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Accordions Times and Musical Express FRIDAY, JANUARY 23, 1948 No. 68 PRICE FOURPENCE

A BERG LARSEN MOUTHPIECE PUTS THE TROUSERS ON THE SAXOPHONE Make sure yours has a PAIR!

RADIO STRIKE IS IMMINENT No More Dance Music for B.B.C. After March 31?

D.B.D.A. Ultimatum (MUSICAL EXPRESS STAFF REPORTER)

AT AN HISTORICAL MEETING OF THE DANCE BAND DIRECTORS' ASSOCIATION HELD LAST TUESDAY AT THE HOLBOEN RESTAURANT, LONDON, AT WHICH FIFTY OR SIXTY DANCE BAND LEADERS WERE PRESENT, AND PRESIDED OVER BY LEW STONE, AN ULTIMATUM WAS GIVEN TO THE B.B.C. THAT ALL DANCE BAND BROADCASTS WILL CEASE AFTER MARCH 31 UNLESS THE CORPORATION DEALS PROMPTLY WITH CERTAIN DEMANDS ALREADY COMMUNICATED TO THEM BY THE D.B.D.A., AND WHICH HAVE BEEN, SO FAR, SIDE-TRACKED.

For ten months the D.B.D.A. has been agitating for higher radio fees. All attempts to negotiate with the B.B.C. have, they feel, met with procrastination on the part of that body. Now is the hour for action. Making the momentous decision to call a strike if they do not get consideration for their demands, there is no doubt that the B.B.C. will now be forced to make a decision one way or another.

After a private meeting lasting three and a half hours, the D.B.D.A. passed the following resolution, details of which were issued to the Press:

"IN VIEW OF THE LONG DELAY ON THE PART OF THE B.B.C. IN NEGOTIATING WITH THE ASSOCIATION, THE CORPORATION BE INFORMED THAT FAILING A SATISFACTORY DEVELOPMENT OF RESUMED NEGOTIATIONS BY MARCH 31 NEXT, OUR MEMBERS WILL CEASE TO BROADCAST FROM THAT DATE."

Hardie Ratcliffe, Secretary of the Association (which, as our readers know, is a section of the Musicians' Union) stated afterwards:

"We have been negotiating with the B.B.C. since March, 1947, when we submitted to the Corporation a detailed memo putting forward proposals including particular proposals for a substantial increase in fees. These fees are overall fees payable to the bandleaders contracted to supply bands for broadcasting. Our members at to-night's meeting expressed the keenest dissatisfaction with the long delay in negotiations for which they felt the B.B.C. was responsible. A decision on such important proposals should have been reached long ago. Of course the negotiations with the B.B.C. have not been abandoned but they have never gone forward and we are now putting a time limit on them."

Hardie Ratcliffe said that as negotiations were still proceeding he could not discuss the amount of fees which the Association was claiming.

"In our memo we made no distinction between studio and outside broadcasts in the scale of fees we proposed," he said.

Commenting on the decision, a B.B.C. spokesman said:

"The scale of fees that dance band leaders put forward was regarded as excessive and a meeting with representatives of the Association some time ago did not clarify the situation. There has been much for the B.B.C. to consider before it gives its final decisions or makes any proposals to the bandleaders. The B.B.C. expects, however, to be able to do so in the near future."

MORE BANDS FOR MUSICIANS BALL-LEWIS, GOLD AND SQUADS

Three more bands have accepted the invitation to appear at the Musicians' Ball at Hammersmith Palais on February 27. The bands are those of the Squadronaires, Vic Lewis and Harry Gold and his Pieces of Eight.

Applications for tickets from musicians and members of the profession should be made to: The Musicians' Ball (Tickets), M.S.B.C. 116 Shaftesbury Avenue, London, W.1.

NATHAN RENEWS AT CHURCHILL'S

Following on their first very successful broadcast Jack Nathan and his Band have had their initial contract at Churchill's renewed. The line-up of the orchestra is as follows: Fred Datchler, Bob Deeks, Reggie Briggs, Ray Gibson saxes, Leo Wright trumpet, Billy Lonsdale drums, Hank Hobson bass and Nathan leading on piano. Charles Judah will, of course, continue as vocalist with the band.

PAUL ADAM ON PARLOPHONE

Paul Adam and his Mayfair Music who have been recording on Regal Zonophone have now commenced recording on Parlophone. The band did their first session for this label on January 15 and the titles included "Smoke, Smoke, Smoke," "The Old Music Master," "Ain't Nobody Here But Us Chickens," and "The Mermaid Song." For these titles the band was augmented to eight brass.

Girl Trumpeter Required

Rudy Starita, who left for the Middle East with his all-girl band last week, has sent us an urgent S.O.S. for a first-class girl trumpeter to join the band immediately. Any girls who are interested should contact his manager, David Kaye, at 58, Merion Avenue, Stanmore, Middlesex, by letter only.

