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Musical Express

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PRICE FOURPENCE

UNION ELECTION DEVELOPMENTS

HOAGY CARMICHAEL AT LONDON CASINO

(Musical Express Variety Critic)

HOAGY CARMICHAEL IS A REPOSED, ARTISTIC PERFORMER IN MOTION PICTURES. AS A SONGWRITER HE IS ONE OF THE WORLD'S MOST FAMOUS. THESE TWO QUALITIES WERE RESPONSIBLE FOR AN ENTHUSIASTIC WELCOME FROM THE FIRST HOUSE AT THE LONDON CASINO ON MONDAY NIGHT. THE EASE WITH WHICH THE AUDIENCE REMEMBERED ALL THE TITLES OF HIS SONGS WAS PROOF OF AN ELEMENT QUITE NEW TO THE LONDON CASINO. PERHAPS THIS VERY ELEMENT MAY HAVE BEEN RESPONSIBLE FOR THE FACT THAT JOHNNY LOCKWOOD NEARLY STOPPED THE SHOW IN THE FIRST HALF. BY DOING THIS HE MUST BE THE FIRST COMEDIAN TO MAKE THE CASINO AUDIENCE LAUGH WITHOUT HAVING TO BREAK A LEG OR DROP DEAD IN THE ATTEMPT. THE COMIC'S GRAVEYARD, AS IT IS CALLED, HAD A NEW ELEMENT ABOUT IT ON THIS OCCASION AND I CAN ONLY ATTRIBUTE IT TO THE HOAGY CARMICHAEL FANS.

Hoagy was assisted by an excellent quartet with Frank Denis on guitar, Joe Muddie bass, Billy Wilshire drums and Nat Temple on clarinet. These talented musicians alternated with the resident orchestra in the pit. Being on a date, Hoagy and his quartet did not play until late at night, while the resident orchestra in the pit had the advantage of being in the right place. There was, indeed, some fine clarinet playing from Nat Temple.

During a number, Hoagy suddenly called out to M.D. Howard Collier to get out the parts for "Memphis in June." Now it is one thing to think that with a date band in a hotel room you are quite entitled to do it from the stage during the show with a band the size of the Casino Orchestra. It is to have Mr. Carmichael signal him that his baton was raised and ready to play the number in a matter of seconds.

Mr. Carmichael took several out of his pockets from which he said he had to prompt himself. Now if this was a gag it fell flat. If it was indeed true, then it was a good one. But again and again Mr. Carmichael took draughts from a tumbler of water? although a trifle act on stage, still caused some exceptionally strenuous tricks without any refreshment at all.

The whole truth of the matter is probably that he had no money in his pockets but had to prompt himself. Now if this was a gag it fell flat. If it was indeed true, then it was a good one. But again and again Mr. Carmichael took draughts from a tumbler of water? although a trifle act on stage, still caused some exceptionally strenuous tricks without any refreshment at all.

The whole truth of the matter is probably that he had no money in his pockets but had to prompt himself. What he gave us was a recital. He should have cut a lot of corners. But again and again he played all his beautiful numbers, singing them in his fascinating, irresistible style, one after another until the audience was won over and we could roar our approval. He only needed some drapes, a spot focusing his piano, and a few more Mr. Deafness. There is only ONE Hoagy Carmichael and you are very fortunate in having booked him. But if there's one man even you can't do, that is turn a recital into a production.

Hale Signs Long Term Contract

DENNIS HALE who is resident with his band at the Princess Ballroom, Brighton informs us he is due to the success of his orchestra he has been contracted to the management for a further period of not less than fifteen months. In addition to playing for the dances Hale also plays regular concerts on the sun terrace and the four bands playing in the Aquarium are also under his direction.

The enterprising management have recently installed a new innovation in entertainment for the patrons. This is a recording unit, complete with first class equipment, so that the holiday-makers may record messages to send home and Hale has been asked by many of those to record his vocals.

Hale is offering a ten inch disc free to any broadcasting band-leader who would like some of his radio programmes recorded. His disc is 10 inches in diameter and are a new invention and are of the highest standard. Any band-leader who is interested should write to him c/o The Aquarius Ballroom, Brighton.

The Stone in Maidstone

Ronnie Stone and his Music Band have just completed their tour of the West Country Charing Cross Road for the summer holiday period, and are currently appearing at the Royal Star Hotel, Maidstone this week.

