionnaire in an attempt to discover, to whatever extent, what country music is all about. It will appear in a future issue.

We take no position, and our plans are to feature all of the various sorts of activities which are taking place under the umbrella of country music in general. But the fact that a well-known country performer changed his style of costume, and at the same time was saying he didn't want his public to be too aware that he *was* changing it (how that could be accomplished is beyond guessing at) indicates there are all sorts of opinions floating around loose that ought to get tacked down and considered.

Readers, have you any bones to pick? The Country Mailbox is open.



# These Christmas gifts are alive!

They're more than just things. Feelings and emotions are in them. And expressed by them. They live. And they give. They entertain. Excite. Soothe. Involve.

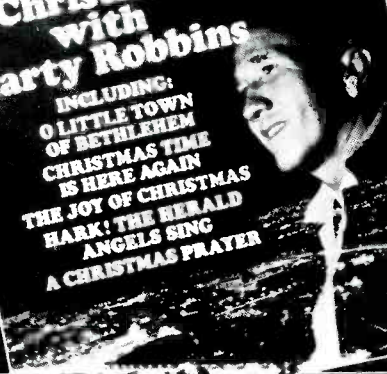
Music involves listener with performer. Something happens. On a record, it happens each time it's played. And very few gifts have longer lifetimes.

We offer the kinds of music that make ideal gifts for anyone with town and country taste. Johnny Cash, Marty Robbins, Stonewall Jackson, Carl Smith, Burl Ives, Ray Price, Jimmy Dean, Arlene Harden, The Chuck Wagon Gang, Flatt and Scruggs, Carl Butler and Pearl.

If you give one album for Christmas, it's no small thing. If you give many, it's never too much. Either way is a great way to be remembered. Christmas means giving. You give more when you give gifts that live.

## Christmas with Marty Robbins

INCLUDING:  
O LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM  
CHRISTMAS TIME IS HERE AGAIN  
THE JOY OF CHRISTMAS  
HARK! THE HERALD ANGELS SING  
A CHRISTMAS PRAYER



CS 9535

## Jimmy Dean's Christmas Card

The Chuck Cassey Singers

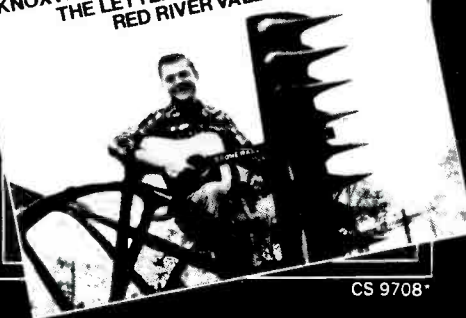
INCLUDING:  
HAVE YOURSELF A MERRY LITTLE CHRISTMAS  
YES, PATRICIA, THERE IS A SANTA CLAUS  
IT CAME UPON THE MIDNIGHT CLEAR  
JIMMY'S CHRISTMAS CARD  
SILVER BELLS



CS 9204

## STONEWALL JACKSON THE GREAT OLD SONGS

INCLUDING:  
I'M HERE TO GET MY BABY OUT OF JAIL  
KNOXVILLE GIRL / SHACKLES AND CHAINS  
THE LETTER EDGED IN BLACK  
RED RIVER VALLEY



CS 9708\*

including:  
Baby Me Baoy  
Knee Deep in the Blues  
Little Ole Wine Drinker  
California Sunshine  
Wonderful World of Women

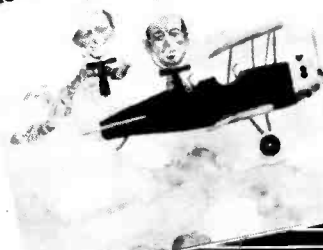
## Carl Smith Country on My Mind



CS 9688\*

## Nashville Airplane Flatt & Scruggs

including:  
Like A Rolling Stone  
Universal Soldier / I'll Be Your Baby Tonight  
Catch The Wind / Folsom Prison Blues



CS 9741\*

## ARLENE HARDEN WHAT CAN I SAY

INCLUDING:  
HE'S A GOOD OLE BOY  
WITH PEN IN HAND  
I WANNA LIVE  
DREAMS OF THE  
EVERYDAY  
HOUSEWIFE  
D-I-V-O-R-C-E



CS 9674





CS 8917



CS 9725†



CS 9606\*



CS 9639\*†



CS 9440



CS 9673‡



CS 9675‡



CS 9728

On  
Columbia  
Records 

# COUNTRY NOSTALGIA

## A QUIZ

1. What instrument did Uncle Lou Childre play?
2. First names of the Osborne Brothers.
3. Which one of the Carter Family recorded with Hank Snow?
4. Give the complete names of Roy Acuff, Stoney Cooper, Bill Anderson
5. The original team was Bill and \_\_\_\_\_ Monroe.
6. Ralph and \_\_\_\_\_ Stanley were the original team.
7. Don Reno, Red Smiley and the Tennessee \_\_\_\_\_
8. What group used to back Roy Rogers when he sang in his movies?
9. Marty Robbins' first big hit.
10. Connie Smith was born in \_\_\_\_\_

*for answers hold this  
page up to mirror.*

### ANSWERS

1. dobro
2. Sonny & Bobby
3. Anita
4. Roy Claxton Acuff, Dale T. Cooper, James William Anderson III
5. Charlie
6. Carter
7. Cutsps
8. The Sons of the Pioneers
9. "Singin' The Blues"
10. Elkhart, Indiana



# JOEY BISHOP



city-bred country . . . .





**C**ity-bred Joey Bishop enjoys the unique distinction of being considered the number one country-western music fan in the entire Hollywood film colony...and with good reason. His nightly 90-minute telecasts over ABC-TV have literally sparkled with just about every popular country/western artist Joey can corral whenever they happen to be visiting or playing on the west coast.

Producer-conductor Ernie Freeman, who guided Joey through the recording sessions, expressed amazement at his feeling and perception for the sincerity of this type of music. "I've been around the music business most of my life," said Freeman, "Joey Bishop hasn't. But you'd never know it from his album. The first thing I sensed in Joey was genuine interest in country and western music and great respect for musicianship. He approached the album with the same intensity and search for perfection that he brings to his comedy. If the roles were reversed and I had to learn about comedy what he had to master in music, I doubt that I could have pulled it off so professionally."

Glen Campbell, who has been a frequent guest on Joey's programs, also volunteered comments: "Joey and country and western music go together because they both see things as they are and tell it like it is," said Campbell. "No fancy trimmings, no camouflage, no hard

sell... just love, warmth, and truth."

Those who know Joey Bishop personally can easily understand why he chose to make his recording debut in the field of country/western music...and why the initial effort was destined to receive much favorable reaction. A warm and sensitive person with unusual perception into the spoken and unspoken frustrations of life, he enjoys great insight and sympathy with the lyrics that are uniquely indigenous to this type of music. As Glen Campbell so aptly put it...Joey "tells it like it is."

"Country/western has always been my favorite music," admits the late-night star. "It's a big thrill for me to bring these talented people on the show and, in many cases, meet for the first time some of the men and women I've been listening to for years.

"There's a great deal of honesty and truth in this type of music," he continues. "You know, right from the opening line, exactly what has happened or is going to happen and you can immediately have a reaction to the subject matter.

"Take a song that starts out with the words 'Born to lose'...or 'Take these chains from my heart and set me free'...or 'Your cheatin' heart.' You know at once that a man or a woman singing any of these songs has to be carrying a torch, right? Nobody can listen to a fellow singing about 'Your Cheatin'

Heart' and not get the message that he's having big troubles with his girl friend."

Joey's enthusiasm for country/western music recently prompted him to enter a recording studio for the first time and try a little vocalizing on an album of his all-time favorites.

"I can tell you one thing," he quips, "some of my friends like Dean Martin, Hank Thompson, Jimmy Dean, or Flatt and Scruggs, were pretty nervous when they learned that I was going to give them a little competition. That was *before* they heard my record. . now, I don't think they are too worried.

"However, I must tell you. . in all honesty. . this was one of the most fun things I have done in years. It is really a tremendous thrill to get up there with a big orchestra . . plus a chorus. . and sing a group of the songs I've personally enjoyed for almost as long as I can remember. We all sing bits and pieces of the songs we like, but when you have the opportunity to try doing it in a professional recording studio. . that's really something."

Joey's album, appropriately titled "Joey Bishop Sings Country/Western," met with enthusiastic response from his fans who began ordering copies more than a month before it was released by ABC Records.

"I was very pleased," says Joey, "but I would be even more pleased if the people who placed those orders would come around and pick up their albums now that they are available."









**"P**eople need people". . . . .  
...is what Barbara Streisand sang in her familiar hit recording. Perhaps a phrase of such acclaim doesn't belong in a story about a couple of country boys. While perhaps, on the other hand, it may serve the purpose of drawing your attention to an acute situation taking place in today's country music industry.

In other words, just where does country music end, and where does "that other stuff" begin these days??! If the fact that reference to a "pop" song has been rammed down your throat irritates you, as a country fan, then I'm sure you have even stronger feelings toward the modern movement in C/W.

You, dear country heart, are one among the many who cherish some of the country stalwarts who gave people what they wanted, mostly because they were "real people" themselves. They were people like Hawkshaw

Today, rewards of the late Reeves await anyone visiting The Jim Reeves Enterprises, located in Madison, a 30 minute drive from downtown Nashville, Tennessee. First of all, it's very satisfying to know that Jim Reeves was able to enjoy the reputation of being a monumental music celebrity before his tragic plane crash; and secondly, it's even more gratifying to see the tradition of his music live on...naturally...day by day, under the capable care of his widow, Mary.

Part of the plan which Mary Reeves, herself, has so perfectly executed was to build a strong, single act out of the group who previously backed the late Jim Reeves.

"Blue Boys, that's what they call us" is the way the guys sing it on stage, as they relate in song their own history, which goes all the way back to the days when Jim called his band "The Wagonmasters". The name did the job,

awkward feeling when one day they looked around and Jim wasn't there.

Had it not been for the determination of Mary Reeves the group would have immediately dissolved on the 31st day of July in 1964. Mary was very much aware of the fact that Jim had plans for recording the group as a single act, and she...in her own very decisive, yet delicate manner...carried out those plans.

There's been a lot of heartaches. And it's probably cost them several stomach ulcers. But today, The Blue Boys have accomplished the recognition of being one of the fastest rising groups in the music business. And as Bud says, "Don't think it hasn't been tough!"

In the beginning, everything was like a world of bats...all upsidedown! In other words, a group who had already planted both feet firmly on such stages as the Ed Sullivan Show, the Jimmy Dean Show, the Dick Clark

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## THE BLUE BOYS ARE PEOPLE, TOO

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Hawkins, Cowboy Copas, Patsy Cline, Red Foley . . . . . Jim Reeves.

It was Jim Reeves who entertained the people he loved. In return, it was the people he entertained...people of all nations...who loved him enough to give him the title of "Gentleman Jim". And it was one of the people who knew Jim Reeves best who said, "He never forgot how good a cup of water could taste, how high a prayer could go, or how sweet a song could sound." Jim Reeves was about as much "people" as could be crammed into one country boy.

or at least served its purpose, until Porter Wagoner came to town. Bud Logan, leader of The Blue Boys, states, "Jim thought 'The Wagonmasters' seemed to fit Porter better, anyway, so he just gave it up. At that time, one of Jim's big records was "Blue Boy", and that's where our name actually came from."

The historical plane crash, which took place over the hills of Tennessee, brought about a very uncomfortable situation for a group of guys who had been enjoying the epitome of stardom just by tagging along as strummin' straight men. It was an

Show, and many others, to say nothing about the times they'd been mobbed by fans who didn't even speak their own language...these same individuals suddenly found themselves having to audition to get work. But, in the true good-natured manner of The Blue Boys, one member stated, "We really didn't mind, 'cause we kinda like to play, even for an audition!" That fact is further evidenced by their everyday actions when The Blue Boys can be caught casually strumming a guitar during conversation...or, while listening to records...or, while sitting in the

*Continued on page 15*







*Continued*

office. . .or, while relaxing around the home that once was occupied by the late Jim Reeves. The Blue Boys just ENJOY entertaining.

