**WEEK ENDING FEBRUARY 19, 1944** 



EVERY THURSDAY Vol. XX No. 552

# AMBROSE TO LAUNCH

A NEW ALL-STAR, ALL-COLOURED DANCE BAND, PERSONNEL OF WHICH WILL INCLUDE SOME OF THE BEST-KNOWN NAMES IN THE BUSINESS, IS AT PRESENT IN THE PROCESS OF BEING ORGANISED BY NONE OTHER THAN MAESTRO BERT AMBROSE.

The new outfit is to be a nine-piece combination, plus one coloured girl vocalist, and although details of the sensational line-up cannot be given the moment we are sale to reveal that when

at the moment, we are able to reveal that, when all the names are pullshed, this new band of stars will be seen to form one of the most important and progressive projects that the pro-

fession has known in a long time.

Readers will need no reminder that the name of Ambrose is synonymous with stylishness, slick presentation and perfect musical taste.

He has expansive plans for the new combination, which will include sen-cational radio dates. Variety appear-ances up and down the country, and probably also a West End resident

probably also plots.

This exciting news will be hailed with delight by the fans.

Here at last is a development that looks like rejuvenating the milk-and-water commercialism that is seeping into the veins of the dance band profession everywhere. Watch the fession everywhere. Wa "M.M." for further details

# HERE ARE THE RECORDS OUR READERS WANT ISSUED!

# "Collectors' Corner" Poll Results

AS WE GO TO PRESS, THE LAST FEW VOTES IN THE "RECORDS FOR ISSUE" BALLOT RUN BY "COLLECTORS' CORNER" HAVE JUST COME ALONG, AND YOU WILL FIND THE RESULTS BELOW.

The poll has been one of the most successful ever organised by "M.M." over a thousand readers having recorded their votes for the gramophone discs they want to see released during 1944.

Votes.

Blues" (Santo and Band), Amer.

"Magnolia Blues" (Santo Pecora and Band), Amer. Golumbia "Oh. Baby" (Condon Quartet).

unissued ... 647

'Ghost of a Chance" (Cab Galloway Ork.) Okeh ... 597

Pine Top's Boogle" (Pine Top Smith), Amer. Brunswick ... 551

Death Letter Blues" (Jimmy Yancey), Bluebird ... 456

World is Wailing for Sunriese" (Frank Newton Band), Bluebird ... 458

"Panama" (Red Nichols and Band), Amer. Brunswick ... 377

"Streamline Train" (Red Nelson), Amer. Decca ... 439

Muskrat Ramble" (Louis Armstrong), Amer. Columbia ... 344

"Don't You Loudmouth Me" (Cow Cow Davemport), Amer. Decca ... 302

Willow Weep for Me" (Cow Cow Waremport), Amer. Columbia ... 302

Willow Weep for Me" (Cow Cow Maremport), Amer. Columbia ... 302

Decca
"Willow Weep for Me" (Cab Calloway Ork.), Okeh
"Bornet Chop Suey" (Louis Armstrong), Amer. Columbia

That the results have justified all the time and trouble taken is well proved by some exciting news already to hand from the gramophone com-

# CEMS TO BE ISSUED

We hear from Wally Moody that the Condon Quartet diso "Oh, Baby," will be issued on Parlophone, March 1, with its original session mate of "Indiana."

The news of its release reached us just too late for inclusion in last week's "M.M.," but Wally Moody, who tells us that he has followed the poll with great interest all through, made up his mind to release it when he saw the hundreds of votes it was polling.

Wally deserves the thanks of

he saw the hundreds of votes it was polling.
Wally deserves the thanks of record fans everywhere for making this disc available, and is to be congratulated on his initiative, for by: its issue Britain scoops the world.
It will be remembered that Bill Elliott and Sinclair Traill found the missing master of "Oh, Baby" some two years ago after American collectors had sought vainly for years and the same thing applies to "Indiana" that eventually turned up in Australia through the research of Australian collector Keith Roist.
Harry Sarton, of British Decca-Brunswick, has also kept his eye on the voting, and informs us that Red Nichols' "Panama" "Margie" No. 7 in the list, will be issued on Brunswick, April 1, while all the other discs mentioned that come under his jurisdiction will definitely be released during 1044.

# LEWIS-PARNELL WAX OWN JAZZ COMBO

O'N Saturday morning (12th), at the E.M.I. Studios, a record session took place which. if it sounds as good on the wax as it did in the flesh, should set new standard in British jazz discs

The session was sponsored by Vic Lewis and Jack Parnell, guitarist and drummer respectively of Buddy Featherston-haugh's Radlo Rhythm Club Sextet, and both of them real experts in what constitutes righteous favy. righteous jazz.

righteous jazz.

They assembled an interesting combination consisting of themselves, of course, plus brilliant semi-pro, alto axist Derek Hawkins; Ronnie Chamberlain on soprano sax; Billy Riddick, trumpet: Dick Katz, piano; and Charile Short, bass and the light of the first two titles recorded are "Mean Oid Bed Bug Blues" and "Johnny's Idea," the latter being an original theme worked out specially for the group by that great american clarinet player Johnny Mince.

These first two titles will be assued.

These first two titles will be issued on the Parlophone swing label on April 1, under the name of "Vic Lewis and Jack Parnell's Jazz Men."

# Stanley Black's Band On The Air

FANS who have been interested in the news that famous planist-arranger Stanley Black has formed his own band will get

has formed his own band will get a chance of hearing it on the air when the new General Forces programme replaces the present Forces on February 27.

