VOL. 23 No. 742

OCTOBER 25, 1947

Beginned at the G.P.O.]

THREEPENCE

ILFORD "BOMBERS" RIBAND AT GREATEST-EVER "A

FELIX M. MAKES **GRAND GESTURE TO** M.C.C. GRICKETER

THANKS to a magnificent gesture on the part of Felix Mendelssohn and his Hawaiian Serenaders, Gerald Smithson, the 20-year-old Bevin boy Yorkshire cricketer, may, after all, be able to play for the M.C.C. on its tour of the West Indies.

Although chosen to play, Smithson has been told by the Ministry of Labour that he cannot be released from Askern Colliery ahead of schedule. The team leaves England on December 27, and Smithson is due to be released with Group 64 13 days later.

Pelix and his Serenaders, however, have telegraphed the M.C.C. offering to pay Smithson's passage by air to the West Indies to that he may be in time to join the team out there.

A keen cricketer, who has played for many well-known clubs himself, Felix told the MELODY MAKER: "I have seen Smithson play and consider him a brilliant fielder and left-handed batsman. We are all keen sportsmen in this band and want to see him get the

We are all keen sportsmen in this hand and want to see him get the chance he deserves. The money for his passage will come out of our Sports Fund."

Smithson, who is currently working underground at Askern Colliery, learned on Saturday last (18th) of the efforts musicians were making on his behalf and at once wired back his sincere thanks. At the time of closing for press, the M.C.C. had not finally decided what action it could take upon Felix's telegraphed offer.

graphed offer.

Whatever the outcome, cricket enthusiasts throughout the country will join with the MELODY MAKER in expressing to Felix and his Serenaders their appreciation of a grand gesture in the cause of British sport.

Sam Gelsley

Harry's orchestra will now con-tinue on its successful stage tour

with a three-piece rhythm Sam is meanwhile concentrat-

ing on business commitments in Brighton that require his imme-

diate attention.

Very soon, however, this exJack Harris and Blue Rockets instrumental and comedy stylist—who amusingly describes himself as a "genius who has now deteriorated until he is merely terrific"—will be available for a resident offer, which may be addressed to him at 34, Waterloo Street, Hove. ('Phone: Hove 7421.)

SID BUCKMAN **LEADING AT BRIGHTON**

ONG-ESTABLISHED trumpet star Sid Buckman, who has star Sid Buckman, who has recently been appearing in many different types of engagements with his own band, including broadcasting and television, clicked for a new engagement last week when he secured a contract to appear at "La Martinique" Restaurant at Brighton, where he is leading a snappy five-piecer.

Leading on trumpet, Sid Buckman is supported at Brighton by B. Boyde (drums): A. Boyde

B. Boyde (drums); A. Boyde (bass); J. Drummond (piano and arranger): and B. Skinner (tenor and clarinet). The band has been fixed at Brighton by enterprising London agent Frank Morgan.

SWING-ACCORDIONISTS SENSATIONAL DEBUT

A reporter, Laurie Henshaw, as we closed for press on Tuesday night, brought news of the sensational debut in London of two Italians whom he unhesitatingly dubs the greatest swing-accordionists,

They are Gorni Kramer and Wolmer, whose concert at the Kensington Town Hall on Tuesday produced something entirely new in modern, rhythmic squeezebox technique, and had the fans and experts present absolutely raving.

A full report will appear in next week's "M.M.," but readers should make a note of the next concert by these virtuosi—at the Lewisham Town Hall next Wednesday evening (29th).

Hall next Wednesday evening (29th).

BEFORE A WILDLY ENTHUSIASTIC CROWD OF OVER 6,000, WHICH PACKED THE VAST KING'S HALL, BELLE VUE, MANCHESTER, FROM FLOOR TO CEILING LAST SUNDAY (19th), THE "JIVE BOMBERS," A SIX-PIECE SWING BAND FROM ILFORD, ESSEX, BECAME THE 1947 NATIONAL DANCE BAND CHAMPIONS BY WINNING THE GREATEST-EVER "MELODY MAKER" "ALL-BRITAIN" FINALS DANCE BAND CHAMPIONSHIP.

Culmination of a contesting season which has constituted a record in the whole 21-years' history of Melopy Maker Dance Band Contests, the "All-Britain" this year set a new and terrific standard in presentation and performance.

tation and performance.

Thirteen semi - professional bands—who had fought their way to the Final through our nation-wide series of 69 County and District Championships and 10 Area Finals—sailied forth to Manchester to do battle one against the other for the "Blue Riband" of the semi-professional world—the title of "All-Britain" Champions and the cups, banner, and gold medals that go with it.

The standard of playing was, frankly, staggering in its quality. Considering that all these bands consisted of men doing essential

GERALDO —in this Personal Message of Congratulation to the "All - Britain" bands,

says . . . "It is many years since I had the honour of being asked to adjudicate at a 'Melody Maker' 'All-Britain' Final, and I must say that the standard of the playing this year absolutely staggered me.

"Most of the bands were as good as the majority of our best professional combinations.

best professional combinations.

"But it was not only the
playing that impressed me. I
would like to congratulate the
bands also on their smart
appearance and deportment.
It showed a commendably
high degree of the personal
pride which is essential to
maintain the prestige of us
dance musicians and the
music we play."



May me and Los Evers look studious at the "All-liabes critically to over four hours' playing by the i-professioning dance bands in the sountry. Further



This artistic picture, taken in the rays of the arc-lamps, spetlights Ted Heath and his band in action at the "All-Britain."

Leaves Harry Roy

AFTER a very happy association lacting two years, star guitarist Sam Gelsley and bandinader Harry Roy have parted company.

Harry's orchestra will now contact the standard of the lacting the parted company.

Harry's orchestra will now contact the standard of the lacting music idiom that for four hours they kept the vast audience enthrolled by the high standard of thrailed by the high standard of their playing-a standard that put most of them on a par with

put most of them on a par with the best professional bands.

At the judging table, the MELODY MAKER had assembled a star-studded panel of experts, consisting of bandleading celebrity Geraldo: Skyrockets leader Paul Fenoulhet: alto-wizard Harry Hayes; coach-arranger and tenor-sax notability Les Evans, and MELODY MAKER Editor Ray Sonin as President. These five gentlemen will be the first to admit that they had a difficult job in separating bands that all reached a magnificent standard.

The victory of the Jive Bombers was, however, clear-cut, although there were not many marks be-

was, however, clear-cut, although there were not many marks between that band and the runners. up—the youthful Palcons, of Leigh (Lancs), who won their place through the Area Finals Runners-up heat, held in the morning. Third place was won by last year's "All-Britain" winners, the Scott-Henderson Quintette, of Glasgow.

FEAST OF MUSIC

It is perhaps fitting that the Jive Bombers should have won this season, since last year, when they qualified for the "All-Britain" Final, they were unable to appear, through a sudden bereavement to the alto-saxophone player, whose baby died on the day of the contest.

the day of the contest.

It was not, however, sentimentality on this account that brought them victory this year. for the judges were only concerned with what they heard musically emanating from the cerned with what they heard musically emanating from the handstand; and it was on really excellent individual and ensemble playing in a tasteful, relaxed and eminently musicianly manner that they won the coveted title.

For the colossal audience, this year's All-Britain represented one year's All-Britain represented one of the greatest feasts of dance music ever offered. In all, the proceedings lasted for over five hours, and the splendid co-operation of the Belle Vue staff, plus the efforts of Melody Maker Contests Director Edgar Jackson, and the organiser. Lewis Buckley, ensured a presentation that was slick and never flagged.

The difficult rôle of compere was admirably filled by B.B.C. Northern expert Leslie Adams, who mingled wit and wisdom to the high delight of the audience; (Please turn to page 3)

(Please turn to page 3)

FOR THE SECOND TIME WITHIN SIX YEARS, THE AMERICAN the ban by saying that the mem-bers of the A.F.M. realise that in

FEDERATION OF MUSICIANS IS TO BAN MIL GRAMOPHONE RECORDING BY ANY ONE OF ITS 225,000 MEMBERS.

A.P.M. President James Caesar
Petrillo announces that the ban
will come into force as from
January 1 next, when his present
agreement with the recording
companies is due to expire.

It was in August, 1942, that the
A.P.M. first stopped its members
from making records, and it was
not until November, 1944, 27
months later, that a new agreement between the Federation and
the U.S. recording companies was
signed, and recording by A.F.M.
musicians allowed to recommence.
Like the original ban, this new

musicians allowed to recommence.
Like the original ban, this new one will mean that the one means we over here have of following the trend of American dance and swing music will be denied us.
The effect of this will not be felt immediately, because not only have the English recording companies many American masters which have not yet been listed here, but the American companies—which, in anticipa-tion of another ban, have been recording frantically to build up stocks—have an even greater number of unreleased perform-ances, the masters of which will also be available for issue here.

BUTLIN'S SIGN WINSTONE FOR THIRD SEASON

BACK in Town after 18 weeks at Pwhelli for the Butlin Holiday Camps, Eric Winstone, who has now had two years' ex-perience of this type of enter-tainment, makes news by signing head for yet a third season of Hi de Hi.

Throughout the summer, while theatres and dance-halls have been complaining of bad busi-ness the Butlin camps were packed with holiday makers and every night the Winstone Orches tra, playing in an enormous ballroom, entertained between two and three thousand dancers a session.

Every Tuesday evening the Orchestra presented their famous stage show to a super capacity crowd, while jive fans were catered for by the Butlin Rhythm Club, inaugurated by Eric, and featuring Roy Marsh and his Swingtette.

Swingtette.

Broadcasting from the nearby Bangor Studios, Eric registered an all-camp record for aimings with 14 programmes on either Home, Light or Regional wavelengths, while one of the major sensations of the season was the terrific popularity of Smatrastyled vocalist Denis Hale.

Back at the London studios with a run of B.B.C. and Television dates. Eric took over Home and Light programme sessions last Saturday and Thesday nights, together with a Band Parade airing on the Monday, when he showed that he had lost none of

ne showed that he nad lost none of his old touch at presenting a highly commercial, but none the less polished

commercial, but none the less polished and musical sound.

Demobbed last week after four years in the R.A.F., Harry Dawson late of Anglo-American Artists and the Oscar Rabin office, has now joined Eric Winstone at his Denmark Street office. Originally a pianist and composer, Harry gained valuable experience on the organisms side of the profession when he managed the Rabin "Woodchoppers." Percival Mackey's Ambassador Band and Johnny Ciaes before going into the Johnny Clars, before going into the

But in addition to lessing for only about two years at the most, such performances must inevit-ably become out of date before

very long.

Thus, if some arrangement is not eventually made for recording to recommence, the time will come when we shall have no more records made by American musi-cians whatever.

bers of the A.F.M. realise that in recording for the gramophone "they are merely setting up a competition to themselves which would eventually destroy them."