Finding a place to actually get started as a single act was perhaps the most difficult task for them. At first they found themselves practicing in the basement of the Reeves' mansion. Day after day they sang, and sang, and sang, and sang. In their own humorous way they relate, "It gets kinda old playing and singing to each other!"

Things did improve, however, and bookings started coming their way. Their first date was in Tyler, Texas. It was booked by Tom Perryman, now general manager at WMTS Radio, in Murfreesboro, Tennessee, and one of the guys on the same show happened to be David Houston. Since then, a lot of notes have been sung, a lot of guitars have been picked, and a lot of water's passed over that proverbial bridge.

The Blue Boys now have to their credit a list of 10 singles, 4 albums, with Bud having 2 singles of his own. They're part of an active organization that has grown from the personal den of Jim Reeves, to Jim's private basement, to a building today that's known as Jim Reeves Enterprises housing Tuckahoe Music, Open Road Music, Acclaim Music, and Ma-Ree Music, with an additional office in the RCA Building on Nashville's Music Row. Furthermore, they enjoy the reputation of never having worked a club that hasn't asked them to come back. What's more, they work. They work one-niters. They work week-long stints. They work with big crowds. They work with small crowds. They just want to perform. . .anywhere there's an audience.

*Continued on page 16*



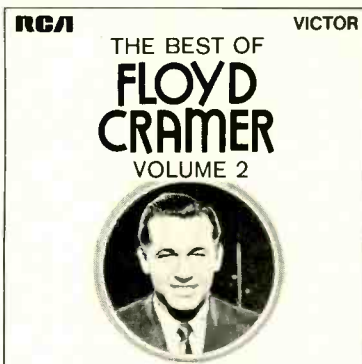


Quietly, nonchalantly, behind it all is the woman who's made it all happen. . . Mary Reeves, personal manager of The Blue Boys. She's the lady who's known every step of the way what she was doing, and why she was doing it. She's the one who's out-lasted the scoffers who proclaimed she couldn't do it. She's the one who showed them she was serious. She's the one who's created the bright future for a bunch of boys who are anything but blue about the situation. Individually, The Blue Boys are a bunch of happy guys. They have fun with each other, and they cause others around them to have fun. Their special brand of natural wit could probably even make the losers in Las Vegas laugh a little!

However, even more important is the fact that the Jim Reeves tradition is being carried on by The Blue Boys who are also sincerely and genuinely "real people". They're people who need people. And best of all, they're our kind of people. . . COUNTRY.



# America's favorite Country Music is on Victor Records



*By the Time I Get to Phoenix, Try to Remember, Gentle on My Mind, Strangers in the Night, Portrait of My Love, Yesterday.* LSP-4091



*New York City, R.F.D., Folsom Prison Blues, Today I Started Loving You Again, Yours Love, How Much Rain Can One Man Stand.* LSP-4085



*I'm Going That Way, Lord, I'm Coming Home, Dreaming of a Little Cabin, If Jesus Came to Your House, The Wings of a Dove.* LSP-4034



*Just Treat Me Kind, I Cried Myself Awake, Welcome Home to Nothing, The Future Ex-Mrs. Jones, Throw Your Hat in First.* LSP-4060



*Back to Denver, Suzanne, Lunch Time, Take My Hand for Awhile, Wonderful World of My Dreams, Everything Is Leaving.* LSP-4066



*The Dark End of the Street, My Special Prayer, Tell It Like It Is, If That's the Only Way, Warm and Tender Love, Pledging My Love.* LSP-4086



# RCA

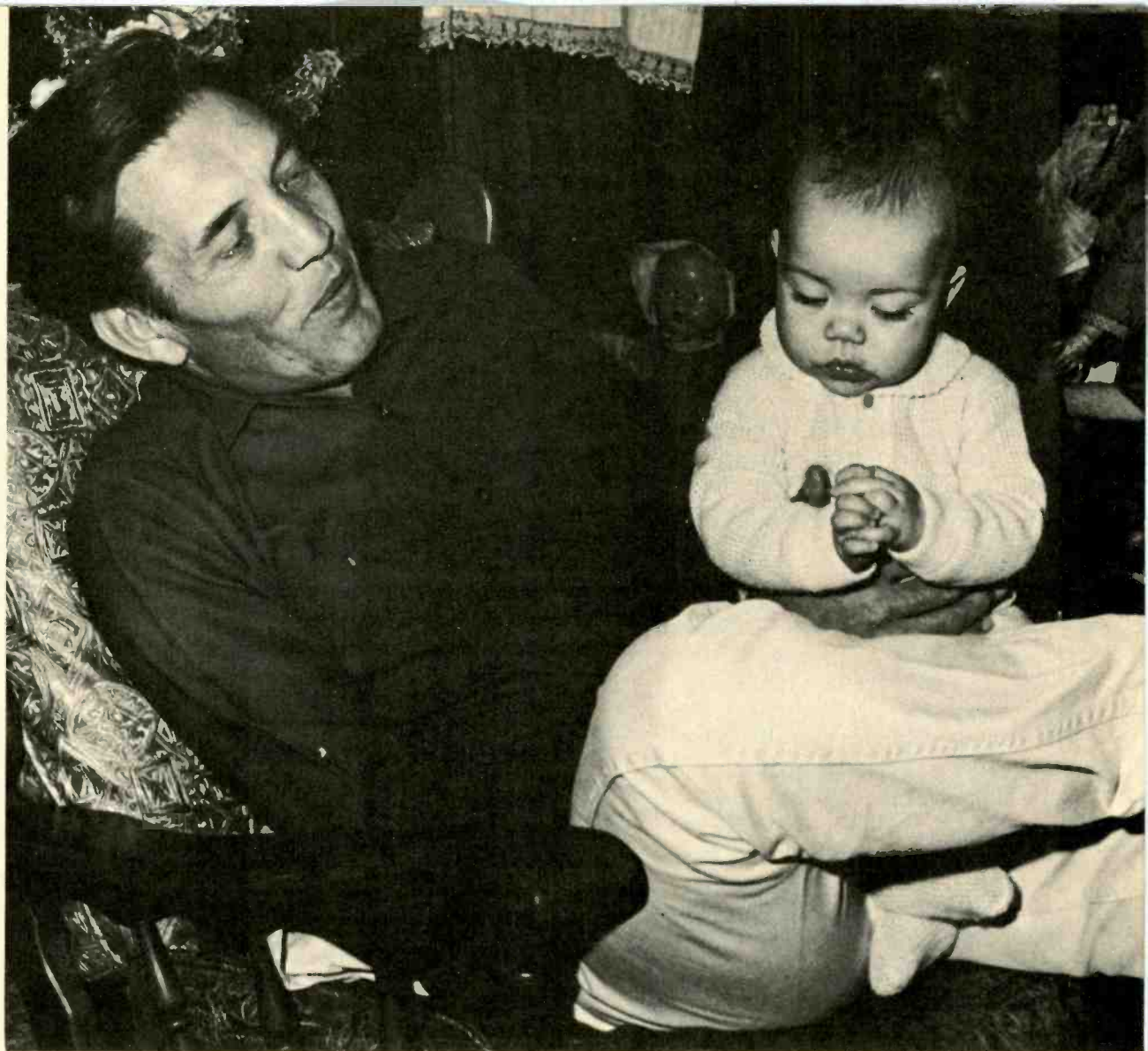


# THE LEGEND OF "CROSS OVER ACRES"



*Play-back time is serious stuff for Pearl.*





*"Would you run through that again, Dad. I didn't quite catch the last verse!"*

**Y**ou wouldn't think that mathematics and music would mix, but a visit to Cross Over Acres proves that the square root of C/W equals Carl & Pearl Butler.

Carl & Pearl Butler are the kind of folks one doesn't find every day in the world of stars and stages. They're as plain as pa. That aura of self-importance, which so often envelopes showbiz people, is totally absent. They're two people on a ranch in Franklin, Tennessee. They're two people who have found the key for turning a house into a home.

Carl & Pearl live a good life on

Cross Over Acres, and spending time with them is like reading a rare old post card from another century. You know you've found something mighty unusual.

The big white gate, at the head of their ranch, supporting the name "Cross Over Acres", resulted from the song "Don't Let Me Cross Over". Because, as Butler fans well know, that was the hit, the gigantic hit, that put them on the country music map several years ago. It sold big then...and still holds its own as a favorite, regularly requested song of Columbia's bright C/W

*Continued on next page*



*Continued*<sup>1</sup>

songsters. A large white fence stretches outward from the gate, like huge arms, extending toward a ranch house that is home to Carl and Pearl. A visit to Cross Over Acres definitely stirs up the sawdust between anyone's ears. There's just something there. Something about living...and family loving...that doesn't always exist so freely elsewhere. Of course, nearly everyone's familiar with the fact that Pearl has collected antiques from every corner of the world. Naturally, every precious item is exciting in its own individual way. And touching any of her delicate antiques is like having history right in the palm of your hands. The sense of all this makes the Butler dwelling extremely extraordinary, but that's not what sets it apart from others. There's something inside the Butler abode that you can not beg, borrow, or steal from life if you don't have it. There's something about the way that Pearl comes to the door, in blue jeans with a carefree hairdo and attitude to match that you can't purchase with a pot o' gold. There's something about the way she slings the dishtowel over her shoulder...the way she slices the spuds...the way she stacks the racks with homemade bread...the way she lifts the lid on a roast that has silently sent its radar roaring throughout the room...and the way she brings out the baked apples with their rich red coats and sugar caps...and there's something about the way her eyes twinkle with inspiration when she says, "Everything tastes better, when you cook it because you want to. I relax by cooking and cleaning."

Yes, there's something about Pearl Butler's kitchen that lays flat the homespun hospitality on you. And when you take Carl's sincerity, coupled with the kindly manner of long-time ranch hand,

Smitty, and add beautiful baby girl Carla, you immediately get the feeling you're in a home that has something which can make anyone on an interview forget they're doing an assignment.

The arrival of baby Carla, was one of the most spectacular events to ever take place at Cross Over Acres, in the eyes of Carl & Pearl. And you'd probably feel the same way, if you'd been married 24 years...and all of a sudden, you realize that you've been blessed with your first baby. At any rate, she's made the scene. She's made two people awfully happy. And she makes everyone around her happy with the sunshine of her smile, the laughter of her lullaby, and the giggle of her goo-goos.

Carla's daddy is a favorite playmate, and when Country visited them on one of Tennessee's first cold evenings of the season, it was fittingly appropriate that Carl and Carla snuggled up in the warmth of a countrified den while Carl entertained his daughter with a simple little coo-n-chant, which went something like, "No, we don't want Jack Frost to bite that pumpkin's toes!"

Carla's favorite toy, at this time, is a yarn doll which originally belonged to Brenda Lee's baby...but is now Carla's, after a lot of sly tugging at the heart-strings.

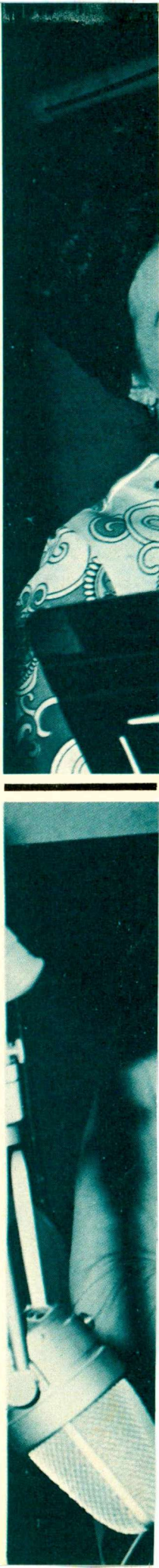
Today, as owners of Cross Over Acres, Carl and Pearl Butler have vivid memories of the days when things weren't quite so comfortable...of the times when days went by without food...of times when so-called friends slipped to opposite sides of the street in fear they'd be asked to give a helping hand...and of times they had to look to the Salvation Army to survive.

