

Melody Maker

INCORPORATING RHYTHM

VOLUME NO. 248

DECEMBER 28, 1940

THREEPENCE

VAN STRATEN'S MYSTERY MOVE AFTER TEN YEARS AT QUAG.'S

Pursglove takes over

Mr. Waddington Quay Van Straten retired his position with Chancery's advertising office to become the joint managing director of the King's Perfumery and Cosmetics Co., Ltd.

This comes just after the move was made by Mr. Waddington Quay from his position as managing director of the perfume firm of Waddington Quay & Co., which he joined in 1934.

In 1934, under Justice Society, which had been operating since the end of the First World War, the Royal Advertising Council invited him to become the managing director of the Royal Advertising Council.

During this time he became a member of the Justice Society of Great Britain and has since then been a member of the Royal Advertising Council.

He is making some of the most prominent work for the Royal Advertising Council, and has been engaged in the Royal Advertising Council for over twelve years.

He is also engaged in the Royal Advertising Council, and has been engaged in the Royal Advertising Council for over twelve years.

PURSGLOVE'S BOYS

Mr. Waddington Quay Van Straten, who joined his firm in 1934, has now been made managing director. He is now managing director of the firm of Waddington Quay & Co., Ltd.

The new Managing Director of the firm of Waddington Quay & Co., Ltd., has joined the firm of Waddington Quay & Co., Ltd. His son, Mr. Waddington Quay, has been engaged in the firm of Waddington Quay & Co., Ltd. for over twelve years.

The new Managing Director of the firm of Waddington Quay & Co., Ltd., has joined the firm of Waddington Quay & Co., Ltd. for over twelve years.

The new Managing Director of the firm of Waddington Quay & Co., Ltd., has joined the firm of Waddington Quay & Co., Ltd. for over twelve years.

IKE HATCHES LA CONGA

The new Managing Director of the firm of Waddington Quay & Co., Ltd., has joined the firm of Waddington Quay & Co., Ltd. for over twelve years.



BENNY GOODMAN AIRING TO BRITAIN: More Details

LAST week ended the bidding: "Last week's bidding," on Dec. 8. The British Ministry was given the go-ahead to bring in the New York City band of Benny Goodman, led by his son, Benny Goodman, leader of the New York City band, and his son, Benny Goodman, leader of the New York City band.

The bidding was made to bring in the New York City band of Benny Goodman, leader of the New York City band.

EXCHANGE PROGRAMME

The bidding was made to bring in the New York City band of Benny Goodman, leader of the New York City band.

"The bidding was made to bring in the New York City band of Benny Goodman, leader of the New York City band.

The bidding was made to bring in the New York City band of Benny Goodman, leader of the New York City band.

STOP PRESS

The bidding was made to bring in the New York City band of Benny Goodman, leader of the New York City band.

THE WRIGHT MELODY HIT

AM I FOR YOU? IN GREAT DEMAND LOVELY OLD LADY

The Waltz Hit Introduced by JACK PAYNE and his Band

RIDING ON A RAINBOW

The Acknowledged Outstanding Bright Number

THE NEW BRITISH SUCCESS

THE BADGE FROM YOUR COAT

JOIN THE WRIGHT CLUB FOR HITS

20

NUMBERS (S.O.)

12/6

LAWRENCE WRIGHT MUSIC CO. LTD. STREET HOUSE, DEGBESE ST.
LONDON W.E.3. DANCE RECORDS

Scanned for Tony Madgett

World Radio History

**LARRY CLINTON'S
LAND OF JAH**
THE PRISONER'S SONG
BY LAWRENCE CLINTON'S LAND OF JAH
30/- and The New Record
LAWRENCE CLINTON'S LAND OF JAH
DANCE RECORDS, 10, DEGBESE ST., LONDON W.E.3.



TO APPRECIATE JAZZ, WORK FROM THE TOP DOWN

says

"MIKE"

SINCE I was very young I have been an ardent admirer of jazz. I especially enjoyed the music of Gershwin and Ellington. When I began to work at a radio station I immediately adopted them. Now I am, however, well prepared to be either a Gershwin or Ellington expert in my performances.

Now this is not due to any particular reason other than the music of Gershwin and Ellington.

I have a great admiration for the Gershwin and Ellington style. I have an even greater admiration for the Gershwin style, which seems to me to be a greater enjoyment.

As a producer owing to my admiration for Gershwin and Ellington, I will do my best and try all over work performed in public.