HEATH WILL BROADCAST FATS WALLER PROGRAMME

Next Wednesday, January 28, Ted Heath and his Music will broadcast a complete "Fats" Waller programme. The broadcast which will be heard from 5.45-6.15 p.m. will consist of the entire London Suite of six movements. Heath has already recorded this suite for a special Waller album for export to America and as British listeners have not heard the complete work, Heath has compiled his programme in order that they may do so. The band will be appearing at Croydon Empire all next week.

SWING SHOP BACK AT THE SUTHERLAND

On Sunday January 25 the Sid Gross Swing Shop will re-open at the Sutherland Hotel at 3 p.m. The sole reason for the change of address is due to the fact that there is insufficient space at the Carribean Club for the many members and followers of the profession. Artists who will be present at the re-opening include Ronnie Scott, Jack Fallon, Dennis Rose, Tony Crombie, Ralph Sharon and Cab Kaye.

Ken Thorne now arranging exclusively

KEN THORNE, pianist arranger with the Vic Lewis Band since it commenced, and prior to that with the Jazzmen, will from this week-end devote his time exclusively to arranging for the Vic Lewis band and to carry out a big assignment he has to write music for two films which will shortly go into production.

His place on piano will be taken by Frank Horrox who has recently been working with Campbell Connolly on exploitation since his demob several months ago. Horrox has recently had several solo spots on the air and is married to Ruth Harrison who played trombone with the band for some time. Ken Beckett recently joined the band to replace Derek Knight on tenor. All communications regarding the Vic Lewis Society should now be addressed to the band's publicity manageress, Wyn Carter at 129 Leighton Road, London, N.W.5.

STAR BANDS FOR PREAGER

WELL-KNOWN agent Alf Preager informs us that the following bands will be appearing for him shortly. One-night stands at the Adelphi Ballroom, West Bromwich will feature Teddy Foster on February 5, Vic Lewis on February 18 and Nat Gonella on February 26. Foster and Lewis will also appear at the same ballroom for the weeks of March 1 and 8 respectively and Carl Barribeau, Tito Burns and Harry Gold will appear during the weeks of March 15, 22 and April 5. Further one-night stands at the Plaza Ballroom Derby will feature Harry Roy on February 2, Vic Lewis February 16 and Harry Gold February 23. One-night stands at the Tower Ballroom Birmingham will also feature Foster, Lewis and Victor Silvester on February 3, 17 and March 2 respectively. The Princes Ballroom, Brighton will have the following bands beginning one-night stands beginning January 28 with Teddy Foster, February 4 Nat Gonella, February 18 Carl Barribeau, and March 3 Vic Lewis.

DOUGLAS BAND WEDDING



Members of the Leslie Douglas Orchestra turned up in full force at St. Barnabas Church when Cliff Adams, pianist-arranger with the band, married Miss Maureen Sibert last week.

REVELLERS AND GOLD 2,000 at Bristol Concert

THE Radio Revellers' first Sunday Concert, in which they employed Harry Gold and his Pieces of Eight, was a sensational success. Over two thousand people crowded the Embassy Bristol last Sunday, January 18.

When the Radio Revellers commenced their fifteen minutes' spot, Art Reed's guitar string broke just at the moment when the boys were singing "Four Men, One Song" and the actual words they were singing at this spot were, "Bring out that old guitar" when the string went! The breaking of the string put the other three strings out of tune and for the rest of the fifteen minutes Art Reed transposed up one tone so that the boys could continue. When the broken string dangled off the end of the guitar the boys gagged and the incident and the audience never realised that it was anything but a part of the show.

Harry Gold's part of the programme was delightful and the Radio Revellers wish to thank Harry Gold for the fine show which he put up. They are taking the Gold band with them on the next trip.

On Monday Mr. Lockier of Bristol rang up and said the whole town was talking about the Revellers' concert and could they please return as soon as possible. They have now been re-booked for February 29. Harry Gold will be with them, and they also anticipate taking Gold with them to a concert at the Capitol Theatre, Cardiff, on February 22. The Radio Revellers are in Variety Concert Hall programme from the Naval Barracks at Petersfield next Sunday, January 25. This will not be broadcast in the Light programme due to the Musicians' dispute but they will still be doing the O.R.B.S. recording at the Concert. To make good this omission, they are doing a concert on February 15 at Pavilion Bath which will be broadcast in the Light programme. The Revellers are also in Workers' Playtime on January 23 from Cambridge.

RONALDE IN U.S.A.

WE understand from Hyma Zahi that Ronalde "The Voice of the Whistler," the young British lad who was such a remarkable success a short while ago in Variety Band Box and also in his variety appearances, is now in America. He was seen on his arrival in that country and immediately booked to appear at Radio City Music Hall where he opened on January 8 for a season. This date is considered one of the finest in the world to-day and in competition with such great names as Sinatra, Haymes, Como etc., it is a great distinction that this boy should have been booked to play that date after being such a short while in the United States.

We understand that he is now being overwhelmed with offers for films and radio in that country and Zahi tells us that it is quite probable that when he eventually returns to this country he will be a ready-made star.