Until a country song by the name of "Don't Let Me Cross Over" put a new car in the drive-

*Continued*

*And this goes on for hours and hours...and hours...and hours. 'Til Frank Jones says, "Okay, we got it."*

*Grady Martin and Pete Drake are just a couple of Nashville's famous sidemen who help create the familiar Carl & Pearl sound. Well-known for their excellent originality in "ad-libbing" their way through any piece of music.*









*Continued*

way...a new shirt on their backs...and a lot of groceries in the cupboard. Carl & Pearl are both grateful to that country song; and they make no bones about telling you they know it was country...and that they're country people...and also that they have no intention of ever changing. Carl staunchly says, "You can't embarrass me by calling me country, 'cause I'll beat you to it. I'll TELL you I'm country; and I'm proud of it. I can't understand why everyone keeps trying to change country music. I've seen it happen before. It doesn't make sense to me. Why, if Pearl and I were to call ourselves countrypolitan, or some such thing, half the folks out here couldn't even pronounce it."

A native of Knoxville, Tennessee, Carl was naturally exposed to country music, and by the time he was 12, was busy entertaining at festivals and dances. It was, perhaps, the late Jimmie Rodgers' records that influenced Carl to consider music as a profession. Today, he and Pearl are major names on the nation's country scene. And when Columbia's A&R Producer,

Frank Jones, takes his place with them at a recording session, saying "Let's put one on," he knows he's gonna get a good country cut.

In a session for their recent Columbia Album, Frank approached the entire situation in an easy manner. He has worked all of their previous recordings, so it wasn't necessary for him to give a lot of verbal direction to the Talented Two before the microphone. After all these years, it seems they had reached a certain point of communication which was more musical than wordy.

Frank officially started the session by simply saying, "Okay, wanna try it?" An engineer to the right cautions another engineer in a room behind him to, "Stand by, one." "Whenever you're ready" was the immediate answer. And Frank broke the whole chain of events, as he cut in, "One more, please. You're not all together." And so, the familiar beat of a one-two-three-four started the action all over again...and over...and over...and over...and over.

With each new take, the sound

got bigger...the words got louder...the strings got stronger...and Carl's foot tapped the floor just a little harder with each note. Till finally, Frank felt it was time for a final play-back.

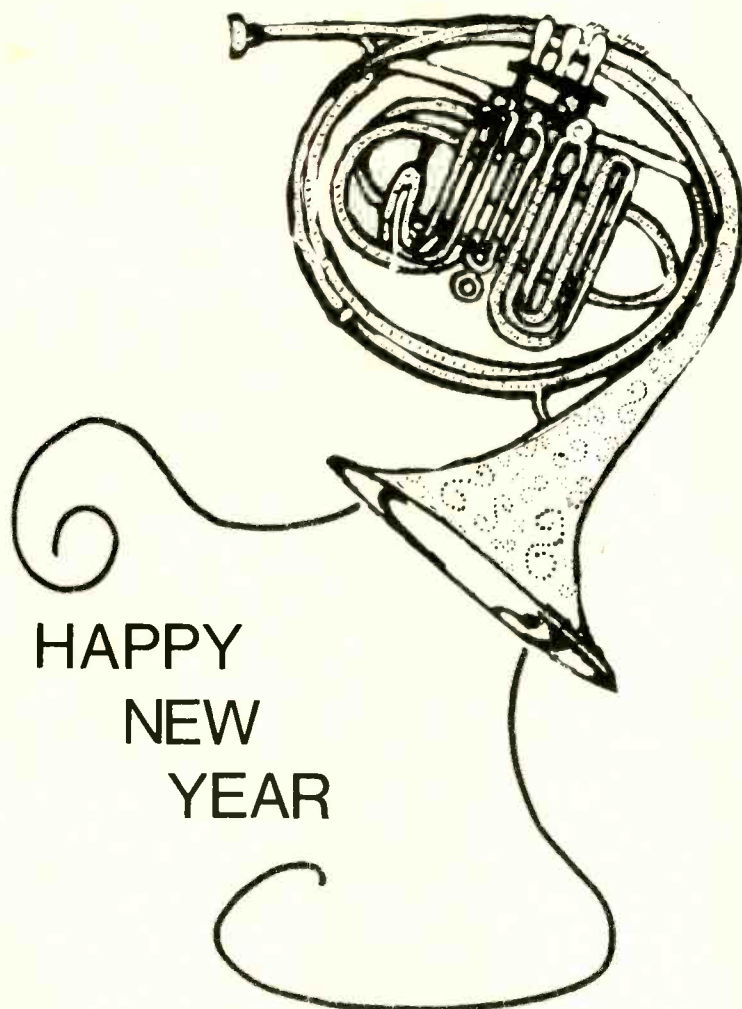
Everyone swarmed toward the speakers. Frank chomped on a cracker. Sideman Pete Drake sank his teeth into a sandwich. And everyone showed signs of being pleased as a pair of stalwarts sang out "We'll sweep out the ashes in the morning...da-da, da-da, da-da..." Frank gives the last nod of approval with, "Yeah. I like that."

Frank Jones is originally from Canada. He's lived in Nashville for 8 years, and has worked with Columbia Records for 16 years. He has a big job and does it in a big way. In asking Frank about Carl & Pearl, I immediately knew he was definitely referring to the same down-home, delightful people whose supper table we had just shared; and the same singers whose stardom hadn't affected them in the least, when he stated, "They are always just great people. They never change."

Cross Over Acres, you're in good hands.



*At the end of day on Cross Over Acres.*



HAPPY  
NEW  
YEAR

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# Gibson Strings

the  
workingman's  
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Grady Martin



Johnny Rivers



Tony Mottola



Johnny Smith



# candid conv



*(Left to right) Lynn Anderson, Casey Anderson, And Liz Anderson.*



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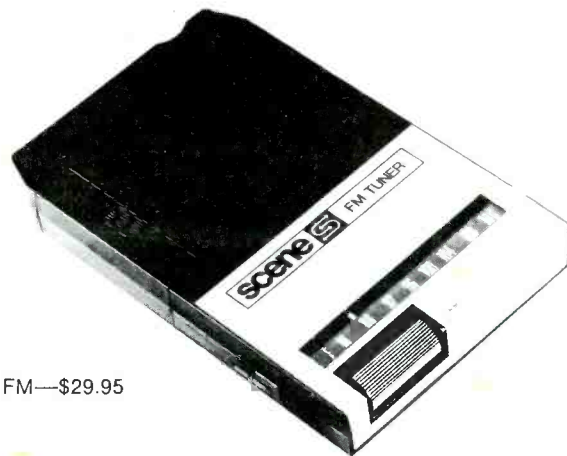
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TOTAL



A DIVISION OF INSTANT CHARGE PLAN, INC., OF FORT LAUDERDALE

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FM—\$29.95



FM Stereo—\$49.95



Telescoping Antenna . . . \$1.98

Turn any 4 or 8 track tape cartridge player into an FM or FM stereo radio. Just flip it in and tune in to your favorite FM happenings with the unique roll bar tuning dial.

This high quality FM Tuner comes equipped with an auto "Y" cable that's great for your car unit and a built in auxiliary antenna jack and optional exclusive telescoping antenna for use in any portable player. Makes carrying an FM radio to the beach as easy as toting a tape.

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handy on land . . . a must at sea



#### FLOATING LANTERN

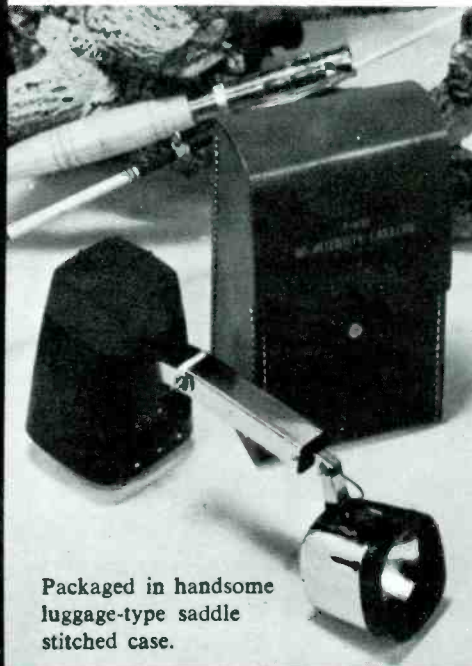
Stock #FL2/Retail \$5.95

- 2-way waterproof switch
- Floats in upright position

Powerful spotlight throws off a bright beam for the sportsman, hunter or camper. Lantern blinks for help in case of emergency.

Packed in leather-like saddle stitched case.

#### exciting, multi-purpose lantern



Packaged in handsome luggage-type saddle stitched case.

#### 7-WAY HI-INTENSITY LANTERN

Stock #HL7/  
Retail \$9.95

Functions as:

- Road Warning Light
- Spot Light
- Work Light
- Night Light
- Hand Lantern
- Hi-Intensity Desk Light
- Flashing Red Light

An indoor hi-intensity lamp . . . an outdoor Universal Light, this lantern makes all other hi-intensity lamps look like weaklings! Features powerful, far-reaching beam for repairs on road or reading at home; red blinking light for signalling for help; telescoping swivel arm. Works on either one 6-volt or four "D" batteries.



# GIFTS FOR THE MAN!



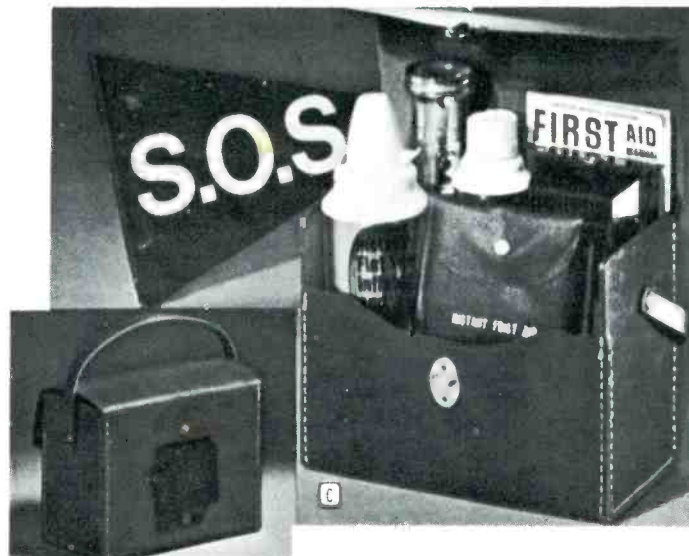
**(A) CAR VACUUM.** Nothing better for cleaning car interiors. Great for boats, too. Plugs into car cigarette lighter. Extra long cord lets you reach every corner of the car. Super-powerful suction scoops up dirt and debris... gets the car clean in seconds. Comes complete with 3 interchangeable cleaning heads. Includes handy case for convenient and safe storage in car trunk. 2 lbs.

VAC-663 Retail \$9.95



**(B) CAR SPOTLIGHT.** For signaling help, fixing a flat, or finding a house number. Plugs into car cigarette lighter socket. With 12-ft. cord. Reflector in back acts as safety signal. Luggage type case serves as stand for the light and converts it to a work light. Wt. 2 lbs. SP3-463

Retail \$6.95



**(C) AUTO EMERGENCY KIT.** Essential for any roadside emergency. Kit contains an emergency first aid kit, a flat tire inflator and sealer, automobile fire extinguisher, SOS emergency flag for antenna, two-way flashlight, American Medical Association first aid booklet and a built-in magnetic warning blinker that clings to any metal surface. The saddle-stitched luggage-type case serves as a reflector and stand for the warning blinker, can be seen for hundreds of yards. Ship. wt. 2 1/2 lbs.