Stanley and his boys will be one of the first dance bands to be heard on the new wavelength on the day of its inauguration, for they will broadcast in their regular show. "Palestine Half-Hor."

The outfit is a twenty-piece.

# FENOULHET HURT

THE MELORY MAKER IS sorry to learn that famous trombone-player Paul Fenouthet, leader of the F.A.F. Skyrockets, had an accident last week, as a result of which he has fractured his left hand.

Cpl. Faul was walking down the steps leading to an underground B.B.C. sludio in the black-out, when-shipped and 1610 ph. his hand.

He will, of course, be out of commission as a trombonist for some little time, but he cheerfully assured us that he proposes to carry on his arranging as heretofore, whenever the pain of his injury permits. We wish him a quick recovery.

TLINESS has hit Harry Roy hard during

tour of the Middle East.
Following the news recently reported in the "M.M." that his trumpet player, Tommy Balderson, had to go into hospital, comes further information that all three of the band's popular girl singers—Marjorie Kingsley, Jean Carol, and Mary Lee—have suffered bouts of illness during

This news reached us in a hurried letter from Tommy Balderson—now quite recovered and back with the band again—and at the time of writing he reported that Jean Carol was then in hospital.

## VERA LYNN NEXT

There are no further details at present, but fans will join us in hoping that the little lady has by now fully recovered.

During a bout of indisposition Mary Lee collapsed three times in one night, once right in the middle of a number, but insisted on coming back later and going on with the

show. Another time Marjorie Kingsley Another time Marjore kingstey became ill and was ordered to go into hospital, but rather than let Harry Roy and the huge troop dudience down, she went on against doctor's orders and, still put over a splendid

me supper and tell by the same.

He will, of course, be out of commission as a trombonist for some little time, but he cheerfully assured us that he proposes to carry on his arranging as heretofore, whenever the pain of his injury permits. We wish him a quick recovery.

FAMOUS guitarist Frank Deniz has been turned down for health reasons for any further service in the Merchan Nasen concentrating on Frank has been concentrating on the brondcasting angle recently. It is likely that the conditions and the brondcasting angle recently. It is likely that the conditions the process of a many further service in the merchan the brondcasting angle recently. It is likely that the conditions the process of a many further service in the merchan the process of a many further service in the merchant of the process of the story of the story

# "K.P." 27TH STAR PARCEL-OF 3 HIT TUNES FOR THE FIRST (I'VE FALLEN IN LOVE)

# THANKS THE DREAM

PUT A PENNY UNDERNEATH YOUR PILLOW

DANCE SETS OF THE ABOVE 3 NUMBERS 3/- POST FREE

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THE RHYTHM OF THE JEEP BACKED WITH FOUR OR FIVE TIMES

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# CALL SHEET

(Week commencing February 21)
Les ALLEN. Carl BARRITEAU and Band. Hippodrome, Chatham.
Billy COTTON and Band.
Empire, Shepherd's Bush.
George ELRICK and Band.

Gloria GAYE and Band. E.N.S.A.

GERALDO and his Orchestra.
Streatham Hill Theatre, London.
Stephane GRAPPELLY and Swingleite Hippodrome, Golders Henry HALL and Band.

Green's Playhouse Joe LOSS and Band. Empire, New Cross.
Roy MARSH and Swingtette (pr

Savoy, Scunthorpe. Felix MENDELSSOHN'S Hawailan Sere-

Empire, Chatham, larry PARRY and Sextel, Royal Edinburch Royal, Edinburgh.
Oscar RABIN and Band.
E.N.S.A.

Lew STONE and Band. Empire, Middlesbrough, urice WINNICK'S Band (led by Ha lnes), Empire, West Hartlepool.

# U.S. HIT PARADE

HERE is the latest available list of the nine most popular tunes in America, as assessed by the weekly nation-wide ballot conducted by the American Tobacco Co, and broadcast in their "Your Hit Parade" programme over the C.B.S. network:—
1. MY HEART TELLS ME (1-1-3-4-7-).
2. WHITE CHRISTMAS.
2. PLIL BE HOME FOR CHRISTMAS.

CONGRATULATIONS to drummer vocalist-handleader Cab Quaye, who, on February 11 last, completed his first anniversary with his own outfit at the Orchard Club, wignore Street, London.

Cab's first year back in Town, after many incredible experiences in the Merchant Navy (which were chronicled in the Christmas, 1942, "M.M.") has been quite a momentous one, since, in addition to his Orchard Club venture, he has organised several other bands, and is nowadays also playing a leading part in a London Variety agency.

Boys regularly in the Orchard Club venture, being completed on the considering the considering part in a London Variety agency.

Boys regularly in the Orchard Club venture, being completed on the considering part in a London Variety agency.

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Boys regularly in the Orchard Club venture, and we can be completed to the hot factory of the considering part in a London Variety agency.

Boys regularly in the Orchard Club venture and vocalistic mental comparatively late in the season, with the same idea that the competition will have become less experienced bands have been able to wash way with early contests.

Anyway, we are doing our best to consider sponsoring any more events in them.

# BUMPER SEASON OPENS FEB. 24

WESTON-SUPER-MARE
Subject to sufficient entries
being forthcoming, a contest will
definitely be arranged in
Weston-super-Mare. Will bands
desireus of competing therefore
please communicate immediately
with the Contests Director,
MELONY MAKER, 93, Long Acre,
W.C.2.

But we should still like to hear

**FIXTURES** 

\* \*

ON Thursday next (24th) the 1944 Contesting Season opens with the Middlesex Championship at the Wembley Town

Hall.