New Drummer For Weir

Frank Weir advises us that in place of Norman Burns, who will be leaving the band, Bobby Kevin who is currently appearing with the band on the Queen Mary, will take his place on drums. Weir cabled Kevin last week and received a confirmation cable by return stating that he, Kevin, could commence with the band on January 26.

VAUGHAN FORMS NEW BAND

Paul Vaughan who has recently played with Freddy Milfield and Nat Allen's bands, has now formed his own orchestra which will commence playing at the Orell Park Ballroom, Liverpool, on February 2. The line up will consist of three saxes, trumpet and four rhythm with Vaughan leading and also playing guitar and doing the vocals. The boys are all ex-servicemen.

TWO FAMOUS PIANISTS MEET



President Truman struggling imaginary keys at Constitution Hall, Washington, as he describes a Chopin waltz that he would like Jose Iturbi to play during the latter's recital.

BURNS WILL TOUR

Accordions Club for the Halls (MUSICAL EXPRESS STAFF REPORTER)

LEADERS WILL BE GLAD TO HEAR THAT THE VERY FINE ACCORDION CLUB OUTFIT, TITO BURNS AND HIS SEXTET, ARE TO COMMENCE A VARIETY TOUR FOR MOSS EMPIRES COMMENCING FEBRUARY 2 AT SHEPHERDS BUSH EMPIRE. WE UNDERSTAND THAT NOT ONLY WILL THE BAND FEATURE ITS OWN INIMITABLE STYLE OF PLAYING BUT WILL ALSO HAVE COMEDY SPOTS AS WELL. CAB KAYE WHO WILL APPEAR WITH THE OUTFIT HAS DEVISED THE COMPLETE SHOW AND BUDDY CLARKE YOUNG CANADIAN COMPERE AND DANCER, WILL ALSO BE FEATURED IN THE SHOW.

On February 9 the band will be at Hackney Empire and will follow this with one night stands that have already been booked for them. On March 14 they will appear at a Sunday Concert in Bath followed by one night stands. They will also carry out a week's engagement at West Bromwich on March 22. Burns has asked us to state that he would particularly like to thank Kinn-Elliott Direction and Lyn Morgan the promoter of dances at Stoke Newington, for releasing him from a one night appearance at that hall which, had they been forced to carry it out, would have meant their declining one of the first weeks offered them in variety. The act is now being handled exclusively by Harry Dawson and Bernard Reddington of the Winstone Organisation.

"Musical Express" was first to publicise this fine new style outfit just over a year ago. We, together with the profession, have watched their rise to success and have been instrumental in the past in ensuring that Ralph Moffatt of A.F.N. had their music brought to his notice. We stated that this outfit was better than the American Joe Mooney Quartet. Our judgment was not wrong. Their Accordion Club series was extended over a very long period due to public demand. We feel sure that their stage show will be equally good.

SONNY ROSE AUGMENTING

Sonny Rose who is breaking all attendance records at the West End Dance Hall, Birmingham, advises us that in view of this success he has given an extension of contract and permission to augment his band to a ten piece. The two new men who will be added are Denis Jones tenor, clarinet and violin, and Bill Bower trombone. Rest of the line up is as follows: Tommy Hart, Norman Hill and Doug Fordyce reeds, Tony Bourne, Denis Hignet and Rex Greenwood brass, Len Dyson piano, Bob Russell bass and Jack Munn drums. We understand that the band has passed its B.B.C. audition and has been promised a broadcast in the very near future.

Head of Czech Music Dept. in London

Dr. Leos Firkusny, Head of the Czechoslovak Ministry of Education, and his wife, Mme. Firkusny, who is a singer, arrived in London on January 17 for a two weeks' visit under the auspices of the British Council. Dr. Firkusny is a well known reporter and he is at present reporting for "Svobodna Noviny," an important Czechoslovak daily newspaper. He is also author of a number of books on music and of several broadcast plays. While in this country he will meet leading British personalities in the field of music, including Sir George Dyson, Director of the Royal College of Music, and Mr. Boris Ord, Organist of King's College, Cambridge. He will also give a number of lectures at which Mme. Firkusny will provide vocal illustrations.

NEW MUSIC PROMOTION

On Saturday January 24 at 2 p.m., a most interesting concert is being held at the Albert Hall under the auspices of the "Committee for the Promotion of New Music." The London Philharmonic Orchestra will be conducted in turn by Sir Adrian Boult, Mervyn Vicars and Brian Balkwill. Each work on the programme will first be rehearsed and then performed. At the conclusion of the whole concert there is to be an open discussion on the music. The works to be played are Concerto in G for Cello and Orchestra (soloist, William Pleeth) by Franz Reizenstein, Concerto for Trumpet and Orchestra (soloist, Malcolm Arnold) by Kenneth Essex, and Burlesca for Clarinet, Brass and Strings (soloist: William Cody) by Brian Balkwill. Admission is free.

