

# Melody Maker

INCORPORATING "RHYTHM"

## HARRY ROY FOR ASTOR



Harry Roy

### ROY FOX BACK ON THE AIR

RADIO listeners on Monday night (19th) were given a nostalgic thrill that transported them to the unrationed days before the war when the silky tones of Roy Fox announced the first broadcast by his new band.

Scoring heavily at the Milroy niterie, Roy has now crashed back into broadcasting and has been given three dates—the second of which is next Monday (20th, 10.30 p.m.), followed by a further session on the Saturday (31st) at 5 p.m.

A recent change in the band is in the drum department, where young Scotsman Jackie McHardy has replaced Tony Lytton. Jackie is a good modern technician on the skins, and his prowess is all the more remarkable considering that he has only a thumb on his right hand. He lost his fingers in an accident when a child.

Quick to fix up elsewhere, Tony Lytton has gone direct to Miff Ferris's Ferryman at the Windermere Club. Miff will be broadcasting again with his Ferryman and the vocaltones to-day (Thursday, August 22).

### NEW BAND AT MIRABELLE

WHEN Paul Adam and his Band leave the Mirabelle Restaurant in Curzon Street, W., at the end of the month they will be replaced by a five-piece combination directed by violinist Ray Miller and saxist Dennis Powell, former bandleaders at the Mirabelle, who have now secured a joint contract to open at their old haunt on September 2.

Dennis Powell had a band at the Mirabelle from January, 1940, until May, 1941, when he went into the RAF. Ray Miller took over at the Mirabelle until he entered the RAF. Dennis obtained his release nine months ago and Ray two months ago. Both desiring reinstatement, they combined and approached the management, who asked Ray to conduct and Dennis to be player-manager.

Accordingly, Ray Miller will lead on violin and vocalise, with Dennis Powell on tenor, clarinet and baritone, Harry Rayner on piano, Harry Wilson on bass, and Mickey Binelli on accordion.

A BIG AND INTERESTING CHANGE IN LONDON'S WEST END MUSIC IS SCHEDULED FOR THIS COMING AUTUMN, WHEN HARRY ROY—AT PRESENT ON TOUR WITH A STAGE SHOW THAT IS BREAKING THEATRICAL RECORDS ALL OVER THE COUNTRY—WILL TAKE HIS FULL BAND TO THE EXCLUSIVE ASTOR NITERIE AT STANHOPE GATE, PARK LANE, W.

### GEORGE EVANS BOOKED FOR BIG PROVINCIAL TOUR

SEPTEMBER will see the termination of the 12-weeks' season played by George Evans and his New Orchestra at Hammersmith Palais (London)—an engagement which has been in every way a triumph.

Beginning as something almost startlingly new that still needed a good deal of building up, his outfit has now developed into an amazingly solid proposition that is rapidly acquiring polish; that is highly original, and that is certainly among the best three or four dance bands in the country to-day.

Moreover, George is "selling" his new brand of music most effectively, and there must be hosts of Hammersmith fans who will be genuinely sorry to see him leave.

However, Hammersmith's loss will be the provinces' gain, for as soon as he leaves Hammersmith George is going to embark on a big series of one-night dates that will take him all over the country. On September 2, the George Evans Band opens for a week at the Seaburn Hall, Sunderland, followed by a Sunday concert at the Odeon Theatre, Newcastle.

George's tour will then take him to the Grafton Rooms, Liverpool (September 9); the Parr Hall, Warrington (September 11); the King's Hall, Stoke (September 12); the City Hall, Sheffield (September 13); the Town Hall, Leeds (September 14); and Rochdale (September 15). The dates at Sheffield and Leeds, bringing George Evans for the first time to either of these towns, have been arranged by Almaco Productions, under the directorship of Gerald Cohen.

In the broadcasting field, George is still very active, being on the air to-day (Thursday, 22nd), 6.30-7 p.m. (Light), with Overseas airings on the 25th and 27th, and another "Light" appearance on August 30.

Meanwhile, George is anxiously looking for a tenor sax player up to the exacting standard of his outfit. The right man should be young, very enthusiastic, a first-class musician, and a modernist in every way.

The vacancy will occur because Johnny Roberts is shortly leaving the band—and, in fact, leaving the business to embark on a new career in an entirely fresh profession. His friends in the band and his many admirers in the profession will join us in wishing him well.

### RUDY ROME GOES INTO ALBANY

HAVING played for Ambrose, Art Thompson and Stephane Grappelly since leaving the Army, violin and clarinetist Rudy Rome turned bandleader this week and has taken a five-piece into the Albany Club, succeeding electric guitarist-leader Howard Lucraft.

Opening on Monday night (August 19), Rudy fronts tenor-sax, piano, bass and drums. After a short holiday, Howard Lucraft and his Band will be concentrating on one-night stands, concerts and broadcasts, their immediate airings being on August 22 (10.30-11 p.m.), 24th (9-9.30 a.m.), 28th (10.30-11 a.m.) and 31st (9-9.30 a.m.).

Harry and his boys will occupy the Astor stand from October 14 next. In the meanwhile, Harry will continue his bumper Variety tour. Currently at the Nottingham Empire, he goes on next week to the Empire, Sheffield, and will be seen later in the Isle of Wight.

Harry Roy said to the "M.M.": "Although our present stage tour is the biggest and most successful I have ever carried out in all my 25 years' experience of the business, I feel that the West End of London is my natural home, professionally speaking. Having received this most interesting offer from the Astor management, I shall be glad to settle down for a season in Town."

"At the same time, my theatrical commitments are so big that I shall have to make arrangements to play a certain number of weeks on the stage from time to time. There are one or two unusual and interesting factors about the terms of my engagement with the Astor that I shall be glad to give you a little later on."

Harry Roy is, of course, no stranger to niterie work. His long and successful run at the Milroy, terminated just a few months ago, will still be fresh in everybody's mind.

Harry states that he will definitely take his full band, exactly as on the stage, into the Astor job, so that he will be fronting the biggest outfit in any British night club to-day, whilst his band will be constantly ready for the stage dates, broadcasts and other undertakings which he will be playing in addition to his main commitment at the Astor.

Harry's band these days contains several first-class cornermen, as those who have seen the outfit on the stage recently, plus the many more who heard Harry's broadcast last Saturday (17th), will need no reminding. Currently providing the Astor's dance music is ex-Ambrose clarinet maestro Sid Phillips, with the niterie's rumba music, of course, in the hands of inimitable Latin-American expert Edmundo Ros.

## JOE ARBITER (Discoverer of Joe Loss, Joe Daniels, Paul Fenoulhet) LAYS DOWN HIS SAX (After 25 Years' Stardom)

AFTER an association of 16 years—one of the longest in the whole history of our profession—famous alto saxist and cornerman of Harry Roy's Band, Joe Arbiter, has given up the business.

