WEEK ENDING AUGUST 14, 1943



EVERY THURSDAY Vol. XIX No. 525

M.U. CONFERENCE PLANS BRIGHTER FUTURE FOR PROFESSION: Full Report of York Discussions

DETAILS HAVE THIS WEEK BEEN SPECIALLY RELEASED TO THE "MELODY MAKER" OF THE VITALLY IMPORTANT SUBJECTS DIS-CUSSED BY THE NATIONAL DELEGATE CON-FERENCE OF THE MUSICIANS' UNION, WHICH MET IN YORK RECENTLY.

Post-war plans for brightening the future of musicians formed the keynote of the debates, and delegates particularly stressed the need for

> encouraging more municipal enterprise in entertainment.

> > The three-day Conference—the most successful the Union has held, and the first since 1928 enabled 21 delegates from all parts of the country, with the full-time officials, to meet the National Executive Committee to voice opinions on proposals made by branches. Top-liners and smaller men —straight men and dance—evinced the ideal fraternal spirit in discussions, on their common problems and aspirations—discussions that revealed the strong personalities of those who will shape the future of the profession.

> > The proper atmosphere was created by the opening address of the Chairman, Mr. Chris. Hoskins. of the Middlesbrough Branch, who reminded the Conference that it was exactly 50 years since the original Amalgamated Musicians' Union was formed, and spoke of the varying fortunes, and triumphs over past difficulties, of the M.U. since 1921.

PRAISE FOR V.O.C.

The decline in membership after the "talkies" had been partly offset by enrolment of dance musicians, through the efforts of the Voluntary Organising Committee and the more progressive branches; but there were still many to be organised, and, now that the Union was much stronger financially, the Executive Committee were considering appointing special organisers to rope in dance men.

He thought present-day recognition of the value of music—exemplified by its use in factories—justified an optimistic outlook on the profession's future, for which the Union could plan.

Moving a resolution that new music should be encouraged, Ben Frankel said that boredom caused by hackneyed works would lessen concertgoers' support of music; he thought young composers ought to be en-

couraged, and musicians should perform new works to maintain public interest.

Ivor Mairants gave his opinion that the constant repetition of "commerclal" numbers made it difficult for dance musicians to "put over good pieces of jazz," and agreed that opportunity should be given to those with new ideas.

In discussing a motion declaring that the B.B.C. avoided its obligation to sponsor the best performances in every field of music, the Conference deplored the disbanding of the B.B.C. Military Band. Ivor Mairants and Van Phillips suggested that the responsibilities of the Corporation should be brought home to them.

The entertainment-providing activities of municipal corporations also were discussed in one of the most interesting debates. After hearing Mr. Brooke (N.W. District Organiser) the delegates agreed that councils had insufficient legal powers to provide entertainment on a proper scale, and that the Union should take action to have them extended.

MUNICIPAL ENTERPRISE

But members from various towns declared that the councils were too timid about expanding municipal enterprise in entertainment, even to the extent now permissible. owing to opposition from powerful vested interests.

It was agreed that the currently increasing popularity of music made the present a good time to urge the planning of municipal orchestras and dance bands; and delegates suggested efforts to enlist the support of representatives on local authorities for such schemes.

The contribution of musicians to the nation's war effort was discussed, and, after the General Secretary (Mr. F. Dambman) had explained the difficulties experienced by E.N.S:A., speakers suggested urging the finest instrumentalists to make some sacrifice to undertake E.N.S.A. work and to ensure (as a resolution expressed it) "that the best music and entertainment is provided to the mass of the people"... in industrial areas, factories and military camps.

References were made to the large number of M.U. members in the Forces, and, after one of the shortest (Please turn to page 2, col. 4)

GENE KRUPA'S BAND BREAKSUP O NE OF THE TOP-LINE SHOW BANDS IN THE STATES SINCE ITS FORMATION IN 1938, GENE KRUPA'S ORCHESTRA HAS BROKEN UP. Brilliant drummer Gene was sentenced to 90 days in jail in San Francisco on May 18 on a charge of contributing to the delinquency

Francisco on May 18 on a charge of contributing to the delinquency of a minor in connection with drugged cigarettes. All his boys willingly signed an agreement promising to stay together until he was out again, and played several dates with Harry Jaeger on drums.

But now Gene's trial on the second charge of possessing narcotics has been postponed owing to illness, and the boys decided to scatter and take up other work.

Three of them have joined Teddy Powell: trombonist Tommy Pederson has joined Red Norvo; Herb Harper, trombone, is now with Charlie Spivak.

Ace trumpet player Ray Eldridge has been offered the use of Krupa's library, and may form his own band. As he is shortly due for the army, however, any important moves in this direction are unlikely.

According to Gene's manager, Frank Verniere, if Krupa is acquitted on the second charge, he will re-form the band on his release, recalling several key men to rejoin him.

Gene—says Verniere—is not afraid to face the public again, and already has a number of bookings available.

"Basin Street" On Records

THE "Chamber Music Society of Lower Basin Street" has been put on records.

Recently the Decca Record Company recorded four titles by Phil Green with the full all-star orchestra which he uses whenever the boys are fortunate enough to be on leave for the "Society's" regular Tuesday night broadcasts.

The other day a "M.M." representative heard one of the sides— "St. Louis Blues." If the others are up to the same standard they are likely to create a sensation.

SHELTON AND COTTON FOR PALLADIUM

ONE of the most important developments this month in the London musical and theatrical world is the return of the Palladium to a season of high-speed Variety on August 24 We can now announce that the

we can now announce that the star attractions to be presented will include Max Miller, Anne Shelton, Issy Bonn, and Billy Cotton and his Band.

"Best Bib and Tucker," the recordbreaking George Black production, with Tommy Trinder, and Edmundo Ros and his Band, has to finish on August 21, for one reason because Trinder is undertaking a big series of concerts for the troops.