A feature of this event will be the all-star house band directed by Pat O'Neill and presenting the famous swing virtuosi Pat Dodd, Derek Hawkins, George Fierstone, and George

In the regular weekly Contest Fix-In the regular weekly Contest Fix-tures list herewith will be found further details of this event (the entry list for which is now full), full details of the 1944 Birmingham District Cham-pionship at West Bromwich the fol-lowing Wednesday (March 1), and preliminary details of four other contests.

That we are for the moment listing That we are for the moment listing only those six events is due solely to the fact that war-time shortage of space prevents us from announcing any contest more than seven weeks before it is due to take place, and should not be taken as in any way indicative of the total number of contests it is hoped to present this season.

## ORGANISERS-NOTE I

Actually, the season may well turn out to be the biggest we have been able to arrange since before the war.

Already some twenty-five county and district championships have been Already some twenty-five county and district championships have been 3 county and district championships have been any and district championships have been 3 county and district championships have been 4 co

# GERALDO SCORES ON

IT is undoubtedly a fine tribute to Geraldo that he played to such good business on his opening night at Golders Green Hippodrome this current week, where he is making his first "public" appearance since returning in triumph from the Middle East, and putting over the first of the series of stage shows upon which a good deal of the band's future attention will be concentrated.

Not only is this show a draw at Golders Green; it will be a big success

But we should still like to hear from organisers who are in a position to promote championships in the following counties, preferably in the town in the parentheses. The following counties is preferably in the town in the parentheses. The following counties is preferably in the town in the parentheses. The following counties is preferably in the town in the parentheses. The following counties is presented to the following counties in the didders of the first and most an advantage of the first and most an advantage in the following weaknesses—which time will reduce the production has the consisting (Lincoln, Scunthorpe); Norfolk (Nowich); Northumberiand (Newcastle); Oxfordshire (Oxford); Somerset (Bath, Taunton); Suffolk (Ipswich); Wilkshire (Salisbury, Swindon); Yorkshire (Hull, Middlesbrouch and/or Scarborough only); and Wales (Cardiff or Newport especially). Intending organisers are, however, asked to make sure that there is a large enough hall available in the town, and a sufficient number of town, and a sufficient number of prospective entries in the district before applying for the arrangements and conditions under which the Microby Maxira co-operates with organisers of dance-band contests. One of its best offerings for the fans a was a fine arrangement of "China Boy" which featured, in particular, the trumpet of Leslie Hutchinson, the clarinet of Billy Amstell—now a very susful regular member of the ensemble, as is trombonist Eric Tann and the really nimble drumnisties of Maurice Burman, who, known to us in the past mostly as an excellent section man susceeded in fairly section man, succeeded in fairly covering himself with glory in Monday's show.

Thursday next, February 24.—WEMBLEY, the Town Hall (7.30-11.30 p.m.). The 1944 Middlesex Championship. The 1944 Middlesex (Phone: HARrow 3953.) Entry list closed.

\* \* \* Wednesday, March 22.—BAYSWATER, the Porchester Hall, Forchester Read, W.2 (at 7 p.m.). The 1944 Central Wersion of "Paper Doll." Were the Middlesex (Price of the 1944 Middlesex (Phone: Hall, Forchester Read, W.2 (at 7 p.m.). The 1944 Central Wersion of "Paper Doll." Wersion of "Paper Dol

Wednesday, March 22.—BAYSWATER, the Forchester Hall, Forchester Road, W.2 (at 7 p.m.), The 1944 Central London Champlonship, Organiser: Mr. Reg V. Bates, 64, Crotts Road, Kenton, Harrow, Middlesex. (Phone: HARrow 3933.) Biggest surprise of the show? Undoubtedly the fine comedy work of Johnny Lockwood. Now it is obvious that Johnny's previous appearances in Geraldo shows have been disappointing simply because we have not seen enough of him.

Geraldo shows have been disappointing simply because we have not seen can be suffered by the property of him.

Friday, March 31.—EPSOM (Surrey), the Laysom Baths (7-11.30 p.m.). The 1944 Sesuthern Counties Champlonship.

Road, Londoni W.W. 224, Birkton Road, Londoni Road, Londoni Road,

# VOTES ITS SWING FAVOURITES

by THE EDITOR

"ESQUIRE" ALL-AMERICAN BAND

a jazz magazine in Java), Paul voted for Pee Wee Russell, with Bud Eduard Miller (veteran among jazz-writers), Bucklin Moon (Negro author), Timme Rosenkrantz (Danish Balley; and Charles Edward Smith (part but Irving Pazola first and Sidney Behot vexpert), Charles Edward Smith (part author), Timme Rosenkrantz (Danish expert), Charles Edward Smith (part author), Timme Rosenkrantz (Danish expert), Charles Edward Smith (part author of "Jazzmen" and one of the greatest writers on Jazz annyhere).

Bob Thiele (editor of "Jazz" magazine), Frank Stace, (New York editor of "Down Beat"), Barry Ulanov (editor of "Metronome"), and Robert Godlin (Belgian critic).

Since "Exquire" wanted musicians chosen who could play together as a working band, the orchestra was drawn up with only one clarinet and one saxophone, so it was necessary

February 19, 1944

"DOWN BEAT"

Swing Band: Benny Goodman. Sweet Band: Tommy Dorsey. Small Combos: Roy Eldridge. King of Corn: Spike Jones. Favourite Soloist: Benny Good-

Trumpet: Ziggy Elman.
Trombone: J. C. Higginbothan
Alto Sax: Johnny Hodges,
Tenor Sax: Yido Musso.
Clarinet: Pee Wee Russell.
Piano: Jees Stacy,
Drums: Gene Krupa.
Bass: Artie Bernstein,
Gultar: Eddie Condon.