This decision is one which Joe has taken only with the greatest regret. It has been forced upon him because, in his capacity as a Director of the Rex Novelty Corporation—a flourishing concern with which he has been closely associated in recent years—Joe finds that his business ties, which are likely to include trips to America and other countries, are becoming so great that it is impossible for him to carry on as a musician as well.

And so, after the last house at Golders Green Hippodrome (London) on Saturday (17th), Joe Arbiter packed his instruments for the last time, ready to exchange his stage dress for the more sober attire of a man of big business.

During Joe's long association with Harry Roy, he had been more than a player in the band; he was also a tactful go-between and extremely popular unofficial manager, doing invaluable work in looking after the comfort and well-being of everybody. A terrific comedy man, he took part, with Maurice Sternale, in all the band's most hilarious scenes on the stage. His long association with Harry Roy went right back to Harry's days at the Leicester Square Theatre, and he worked with the band right through the worst times of the "blitz."

Joe Arbiter had a big reputation in the business before ever he joined Harry Roy. Years before, he had led his own band at Wimbledon Palais de Danse and elsewhere—a band that will always be remembered, since it was a "nursery" that saw the professional debut, not only of the now famous and ultra-popular Joe Loss, who played violin in the band, but also of celebrated drummer Joe Daniels (who, incidentally, is Joe Arbiter's cousin) and trombonist (now famous musical director, arranger and leader of the Skyrockets) Paul Fenoulhet.

Altogether Joe Arbiter had been in the business 25 years.

To complete his sax section since Joe Arbiter's departure, Harry Roy has fixed Ephy Slavid, who started with the band last Monday (19th), and is already showing very marked ability. Just released after six years in the RAF, Ephy was once with Al Berlin and his Band, and has also played with Bram Martin and Lou Praeger.

### America's Overnight Hit

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### FRED HARTLEY TRAVELS AGAIN

**B**ANDLEADER - pianist Fred Hartley, recently returned from his 11-months' stay in Australia, where he was featured with conspicuous success on the ABC, is again about to leave this country for further triumphs abroad.

Informing the BBC that he will not be available to undertake further broadcasts in this country after September 28, Fred Hartley has told the *Melody Maker*:

"I have received a firm offer from South Africa and am also negotiating with Australia. I shall be leaving for one or the other country this autumn."

Asked to comment further upon the recent announcement of a reciprocal ban against musicians from England or any other country joining the Australian Musicians' Union without a year's residential qualification, Fred Hartley said:

"I am wondering now whether my statement in last week's *Melody Maker* may be considered as a rather one-sided criticism of the Australian MU. I certainly didn't mean it that way. Although I did find that the Australian MU has certain faults, it is a very firm and strong organisation, and I also had much cause to commend it.

"For instance, I was treated most courteously; my entry into Australia to work was made perfectly harmonious, and my membership of the Australian MU was rushed through for me very quickly and methodically.

"I may say that I deplore the ruling of the English Musicians' Union which means that Australian musicians are not welcomed in England, as I was welcomed in Australia, and I think that such an amazing restriction should definitely be relaxed."

### HOVE DRUMMER DIES

**T**HE day after reporting in *CHATTER* that young Hove drummer Duggie Mann was playing with organist Les Appleton at Princes Hall, Brighton, Chris Hayes received a letter from Duggie's father conveying the tragic news that Duggie was taken suddenly ill and died on August 1.

Married to a former ATS girl as recently as March, Duggie was only twenty years of age. After learning drums with the Sussex Gadets, he toured the entire county with his own small band, and at the conclusion of the war he went into the Dudley Sheard Trio, afterwards joining Les Appleton. A close friend of Freddie Crump and Joe Daniels, he prospered by their advice and tuition.

His unexpected death, due to tonsillitis, asthma, and cardiac failure, came as a great shock to his parents and his young wife, to whom we extend our deepest sympathy.

**T**HE MELODY MAKER offers sincere congratulations to tenor-saxist Frank Freeman, who last Monday (18th) rejoined Joe Loss and his Band, now playing at the Villa Marina, Douglas, I.O.M.

Frank collapsed shortly after leaving the stand at the Oxford Galleries, Newcastle, seven weeks ago, and was immediately rushed to hospital to undergo a serious internal operation.

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## "M.M." AREA FINALS: FULL DETAILS

**I**n this week's Contest Fixtures List on page 6 will be found first announcement of the first three of the Area Finals through which bands which have won a County or District Championship this season will have their chances to qualify for the great 1946 "All-Britain" Final to be held in the autumn, most probably in London.

The general scheme for these Area Finals will be much the same as last year.

There will be six in all. First to take place will be—  
South Britain (Eastern Section) on Thursday, September 19, at the Hammersmith Palais de Danse, London.  
North Britain (Eastern Section) on Friday, September 20, at the Town Hall, Leeds.

Appearing as an added special attraction at this event will be the full George Evans Orchestra of 21 artists with vocalists Shirley Gray, Eric Jupp, Charlie Faine, Eric Deres, Doug Cooper, and, of course, George Evans himself. In addition to playing throughout the evening between the competing bands, they will have a special feature spot to themselves.

London Area Final on Thursday, September 26, at the Hammersmith Palais, London.

### HEATH AT NORTH BRITAIN

These are the three Area Finals announced in this week's Fixtures List.

Later there will be the—  
Mid-Britain Area Final, at a large Midlands town yet to be decided; the South Britain (Eastern Section), which will most likely take place at Bath at the end of September or early in October; and the

North Britain (Eastern Section), which will take place in the afternoon of Sunday, October 6, in the King's Hall, Belle Vue, Manchester.

It will be presented to a seated audience, and organiser Lewis Buckley has engaged as a special feature the "M.M." Poll winners, Ted Heath and his Music.

It is the winners of each of these Area Finals, together with the present "All-Britain" cup holders, the Eltham Studio Band, of Kent (who are seeded to the Final) and the winners of the East of Scotland and West of Scotland Championships (which, as previously announced, rank as Area Finals), who will have the right to compete in the "All-Britain" Final.

It is possible, however, that certain other bands from the Area Finals will also be made eligible for the "All-Britain" and, subject to certain factors now being considered making this practicable, you may look forward to a sensational announcement in the near future which will be of special interest to the best small bands in the Area Finals.

Irrespective of where they may have qualified, eligible bands will go to the Area Finals nearest their home towns. This will ensure every part of Great Britain being represented at the "All-Britain," which thus will once again be a terrific fight to decide which part of the country shall have the right to claim the honour of possessing the finest semi-pro band in the land.