FLANAGAN & ALLEN WITH THE ANDREWS

Thrill for the Palladium Audience

A BIG thrill was experienced by the audience at the London Palladium last week when Bud Flanagan and Jimmy Allen appeared together in a matinee performance for the first time since Al�n Hillman. The Andrews Sisters, as many readers are aware, are featuring "Underneath the Arches" and during last week's matinee Flanagan and Allen, who were in the audience, quickly got into the swing of things by doing a bit from the stage during the show with a band the size of the Casino Orchestra. It is to have Mr. Carmichael signal him that his baton was raised and ready to play the number in a matter of seconds.

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PETER LEGH AT TROCADERO

PETER LEGH has taken a band into the Trocadero for the resident band two weeks now. He is reported to be well received by Legh depicted at this restaurant last year for the same period. The line up of the band includes Stan Faile, Ted Atto, Jimmy Knott, 2nd tenor, Stan Goodall trumpet, Arthur King piano, Don Latton drums, Joe Wilson base, and Legh will, of course, lead on tenor, clarinet and accordion. Legh has been engaged at the Regent Palace and during his absence this is being led by John Winwood.

SKYROCKETS' AIR-DATES

FUTURE broadcasts for the popular Skyrackets' Orchestra include August 21 10am-11am, August 22 10am-11am, August 23 10am-11am, and September 4 10am-11am G.O.R. On September 17 the band will play a midnight matinee at the Savoy Cinema, Ilford in aid of the C.A.F.A.

A pre-recording will also be heard at 8am on September 4.

ROWE RESIDENT

AFTER a successful tour of the Midlands and London, George Rowe and His Music commenced the Summer Season at the Hippodrome Ballroom, Working-

The orchestra features sweet sophisticated style of music specially designed for the vocalists of the orchestra are vocalists Vera Shand, Ray Beverley, Gordon Forsyth, Norman Simmonds, and the Latin American Music, which is presented in the modern way.

Musicians play for patients

During his stay in Cliftonville with the Tito Burns Sextet, Cab Kaye did a special charity concert for the patients of the Margaret Gee Hospital. It is planned that he will also do a show for the Jewish Ladies' Brigade at Deal and one for disabled ex-service men at the Royal British Legion, Margate. The complete Sextet will also play a show for the patients of the local T.R. Hospital.

PLEYDELL'S BROADCASTS

Ronnie Pleydell and his band who are resident at Fischer's Restaurant have two further broadcasts lined up. This first class band will be heard on the radio again on August 26 and September 12.

DICK (DOLLARS) JAMES



TOMMY SAMPSON LEAVES FOR B.A.O.R.

IN response to continual requests from the British Legion on the Continent, a lengthy tour was arranged by the B.A.O.R. for Tommy Sampson and his Orchestra. This leg of the tour left Britain last Monday and will play to forces throughout the British Zone of Occupation. Among the towns which will be visited by Tommy Sampson and His Orchestra are Wunstorf, Hanover, Osnabrück, Minden, Bielefeld, Hamm, Düsseldorf, and Berlin. It is anticipated that the tour will be extended for the Orchestra to appear in Innsbruck.

Combined Services Entertainment, under whose auspices this tour has been arranged, informed us that the British Troops are very keen on swing bands and the appearance in person of Tommy Sampson and His Orchestra is likely to be of great interest. In addition to playing in Garrison Theatres, the band will also undertake Camp Shows.

Kinn-Elliott Direction, who negotiated the tour on behalf of Tommy Sampson and His Orchestra, stated that the highlight of the tour will be the full Tommy Sampson Orchestra, a big feature is to be made of the Henry McKeane Quintet.

All the special musical arrangements for the tour have been undertaken by Edwin Holland and Johnny Keating.

Trumpet Stolen from Cyril Ellis

Cyril Ellis, of the Harry Gold Pieces of Eight, had his trumpet stolen from the Seaburn Hall, Sunderland, on Tuesday, August 2. The serial number is 33883 and the instrument is a New Creation. Any reader having this offered for sale should contact the police immediately.

Moffatt Club Re-opening

The popular Moffatt Club will re-open at Mac's Universal Rooms, Great Windmill Street, next Wednesday, August 28. The serial number is 33883 and the instrument is a New Creation. Any reader having this offered for sale should contact the police immediately.