TELEVISION DATES FOR SILVESTER

Commencing Tuesday, January 27, Victor Silvester will commence a series of monthly television dates. The programme will be called Dancing Club and Silvester will teach his magic way to ballroom dancing in a lesson that he will give each time the Television Dancing Club takes place.

BALEN IN CAR CRASH

On his way home from the Dorchester Hotel last Saturday Harry Balen, well-known fiddle player with Wally Chapman, was seriously injured when a car crossed the lights and crashed into him. At the time of going to press details are not available regarding the results. Balen is at present in Paddington Hospital, and we take this opportunity of wishing him a very speedy recovery on behalf of the profession.

FALLON NOW AT BERKELEY

Maurice Smart who has the quartet at the Berkeley Hotel, informs us that his bass player Bernie Woods will be going over to Ian Stewart's Orchestra. In his place he has secured the services of that excellent bass player, Jack Fallon. The quartette now consists of Smart on accordion, Sid Jacobson guitar, Harry Conn clarinet and alto and, of course, Fallon.

BE-BOP BOYS FOR JAZZ CLUB

This Saturday's Jazz Club will feature some of the younger musicians who are well known for their experiments in the field of be-bop. The line-up will include Ronnie Scott tenor, Dennis Rose trumpet, Peter Chivier guitar, Jack Fallon bass, Ralph Sharon piano, Tommy Poillard vibraphone, Johnny Dankworth alto and clarinet, and Tony Crombie drums.

JUPP DEPS FOR JEFFREY ESSEX

Well-known band leader at the Norfolk Hotel, Brighton, Jeffrey Essex, is in hospital undergoing an operation. He would be very pleased to hear from his friends in the profession, and they can contact him at The John Howard Ward, Room 5, the Sussex County Hospital, Brighton. During his absence Eric Jupp is leading the band.

Gold Seal BOHEM CLARINETS. Solid nickel-silver keywork for toughness, wear resistance and absence of plating troubles is your guarantee. Selected fine Grenada Ebony, for maximum resonance and tone quality. Accuracy of bore, for faultless intonation. £33.0.0. Attractive hard-style case, lined & padded. 30s. Prices include P. Tax. Ask your Dealer to show you one!

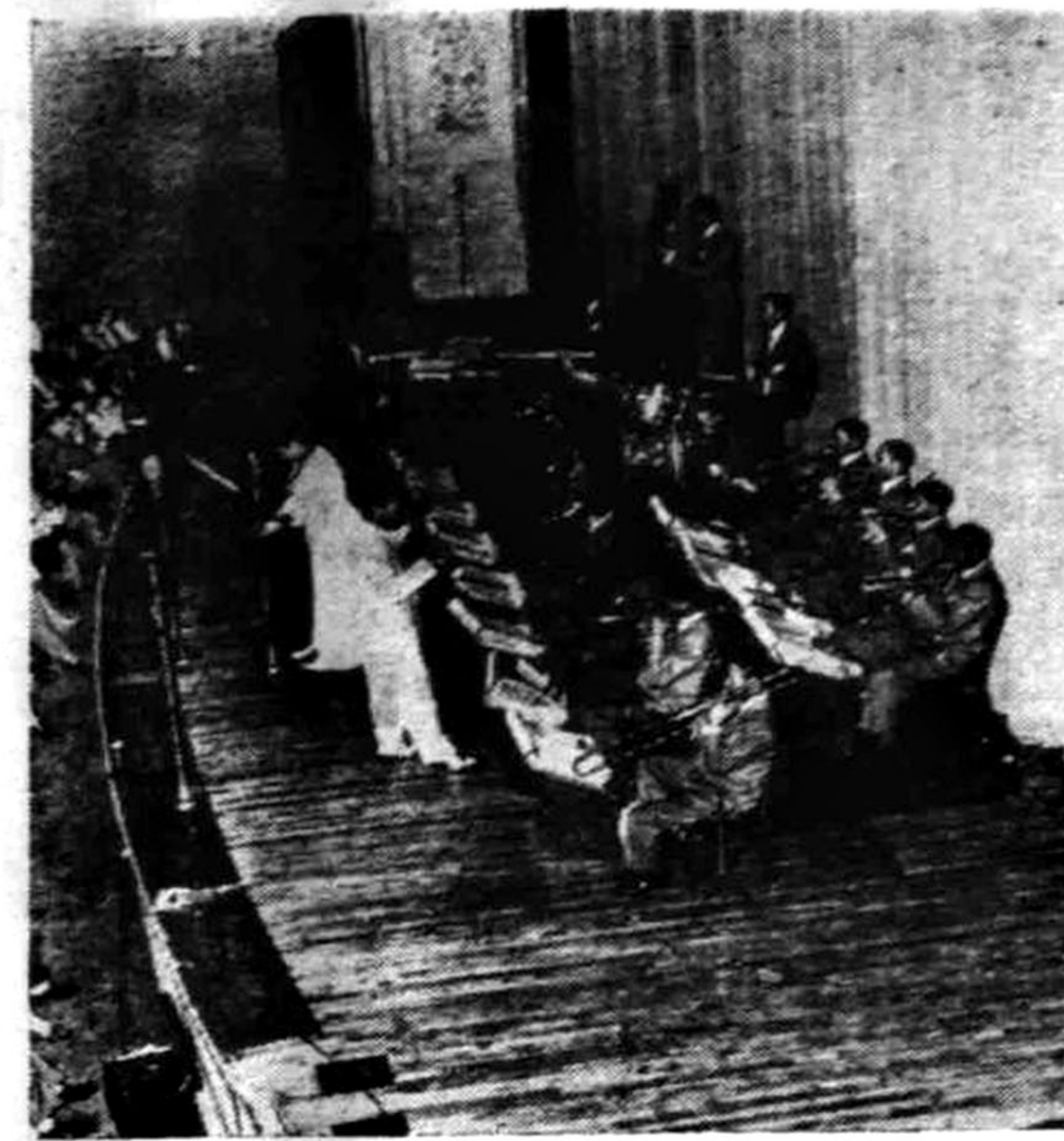
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THE STARDUSTERS. ONE OF THE 36 BROADCASTING BANDS THAT KNOW MODERN MOUTHPIECE DESIGN MEANS Berg Larsen. SPIKE HORNETT, ANDY WILSON, STEVE PAGE, FREDDY THOMAS, BERT JONES, BILL SUETT.