In due course all bands which have qualified for an Area Final will be advised of the steps they must take regarding their entries. Meanwhile, they need take no action on the matter.

But those which will require accommodation for the night in the towns to which they will travel for their Area Finals are advised to reserve it without delay.

## JOHNNY BROWN'S SOUTHAMPTON BREAK

**C**ONTINUING a success story that started when his band won the "Melody Maker" South of the Thames Contest in 1943, vocalist-bandleader Johnny Brown takes his eleven-piece band into the Court Royal Hotel, Southampton, on September 2.

He follows the tenure of pianoman Art Thompson, who leaves for a well-earned rest after four months' residence there, and continues the progressive policy of this five-conscious hotel, which has already featured the music of the Square Rainers, Harry Parry, Nat Gonella and Vic Lewis among others.



Johnny Brown

The personnel of Johnny's band comprises Trevor Tanton (alto, ex-Les Evans' star pupil); Allan Jones (alto); Rupert Stewart (tr., ex-Al Jennings' Caribbean band); Bill Finley (tr., ex-"Stars in Battledress" band); Henry Shaw (tpt., ex-Frank Weir and Oscar Rabin); Terry Brown (tpt., ex-Johnny Claes); Eric Rogers (pno., dbkl, alto and cl.); Len Bush (bass, ex-Gerry Hoey); and Ted Peck (drms.).

As star vocalist, Johnny has made a fine capture in blonde Ann Rich (see picture on page 4). Ann has, of course, held down many big BBO feature spots, including ITMA. She also sang with Ronnie Munro's "Sunday Serenade" orchestra for four years.

### MARIO'S RUMBA GIRLS TELEWISE

**T**ELEVIEWERS are due for an exciting eye-ful to-night when, at 8.30 p.m., Alexandra Palace will resound to exotic Latin-American rhythms as the El Del Marlos take the screen.

This nine-piece all-girls' rumba band was formed by noted London singing-teacher, Maestro Mario, coached and rehearsed by Sam Bosen and is led on trumpet by ex-Ivy Benson star, Biquette Barrois.

The band has a one-night stand at the Grafton Rooms, Liverpool, on Monday evening next (26th) and, as the girls have been together only a few months, there is no doubt that it will not be long before they make the grade in a big way.

**S**TARTING on Sunday next (August 25) Ronnie Munro and his Orchestra will broadcast for five weeks in "Variety Band Box," relieving Jack Payne's Orchestra, conducted by Stanley Andrews.

## CALL SHEET

(Week commencing August 26)

- Len CAMBER, De Luxe, Hastings.
- Leslie DOUGLAS and Band, Bandsland, Southend.
- Teddy FOSTER and Band, Scaburo Hall, Sunderland.
- Morton FRASER and Harmonica Rascals, Hippodrome, Darlington.
- Gloria GAYE and Band, Knightstone Theatre, Weston-super-Mare.
- Carroll GIBBONS, Theatre Royal, Dublin.
- Adelaide HALL, Hippodrome, Birmingham.
- Henry HALL and his Music, King's Theatre, Southsea.
- Ted BEATH and his Music, Empress Ballroom, Blackpool.
- Gerry HOEY and Band, Bedford, Camden Town.
- Leslie HUTCHINSON and Band, Country Club, Knocke, Belgium.
- Jack JACKSON and Band, Hippodrome, Golders Green.
- Joe LOSS and Band, Villa Marina, Douglas, I.O.M.
- Felix MENDELSSOHN and Hawaiian Serenaders, Empire, Bristol.
- Ronnie MUNRO and Orchestra, One-night Stands, South of England.
- Ossie NOBLE, Villa Marina, Douglas, I.O.M.
- Oscar RABIN and Band, Green's Playhouse, Glasgow.
- Monte REY, Hippodrome, Golders Green.
- Harry ROY and Band, Empire, Sheffield.
- Charles SHADWELL and Orchestra, Albion, Bradford.
- Anne SIELTON, Empire, Glasgow.
- Billy THORBURN, Empire, Dewsbury.
- TROISE and Mandollers, Empire, Chiswick.

### TENOR-SAXIST INJURED

**T**HE MELODY MAKER regrets to report that Wally Moffat, well-known tenor sax stylist, currently playing with Claude Giddins and his Orchestra at the Pavilion, Gillingham, Kent, has been involved in a serious car accident.

As a result of the smash, which occurred as he was on his way home after the night's work, Wally has sustained a broken leg, concussion and other injuries.

After hospital treatment, he is confined to his home at 76, Rochester Street, Chatham, Kent, and would like some letters from his old friends to cheer him up during his enforced inactivity. We join with the many admirers of this ex-Teddy Foster, Duncan Whyte tenorist in wishing Wally a speedy return to health.

### Low Lewis Reopens in Edinburgh

**R**ESUMING their stand at the New Cavendish Ballroom, Edinburgh, on August 26, after a fortnight's holiday, is the band that recently made dance music history.

For Low Lewis and his 12-piece orchestra were the first palais band to play for H.R.H. Princess Elizabeth, sharing honours with the New Cavendish proprietor and MD of his own Scottish (traditional) Dance Orchestra, Tim Wright, when the ballroom became the scene of a ball in aid of the Nursing Association under the Princess's patronage last June.

Originally a seven-piece on a three months' contract—the first pro band to play at the New Cavendish—Low's success was signalled first by permission to augment to twelve and next by an extension of contract which will now take the band well over the winter months.

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# HITS AND PIECES - Tin Pan Alley Gossip