It is a pleasure introducing promising young men of the country to you, their admiring fan performances.

PRIVACY

The first and last in line the last was called up for duty was not in front of the mirror. He doesn't care what kind of physical features he has, the lastest in our society seems to care about his looks, so it is time we start giving more importance to whatever looks in going well or not.

He still wants to be the best and every producer wants to have the best. Every person, has some sort of personal interests in this regard, and not only a jazz musician likes to bring the name of his radio station into every sort of manner.

Like the "Bing" boys, we have this idea of not a conductor from one year to another, or, of course, to be the conductor for three consecutive years, and so forth like during抗日战争 in China.

The last word was when the producer of radio shows thought something over, then he or she does this thing, and so forth like during抗日战争 in China.

The last word was when the producer of radio shows thought something over, then he or she does this thing, and so forth like during抗日战争 in China.

The last word was when the producer of radio shows thought something over,

which they consider are whole good last words. A truly original last word, which has not been heard before, would be when the last word of the moment has come, general knowledge of which may lead to a better performance of a certain original work.

This is merely my opinion as a long experience of jazz, and it is not the only way.

It has a development of progress from one place to another. Please read comments on this. I hope all help in the form of the jazz column.

And yet I should not have stopped.

I should have been surprised the last night though many people have been regular readers for probably ten years, I have not been so much in the form of the jazz column.

PA DUKA

I believe that this also has developed in jazz and should write from the beginning.

Close to me is the one by Ellington, "I've Got You Under My Skin," which is quite a good arrangement, but of course it's Ellington that provided this in the first place and the last piece is also an original, but quite good, and this piece can be found in the book of Ellington and Gershwin, "Musical Directors and Composers."

I think it's a real masterpiece, and I think it's a real masterpiece, and I think it's a real masterpiece.

I think it's a real masterpiece, and I think it's a real masterpiece.

I think it's a real masterpiece, and I think it's a real masterpiece.

I think it's a real masterpiece, and I think it's a real masterpiece.

I think it's a real masterpiece, and I think it's a real masterpiece.

I think it's a real masterpiece, and I think it's a real masterpiece.

I think it's a real masterpiece, and I think it's a real masterpiece.

I think it's a real masterpiece, and I think it's a real masterpiece.

I think it's a real masterpiece, and I think it's a real masterpiece.

I think it's a real masterpiece, and I think it's a real masterpiece.

I think it's a real masterpiece, and I think it's a real masterpiece.

I think it's a real masterpiece, and I think it's a real masterpiece.

I think it's a real masterpiece, and I think it's a real masterpiece.

I think it's a real masterpiece, and I think it's a real masterpiece.

I think it's a real masterpiece, and I think it's a real masterpiece.

I think it's a real masterpiece, and I think it's a real masterpiece.

I think it's a real masterpiece, and I think it's a real masterpiece.

I think it's a real masterpiece, and I think it's a real masterpiece.

I think it's a real masterpiece, and I think it's a real masterpiece.

I think it's a real masterpiece, and I think it's a real masterpiece.

I think it's a real masterpiece, and I think it's a real masterpiece.

PM CLUB THREE-IN-ONE

30 Nos. for 18 - YOUR 1" PARCEL CONTAINS

UNTIL YOU FALL IN LOVE
THE MEM'RY OF A ROSE
IF I ONLY HAD WINGS
CHEERIO!

TIGGERTY-BOO!
BY THE WISHING WELL

Price 1/- each set. 3/- per set. 15/- per dozen.

IN THE MOOD
RHUMBOOGIE The Andrews Sisters Special

Price 1/- each set. 3/- per set. 15/- per dozen.

A Home-made New Idea
THE ORIGINAL MANUSCRIPT SERIES

SOUTHERN FRIED

Price 1/- per dozen. 1/- dozen. 3/- dozen.

OVERNIGHT HOP

Price 1/- per dozen. 1/- dozen. 3/- dozen.

P.M. HOT HITS!

IN THE MOOD

Between 10th and 11th ave.
Checknor Street

10A (Street at Apple Estate)
near the famous Music Instruments
Shop there is
Crescentine War Dance

DOGGIN' AROUND
TEXAS SHUFFLE

TIME OUT • TROPIC
WOODCHOPPERS SONG
BLUES UPTIGHT AND
DOWNSTAIRS
JAZZMAN BLUES
CHOCOLATE LOVE SONG
FOR DANCING ONLY
THE DOGS A CHORALE
OXFORD CREAMERY

"Table do Set" might be the heading for this scene from the Columbia film, "Please In My Heart." George Tobin is seen pumping his Hayworth, while Tony Martin and Edith Fellows look on.