With this imposing list of stars, it looks as if the Palladium's new Variety programme will be more than an echo of the grand style which originally made it famous for the presentation of the finest acts and some of the best dance bands in the world.

Fans in town will flock to see Anne Shelton, whose ability on the radio, films and stage has become a household word.

Dance band enthusiasts will also be anxious to give a big hand to Bill Cotton, whose band has been on tour and has not had any regular London "billet" since 1940, when it was a big feature at the Palladium with FRANCIS & DAY'S ORCHESTRAL CLUB You Get 24 Orchestrations for 18/-YOUR FIRST PARCEL CONTAINS

likely to create a sensation. "Not only," says our news sleuth. "is the recording brilliant (the Decca recording is to-day far and away the best in the country), but Phil was also lucky enough to be able to secure all on the one day the services of:--

all on the one day the services of:-"Max Goldberg, Tommy McQuater and Tim Casey (tpts.); George Chishoim and Jack Bentley (tmbs.); Nat Temple (1st alto and clarry); Jack Miranda (alto); Benny Greenwood and George Harris (tenors): Frankie Johnson (alto and barri): Pat Dodd (pno.); Joe Young (g'tar); Joe Nussbaum (bass); and Johnny Marks (drums)."

"The four titles recorded were "St. Louis Blues," "Anchors Aweigh." "St. James' Infirmary" and "Bugle Call Rag." Last two are scheduled for release on September 1.

HIS admirers will be sorry to learn that Harry Lewis, famous saxistclarinettist of the R.A.F. "Squadronairs," and husband of Vera Lynn, is in hospital owing to a severe nasal operation. He is recovering and should be out in a week or two. "Garrison Theatre."

KRAHMER SWINGS AT NEW GREMLIN CLUB

L ATEST London niterie specialising in swing is the "Gremlin," at 12, Archer Street, W., which opens to-day (Thursday, August 12).

At the head of affairs musical is young coloured drummer-vocalist Cab Quaye. Cab is featuring his own rhumba outfit, of which more details will be given when it has settled down. This appointment will not affect Cab's nightly appéarances at the Orchard Club, in Wigmore Street. On the swing side, Cab has handed everything over to the late Jamboree Club's heat dispenser. Carlo Krahmer Carlo, on vibes, leads his own fivepiece band at the "Greinlin," which contains Ronnie Chamberlain (saxes): Harry Nixon (piano); Bert Howard (bass); and Tony Cromble (drums).

THERE'S A HARBOUR OF DREAM BOATS TAKING A CHANCE ON LOVE YOU AND THE WALTZ AND I HAPPINESS IS A THING CALLED JOE A FINE HOW DO-YOU-DO DANCING DAISY THE DAIRYMAID CABIN IN THE SKY YOU, TOO, CAN HAVE A LOVELY ROMANCE

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NEW U.S. AIR SHOW FOR B.B.C.

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THE B.B.C. is about to give us a new American radio feature.

It is none other than the " Charlie McCarthy " famous programme, featuring ventriloquist Edgar Bergen with his impertinent creation "Charlle McCarthy," and Ray Nople and his Orchestra.

Show, which will take the place of the Jack Benny programme for at least thirteen weeks, as a result of the latter's customary annual summer holiday in the States, will run as a Friday nights series, commencing next Friday (20th) at 9.20 p.m. on the Forces wavelength.

Ray ("Good-night, Sweetheart," "Cherokee," etc.) Noble is, of course, the brilliant British planist-arranger-composer-bandleader who first sprung into prominence by winning the "M.M." arrangers' competition in 1927.

Shortly afterwards he joined the Lawrence Wright Music Co. as arranger, and later took a similar post with Jack Payne. Subsequently he went to H.M.V. as

M.D. for dance music, and the many records he made with studio bands under his own name earned him a reputation which enabled him to go. in 1935, to the U.S. where he soon established himself as one of the country's most successful bandleaders.

Ace U.S. Band At Watford

ONDONERS will have one of their few chances of hearing the famous dance orchestra (directed by Warrant-Officer Frank Rosato) of the U.S. London Base Command Band when this exciting combination appears on Friday, September 3 next, at the Watford Town Hall.

The occasion is an evening dance to be presented by Reg. V. Bates in aid of the Prisoners of War Fund and Wembley, Harrow and District Prisoners of War Relatives' Association.

Tickets will be strictly limited to 750, the maximum number permitted under the local A.R.P. regulations.

Any remaining unsold by the night will be available at the doors, price 5s. 6d., but wise ones who do not wish to be disappointed will make immediate application for theirs in advance (price 4s., and you must enclose s.a.e.) from Reg. Bates, 64. Crofts Road, Kenton, Harrow, Middlesex.

CALL SHEET "Tribute to

(Week commencing Aug. 16) Cari BARRITEAU and Band.

Hippodrome, Bristol. Billy COTTON and Band. Winter Garden, Morecambe.

Herman DAREWSKI and Band.

Opera House, Leicester. George ELRICK and Band.

Empire, West Hartlepool. Gloria GAYE and Band. Tower Ballroom, New Brighton.

Carroll GIBBONS. Palace, Blackpool.

GREENE Sisters.

Palace, Dundee. Carroll LEVIS Carries On. Empire, Finsbury Park.

Joe LOSS and Band.

Hippodrome, Birmingham. Felix MENDELSSOHN'S Hawaiians. Hippodrome, Lewisham.

Harry PARRY and Sextet.

Palace, Chelsea. Oscar RABIN and Band.

Green's Playhouse, Glasgow. Monte REY.

Hippodrome, Boscombe. Harry ROY and Band.

Garrick, Southport. Lew STONE and Band.

Empire, Kilburn. Maurice WINNICK and Band.

Empire, Newcastle. Eric WINSTONE and Swingtette. Granada, Harrow.