by SAMMY QUAVER

"THERE'S a Harvest Moon To-night" came through as expected, and now nestles comfortably among the nation's "Top Fifteen." . . . Keep an eye and ear on new Roy Fox songster, Jack O'Hagan. I'm already pitching for this ex-Navy boy, and confidently predict he'll be up among the ace warblers by the time the 1947 Poll comes round. . . . Smart Brighton restaurant, "Duffy's Tavern," opening to-night (Thursday) with Jack Wallace Ork, playing for dinner dancing. . . . If you're trying to locate Box and Cox Publications, it's down the Alley at No. 7, through the tunnel, and then by ferry service, but you'll be made mighty welcome after the trip. . . . Did you catch that arrangement of "Fairly in my Garden" on the Askey show? It smacked David Rose all over, but actually flowed from the expert pen of Bert Barnes. . . . Revival of "pops" very fashionable these days, and you can expect "Tumbling Tumbleweeds" and "If You Were the Only Girl" any time now. . . . Billy Cotton should sell plenty copies for the fortunate publishers represented on his current season's programmes. Billy's boys play 'em right, with no fancy frillings. . . . Jack Simpson's Sextet in John Baxter pic. "Nothing Venture," with Maureen Morton a natural screen-looker, vocalising. . . . A Sunderland-Margate-Denham boy is a mere ramble to the "Stampede" man. . . . I'll Dance at Your Wedding," bought by Yank firm Shapiro Bernstein, and now being readied for No. 1 plug over there. . . . That's a dandy Hans May tune "Bedelia," from the film of the same title. . . . On "Shipmates Ashore" Friday evening, Tom Henry and the Radio Three's harmonies in "It Couldn't Be True" couldn't have been truer. . . . The fans shouted for "One Meat Ball" at the Golders Green Hippodrome, but Harry Roy didn't oblige. Glasgow's Barrowland Ballroom maestro, Billy McGregor, a welcome visitor to the Street. The boys like him. . . . Noticed some big broadcast names missing from the Poll's vocal sections. Did you spot 'em, too? Bumped into the guy who hasn't any time for the song boys. Stuck his chin out good and long when he asked "Do you write 'Hits and Misses' in the 'M.M.'?" The cap fitted—he remembered! . . . A big bouquet for Ronnie Binge. His arrangement of "Green Cockatoo" for Mantovani is a real gem. . . . Reported Gaby Rogers negotiating big film musical tie-up. . . . Comes now a couple of beauties you'll soon know—"To Each His

Own" and Berlin's "I've Got the Sun in the Morning." It's my double nap. . . . Roberto Inglez, booked to open Savoy Hotel week after his Saturday closure at the Berkeley, had phone call from the Strand management Wednesday morning and asked to ready ork. for same evening in time to play for special dance attended by Princesses Elizabeth and Margaret Rose. Nice work, Bobby. "Squads," Ted Heath, Geraldo, Joe Loss and Frank Weir records drawing plenty nickels from the West End "jukers." . . . The "Gerry-Bullt" disc show 11.15 p.m. Saturday night has clicked. Mr. Wilmot's slick presentation is now one of the high spots on the weekly "Light." Outstanding on last transmission was Carmen Cavallero's "Voodoo Moon." What keyboard wizardry! . . . Nice to see young Hammersmith Palais leader Jack Amlot getting well-merited airings on August 30 and September 6. . . . No news ament my suggested "11.30 p.m. in London" programme yet, but a scout whispered that someone important has seen the part. I may surprise you soon. . . . Reckon that "Make Mine Music" score has had more radio play than any other recent film-musical. . . . I can't begin to tell you what I think about the bandleaders who programme so many whack 'em and bash 'em numbers on late night airings. No, they'll never learn. . . . Heard the "Hit Parade" do "The Gipsy" on "Lucky Strike." What singers—and what a plug! No wonder it's still "there" after twelve weeks. You can catch the "Lucky" show on Saturday night's AFN at 9.15 p.m. . . . Mary Naylor, in Sherman's "Music Hall" this week-end, introducing "The Girl who Broke My Heart" for the first time on the air. The kid should give it a great send-off.

## BRITAIN'S TOP TUNES

(in alphabetical order)

BLESS YOU.  
GRUISING DOWN THE RIVER.  
DOWN IN THE VALLEY.  
HOMESICK, THAT'S ALL.  
I CAN'T BEGIN TO TELL YOU.  
INTO EACH LIFE SOME RAIN MUST FALL.  
LAUGHING ON THE OUTSIDE.  
LET BYGONES BE BYGONES.  
MARY LOU.  
MONEY IS THE ROOT OF ALL EVIL.  
OH! WHAT IT SEEMED TO BE.  
PRIMROSE HILL.  
THERE'S A HARVEST MOON TO-NIGHT.  
THERE'S A LAND OF BEGINNING AGAIN.  
YOU CAN BE SURE OF ME.  
"Land of Beginning Again" erroneously omitted from last week's list.

## U.S. HIT PARADE

HERE is the latest available list of the nine most popular songs in America, as assessed by the weekly nation-wide ballot conducted by the American Tobacco Co., and broadcast in their "Your Hit Parade" programme over the CBS network:—

1. THEY SAY IT'S WONDERFUL (3-5-6-9).
2. THE GYPSY (1-2-1-2-2-1-1-1-1-2-2-9).
3. SURRENDER (1-3).
4. DOIN' WHAT COMES NATURALLY (2-5-6-9).
5. TO EACH HIS OWN (7).
6. I DON'T KNOW ENOUGH ABOUT YOU (5-4-3-5-7-8-7-8).
7. PRISONER OF LOVE (8-6-0-3-5-9-6-6-5-5-8-7).
8. I'VE GOT THE SUN IN THE MORNING (9-0-0-0-9).
9. IN LOVE IN VAIN (0-8-7-7-8-7-0-7).

## Les Watson To Wed

HANDING round a box of cigars at rehearsal of "Forever Arthur" last Friday afternoon, Stanley Black tenor-sax Les Watson revealed that he is to marry Miss Dagmar Jacqueline Crocker, of Newbury Park, secretary to Mr. Vowles, chief administrative officer of Light and Symphony Music at the BBC, at Ilford Register Office on August 22. Best wishes to them both!



Now Showing: Harold Geller's musical sleuths, on the trail of the Green Cockatoo, serenade "Cocky" at the Zoo.

# THE MYSTERY OF THE GREEN COCKATOO (Or: 'Samba A Voice is Calling')

THE feathered occupants of the Parrot House at the London Zoo screeched a violent protest early one morning last week when a crowd of inquisitive human beings barged into the Parrot House and, after closely examining every bird, carried off a handsome sulphur-crested white cockatoo worth £50.

It was not, as you may fear, an ornithological robbery, but was all part of a smart publicity campaign devised by Desmond Hart and sponsored by Cinephonic Music Co. to boost their new Don Relligro samba, "The Green Cockatoo." Although possessing a letter from the Zoological Society of London stating that there is no such thing as a green cockatoo, Sid Coleman, general manager of Cinephonic, sent Harold Geller and his Band, armed with their instruments, along to the Zoo last Thursday at 9 a.m. to search for a cockatoo with even a spot of green on it.

## "COCKY"

Head Keeper Alden obligingly offered several cockatoos of different hues, but agreed sorrowfully that a green one was out of the question. In the circumstances, "Cocky," the white cockatoo, was taken outside, placed on a swinging perch, and, as you see from the above picture, solemnly serenaded!

Rising proudly to the occasion, "Cocky," who has televised and starred in several films, including "Winged Wonders," did his swing-to-and-fro and bob-up-and-down dance which Keeper Alden taught him. Delighting us all with his parrotty version of the samba, 35-year-

old "Cocky" then perched comfortably on the end of Harold Geller's clarinet and attempted some tricky fingering with his claws, a stunt appreciated by everyone except Harold, who expected at any moment to have a hooked beak fastened round his nose. Finally, attractive, auburn-haired Adrienne, who is shortly to tour with her Cuban Caballeros, cuddled "Cocky" lovingly in her arms, and we almost saw a white cockatoo blush red in the face!