There are, however, many who feel that it was proved long ago that the publicity which gramophone records give to bands only makes the public more danceand swing-music conscious, and and swing-music conscious, and thereby increases the demand for more and more "live" permore more and







After the christening of Melita Melachrino at Holy Trinity, Brompton Square. Photo shows (l. to r.): Proud father George Melachrino, famous comedian Sid Field (who was godfather); Mrs. Melachrino (formerly film actress Sheila Bligh) and Melita.

AND Hits PIECES by Sammy Quaver

ALL publishers depending on next eight weeks' peak period to moved into frame, and "Little Old Mill" ousted "Chi-Baba" to grab place money . . . I'm still betting on "Peg o' My Heart" to hit the jack-pot in spite of all the dubious ones. . . . Terry Thomas's "One Meat Ball" à la Richard Tauber ran away with the honours on " Alhambra of the Air " last Sunday night. . . .

I know of four contact fellers who've places in the States that the only guest artists available for these sponsored platter shows are disc jockeys!...

Here's a Fred Allen reflection on atudio audiences: 'Nobody knows where they come from or where they are going to.". A reader writes: 'I'm getting fed up with your rootin' for this, that and the other bandwider" 'Relax brother, and root with me. It's terrific fun!

Instead of throwing hand grenades. Instead of throwing hand grenades.

a little more respect by certain songwriters for their fellow songsmiths
would be very welcome to these ears

Found my pin-up-of-the-week.

Edna (Mrs. Stanley Black) Kaye,
struttin' down Grosvenor Street
attired in a posh tweedy ensemble
that had the femme sidewalkers gasping with envy, and Edna looking
more beautiful than ever since taking
on the duties of housewifery for the
famous "Black Magic" maestro.

American Decca just launched the

been offered financial backing to operate their own firms, and wouldn't those bosses like to know, too! ... So many people have turned disc locks in the States that the only guest serials available for these sponsored platter shows are disc lockeys! ... Here's a Fred Allen reflection on studio audiences: 'Nobody knows that come from the studio audiences: 'Nobody knows studio audi sellers.

Spent an interesting fifty minutes in the "Housewives Choice" studio the other morning. George Elrick knows his listeners, and that manufactured-on-the-spot signing-off chuckle should stay in—it will pay dividends. . . Attention, programme planners! I'd like to see a discipockey match between the two Harrys.—Parry and Davis. Give 'em a half-hour session, and watch the listening figures.

figures.

I figure that chirper Terry Desca.

will be the busiest thrush knockin' around this fall, 'cos her pipes can switch from ballad to rhythm with little competition from the rest of

on the duties of housewifery for the famous "Biack Magic" maestro.

American Decca just launched the first Denny Dennis discs. How many publishers have made bids for Billy Reid's "Tree in the Meadow, and who's gonna get the plum?

Thought I noticed the Bob Sharples hallmark on some 'recent Geraldo broadcasts. Bob's arrangements stood out a mile. Wonder whether Sid Phillips' "Elma's Delight" was income by Maurice Burman's sister Elma ifriend of all the stars: Warren?

A famous publishing house have caucht no me and how! That smash ditty which I wrote about last ments on the spot by JACK TRAIN:

THE THE METAL THE SET WINDOWS PROPERTY AND THE PROPERTY A

NEW SUPER RHYTHM - STYLE RECORDS

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Riding on a Blue Note - - } R 3062
The new Black and Tan Fantasy

THE MILLS BLUE RHYTHM BAND

Blue Rhythm Jam; Blue Rhythm Be-Pop

R 3063

HARRY PARRY

and his Radio Quartet

Exactly like You; Ain't she Sweet

R 3064

The Stars Turn on

PARLOPHONE

THE PARLOPHONE COMPANY LIMITED, HAYES, MIDDLESEZ

not what he was

LOUIS ARMSTRONG'S DIRECTAND Williams (Am. Vi-D6-VB-Z1N).

"Where The Blane Ware Born in Siew Orleans (Start The Buyel) (I rom the film "Sew Orleans") (Citt Dixon, Bath Carleton) (V. by Lamie Sym-strong) (Am. Vacur 28-113-219) CH.M.V. BORN-Dr. TO(4)

Aresstrong (tpt.) with Borney Signer schar.); Edward " Kad " Bry (1986.); Charlie Beal (pnc.); Sribur " Bad" Seett (g'Tar); George " Red" Chi-lender (buss); Misser Stall (fins.); Recorded October 17, 1966.

LOUIS uses the piece called
"Where the Blues Were
Born" (though actually it is little
more than our old friend
"Twelfth Street Rag") as a
means of introducing the vacious
members of the band; hence the
sub-title "Meet the Boys."

The idea is nothing new, at
any rate for Louis, who has
worked the stant on more than
one other occasion.

one other occasion

But done as it is here, in verses which have nothing eise to sell, it is as good an excuse as any for allowing Louis to give that

for allowing Louis to give that ingratiating ginny vaice of his an airing. Also it has the advantage of letting all those who are unable to read this column answ "who done it."

If those last three words should sound as though they would be more appropriate to some hemous crime, let me add that, energy for Louis's singing which if not sweet as good as Louis's intiginal 1923 version, still available on Parlophone 8571.

In these this column answ in the in mut only willing, but there had the in not only willing, but there had the interesting anyone for some a joy for ever, the rest of the record comes thangerposity near to being within the

near to being within the criminal category.

Admittedly, no such criticism could fairly have been levelled against the side had it been made toward toward toward.

twenty years agn.

But times have changed, and with them jazz. To-day this band of old-timers sounds, for the most over, hopelessly dated. The

Edgar Jackson's acard Raviews

PICK OF THE WEEK (For Everybody)
STANGET BLACK.—"Adios"
Nind "Le Mulata Rumbera"
(Deca 19578). PERMITE SINATHA. -- All of

players, after each has been manes, are mave to the point of the whole per-

country, and the whole per-formance sounds none the better for the carry rightm section. In fact, the only people likely to find a good word to say for the second are those who still worship at the shrine of old-time had been and refuse to realise the futility of continuing to idolise that who like Kid Ory especially, were more rightly accepted as the greats of jazz, but who now have become little more than the munumified relies of a music that has changed simout beyond that has changed simost beyond

THOMES AND MIS
GROWESTRA

The Braument Hide (Ray Coniff,
Harry James) (Am. Columbia
Hittinail):
Gather Tail (Diske Ellinston)
(Am. Columbia HCO 2417).
(Gathernia DE2241—3. 11(d.)

EL James (tpt.) with Stewart M.

Bruner, Gene Corcoran, George C. Davis, Erward Rosa, William McL. William Smith (reeds); Irwin Barken, James D. Campbell, James Grimes, James W. Troutman (tps: Victor Hamann, Charles F. Preebel Juan Tizol, Jesse Haath (tmbs.) Arnold Ross (Rosanberg) (pno.) Hayden L. Chusey, Jur. (glar: Edward Mibelich (cass); Nick Fatool (dms.); Recorded December 19, 1945 2617. James (tpt.) with "Wille" Smith (allo); Edward Resn (clar.); Carl Elmor (tms.); Stanley Wrightsman (pno.); Shimer Timbrell (g'tar); Etheard Mibelich (bass); Mackin Combine (dms.). Re.orded June 25, 1947.

"DEAUMONT RIDE" is typical 1945 jive jump. It is more than good enough for the jitterbug dancing popularised here by the Yanks during the war, even if the idiom has become a little old-fashioned in the past two short years. two short years.

Harry James shows his usual polished technique in solos of which I have no space to say more than that idiomatically they are fair. To go further would mean an almost note-for-note

mean an almost note-for-note analysis of practically every phrase, which is impossible here in these days of paper shortage.

"Cotton Tail" is more up to date, and also more interesting. For one thing, it is played by a small group, and that always gives soloists more chances.

I cannot tell you how the side compares with the Duke's own 1940 version of the piece (H.M.V. B9090, in the "Masters of Swing" Album), because that was in the part of my library which was blitzed during the war, and I don't remember it very well.

But, taking the James version on its own face value, it is worth getting not only for Willie Smith, who has a whole chorus to him-

who has a whole chorus to him-self, but also because of the obvious influence "Dizzy" Gli-lespie and his re-bop seem to be having on Harry James's trumpet playing.

Rex Hurris reviews

WALLY CHAPMAN, who brought me
the music of dreams in became dress
minutes of what sounded like Coulet.

Care Less Music. Addies those
the music of what sounded like Coulet.

The coulet and devoted to one tune
repeated in aforesaid manner. This
world and You. Which seemed is
put Pat O'Regan more than off
A Prudin does not show little
Williams at her best. Wally's our
amnouncement was the acme of horse
don. redressing feature was
guitarist in "Semiconemial Counties"
guitarist and the acture of butters
distributed to one tune
guitarist and devoted in after a fore from Home Service's gripping talk on "Breakdown of Civilization."—Seri 14. Lipht, 10.35 p.m.

* 主 MAT TEMPLE, his charmet and has sentent and hos much methestra . what has happened to 11-Oct. In Home. Here Golf supeared at the mike

* of you can't have everything-Oct. 15. Home, 12 maps.