Arranger: Sy Oliver.
Male Singer: Frank Sinatra.
Female Singer: Jo Stafford.

HANS in the States are just

bout of "poll-fever," when they

This year three magazines have sponsored such, polls, and

it is very interesting to compare

the various placings and the dif-

ferences of opinion about the great ones of the dance-band

will find the results, and now let's go through them carefully. "ESQUIRE" EXPERTS

We'll take "Esquire" first, because it does the fans the

honour of bringing out a special

Jazz Number" for its February,

1944, edition-and what a terrific.

job it is! If you can get a copy

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getting over their annual

their favourite musicians and bands, and a good time is

Trumpet: Ziggy Elman.

man.

Now let's take the winners, instru-

# Lead Alto: Toots Mondello. Hot Alto: Benny Carter. Clarinet: Benny Goodman. Hot Tenor: Charlie Barnet, Baritone: Harry Carney. Lead Trumpet: Harry James. Hot Trumpet: Roy Eldridge. Lead Trombone: Tommy Dorsay. Hot Trombone: J. C. Higginbottiam

hot Trombone: J, botham. Piano: Jess Stacy. Guitar: Allan Reuss. Bass: Bob Haggart, Drums: Gene Krupa. Miscellaneous: Lionel Hampton. Arranger: Sy Oliver. Female Vocalist: Helen Forrest. Male Vocalist: Bing Crosby.

~"METRONOME"~

Weiss, Bob Haggart, and Billy Taylor, 2 each; and Doc Goldberg, I mark.

2 each; and Doc Goldberg, I mark.
DRUMS.—With Gene Krupa out of the
running, the judges mostly plumped for
welson's drummer, Sidney Catlett,
that record of the control of the control
(Ole (9), 40 Jones (7), 10 need of the
(9), and George Wettling.
Specs Powells was put as first choice
by Barry Ulanov, and Arthur Herbert by
Timme Rosenkrants. They weren't mentioned by any other judge, so this gave
them two votes each, and J. C. Beard
(second choice of Roger Kay) had one
mark.

mark.

ODD INSTRUMENTS.—This was a special class for instruments which are capable of top performances, but which have no place in the usual rigid jazz classifications. They include the xylophone, vibraharp, violin, and baritone and soprano saxes.

It resulted in a tie between Red Norvo (xylophone) and Lionel Hampton (vibrahar), with 15 votes each, with Sidney Bechet (soprano), six marks; Eddie South, Ray Nance, and Joe Venuti (violins), three marks each; Harry Carney (barlione), two marks; and Pete "Rabbit" Graham (vibraharp), one

1044, edition—and what a terrific
job it is! If you can get a copy
when it comes over here, you'll
enjoy it.

Whereas "Down Beat" and
"Metronome" dree upon the same in the sa

TRUMPET: Louis Armstrons, 1; Cootie Williams, 2.
TROMBONE: Jack Teagarden, 1; Lawrence Brown, 2.
CLARINET: Benny Goodman, 1; Barney Bigard, 2.
SAXOPHONE: Coleman Hawkins, 1; Johnny Hodges, 2.
PIANO: Art Talum, 1; Earl Hines, 2.
GUITAR: All Casey, 1; Oscar Moore, 2.
BASS: Oscar Petiliford, 1; Millon Hinton and All Morgan tied 2nd.
DRUMS: Sidney Catlett, 1; Cozy Cole, 2.
MALE VOCALIST: Louis Armstrons, 1; Leo Watson, 2.
PEMALE-VOCALIST: Billie Hollday, 1; Mildred Bailey, 2.
ODD INSTRUMENTS: Red Norvo and Lionel Hampton tied ist.
ARMED FORCES FAVOURITE: Artie Shaw, 1; Willie Smith and Dave
Tough tied 2nd. 

JOIN THE "WRIGHT" CLUB-24 HITS FOR 24'-F.O. 32/-, TRIO 13/-, P.C. 8/-, SOLO 13/-, OTHER PARTS 4/-

# Now let's take the winners, instrument by instrument:— TRUMPET. — Louis Armstrong won hands down here. He polled 16 points, with Coole Williams second, with eight points, and Roy Eldridge and Bill Coleman tied third with five points each. Leonard Feather put Coole Williams first on his voting sheet; George Avakian plumped for Mugray Danler of the Chayton; and Roger Kay and Timme Rosenkrants preferred Bill Coleman. Abel Green's first choice was Harry James. Other trumpets the judges could have voted for were Bobby Hackett, Charlie Shavers and Red Nichols. TROMBONE.—Another convincing win, with Jack Teagarden (13) beating Lawrence Brown (8), with George Brunis (7) and J. C. Higrinbotham (6) close behind. Abel Green plumped for Tommy Dorsey: Pau Eduard Miller of Tommy Dorsey: Pau Eduard Miller (19) and J. C. Higrinbotham (6) close behind. Abel of the ballot were Dicky Wells, Ployd O'Brien, Mill Mole, Benny Morton and Tyree Glenn. CLARINET,—This was the big walkover of the ballot. Only three Judges had the temerity not to include Goodman in their selections. These courageous guys were George Avakian, who NUMBER SOMETH **FAR-AWAY LANE** HEYHO, IT'S LOVE AGAIN

SOPHISTICATED LADY DANCE SET 3/6

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February 19, 1944

Berigan graph:
"But recently, with the exception of a few months with Dorsey last year, and very commercial at that, he seems to have been pushed, or,

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HAPPY DAYS.