SOUTHERNS IN VARIETY

THE Southern Sisters, who have been doing radio work for some

time, are now going into Variety. Next Monday (August 16) is their first date, at the Tivoli, Aberdeen, to be followed by a week at the Palace, Dundee, with several further dates pencilled in pencilled in.

Led by Betty Knight, remainder of the Southern Sisters' quartette com-prises Sybil Jason, Vera Havell and Dorothy Warby. They have broad-Dorothy Warby. They have broad-cast extensively in the past few months-both as the Southern Sisters and, in the case of Sybil Jason, in several solo airings.

No Loaf-ing for Whitebread !

NED WHITEBREAD has recently made several changes in his made several changes in his combination at the Meurice (late Quaghno's), Bury Street, London, W. Two notable tenor stylists have joined the band, in the persons of Micky Deans, late of Johnny Claes' Band, and Sammy Leigh, Glasgow-tenor-man who has been on tour with Carl Barrieau

Cari Barriteau. With Ned leading on drums, remainder of the outfit remains unchanged, but further augmentations are in prospect for September.



Swing" Concert: **More Attractions**

NUMBER of fresh attrac-A tions have been added to the already imposing list of star features for the big "Tribute to Swing " concert, to be held at the London Coliseum on October 3, commencing at 2.30 p.m.

As announced, big items already included in the bill are the Feldman Trio, with their own special swing orchestra; and a 30-piece symphony orchestra, built up largely from weil-known dance players and conducted by world-famous figure of the straight world, Albert Goossens.

There is also to be a band composed of the famous "old-timers" of jazz. brought from retirement, in some cases, especially for the occasion, and led by erstwhile drum expert, now famous star of stage and screen, Max Bacon.

Also already announced is a band of swingsters from the Feldman Club, with George Shearing, Tommy Bromley, and stars from their respective outfits.

Among the new attractions which will definitely appear are Buddy Featherstonhaugh and his Radio Rhythm Club Sextet; famous classical pianist Eric Henderson, playing some of the "classics of jazz"; the new coloured West Indies Sextet led by sax stylist Bertie King; and one of the outstanding discoveries of 1943, young

boogie-woogie pianist Roy Cooke. The whole will be compered by David Miller. A number of other star attractions are to be added, and will be announced later.

Tickets are obtainable at the Feldman Swing Club, 100. Oxford Street, W., each. Saturday or Sunday evening. They may also be obtained at these premises (Mack's Restaurant) at any time during the week. Postal appli-cations, enclosing money and stamped. addressed envelope, to Secretary. 9. Oakleigh Gardens, Edgware, Middlesex.

SON FOR TWO STARS

HEARTY congratulations to bassist - guitarist - arranger Harold Griffin and Mrs. Griffin (well-known percussionist Joan Donaldson) on the recent birth of a son'.

Joan Donaldson was with Ivy Benson, leaving the band in order to continue with a University course. Fairly recently she has been playing at the New Theatre, Oxford, and the Harrow Coliseum.

Harold Griffin, who was at the Cabaret Club before joining the R.A.F., now leads his own R.A.F. swing outfit in the Shetlands.



M.U. CONFERENCE

(Continued from Page One)

debates, the Conference decided unanimously to support the Labour Party's demand for increased rates of pay for all men in the Armed Forces, who. as Harry Gold said, "were entitled to the best the country could give."

Much of the debate dealt with the Union's internal organisational affairs; but the Conference expressed approval of co-operation with other organisa: tions to form a federation of Unions. in the entertainment industry.

The Executive Committee supported a proposal, unanimously approved, that delegate conferences of the union should be held every two years; and the M.U. members will be asked to pass an alteration of the present rules to provide for such conferences, which will in future decide matters of Union policy and receive a report on the work of the Executive Committee.

The Conference is a subject of " great interest to M.U. members-but the Union is out to capture the interest also of those in the profession who have not yet joined up.

A recommendation supported by all the delegates urged the waging of an Intensive recruiting campaign almed particularly at organising music students entering the profession. And dance-musicians will not be overlooked, for it was explained that they, especially in the provinces, will be the main target for organisers,

LEADERS' SECTION

It was also announced that as part of a plan to build up a stronger and more active Dance Band Directors' Section, whose development the dele-gates pledged themselves to assist, the secretaryship was being taken over by Hardie Ratcliffe (the Assistant General Secretary).

Speaking of the many lesser-known bandleaders, who were unprotected, he said he hoped they could be convinced that they could best help themselves by helping the Union to build the more powerful and influential organisation that would result from co-operation between leaders and players in the dance-band world.

An interesting discussion took place on the unfortunate position of many provincial theatre orchestras, whose employment has become gradually more casual owing to the travelling of top-line pit bands from London.

It was recognised by London and provincial representatives alike that their interests were in the long run identical in this problem, which the Executive Committee will discuss further.

At the close, the Chairman referred to the heavy extra work involved for officials before and after conferences of this kind; and thanks was extended to the General Secretary, the Assistant General Secretary and Mr. L. L. Key, a member of the Executive Committee, who had made the accommodation arrangements.

The Chairman, whose personality and skilful chairmanship contributed largely to the dignified and businesslike conduct of the proceedings, was warmly thanked; and in a closing speech he agreed with the view of delegates that the undoubted success of the Conference-which, he thought had shown satisfaction with the management of the Union-justified the intention to make similar ones a regular feature. In giving MELODY MAKER readers this first authorised report of the Union's Conference, we would comment that the subjects discussed by to show the Union to be a live organisation with ideas that can help the profession, and further conferences of this kind must give impetus to the growth of an already influential body. But the fullest power to operate its plans will come to the Union only when every musician supports It; and, in our view, It is surprising that, in these days, any musician should fail to do so.