* * TED HEATH, who started off with amusinary disquised "See Me Butter the Polks." reminiscent of "American Patrol " . . Parmell as a singler can Pairol ... Parmell as a singer is still a fine drummer and nothearns setting for his "I'm So Rught To-night" was strictly in the Heati-tradition, but ... what happened is radition, but . . . what happened in The Breeze and I ? Call it madern harmonies or plain old-fastromed not-of-tune: either way it munded herrible to the listener . . "Smoon Rings" had delicary of breatment. and impercable brass-section surit but then again, in "Tell Me Prety Maiden," their muted passage unit mensy and dead. Paul Carpetter fought bravely in his muni mayer. fought bravely in his minimal state of the s

* *

set-piece for me was "Romain" where contained an exciting distinct min. Hermite in "Clarinet Blues" was breast attack and that fram-beam a shade tired of "Anne" humbers although "It's Womderful bundled with feeling by Dock James who also been a pract of a last note in less breas some if the exuberance with feeling by Dock James who also been some if the exuberance with feeling by Dock James in also been some if the exuberance again. Immy just to let us hear been been a pract of a semi-gro hash but taken of the rat composition by Swedier E I seem of a semi-gro bash, but taken

"Corner" just four years ago.—Oct.

like the demon king beasting a basso-FRANK WESS and a well-mist immaculate performance hig hand to

F. W. himself for clarines west "the

Structure throughout programme, but

What a Beautiful Morning" in pac-What a Beautiful Morning " in par-ticular, which also mave film Dean a shining spot. Blue Lat Bill of the Night"... surprising arranged and beaut-spaced without a look much volume Micky Bineill's neili's

> ERIC WINETONE, who enchanted me with those controlled brass pas-mess in "Garden in the Rain"... whitenest in "Garden in the Hain"...
>
> whitenest in miner for Julie Dawn:
>
> "I Got the Sun in the Morning," but the counter more manal than usual presults of a seasonable cold bellike quality of saxes in intro, to samething in the Wind "there certains was comething in the reeds for Wintone's latest composition.
>
> The walls "turned out to be a tone-parm in which the alto-sax wove a self-manity outstanding thread after the seminer brase patterns but trumthe seminer brass patterns, but trum-bet suits showed a tendency to be a little of colour. Denis Hale made interest of the second of the

Lettleton's cornet infused the spirit which made it really ride, although he was obviously not at home in discs. I was browning pile of oir hand discs. I was browning through nor discuss the countries of Senth America. I was a browning to the discussion of the Matter through the mainstay of Webb's Dirichard through the was onviously not at home in Dispersionally not at home in Dispersional States in Dispersional which made it really ride, although Drums made me winder why are found in a powerhouse band . old there hand attempts it . Dope choice himself materialised as chothing to do with the first Cabana should have wound up fitter hundred seconds that went by like fifteen there would that went by like fifteen the OR supported by like fift been bundred seconds that went by Blass" quite like old times to like fifteen then O.B. amounteer the blass " quite like old times to have formathing and fine contribed on with the more before the old familiar strains of Camelian Colores and Featility. etc. . rivithm and Featility. etc. . rivithm worder: more flow I was a strain unourrantive but ever-present, we k about the with old friends fiddle Light, 18.35 p.m. PAUL PENDULHET, where See Smartly Like You ... cutting con-

GUITAR SOLO in "New is the Hour." which made use look up.

from Datiff hope to hear it again...

"Elimentum Hitten" arrived in an its forty-five minutes a week, and a unfamiliar setting: was tasting the distinct made times appear as the pair science in delights of some pretty alto work.

Light, 130 p.m.

Actually proved showcase for planist all in Jazz Club is working hard to live up to its name; it fully deserves as the pair science in minutes a week, and a personal quiz I have carried out among friends outside the business shows that Parry's announcing is both natural and relaxed—is, in fact, ideal for the lob—Oct. It Light, 6.15 p.m. for the job .- Oct. 18, Light. 6.15 p.m.

> SID PHILLIPS, whose lovely "Clarinet Cadenza" ushered in 35 minutes of pliable delight . . . a minutes of pliable delight...a clarinet player of virtuosity blessed with versatility... "Barnyard Reel" seems to be dixieland cum hill-billy... Eugene Cedric himself came through Sid's clarinet in "Truckin"... his two compositions made happy contrast: "Eln.cr's Delight" and "Chints and Chippendale"... plenty hot rim-shots in old Henderson number "Aggravatin' Papa"... only adverse criticism of S.P. arrangement of "I.F.A.N.B." was that Baby was too long.—Oct. 20. Home, 9.30 a.m. a.m.

squads from 5.50 onwards and caught that old "Barnyard Reel" again full of the right spirit . . . same applied to fast number which followed "Embraceable You," also the "Bubbles" job . . . and welcome home Squads.—Oct. 20, Light, 5.40

BILLY TERNENT, who saved the announcer a lot of trouble by using hin vocalists to sing the title words in the intro. bars . . . Did I hear someone whisper "Sammy Kaye"? . Peggy Reid gave us some of her intimately warm and chummy singing
. . . Pat O'Regan fine except for those
strained top notes: "The Bungalow" was pitched too high. Pat . . . what a beat the drummer whipped up for the last chorus of the Calico Girl.—

Oct. 20, Light, 10.15 p.m.



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PROGRAMMES

Those who were unable to be present and would like a copy of the programme can obtain one by sending is. 3d. (P.O. or stamps) to the Organiser, Mr. Lewis Buckley, 28, Carr Lane, Birkdale, Southport, Lancs

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Championship.

The "All-Britain" in News and Pictures





Photos by Gordon White

(Lender), 32, Otley Drive, Hord, Essex. ('Phone: Valentine

Kenneth Franklin (alto/clart.); Kenneth Sommerville (tpt.); Stanley D. Walker (pmo.); Stanley Musgrave (gtr.); Bonald Arrow-mith (bass); Sidney C. White (Leader, drums).

Individualist's award for: Trumpet (Kenneth Sommerville). Hon. sentions for: Alto (Kenneth Franklin); Piano (Stanley D. Walker); tar (Stanley Musgrave); Bass (Ronald Arrowsmith).

Manchester, All Illiams (Secretary). Band, Tyldesty

od: THE SCOTT HEMBERSON STETTE, of Glangow. All coms.; pp Scott Henderson (L-ader). L. in, Glasgow, W.

Similarson (Leader, in Mair (gir.); Frank Innes Chilosi (dina.). a' awards for: Tenor leman; Piano (George

to THE PREMIER PLAYERS, All coms. C. D. Barrett, 30, Outlands Deive, Otley, (Fire saxes, three tots., mes., drums.) for. Trumpet (Colin

FIRST BILL COLE AND HIS GLUB-

5/7 PIECE BANDS

JOHN WASON and TOMMY SAVILLE

By INCR MAIRABTS

ORCHESTRATIONS 2/6

ARD IN CRESS

J. Poore (Manager), 22, Tredegar Road, Southsea, Hants. (Alto/clart., tenor, piano, guitar, bass, drums.) Hon, mention for: Piano (Bill Cole).

Sixth: JIMMY COLQUHOUN AND His MUSIC MAKERS, of Paisley. All coms.: Jimmy Colquhoun (Leader), 11, Cochran Street, Paisley, Renfrew-shire. Scotland. (Pour saxes, three tpts., tmb., pisno, bass, drums.) Individualist's award for: Drums (Jimmy Leggat).

Seventh: JOHNNIE STILES AND HIS BAND, of Swindon. All coms.: Johnnie Stiles (Leader), 116. Mor-rison Street. Swindon, Wills. ('Phone: Swindon 2515.) (Five saxes, two tpts., tmb., piano, bass, dms.) *

Eighth: WILF RIGHY AND HIS DANCE ORCHESTRA, of Warrington. All coms.: Wilf Righy (Leader), 31, Wilson Patten Street, Warrington, Lancs. (Warrington 2444.) (Four sazes, two tpts., two tmbs., plane, bass, drums.) Individualist's award for: Trom-bone (Terry Nagle). Hon. mention for: Buss (John I. Ditchfield).

Misth: ETGH AND HIS QUADS, of Stockport. All coms.: Frank Etchells (Leader). 29, Keswick Road, Reaton Chapel Stockport, Cheshire. ('Phones' Heston Moor 4867, Rusholme 1211.) Thirteen bands competed.



their waltz! happened like this. Although every member of the band did not win his individua-

vidually shine brilliantly, but the band produced an excellent ensemble. There was real drive and spirit in its relaxed but supremely confident, exhilarating, and wellnigh musically faultless playing. Most of these features were conspicuous also in the quick-step, which, although re-titled for the occasion "Groovin' High," was in fact a swing version of "Whispering," and it was in this number that the band nearly lost the contest.

rhythm,
But the marks the band lost sunder the treatment of tunes headings on this, it more than recovered in its

Yet many of even the larger bands which should be able to play the best waltzes often fall in this dance. Their waltzes sound monotonous and sometimes even dreary, because the bands do not realise the scope the dance offers for feeling, colour and above all, artistry.

But not as with the limited.

above all, artistry.

But not so with the Jive Bombers.

Porgetting entirely their first love, jive, they entered fully into the spirit of the waltz and all it can mean musically. They showed an imagination and sense of real musical artistry which, while it reached its climax in the superb playing of trumpet-man Kenneth Sommerville, was reflected almost equally in the grand performance of the whole band.

There seem to be two morals in

the contest.

The alto/clarinet and trumpet front line, mostly in unison, played real re-bop. But the solos, although d'splaying at times phenomena; t-ch-nique, were not re-bop in conception or execution. Also, while the front line always at least tried to keep in the re-bop idiom, the rhythm section was unable, or at any rate made no was unable, or at any rate made no process.

There seem to be two margis in this. The first is that even small swing bands can play enthralling waltres if only they will look upon them in the right spirit and with sufficient enthusiasm. The seems to be two margis in this. The first is that even small swing bands can play enthralling waltres if only they will look upon that waltres, being the real test of honest-to-goodness musicianship, are an essential feature of any dance-band output.

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The Jive Bombers, who won the Championship, consist of two engineers, a catering manager, a printer, and a retail gown-aslesman. The Falcons, who came second, were originally an A.T.C. band, and were coached by the Oscar Rabin arranging discovery Alyn Ainsworth

Bince the war, two of their members have become miners, two others are patternmakers, two are clerks, one is a teacher, another a painter. Another is a mill-hand, another a tool grinder. The last is on demob leave.

George Scott Monderson, whose Chulmen came aces to make a sood living as a trypic. The other members of his band are a latter winning last year's "All-Britain," is a pawnoroker. Remaining members of his band are a lawyer a fish merchant, a patternmaker, and a joiner.

The Premier Players, fourth, consist of an electrician, an optical mechanic, a printer's engineer, a fitter.

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THE SCRIMMAGE!—The amazing scene at the interval when the judges were swamped by enthusiastic autograph-hunters!

PROGRAMMES Practically all 5.500 of the 50-page programmes printed for the "All-Britain" Final had to be used to supply the phenomenal demand in the hall on the day, and a reprint is now in hand to meet the hundreds of further applications for this magnificent souvenir of a great occasion. The programme includes the story of Melody Maker Contests from 1926 to the present day; an explanation of how Melody Maker Contests are judged; the main rules for the contests; full details of all the bands which qualified for the Area Finals Runners-up Heat and the "All-Britain" Final; pictures and blographies of most of the bands which appeared in the "All-Britain"; the "All-Britain" Prize List; details of Ted Heath and his Music, who brought the house down as the special professional attraction of the Festival; pictures of the "All-Britain" judges, etc.

A SIX-PIECE swing combina-tion, and hottest band in the contest, the Jive Bombers won the 1947 "All-Britain" Final on

band did not win his individualist's award, or even in one case
an hon. mention, the combination
possessed the greatest aggregate
of outstanding instrumentalists
of any band in the contest.

It started off well with an
original swing foxtrot, "J.B.
Dilemma," in which not only did
the virtuosity of the players individually shine brilliantly, but the
band produced an excellent en-

attempt, to do likewise. It just played straightforward foxtroi

waltr. Now, not only is the waltz one of the two most popular ballroom dances in the country to day, and therefore an essential part of the stock-in-trace of any self-respecting dance hand but it is also the supreme test of genuine musicianship.