AE4-663

Retail \$9.95

**DELUXE KIT.** Same, plus plastic raincoat, windshield demister, anti-fog cloth. AE5-997 Ship. wt. 5 lbs.

Retail \$14.95

## a new modern, updated look in fitted travel cases

These handsome travel cases are well constructed to hold an assortment of travel items securely. Made of the finest Cordoual, these European imported cases have the style and quality today's travelers demand.



### CONVERTIBLE TRAVEL CASE Stock #TR3/Retail \$16.95

- Complete assortment of travel fittings
  - Handy Stationery Compartment
- An ideal gift! Travel case fittings include soap and toothbrush holders, all purpose bottle, comb and brush, clothes brush, fingernail brush, mirror and nail file. Stationery Compartment includes pen, paper and envelopes.



### UTILITY TRAVEL CASE Stock #TR1/Retail \$5.95

- A Must For Every Man!
- Durably constructed, handsomely styled case is fitted with soap and toothbrush holders, all purpose bottle, hair brush, comb and mirror. Great travel companion for the VIP!

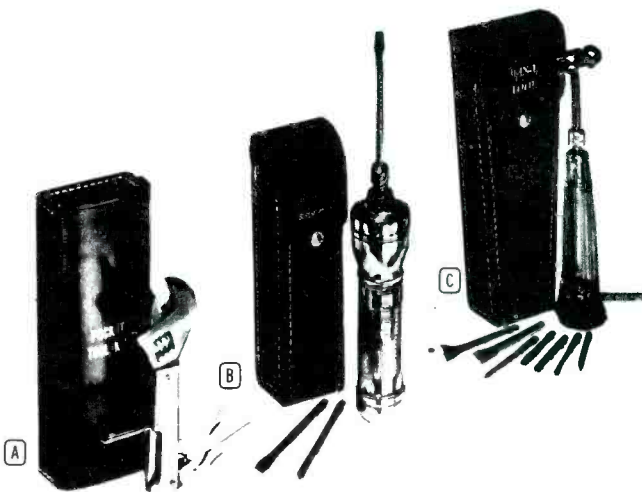


### GLOBE TROTTER TRAVEL KIT Stock #TR2/Retail \$8.95

- Compact and Packable
  - Handsome and Sturdy
- Sleek kit is complete in every detail. Fittings include soap and toothbrush holders, comb and hair brush, all purpose bottle and hand grooming implements.



# PRACTICAL, LUXURIOUS GIFT PACKAGED TOOL KITS



**(A) POCKET TOOL KIT.** Six of the most popular, most needed tools. So versatile, you'll use them every day. So compactly styled, it fits easily in your pocket or the glove compartment of your car. A flick of the wrist converts it from a wrench to a screwdriver (regular or Phillips) to a can opener, a nail file, and a knife. Truly complete, packaged in a handsome, luggage type case. Wt. 1 lb.

PTK-397.....Retail \$5.95

**(B) FLASHLIGHT SCREWDRIVER.** An ingenious two-for-one tool with a built-in flashlight that throws a strong, steady beam to spot-light the work. Makes the work easier and more accurate. Comes with three interchangeable quick-change screwdriver blades: two regular and one Phillips, to master most any situation. Luggage type case fits easily in glove compartment of car. Wt. 1 lb.

SD3-330.....Retail \$4.95

**(C) 9-IN-1 TOOL KIT.** Just about the most versatile tool ever devised. The handle has a hammer head and holds all of the following accessories: a retractable 3-ft. metal tape measure; 7 interchangeable blades: regular and Phillips screwdrivers, chisel, claw and punch. The attractive, luggage-type carrying case adds eye-appeal to a most practical gift suggestion for men. Wt. 1 1/2 lb.

TT2-397.....Retail \$5.95

**(D) EXECUTIVE TOOL KIT.** So complete, it equips a man with just about everything he needs to handle any emergency situation or household chore. It includes a hammer, pliers, wrench, level, tape measure, 6 combination open end and box wrenches, screwdriver handle with 6 interchangeable blades and 5 sockets. And all 23 tools fit in a magnificent black fold-away case in leather-like texture with red interior. 5 lbs.

GTK-1330.....Retail \$19.95

**(E) 21-PC. DELUXE TOOL KIT.** Has every necessary tool for repair jobs about the home, car, boat or office. Contains a hammer, soldering iron, adjustable wrench, pliers, 8-pc. combination open end and box wrenches, screwdriver handle with 8 interchangeable regular and Phillips heads, punch and claw. All tools fit easily in convenient, 3-compartmented luggage type carrying case. A handsome gift any man will appreciate. Wt. 2 1/2 lbs.

T02-997.....Retail \$14.95

**(F) AUTOMATIC TOOL KIT.** Turns any husband into a handyman—automatically. Ratchet action handle has 3 position switch for automatic turning, tightening, screwing, unscrewing and drilling. Has 3 drill bits, 4 screwdriver blades, 4 sockets, drill adapter. Does over 100 jobs. With conveniently compartmented case. 3 lbs.

ATK-730.....Retail \$10.95

**(G) ALL-PURPOSE TOOL KIT.** For office, home, boat or car use. This 14-pc. kit contains screwdriver handle, 6 interchangeable blades, regular and Phillips heads, punch and claw, 6 combination open end and box wrenches, utility pliers...all tools fit in sturdy luggage style case. 1 1/2 lbs.

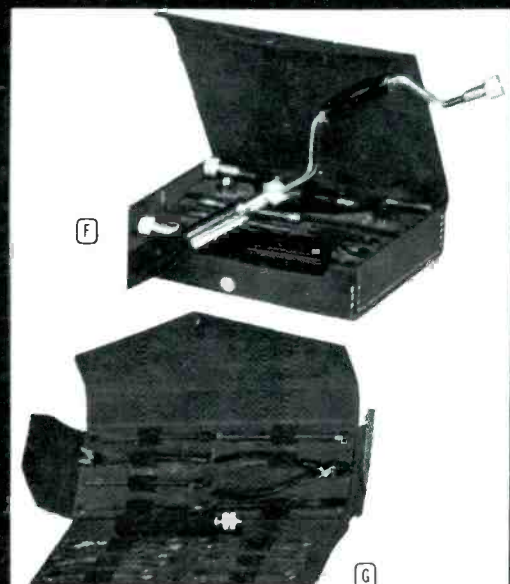
APT-463.....Retail \$6.95

**(H) RATCHET WRENCH TOOL KIT.** 9-pc. combination wrench and screwdriver set. 3-position switch permits turning, tightening, screwing and unscrewing. Blades and socket wrenches interchange in seconds. Pistol grip for turning power. Complete with durable luggage-type carry case. Wt. 1 lb.

WRS-397.....Retail \$5.95

**(J) UNIVERSAL TOOL KIT.** Essential—practically indispensable. 16-pc. kit contains a sturdy hammer, adjustable pliers, utility knife, screwdriver with 6 interchangeable bits (regular and Phillips) punch and claw and 6 combination open end and box wrenches. All tools fit in attractive luggage-type case. 3 lbs.

UTK-663.....Retail \$9.95





# Four Fabulous Wigs

PRE-STYLED BY

## Larry Mathews

BEAUTY STYLIST TO THE HOLLYWOOD STARS  
AND GLAMOROUS COPA GIRLS



Larry Mathews, internationally known hair stylist and beauty consultant to the Hollywood Stars and Glamorous Copa Girls, has personally created and pre-styled these four wigs, and now, for the first time you, too, can have the very same hairdo that this master of hair beauty created for celebrities in Theater and Television.

Every Larry Mathews wig reflects the best in craftsmanship, styling and wearability. Made of 100% top quality human hair, these wigs come in 9 popular shades; one size fits all heads. Each Larry Mathews Wig can be reset, washed and dyed just as if it were your own hair. Each wig includes free wig box and styro foam head. Easy-on, comfortable to wear, guaranteed to give you lasting, tangle-free use and natural appearance.

LARRY MATHEWS—BEAUTY CREATOR FOR THE HOLLYWOOD STARS—AND NOW . . . YOU . . .



### Athena

Impish, many-layered hair-do with delightful back interest. Carefree locks over forehead for natural look.



### Venus

Super-sophisticated high-rise hair-do, with "Go anywhere" charm.



### Aphrodite

A casual coif, softly styled, featuring a gentle cheek curl. Smooth bangs wing away on the forehead.



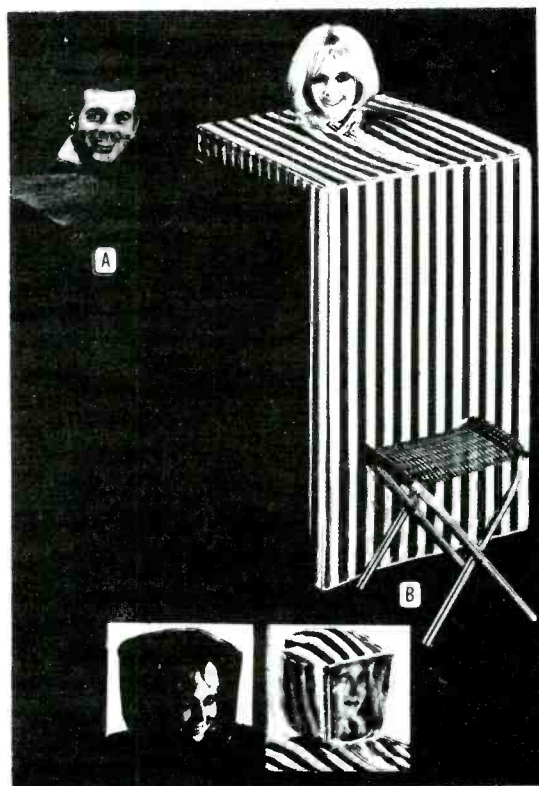
### Electra

Provocative, flattering, short-cut hair-do. Curls and waves brought forward with front bangs to accentuate the eyes. An all-occasion wig.

No. AP3995	Aphrodite Style	Retail \$59.95
No. EL3995	Electra Style	Retail \$59.95
No. VE3995	Venus Style	Retail \$59.95
No. AT3995	Athena Style	Retail \$59.95

Please Specify Color:

Off Black	Light Brown	Ash Blonde
Jet Black	Medium Brown	Platinum Blonde
Auburn Red	Dark Brown	Frosted



## HEALTH & BEAUTY

### GROOMING AIDS BY

## Larry Mathews

Internationally Celebrated Health Authority and Beauty Consultant to the Hollywood Stars and Famous Copa Girls

**(A) SAUNA STEAM BATH.** Promotes relaxation, general well-being, eases tired muscles, stimulates circulation; leaves you feeling tingling clean and fit. Steel reinforced, easily assembled units can be used in any room or office. UL approved steam generator. Plugs into any outlet. Automatic shut off. Extra durable vinyl cover with zipper top frame support. 7 lbs.  
SSB-1130.....Retail \$16.95

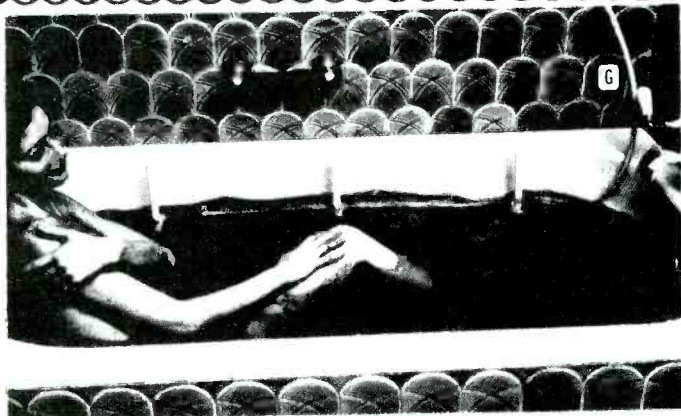
**FACIAL SAUNA ATTACHMENT** for above. Just slip it on. Clear hood, perforated for easy breathing. 1 lb.  
FS-199.....Retail \$3.00  
**(B) CABANA STEAM SAUNA.** All features of above sauna, plus complete inside frame, folding chair, floor mat. 10½ lbs.  
CAB-1663.....Retail \$24.95  
CFS-199 Cabana Facial Sauna Attachment... \$3.00