Accordion Times and Musical Express Editorial and Advertising Offices 33, King Street, London, W.C.2

BE-BOP ARRIVES AT CARNEGIE HALL



Dizzy Gillespie and his Orchestra shown during their record breaking appearance at Carnegie Hall during the latter part of last year. Pictures show the full orchestra, a close up of Gillespie and the billing for this show at Carnegie Hall, the home of straight music.

THE VOICE

THE LEADER CASE Readers of "Musical Express" know only too well that it is in this newspaper they get their news first. For this reason it is unusual for us to comment upon events that have been reported already in other media.

A MATTER OF POLICY We were reluctant to focus the spotlight upon the Harry Leader versus B.B.C. business in the first place because it is contrary to our established policy.

WHO SHALL CAST THE STONE? Where do we go from here? At the moment it is a matter of difference of opinion between employer and employee.

DIRTY LINEN And so, just as I predicted, much dirty linen has been washed publicly. The publicity given the case brings to the general public in no uncertain manner the thought "is Mr. Leader up to standard or not?"

Advertisement for Rudy Muck Cushion Rim Mouthpieces, featuring a trumpet and the name Rudy Muck.

Advertisement for "A Tree in the Meadow" and "An Apple Blossom Wedding" by Billy Reid, featuring a tree illustration.

Advertisement for Holmer Accordion Repair & Tuning Service, featuring the Holmer logo and contact information.

Dublin Reader Wins Jazz Essay Competition We publish below the first of three winning entries in this big event

Jazz Edited by DENIS PRESTON

"CRITICAL FORECAST" By Steve Gargan

BY January 15, the closing date of our "Jazz Essay Competition," we had accumulated a pile of entries which exceeded our best expectations.

Next week we shall publish the second winning article in the Jazz Essay Competition.

Advertisement for "My Dad's Diary" by Lee Conway, featuring a diary illustration.

happened. The following morning, as soon as Campbell, Connelly and Co. Ltd. had opened their doors the telephones began buzzing.

IN the field of jazz there has been no lack of prophets who have sought — and still seek — to forecast the future of the art.

ONE of the most significant developments, which will surely influence the future of jazz, is what may be termed "the emancipation of the rhythm section."

SMALL combinations of five to eight pieces will undoubtedly continue in operation, largely on

LOOK-OUT for the Græme Bell Dixielanders on the air Australia Day. Don't forget to tune them in.

Blue Flame (Noble, Bishop, Cor-day). The Blues Are Brewin' (de Lange, Alter) by Woody Herman and his Orchestra.

In Bill Harris takes the second chorus in an assured and sweeping style, showing mastery control of his vibrato.

Advertisement for "HOT CHORUSES" by Bron's, listing various musical instruments for sale.

Advertisement for Ackroyds Musical Instruments Ltd., featuring guitar and Hawaiian instrument bargains.

Advertisement for Noel Gay & Clover Music Co's Ltd., featuring "The Waltz of the Year 'THE WISHING WALTZ'".



# DICK HAYMES' POPULARITY

## Martin Block's 1947 Selections

DICK HAYMES is currently enjoying a terrific vogue both in America and on this side of the Atlantic. His new batch of recordings are among the best sellers in the popular vocal class all over the States, while his "And Mimi" is just about the most popular disc on both A.F.N. and the 11 p.m. to midnight Radio Luxembourg disc jockey show. One of the big factors in the new vogue is the orchestral backings supplied to all the Haymes vocals by Gordon Jenkins who, in the very near future, he is well known to the public as is Sinatra's Axel Stordahl. It seems that the old Haymes-Sinatra rivalry is sure bet for a revival if Dick continues to climb at the present rate. The Haymes "Mam'selle" is still the best recording of this number I have heard. Among the singer's latest batch of discs scheduled for release this year is an album of the Sigmund Romberg numbers from the Universal-International picture "Up in Central Park," which Haymes has just finished making. He has also recorded an album of numbers from the show "One Touch of Venus," which is due to run before the film cameras in two weeks' time starring Dick Haymes, Hedy Lamarr and Dinah Shore.