RHYTHM IS THEIR (SPARE-TIME) BUSINESS

lelody Maker

Member: Audit Bureau of Circulations 6. CATHERINE ST., STRAND, LONDON, W.C.2 Editor: RAY SONING Tompte Ser 2468

Song-Plugging: Why is the B.B.C. Stalling?

THE MELODY MAKER would like to ask the B.B.C. two questions: (1) Why have the agreements with the music-publishers for the total prohibition of song-plugging not been ratified? and (2) Why is the B.B.C. stalling in putting an end to a practice which it has already publicly denounced as "pernicious and degrading"? These are questions that affect the whole profession, and we want to know the answers.

It was in March of this year that Sir Valentine Holmes, in his

B.B.C. Inquiry Report, recommended that means be devised to stop song-plugging for good and all. Since then, a Committee has been set up, negotiations have been going on, and it was confidently and reliably expected that a cast-iron decision from the B.B.C. would

be announced round about the beginning of September. Our information now is that the responsible music-publishing organisation has done its full share of co-operation in these negotiations, and that the agreement drawn up between it and the

B.B.C. about song-plugging only wants signing to come into effect.
Why, then, is the B.B.C. stalling? If, as Sir Valentine Holmes
admitted in his Report, the B.B.C. has unavailingly tried for twelve years to stop song-plugging, surely this procrastination at a time when it has its greatest chance of putting an end to the practice once and for all is, to say the least or it, extraordinary.

Can it be that the B.B.C. is stalling deliberately because it knows that, without the financial benefit of song-plugging, few bandleaders could afford to broadcast for the present woefully inadequate broadcasting fees?

If this is the case, then the B.B.C.'s attitude to song-plugging is nothing short of hypocritical. On the face of things as they stand at the moment, the B.B.C. is apparently prepared to condone a pernicious and degrading practice" to save itself money, because, if it refuses to allow bands to accept outside plug-money, it knows that the demand for higher fees for broadcasting dance bands will be intensified and must come about.

Harl things have been said about the B.B.C. in its time, but we hesitate to think that our national broadcasting organisation could be as smugly parsimonious as the facts seem to suggest.

But we warn the B.B.C. that, while it continues to stall on the question of song-plugging, its motives in so doing can only be regarded as suspect. And, if there is any good reason why the negotiations for the cessation of song-plugging are not officially being implemented, then let the B.B.C. come out into the open and say so. Goodwill between all parties concerned can end so: gplugging, but it will never end while the B.B.C.'s attitude on the subject has periorce to be regarded with suspicion.

In any case, the Melony Maker feels strongly that it is a great pity that the B.B.C. ever had the opportunity of taking the initiative in attempting to stop song-plugging. The solution should have been arrived at by consultation between the bandleaders' representatives and the music-publishing organisation, who should then have announced their findings to the B.B.C. They are the two bodies most concerred, yet the balance of power in the negotiations has shitted right over to the B.B.C .- In our opinion, a tactical error on the part of the interested parties.

However, since the B.B.C. has, rightly or wrongly, been drawn into the negotiations, we demand that it justify itself by doing something immediately.

Otherwise, we shall be forced to the reluctant conclusion that the B.B.C. is quite ready to let song-plugging go on as long as possible and is turning a blind eye to what it considers to be its iniquities, rather than put its hand into its pocket and give bandleaders sufficient morey to make them independent of music-publishers' blandishments when they take their bands on the air.

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E WAY TO MAKE ST

A study in contrasts by

you have talent-and you know you've got the spark.

O.K.—you're set to go. Burn-ing with ambition, dewy-eyed with hope, you plan to rocket ahead and burst with dazzling brilliance above those big-timers who already enjoy a place in the

Just what are your prospects? How do you, too, become a "Hutch," an Anne Shelton, or a Vera Lynn—an artist beset by autograph hunters, lauded by critics, the object of fawning adulation by an adoring public? Your first step is to find a suitable agent—and "suitable" is the operative word. To find a man without a King Midas outlook is like prospecting for gold; the only difference is that you hold small stakes in the claim.

claim. Whatever rour luck. before the agent will even con-sider you as a moneyraking potentiality, you first have to sign that "sole-agency" clause This, for better or worse, binds you to that one agent, and also means that, if ever you do get work, the man on your back draws his 10 per cent. This is his governing outlook on life—and on you. He gets his cut as long as you are working, and, to him, it doesn't matter a great deal where. deal where.

His office has been the graveyard of many young hopes. Un-moved by your touching ambitions, he'll have no hesitation in planting you in a totally unsuitable job. So long as you make £10 a week, he gets £1.

So you want to be a star? Harry Davis

earest pub. and gauges your pro-from theatre managers' remains reports and box-office receipts.

He has plenty of other, and sometimes bigger, fish to fry. If he's smart, he has hooked a few established artists. They are the hundred-a-weekers, from whom he filets a far bigger cut. Thus, you're left to flounder for yourself.

The outcome can often be sheer artistic degradation, disillusion-ment, and a quick slide-back to the obscurity from whence you

So much for your ambitions. They haven't turned out to be worth the 10-per-cent, you

worth the 10-per-cent, you promised to pay.

Now cast your cloudy eyes on a more hopeful scene. The setting is America. There, things are different.

BRITISH girl, whose name and capabilities are virtually unknown to the great American public, steps as ore at New York.

Her only assets are good looks, a voice, and a couple of letters of recommendation—and remember, plenty of American girls have had all these.

She, too, is determined to

She, too, is determined to become a star—really b'g. So she sets out to find an agent. She gets a good one. She knows that a man that could build up such bands as Benny Goodman. Count Basie, and Vaughn Munroe

is good enough for her.

Fortunately, the agent is sold at the outset. Sold to the extent of backing her with five thousand pounds. He's prepared to make a business deal that will There's no build-up. No battery of live-wire publicity men blaze your way. You just stumble along alone. Your agent may give you a fillip by standing the local booker a drink in the

money invested. The fact that he has his own money at stake provides him with the incentive to work and win.

The five thousand is put in the kitty. Out of that comes money for publicity, gowns, musical arrangements, good-will appearances—all those myriad things involved in the vital business of "build-up." At this stage, the embryo star gets merely a nominal salary, and many tempting offers of work are refused as being unsuitable. Both she and the agent are content to wait. The agent are content to wait. The pay-off comes later.

MEANWHILE, people get busy.

The chief publicity manhe makes the equivalent of £50 a week, and earns every centplots his campaign. So long as they spell his product's name right, he doesn't mind much what the papers say about her. The better the publicity, the bigger the ultimate pay-off.

He pulls a unique sount He

He pulls a unique saunt. He sells "Life" magazine the idea of running a double-page spread showing all the people who are concerned in a young artist's

build-up.

To get over eighty busy people together for one picture costs "Life" a fortune, but they—like the girl's agent—are concerned with only one idea. In their case, it's putting over a magazine. Some eight million readers will talk about that double-page picture. Both the publicity man—and the publishers—feel they've done a good job.

Meanwhile, the agent is pushing on. Contacts. publicity, build-up—these form the basis of his beliefs. One day he's in Baltimore. The next, Chicago. Then Hollywood.

Then Hollywood.

Then Hollywood.

The girl herself, impressed by results, is content to do as she's told—even if it entails sleeping on her feet. By now she has so much faith in her agent that she wouldn't question his statement that midnight was twelve noon. If he says "Sing" she sings. But if he decreed otherwise she wouldn't even croon in her bath.

Gruelling going: but aready

Gruelling going: but aready those dividends are coming in.
To-day, that young singer is earning at least £300 a week.
Within only nine months she has practically made the grade to stardom. It took her nine years to reach the half-way mark over

You all know her name. She's my daughter Beryl.

BOOKSHELF

Jazzways," edited by George Rosenthal and Frank Zachary, Musicians' Press, Ltd., 15s.

HE Musicians' Press is doing jazz lovers a good turn. Tuning-up with Goffin's book—not, perhaps, the best possible introduction—they then scored a definite hit with Mezzrow's irresistible confessions and depressions, "Really the Blues"—the best auto-biography yet achieved in the jazz world. Now the M.P. follows up with the finest illustrated book made on the subject.

This English edition is part of a new, revised American edition, and 'Jazzways' is now a well-bound, art-jacketed production, with improved arrangement of copy, slightly less satisfactory photo reproduction. less satisfactory photo reproduction, no advertising, and the same im-pressive list of contributors, less one whose material has dated.

whose material has dated.

There are wonderful pictures to suit every taste, and they are appropriately captioned. Dizzy is "the current swing favourite": Big Sid Catlett "plays everything from dizieland to swing": Billie Holiday is "Sind Street's leading prima donna": Butterfield played "with Whiteman for a living, with Condon for kicks"; and "fast runs and melody abstractions type Art Tatum's pianoplaying."

on the prose side, there are pieces on Goodman, Hampton, and swing in general; short items about personalities that show good critical sense; One For the Moory about Art Shaw, "Two For the Show" about Cootie Williams and Gene Krupa); articles on collecting and about jazz bands, white and coloured. Most impressive of several valuable contributions is the New Orleans reportage by Gene Williams and photographer Skippy Adelman Running it close is Fred Ramsey's "Going Down State Street" and Rudi Blesh's "Jazz Begins." Art Hodes and Dale Curran have nice atuff, the former concluding with the remark, "People don't understand jazz because they haven't heard it."

"Jazzways" is for the people who

jazz because they haven't heard it."

"Jazzways" is for the people who have heard jazz and grown to like it. There's not much talk about progress, most of the writers realising that a fully-developed music form like New Orleans jazz can be a thing of joy for ever. So, for the jazz lovers who ask "What's good?" rather than "What's new?" here is the ideal volume a conneisseur's book with some startling photoillustrations, twenty-seven of them being full-page, 11 in. x 8 in.—M. J.

Preview of a Star

When the famous American swing singer, Lena Horne, arrives in this country for her London Casino debut next month (as exclusively revealed in last week's "Melody Maker"), she will introduce to British fams a great young American jazz star in the person of her accompanist, Luther Henderson. Hore is a preview of this brilliant young composer-arranger, written by our New York correspondent.

Young Luther Henderson is not related to either Fletcher or Horace, though, co-incidentally, the latter was Lena Horne's pianist and musical director a couple of years ago. Luther, who is one of the most articulate and literate of the many young musicians on the New York scene, is the son of a prominent educator. He was first victor recording dates, namely, New York scene, is the son of a prominent educator. He was first heard of professionally with the trio of guitarist Leonard Ware, and it was while he was a member of that group that he became very friendly with Mercer Ellington. Together they wrote the war-time song. "A Slip Of The Lip Might Sink A Ship." which became one of the Duke's higgest recording hits and one of biggest recording hits and one of Ray Nance's most requested numbers.

numbers.