**(C) TWIST-AWAY EXERCISER MASSAGER.** Tones you—trims you—firms flabby muscles. Twist away pounds without fad diets or fatigue. Helps you regain youthful silhouette. New zest and energy. First total exerciser and massager. No dials—no plugs—no motors. 15 lbs.  
BTW-1663.....Retail \$24.95

**(D) SAUNA EXERCISE SUIT.** Zip it on, wear it while at work or play. Keeps you in top condition. Sheds extra moisture. Turns "soft" to "solid." One size fits all men and women, 84-pg. diet book, 64-pg. exercise book included. 1 lb.  
EXS-463.....Retail \$6.95

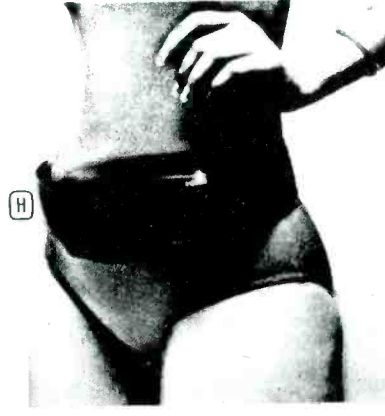
**(E) DENTAL HYDRO BRUSH-WATER DENTAL PICK.** Attaches to water faucet in seconds. Sprays powerful stream that cleans where toothbrush can't reach. Children love to use it. Perfect for whole family. No motor, no electrical hazard. With wall rack and 4 interchangeable colored heads. 1 lb.  
DHB-663.....Retail \$9.95

**(F) "SET-N-STAY" PILLOW SLIP.** No more sleeping with rollers. Use over any pillow. Hair stays in place while you sleep... you wake with your hair set still in place. ½ lb. Extra fine satin fabric—lace trim and zippered opening.  
DSP-332 Pink.....Retail \$4.98  
DSB-332 Blue.....Retail \$4.98  
DSW-332 White.....Retail \$4.98



**(G) JET-WHIRL BATH.** Unwind at the end of a hectic day in a warm Jet-Whirl Bath. Use in any tub. Non-electric, completely safe. Attaches in seconds. Whirling, swirling water, plus an aerated jet flow provides a wonderfully exhilarating feeling... soothes muscular aches and pains. Relieves nervous tension. Promotes sound sleep. Increases circulation. 3 lbs.

WHP-1663.....Retail \$24.95



**(H) CONTOUR MASSAGE BELT.** Trims inches without weight loss. Helps firm and tone up muscles. It does all the work, you get all the benefits. Fits any size man or woman. Straps to any part of the body... no need to hold it in place. For neck, waist, hips, legs, shoulders, etc. Just switch it on... you can work, read, watch TV or even use it in your car. Effortless concentrated exercise. Gives fabulous figure. Stimulates circulation. Look and feel slimmer and younger. 2 lbs.

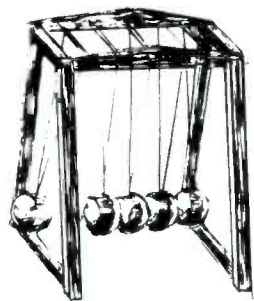
STV-863.....Retail \$12.95



**(J) SALONETTE BEAUTY MASK.** Look younger with a fabulous facial in seconds. It's like an instant Swedish sauna for your face. No hot towels, no muss or fuss. Just plug it into any household outlet. Can be used as sinus mask, too. U.L. approved. 2-Part Beauty Plan includes the mask, plus "Secrets of the Stars" beauty book by Larry Mathews. 1 lb.

SOM-663.....Retail \$9.95  
**AS ABOVE, 3-Part Plan** includes additional complexion care kit (pore cleanser, moisturizer and astringent). 1½ lbs.  
SOD-930.....Retail \$13.95





G-1

#### HULA-BALLS!

197. A fascinating gadget, adult pacifier, bedtime sedative, conversation piece.

Set a physical force in motion... five steel balls swing in soothing, clicking rhythm.

It demonstrates Newton's law of motion while being an intriguing, irresistible plaything... only \$6.95



#### G-2 PENDANTS

102. Tear drop PEACE symbol. Over 2 inches high in silver finish on 3 foot leather thong. \$1.50

103. Rugged cable design PEACE symbol 3 1/4 inches high, cast in solid white metal. Complete with 3-foot leather thong. \$2.45

104. SURFER medal. Striking black and gold finish. Complete with 3-foot leather thong. \$1.50

105. SUPER SURFER. 2 1/2 inches high with black and gold finish. Complete with 3-foot leather thong. \$1.65

#### BONGO DRUMS

201. Authentic drums—not a toy—overall length 9 1/4"—1 head 4"—1 head 5 1/2"—5 1/4" high. only \$4.50

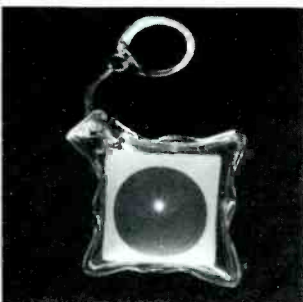
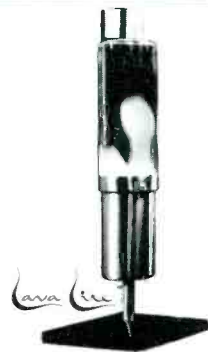
G-3



G-4

#### LAVA LITE

122. Famous Lava Lite offers the excitement and beauty of continuously moving, ever-changing forms. This beautifully styled table model unit is 13 3/4 inches high mounted on a simulated walnut base. A real value at only \$14.95



G-5

#### KEY HOLDER

Bright and different. Novel key holders are inflated miniature plastic pillows; Wildly mod colors and designs. Gold color chain and ring. Find elusive keys easily in an overstuffed purse. Choose orange, blue, green, red or yellow.

\$1.00



#### OWL PILLOW

A Creative Gift Kit you make yourself. Kit contains everything necessary to construct attractive gift. Activities include cutting, gluing, stitching. Average assembly time is two to four hours. Owl made of felt and yarn. \$4.00

G-6

G-7

#### TATU

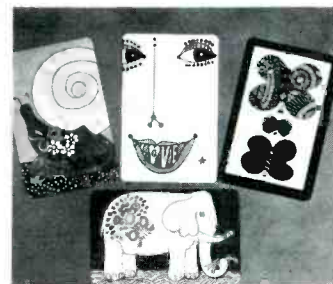
The temporary tattoo. Stays for days. Apply with water, won't wash off. Remove easily when you will. Under normal circumstances, Tatu will stay for several days. Tatu comes off easily with cold cream or small amount of nail polish remover. \$1.00



#### POSTER CARDS

King-size post cards for sending or hanging. Measure 7-3/4 x 5 with mod horoscope designs. A bit o' astrology on the back with room for your message. Specify months desired. .30

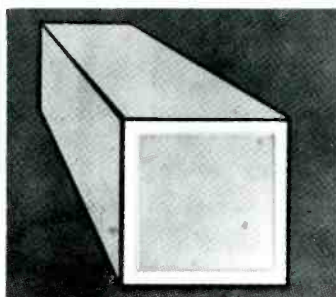
G-8



#### HARPOONS

Cute corrugated cards on a stick. Suction cup tip sticks to any smooth surface. Crazy designs carry message on the back: "Smile," "You Drive Me Bats," "Think," "Devil," "Hippie Birthday." Specify desired message. .75

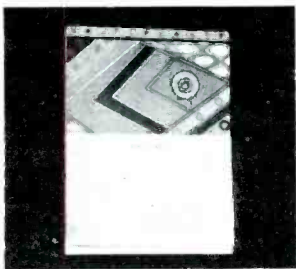
G-9



G-10

#### ZOOM-SEE MIRROR

Want to see yourself once? Twice? How many times? Any arrangement of the Zoom-See Mirror is a brilliant and exciting three dimensional blast, whether it's one Zoom-See floating out from the wall or a whole kaleidoscopic design of many more. Apply to wall with the self adhesive tape on back of mirror. \$1.50



G-11

#### POST-A-CARDS

Colorful psychedelic design on front, space for your message on back. Standard post card size. Pack of 25 cards. .75



#### THE CANNED BANANA BOOK

A canful of banana slices, each printed with riotous banana gags, can be used as coasters. Peels of laughter any way you slice it. The price is ripe! \$1.25

G-12

#### MOBILES

Decorative origamy paper animal mobiles in modern design. Just pop open and hang. Styles include swan, rooster stork, cat, monkey and hen. \$2.50

G-13



G-14

#### INCENSE BURNER

Magic mushroom in delicious psychedelic design and colors. Dainty plaster mushroom stands two inches tall. Just right for holding any flavor incense. \$1.00



G-15

#### MARBLE MOD RINGS

Adjustable finger ring with translucent marble-size stone in assorted colors: amber, orange, purple, green and blue. Buy several to match different outfits. Specify color(s) desired. \$2.00



#### MATCH MAKERS

A whole row of madly mod match-books in brilliant colors and designs. Great for party favors, decoration, or just general use. Select radiant sun design or bright flowers. .75

G-16

G-17

#### THINGIE

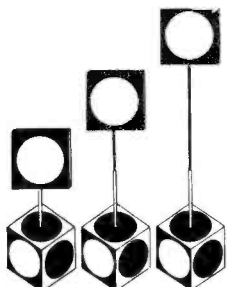
A jigsaw puzzle in a box. Seven inch circular puzzle provides hours of humorous, mod fun. Thingie puzzle comes in four different designs: Fifi LaRue, Lady Celery, Plumb Dumb and Exhaustion. Specify design. \$1.50



#### ANIMAL BANKS

Mad mod animal banks in wild colors and styles. Elephant bank comes in red or blue; lion in purple or tan; whale in red or yellow. Size approx. 5 x 6 x 3 1/2. Made of composition material. Antiqued colors add charm to any decor. Specify color and style. \$2.50

G-18



#### AERIAL CUBE

Ultra modern design to mirror your mood. Use for mirror or picture. Assorted colors include black and white, blue and green, red and yellow. Specify color. \$6.50

G-19



G-20

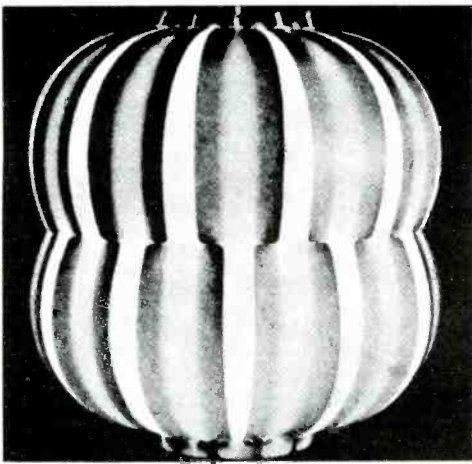
#### FUNNY SUNNYS

Wild light dimmers for your eyes. Not sunglasses. Cardboard cutouts have slits to see thru. Punch out around, fold back and wear for your funny sunny days. Assorted colors and designs. .50