MEET HENRY KLEIN, a musician who carries family tradition in his accordion case.

Son of Yasha Klein, the famous gypsy band leader, Henry owes his first introduction to the instrument to bass-player Cecil Cooper who persuaded him to get one seven years ago when he started at the Hungaria Restaurant.

Already possessing an enviable reputation as a pianist, it was not long before his talent made itself felt through this new medium and two years later, for along the horizontal keyboard for the preambler he joined Brian Lawrence as featured accordionist.

Since then he has played for most leaders in the business including Mantovani, Ernest Leggett, George Scott, Ward, Victor Silvester and many others.

Perhaps the most unusual moment of his career was the day he played recently for the Anti-Nazi Propaganda Programme.

Apparently the BBC required a musician to accompany a vocal singer one of those old tea garden members in between the talks, and considering all the arrangements and the words of the song were in German, I consider Henry very talented at being able to play the accordion in the same language.

With the majority of music publishers practically in reverse where new accordion arrangements are concerned, there is all the more credit due to JOHN ABNEY, general Director of Music Friends, Day and Hunter, for continuing to issue fresh material for players in this country.

Latest number put on the market by this firm is titled Music From the Minstrels, and is a lengthy medley especially arranged for the accordion of famous tunes from the programmes of our conductor Louis Levy.

Remember Broadway Melody Singing In The Rain, and You Were Never In Me?

They are all there and while you can still obtain selections like this for a shilling it proves that even Charing Cross Road has its philanthropists.

Starting at the age of six with a twelve-key accordion, and now standing up in an instrument almost the same size as himself, nine-year-old LEONARD HORN began his professional career in good company last Sunday when he played at the first concert given by the Wolverhampton Band Club.

Comprising the bill was star comic Wm George Ward and after the show Len and George had their photographs taken together to mark the occasion.

Just two lads together, in fact.

Accordionist ERIC EVANS, now touring in Leonard Uriy's new Latin aggregation entitled "May We Introduce," introduces a little novelty on his own account during his set these days by featuring accordion solos played on the left hand keyboard of the instrument only.

Makes a change from the number of players I have heard recently who seem to reverse the procedure.

Greates readers may remember that your time used played there at the De Montfort Juke Box.

CHIP OF THE OLD BLOCK

ERIC WINSTONE'S PAGE

opportunity may knock at your door and you will be too far away to hear . . .

* * *

Street-scene in Piccadilly last week brought early morning traffic to a standstill when I noticed ace vibraphone swing star BOY BLAIZE to prepare his instrument, in all its chromemounted splendour, across London's busiest thoroughfares.

As might be expected, the taxi-drivers had a word for it . . .

* * *

Still studying, ARTHUR PLATTEN, the young accordionist who won the AIR London Swing Contest a few months back at the State Navigation Town Hall, is rapidly laying the foundation for a technique that should eventually put him right in the front rank of players in the country.

Although his past successes in contests have brought him many engagements on his instrument, he has not allowed work to interfere with practice, and is taking no risks of "Jerry build-

ing" where his musical reputation is concerned.

* * *

Accordion arranger GEORGE PRIESTLY, whose twelve-bar chorus I printed recently in one of the "In the Groove" articles, writes to tell me that he is getting numerous requests these days from musicians for swing arrangements of popular numbers.

Apparently I printed his address wrongly at the time.

It should have been 31 Everton Street, Liverpool, and not Everton Road. So if you live out that way, now you know where to find him.

* * *

Variety bill at Easter Queen in Service Night Programme last week included Corporal Dancer, playing the harmonica, and Home Chairman Old Cox and Jon Ward playing the accordion and cornet respectively.

Pity Sandy Macpherson wasn't there with his organ just to make it a four piece . . .