HERE is the latest available list of the ten most popular tunes in America, as assessed by the weekly nation-wide ballot conducted by the American Tobacco Company, and broadcast in their "Your Hit Parade" programme over the C.B.S. network:--

1. COMIN' IN ON A WING AND A PRAYER (1-2--3-3-3-x 10). 2. YOU'LL NEVER KNOW (2-3-2-5-5-x-9-9). 3. AS TIME GOES BY (4-5-6-2-1-x-1-2-1-2-4-3-3-8). 4. LET'S GET LOST (3-1-5-8-8-x-0-10). 5. IN THE BLUE OF EVENING (5-0-9-10). 6. DON'T GET AROUND MUCH ANY

MORE (6-4-1-1-2-x-2-1-3-4-6-8-7). 7. TAKING A CHANCE ON LOVE (9-10-7-9-10-x-6-0-10-10-7-6-10-0-8-10), 8. IT'S ALWAYS YOU (7-7). 9. IT CAN'T BE WRONG (8-6-4-4-4-x-5-3-6-7-9-0-0-9).

10. JOHNNY ZERO.

Figures in parentheses indicate previous. placings. x-Placing unascertained owing to unfavourable reception conditions.

THE "Melody Maker" would like the address of Derrick B. Griffiths, who proposes to start a Lew Stone Fan Club.

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THE MELODY MAKER AND RHYTHM

BRAND'S ESSENCE

NEWS has lately come to light that DAVID MILLER (now touring with the latest stage hit, "Radio Fun and Games") has become adviser to the Feldman Trio, and will expertly supervise most of the future activities of these famous boys.

It has been obvious for some time that David has had more than a passing interest in the virtuosity of nine-year-old drum genius VICTOR year-old drum genius FELDMAN.

This has been evidenced both by David's featuring of the Trio in his B.B.C. "Airfinds" Series and by his many assignments as compere with the boys at their stage appearances, plus the frequency with which he has turned up to enjoy a "basinfull" at the Feldman Swing Club.

In these circumstances it is no sur-prise that "Hello Again" Miller has been asked to give the benefit of his long experience in helping the lads in their many interesting future undertakings.

No mention of Victor would be complete without stressing the enormous part which MAX BACON has played in shaping the young wizard's early career.

Nowadays, however, Max is so extensively fixed up with his Variety. radio and film work that he is only too pleased to think that Victor's future activities will be guided by such an experienced figure of the business as Old Man Miller. Good luck to them as they travel the highway of swing!

Talk around town this past weekend has been fairly buzzing over the mammoth Coliseum concert on October 3, at which one of the big features will be Victor Feldman, but some of the lay public who have seen the Kid Krupa in his two films have actually been saying that it just isn't true: that no boy of only nine could play like this one does; in short, that he is really a grown-up midget.

The "Melody Maker" cannot too strongly refute this absurd nonsense. We needn't assure our readers that when we say he is nine he is nine-and that's all there is to it. But If any sceptics read this they may like to know that we have seen his birth certificate. He was born on April 7, 1934.

I P in Town on leave last week was dapper ex-B.B.C. producer LESLIE PEROWNE, now 2nd Lieutenant in the Royal Fusiliers, and looking very pleased with life.

Leslie-whose part in the launching of the Radio Rhythm Club will never be forgotten by the fans-entered the Army as a footslogging private, and secured finally his commission despite the setback of a very serious bout of pneumonia.

"Have one on Phil, and stick in 'Brazil'."

Most ingenious of the lot, however, you will see in general manager DAVE TOFF'S office, "Have one on Toff, and start 'The Saints' off."

RUDY STARITA, who was featured last week with his "Starlites" for the Whitehaven "Holidays at Home" week, arrived in this town on the Sunday morning with a load of trouble on his mind.

Rudy's pianist was taken ill on the Saturday night, and, being August Holiday week, he knew that it would be almost hopeless to find a deputy up there and at such short notice.

However, miracles do sometimes happen. Rudy had not been in the town long before, with a yelp of in-credulous surprise, he found himself shaking hands with HAROLD PAT-RICK, staff arranger with the Sun Music Co., who was in Cumberland on holiday.

Harold immediately agreed to help Rudy out with his Sunday concert at the Queen's Cinema. Rudy introduced him to the audience, and explained why the band for once had a male pianist.

Harold came through with flying colours, playing several piano-solos, including his new composition, "Strings n' Things." The concert The concert broke all records, and over three hundred people were turned away.

And, finally, so much did Harold Patrick enjoy himself, that he played with Rudy and his girls' band for the rest of the week.

Rudy Starita and his Girls have put in many months of work playing for the American troops, under the auspices of U.S.O. Recently, they were asked to do two shows in a big aircraft factory, and played to 9,000 people.

During the course of his travels for U.S.O., Rudy sometimes meets American musicians from Boston who worked for his famous brother, Al. Starita, before the war. Rudy's greatest ambition these days

is to get his "Starlites" the airing which he feels they well deserve.

BANDLEADER NAT ALLEN, whose chief regular overseas airing is the Malta programme, was much impressed when a swing tune, written by three A.A. gunners during the George Cross island's worst spell of air raids, was sent home for his inspection.

Nat immediately played the number in his Malta programme, with vocal by Anne Shelton, giving its three faraway composers a new kick in life. Now, to-night (Thursday, August 12). he is going to feature the number in his "Tunes With a Tale" programme (8-8.30, Forces). Whole idea of this series is the fostering of unknown talent.

native Yorkshire, with a fortnight at Blackpool in prospect, Rosie will return in September to take up an important position on the exploitation side with the Cinephonic Music Co., following in the footsteps of Harry Compton, who recently went over to Noel Gay.

One day Rosie should write a book about her experi-

ences in the profession, which range over everything from playing piano in a kinema, through every angle. of song - plugging, right up to the important exploitation posts which she has held with Southern Music Co., Messrs. Paxtons, Measrs. Francis, Day and Hunter, and ... now Cinephonic.

Rosie finished up close on two years' happy association with F: D. and H. last Friday (Aug. 6), and after the aforementioned holiday for recuperation,

and the gathering of new ideas, she brings her well-known personality to join DON WILSON and the other exploitation experts of Cinephonic.