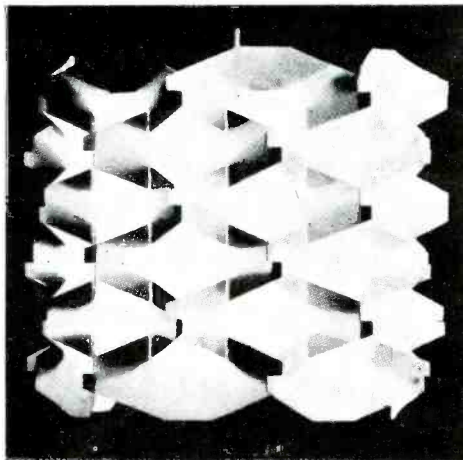
.50



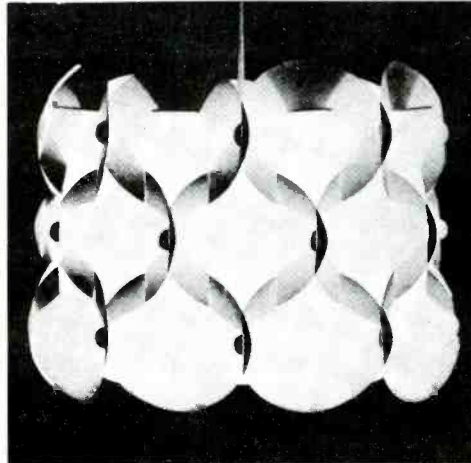
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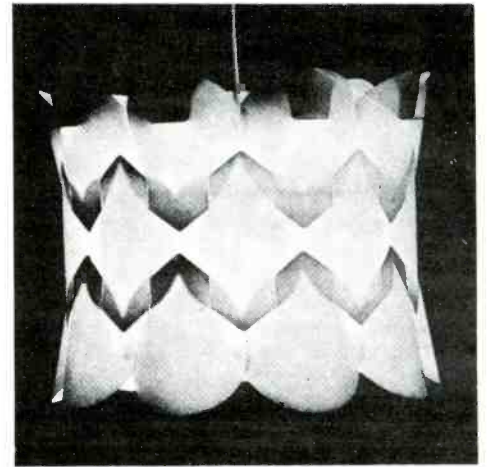
G-22



G-23



G-24



G-25



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Do you like to make news, or just listen to it?  
You'll do both with the world's first  
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not included.

by **ROYAL**

G-26 \$77.95

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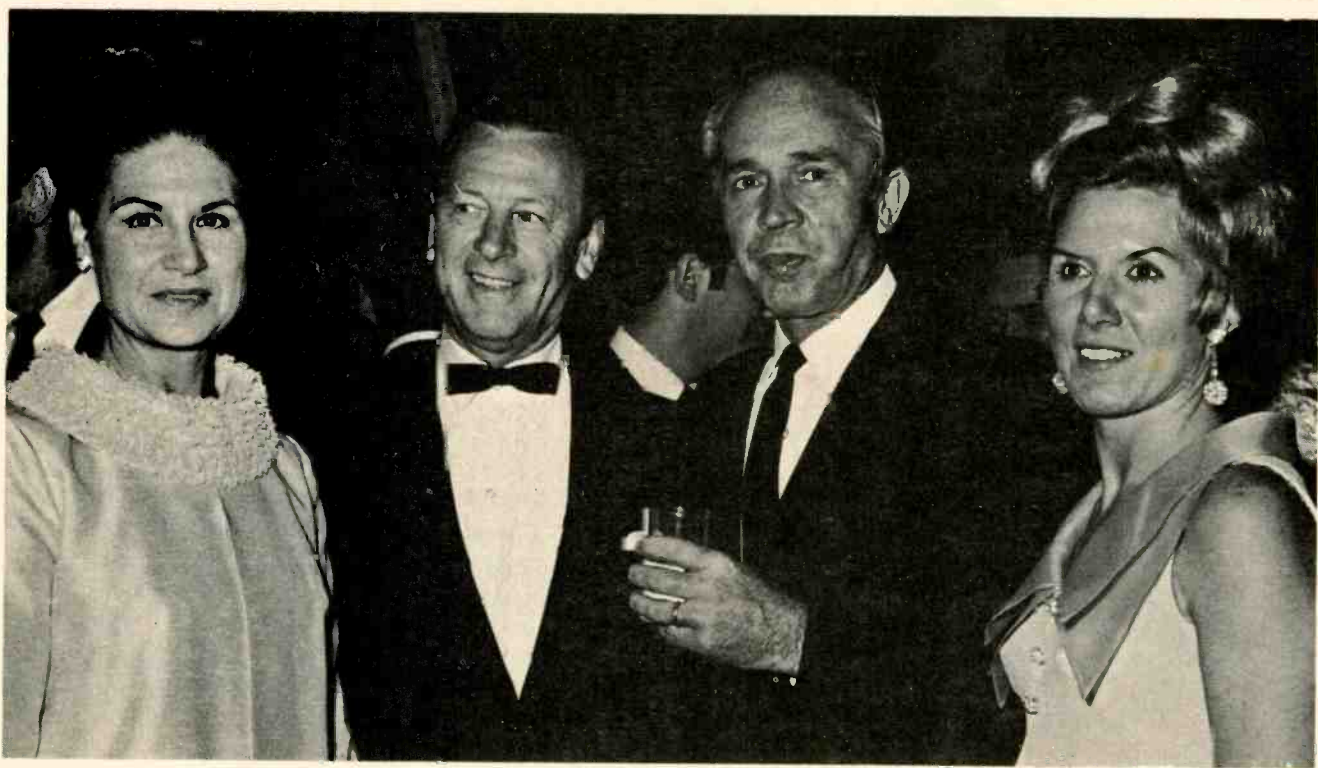
# ventioners

At gala ceremonies during the annual music convention a number of celebrities and officials gathered for BMI award presentations. Citations of Achievement in recognition of popularity in the country music field, as measured by broadcast performances, were given to 55 writers and 33 publishers of 52 songs. Country Magazine's candid camera shot some of the individuals involved for you viewing pleasure.

*(Left to right) Ed Crammer, BMI Pres.; Eddie Miller, Fender Guitars; Mrs. Miller; Mrs. Buddy Killen, Buddy Killen, Tree International Exec. Vice President; Frances Preston, BMI Vice President and head of Nashville operation; Mr. Jack Stapp, President, Tree International; and Mr. Billy Sherrill, winner of five awards in the songwriting category.*







*(Left to right) Kitty Wells, Johnny Wright, Mr. and Mrs. Vic Alpine.*



*(Left to right) Mrs. Frances Preston, BMI Vice President and head of Nashville office; George Hamilton IV and Mrs. Hamilton; Mr. Webb Pierce and Mrs. Webb Pierce.*

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*(Left to right) Chester Campbell, editor of Nashville Magazine; Roger Miller; Buddy Killen, co-owner of Tree International, and Jack Stapp, President Tree International.*



*(Left to right) Mrs. Ferlin Huskey, Ferlin, Jeannie C. Riley, with other conventioners in background.*





TAMMY  
WYNETTE ....

**H**ollis Pugh, a twenty-six year old professional musician, died several years ago. The physical possessions he left behind included a rhythm guitar, a Spanish guitar, a bass fiddle, an accordion and a piano. He was survived by his wife, Mildred, and an eight-month old child named Tammy Wynette.

Somewhere in the genetic link between father and daughter was an unseen legacy, a strong love for music. Tammy was barely tall enough to climb the bench when she became fascinated by the tinkling tones of the family piano. She played with her small

guitar as she stood on a chair to reach the public address system microphone.

As Tammy grew, her voice matured from the tiny, faltering sound of a child to a richer, fuller sound that reflected a great intensity, coupled with depth of feeling, and sincerity. Her range edged upward to the top of the contralto range, giving her a crystal-clear unaffected voice.

For a time, Tammy joined her talent with two high school girlfriends. Their trio gained considerable local popularity, but dissolved when one of the other girls married. Tammy decided to perform alone when she was

time in setting up a recording session for his new find. The song that came out of the first session, "Apartment # 9", made musical history and resulted for Tammy in the stardom she so richly deserves.

"Apartment #9" was followed by a golden bracelet of record hits. The delicate-featured young vocalist bestowed her special magic on "Your Good Girl's Gonna Go Bad", "I Don't Wanna Play House", and "Take Me To Your World".

Tammy's career hit new highs when she joined talents with a growing name in the industry, David Houston. Their duet re-

## ... the unseen legacy

fists, at first. Then she began to slowly distinguish the keys and one note from another. And finally, she began constructing melodies of her own. Her mother, recognizing Tammy's inherited talent, contacted Tremont music teacher, P. B. Ganes, who guided Tammy's musical interest for six years.

Tammy took note of the other instruments in the parlor, too. She transferred the melodies she had learned on the piano to the guitar. She found that with the guitar she was able to duplicate the music she heard around her...country music...performed by stars on radio and on stage by her neighbors and friends.

Tammy sang before her first large audience at a grammar school review. She played simple chords on her father's well-worn

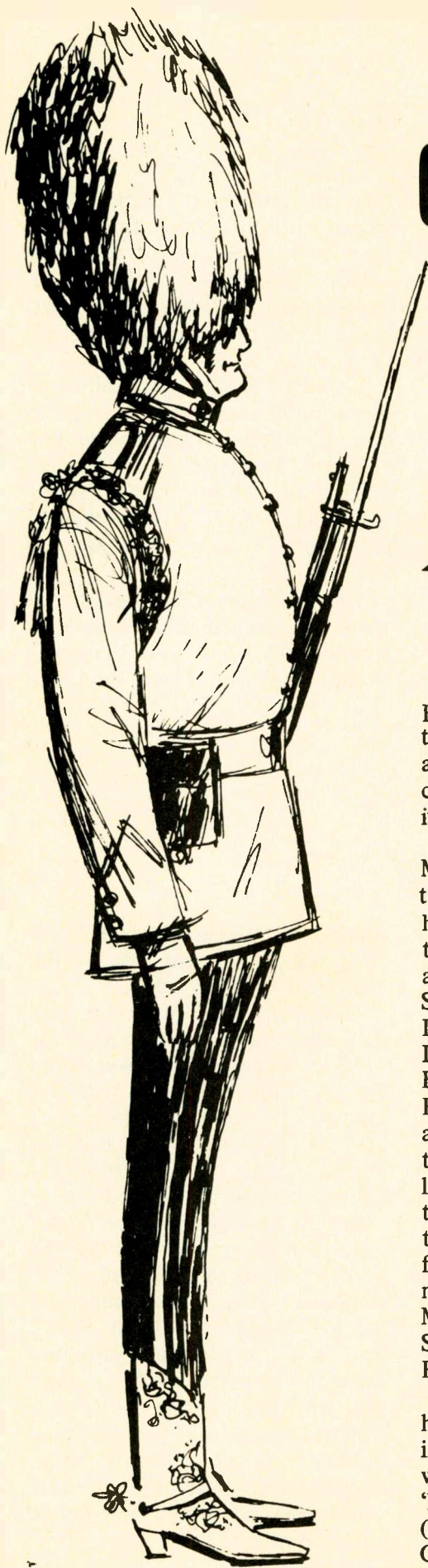
offered an engagement with WCPC in Houston, Texas. The producers of the Country Boy Eddie Show in Birmingham, mindful of Tammy's ability and classic attractiveness on stage, signed her as a regular performer. She performed with the unit on the air and on tour for a year and a half.

Tammy's first contact with Nashville's music colony came about when she drove to Music City with a friend who was a songwriter. Tammy had consented to perform her friend's original material for a Nashville record producer, who, having heard the songs, liked Tammy's delivery even more. In minutes the young singer was ushered, blond pony-tail and all, into the Epic Records Office. Epic Producer, Billy Sherrill, lost little

cording of "Elusive Dreams" and "It's All Over" was one of the top two records of 1967.

However, 1968 was the year that the curtain really rose for Tammy Wynette. That was when Tammy took her bows with her special recording of "D-I-V-O-R-C-E", which was her biggest seller. It was 1968 that Tammy Wynette walked away with the "Female of the Year" trophy, presented to her by the Country Music Association. 1968 was also when Tammy recorded the hit "Stand By Your Man". And it was in the same year that Tammy Wynette took a giant step with her marriage to George Jones, who is firmly established as one of the country music legends, giving all of the C/W world one of the most unique husband-wife acts.