MANAGED by famous manager Bill Burton, Dick, in partnership with Burton, hopes to film two musical pictures on his own during 1948. He has offices at University City and is currently working on the scripts and searching for talent. Also on their schedule are a series of short films to be specially made for television screening. Written by Eddie Pike, these will be called "Teletopics" and are expected to begin shooting within the next couple of months. See what private enterprise can do — can you imagine this sort of thing happening on B.B.C. television?

CURRENTLY at the Royal, Baltimore, Nellie Lutcher, who has started a new vogue in night-club and record entertainment is due to open at the Chate Hotel in St. Louis on February 14 at the amazing salary of one thousand two hundred and fifty dollars a week — no less! It does one good to see an artist who has had such a hard time making good suddenly come in with the chips like that. Carlos Castel, her manager, has stated that several film producers have made offers for her but that he has refused them all and will not consider Nellie going into pictures until she completes her current theatre and hotel tour in the Spring and returns to Hollywood to play in one of the local night spots. Seems funny that these same movie moguls could have entertained her for about nine months ago for a mere song when she was struggling to earn a decent living in Hollywood clubs — the lower type, that is!

"NEAR YOU," "Near You," "Near You" — ooooooo — ooooooo!!! Is something going round in my head? That song which Ralph Chatterbox Moffatt is playing so often may be a swell number but there is a distinct limit to every good thing. By the way, there is a bit of bother going on in the States over this super hit. One of the composers, Kermit Goell, is threatening to sue his co-writer Francis Craig if the latter persists in advertising himself as



### American Commentary

BY STUART S. ALLEN

the writer of the song. Craig is doing a vaudeville act and his playbills announce that he is the writer of the song. As no mention is made of Goell, the latter is accusing his partner of deliberately trying to mislead the public into believing that he, Craig, was the sole author of the song. An action is pending unless the bills are altered to include Goell's name or omit all reference to "Near You."

VETERAN jazz composer W. C. Handy, now seventy-four years old, has offered the city of Memphis his original trumpet and piano on which he first played the blues, along with a valuable collection of other instruments, equipment and scores if the local administration will establish them in a Beale Street Museum. There are many people interested in the project and they are backing the composer's suggestion that Handy Park on Beale Street would be the most appropriate site.

NACIO HERB BROWN, whose top tunes from the forthcoming Sinatra-Katherine Grayson picture "The Kissing Ban-

dit" have been recorded in advance by no less than thirty bands and twenty-six vocalists, has been signed by M.G.M. to write the score for their latest scheduled musical, "Olympic Queen." Sounds topical but we won't see it for ages under present conditions — seems that Hollywood's contribution to our lighter entertainment — the musical film, is to be held out of the country indefinitely. Still, there's always that comedy, even if it is without music, going on at the Palace — Westminster, of course!

BAD luck for that very clever young man named Mel Torme. "Break It Up," the musical show he was writing for Broadway, has been called off at a cost of thirty-five thousand dollars by producer James Gardner. The show was to have starred Gertrude Nelsen — no reason has been given.

WHILE one show has been called off, Arthur Schwartz, that highly talented Jack of all Trades in show business is busy preparing a new revue for the Great White Way to be called

"Inside U.S.A." Schwartz, who has written many Broadway hits in the past and has lately been in Hollywood where he has distinguished himself at Warner Bros. as a first class film producer and movie songwriter, is writing all the music for the show, which will have lyrics by Howard Dietz. Several top playwrights have agreed to supply sketches and the stars are to be Beatrice Lillie and Jack Haley, with a possibility that Peter Lind Hayes, formerly on the Dinah Shore programme, will also be in the cast. Schwartz's last crop of hit tunes included "A Rainy Night in Rio," "Gal In Calico," etc., from "The Time, The Place and The Girl." Lyrics in this case were by Leo Robin.

CARMEN CAVALLARO and his orchestra have been signed to open this year's season at the famed Astor Roof in New York on May 17. Fred Waring estimates that he received no less than seventy-five thousand dollars during 1947 as royalties and performing rights sold by him to college glee clubs, etc. This amount is absolutely exclusive of what the maestro earns through his lectures, other business interests in the music world and his receipts from concert and theatre tours with his gigantic orchestral and choral aggregation, "The Pennsylvaniaans."

ALTHOUGH there are many more weeks to run of that grand Ginny Simms-Percy Faith programme, heard on A.F.N. at



"And now folks—I'd like to introduce tonight's GUEST ARTIST!"