Big news from the Cinephonic Co. concerns their forthcoming change of location. Round about the end of August they will move from Dean Street, after seven years, to excellent premises at 100, Charing Cross Road, W., where, on a date to be announced later, General Manager SID COLMAN hopes to welcome all old friends at the new address.



EVERYBODY in the West End knows pianist - song - plugger -accompanist JOHNNY FRANZ, who spends his days at Messrs. Francis Day and Hunters and his nights at piano and novachord in WALLY CHAPMAN'S Dorchester Hotel Dance Band.

Now. Johnny's young brother. Harold, has also come into line as a song-plugger, having lately joined Messrs. F. D. and H. after two years' useful experience with Messrs. Dix and other firms.

Harold, will look after the exploitation side of the business as concerns cinema organists, whilst Johnny, whose professional eye has been extensively trained upon the organist fraternity in the past, will now turn his attention more to the Variety profession.

Harold Franz is also studying hard on plano at the London College of Music.

WELL-KNOWN ex-Henry Hall trumpet player-vocalist CHARLIE PRICE has just been discharged from the Army on medical grounds, and after a short rest plans a return to the profession. To start with, Charlie would like a position that is not too strenuous, until he begins to feel his feet again.

Those of you who heard Harry Parry's broadcast on Sunday (8th) will have caught our Leslie doing a spot of talking, but, if you missed it, you can have another chance of listening to his cheery voice.

He is compering a "Three-Band Session" on Sunday (15th) at 1.45 p.m. in the Forces programme. The bands featured will be the Casa Loma Orchestra, Count Basie, and the Lecuona Cuban Boys.

THAT king of song-pluggers, Southern's SVD Southern's SYD GREEN, has got another ingenious " stunt " whereby he draws attention to his firm's products in easy and unconventional style.

When you walk into Syd's office you will notice a large wooden cigarette-box on his desk. Before you have been there long, the lid mysteriously flies open and inside it you espy a notice saying, "Have one on me, and stick in 'Frenesi''!

Across to professional manageress PHIL ELLIOTT'S office, and you find her with a cigarette-box inside whose song-plugging ace ROSIE DOYLE. lid the wily Sydney has inscribed, At present holiday-making in her

Title of this song from Malta is. 'Siggi, Wiggi Swing.'' It may sound queer, but it's not really all that crazy. because "Siggi, Wiggi" is the troops' usual pronunciation of Siggiowi, a Maltese village, where the soldiers dance during their (often seldom) periods of quietness.

For to-night's version a special hot section of Nat Allen's main 12-piece band will be featured. It will include Tommy Bromley (bass); George Fier-stone (drums); Sid Manikin (tenor); Archie Slavin (guitar); etc. Vocaliste will be Dorothy Carless.

A recording made by Nat Allen's New Swing Septet, with above boys, plus Nat himself on guitars. Rex Owen, clarinet, etc., will be going into one of the "Starlight" programmes shortly. Nat, besides his Malta and other overseas programmes, also has several "Music While You Work" and other airings coming off in the near future.

SEPTEMBER 6 will be another big milestone in the life of woman

"DETECTOR"

(Continued from page 3) MONDAY (16th): 7.0 p.m., "Command Performance"; 8.0, R.A.M.C. Dance Band

TUESDAY (17th): 1.30 p.m., Geraldo; 9.35 p.m., " Music Society of Lower Basin Street."

WEDNESDAY (18th): 3.30 p.m., Geralde; 5.30 p.m., "Southern Serenade," directed by Reg Leopold.

THURSDAY (19th): 6.30 .p.m., "Radto Rhythm Club" presents "Johany Claes in "Nascent Jazz"; 9.25 p.m., "Mail Cail," with Dennis Day, Gertrude Neissen, The Lou Mel Morgan Trio, Pat O'Brien (M.C.), et al.; 11.15 p.m., R.A.F. Dance Band ("Squadronairs").

FRIDAY (20th): 9.10 a.m., Geraldo; 3.30 p.m., "From Spirituals to Swing," records impression of "An Evening at Carnegie Hall, New York, with Jazz Stars"; 7.30 p.m., Fred Hartley; Stars"; 7.30 p.m., Fred Hartley; 9.20 p.m., Charlie McCarthy Show, first of a sew American series featuring Edgar Bergen (with "Charlie McCarthy") and Ray Noble Orchestra; 11.25 p.m., Billy Ternent.

SATURDAY (21st): 9.30 p.m., Geralde.

E MELODY MAKER AND RHYTHM



* O^N August 8, 1940, Edmundo + Ros formed his Cuban Band for their first job. On Sunday, August 8, 1943, he gave a party at Oddenino's to his boys to celebrate an anniversary when the band are at the top of the tree, trebling the London Palladium, the Bagatelle and the Astor. Jack Marshall's picture above shows Edmundo (centre, seated) with Cecil Madden (B.B.C. Director of Overseas Variety) seated on his right, famous comedian Tommy Trinder on his left, "M.M." Editor standing on his right, and the boys of the band gracefully draped around in all directions. Wish we could tell you the Marshall gag that amused everybody so much, but it wasn't that sort of a gag! Full report of the dinner will appear in "Essence" next week.

Mummy Diane Airing Again

ER many fans will be de-H lighted to know that famous singer Diane is returning to the air.

Diane (Mrs. Bernard Rabin) re-tired from active life a few months before the birth of her baby son Michael.

Diane returns to broadcasting next Saturday (August 14) in Jay Wilbur's "Melody on Strings" Programme (7.50-8.30 p.m. Forces), and is also in Jay's next programme the following Friday.

WEEK'S BEST SELLERS

(Week ending August 7) 1. WHISPERING GRASS

U.S. JIVE JOTTINGS

A LTHOUGH Duke Ellington is scoring one of his greatest personal successes ever at the Hawaiian Club on New York's Broadway, his personnel problems are assuming large proportions.