# Country Music BONANZA

## NEWS FROM THE

*by Brian Chalker | Kent, England*  
Believe it or not, it's happened—the Country Music Boom is here and judging by the promotion campaigns currently operating, it's here to stay!

Two recording companies, MCA and Mercury, have rallied to the cause and between them have released no less than twenty-four albums by leading artists, which include: Flatt & Scruggs, George Jones, Rusty Draper, Faron Young, Loretta Lynn, Roger Miller, Jack Greene, Ernest Tubbs, Dave Dudley and Roy Drusky. On face value this is a splendid effort but on listening to the albums one realizes that little care has been taken with the selection of material and only two, both Mercury issues, offer a fair representation of the country music sound. These are: 'Foggy Mountain Breakdown', Flatt and Scruggs and 'Golden Hits' by Roger Miller.

On the other hand, Polydor has shown taste and understanding of the country music idiom with three excellent releases, 'Hillbilly Jamboree Volume One,' (Special 236 214) which features Curly Fox, The Stanley Brothers,

Wayne Raney, Hawshaw Hawkins, Mainer's Mountaineers and Reno and Smiley, among others; 'The Legend of Cowboy Copas and Hawkshaw Hawkins' (International 423 021) and 'The Dillards 'Live, Almost,' issued on Elektra and distributed by Polydor (EKS 7265). A feather in the cap of Pickwick International also for keeping up their seemingly endless supply of 'oldies' from such artists as Gene Autry, Carl Smith and Jimmy Dean.

Several times this year there have been rumors of a 'Country Music Drive' from the RCA stable and although this has still to materialize, the company does maintain a fairly constant flow of country oriented material. Currently available are albums by Jim Ed Brown, Hank Snow, Charlie Pride and Eddy Arnold.

One other album worthy of note is 'Sweetheart of the Rodeo' by The Byrds — although the vocal efforts of the group leave much to be desired, the experimental value of the set should make it a 'hot' item in both pop and country fields.

Whilst we are on the subject of recordings I must offer my con-

# **E BRITISH ISLES**

gratulations to the instigators of Radio Leed's country music program which is beamed out on Sunday mornings from 9:30 until 10:00 a.m., with a repeat on Thursday evening. Working under appalling conditions and the usual petty restrictions involving 'Aunty' and the Musicians Union, the organizers of the program, Bill Holt and Godfrey Greenwood, are resorting to 'live' talent from the surrounding area and recordings from their own personal collections! So much for the Government's promises of replacements for 'Pirate' radio. Long may they be remembered!

Other action on the British country music front involves agent Mervyn Conn, whose recent trip to Nashville should result in more frequent visits to these shores by leading US country performers. We must not, of course, neglect the staunch efforts of Phil Brady and The Ranchers who are currently promoting their Hallmark album 'Brady Country,' in Music City, USA. Yes, folks, it's all happening and more and more British artists are making excursions to the recording studios—and they're turning out some good material.

This month sees the release of the much heralded Big Timers album from Pickwick International; plus a 'live' recording from the Palladium, featuring Johnny Cash!

Quite naturally, such a boom brings forth the usual band of so called 'acknowledged authorities'—I receive irate letters from them every day—who lay claim to an intimate understanding of country music and its origins but when it comes to the crunch they really wouldn't know a Dobro from a Marmite jar. Still, I suppose they're happy thinking the way they do, even if nobody else takes any notice. Nevertheless, it's a healthy scene right now and with careful management and sensible promotion, country music will stay 'big.' It's fought a long hard battle for recognition but thanks to the efforts of such people as George Tye, Murray Kash, David Allan, Jim Marshall, Mike Story, George Haxell, Gordon Smith, Charles Benson—and the Record Mirror for allowing me space to blast off—all is now quiet on the country and western front! From now on it should be progress all the way.



# the cantrells

In the beginning . . . . there was grammar school. That's where it all started with Roy and Cindy Cantrell. Cindy recalls that Roy sat behind her and like a true All American boy always played with her long hair. Roy continued paying plenty of attention to Cindy all through high school, and while Roy was interested in sports, it was Cindy who was the musical minded one. As Roy puts it, "Every Saturday night Cindy would make me take her to a talent contest that was within a 300 mile radius."

After graduation, Roy and Cindy became "Mr. and Mrs.". Later, Roy joined the Air Force; and after their first child, Todd, was old enough, Cindy returned to entertaining in the NCO clubs.

It wasn't until they were transferred to Anchorage, Alaska that Roy became concerned with pursuing a musical career. His interest resulted from having seen a live performance by Johnny Cash. The Cash Show left him so inspired that the next day he went out and bought a guitar.

Many long nights of "pickin" later, Roy had mastered the guitar to the degree that he and Cindy left the Air Force in an effort to launch their career as The Cantrells.

Natives of Texas, The Cantrells moved to Nashville in 1963 with the hope of making it in Music City. Disappointment followed them when the big break did not come about.

Leaving Nashville, The Cantrells took to the road,

working with Hap Peebles during 1964 and 1965. However, in 1966 new determination made them decide on a return to Nashville. Chuck Eastman, President of Circle Talent, was the one who put the rose color in their glasses this time. And although it was still a tough row to hoe, Roy comments, "On our return trip to Nashville, the one advantage we had was that Chuck seemed to believe in us and felt we had potential. He's helped us a lot."

The hard times have brought about many amusing incidents, such as the time when Roy and Cindy were scheduled to do the Bobby Lord Show, and had to spend their last dollar on gasoline to get to the studio. After they appeared on the WSM-TV show, The Cantrells decided it was necessary to hock one of their two guitars. Roy and Cindy went to a pawn shop, only to be confronted with the embarrassing statement, "Why, we just saw you folks on the Bobby Lord Show."

Cindy has been nominated among the top ten Most Promising Female Vocalists. They've both appeared on the Grand Ole Opry. And at present, a full date book keeps them on the road almost constantly.

The Cantrells, as you can see, are just one more example of country folks who always win eventually simply because of talent . . . and another pair who knows what it feels like to switch from canned beans to pie ala mode.





# country **CLIPPINGS**



Producer-actor Dick Clark (left) takes a few minutes out between filming scenes for his newest picture, "KILLER'S THREE", to talk with set visitors on location with singers Bonnie Owens and Merle Haggard.



John D. Loudermilk, with over one hundred songs bearing his signature (and nearly two dozen selling over the million mark) nevertheless considered it a milestone in his career that Eddy Arnold's newest RCA single release is John's "Then You Can Tell Me Goodbye".

From George Hamilton IV's 1956 four-million seller "Rose And A Baby Ruth" to Glen Campbell's No. 1 "I Wanna Live" and Sammy Davis Jr.'s newly released "Break My Mind", John D. has seen his songs (often several at once) consistently high in the charts, but this is the first time a Loudermilk song has been recorded by his long-time friend and idol, Eddy Arnold. The two pictured visiting over memorabilia from earlier Arnold performances.

The Masters Festival of Music, a Nashville-owned-and-produced show, now in its fifth year, takes place here with headliners Boots Randolph, Chet Atkins, Floyd Cramer and Jerry Reed, backed by the Music City Strings, The Nashville Brass, and the Nashville

All Stars Band. Official head of the Festival, Impresario X. Crosse says, "If we could work full time on the Festival, it could be on the road 40 to 50 weeks out of the year. The show is that much in demand."





# country CLIPPINGS

## Celebration



WSM, Inc. President Irving Waugh announces that a feasibility study has been authorized, which may result in construction of a new Opry House and surrounding entertainment facilities, comprising "Opryland U.S.A." Waugh commented, "A facility of the right kind would enable us to originate some of the big network television shows from Nashville. Not necessarily on a regular basis, but as a special origination. For example, we could invite the Dean Martin Show here for a special. We could invite the Johnny Carson Show down for a week in residence."



The Hearth, newly-opened elite Nashville Supper Club, played host recently to popular country music artist, Jack Greene and his wife, as they stopped by to take a look at the exquisite English decor.



At Left, Frank Rogers, tournament director of the Music City USA Golf Tournament, presents the winning trophy to the team which had the lowest score for the two-day event. Those forming the team were, second from left, Roy Horton, MCA, Inc., Jerry Reed of the Festival of Music and an RCA recording artist, and Ray Eaton, pro. Hubert Long, permanent chairman of the event, outgoing CMA President and head of his own talent agency is second from the right. John Bibb, sportswriter for the Nashville Tennessean is at right. Guilford Dudley, Jr., local insurance executive was another member of the team which also had a second pro Jacky Cupit for the second day's rounds.





# wayne kemp

Becoming a big country star is, perhaps, one of the most challenging careers any person could ever hope to capture. The individual is not only faced with the problem of learning how to sing...but when to sing...and where to sing. To be extremely effective, he must also master the art of writing...knowing what to write...when to write...and why he writes it. Next in line for having accomplished such goals is Wayne Kemp.

Today, Wayne Kemp firmly plants his feet on the stage of success. But, there was certainly an "in the beginning" era, too, for the bashful boy from Muldrow, Oklahoma. At the age of six, while his playmates were busy swapping bubble-gum cards, Wayne was unknowingly making his own musical history, by learning how to play the mandolin.

Early stages of stardom relate back to days in Los Angeles, when Wayne had his own TV show, called "Country Music Time". Guests often included such names as the yet-to-be-discovered Glen Campbell, and a singing secretary known as Jeannie Seely.

The show sprouted seeds of success for a kid called Kemp, and he was soon able to go on the road with his own band, which he named "The Heartache Makers". Wanda Jackson's father, Tom Jackson, recognized their potential and immediately took them under his wing. Tom acted as Manager-Agent of the group for 2 years.

However, there were a lot of bridges ahead that Wayne wanted to cross. He wanted to write...and

proved that he could...by having his first song, "Love Bug" recorded by George Jones.

The next bridge found Buddy Killen alongside Wayne, as he presented Wayne with a writer's contract for Tree International and a recording contract for Dial Records. As with any artist, the creeks did rise several times, but luckily, there was no real wash out. As a result, his credits today cover songs recorded by top names, including a pair of hot hits by Conway Twitty, "The Image of Me" and "Next In Line". Wayne was also author of his own recent Decca single, "Won't You Come Home (and Talk to a Stranger)".

During the time that Wayne was recording for Jab Records, prior to his Decca contract, tragedy struck. Wayne and his band were in a car wreck. They had been working a show in East Moline, Illinois, and were waiting at a railroad crossing for a train to pass, when the blow of a speeding car struck them from the rear, forcing them into the auto ahead. Flames exploded everywhere; and chances are, the torching thought of the lives lost by two of his band members will always burn with ever-flaming agony in the mind of Wayne Kemp.

At home, the Kewpie doll of the Kemp story is Wayne's wife, Pat. They have one pair of boys and one pair of girls. Wayne's hobbies include gun collecting and building race cars.

When asked what he'd like to do in the future, Wayne commented, "I just want to continue recording for Decca and hope I can do things right."



# mary taylor

A dynamic song stylist and performer, as well as a prolific songwriter...MARY TAYLOR is fast creating more excitement than is usually expected from a female performer.

Mary's flair for comedy is a surprise to many who have not seen her perform; and it is the combination of her singing with her comedy routines which have made Mary Taylor an instant hit on her appearances in clubs, auditoriums, and on television.

Mary wrote the lyrics to "Queen of the House", as well as the words and music to most of her own recordings. Many of her songs have been recorded by top artists in the business. Recently, Dean Martin recorded "Today is Not The Day", another of Mary's songs.