4 p.m. on Sunday afternoons, Ginny was actually replaced on the show by Jane Froman on the original C.B.C. broadcast of January 4. This is one of the best musical half-hour programmes currently being broadcast on A.F.N. and goes out in America under the title "The Pause that Refreshes." I can't give a reason for that odd one since the show is entirely non-stop — there ain't no pause at all and the music is all the refreshment you need — lovely and luscious in the Kostelanetz idiom. Later on Sunday evenings, A.F.N. listeners can hear Dave Rose and Georgia Gibbs in another all musical programme. Dave, by the way, has some exquisite sides available on M.G.M. Records which will be available over here very soon.

FRANK SINATRA'S latest sides issued by Columbia are "What'll I Do," an oldie which everybody should know, coupled with "My Cousin Louella," a new novelty five number on which Frank is accompanied by a trio — piano, bass and guitar — from the main Stordahl orchestra. At this writing I hadn't been informed of their names. A new radio programme which we are bound to hear transcribed over here very soon made its debut over the Mutual network on January 18. Called "The Air Force Hour," it features the sixty-five piece U.S. Air Force Concert Orchestra and "The Singing Sergeants," a thirty-five piece Army choir. Soloist will be Master Sergeant Abrasha Robosky. The programme will be on similar lines to that excellent Sunday night A.F.N. show "Sound Off," the U.S. Army Recruiting Programme which features Mark Warnow's orchestra, Glen Darwin, Arno "The Chant" Tanyer and featured guest artists. Both have a feature on serious Service life, but whereas "Sound Off" is jive and pop stuff, the new programme will be classical in nature.

JOHNNY FRANZ. Surely one of our best young modern pianists. What! No "Piano Playtime"?

KISS to Bertha Willmott for consistently supporting British songwriters.

LIKEABLE FELLOWS. It was good to see Dan Donovan back in the "Alley." Two days wasn't nearly long enough to say hello to all his pals.

MARIAN SANDERS, of whom I said recently — "One of radio's greatest sopranos" — appearing on BEGINNERS PLEASE!

NAIVE. The contact man who tried to "plug" Jack Simpson with an American song!

ORDE HAMILTON back in the "Alley" after a very serious illness. Glad to see you back, Orde.

PALAIS BAND. Jan Wildeman. This singing maestro has the touch, that Joe Public loves so much!

QUOTA. The Film Industry's got one — but then, the Film Industry hasn't got a B.B.C.

RUMOURED. Bill Worsley's taking over Brian Seer's job on "WORKERS' PLAY-TIME."

SYD DEAN. Plays the kind of refrain the public would LOVE to hear again.

THINGS I'D LIKE TO HEAR. A publisher thanking a songwriter for giving him a hit! UP THE POLE. A peak hour show that is better for the inclusion of a "pop" song.

VERY SORRY to hear Percy Edgar, writer of "Babbette," is very ill in hospital. Here's wishing him Well Again.

WONDER how soon we'll be hearing "How Soon." This piece of corn is so good it could be British!

MARTIN BLOCK, the original and most famous disc-jockey and originator of "The Make Believe Ballroom," has just completed his listings of 1947 "bests." You might be interested.

Best Surprise Recording of the Year—The inevitable "Near You" recorded by Francis Craig.

Best Revival Recording for 1947—Ted Weems' recording of "Heartaches."

Best Male Vocal Record—Perry Como's "Chi Baba Chi Baba."

Best Novelty Record—Jo Stafford and Red Ingle's "Natural Seven doing 'Tim-tay-shun' on Capitol."

Best All-Round Record—Vaughn Munroe's "Ballarina."

Best New Male Record Star—Frankie Laine and "That's My Desire."

Best Swing Recording—Stan Kenton's "Across the Alley from the Alamo" with June Christy's vocal.

Greatest Number of Hit Recordings in 1947—Freddie Martin's orchestra, with their arrangement of "The Lady from 29 Palms" topping their hit list.

MY picture this week shows Spike Jones, who has just announced his engagement to singer Helen Grayco (she's in his band), with Dorothy Shay, known as "The Park Avenue Hillbilly," who are appearing together in a new CBS weekly half-hour show. Dorothy is currently among the ten top cabaret acts in America—Spike just retained his Down Beat "King of Corn" title.

SAID Phil Harris in last week's Eddie Cantor Show transcription, heard over A.F.N. on Thursdays at 9 p.m.: "And why shouldn't I run for President. That guy plays a piano but I can lead a whole band!"



Marian Sanders, successful pupil of Maestro Mario.

X MARKS THE SPOT. "The Mason's Arms," Maddox Street, where on occasions the "crowd" tries to avoid "the crowd."

YOU TELL ME why there are STILL a few well known names in the songwriting field that haven't YET joined the Songwriters Guild!

ZERO to the vocalists who change the lyric of a song because THEY think it's better!