AS this particular part of the "Corner" goes to-press, votes for our press, votes for our poil are still pouring in, and at the moment it is quite a toss-up as to whether "Oh, Baby" or "Magnolla Blues" will finish first.

However, if you turn to the front page you will find the final results of their glory, and in the their glory, and in the

今日

COLLECTORS' CORNER By BILL ELLIOTT and REX HARRIS

SUBJECT ORS

BY BILL ELLICOTT and REX HARRIS

BY BILL ELLICOTT and



Rd., York, wants Glenn Miller Victor or Bluebird discs; also Miller H.M.V. BD5546, 5585, and R.-Zono MR3091, 3137, 3198, and James Col. DB5063; also band photo-graphs. Please price your discs when

# BUNNY BERIGAN AND HIS ORCHESTRA

seiner for the occasion, but it didn't sound like it.

I hope it will be by no means the last occasion.

With such well-tried numbers as "Crazy Rhythm," "Somebody Loves Me," "You're in Kentucky," "Little Love Little Kiss," "Je a n n i n e," "Ma'rie" and "Peor Butterfly," not to mention Nat's own "Canzonetta" and "Nattering Around," Nat set up a programme which was a very welcome cha ange from the eternal round of song-plugging.

But it was even more the way the tunes were scored and played than the tunes themselves that made this niring such an outstanding success. The arrangements—mostly by Harry Gold and Benny Greenwood, and the cost of which must have shown Nat a pretty loss on the broadcast—found, with their discreet and effective use of the strings, the perfect medium for an "all-purposes" airing between ultra-hot fan swing and the dopey slush which is what the B.B.C, seems to think is the only thing the bulk of the public can understand.

And the boys did these swell

# Record Reviews

absurd to deny that a deservedly than mate deserved the deserved than the deserved that the mater deserved the deserved than the

# 

YOUR FIRST PARCEL CONTAINS THESE 3 DOUBLE NOS. :

PAPER DOLL NO. I SMASH HIT & HOMEWARD BOUND

SHOO SHOO BABY and NO OTHER LOVE ( I LOVE TO SING

YOU'LL BE HAPPY LITTLE SWEETHEART (In the Spring) Terms: 24 Nos. S.O. 24/-. F.O. 32/-. Trio 16/-. P.C. or Solo 13/6.

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This, broadcast by the Jerries, is picked up and gleefully whistled, and

TRINDER



Here Is BOB BAIN. young guitarist from Freddy Slack's Orchestra, who has just been over here with film-star George Raft's U.S.O. partym Picture was taken when Bob broadcast to American Servicemen in London in the R.R.C. Overseas weekly programme (now in its fourth year) called "The American Eagle in Britain."

WHEN the boys come home from Italy and the Middle East there is one name they will remember in the sphere of entertainment long after the recol-lections of hosts of other camp concert personalities have become

dim, muddled memories.

The name is known to every one of us at home; even if it wasn't, you can't walk far in Central' London without it striking you in the face. Yes—you lucky people!—It's your for all the pal and king of comedians TOMMY TRINDER—the local saxophone-boy who made good—just back from a tour of Eastern outposts and front-line camps, that in sheer hustle, drama, adventure and humour beats the novels and films into a cocked hat. Did I say a cocked hat? I meant a funny little trilby, narrow-brimmed, turned up in the front: the sort of hat you or I or the bloke next door would never dare to wear; the headgear and symbol, in short, of our dynamic and most successful comedian of the times.

From Charles Chilton's "Radio Rhythm Club" Feature

ORMATION

WHEN Charles Chilton, pro-ducer of Radio Rhythm Club, first presented "Jazz Information Bureau" on the air, his aim was to stimulate the interest of as wide a public as possible in things Swing. . . . And he's certainly sucare to judge by the ечетincreasing flow of letters being

received from listeners.

It must be pretty obvious, however, that in such a pro-gramme there is little opportunity of replying in detail, and at any length, to those questions of a more special-ised nature which reach us from time to time

here is Denis Prestonwith a bundle of back mail prominently labelled "Highbrow," a spot of space as often as possible . . . and the single desire to do justice to some of minority" queries.

# WHO IS PANASSIE?

WHO IS PANASSIE?

I'M searcely surprised to find that so many of the younger enthusiasts don't know very much about those panassie, whom, you'll recollect. I've referred to more than once on Radio Rhythm Club.

It is some time since his first book, "Hot Jazz,"\* went out of print, whilst his recent, "The Real Jazz," is still unpublished in this country, and not many of the up-and-coming generation of swing fans will. I'm generation of swing fans will, I'm sure, remember Panassié's remark-able little bilingual magazine, "Le Jazz Hot," which he founded in Jazz Hot," which he founded in 1935. . . . I once called Panassié swing music's

pre-eminent critic, and his work certainly entitles him to that singular distinction. He was the first serious jazz critic, and his inclisive critical faculty is immediately apparent in

His two published books, I'm arrait, suffered greatly in translation. His translation. His translation, erring overnuch on the side of discretion (perhaps just a little bit "only 'umble"), save us only a little bit "ranscription of the original French, and Panassié's Galile confection are ill-suited to our more sober proce are ill-suited to our more sober proce

For he followed in the tradition of for he followed in the transford in instricus forebears, Saint Saens, erlicz and Debussy, whose imagina-we critical writings on music could ever be condemned for their dryness ack of enthusiasm.

Perhaps an over-abundant enthu-slasm sometimes tempted Panassie to

Cauell (1934).
Smith and Durrell (New York) (1942).