During the past couple of years Mary's personal appearances have taken her to nearly every corner of the earth, with club and auditorium dates in England, France, Germany, Japan, Hong Kong, The Philippines, Greenland and Canada. She's also a popular attraction at the Holiday Hotel, in Reno, Nevada, working there several weeks out of each year. Other credits include: Melodyland, Anaheim Marco Polo, Vancouver B.C.; Taylor's Viewpoint, Portland; Mr. Lucky's, Phoenix; Caravan East, Albuquerque; Angelo's Omaha; Nashville Club, New York City; Catus Pete's, Jackpot Nevada; The Flame, Minneapolis; The Palladium, Hollywood, and numerous appearances at Disneyland.

Mary has been featured on many television shows, including The Joey Bishop Show, Mike Douglas Show, Pat Boone Show, Swingin' Country, Bar-S Jamboree TV special with Jimmy Dean, American Swingeround, Shivarree, Shindig, Music City USA, and many others.

So, it's easy to see that Dot's little darlin of song has a little black book full of personal appearance dates. She's on the go. On her way to the top. She's a Taylor who'll keep you in stitches with her comedy...and it's very probable that she has things all sewed up for a smashing career ahead.







JAMES O'GWYNN

# **JAMES O'GWYNN**

## **the smilin' irishman**

James O'Gwynn first became known to most people when he started appearing on the Louisiana Hayride in Shreveport, Louisiana back in about 1956. He was a new name to most of the Hayride fans but the world of country music was not a new one for James. Country music played a big part in his entire life. When he was only 8 years old, his mother was teaching him to play a guitar. Soon he was singing in Church and over local radio stations in Hattiesburg, Mississippi. Music was a family affair as James' mother and sisters loved to get down the ole string instruments to pick and sing, and let us not leave out the fact that James had 13 aunts and uncles who all played a musical instrument.

His career was launched officially on the Houston Jamboree in Houston, Texas in 1954 when James made his first professional stage appearance. By 1956 he had gained experience, signed a recording contract with Starday records, and signed on as a regular member of the Louisiana Hayride. The Hayride audience took a liking to this young man and his record of "Losing Game". He was tagged as "The Smilin' Irishman" and often billed as "The Pride of the Hayride." Hayride fans are sure to remember his records of "Muleskinner Blues" and "Two Little Hearts."

James began to tour extensively throughout the Southwest and also acquired his own TV show in Shreveport. Tours in Canada and Alaska were next on the agenda and a record entitled "Talk To Me Lonesome Heart" broke into the national top ten country charts.

James is currently associated with Shelby Singleton and records on Shelby's SSS International label and has enjoyed great success with "It's Not The Best Way To Live" b/w "Queen Of Every Honk-E-Tonk"

— a new sound for James featuring the one string steel sound of Lloyd Green and the Bellzuki guitar playing of Jerry Kennedy.

His tours have taken him over many million miles and he has appeared on shows with and traveled with practically all of the top artists in the business. James is very well known in the Southwest, a headliner on any show there and always in demand. His travels are getting more extensive all the time, and he's on the road about 6 weeks out of every 7.

James likes people and that alone says a lot. He has a friendly contagious nature that spreads to all he might meet. He's happy in his work and despite the ups and downs, he continues at his profession with real spirit. Before a spotlight, he does his best to please the audience and give them their money's worth. He dresses in the bright, sparkling outfits which have become associated with country music and is the only way he feels "properly dressed" on stage.

On the personal side he's a good looking guy who stands 5'7", weighs 145, has black hair, brown eyes and a personality and smile that just won't quit. Celebrates his birthday on Jan. 26th and calls Winchester, Miss. his birthplace and grew up in the Hattiesburg area. When schedule permits he enjoys horseback riding, swimming, dancing and TV. He likes football & baseball, the colors of blue and green and seems to be mighty fond of potatoes.

Not the most popular artist according to the polls, not the biggest record seller, not a fast rising overnight sensation. But a sincere and deserving artist who is dedicated to country music and who is going to be around in the country music field for many years to come, making a good steady name for himself.





## GENE WYATT

Gene Wyatt has been working toward success in the entertainment field for several years — at last he is there. During the last year both his records reached the National charts. He will begin '69 with the biggest novelty record of the year "Country Music — Peyton Place". The record has just been released and is already on the air and selling in the major areas thru out the United States.

In 1966 Gene made a decision which may have been the turning point in his career. After much thought, Gene accepted the position as front man for David Houston. Today it is a decision he is glad he made. As Gene puts it, "Working with someone as talented as David, you can't help but gain from the experience." There were many occasions when Gene also worked as lead guitarist for the group. In addition to gaining knowledge, he also gained a lot of mileage. He toured with the Houston troupe throughout the United States, Canada, England and Germany.

Then came another decision. Gene decided to again try it on his own as an artist. He recorded "I Stole The Flowers From Your Garden". This was a most rewarding effort, for it was Gene's first record to reach the National charts.

Upon completing his record contract with Mercury, Gene fulfilled a long time desire to record for Stan Lewis, owner of Paula Records. Gene's first record on Paula "I Just Ain't Got As Much As He's Got Going For Me" proved to be highly successful, giving Gene two in a row to reach the National charts.

Gene considers himself an entertainer rather than a singer. He is at home performing anything from a Ben Colder parody to folk ballads with a lot of Rock-a-billy in between. He feels equally at home working in a supper club as a single with just his guitar or in a ballroom with an orchestra. The truth of the matter is he is a 100% sugar cured ham and thoroughly enjoys doing his best to put a smile on the face of all who hear him.

# wanda jackson

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# **\$ GIANT JACKPOT**



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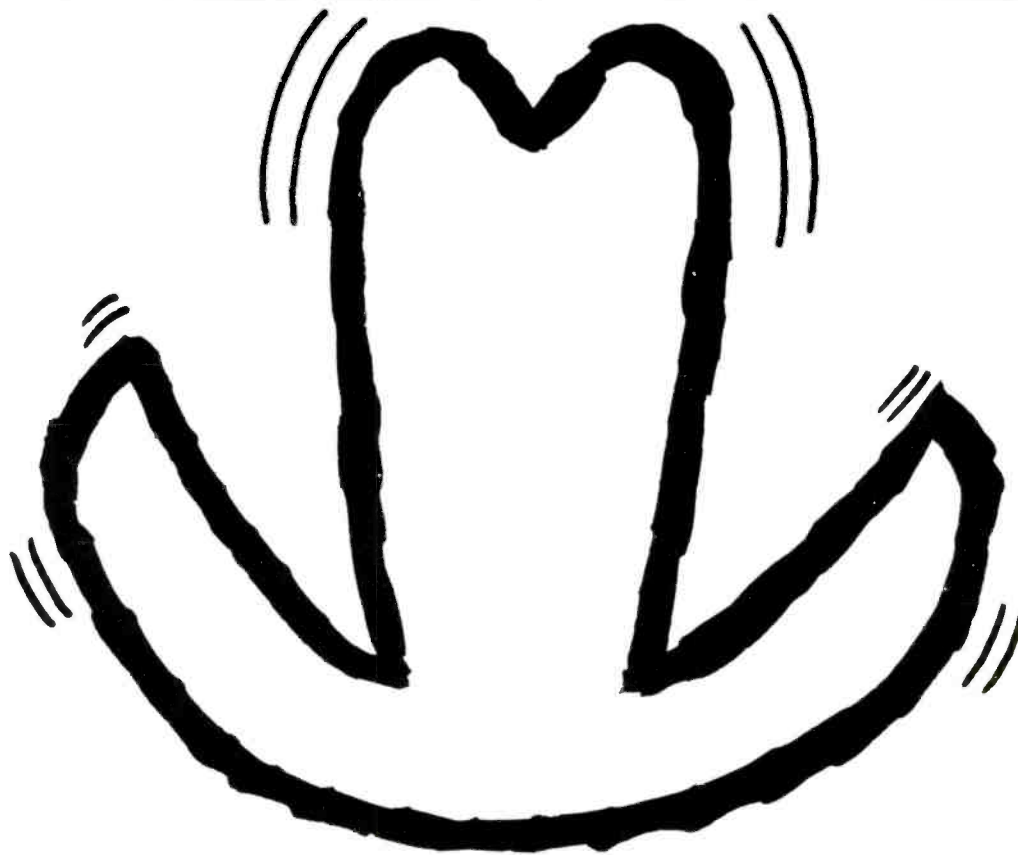
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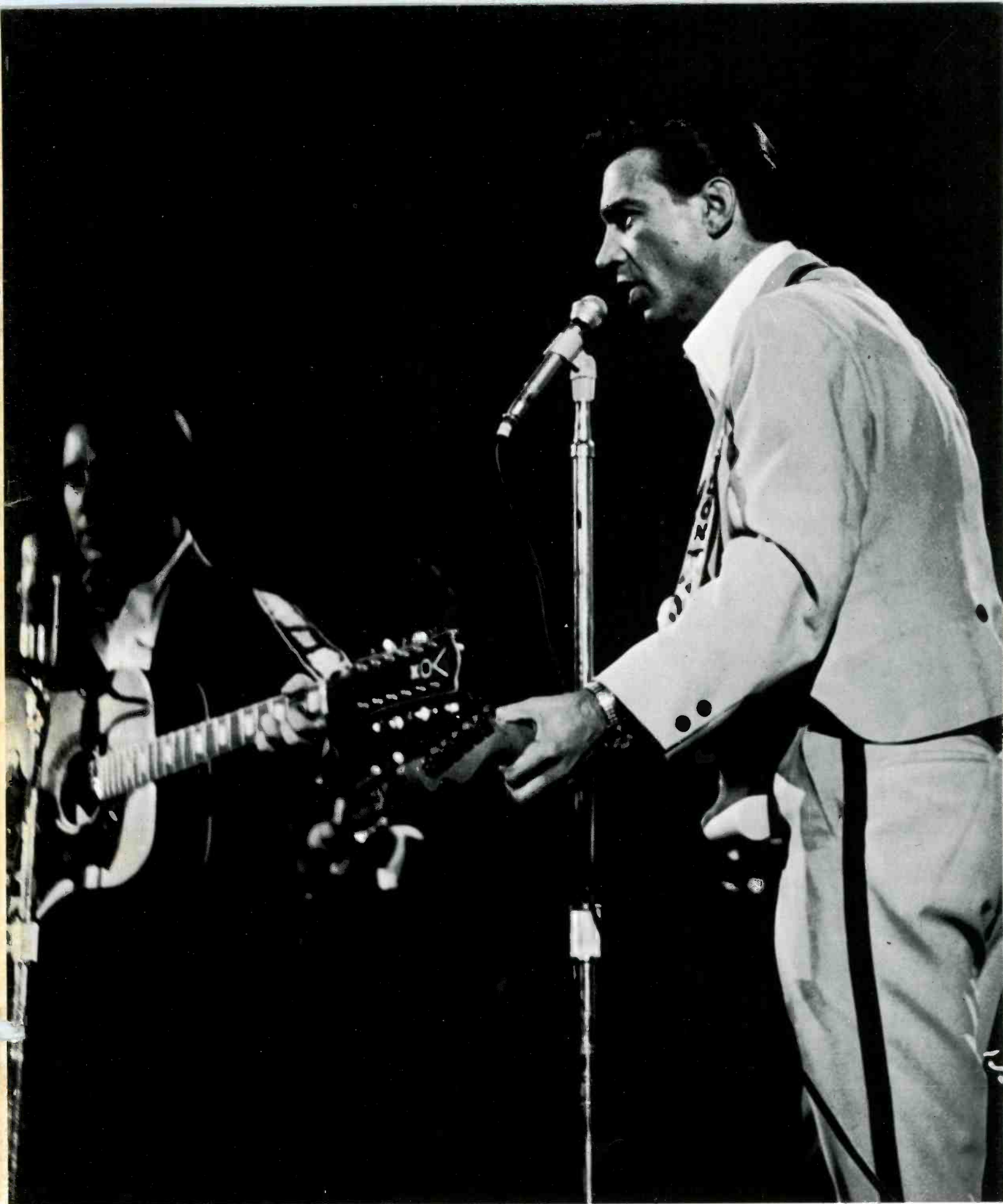
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