During a nineteen-month period of Navy service. Luther was on the radio staff at Great Lakes Naval Station for both the Negro and White sections. Later he was sent to the U.S. Naval School in Washington and worked on the arranging staff.

In the past couple of years he has written arrangements for singer Thelma Carpenter. dancer Katherine Dunham, and for Count Basie, Earl Hines and Mercer Ellington, for whom he played piano and wrote the tune

Victor recording dates, namely, Etta Jones, a promising young blues singer, and Leslie Scott, ballad singer from the Louis Armstrong band. He has solos on several sides made at these dates. dates.

One of his last jobs before leaving the States last Saturday (18th) to come to Europe, was

the preparation of music for Lena Horne's first date under her contract with M-G-M records.

Luther is a graduate of the Juilliard School of Music, a skilled all-round musician and a personable guy. Like Lena herself, he will undoubtedly win innumerable friends during their European solourn. European sojourn.

Leonard Feather

Personal Points: RONNIE SCOTT



Born in Commercial Road London, on January 28, 1927 Ronnie Scott showed no particular interest in music until he reached the age of fifteen. Then he wanted to play a saxophone, and took lessons on tenor from Jack Lewis, father of former Squadronaires saxist Harry Lewis, and was soon playing with local gig bands. In with local gig bands. In 1945, after he had been noticed at jam sessions, he joined Cab Quay's band at the Orchard Club. After a brief stay there he joined Johnny Claes, and remained with this outfit for remained with this outfit for a year, touring and gaining much useful experience. Early in 1946. Ted Heath asked him to join his allstar orchestra, and Ronnle accepted, touring Scandinavia with the band and featuring in the Jack Parnell Quartet. After a year with Heath he left for a holiday in America, and then took a job on the "Queen Mary." He is currently with Tito Burns' Sextet. A convert to the be-bop school, Ronnie is among the country's top jazz among the country's top lazz

soloists on any instrument. Favourite Musicians: Coleman Hawkins, Dizzy Gillespie, Charlie Parker.

Favourite Rands: Stan Kenton, Boyd Rachurn. Favourite Records: "One Bass Hit" by Dizzy Gillespie; "Intermission Riff" by Stan Kenton. Favourite Composers: Ravel, Kern, Ellington.

Fatourite Arrangers: Johnny Richards and Pete Rugulo. Favourite Food: Roast chicken. Hobby: Talking about my trips to America.



FRED ELIZALDE STRAIGHT-COMPOSER IS COMING HERE

() November 3, at the Cen-tral Hail, Westminster, the London Symphony Orchestra will play a symphony concert under the famous French conductor. Gaston Poulet. In the programme is a new violin concerto and the composer is Fred Elizalde, ader of perhaps the first swing and this country ever had, who coming over specially for the

reformance.
Elizalde was the arbiter of dance-band fashion in England from 1927 to 1931. He first



became prominent at Cambridge, where
he led the Quinquaginta Dance
Band, but before
that he had
played in
America and led
an orchestra at
the Cinderella

America and led an orchestra at the Cinderella Roof in San Francisco which included Teddy Schilling and. for a time, Bix Beiderbecke.

Fred Elizaide It was Elizaide who first told the fans here of Louis Armstrong and cout Bix, when the "M.M." called him "Bidlebecke." The Elizaide Savoy Band of 1928-30 hal Adrian and Arthur Rollini, I ut Livingston, Chylsea Quealey, Bobby Davies, and Jack Rus(s) in among its American stars, and the late Al Bowlly, Phil Cardew, Ben Frankel, Harry Hayes, and George Hurley were some of the now famous British players who were associated with it.

There will be many who remember fired Elizaide as a brilliant planist and arranger who will want to hear his serious music at the Central Hall on November 3. Tickets are 3s, to lie, 6d., and can be obtained from the box office at the Central Hall. Missrs. Ibbs and Tillett, Ltd., 124. Wiemore Street W.I., or the usual ricket agencies.

Altoist In Road Smash

AST Monday, the 13th, proved an unlucky day for altoist John Weston, of Peter Legh's Mayfair Orchestra, currently playing the Pier Pavillon, Cleethorpes. Whilst riding his motor cycle at Huntingdon, he came into collision with a lorry and suffered concussion and severe facial injuries which will necessitate his remaining in hospital for at least three weeks.

He would greatly appreciate hearing from friends, who should write to him c/o the Aibert Ward, Huntingdon County Hospital. His place in the Mayfair Orchestra has, in the meantime, been taken by ex-Prancisco Coudé altoist Enie Jones.

Peter himself is at present confined to London under doctor's orders, and his Mayfair Orchestra is operating under the leadership of drummer Eric Kemp.

TUST as the MELODY MAKER went to press, we learned that popular West Indian bandleader Cyril Blake had signed a contract to return to the Goose and Gander Club. Baker Street, where he played with such success in 1945.

As before, Cyril will take in a fourpiece combination comprising himself (trumpet, guitar and vocals); Joe Appleton (tenor and clarinet); Arthur Gibson (piano); and Clinton Maxwell (drums).



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DEATH OF SEYMOUR BURNS

THE MELODY MAKER announces
with the deepest regret the
death of well-known musical-instrument factor, musician and
composer, Seymour Burns, Seymour passed away in hospital last Tuesday morning (21st) follow-ing a severe internal operation. He had been in hospital a week and appeared to be going on quite well when he had a sudden re-lance.

Seymour, who was fifty-one, leaves a widow and two young children, to whom we respectfully tender our sincere sympathy.

pathy.
Seymour was the elder brother of the late Alex. Burns, and it is a tragic coincidence that his death should have occurred only five months after Alex., proprietor of the well-known Shaftesbury Avenue instrument firm, passed

Avenue instrument firm, passed away.

Of recent years Seymour Burns had been in business in Oxford as Seymour Burns and Co., but he planned to return to London and had made arrangements to have the necessary accommodation for carrying on his instrumental supply undertaking at Messrs. Brons.

Originally a planist and composer. Seymour Burns enjoyed a colourful career. Out in Hollywood many years ago, he became musical director and composer to some of the world-famous stars of silent film days, among them Pola Negri.

This exciting phase of his career, into which he "gate-crashed" his way with extraordinary enterprise when completely unknown lasted for a long while, and only ended became Seymour, worn out with the endless demands of his profession, became sill with severe internal trouble and had to return home.

Back in England, Seymour had composed a great deal of music, especially for the accordion, in addition to his long association with the sale of musical instruments.

The funeral will take place at Rain-

The funeral will take place at Rain-ham (Essex) this afternoon (23rd).

JOE WATSON **GOES TO SEA**

PREVIOUSLY with Harry Hayes and Geraldo and, through-out the summer, a rhythmical mainstay of Nat Temple's Orches-tra at Butlin's, Skegness, stylish drummer Joe Watson has now joined Harold Fields' band aboard the "Queen Mary." He replaces Johnny Wise.

Johnny Wise.

Other news from the Fields' camp comprises an exciting account of a lightning visit to 52nd Street by tenorman Mossy

Kaye.

In New York for a brief 36 hours, Mosay spent a jive-studded evening listening to ace-tenorists. Charlie Ventura and Lester Young bandleader Billy Eckstine. Ella Pitzgerald, trumpeter Roy Eldridge, and a host of swing stars who make 52nd Street "a glorious notch-potch of jazz."

Mossy also visited the St. Regis Hotel, where, in a resident engagement, Britain's own Beryl Davis was being accompanied by ex-Blue Rockets' planist Ronnie Selby. Former Geraldo singer Len Camber, there on holiday, also joined the trio.

Beryl sent greetings to all her friends in Britain.

WEST END DRUM MOVES. On Monday night (20th). Rossion Lowe toined Tommy Rogan at the Blue I asoon and his drum chair with Frank King at the Regency Club has been taken over by Harry Benson who also sings.

CALL SHEET

(Week commencing October 27) Blanche COLFWAN and Girls' Band.
Seaburn Hall, Sunderland.
Billy COTTON and Band.
Pavilon Newport.
Henry HALL and Band.
Tivoli, ituil.
Ken HARVEY.

Ken HARVEY,
Alhambra, Glasgow.
Ted HEATH and Band.
One-night Stands, London Area
Joe LOSS and Band.
Empire, Crovdon.
George MELACHRINO'S "Starlight
Root" Orchestra.
Hippodrome, London.
Feliz MENDELSSOHN and Hawaiian
Serenaders.

Serenaders.

Hippodrome, Birmineham.
Syd MILLWARD and Nitwits.
Palace Plymouth.
Oscar RABIN and Band.
One-night Stands, London London and

South. Harry ROY and Band. Empire, Glasgow.

Britain's Top Tunes

The following list of Ten Best Sellers, irrespective of price, for week ending October 16, 1947, has been com-piled from lists supplied by members of the Wholesale Music Distributors' Association in London and the pro-



On Monday (28th) at Marringay, Hawaiian Syweight bestr Dado Marine fought Rinty Monaghan and lost the beut on points. Years ago he fought another losing battle— when he took up the clarinet, and astually ted his own band at one time, but threw in the tow. I (musically speaking) in favour of a sporting carcer. Above you see Dado during his training trying a little nimble fingerwork again for a change, under the eagle eye or Nac Ailen saxist celebrity Eddie Pratt.

P.o.W. ROMANCE BEHIND NEW SOUTHEND DATE

ELLA LOGAN'S **NIECE JOINS** REG ARNOLD

A NEW swing-singer for LonA don, who comes in with a
grand reputation already made,
started with Reg Arnold and his
Band at the Orchid Room niterie
iast Monday (20th).

She is Annabella Ross, Scotsborn artiste who has spent 15
years on stage, screen and radio
in the U.S., and, according to Reg
Arnold, is a swing stylist who is
"out of this world."

Older members of the profession in Town will be particularly
interested to learn that Annabella is a niece of Ella Logan, that
famous and dynamic songstress
from Giasgow who spent several
very successful years in London
dance band circles before travelling to the States and making a
big reputation there.

Annabella Ross takes the place
of Lynn Mason at the Orchid
Room. She is being presented
by Ambrose.

There are further changes

of Lynn Mason at the Orchid Room. She is being presented by Ambrose.

There are further changes in Reg Arnold's Band, now settling down very nicely at this exclusive niterie.

Tenorman Jack Pisher—recently with Harold Fields aboard the s.s. "Queen Mary"—has taken over from Wally Moffat; and Jack Peach—who was with Reggie Dare at the "Potomac" Restaurant—now occupies the Orchid Room drum chair. Frank Holmes is shortly coming in on saxes, replacing "Biff" Byfield.