# Conducted by

ceeded in that direction, if we | rate certain players and certain styles

Delaunay (of "Hot Discography" fame).
And we owe to this visit the 144

# DANCE BAND GOSSIP

Only a few weeks ago that odd-looking trilby turned up in Italy, right in the forward lines. Battle-soured soldiers from the front rubbed their eyes at the incredible figure, dressed in full flying suit—plus the turned-up trilby hal! Officers glared at the hat and solemnly asked the reason for the weird outfit. "Because," said Tommy, equally solemnly, "I don't happen to be air-minded, that's all!"

Toming yare a 1½-hour show on the

that's all!"

Tomny gave a 11-hour show on the outskirts of Ortona whilst fighting was still actually going on inside the town. He obtained special permission to go right forward; was determined to give a band other than the pors up as they

right forward, was determined to give a hand cheering the boys up as they came right out of the battle-front itself.

Certainly this tour of Tommy's was no pleasure jaunt; and yet he says he had the time of his life. He stayed he had the time of his life. He stayed over-long everywhere: his contempt for timetables became simultaneously the despair of the authorities and the delight of the men; finally he got back to his "base" so late as to miss altogether the transport arrangements made for him. Instead of waiting, however, he carried out an astonishing "hitch-hike" to England that puts every film exploit of Humphrey Bogart's in the shade.

Then by plane to England (sitting on the floor), to land, dash to the railway and entrain for London. Blighty at last—and the cost of the whole journey—the sixteen shillings or so railway fare! So home again, tired, unshaven and

The crying need of all musicians out there is for MUSIC; the crying need for sax and clarry players is for REEDS. Here is an aspect where we in England can surely evolve some scheme to help.

In the meanwhile, Tommy Trinder is trying to arrange to send out some of these great necessites of musical life. One address where both are urgently needed is C/O Sergt, Oldham, at the Music Headquarters, Eighth Army Band. almost unrecognisable except for the incredible little hat. Tommy is

at the Music Headquarters, Eighth
Army Band.
Here are a few good cameos of
Tommy's about life out there. He
travelled almost the whole of occupied
Italy, and never saw an accordion.
The big song hit is not some British Hall, Gillingham, Kent: whose bespectacled, velvet-jacketed figure is known far and wide among dancers in the Medway area.

Such a good bloke, in fact, that the other day he decided to throw a bit of a party for some of the musi-clans working for him, and their friends. Hiring a taxi, he took them masterpiece, but the German song all off to a neighbouring town on the spree.

the spree.

Besides Claude himself, there were London pianist Raigh Sharon; guitarist Pete Chilvers; bassist Alan ("Weed") MacDonald; with Ronnie Verrall, Maurice Kent, and one or

On the way back, everyone was in On the way back, everyone was in the happiest possible mood, with Claude in front next to the driver, facing round to the boys inside tell-ing one of his incredibly long-and

Conducted by
DENIS
PRESTON

The present and other present and othe



Boosey and Hawkes recently threw a party for their staff, and the famous R.A.F. Squadronairs came along to enfertain. Joe Hollander took above picture of this ace band, and the boys are first party to the same the same the same than the sam of this ace band, and the boys are (left to right): Jimmy Miller (leader), Tommy Bradbury, Jock Cummings, George Chisholm, Andy McDevitt, Tommy McQuater, Ronnie Aldritch, Billy Nichols, Clinton (french, Sid Colin, Jimmy Durrant, Eric Breeze, Monty Levy, Arthur Maden, and Archie Craig.

# U.S. JIVE INTTINGS

WE hear that Irving Fazola, rotund clarry who left the Horace Heidt outfit recently for a short holiday, is not returning.

is not returning.

Paz is still in New Orleans and intends to remain there, playing around the clubs and riverboats. Heidt is very disappointed at his loss and is looking around for a replacement.

\* \* Sorry to hear that Kay Kyser has been taken badly ill with arthritis and has to confine his work to radio

his stage tour has had to be postponed, plus a pic. \* \*

Glad to hear that old-timer Jimmy Noone has proved so successful at Hollywood's Streets of Paris niterie that he has secured another year's contract; with salary increases for himself and the band every three months. On opposite stand to Jimmy at the Club is the Pete Johnson-Albert Ammons boogie-woogie team.

In spite of Sinatra, Bing Grosby is still first favourite amongst radio audiences, according to a certified poli conducted by "Radio Survey" recently, taken by 1,500 trade people.

Bing pasily topped, leading Sinatra, Dennis Day, Perry Como, Barry Wood and Dick Haymes in that order. Pem winner was Dinah Shore, with Kate Smith, Connec Boswell, Ginny Simms and Joan Brooks close behind.

Just obtained the line-up of the jive bunch that Miff Mole is leading so successfully at Nick's, New York, at the moment.

Mole is leading so successfully at Nick's, New York, at the moment.

Sterling Bose and Pee Wee Russell assist Miff in the front line, well backed by Wettling (drums), Schroeder (plano) and Bud Gasey (bass).

In answer to many letters, here is the latest line-up of the new Tomniy Dorsey band, as at January 10, 1944:—
Tommy Dorsey (trombone), leading Len Kaye, Hank D'Amico, Don Lodice, Gail Curtis, Manny Gershwan (saxes): Sally La Perch, Beb Price, George Seaburg, Pete Candoll, Tommy Pedersen, Tex Satterwaite, Walter Benson (brass): Milt Raskin (plano): Danny Sandell [gultar); Maurice Purtill (drums); Sandy Block (bass): and an eight-piece string section who don't matter.

Vocals are handled by Betty Brewer, Ted Walters and the Dorsey vocalcombo, "The Sentimentalists." the Dorsey vocalcombo.