## £500 REWARD

But still there can't be found a GREEN cockatoo—or, at least, if you do happen to know of one in the depths of Australia or a pet store in the Caledonian Road, Cinephonic will reward you with £500. Or you'll be able to sell it to the Zoo for £1,000.

In the meantime, Cinephonic have purchased a white cockatoo, aptly named it "Don Pedro," and stuck it in the window of their Charing Cross Road premises to tie-up with the release of the tune, which was broadcast for the first time by Mantovani on August 14.

In "M.M." cameraman Jack Marshall's action shot you see "Cocky" living up to his name, dancing merrily to the strains of "The Green Cockatoo" played by Harold Geller (clart.); Nat Cohls (tpt.); drummer Mott Moseley (maracas); arranger Harry New (acc.); Jackie Davies (flute); pianist Jack Geller (claves), with Adrienne singing. Unfortunately, bassist Bob Howard and saxist Cyril Harling couldn't get along, but they'll be heard as usual with Harold on the band's next airing this Friday (23rd) and again on September 5. Chris Hayes.

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# ESSENCE

RETURNING from his BAOR tour last week, which he described to me as "the most outstanding hit we have ever made," Geraldo brought his orchestra back from one triumph to another, finding they had been voted top Sweet Band and third Swing Band in the 1946 Poll.

Meanwhile, they had achieved yet a third triumph. On August 3, at the express invitation of the Yanks, they had the honour of being the first British name band to broadcast over AFN, Berlin.

Before laying down his baton for a brief but well-earned holiday, Gerry told me: "We had audiences as appreciative as any I have ever known, even during the war years. Our Service men and women, and all who are serving the British cause out there, need entertainment now as much as ever before. They are doing a magnificent job under difficult and trying conditions, and we must do our utmost on their behalf."

He did mention one particular occasion when he put his words into practice. But a Berlin correspondent informs me that, booked for a concert in Berlin on August 3, Gerry saw that the waiting crowds were hopelessly large for the theatre.

"All right," he said, "ask them to be patient, and we'll do the whole show over again for them."

And he did—immediately after the first!



Ann Rich singing with Johnny Brown

IN this week's news columns you will read of the retirement from the profession of that beloved old-timer Joe Arbuter. Jack Marshall was present at Golders Green Hippodrome last Saturday, when Joe played his saxophone for the last time, and I've asked him to tell you what happened.

They carried Joe Arbuter shoulder high round the stage during the last house at Golders Green Hippodrome on Saturday night. Not afterwards—during the show. I don't suppose anyone would like this, in the way of spontaneous ges-

tures, has ever happened in the profession before.

Quite suddenly, saxists Benny Bromnick, Alfie Kahn and Jack Lowe seized the distinguished but by no means light form, and carried Joe, struggling and protesting to the footlights. It is difficult to say who was the most surprised—Joe, Harry Roy or the audience. Anyhow, Harry, quickly recovering his equilibrium, made a little speech explaining that Joe, for urgent business reasons, had to leave the band after nearly twenty years, and paying a great tribute to an indefatigable trouper who—even after terrible experiences and the most harrowing family losses in the blitz—turned up the next day for rehearsals just as usual.

Then the show went on—but without Joe Arbuter. Yes, Joe's feelings—as nearly anyone else's would have done—overcame him, and he quite

literally wept at such a wonderful demonstration of his popularity with the boys he had worked with for so long. Fears, indeed, fairly ran down Joe's face as he stood in the wings donning the absurd Red Indian outfit in which he does—or did—his Navaho "trill." (And yet folks have been heard to say that the old "Paqllacl" theme is exaggerated.)

I first met Joe Arbuter when he was the dapper bandleader fronting his own outfit at Wimbledon Palms more years ago than I care to remember. Full of enthusiasm for his band—which contained several people who have since made the big time—in no uncertain way—Joe was ready in those days to give a young reporter a voluble description and a booklet of notes on the outfit.

That was the first chapter. The last chapter was when, deeply moved and incoherent with emotion, he walked off the stage last Saturday night and left the profession he has always loved—for ever.

WHEN Nat Gonella says farewell to well to bandleading at the end of his present season at Green's Playhouse, Glasgow, he will say a reluctant farewell also to trombonist George Ritchie.

For George and Nat have travelled together, some miles than they can count, playing through North Africa, Belgium, Holland and Germany when Nat was leading his Royal Tank Regiment band. And on his demobilisation in February this year, after six years and five months' service, George lost no time in signing up again under Nat's bantooning trumpet. In six years he has televised and broadcast over a hundred times.

Their last broadcast together was on the Home Service on July 19.

A WORD of praise for a new band which has very definitely hit the mark with me. It is the three months' old Cyril Stapleton outfit which plays at Fischer's.

It has drive, originality and obviously the musicians to carry out its ideas. One note that it also has that very important, but not always realised, ingredient for success, indi-

However, I imagine even the most hardened jazz experts must have been surprised to learn about Woody Herman's copper section in the July issue of "Jazzology." If you don't believe me, let me quote the passage:

"...Els (Joe Bishop's) work for the section of the copper instruments was very interesting. (See translation of the section des Cuivres etait fort interessant.)"

"It occurs in a translation, and what a translation, of Albert Bettonville's article on Woody Herman which appeared in the March issue of the 'Hot Club Magazine,' of Belgium. Marion Miles, who undertook this dangerous mission, has produced one of the funniest articles about jazz that I have ever read by translating absolutely literally from the French. Surely 'Jazzology' could have found someone with more knowledge both of French and jazz, or, was it meant to be funny?"

I have purposely waited until the August issue of this magazine, expecting to read an editorial apology or else a shoal of letters on the subject, but I can find no mention of it at all. After all, there are some standards to be kept up, even in jazz magazines; and this article is not only insulting both to Woody Herman and to Albert Bettonville, but also to all readers of "Jazzology."

WHAT READERS SAY

"Edgar Jackson's dislike of New Orleans jazz, typified by his dismissal of Bunk Johnson's music, is rooted in his utter lack of appreciation of the true jazz style."

"Bunk's music isn't dated, as Edgar implies, just because it cannot be judged by the standards of mechanical slickness and showmanship that prevail in the field of modern live."

"There are many hundreds of people in England to-day to whom the sweeter of muck churned out by Ellington, Shaw, Goodman, Herman and Harry Hayes means not a thing. Most of these people would give a great deal to hear Bunk Johnson 'in the flesh.' I'm one of them."—D. A. Treacher, S.S. Empire Heywood.