Folkestone's New M.U. Branch

NEW branch of the Musi-cians' Union at Polkestone NEW branch of the Musicians cians' Union at Polkestone (Kent) was successfully opened last Sunday (19th) by M.U. South-East Area Organiser Harry Prancis. A well-attended and enthusiastic meeting took place, and the many keen local musicians present were addressed both by Harry Prancis and by Arthur Turner (Branch Secretary from Chatham) and Jack Barnard (Thanet), who loyally came along to give Harry Prancis all possible assistance and support.

Secretary of the new Polkestone Branch is Mr. Ronald Stone, of 13 Cheriton Road Polkestone stelephone Polkestone 18650; All musicians in the district who are not yet M.U. members allould contact Mr. Stone at once.

President of the new Polkestone M.U. Branch is Benny Preedman, well-known local figure of the profession, and M.D. at the Leas Cliff Hall.

GRIEFF LEAVES MUSWELL HILL

A PTER a full year's residence at the Muswell Hill Palais, bandleader Ken Grieff finally says goodbye to the bandstand on October 25.

Ken, who has been very success ful with the patrons of this hall with his eight-piece combination, now comes nearer to town. Harry Dawson, at the Winstone office, is busy at the moment arranging some interesting future work for this excellent dance attraction.

ALVAREZ JOINS VIC LEWIS

A LTO sax expert and talented arranger Gerry Alvarez has recently returned to professional circles after a long spell in hos-pital following a severe internal

pital following a severe internal operation.

Gerry, whose last engagement was with Leslie Douglas' Orchestra, celebrates his return to harness by joining up with Vic Lewis. He will be playing baritone sax, in place of Frank Holmes, who, as reported elsewhere, is shortly going over to Reg Arnold's Band at the Orchid Room,

Helmes Joins Victoria

ON Monday last (20th), pre-war Northern and Scottish Regionals bandleader Alan Holmes Regionals bandleader Alan Holmes moved over from the exploitation staff of Bradbury Wood, Ltd., to that of Victoria Music Co., Ltd.

Alan will be well remembered for his many alr-sessions with his own sextet prior to joining the R.A.P. On demobilisation, however, he relinquished bandleading for exploitation, and his many friends will wish him every success at the St. George's Street address.

BIG MIGHT FOR CASS.—Great break for semi-pro lady-bandleader. Cassy Davey, occurs on October 24, when her band is engaged for the Wilfred Pickles Show being aired in aid of the Park Prevett Disabled Soldiers' Hospital, at Battersea Town Hall. Cass is augmenting her band for the occasion up to 13, with herself leading from piano.

AD. CORRECTION.—Messrs. Boosey and Hawkes have asked us to point out that, whereas Max Abrams was stated in their advertisement on the front page on October 11, to be with the B B.C. Felevision Orchestra, he is, of course now with Sid Phillips. Association in London and the provinces:

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7. OLD SPANISH TRAIL . (1s.) P. Maurice
8. THERE'S DANGER AHEAD

9. MY FIRST LOVE, MY LAST LOVE
1 (1s.) Dash
10. DEAR OLD DONEGAL (1s.) Leeds

10. DEAR OLD DONEGAL (1s.) Leeds

10. SIGNIT FOR CASS.—O break for semi-pro ladv-bandles Cass to Dave, occurs on October when her band is eineased for the park Prevett Dash Soldiers' Hospital, at Battersea Thall. Cass is augmenting her is for the occasion up to 13, with self leading from piano.

AD. CORRECTION.—Messrs. Be and Hawkes have asked us to rout that, whereas Max Abrams stated in their advertisement on front page on October 11, to be the B B.C. Television Orchestra. https://doi.org/10.1001/10.10

Chris Hayes's NEWS IN BRIEF

PEARMAN OFF ON OCTOBER 25.—
Thanks to the mention in the MELODY
MARKE a month ago, Midland bandleader, Johnny Pearman, who required musicians for a job he is
taking in South Africa, received over
80 replies, and asks us to say that
he is now fixed up and wishes to
thank all who wrote to him as he
cannot reply personally, Johnny leaves
Croydon Airport on October 25 and
his band in Coventry will continue
under his name, but directed by
Gordon Griffiths, ex-Billy Monk drummer. There will be one change in
personnel, as Ron Smith is going to
South Africa with Johnny and an
alto sax player has yet to be booked
to replace him.

GELDRAY'S "BAND-BOX."—Dutch harmonica wizard Max Geldray, who has lately been featured in Variety, sets a big radio break this Sunday (26th), when he will be heard in "Variety Band Box." The following Thursday (36th) he will be seen and heard in the television programmes.

ROUGH ON ROWE.—Owing to a poisoned hand, trombonist George Rowe was unable to perform with the Skyrockets last Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday, Famous trombonist - arranger - bundleader, Woolf Phillips, deputised.

BANDLEADER ROBBED.—A Conn gold-lacquered alto-sax, number M. 263635 A. and an Albert Boehn system clarinet with chromium-plated keys, the property of Chas, Tyler, leader of the band at the Coronation Ballroom, Ramsgate, have been stolen. Any musician offered instruments of this description should get in touch with the police immediately.

.GREEN JOINS MILLWARD.-Chosen of the control of the

FRESH JELLY-ROLLS.—Fresh faces in John Haim's Jelly Roll Kings are those of clarinettist Frank Lofthouse, who has replaced Doug Boyd, and 161-year-old trombonist Ron Dickson, of whose playing John Haim is more than enthusiastic. Ron replaces Tony Pinnis. Former clarinettist with this New Orleans line-up, Alan Willson, is now in the R.A.F.

THE Winter Gardens Ballroom of the Palace Hotel, Southend, gets a new resident band next Monday (27th), under a London leader, when guitarist Nigel Stewart takes in his own seven-piece band, under the ægis of R.D.S. Productions, Ltd.

The name of Nigel Stewart may not have a familiar ring in professional circles as yet, but that is because "Nigel Stewart" is actually well-known West End guitarist Nigel Plunkett, who has adopted a slightly more euphoni-ous surname now that he has assumed the cares of leadership.

One of the few genuinely romantic stories in the profes-sion is of the manner in which Nigel secured this very important engagement, which may well lead to big things for him.

CHANCE MEETING

To tell the story properly, we must introduce here Sam Kydd, who fronted and compered bands for Os. ar Rabin before joining the Forces, and who is now manager at the Winter Gardens, Southend, for R.D.S. Productions, Ltd.

Sam Kydd—who was blown up at Calais and mourned as dead by all his intimates—ultimately turned up in a P.o.W. camp in Poland, where he met Nigel Flunkett, whom he found running a dance band there.

Pinally released by the Russians.

found running a dance band there.

Finally released by the Russians, tife boys said good-bye, and their passages lay in quite different parts of the world until, after torrevens, they met again in civvies outside the Rabin office—Sam Kydd looking for a band attraction, and Nigel (who had a band formed and rehearsed) anxious to sell one.

It didn't take them long to so upstairs to the Rabin offices and set everything fixed, and next Monday's Southend debut by "Nigel Stewart" is the result. This change brings to an end the "name band" policy instituted at Southend, which finishes next Saturday (25th) when the Stardwaters conclude their three-weeks' date there.

However, the new outfit is expected

date there.

However, the new outfit is expected to give Southend dancers and fans plenty to think about, for Nigel Stewart has lined up a first-class outfit, with ex-Gonella Keith Levers (bass and vibes); Eddie Curtis (plano); Predix Webb (drums); Bill Emerson (alto and clarry); Charlie Pelling (tenor and clarry); and last, but emphatically not least, charming Edna Levers, not only handling vocals, but taking over bass whenever Kelth Levers is featured on vibes.

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HARRY HEPP



Collectors' Corner

EAR and away the most important tidings of 1947 for the record student is the news that the almost legendary records made by Jelly Roll Morton for the Polk Song Archives of the Library of Congress are actually to be made available to the general public.

The man behind this scoop is Rudi Blesh, of Circle Records, and he is deserving of the encomium of all collectors for his diligent efforts to get these fabulous sides released. Whilst not stretching a point too far. we might now airrost consider buying a copy of his "Shining Trumpets." just to show our appreciation of what he has done for jazz.

These records were cut at the

a copy of his "Shining Trumpets," just to show our appreciation of what he has done for jazz.

These records were cut at the American Congressional Library in May, 1938. The session lasted for five weeks, and was supervised by Alan Lomax. Allowing for remakes, nearly one hundred sides were cut, and, omitting a few which we gather might be nauseous even to the impenitent ears of the hardened blues-listener, they will all be issued in a series of 12 albums.

So much has been written about Ferdinand Joseph Morton that it would be merely redundant to repeat it here. He was then "I am the great Jelly Roll Morton. I invented in letters with the appellation after his name of "Originator of Jazz and Stomps. World's greatest hot tune writer." Yet, despite his superabundancy of egotism. Jelly Roll Morton was indeed a very great figure in jazz and did exert a tremendous influence on the shaping of this kind of music.

Unlike so many of the older musicians. Morton would seem to have been blessed with a very retentive memory. Many of these records are autobiographical. He has recounted much of what he could remember of the New Orleans voodoo chants of 40 years ago. He tells of the old hymns, the funeral lamentations, the Orcole melodies, and has even recorded as many of the "house" tunes as he could remember. He has described in detail just how the New Orleans military marches were transmuted into the dixieland ston.ps as we know them to-day. He gives his conception as to how the basic rhythm of jazz was derived from the clapping of hands and stamping of feet of the fervently religious Negroes in the Negro Baptist

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Churches. He tells of such legendary New Orleans characters as Tony Jackson, Aaron Harris, Madame Papa Loos, Game Kid, Bum French, and many others.

Also, he has recorded a heap of his own compositions. The names of some of these are new to us, but the many piquant titles stir our curiosity to a high degree.

And so, in point of fact, these records would seem to be a complete and unabridged history of jazz from the polgnant viewpoint of one of its most illustrious sons. And, boys, you haven't got to read it this time. Just sit back and listen!

To recapitulate, our thanks are due

sit back and listen!

To recapitulate, our thanks are due to Rudi Blesh, who has fought for nine years to get these sides released; to Alan Lomax, who recorded them in the first place; and, perhaps above all, to Charles Edward Smith. It was the last gentleman who dug Jelly Roll Morton from an obscure retirement in May, 1938. Morton had been playing piano is apinet job at that!! in an upstairs room of the "Music Box" in Washington, D.C., when he was tracked down by Charles Edward and once more given the chance to take his real place in jazz. There will be 45 records on 12 in. vinylite, and the total cost will be \$120 for the complete set, payable in quarterly instalments of 20 bucks. How do you get them over? Well, that is our headache as well as yours!

A listing of the complete recording session will appear next week.