### THE TEN BEST SELLERS

- The following list of TEN BEST-SELLERS, irrespective of price, for week ending January 15, 1948, has been compiled from lists supplied by the members of the WHOLESALE MUSIC DISTRIBUTORS' ASSOCIATION in London and the Provinces.
1. Apple Blossom Wedding (1/-, Campbell Connolly).
  2. I'll Make Up For Everything (1/-, F. Maurice).
  3. Peg O' My Heart (1/-, Ascherberg).
  4. Little Old Mill (1/-, Irwin Dash).
  5. Coffee Song (1/-, Southern).
  6. Tree In The Meadow (1/-, Campbell Connolly).
  7. Now Is The Hour (1/-, Keith Browne).
  8. Near You (1/-, Chapell).
  9. Darby And Joan (1/-, Box and Cox).
  10. I Wonder Who's Kissing Her Now (1/-, Feldman).

# I COVER THE CONTINENT

From M.E. Special Correspondent DEN BERRY

BEIJING I HAVE recently had the opportunity to make the acquaintance of that veteran of Belgian Jazz, Fud Candrix, and to listen to his present band. He has not yet surrendered to the current style of Re-Bop although the band is a small one (seven-piece plus girl vocalist) but prefers rather to stick to that good old swing style that was made all their own by that little clique of Belgian arrangers and musicians just before the war. I'm sure many of us played Peter Luckay numbers then and remember how advanced they were for the time. I don't intend to take it upon myself to judge whether Candrix is committing an aesthetic sin by refusing to move with the times, but would rather comment on his music as such. The band is led by Fud on tenor and the rest of the boys play trumpet, 2nd tenor, piano, bass, guitar and drums respectively. They play with plenty of kick and are very competent on their instruments and special mention must be made of trumpet player Jano Morales who struck me as a very fine technician. The outfit is completed by girl singer Betty Solex and is at present fulfilling stage dates among other work. They also continue to record for Belgian Decca and Fud has just celebrated his fourteenth anniversary as a band-leader.

ICELAND FOLLOWING my recent remarks on the Rhythm Club movement in Scandinavia, news reaches me regarding similar activities in the Icelandic Capital Reykjavik. The local swing and jazz fans manage to keep a very keen interest in Jazz going in spite of the cold and a regular newspaper devoted to the subject has now commenced publication bearing the simple title "Jazz." Editor and live-wire is one Tage Ammendrup Jun. who is also the man behind the local Rhythm Club. As in the case of the Oslo Clubs, these chaps seem to be very go-ahead in the matter of movies relating to the subject and have even gone to the extent of making a short technical film themselves featuring local Jazz talent. Mr. Ammendrup tells me that this is only the first of a series of such films to be made by the Club and once again it seems to me that there should be good possibilities for exchanges between British Clubs and their Northern counterparts. "Musical Express" will pass on any letters on the subject.

(Continued on page 4)

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**THE TIN PAN ALPHABET**

THIS WEEK'S QUOTATION.  
Robert Bridges, 1844.  
(From a disappointed songwriter.)

"Oh my uncared for songs, what are ye worth. That in my secret book with so much care I write you, this one here and that one there, Marking the order of your birth?"

GUIDE TO PUBLISHERS.

NOEL GAY. Short, dapper, soft spoken, another songwriter turned publisher. Has written for films, shows and the "pop" market — such hits as "Run Rabbit Run," "Round the Marble Arch," "The Lambeth Walk," etc., etc. Has been a publisher for a number of years, with a catalogue mainly British. Current song "The Whisper Waltz" by Art Noel. If you've a good song you stand a 90 per cent. chance with Noel Gay.

THE TIN PAN ALPHABET

ANTI PLUG FRONT. I have heard it said that after Feb. there'll be some changes made!

BILLY REID'S "Tree In The Meadow" is blooming even earlier than I anticipated.

COMING CHAPPELL'S WAY soon. "So Far" from the American show "Allegro." The maestros will fight for this one.

DAIRY TALK. Well, Irwin Dash published "Old Ship Of Mine" didn't he?

ERIC WINSTONE. MUST have enjoyed playing those "corny" songs on Band Parade — 'cos he played them again on his own programme.

FUNNY MEN. What's the betting Dick Bentley gets a "Music Hall" soon?

GRACIOUS ME! My Own Darby & Joan made the "sellers" this week. It was No. 40 five weeks ago, in America's Billboard. Never mind, eh!

HOW LONG before we hear Peter Yorke again?

I THINK Kay Cavendish's rendition of "Nobody Here But Us Chickens" was the best yet! This Kitten on Those Keys is O.Kay by me.

It's very interesting to see John Abbott (Francis, Day & Hunter) visiting the scene of his old school days — the People's Palace. Today, watching Esand Parade must seem a far, far cry from the days when he regularly attended there with a satchel on his back! I'll bet he didn't visit Iris & Joe in the "Coach & Horses" in those days.

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Square Tango "Majnah"	3/6
"Gay Gordons" March	3/6
Barn Dance "Meadow Flowers"	3/6
Polka "Jenny Lind"	3/6
Maxiner "Original"	3/6
March "With Sword and Lance"	3/6
Naval 3-Step "Here, There, Every-where"	3/6
Jolly Brothers Waltz	3/6
"Coley Coley" March	3/6

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Another special feature issue of Musical Express on Friday, Feb. 6.