"The other day, out junking, I entered a second-hand bookshop in Hampstead and asked the old lady present whether she had any old records."

"I've just sold some by Duke Ellington," she said. To which I replied, "What bad luck; I'm an admirer of that great Negro artist." "Surely you're mistaken," said she; "Duke Ellington is not a Negro and as far as I know, is a respected musician of English nobility!"

"Well I never! I said, and left the shop, wondering whether the old lady could be right. This isn't a joke; it happened exactly as I relate it."—John L. Fryer, Hornsey Park Road, N.8.

Peter Tanner writes: "With so many small magazines now on the market allegedly devoted to the cause of jazz and swing and what have you (principally what have you), it is more surprising that many new facts about jazz should be revealed."

# — by Pat Brand

vidually was conclusively proved to me last Monday.

Switching on at 9.10 a.m. to find out who was tackling this unenviable time-spot, my attention was immediately caught and held. For nearly fifteen minutes I waited for a mention of the leader's name, but none came. Yet, although I had heard him broadcast only once before, my guess that it was Cyril Stapleton's band was eventually proved correct.

(Check up on the script, Cyril; many people fail to switch on in time to catch the preliminary announcements at this hour of the morning.)

As a violinist, Cyril has a distinguished career behind him. As a leader, it is easy to predict a similar career ahead.

By the way, in giving the initial airing of the latest Django Reinhardt composition, "Bluest Kind of Blues," I feel Cyril may have launched a classic.

As regards the also recently formed Syd Lipton Band... corn, stone the crows!



A touch of summer gaiety is given by the two pictures above, taken at Butlin's Holiday Camp at Skegness. While the Beverly Sisters take a breather from vocalising with Eric Winston and his Orchestra to roll out the barrel, Eric and his boys, after having played "Stage Coach" as their signature tune over 10,000 times, finally make their appearance.

In addition to playing every week to over 7,000 campers in the enormous ballroom, Eric puts on a special "Swing Shift" session every Wednesday night where the individual musicians have a special feature. On Sundays, Eric has been given the famous Butlin Theatre, one of the most modern and up-to-date houses in the country, in which to present his own special Guest Night. Each week he brings to the Skegness public, holiday makers and campers, such famous names as Lizzy Bonn, Marie Burke, Clay Keyes, Afrika, etc., while the band takes time off from the ballroom to put on its usual outstanding stage show.

# Songshops' Switch

VICTORIA MUSIC COMPANY have changed offices with the Edwin H. Morris Company, so that the address of Morris's is now 52, Maddox Street, New Bond Street, W.1, and that of Victoria is 14, George Street, Bouver Square, W.1.

Their telephone numbers remain as before.

UNDERGOING treatment for internal trouble, tenor sax Steve Hunter, brother of the Stanley Black altoist Harry Hunter, would like to hear from his friends, who should write him at Byles Ward, London Homeopathic Hospital, Great Ormond Street, W.C.



# SCOTTISH NOTES

AFTER a brief holiday, Jack Chapman has started on his seventeenth season at the Albert Ballroom, Glasgow. The line-up is unchanged from last year, Jack leading on alto; Jack Britton (alto); Bernard McGuire (tenor); Syd Beecham and Abe Ellis (trumpets); Billy Hall (trombone); Les Farrell (piano); Phil Davis (bass); and Nell Aitken (drums). Jack is one of those who get an occasional air-date, but just as for most other Glasgow palms bands, the dates are too "occasional."

In Aberdeen, at the Plaza, a change of band is necessary owing to Ken Turner's going back to Derby. Chalmers Wood is responsible for the music here, and from his office Jimmy Reid has fixed a band to be led by Glasgow alto man Charlie Young. Charlie is not long demobbed, has been playing with Gordon Shields at the Cameo, and will have Mrs. Young on piano, the latter swell pianist being perhaps better known to the boys as Mary Mitchell.

Another job all set for the winter is the Loacarno Club, a niterie in the same interest as the late-in-the-evening Piccadilly. The band here, a three-piece, is looked after by pianist George McCulloch, who may also be found playing the latest pops at Lewis's music counter. The trio is completed by Jack Paterson (alto) and Syd Chorley (drums).

Personnel changes include departure of alto Johnny Bilis from the Tudor Ballroom to the nearby Cameo, also fixing of tenor Lew Williams at Dennistoun Palms, replacing Dave Wilson, resigned. Also at the Cameo now is Al Pollock, previously on alto but now on tenor in his new job.



Before leaving for the BAOR last Sunday, Barrio Wicks's company (above, at King's Cross) had to assume (very temporary) Army ranks, "Majors" Barrio Wicks, Russ Allen, and Triss Henderson starring among a company of "Captains."

# RECORDS

By EDGAR JACKSON  
COUNT BASIE AND HIS ORCHESTRA

\*\*\*Lazy Lady Blues (Leonard Feather, Phil Moore) (V by James Rushing) (Am. Columbia CO35730).

\*\*\*Stay Cool (Dickey Wells, Count Basie) (Am. Columbia CO35732).

(Parlophone R3009—3s. 11½d.) Basie (pno.), with George "Buddy" Tate, Illinois Jacquet, Earl Warren, James Powell, Elman Rutherford (trumps.); Emmet Berry, Joseph Newman, Harry Edison, Ed Lewis (tpts.); Al Matthews, James Johnson, The Donnelly, El Robinson (tms.); Fred Green (str.); Rodney Richardson (dr.); Joe Jones (dms.). Recorded February 4, 1946.

"LAZY LADY BLUES" as its title suggests, is the blues—or any rate an adequate mixture of more or less genuine blues (Rushing's vocal) and what goes for blues to-day.

The side opens with the Count meandering in his well-known pensive way over the solid beat of Rodney Richardson's bass and the now-runs the same choruses which, good in themselves, are made none the less effective by the low, rich growling harmonies in the accompaniment. A poll, there must be many from the North Country, where his popularity has been proved by the attendance figures, one and the other creating for their current season at the Winter Gardens Ballroom, Blackpool.

Last Saturday week, when the band did a late night broadcast in "Saturday Night at the Palms," the attendance was sensational, and many listeners who heard the broadcast were of the opinion that not only was the band up to its very best form, but the atmosphere of the place electric as it was—came over with striking force, especially the "bobby-soxers" reaction to Paul Carpenter's vocals.

I dropped into the Winter Gardens myself last week and must confess that, though I saw the band, I heard very little of it so densely were the masses packing the place—and this was an ordinary Tuesday night session.

Broadcasting dates for Northern bands are decidedly thin for the month of September. Joe Loss takes one spot (10.40 p.m. to 11 p.m., September 2) when he and his band will be heard playing at the Villa Marina, Douglas, Isle of Man, and again when they take half of the "Saturday Night at the Palms" spot the following Saturday (7th).