We Live and Learn Dept.— Bogt.—Wogie has succeeded jazz —according to a statement by Jack Harris in a N.Y. paper.

Harris was once maestro over here. Now has own niterie in U.S., in which he fronts own outfit.

One of the firms now making plastic substitutes for record shellac in America is the famous firm of Corn Products. Inc.
You can all write your own gag to this one.

Great laughter in New York over a recent comedy recording by Freddy Pisher that is enjoying terrific juke-box popularity, although in the ordinary way it wouldn't mean a thing.

Tune is tiltied "Wilberferce. Get Off That Horse." and the fun is due to the fact that a misprint was made on the label and a letter was left out of the last word. . . .

2/4 ina Ray Hutton, who fronts an all-male swing crew, was married recently to Louis Parisotto, one her band

Wonder what his excuse will be for cutting rehearsals:

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# ORTHERN NEWS NOTES

# BY JERRY DAWSON

Whatever the reason, since the out-

days they openly flaunt the banner of swing, and amongst Northern bands specially formed with the accent on swing is a Southport outfit styled Dave Wilson and his Dixieland Five. Recently this band has played a number of dates in the Manchester area, and has considerably enhanced

area, and has considerably enhanced its reputation.

Led by Dave Wilson on clarinet and tenor, the rest of the boys are Frankie Wilson (trumpet). Percy Pollard or Raymond Murphy (bass): Ernie Wilson (trombone): Ronnie Waite (piano): Ernie Howard (drums): with Ann Ward singing.

As its mame implies, the band plays a decided Dixlehand style, using lots of O.D.J.B. titles, including such numbers as "Dippermouth Blues," which they played in a recent "M.M., dance band contest and for the performance of which they were highly complimented by the adjudicators.

Dave is very pleased at the success of his experiment, and the band is going from strength to strength.

After almost four years' service in the Army, noted Leeds percussionist Barry Silver has recently been invalided out of the Porces and is

the Army, hoted Leeds percussionist Barry Silver his recently been invalided out of the Forces and is back in circulation again.

During his service Barry has played with a number of regimental dance bands, chiefly with the object of keeping his wrists in trim against his return to "Civvy" street.

He is anxious to hitch up again with any of his pre-war acquaintances who may still be around, and ff any leaders around Leeds district are in need of a drummer for three or four nights per week, or for any gigs. Barry will be pleased to hear from them at No. 10, Newton Park View, Chapeltown, Leeds f.

Writing from his station in Scotland, Manchester trumpet-man Harry Carter-now a sapper in the R.E.stells me that he is managing to get in quite a lot of playing.

He is a member of his unit band which is led by a Yorkshire planist. Harry Stuff.

Also in the band are Eddie Riley, an 18-year-old drummer, who halls from Coswaldtwistle; Maurice Steinman (bass); Ray Garver, Ted Head and Ernie Phillips (saxes); a 2nd trumpet, George Sharples, whose home town is Preston.

The band has been in existence for over a year now, and the boys are kept busy with company and mess dances, apart from a number of civilian engagements which they are of "Equipment of the lot time allowed to accept, from time to time allowed to accept, and the state of the sale of the best and civilian engagements which they are of "Equipment" to other and the sale of the past a plate of civilian engagements which they are of "Equipment" to other and the sale of the past and through the Pacific Heater Next to him came willie Smith (salo) had through durins with six points each, and Max Kaminsky (trumpel, Next to him came willie Smith (salo) had through durins with six points each, and Max Kaminsky (trumpel, Next to him came willie Smith (salo) had through the Pacific Heater Next to him came willie Smith (salo) had through the Pacific Heater Next to him came willie Smith (salo) had through durins with six points each, and Max Kaminsky (trumpel, Next to him c

The band has been in existence for over a year now, and the boys are kept busy with company and mess dances, apart from a number of rivillan engagements which they are from time to time allowed to accept. Harry Carter asks me to pass on his regards to his many friends in Mannesster, including Harvey Evans, Stan Scholes, Norman Cooke and Row Harrison.

For a number of years the New Corona Dance Band, directed by Albert Brookes, has been a regular feature at Rotherham's most important dancing Mecca, the Baths Hall.

Dancing here is aponsored by the local corporation on three nights per week, and in these days of boom event and the care of the past in the standard with the 164-page can still put up a show.

Bortant dancing Mecca, the Baths Hall.

Dancing here is sponsored by the local corporation on three nights per week, and in these days of boom figures an average of about 2,000 dancers each week visit the Baths.

To use Albert Brookes own worst-tion's social service to the town and is greatly appreciated in particular by the members of the Forces stationed locally.

The personnel of the band, with Sec., 58, The Grove, Ilkley, Yorks.

DURING recent years, with the amphasis on "strict tempo" Florence Kendal (pianos); Alf Kendal, dance music, the mere mention of Alf Hope and Jack Eyre (saxes, etc.); "Dixeland Jive" in most of our Stan Kendal and Harry Crouch (trum-Northern ballrooms, where English competition style dancing has for so long held the stage, would be to make dancers shudder.

Womack (violin); Matt Hopewell (guitar); Eric Green (bass); Rowley Matson (drums); and vocaliste Rose

Whatever the reason, since the outbreak of war swing music and jazz generally have slowly but surely crept into our dance halls and made their presence felt to good effect.

Thus, where bands at one time used to lay great stress on the fact that they played "correct" tempos, nowadays they openly flaunt the banner of the property of Apart from playing for dancing, the

In writing a few weeks ago about dack Riley's "New Georgians" from Burry, Lanes, I stated that Jack led his band from trumpet. This was an error, as actually he plays planoand, I understand, a very good plano.