ELIZALDE FOR THE ALBERT HALL

FRIED ELIZALDE well known to readers as both a band-leader and composer, will be the soloist in his own Piano Concerto with the London Symphony Orchestra at the Albert Hall on November 2. Conductor on this occasion will be Gaston Poulet. Elizalde will also play this work at the Besancon Music Festival in France on September 18.

IRVING BERLIN IS ARRIVING NEXT WEEK

Further to the information printed exclusively in this newspaper two weeks ago, it is now confirmed that Irving Berlin will definitely arrive in this country on August 20.

TERNETT'S ONE-NIGHT STANDS

ALF PREAGER informs us that Alf Terneff, who is appearing this week at Hammersmith Palais, will play several one-night stands for him. These include Alfreton September 23, and other dates to be announced. Irving Berlin and his Piecess of Eight will play Alfreton and Belper on August 20 and 21.

CYRIL STAPLETON'S TOUR COMMENCING

Readers are aware Cyril Stapleton will commence his A summer tour with his orchestra next Monday. In order that his many provincial fans may know where he is performing we are again printing his itinerary. The four concertos will be given at the Winter Gardens Pavilion, Weston-Super-Mare next Monday followed by a week at the Coronation Ballroom, Banbridge. Following this there will be a further week at the New Britannia Pier, Yarmouth and the band will then do a three weeks engagement at Green's Playhouse, Glasgow. For these four engagements Stapleton will augment his regular Embassy Club orchestra with three additional brass. The additional men will be Doug Edwards, who was previously with the band, and Frank Thornton trumpet and Eddie Jones on trombone.

RUDY STARITA IN AMERICAN ZONE

THROUGHOUT popular demand Rudy Starita and his Starlets have been invited to further extend their weeks entertaining the American Zone in Germany. Starita should have returned to Australia, girl mentioned to him in the association he was unable to do so at the appointed time. He has asked us to inform the girls who have been asked that he will again return on August 19 prior to returning to continue his tour in Germany for a long season. He will re-visit the girls who are still free at that date for auditions.

Last Sunday listeners to AFN Frankfort heard a recording by Starita with orchestra and Edgar Bergen and Charlie McCarthy which was pre-recorded.

The band will revert to its present line-up for the concluding week of the tour at Burma Palais, Kirkcaldy on September 26. On August 29 the band will do two concerts at Southsea and will also appear at Newcastle on September 5. Commencing October 4 Stapleton will commence a new series of "Berenade" programmes at the Empire Theatre, Liverpool, starting Monday. This will of course feature the orchestra augmented with fourteen strings and a brass section.

When the band broke up for the season from the Embassay the management presented them with a tremendous bouquet of flowers and a wonderful letter of appreciation for the way in which Stapleton and his orchestra had carried out their engagement over the past year.

BEECHAM WILL PREMIERE WORK OF RICHARD ARNELL

GOOD news reached the ranks of young British composers. Richard Arnell, today in the shape of an announcement by Sir Thomas Beecham that he is to give a series of six performances of Arnell's balletsuite "Punch and the Child." Sir Thomas will conduct this work after his return from South Africa, and adds that he will pre-

sent it as often as possible during the 1949-50 season.

Young Arnell is rising swiftly for Moors Lympne gives the premiere of his piano concerto in October, and in November of this year presents a tour and then brings it to London. Sir Thomas Beecham, Leon Goossens and Jean Piat have all taken up Arnell's work.

A GREAT SONG TIME MAY CHANGE

A GRAND NEW WALTZ

I'D GIVE A MILLION TOMORROWS

I WANT SOME MONEY

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E.P.T. this year's special, £2	£2
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ALICE BURNS, G.L., L.P., Sharp, every showing	£2

ALEX BURNS

YOU CAN'T GO WRONG WITH A UNIT SONG "A KISS AND A ROSE"
By Tommy Sampson and Patrick Trotter
(Did you hear last Saturday night?)
"THE HEART OF LOCH LOMOND"
By Alfie Moore, Paul Fisher & Chas. Savory
(Did you hear Vincent Tidmarsh in "Saturday Night"?)
ALSO
"THE SILVER WEDDING WALTZ"
"NICE TO KNOW YOU CARE"
"FRANCISCA" (Oriental style)
"OVER WHOMING"
UNIT RECORDING CO. Ltd. 1948
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Exclusive "Musical Express" picture shows Dick James doing his first solo roles for Decca and London Labels for export to U.S.A.