Vocalist Taylor Frank, with Maurice Arnold (pno.), Alf Banks (alto), have another "Voice, a Sax, a Piano" spot on the 9th (8.15 to 8.30 p.m.), whilst Peter Fielding, from the Oxford Cleries, Newcastle, plays The Damsel session from 4.30 to 5 p.m.

There is, however, some measure of satisfaction to the Northern dance bands in the announcement that, commencing Monday September 16, North Regional Variety Assistant Bowker Andrews introduces the first edition of a new show entitled "R.S.V.P."

With a resident concert orchestra directed by Richard Valery, the show will introduce each week guest artists and a guest dance band.

And so further weekly spot in which is hoped will be a first-rate show will be available for Northern bands.

Guy Bland makes his debut on the North Regional front Fenwick's Terrace Theatre on September 6, 4 to 5 p.m. Guy has set a high standard of playing whilst at Fenwick's, and his line-up for this airing will be Les Feeney (pno.); Les Todd (sax-cello); Stan Markness (tpt.); Ernie Watton (drums); Billy Bruce (bass); George Warren (oboe, sax, clar.); and Reg Moore (sax-clar.). Harry Shuttleworth and Audrey Rowe will be the featured vocalists.

Reverting to my last week's story of the Sheffield M.U. Jamboree on September 3, two of the bands mentioned—the "Modernaires" and Bob Walker—are non-union bands and will not be present on this occasion. JERRY DAWSON.

# HUNT FOR 9 a.m. SWING

9 A.M. swing on August 26 will be supplied by resident Muswell Hill Palms leader Tommy Hunt with his thirteen-piece orchestra. This follows their successful airing of three weeks ago.

Their success at the Palms is proved by their having been signed up for a second resident season commencing on December 2, after a series of one-night stands and Sunday concerts when their present tenure expires on September 26.

Tommy is leading the following personnel—Sax: Bill Jackman (deputy leader), Jack Slade, Jackie Chitts, George James (vocals), Reg Brewster (Brass); Johnny Shakespeare, Alec Cave, Doug Senior, George Bradshaw, Frank Holl (vocals), Rhythm: Dennis Wilson, Percy Jeffs, Jack Turner, with Pat Cooper as featured vocalist and Eddie Gromer acting as musical adviser.



Tommy Hunt

# NORTHERN NOTES

AMONGST the 12,700 people who voted Ted Heath into first place in this year's "M.M." popularity poll, there must be many from the North Country, where his popularity has been proved by the attendance figures, one and the other creating for their current season at the Winter Gardens Ballroom, Blackpool.

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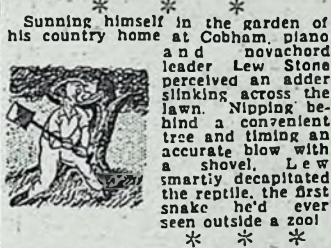
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# CHATTER

by Chris Hayes

REPORTER on the "Scottish Daily Express" for 31 years and aide-camp to Harry Roy for 18 months willoway Peter Saunders, who entered the Intelligence Corps in 1940, recently took his final salute as a captain and got cracking again in the West End, sleekly producing a decorative Maunquin Parade for "Corsetry and Underwear Journal," with music by Eugene Plini and his Orchestra.



Sunning himself in the garden of his country home at Cobham, piano and a no-nachard leader Lew Stone perceived an adder slinking across the lawn. Nipping behind a convenient tree and timing an accurate blow with a shovel, Lew smartly decapitated the first snake he'd ever seen outside a zoo!

Bill Try, leader of the Blue Ramblers, well-known contesting band about ten years ago, now runs the Old and new members Club at Emsbury Park on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, with events for young people, including a rhythm club and instrumental and dancing tuition. Old and new members will receive a warm welcome from Bill, who can be phoned for information at Can. 417.

Well known in North London, where they have an extensive connection, Harold Howard and his New Music have been booked to provide dance music in the Hendon and Barnet Parks for the remainder of the summer, using three brass, three rhythm, tenor, and Harold Howard leading on clarinet.

Welcome home to London drummer Syd Pettit, who was bandleader at Twickenham Palms before his enlistment in R.A.O.C. in 1941. Downgraded after combat duties in North Africa, Syd went to Army Entertainment Section in Italy as drummer and radio announcer with No. 1 Dance Band, C.M.F. A snip for any band, he is a sound musician and a good rhythmic show drummer.

Settling in London is crinkly-haired 21-year-old electric guitarist and string bassist Alan Edwards, whose qualifications include working for Eddie McGarry at Morecambe and Frank Brindle at Nelson. An eager lad, well respected in his native Lancs, he is now living at 17 Granville Mansions, Shepherd's Bush, W.12.

# TEAL AIRS

NORMAN TEAL, "M.M." representative around Halifax and Yorkshire, and well known for his long sojourn with Herman Darowski, gets a big break this Sunday (25th) when he will be heard on the air in "Variety Band-Box" (Light, 6.15 p.m.).

Norman, who is at present playing bass with Charlie Steel and his Orchestra at the Prince of Wales Hotel, Scarborough, will be featured in xylophone and marimba solos.

BENNY FREEDMAN, bandleader at the Lees Cliff Hall, Folkestone wants a trombonist, a tenor-sax clarinetist doubling Eddie, either a pianist or a trumpeter, able to arrange a guitar, who can sing, and a girl vocalist. To those selected, Benny will offer a twelve months' contract starting at the end of September.

THE Hot Club of London holds its next meeting on Saturday evening (25th) from 7.30 to 10 p.m. at the Victoria Hall, Bloomsbury Square. In addition to the usual sessions by the George Webb Dixielanders, Tony Short on piano and Sinclair Trill on (drums), the programme will be giving tickets are 3s. 6d. new members 3s. 3s. members.

IF the daughter born on August 15 to Charles Chapman and his wife, Madge, cannot play a saxophone when she grows up it will be very surprising, since her father is altoist with George Evans and his Orchestra and her mother used to play alto on the stage before the war as Madge Whitel. Contrats. all round!

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## HARTLEPOOL CONTEST REPORT

THE unconquerable spirit of Britain, which MELODY MAKER contests, in common with all other forms of the country's entertainment, helped to maintain during the gruelling years of the war, was reflected when the 1946 Durham County Championship was held last Friday (16th) at the Borough Hall, Hartlepool, within sight of Hitler's famous yacht the "Grille," or, in English, "Grasshopper."