Latest key man to leave the band was Rex Stewart, who took a month off for a trip home to California, while

trombonist Lawrence Brown, tenor star Ben Webster and bassist Junior Raglin are all in line for drafting shortly, Jimmy Hamilton, formerly with Teddy Wilson and Benny Carter, has taken over the clarinet chair left vacant when Chauncey Haughton answered the call to arms; Taft Jordan is now occupying Stewart's trumpet chair and Nat Jones has taken over on alto from Otto Hardwicke.

Beverley White, blues singer and up and coming, is now appearing in the Hawaiian floor show, although the ducal vocals are still being handled by Betty Rocke and Jimmy Britton.

× * * Also suffering with man-power troubles are the CASA LOMANS, who in quick succession have lost trombone-vocalist Pee Wee Hunt, tenor-man Pat Davis, pianist Gil Stevens, and their drummer veteran Tony Buglia.

At press-time only replacements are Hollis Birdwelllate of Heidt-for Davis, and Rod Ogle-from the Herman herd-for Hunt.

* * *

Curlous set up in New York recently when Art Hodes and his jazz band had a date to play for Uncle Sam's lads at an east side social centre.

Art and the boys arrived on time, except trombonist George Brunies.

They waited and waited, but still no George.

So finally they started, but after playing the first two numbers Art noticed that nobody was dancing and a few

officers were looking puzzled. Halfway through the third number a redcap stopped the band and asked what they were doing there anyway. In the ominous silence that followed, the strains of a solo trombone could be heard coming from another room in the same building.

Yes, George was on time and on the right job!

*

We regret to hear of the death of 48-year-old William Stein, executive vice-president of the Music Corporation of America.

Stein, who died in Los Angeles from a painful heart eek ending August 7) PERING GRASS (Campbell, Connelly) A OUR TO-MORROWS

2. ALL OUR TO-MORROWS	outfits.
(Campbell, Connelly) E	* * *
3. I'VE HEARD THAT SONG	FlashbackFive years ago this time. Tommy Dorsey
BEFORE (Chappell) A	fined \$900 for breach of union rules.—Saturday Night
4. DARLING (Peter Maurice) E	Swing Club celebrated its second air birthday with C.B.S.
5. WHY DON'T YOU FALL IN	-Chick Webb received an honorary degree from the New
LOVE WITH ME? (Chappell) A	York University, "Master of Drums" was the title.
WHEN YOU WORE A TULIP	Hugues Panassié arrived in New York to collect
(Ascherberg) A	Hugues Panassie arrived in New Tork to conect
6. AS TIME GOES BY (Chappell) A	impressions for the second volume of the odda from
7. REALLY AND TRULY	I RAV WEDEL, LITCH DOD OLOSOY CHILDOVC, MARINA HANA
. (Peter Maurice) E	Silloway, team player of the same outfitLips Page
YOU'D BE SO NICE TO COME	formed his own band for Harlem's Plantation Club
HOME TO (Chappell) A	Benny Goodman opened at the Ritz-Carlton in Boston,
8. SILVER WINGS IN THE MOON-	and that select resort saw its first jitterbugging
LIGHT (Dash) E	Ben Pollock re-formed his band for the nth time, and
9. WHEN YOU KNOW YOU'RE	an unknown leader got his first break at Cleveland's
NOT FORGOTTEN (Sun) E	Statler Hotel-Sammy Kaye was the name.
10. A FOOL WITH A DREAM	* * *
(Keith Prowse) A	
A-American. E-English.	of Pee Wee Russell, is also in the running for the
	betrothal stakes. More about that shortly,
TT is good news that famous saxist-	betrothal stakes. More about that shortly,
vocalist-arranger George Evans, who	* * *
was badly scalded in an accident re-	
cently, is now out of hospital and	of Johnny Guarnieri (plano), Hank D'Amico (clarinet)
quite well again. George has spent his	and Cozy Cole (drums).
	1 I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I
convalescence working out a system of	I have been a total and the second a many that to light
tuition for arrangers, of which more	troubles are over.
details will be given later on.	I troubles are over

COLLECTORS' CORNER by BILL ELLIOTT NORTH OF THAMES

THIS week the "thinner half" is hoping to clear up the few re-maining points which have arisen from his choice of "over-rateds." As usual, Bill is guiltless, so please don't take it out on him!

About Bud Freeman, who still remains the favourite tenor of so many collectors:

We started out as one of Bud's strongest boosters. Away back in 1934-5 we used to take our imported copy of "The Eel"/"Home Cooking" around to all the rhythm clubs. It was usually received with stony slience, for Chicago wasn't fashionable in those days!

But that was long ago, and for the last few years, whilst Bud's popularity has increased by leaps and bounds, we have been becoming more and more firmly convinced that, judged by his average output. Bud is jazz's No. 1 Bore.

Those over-boosted trios of his on Commodore first started us thinking. But Stacy and Wettling were so grand on those that we were inclined to forgive the sour tenor.

But since then we have heard far too many "Summa Cum Laudes" for any doubt to remain in our mind. Whatever may be said of the other musicians, Bud at least sounds the same on every one. The same sour tone whenever he sustains a note for more than a quaver, the same " oodles of doodles "-always those " exercises for B flat tenor saxophone."

"The Eel" certainly started something. Bud was featuring this as far back as 1929, and he is still using the same idea, having long since left his happier and less-hackneyed phrases on the shelf.

× × Afterthought: Most of the nice spots of white tenor which we had in our youth attributed to Bud have since been identified as being by somebody else—Mezzrow, Eddle Miller, Babe Rusin, Fud Livingston, etc. Which may prove something or other!

Of the countless readers who have voiced their disagreement. only R. E. Schraer has put forward alternatives. He thinks Tony Pastor or George Auld would have been more appropriate.

We certainly agree that the latter is worth considering. And, while we are on this sort of thing, how about Tex Beneke for third place?