JOE SULLIVAN DISCOGRAPHY
by Frank Dutton PART SIX

CAPITOL JAZZMEN.—Billy May (tpt.), Jimmy Noone (cit.), Dave Matthews (tnr.), Jack Teagarden

(tbn.), Sullivan (pno.), Dave Barbour (gtr.), Art Shapiro (bs.), Zutie Singleton (drs.), NOVEMBER 16, 1843.

By Betts

Clambake in B Plat (104), Cap. Casanova's Lament (105) (V. Tea-garden), Cap. 10010. In My Solitude (106), Cap. 10010. I'm Sorry I Made You Cry (107) (V. Teagarden), Cap. 10009.

JACK TEAGARDEN AND HIS CHICAGOANS.—As for "Capitol Jazz-men." but sub. Heinie Beau (clt.) for Noone. NOVEMBER 55, 1943. Stars Fell on Alabama (109) (V. Teagarden), Cap. 10027. "Deed I Do (110), Cap. 10027.

JOE SULLIVAN, PIANO SOLOS:
MARCH 18, 1944.
Twenty-Four Hours at Booth's (100).
Sunset 10053.

Bass Romps Away (101), Sunset 10053.

JOE SULLIVAN QUINTET.—Archie Rosate (cit.), Sullivan (pno.), Ulysses Livingstone (gtr.), Art Shapiro (bs.), Zutle Singleton (drs.), MARCH 15,

Night and Day (102), Sunset 10050. High Dudgeon (103), Sunset 10052. Brushin' Off the Boogle (104), Sunset 10052.

JOE SULLIVAN TRIO (same session s Quintet, clt., pno., drs, only). Heavy Laden (105), Sunset 10050.

JOE SULLIVAN, PIANO SOLOS.— NOVEMBER, 1944. (Eight titles for Commodore) Un-issued so far.

JOE SULLIVAN QUARTET.—Sidney Bechet (cit.), Sullivan (pno.),
Pops Foster (bs.), George Wettling (drs.), MID-1945,
Panama, Disc 6004,
Begin the Beguine, Disc 6004,
Got It and Gone, Disc 6005.

JOE SULLIVAN, PIANO SOLOS

Fidgety Feet, Disc 6003. Joe's Chimes, Disc 6003. Timothy, Disc 6005. (Above six sides issued in Album 701.)

(To be continued.)

Letters to

THE apparent discovery by string bass players of the five-string bass is just another fatuous case of the slavish imitation of the so-called "progressive" dance-band business. The five-string bass, with the low C. has been in universal use among Continental symphony orchestras for many years, and quite a few of our own "long-hair" bassists, including, I believe, Eugene Cruft, have used it for some time.

STANLEY NELSON.

and I always notice how the bass comes through so well, particularly in "Opus One."

"Opus One."

RONALD N. SMYRK.

Upper Holloway, N.19.

IT may be of interest to readers to know that, in addition to our daily transmissions for Middle East listeners, we now have a special two-love the comes through so well, particularly in "Opus One."

Wembley, Middlesex.

Wembley, Middlesex.

A LITTLE boy was once learning the violin. When it was evident to his anxious parents that his efforts were in vain, he was asked to learn the piano instead and refused. If it is difficult to manage four strings, how much worse would be a whole box-full of them. This child-ish and irrelevant reply comes to my mind on reading the latest instalment of the Bob Roberts and Charlie Short controversy.

Bob was given a quarter-page, and one should have expected some clear argument against amplification. He should have used this opportunity to substantiate his somewhat rash and generalised statements cariler this year. Instead, he flatly repeated his opinion that amplified bass sounds distorted, and quoted a convenient, but anonymous, recording engineer to convince us that it would require two tens of equipment and a 12-ft. speaker to feproduce the bass properly.

Did this engineer use two tons of equipment to record the bass Bob Roberts was playing with? And did he expect to reproduce the finished record with a 12-ft. speaker? If this man's argument is right, how else was he able to capture and reproduce the bass within the band on a smaller apparatus? Obviously, there is no need for "Carter Paterson." Charlie Short manages very nicely with his little Skoda car, and I know dozens of other amplified basslists who manage without a car altogether.

Bob also insists that Eddie Safranski reached the top of the poll without amplification. So did Charlie Short, because he acquired his outfit long after his success was established. Does Bob know that Eddie is now also an addict of this "noat distorted of all sounds"? The makers of the American equipment recently published a long, impressive a rist long ago

As the inventor and tin this country) distributor of the equipment that Bob rightly or wrongly so despises, I should have expected a little more fairness and more clearly motivated objection. Does he really think to use amplification if the sound produced were distorted?

HENRY WEILL.

Gen. Man., Westb

HENRY WEILL,
Gen. Man., Westbourne Sound
Equipment Co., Ltd.

IN regard to the article "Bass-leally agree with Charlie Short Being a keen swing fan. I feel that the bass is an augmentation of the bass drum without these no rhythm section could exist. But please understand that this only my opinion; being a trumpeter. I have no technical knowedge of the bass.

Ted Heath being my favourite band. I listen to nim at every opportunity.

may be of interest to readers to know that, in addition to our daily transmissions for Middle East listeners, we now have a special two-hour test transmission for Western Europe listeners on Sundays and Wednesdays, from 10.10 p.m. to approximately fifteen minutes past midnight, B.S.T. (21.10 to 23.15, C.M.T.).

midnight, B.S.T. (21.10 to 23.15, G.M.T.).

During the last one and a quarter hours of these transmissions (from 11 p.m., B.S.T.) we have a programme called "Midnight Special," which features swing, jazz and top-line vocalists, most of the records played being listeners' requests.

This programme has been compared favourably (which was more than we dared hope) by those who have already heard our transmissions, to AFN's "Midnight in Munich," and we would be very pleased to receive requests from more of Britain's swing fans—but with one word of warning; our record library has its limitations and is never completely up to date with new issues.

Regarding the transmissions, they are on 41.55 metres (7.22 Mc/s), and at present reception belove 11 p.m., B.S.T., is very poor, due to interference from other stations. But after that time we can be received on any normal receiver. We hope to make further improvements in transmission in due course and, should Millory Marker readers be interested, we will immediately forward on to you any change in transmission times, wavelengths, etc., should the occasion arise.

J. GILL (Cpl.).

No, 1 Forces' Broadcasting Unit.

No. 1 Forces' Broadcasting Unit, Jerusalem, British Forces in Palestine.

I WAS profoundly moved by Maurice Burman's story of "Bill" in last week's issue, but I cannot quite agree with it. I am not a top-line musician by any means, and when I have gigged with bands 'way above my standard I have had the same inferior feeling that Bill has. But deep down I have known that it was my own fault; I shouldn't have accepted the job.

fault: I shouldn't have accepted the job.

The moral for the "Bills" of the profession is clear: Stay in your own class, and if you don't fit into any grade, give it up. This may sound harsh, but you will be happier, and so will the boys who might otherwise have to carry you through a session!

Chaplin Read, N.W.2.

MANY thanks to Teddy Foster for his interesting letter (18/10/47) upon the subject of comperes on purely dance band programmes. I'm afraid that I (and I am sure there must be hundreds like me) still agree with the "M.M." upon this issue, and that for out-and-out dance band shows no verbal corn is needed.

Of course, there are some gagsters who can vastly aid a show of this type, but they have to be of the Bob Hope or Jack Benny class, and with all due respects to Jack Jackson. I'm afraid that our Jack could hardly be considered in the same class.

Still, thanks to the "M.M." for presenting the picture so lucidly—and thank you, too, Mr. Poster for putting your side of picture with equal clarity.

HARRY BINSTOCK.

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F. S. PALMER

PUBLIC NOTICES M. per word HERNE BAV Urban District CouncilConcert Party. Tenders are invited
from established Concert Party Proprietors to provide a resident Concert
Party at the Grand Pier Pavillon,
Herne Bay (minimum seating capacity)
1,4591, for approximately an elevenweeks' season during the summer of
1948. Short particulars and form of
tender, upon which all tenders must
be submitted, may be obtained on
application to the undersigned accompanied by a stamped addressed envelope. The Council does not bind
itself to accept the best or any tender.
Tenders, endorsed "Concert Party."
must be delivered in plain sealed envelopes to the undersigned not later
than Priday. November 21, 1917.—
A. C. Bradbury, Clerk of the Council,
Council Offices., Herne Bay. October 8, 1947.

HERNE BAY Urban District Council

ber 8, 1947.

HERNE BAY Urban District Council Resident Stage Band. Tenders are invited for the provision of a Resident Stage Band of not less than seventeen musicians and conductor, including vocalist, for approximately an eleven during the summer of tocalist, for approximately an eleven weeks' season during the summer of 1948. Form of tender and short particulars may be obtained on application to the undersigned accompanied by a stamped addressed envelope. The Council does not bind itself to accept the best or any tender. Tenders in plain sealed envelopes, indorsed "Resident Stage Band," must be delivered to the undersigned not later than Friday, November 21, 1947.—A. C. Bradbury, Clerk of the Council, Council Offices, Herne Bay. October 8, 1947.

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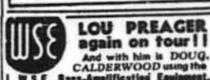
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Leader of the Band



LAURI BLANDFORD Bred and bern in Leeds, Lauri Blandford is now in his seventh year at the Dennistoun Palais, Glasgow. His was the first resident band in Scotland to broadcast in "Saturday Night at the Palais," and he has recently completed his second series of broadcasts as a "Disc Jockey" in "Lauri Blandford's Record Autographs."

GOSSIP

THE profession and his wife was undoubtedly at the "All-Britain" at Belie Vue last Sunday. Geres Harper and brother Eddie were both a little shaken by the terrifically high standard displayed by their semi-probrethren. So was Hull's Harry Chatterion, Oldham's Tommy Smith, New Brighton's Bert Yates (with manager Bert Beatty), Rochdale's Freddy Platt amongst others. Perhaps the most surprised person there was B.B.C.'s Alan Glarke, who, used as he is to presenting London bands on the air, must have wondered how some of them would have fared in this company.

bands on the air, must have wondered how some of them would have fared in this company.

Changes: Ron Maybury to replace Norman Poynton on tenor sax with Bill Hawkins at Bury Ritz. Norman now being with Harry Ryder at Buile Hill Cafe. Salford. Stan Whittaker also on tenor—has replaced Bill Estock in Dick Stanley's Band at the Empress. Wigan. Norman Collins installing a band at Choriton Palais. Manchester, at the end of the month. replacing Reub Platt.

Drummer Bob Hall and bassist Vic Mayall ooth with Harry Bostock's Band at the Manchester Ritz, made a grand job of their Laurel and Hardy spot in the "Mars-Bars" interlude.

Understand that Midlands maestro Arthur Rowberry is reforming his band and will concentrate on gigs and one-night stands. Old-timer Jan Ralfini playing Salford Hippodrome this current week. Manchester Astoria bassist Reg Kelly now the proud father of 71-lb. Susan.