WHO'S WHO IN JAZZ

by Leonard Feather (Continued)

KRUEY, ARTHUR: W. pianist; b Pennsylvania, 1902, son of noted violinist. Started in small cinema locally, then signed up by Paul Driscoll, working with him 1917-1922, came to London with another "special" band, the Chicagoans, 1923, back in New York, with Roger Wolfe Kahn, Dick Vassar. Played piano and arranged on many pioneer hot record discs, also piano solos and duets on Paris, Bruno. Discs include Chicago Lovers, '26; French, '27-'28; Nichols' Red Heads and Five Pennies, '28-'31; Arkansas Travellers, Dixie Hotshots, Wabash Danse Orchestra, Charleston Chasers with whom he wrote "Dixieland," Muff Mole, the Cotton Pickers, Eddie Lang, Joe Venuti, the Dorsey Brothers. Last important booking was with Benny Goodman and Co. in 1934, in another featuring Coleman Hawkins, for which Schrey wrote and arranged Georgia Jubilee. Since then has been doing mostly radio work, also working briefly at 23rd Street club job. Then went to California to concentrate on studio work. Though outdated now in style, had an important influence among early hot pianists.

* * *

At shelter services held by the Rev Wilson Bridges, thirty-five-year-old Congregational Minister of Stamford, Conn., an accordionist now keeping the "organ" voluntaries, and accompanying the singing of the various hymns.

Possibly it could never have happened here if it had not been for the war, but it is certainly a change of atmosphere for an instrument that was once considered only fit for the stage of a dance hall . . .

* * *

Tall, thin, quietly-spoken NOEL RODGERS, popular personal contact man at Lawrence Wright's, the music publisher, has turned up with West Indian musician Willie Wilson, with the intention of producing several new accordion songs in the near future.

The first arrangement, a swing theme titled "Soda Shop," is nearing completion, and will be featured round some of the West End clubs where Noel is a well-known pianist.

Incidentally Christmas Day also happens to be his birthday, which no doubt accounts for the elegant appellation by which he is known. With a Christian name as reasonable as that, he should have been in last week's issue . . .

* * *

Thirteen-year-old PETER MATAM took a day off from war work last Saturday to play the accordion at a Burton A.R.P. concert.

Playing Paganini's "Six Fugues" and a free transcription of the popular number "Ballerina Blues," he put on an act that rated considerably to his already fast growing reputation . . .

* * *

Now reaches me that BETTY WEBBER, that charming young London accordionist who won the Brainer Cup at a pre-war contest, is now to be heard playing up in Manchester.

Several announcements seem to be appearing in unexpected places these days and I should be glad if they would let me have their new address whenever possible.

* * *

Accordianist Freddie Stark, including "Shower Corps" number, "Brof Me Daddy Eight To The Bar," "Boogie Woogie Washerwoman," "Rockabye the Boogie," etc. Stark has also gained recognition as one of the best white trumpeters.

* * *

SCOTT, ERIC: C., tenor sax, clarinet. Was at one time a well-known Harlem band leader, playing the Savoy Ballroom and night club jobs, recorded for Victor, playing all reeds. Later was with Cab Calloway's early Memphis group, 1929-30, recording with a crew singing under the name of Odet Scott's Bright Boys. Many recordings with various Carson Williams groups during the '20s, also with Willie the Lion Smith on his first Decca recording, "Teddy Wilson's Orch." 1930 on Brown 6071-2. Of recent years has been playing with various Cuban combinations working as solo artist at the Cotton Club, was with Serratos' band there when club closed and 1940, and continues with this band on other jobs.

* * *

SCOTT, HAZEL: C., pianist vocalist. b. Trinidad, 1920. Came to U.S.A. in infancy. Studied music with her mother, an accomplished concert pianist, and at Juilliard School. Worked as solo artist on N.Y. radio stations, gave concerts of classics and jazz, had her own band briefly in 1939 at State Ballroom in Harlem. Recorded the song "F. D. R. Jones" in New York stage show, "Sing Out The News." Wrote a few arrangements for Coleman Hawkins' Orch., incl. "Shoo Flyin That Way." Went to work at Calf Valley autumn, 1939, remaining there ever since as pianist, vocalist and mc. Made first records December, 1939, with Society of Rhythm Club of London (H.M.V.) and Victor, playing and singing. Considered one of most versatile and enterprising as well as youngest of noted female swing stars.

* * *

SCOTT, EUGENE "MONKEY-MAN": W., tenor sax, clarinet. During early days worked with Charlie Creath, Mississippi riverboat pianist, and with King Oliver's "Premier" in New York Groups from 1924, when he began recording with Paul Whiteman. Also made session with Alex Miller's Hollywood Orchestra, 1928. Worked almost continuously with Whiteman's small recording band and larger touring band to 1936, except during Miller's European trip. Also made sessions of his own for Vocalion under name of Gordin and the Honey Bear. Much admired for his solo work on P.D.Q. discs.