As to Lester Young, we (this is Jeff still speaking) put him in very much the same class as Freeman, and for similar reasons. After the first few hearings he is a bore.

He occasionally scores, but by and large we don't like his foghorn tone or his slick phrasing.

Why bother, anyway, while players Ellington personnels we were dis-

WOLVERINE DIES

TAZZ students will learn with deep regret of the death, which has just occurred in Hollywood, of Wilford ("Min") Leibrook, famous bassist and one of the original members of never-to-be-forgotten the Wolverines.

Min Leibrook, who was only 40 years of age, spent eight years with Paul Whiteman, and was a buddy of Bix's.

At the time of his death he was playing with Manny Strand's orchestra at the Earl Carroli Theatre in Los Angeles

like Joe Thomas, Bob Carroll and Prince Robinson are available-and while the best of Hawkins has been put on wax?

×

X

× Our choice of Bobby Hackett didn't go down too well. Most people suggested Harry James or Ziggy Elman. and thought that, being rather poorly represented in British catalogues. Hackett had hardly been praised enough.

We had thought that his reputation over here was quite high, but maybe we were wrong.

So many enthusiasts had raved to us about Hackett that the "thinner half" thought it about time an attempt was made to see him in truer perspective-as a pleasantly melodic player in the Bix tradition. rather lacking in drive, and with a too soft tone. We find his lead in improvised ensembles just isn't to be compared with that of a couple of dozen other white horn men.

> * X

Jeff's other choices don't seem to have provoked any particularly violent reactions. But we would like to explain why we cited Juan Tizol. Ever since "Caravan" he has been

one of the most popular instrumentalists in jazz, despite the fact that his style has nothing whatever to do with jazz.

Again and again in modern Ellingtons that valve trombone crops up, playing those "exotic" melodles, for the vogue for which he bears much responsibility. On the strength of this there has been a regrettable tendency to class Tizol as a hot trombonist.

During our attempts to sort out



tinctly surprised at the frequency with which readers boosted this "Ketelby of Jazz." We seem to have covered most of

the points raised during this little diversion, and, unless anything more comes in in the mail to justify our reopening the subject, it's back to the normal routine again.

* X ×

JEFF'S SOLO OF THE WEEK

Louis Armstrong's driving New Orleans horn on "Drop That Sack" -a glorious example of hot phrasing, both in his solo spot and in his sober line as leader of the ensemble.

Johnny Dodds and Kid Ory are there, too, as are Lil and Johnny St. An excellent example of the Cyr. original Hot Five, this one is on Brunswick O2502.

* × N. .. CATALOGUE CHANGES

Thanks to Owen Bryce and to Messrs. Drysdales, of Woolwich, for details of the re-numbering of various Columbia and H.M.V. jazz discs. Old numbers appear before the titles, new numbers follow.

COLUMBIA.-4269, Ted Lewis COLUMBIA.—4269, Ted Lewis, "Some of These Days"/"Bugle Call Rag," changed to FB.2812; 5485, Ted Lewis, "Moonlight Madness"/"Good-night," FB.2814; CB.446. Ted Lewis, "Dallas Blues"/"Royal Garden Blues." FB.2820. CB.541 Filington "Merryspround"

CB.591, Ellington, " Merrygoround " "Sophisticated Lady," FB.2821; CB.692, Goodman. "I Gotta Right" "Ain'tcha Giad?" FB.2822; CB.712, Goodman, "Dr. Heckle and Mr. Jibe"/ "Texas Tea Party," FB.2823; CB786, Goodman, "Moon Glow"/"Your Mother's Son-in-Law," FB.2826. H W B5945 Fillington "Bing

" Ring H.M.V.—B5945, Ellington, "Rin Dem Bells "/" Three Little Words, changed to BD.5755: B6066, Ellington, "Limehouse Blues"/"Echoes of the "Limenouse Blues "Echoes of the Jungle," BD.5756; B6106, Ellington. "Sweet Jazz o' Mine" Stevedore Stomp." BD.5757; B6252, Ellington, "Creole Love Call," and McKenzie, "Tailspin Blues," BD.5758; B6277, Ellington. "Double Check Stomp" "Sweet Dreams," BD.5759 B6343 Filington. "Blues LaLove"

B6343, Ellington. "Blues I Love "/ Hot Feet," BD.5760; B6465, Calloway. "Cabin in the Cotton "/" Scat Song." BD.5765; B6468, Ellington, "Daybreak Express "/" Dear Old Southland," DB.5766.

And don't forget that the "BD." series is on the cheap label, so there is no need to pay 4s. 5¹/₂d. for the above.

> * *

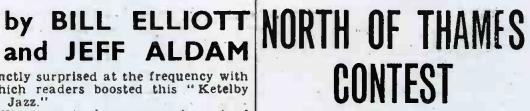
SWAP AND BUY DEPT.

×

Alan Tait, 55, Henry St., Shieldfield, Newcastle-on-Tyne, wants deleted Shaw Vocalions and Stacy's "Ec Stacy" on 12-inch Commodore.

D. J. Holloway, of 34, Churchill Ave., and D. Oswin, of 8 St. Andrews Rd., both Coventry, are in search of the same platter, and they will each pay a good price for a copy of "Firehouse Blues," by Red McKenzie. If you by Red McKenzie. have only one copy. I should toss as to which one you send it to. Hal Adams, "Melrose." Broadway,

Hal Adams, "Melrose." Broadway, Pontypool, will pay 7s. 6d. for a copy, in good condition, of "Always," by Benny Goodman. on H.M.V. E. G. Wright, "Telsee," Greenmead Ave.. Everton, Hampshire, is in the market for old Bing Crosby discs, and he is willing to pay up to 4s. for them or make a reasonable swap with some swing platters he has for disposal. G. S. Burton, "Stanley Cot." Sharoe Mount Ave., Broughton, Preston, badly wants "Chant of the Weeds" on Parlophone R2134—the Harlan Lattimore version. He will also buy any early Columbia discs of Ted Lewis' Band. R. J. Burley, 208a, Richmond Rd., Kingston, Surrey, wants Krupa re-cordings on the Columbia label, especially "Roll 'Em," on DB5067. Wemyess Craigle, 46, Balfour St., Leith. Edinburgh (well known for his B.B.C. broadcasts) will buy ali old Roy Fox Decca records previous to Number F2450. R. Sutcliffe, 370, Thornton Rd., Bradford, Yorks, wants Krupa's "Wire Brush Stomp" (great demand for Krupa platters this week!) and old copies of "Down Beat" and "Rhythm."