CHANGES AT NOTTINGHAM

FOR the first time since pre-war years all three principal Nottingham ballrooms are making simultaneous changes in their musical arrangements in prepara-tion for the winter season. Some of these changes are, to say the

least, surprising.

Pirst and foremost is the de-parture of Leslie Thorpe from the Palais de Danse after eight years

of yeoman service.

The rostrum here will be taken over by one who will be well remembered by the older members of the Nottingham dancing public — none other than Roy Richards, whose first visit to the Palais de Danse was as drummer with Billy Merrin's Commanders some eighteen years ago.

some eighteen years ago.

Les Thorpe goes to Sherry's at Brighton. It is understood that the change is only one of winter duration, as Thorpe is due back at the

change is only one of winter duration, as Thorpe is due back at the Palais next April.

The next important change concerns the Victoria Ballroom, where as announced last week) Jimmy Honeyman gives way to Al Washbrooke. After being at this ballroom prior to the war, Honeyman took over again some eighteen months ago on returning from the Forces. Al Washbrooke, who might almost be entitled to be called "Local Boy," originally came to Nottingham some thirteen years ago with Jack Padbury's outfit at the Victoria Ballroom. Like so many other London musicians, he married and settled in Nottingham and has invariably worked here. Whilst in the Services he held the important position of M.D. with the Desert Air Force Orchestra. He leaves an engagement as planist with Les Thorpe to take over at the Victoria Ballroom.

Final transition is at the Greyfriars Hall, where, after a very successful summer at the Winter Gardens Yar-

Pinal transition is at the Greyfrars Hall, where, after a very successful summer at the Winter Gardens, Yarmouth, Maurice Illife returns to the exclusion of Billy Merrin.

Maurice, of course, held this job last winter, Merrin taking over on the reorganisation of his Commanders last May, Billy has been working hard during the past summer in preparation for taking over his old Midlands connection of one-night stands.

SURPRISE CHANGE AT MANCHESTER

ON Saturday, November 1, a brand new outfit under the leadership of noted Manchester percussionist Harry Turner is due to open at the Devonshire Ballroom, Higher Broughton, Manchester.

Installed and controlled by the

Installed and controlled by the Ritz, Bury, maestro Bill Hawkins, the band replaces the Richard Valery outfit, led by Norman Cooke, which has been at the Devonshire since September 13.

As we close for press the line-up of the Turner group is not completed; but it will include Harry playing drums and Phil Freeman (piano); Al Davenport (basso); Tommy Ferguson (trumpets; and Frank Ikin and A. Freedman (saxes), with two further saxes still to be fixed.

After his demobilisation from the RAF., Harry Turner was for a long time with Charlie Bassett at the Ritz, Manchester, and this is his first big break as a leader.



Some of the "All-Britain" contestants tuning-up by means of the special tuning device kindly lent by Electrical and Musical Industries, Ltd., of Hayes. This brainwave of Edgar Jackson's for eliminating the usual bandstand tuning-waits by the use of this device, was a conspicuous

SCOTS SUNDAY DANCING

SHOTS in the Sunday dancing battle in Edinburgh have been fired by the Presbyteries of the Church of Scotland and the Free Church of Scotland.

The former body has passed a resolution deploring housing conditions which left many young people with little opportunity for enjoying family life, and, while acknowledging the Church's failure to cope adequately with the situation, urged that permission should not be granted for Sunday opening of dance halls.

for Sunday opening of dance halls.

A letter stating objections to the proposed Sunday opening has been sent to the Town Clerk by a committee of the latter body. In asking the Town Council to refuse permission for Sunday opening, the committee contended that to open such places would not be helpful to the solution of the youth and work-a-day problems.

The principal objection, they stated, was based on the law of the Lord's Day.

GLASGOW

FROM Chalmers Wood's office.

Jimmy Reid tells us that he is
fixing men at the moment for a band
which will tour the seven Scottlen icewhich will tour the seven Scottish icerinks as supporting item to a show coming from Blackpool. The show's "principals" will travel, but Jimmy will provide the remainder of the lineup. Pirst appearance will be at Ayr on October 27, followed by dates at Paisley, Falkirk, Kirkcaldy, Dundee, Dunfermiine and Perth.

Jack Chapman has made a notable

Dunfermline and Perth.

Jack Chapman has made a notable capture at the Albert in signing up vocalist Peggy Kane, recently working in Edinburgh. Peggy has been with many of the Scottish palais bands, and sang with Alf Johnston at the Berkeley in Glaszow for a long season, so her fans of those days can now renew their acquaintance just a little along the road.

little along the road.
Glasgow Musicians' Club will hold the first of its winter functions on Sunday, November 23, this taking the form of a flance in the Astoria Ball-

The best news for years broke from Glasgow B BC, headquarters just as Clasgow B B.C. headquarters just as this west to press. Pollowing on a meeting between local afficials and Clasgow bandleaders, it was announced that, starting on November 17. Menday night at 6.30 will be given to a Scottish dance hand oroadcasting from the studio in the Scottish Home Service. While the exact rota has not been decided at the moment, it is definite that there will be six dates in the first series, and these will be given to six bands chosen from those which are well known to dancers but not nearly so well known to inteners. If the first dates are successful the feature will be continued so that most of our bands get a chance which has long been denied most of them. With this spot available at a peak listening hour, a new lease of life should be given to bands up here, with happy results for all.

results for all. HUGH HINSHELWOOD. EDINBURGH

ALTHOUGH in charge of a much smaller outfit than that of his predecessor—Tony Pusco, now at the Princes Ballroom—Jimmy Miller is providing musical fare eminently to the liking of patrons of the West End Restaurant Restaurant

Restaurant.

The quartette, under Jimmy on violin, includes Bert Valentine (piano), Bill, King (drums) and Alex. Lauchiar, (baritone, clarinet).

On Sunday evenings, when the restaurant offers one of the city's few havens for entertainment seekers, the combination is augmented by the addition of two saxes and a trumpet. Two departures have been made from Tommy Wilson's Band at the New Cavendist. Ballroom. Tommy Flynn strombone: has joined Charlle Ramsay's Band at the Haymarket Ice Rink. At the time of writing, Johnny McGuiness stenor, violin, clarinets had not been fixed up elsewhere.

NORTHERN IRELAND.

NORTHERN IRELAND.

TWO vacancies mentioned in these notes recently have been satisfactorily filled. Prankie Bradley has left Walter Wilkinson's Band at the Club Orchid and taken over the drum chair in Norman White's Band at the Grand Central Hotel, Beifast.

Also, Stan Cox would like to thank all those who wrote to him regarding the trumpet vacancy in his band. This has now been filled by Joe Whittlefield, who formerly played with Joe Saye's Band in the Embassy Club.

Archie Coates, who has been singing with Felix Mendelssohn's Hawaiian Serenaders, recently returned to his native city on holiday. Since he left Beifast, Archie has been broadcasting, televising and has also completed a number of films with the Serenaders. Eddie Sowney has reopened his Swing Club venture at the Club Astaire. For these sessions the "live" music is being provided by a swingy trio led by Bobby Talbot on alto and clarinet.

FARRELL LEADS AT BUXTON

THE departure from the Spa Hotel. Buxton, of violin/leader Bert Prunier has resulted in piano stylist Reg. Farrell taking over leadership of the quartet there.

Reg. who has been at the Spa Hotel for the past two years, has installed Richard Northey on violin and alto, the remaining boys being Alan Tweedale ('cello'tenor) and Brian Brocklehurst (drums. bass. relief piano).

AT DONCASTER

FOLLOWING a successful season last winter. Doncaster Baths Ballroom reopened for dancing on October 18, this time for five nights per week. Again Len Boote and his Orchestra have been chosen to supply the music Len Boote and his Orchestra have been chosen to supply the music, and Len has installed a 10-piece band, with himself on drums.

With him are: Bert Barron and Eric Mellor (tpts.), Jeff Newman (trom-bone), Frank Davies (alto). Les Sowerby (tenor), Denia Anderson (guitar), Eddie Pavne (plano), and Arty Clark (bass).

The Palais de Danse, Burntisland, Fife, opened its doors for public dancing on Frida. October 17, for the first time since 1939. The Palais was requisitioned at the start of hostili-

ties and only recently released.

The band is led by hot trum-neter Frankic Smith, recently at the Princes Ballroom Edinburgh.

OXFORD GLAMOUR

EIGHT of Oxford's lovellest ladies were on view when Oscar Rabin's Band, with Harry Davis, visited the Carfax Assembly Rooms, Oxford, to play at the finals of the "Miss Oxford 1947"

ginals of the "Miss Oxford 1947" contest recently.

All tickets were soid days before the event. Judging of the contest was by Arthur Perrier, pin-up girl artist and Percy Ressell, art editor of the "Sunday Pictorial." The winner of the title was Miss Barbara Parsons, of Littlemore, Oxford.

The Rabin Band is tremendously nopular at Oxford, and there were the usual fans crowding round the bandstand to watch them at work not caring about dancing. Clarinetist Jackle Bonsor renewed many local acquaintances, for he played for a long time with Stan Rogers' Blue Star Orchestra at Oxford. The "Blue Stars" played alternate sessions during the evening.

TWO planists are urgently wanted in the North to start iMMEDI-ATELY. One of the plane vacancies is with Charles Amer's Band at the Coatham Hotel, Redear (telephone: Redear 83).

The second vacancy is with Ray Smith's Band at the Beechwood Restaurant, Thornton, nr. Blackpool (telephone: Thornton 2263).

HALIFAX ALEX REOPENS

HALIFAX'S premier dance hall, the Alexandra, which prewar had the reputation of being one of the finest ballrooms in the North, reopened recently after being closed to the public since the early days of the war.

Playing the kind of music the dancers require is one of Halifax's leading "gig" bands—Norman Mindenhall and his Carlton Celebrities Orchestra.

Celebrities Orchestra.
With Norman leading on violin.

With Norman leading on violin, the personnel is: Gordon Whitley, Stan Bodcock, Cliff Bottomley and Eddle France (saxes): Donald Woodhead, Stan Shaw, Schofield Highley (tpts.): Tommy Casson (trombone): Eddle Lowe (piano): Alec Lawrence (bass): Jack Emmett (drums and vocals): and Harold Firth (piano accordion and second plano): while M.C. is one of Yorkshire's leading personalities, Stanley Walsh.

ART GREGORY'S PIANO SWITCH

AFTER a long association.

A planist Walter Wilde has left Art Gregory, for whom he has been playing at the Winter Gardens, Llandudno.

Arthur Abbott moves over from Art's band at the Payne's Majestic Ballroom to take Walter's chair, and he, in turn, is replaced by Manchester planist Johnny Roberts, who recently returned from Czechoslovakia, where he was with Gooff Gough and his band.

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