* * *

"DETECTOR" on War time Radio**THE B.B.C. MUST BUCK UP ITS IDEAS IN 1941**

THERE have recently been suggestions in the newspapers that a change is to be made in one of the highest posts of the B.B.C.

The story should be accepted with reserve. Official quarters at Broadcasting House profess to have no knowledge of any such move.

As a matter of fact, even if it takes place, it will not in likely to have any appreciable effect on our daily radio entertainment.

The regular bigwigs of the Corporation do not apparently bother much about the ordinary programmes. They leave that to the various departmental heads. And more's the pity.

There are quite a few departments of the B.B.C. which could do with a good shake-up.

What has the B.B.C. done in three war time days for its license-holders, who still pay their £1 a year and get entertainment which seems to grow only worse and worse every day?

Nation of Kids!

We know that much of the B.B.C.'s energies are directed to news broadcasts to foreign countries.

These things are, of course, essential. But that they are, it seems, carried on at the expense of the license-holders appears to be no more unusual than a -a tale.

Propaganda is a service for which the whole country should pay.

The money should not come from the pockets of the license-holders only, which seems to be the case if one is to judge by the paucity of the programmes put on for home consumption.

And does the B.B.C. think that the war has turned us into a nation of children?

Apparently not.

Only the other week we were given a lecture by someone who told us we should not complain if our kids eat us more in these days when Britain was such a dangerous job.

With these ever such naive, but blinding, head-scratching?

We all know that our fighters take grave risks so that we shall not be denied a valuable food.

And we honour them for it—just as we honour our airmen, sailors, soldiers, A.H.P. workers, and all the dozens of others who bravely merit equal praise in carrying out what they willingly accept as their duty to their country.

Fishy!

But is that any reason why the price of codfish, and as long you about £d. a lb., should not be a few more? We have been almost trebled?

Do our fighters get the extra money we have to pay, or even a gaudy percentage of it?

It doesn't look like it when the Sunday Express were a five-column headline to my "Hedgehog Hand" Change Plays Prodigies in Fish, Fish and Twisted Combs!"

This particular broadcast may not have been typical of the B.B.C.'s news and information service, which, on the whole, have not been too bad.

But it is typical of the B.B.C.'s attitude towards the public.

The B.B.C. seems to think that, because there's a war on, listeners will accept anything it likes to put over.

Like too many other Government-controlled concerns, the Corporation uses the war as a cloak for unadvertising.

It screened itself behind the fact that the public is not always in a position to decide how much of broadcasting's difficulties are, and are not, inevitable because of the war, and consequently accepted them as good citizens because the B.B.C. does not wish to impugn the war effort by demanding anything which might hamper the attainment of the great end which is the nation's main objective.

But perhaps all this is rather too

**A V.C. GOES DANCING**

A most honoured guest at the Victoria Ballroom, Nottingham, recently, was Sergeant Hanmer, V.C. Here he is seen with Rube Sunshine (left) leader of the band there, and Mr. G. Gibson, Manager of the Victoria Ballroom.

much of a generalisation. So let us get down to something more specific. Did you hear "Gramophone Chanticleer" the other Saturday afternoon?

Usually the gramophone programmes—especially those devoted to dances and other light music—are among the best. Leslie Fosse, of the B.B.C.'s Gramophone Department, knows his job. But "Gramophone Chanticleer" took

up about ten minutes while someone was made to guess the titles of tunes and then make a story out of them.

The idea may not be so bad, but the requiring "story" (?) was so utterly tame that it can only be described as an insult to every listener who was unfortunate enough to be tuned in while it was on.

Next let us consider the programme planning.

As you know, there are various periods when, because it has to use its transmitters for foreign news, or some other purpose apart from home entertainment, the B.B.C. offers no alternative programme to its British licence-holders.

Now when there is only one home programme on the air, you would think that the B.B.C. would endeavour to give something with a general appeal, if only to ensure that it was entertaining the largest possible majority.

But does it do so?

Forces "Plums"

If your art hasn't given you the answer, you have only to glance through the Radio Times to find that more often than not there is either something which could appeal only to a minority, or something so weak in entertainment value that it can hardly please even a minority.

And what about the evenings, when, owing to the requirements of national safety many listeners often find that only one service is receivable in their area?

It is always the "home" programme that is left on the air.