The yacht, taken by us from Narvik, where it had been used by the Nazis as a submarine control ship, is now moored in near-by West Hartlepool, and many of the large crowd of nearly 900 which this first contest ever to be held in Hartlepool had attracted must have felt proud at what its presence implied. Presented by the Hartlepool Corporation, and organised by their Entertainments Manager, Mr. William M. Marshall, the contest was almost in the nature of a civic affair.

Many of the local dignitaries were present, including his Worship the Mayor, Alderman George Davison, J.P., who graciously brought along his wife, the Mayoress, to present the prizes, and the large attendance and great enthusiasm proved to keep interest the function had created locally.

\* \* \*

### JUDGES' REPORT

Adjudicators: Buddy Featherstonhaugh, Edgar Jackson.

Winners: **RIALTO SWINGTETTE** (three saxes, trumpet, piano, guitar, bass, drums). All coms.: R. McNaughton, 7, Hambleton Square, Billingham, Co. Durham. Individualists awards for: Alto (Harold McNaughton), Tenor (Kenneth Steward), Bass (George Hall). Hon mentions for: Piano (R. McNaughton), Drums (Leslie Calvert), Trumpet (Charles Harrison).

The imaginative way in which it adapted commercial orchestrations to suit its instrumentation, and the good style with which it played, showed that this band is by no means lacking in inventiveness or understanding. Weakness of the band was in its balance—for which the trumpet-player must take the blame.

With a more than good enough technique and style to have made himself a tower of strength, he consistently played so loudly that he was not only overpowering, but also unable to induce in any of the finesse which would have given his performance the one thing it lacked—subtlety.

The tenor solo in the waltz could have been played with more personality, but the saxes as a team were not only technically competent, but also showed an initiative which gave colour and character to their performances.

The guitar seemed rather lifeless, but, thanks in no small measure to the good bass and drums and the nice drive of the piano, the rhythm section acquitted itself well.

Second: **"THE MODERNISTS"** (trumpet, piano, guitar, bass, drums). All coms.: J. Preston, 19, Benson Street, West Hartlepool.

Individualists' awards for: Piano (George Nelson), Guitar (Harold Jones), Drums (Daniel Jones). Hon. mentions for: Trumpet (James Preston), Bass (Frank Lamb).

We were told after the contest that some of the players in this band "cannot even read."

So what? Practically every good musician reads because he has learnt to as part of his musical training. Moreover, if you want to play in a big band which has to use parts, you have to read. But there are the exceptions—those born so musical that they play naturally. They

might not be so successful in big bands, but in small busking groups, such as this, they can be completely successful.

Anyway, there sounded nothing wrong with the musicianship of this outfit, whose style and drive provided an example which some of the other bands in the contest would do well to study. The band lost the contest mainly on the fact that it relied too much on its musicians individually. Over-confidence in their ability caused it to be too casual in the way it treated its tunes. There was so little in the way of concerted effort.

Also it must be said that the trumpet was rather feeble. He stood rigidly to attention all the while he was playing, with hardly a movement in his body and he sounded as he looked—too stiff. Gordon Kitto's eight-piece Swingtette, from Wheatly Hill (Durham), were third. They won the Individualists' awards for: Clarinet (Derek V. Humble), Trumpet (Gordon Kitto), and Trombone (Merfield W. John).

## CONTEST FIXTURES

### THIS WEEK

**BATH.**—To-night, Thursday, August 22, at the Pavilion (7.30 p.m. to midnight).—The 1946 Somersetshire Championship.

House Band: Johnny Stiles and his Band (winners of the 1946 City of London Championship).

Organiser: Mr. Lewis Buckley, 28, Carr Lane, Birkdale, Southport, Lancs. (Phone: Ainsdale 78238).

**LLANELLY** (South Wales).—Tomorrow, Friday, August 23, at the Ritz Ballroom (7 to 11 p.m.).—The 1946 West Wales Championship.

House Band: Roy Allan and his Band (winners of the 1946 South-West Wales Championship).

Organiser: Mr. Lewis Buckley, as previously (see Bath).

### NEXT WEEK

**DONCASTER.**—Tuesday, August 27, at the Corn Exchange (7.30 p.m.).—The 1946 South-East Yorkshire Championship.

House Band: The Astorians (winners of the 1946 Humber District Championship).

Organiser: Mr. Lewis Buckley, as previously (see Bath).

**NORTHAMPTON.**—Thursday, August 29, at the Salon de Danse (Not a new time: 7.30 p.m. to midnight).—The 1946 Northamptonshire Championship. Entry list full.

Organiser: Mr. Wilfrid J. Roberts, Secretary, The Musicians' Union (Northampton Branch), 40, Earl Street, Northampton. (Phone: Northampton 396.)

**MANCHESTER.**—Friday, August 30, at the Lesonsmith Palais de Danse (7.30 p.m. to midnight).—The 1946 Northern Counties Championship.

Organiser: Mr. Lewis Buckley, as previously (see Bath).

### FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT

**CHESTERFIELD.**—Tuesday, September 10, at the Bradbury Hall (7.30 p.m. to midnight).—The 1946 "Dukeries" Championship.

Organiser: Mr. Lewis Buckley, as previously (see Bath).

### \* \* \* AREA \* \* \*

**AREAS FINALS**  
Open to bands which have qualified by winning a County or District Championship this season. (See also announcement on page 2.)

**SOUTH BRITAIN (EASTERN SECTION).**—Thursday, September 19 (at 7.30 p.m.), at the Hammersmith Palais de Danse, London.

Organisers: THE MELODY MAKER, NORTH BRITAIN (EASTERN SECTION).—Friday, September 20 (7.30 p.m. to 1 a.m.), at the Town Hall, Leeds.

Special feature: Appearance as house band of the full 21-strong George Evans Orchestra direct from their sensational successful season at the Hammersmith Palais.

Organiser: Mr. Lewis Buckley. LONDON AREA.—Thursday, September 28 (at 7.30 p.m.), at the Hammersmith Palais de Danse, London.

Organisers: THE MELODY MAKER.

## Cardiff Evans in Town

**JACK EVANS**, famed as leader of the Capitol Sextet, when they were runners-up at last year's "All-Britain," has now left his native Cardiff to join the expert staff at the Harry Hayes Music Shop, Shaftesbury Avenue, W., and to live permanently in the Metropolis.

Selling, however, will not be Jack's only connection with instruments, as he has just joined Fred Hedley's Band on lead alto/clarinet, and will be featured at all the future sessions which this very busy London leader is undertaking.

**JAN FILMER**, bandleader at the Grand Hotel, New Brighton, who has broadcasts promised shortly, will be needing a first alto to start on August 29 or 30.

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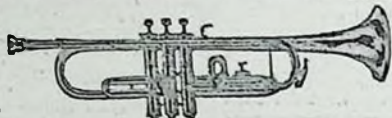
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