Besson**"NEW CREATION"**
TRUMPET

chosen by players in the leading Dance Orchestras, including:-
TED HEATH, GERALDO, BILLY
TERENT, CARROLL, GIBSONS,
HARRY ROY, JOE LOSS, etc.

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LONDON, W.C.2.**SYMPHONY**
TRUMPET

played by the complete Trumpet Section of the R.B.C. SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA: Ernest Hall, Jack Mackintosh, Bert Barr, W. Overton.

"LET WISDOM STEER THE COURSE!"

says

NEWTON BROOKE**Candidate for General Secretary of the M.U.**

THOSE of us who have to bear the burden of the Union and its work from day to day, often feel compelled to deplore the apathy which is shown by the membership so that even when matters of importance vital to the welfare of our Association are raised, discussion tends to be, in the main, casual and easily diverted from essential points.

It is all the more an urgent necessity therefore that the Union should continue to expand and develop a good Press because the apathy of our own members and an indifferent public make it difficult for us to continue to keep them well informed of the meaning and purpose of our struggle. That is why I do not believe that the candidate in this election was desirable and I noted with approval that in your issue of last week you gave a good article to respond to the publicity that you had given to my own cause.

It may be, however, that we shall hear from him on his return from America where he has been attending the International Congress of Musicians for the purpose of forming an international federation. It is a matter of great regret to me that for all the 28 years of service I have given to the Union I have never yet experienced the desire of another member to serve at the Union's expense although I had a week at Bournemouth in 1934 and a week at Brighton in 1936 attending the T.U. Conference.

The Trade Union Congress, however, is to the Union a body of immense importance for it brings to our support on matters of mutual consequence to the Union, a vast aggregation of

potential industrial power that we cannot ignore. Its influence penetrates into Parliament and it has opened the doors of Ministries in the past that otherwise

we would have sealed with impotence.

In days gone by the late Mr. J. H. Williams used to attend the International Conferences of

Musicians. He was a fluent French speaker and could address the delegates in a language that most of them understood. Those conferences were however of little practical or financial importance as were other similar conferences which were related to the T.U. Movement in general. What was important was the date at any rate, that there was little that British Musicians could obtain from the Conference, but on the other hand there seemed to be much in our rather stalled M.U. that a delegate abroad regarded with interest. The Conference (the English week) and the right not to work on Sunday if we wished.

Times have changed. The T.U. Movement in this country demands the five day week. But at the same time musicians continue to work for seven days. Members of the Union still have difficulty in finding work, particularly with pay free from some employers. There is certainly work to be done in this and many other directions. This is not merely measured by the time energy applied but by the time during which it is applied.

There is a tendency in some quarters to say that the Union is not what it was. We must not let this have been put into it in the past, but the Union would not be where it is now if it had not been for the work of those who secured its foundations.

That is why it is so important to maintain Energy and Vitality at the helm but that Wisdom is there too. Energy and Vitality may turn the wheel, but let Wisdom indicate the course to be sailed.

The Union needs at its head an ex-professional musician possessed of a high moral fibre, exceptional musical knowledge, and one who has the interests of all musicians, old and young, at heart. We are satisfied that Mr. Newton Brooke has these qualifications, and will put the needs of the members, and interests of the Union first.

THE CHOICE IS YOURS
THE ISSUE VITAL
THE DEMOCRATIC EXERCISE OF
YOUR VOTE ESSENTIAL
TO STATE HANDBALL
OTHER NAIL IN THE COFFIN
OF DEMOCRACY.

VOTE FOR NEWTON
BROOKE AND BE SURE.

Yours sincerely,
EDWARD BLUNDELL,
President.

He is evidently a man after our own heart. He has served

in the Royal Navy and has been a member of the Royal Naval Reserve.

MR. NEWTON BROOKE has made an election statement to "The Musical Express". The journal describes him as "the greatest organiser the Musicians' Union has ever had". We share that opinion. We quote from Mr. Brook's Press statement:

"We... view with disfavour the forces which are now seeking to use the Trade Unions as stepping stones to political power. I stand for the return to our own brand of democracy."

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BROOKE AND BE SURE.

Yours sincerely,
EDWARD BLUNDELL,
President.

He is evidently a man after our own heart. He has served

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