Yet one has only to glance once again at the Radio Times to see that generally speaking, it is the "Partup" programme that contains the sort of features most likely to please the bulk of the public.

And as one could go on ad lib. Of course, I am well aware that the B.B.C., like so many other institutions has its war time difficulties.

I am also well aware that what may be one man's meat is another man's poison.

But even making the greatest allowances for all these points, I cannot do the best for the B.B.C. by making a sorry job of providing the country with a much-needed war time home entertainment.

DOPE FOR DRUMMERS-19

(1) ONE of the most frequent questions from drummers is "How can I improve my reading?"

I am afraid that the answer is just what they fear—"Practice."

But there are one or two tips that may help. With most of you the trouble is either (a) getting lost in endless bars of repetition, or (b) not being able to cope with the occasional bits of complicated syncopation found in most drum parts.

The hint for the first problem is to remember that most dance numbers are divided up into sections of eight bars.

Notice it is unlikely that you will get any alteration in the rhythm except at the ends of the sections—i.e., on the 7th and 8th bars 16th and 16th, 23rd and 24th and 31st and 32nd.

WATCH FOR IT

One swift glance at the drum part will tell you that there is "something to be watched for" somewhere in the middle of the chorus. It is a cut that will be on the 14th and 15th bars.

You don't have to count up to these—you can "feel" when they arrive—the place where the good old-fashioned break would come if we played breaks down days.

Similarly with the 7th/8th, 23rd/24th and 31st/32nd bars—you can set at a glance whether the special beats are towards the beginning of the chorus, towards the end, or actually at the end. Wherever they are, it's a safe thing that they'll fall in exactly one of either of the places enumerated above.

Do you don't have to worry about counting the bars until you reach the special bar.

Just take a glance at the drum part now. "Right, there's something in the middle" and don't bother looking at the part until you feel the middle of the chorus approaching.

Then take a look at the part, "read it" for just those one or two bars then go back to listening until the next part bar or bars that must be read.

A little practice at this and you'll be able to play a whole drum part through with just an occasional glance. We'll deal with the next week.

TRUMPET TIPS**No. 20**

[I]AVING got the "open" trumpet in tune by means of bounding the E in the top space and regulating the main tuning slide, consider next the tuning of the valve slides.

Bound the same E with the third valve, checking it carefully against the open (i.e., valves E). Tune this by adjusting the third valve slide found alongside the main tuning slide.

Next try to produce C (third space) with second and third valves checking it against the "open" C. Correct the tuning of this by means of the second valve slide which will be found sticking out at the side of the middle valve.

TUNING

Finally sound the open C (second line) and produce the same note by means of the first and third valves. Any discrepancy is corrected by means of the first valve slide.

By the above means you tune not merely the main tubing of the instrument, but also the auxiliary tubing (i.e., the artificial extensions of the main tubing made by the valves).

It is no use getting the open notes in tune unless the valve notes are correct also.

The usual method is to tune to the A given by the piano, or, in an orchestra, by the oboe. Turn your trumpet to this first, then check the valves by the open E method. If you are a beginner you will do well to check each note given above against the piano.

Once again, remember: NO VIBRATO WHILE TUNING.

1940 - THE YEAR OF SWINGBLITZ

(Concluded from page 2)

The title for *Art Toots Books Lived* (Woody Herman Orchestra) is the nearest approach to a real jazz creation I yet heard waded. It's not unduly fast or loud, yet the solos go to town in that carefree relaxed manner you only associate with guitars and other instruments haven't.

Decca certainly started something with their Crosby album, for Octogen and the first of another series of albums that include like extending well into 1941.

The October one was issued by HMV and under the rather frightening title of "Masters of Swing" contained discs made by Ellington, Muggsy, Red Nichols, Lunce Hampton and Earl Hines.

No Becket Fan

I did not care personally for the Fletcher and Hines offerings, but don't you like any notice of them with regard to the first-named, as I have a strong bias against his playing—I am not a Becket fan.

The Ellington record was plausible, but the Muggsy Spender (Art Saunders and Eddie "The Blues") was grand and easily the best in the album. The Duke was a class record with Codger, Teag and Steve No More Lament (lovers of Bigard should hear the last title), but the Ellington I preferred was issued also by HMV this month, entitled *Portrait of Bert Williams*. Cooley and the gang are right on top of their form in this masterpiece.

Needless to say, Novogram had an album, and as I seem to have run out of superlatives, I'll just say that it's the best I've heard. Big records and not a dud among them. Every one worthy of being included in my "Classics of Jazz" series.