TOWN HALL, WEMBLEY

Friday, August 6

FULL REPORT

DD to the list of bands which have qualified for the South Britain Finals at the Wimbledon Town Hall on Monday, September 20, next, as given in the "M.M." of July 17 last:

Douglas, Jack, and his Swingtet, of New Malden, Surrey.

They earned their right to compete in these Finals by winning the 1943 "North of the Thames" Championship last Friday night (6th) at the Town Hall, Wembley.

Last-minute inability of musicians to get away from important war work played havoc with the entry list, and the contest had to be held with the record low number of only four bands.

Also, due probably to so many of the best London area bands having already qualified in previous contests for the South Britain Finals, the standard of the contest was rather noticeably below average. In fact, it must be admitted that

the winning band was the only one which could justly claim any right to have been in the contest for reasons other than the important one of gaining experience.

But this did not prevent the evening from being another success for Organiser Reg. Bates.

As at the 1943 Middlesex Contest last June, quite early in the evening the attendance had reached the maximum of 750 permitted under the local A.R.P. regulations-and this in spite of the admission having been increased one shilling.

And what with the R.A.F. "Aeronautics" as house band, the- jam session by Jack Miranda and some of the "Aeronautics" boys, and charming film star Mimi Jordan to present the prizes, the guests certainly had a good show for their money.

JUDGES' REPORT

Adjudicators: Jack Miranda, Jack Reading (in charge of Music and Bands for the American Red Cross Field Zones), Edgar Jackson.

WINNERS

Jack Douglass and his Swingtet (trumpet, accordion, piano. guitar, bass. drums). All coms.: 26, Kingscote Road,

drums). All coms.: 26, Kingscote Road, New Malden, Surrey. Individualists' awards for: Trumpet. accordion, piano, guitar, bass, drums. Special cup for best "small" band.

This band was conspicuous for two reatures—its thoroughly good, driving rhythm section and its accordion player.

Accordions are always something of 'a problem in dance music, partly because of the inherent characteristics of the instrument but more because of the way it is so often played. Whereas even immature players of other instruments generally have at least some sense of dance style. accomplished accordionists even are usually conspicuous for their lack of it. Jack Douglass (yes, it was he who played the accordion) showed himself to be not only a capable musician, but an accordionist who knew how the instrument should be used in a dance band. In both solos and ensemble he was excellent.

THE LOVER'S LULLABY DARLING DARLING DARLING HI DREAM OF YOU YEAH-MAN! MISTER FIVE BY FIVE	
Crchestral Prices: S.O. 3/-, F.O. 3/6. TRIO 64 THE BLUES'' AND HOW TO PLAY 'EM By FRANK PAPARELLI The first method on the Elues ever published.! Designed for all grades of pianists and arrangers. A special section for beginners contains a complete course with graded solos. PRICE 5/-, 5/2 Post free. THE PETER MAURICE MUSIC Co. Ltd., 21, Der	CLUB COUPON Name Address MARK COMBINATION REQUIRED Terms for 24 Nos.:-S.O. 18/-, F.O. 24/-, Trio 12/- (with Trio upwards), Extra P.C. 6/-, other Extras 3/-, Song Copies 10/-

Which leaves the trumpet.

*

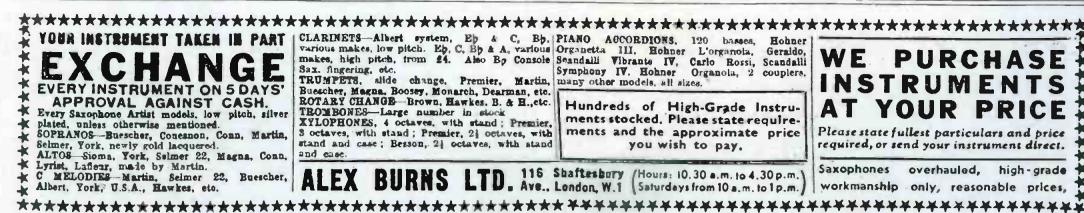
Here was the weak spot in the band. Both the tone and delivery of this young player are too "cramped." which prevented his otherwise quite presentable and understanding performance from ever sounding relaxed or flowing.

Bob Pluck and his New Bob Cats, of Harrow Weald, secured second place; Ronald V. Stokes and his Band, of Ruislip, whose tenor obtained his indi-vidualist's award, were placed third.

*

* .

Little more need, or can, be said of either of these bands than that enthusiasm, desirable as it is, is not the only thing necessary to produce good dance music. Something worth calling musicianship is also essential—and it's only by hard, solid practice that it can be acquired.



VOCALISTS

WANTED: Young Lady Vocaliste, must have experience and personality, for well-known dance band North West seaside resort .-- Write, giving full particulars and photo, to Box 3738, MELODY MAKER.

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AMERICAN style s.p. brass men, first-class readers, to complete section of new 14-piece orchestra playing Miller, Dorsey, arrangements, rehearse Sunday mornings, keen men.

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empt.—Ben Bloom, 4. Newling Street. Bethnal Green, E.2. Bis. 5047.

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ch. for first-class engt. with post-war prospects, now leading D./S. comb., good cl. hotel, young, exempt .-- Box 3734, MELODY MAKER.

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