Sorry, Jack, old boy, if I have

Murray.

John Holton, organist at the Edinburgh Palais, is nowadays regularly featured at the Usher Hall Sunday shows for the

Recent dance band personalities to Recent dance band personalities to visit Edinburgh include Jackle Hunter, in pantomime at the King's Theatre: Evelyn Dall and Van Phillips, in "Something For the Boys" at the Lyceum; and Brace Trent, in "The Student Prince" at the Empire.

# U.S. POLL

IF you like records which make an at least recognisable attempt to get off the too well-beaten track, you are likely to find this month a quite noticeable improvement on last. It is true that the Brunswick list is entirely devoted to American recordings of the numbers from living Berlin's "all-solder" production, "This is the Army," by the cause which presented the show in this country, and unless you've seen the show and want me me n to es, the best sides the outfit has turned out, but in some places they are lifted to classes as an investigation will be quite the show and want me me n to es, the best sides the outfit has turned out, but in some places they are lifted to classes as the best sides the outfit has turned out, but in some places they are lifted to classes as the best sides the outfit has turned out, but in some places they are lifted to classes as lifting on this product think girl vocalists are cords are not lifting to classes the outfit has turned out, but in some places they are lifting on this one goodness only knows. Mervyn Saunders has been sitting on this one goodness only knows. Mervyn Saunders has been sitting on this one goodness only knows. Mervyn Saunders has been sitting on this one goodness only knows. Mervyn Saunders has been sitting on this one goodness only knows. Mervyn Saunders has been sitting on this one goodness only knows. Mervyn Saunders has been sitting on this one goodness only knows. Mervyn Saunders has been sitting on this one goodness only knows. Mervyn Saunders has been sitting on this one goodness only knows. Mervyn Saunders has been sitting on this one goodness only knows. Mervyn Saunders has been sitting on this one goodness only knows. Mervyn Saunders has been sitting on this one goodness only knows. Mervyn Saunders has been sitting on this one goodness only knows. Mervyn Saunders has been sitting on this one goodness only knows. Mervyn Saunders has been sitting on this one goodness only knows. Mervyn Saunders has been sitting on this one goodness on the same of t

February 19, 1944

service the soon in this country, and the show and went me me to a country and the show and went me me to a country to cause you are more than the show and went me me to a country to cause you are more than the show and went me me to a country to cause you are more than a country to the state of the service of the servi

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126,—Sheffield. Feb. 25, general mig at new and larger premises, Rotherham House, Exchange St. Will all mmbrs please attend and bring friends? 129.—Wytheqshave. Mfg at White Swan Hotel, Withington, every Tuex, 8 p.m. Feb. 22, A. Stevens on "Elling-ton (the modern)"; Feb. 23, J. Griffin on "Wingle Manoue."

# "DETECTOR"

(Continued from page 5)

DID hear, however, last Sunday's (13th) Jack Benny show, and I hope you did, too.

To one of the best airings we have

had from Rochester and Mist'r Benny (and that's saying a basinfull) Phil Harris and his Band added a swing opus, the performance of which was just not of this world.

Just not of this world.

Whether you like swing, or whether you're one of those people who deery it as just a rather flamboyant imitation of jagz, you would, I think, have had to admit that this example of it had the full character of jazz put over with all the fervour and brilliance that are the best features of the best swing.

of the best swing.

That band of Phil Harris's certainly can play with a zip. \* \*

LAST Sunday ex-B.B.C. producer and now "Sunday Pictorial" radio correspondent Ernest Dudley gave his prize for the best "brickbat" to Miss D. Mitchell, of Walsall (Staffs) for the following which she flung at Victor Silvester as having:

"The hammiest orchestra on radio, All songs when played by him sound the same, Piano: Tinkle, tinkle, Violins; Scrape, scrape." I don't know that Miss Mitchell has I don't know that Miss Mitchell has chosen her words with complete accuracy. One can hardly say that Alfredo Campoll scrapes, Dribbles or slobbers would be better words. But she is certainly reflecting the general opinion to which many are rapidly coming.

It's strange how in the end the mobile season to agree with

public usually does come to agree with what the "M.M." has been saying for

years previously.

Or is it?
As a rule professional critics are no more cranks than they have an outlook very different from that of

outlook very different from that of the layman.

But their continual close associa-tion with, and study of their subject generally enables them to appraise the worth and appeal of things more rapidly than those on the outside can, In consequence, they see to-day that which the man in the street sometimes does not realise until to-morrow I am very much afraid Victor Silvester's to-morrow is commencing to arrive.

i39.—Bexley Heath thanks Ted Watson f grand rell. Nxt mtg, Mon. (21st). Relt by Owen Bryce and Dick Farley. "Plano in Jazz" in series "Guide to Starts." raffle, J.S., etc. Mon. (23th). The be announced. Usual activities. J.S. announced. Usual activities. J.S. by Comparison of Swing." (eatures Artie Shaw, J.S. by Avalon Band, also auditn f Rhythm Club Sextet.
185.—Southall. Mon. (21st), 7 p.m. Mmbrs' records, rell, J.S. by club group. Hambrough Tavern, Hayes Bridge. Chesterfield. Mmbrs still required. Write J. H. Mason, 69, Foljambe Rd. Chesterfield. Southend reopened Feb. 2, Bell Hotel.

Chesterfield.

Southend reopened Feb. 2, Bell Hotel, Prince Ave. Mtg every Wed., 7.10 p.m. Thanks to Johnny Rowe f Commodore retl., Feb. 9. Feb. 23, Jam Group, auctn raffle, Brains Trust. March 1, "Pee Wee

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