I can't list them all, but just to refresh your memory, the bands featured were Eddie Condon and

Chapman, Jimmy McPartland and Orchestra, and George Wettling and his Chicago Rhythm Kings, and the last-named made the most due of the lot—*Darlene Strutters Ball* and *I've Found A New Baby*.

The only other November record to mention was another grand Ellington Concerto For Custer and *We Are Few*, the last a commercial tune that gets over, thanks to Lawrence Brown and the ensemble. The first title speaks for itself.

December, and the end of the year and my survey.

Another album, this time by Paraphone, and I'm afraid rather a bring-down. The Goodman Art and Sextet records can be dismissed briefly as fluffy jazz. Harry James is his blues is passable, but a long way from his *Star Mand* record. John Kirby is also fluffy and a shadow of his former self, while the Duke record seems to miss fire somewhere.

Happy Augury

The best of the album is a side by Slim Gaillard, entitled *Chasin' British Stars* (and though it's backed by an indifferent Eddie Holiday, you can absolutely pay your money for one side)—it's a real brooklin Negro blues, and two sides by Joe Sullivan, with Joe Turner singing *I Can't Give You*, etc., and *Low Down Dirty Shame*.

The other records issued this month, though, more than compensate for the album. Brunswick has a very good Woody Herman and a real winner in Armstrong and the Mills Bros. in *Cherry and Marie*.

The best of the month, though, and a happy augury for 1941 is the best Ellington of the year—*Blue Dancer* and *Dest*—a disc that goes back to the Duke's best *Wood* (1926 days).

So we leave 1940, and, if 2041 is half as good, I for one shall not grumble.

BILL ELLIOTT'S 12 BEST 1940 DISCS

- "China Boy" — The Kit — Bill Freeman and Sonnes Coss Band (Orch.) — HMV 82007.
- "Locomotion" / "Working Hair" (Louis Armstrong and Casa Loma Orch.) — Decca F7108.
- "I Surrender, Dear" / "Lady Be Good" — Artie Shaw and Orch. — HMV 82012.
- "Blue Mood" / 1 and 2 (Teddy Wilson Quartet) — Decca J4.
- "Major and Minor Blimp" (Jimmy Dorsey and Orch.) — Brunswick 82230.
- "No Name Ave" 1 and 2 (Casa Loma Orch.) — Brunswick 82232.
- "Java No Blues" / "Washington and Lee Boogie" (Crosby's Bob Cole) — Decca F7104.
- "Last Year Books Lived, Papa" / 1 and 2 (Woody Herman and Orch.) — Brunswick 82002.
- "All Rounder" / "Blowin' The Blues" (Muggsy Spender and Band) — H.M.V. 82005.
- "Portrait of Bert Williams" (Ellington and Orch.) — H.M.V. 82006.
- "Berkshire Pictures" / "New Baby" (George Wettling and C. R. Kings) — Brunswick 82008.
- "Blue Goose" / "Dance" (Ellington and Orch.) — HMV 82115.

STEPHEN ('Basin Street') WILLIAMS WRITES AN OPEN LETTER TO BRITISH SONGWRITERS

AS YOU should know the American radio stations have announced that they will bar ASCAP music from the air beginning New Year's Day. That means that your songs might be affected.

So I am asking you to rally and protest by giving your views on this subject for the protection of your own interests as well as the writers and songwriters of America.

You should know the purpose is to monopolize the air with the music of the chain-organized, chain-controlled BMI — Broadcast Music Inc.

I believe all the British composers will have much to say about this discrimination. I believe the public will have something to say about it.

I believe the P.R.C. will have something to say about it.

The bands in America want to keep on playing the great British tunes, such as —

Among My Souvenirs, Cherokee, Goodbye, Sweetheart, You're Stood, No Candy Needed Baby, Three Peas in a Pod, The Touch Of Your Lips, Gosh, No Baby.

Knightbridge March, Down The Mall, There'll Always Be An England, etc.

But, however, no bygones, the public will still get music from the individual stations, such as those operated by CBS, Roosevelt, Warner Bros., and many others who have signed with ASCAP.

And our composers, authors and publishers will continue to give the public the world it wants.

It will also get it from sheet music and records, and it will get it from the bands in hotels, restaurants, night-clubs, dance halls and theatres.

Music gets around. So does the public.

"WE SHALL HAVE MUSIC WHENEVER WE GO."

No protest to everyone you know that will help in this great cause. Your reputation is at stake, and I know that you will surely protect your reputation—Sincerely Yours in Music,

SPENCER WILLIAMS
("ASCAP")

Kingsley,
Lower Hampton Road,
Brixton-on-Thames,
Surrey, S.W. 12.



BILLY PLUMPTON: "Have a care with your 'All's calm' harmonies while we're doing three gigs in the bombed areas. Cyril . . . if we make a success of 'em we might get some pit jobs after the war."

What's New in Radio?

MORE ABOUT THE JONES "COIL" PICK-UP

SUPPOSE you had two pendulums, one made of about 8 ft. of railway line, the other about the size of a tablespoon. Which would you swing the faster?

Obviously the tablespoon.

You can then the needle of a gramophone pick-up to a pendulum. The variations in the groove of a record have to swing it from side to side. That is what sets up the electric currents, which, when amplified, work the loud-speaker.

The heavier the needle (with which must be included the needle-holder and needle-holding screw), the greater the inertia, and consequently the less inclined it is to follow accurately the contours of the record's groove.

Indeed, to its natural desire to stay still, it tends to ride up the walls of the groove, with the result that much of the fine detail and range of tone of the original performance, which may have been successfully recorded, are lost, and that undesirable noise, known as needle buzz, is created.

SAPPHIRE

It will, therefore, be realized that the ideal would be a weightless needle, needle-holder and needle-holding screw.

Such a thing is, of course, impossible.

But the Jones "Coil" pick-up (this review of which I started in last week's Melody Maker), following the principle introduced on the Continental "Telefunken" pick-up, gets about as near to it as seems a practical possibility.

It not only dispenses with a needle and needle-holding-screw, replacing the former with a minute sapphire point which is permanently set into the holder, but it is designed that the holder is also of comparatively negligible size and weight.

Unfortunately, however, as so often the case is life, the securing of an advantage in one direction may result in a disadvantage in some other direction.

To some extent this is the case here. I shall try to explain why when I conclude the review of this Jones "Coil" pick-up next week.

"DARBLER."

RUSS ALLEN FOR CUBA

THE departure of Art Gilmore and his band from the Cuba, Chiriqui Street, W., to join Don Martin Barreto at the new La Hatchita, La Conga, became Rius Alba in charge of the music at the former resort.

For some time past, Russ has been playing at the Cuba with Art Gilmore's boys, in addition to his work with the El Regal Quintette, Radio Rhythm Club and Orquesta Cross Bands.

Now, with a new five-piece line up, he is dispensing a new style of bottle-party music, which is aptly described in his own words as "stated tempo for dancing, sweet music with a swing."

His line-up comprises Fred Brendbury (piano), Teddy Butler (alto and clarinet), George Dale (tenor and trumpet), and Jack Wilson (drums), with Rius, of course, leading on ban-

Classified Advertisements

Scale of Charges

**2nd PER WORD 2/- per insertion
2/- per word CAPITAL.**

The charge for Classified Advertising will be 10/- per word for advertisements under any of the following headings :—

ENGAGEMENTS WANTED; MUSICIANS WANTED; INSTRUMENTS FOR SALE; ENSEMBLES WANTED; BANDS; AGENT; BANDS; WANTED; PICTURES; RECORDS; TELEGRAMS; TELEGRAPHIC; RECORDING; PERSONAL; TUITION; JAZZ OR SWING PUBLICATIONS; and other ordinary announcements.

The minimum cost for one insertion remains at £1.00 for words under 10 words only.

Under any of the following headings the charge is 10/- per word with a minimum for any one insertion 10/- words or £1.00.

PUBLIC NOTICES; SPECIAL NOTICES; LOST & FOUND; PERSONAL; SALES BY AUCTION, etc. Box Nos. 5d. Extra Charge.

Advertisement Manager
66 Melody Maker
92 Long Acre, London, W.C.3

GIRL MUSICIANS WANTED URGENTLY

Brass, Saxes, Drums and a Vocal Trio or two single Vocalists. High salaries for thoroughly competent musicians. Long contract, resident desired.

Scotland.

Box 1021, "MELODY MAKER."

DANCE HALLS

WANTED TO RENT IN GREATER LONDON AND PROVINCES

Engagements offered to Local Bands.

Particulars—H. MADDEH, 299, Old Street, London, EC1 CLE 5427.