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Musical Express

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ACCORDION TIMES

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 FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 30th, 1949
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With the original
ARMADILLO SAMBA
 Edited with Accordion Rhythms
 BY THE FRIDINGTONS, FARNELL, KNEW THEY WOULD DRAW A HOME RADIO LISTENING AUDIENCE. HE HAD CATERED TO THAT AUDIENCE WITH A FIRST-CLASS FAMILY SHOW.

GREATEST DANCE BAND RALLY

THE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP AT BLACKPOOL This Sunday Oct 2

THIS SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2, AT THE EMPRESS BALLROOM, WINTER GARDENS, BLACKPOOL, THERE WILL BE STAGED THE GREATEST EVENT IN THE HISTORY OF DANCE MUSIC. IT TAKES PLACE BETWEEN 2 P.M. AND 6 P.M. AND GREAT DANCE BANDS FROM ALL PARTS OF BRITAIN—GREAT BANDS WHICH HAVE DISTINGUISHED THEMSELVES IN OPEN CONTEST WITH THE FINEST IN THE COUNTRY—WILL FIGHT FOR THE PRIZE TITLE OF "NATIONAL CHAMPIONS OF GREAT BRITAIN." DISTINGUISHED MUSICAL STARS WILL ADJUDICATE THIS GRAND FINAL.

The Great Battle will be conducted on two band stands to ensure non-stop entertainment. Fourteen Area Championship winning bands will compete. Geraldo, with his entire orchestra and all his singers and featured performers will play, including Archie Lewis, Eve Boswell, Diana Coupland and Lorna Martin. This will be the greatest and most exciting musical show on earth.

This is the culmination of the first triumphant year in the National Dance Band Championship. It begins within the orbit of Musical Express the entire nation and the semi-profession in this country. It represents the most important

MENZIES IN JAZZ CLUB



Hamish Menzies photographed during his broadcast from Cook's Ferry Inn in Jazz Club last Saturday.

NEW STAR FROM AN OLD STABLE Variety at the London Palladium

THE WISE OWL OF SHOW BUSINESS, VAL FARNELL, CERTAINLY KNOWS THE THICKS OF THE TRADE. HIS CURRENT VARIETY BILL IS TOTTENED BY THE FRIDINGTONS, FARNELL, KNEW THEY WOULD DRAW A HOME RADIO LISTENING AUDIENCE. HE HAD CATERED TO THAT AUDIENCE WITH A FIRST-CLASS FAMILY SHOW.

For me the hit of the show was a newcomer to the Palladium in the person of Jimmy Wheeler. Here is a consummate artist who had the audience howling with laughter. His timing is perfect and he knows how to get every ounce out of a story. He is a polished performer, but then this is understandable. For years he has been touring with his father as the popular turn Wheeler and Wilson. I prophesy that Jimmy Wheeler will be another English comedian who will make many returns visits to this theatre.

BETTY DRIVER AND WHITE BAND ON AIR AGAIN

"A DATE WITH BETTY" the radio feature which was such a success with returns in the air again on October 1. The stars as before will be Betty Driver, the Professional, and the White Band. The programme will be on the Home Service at 8.20-8.45 every Tuesday.

Other broadcasts for Jack White and his band will be "Music While You Work" on October 7 at 6.15-6.45 and again on October 17 at 3.20-4 p.m.

DOREEN STEPHENS IN NEW SERIES WITH COTTON

STRENGTHY from her great success as a solo variety artist, Doreen Stephens will once again be featured in the new series "BILLY COTTON'S FRENCH REVUE" which commences this Sunday.

JANE RUSSELL-FRANK WEIR AT PRINCES THEATRE (M.E. Variety Critic)

LAST MONDAY SAW A STAR-STUDDED FIRST NIGHT AT THE PRINCES THEATRE WHERE JANE RUSSELL AND FRANK WEIR, APART FROM THE FANS WHO CLAMORED FOR AUTOGRAPHS OUTSIDE THE THEATRE AND YELLED LIKE BOBBYS'ONS INSIDE.

Although there are several famous radio names supporting Jane Russell, this can hardly be said to make a variety bill. Nevertheless, it was sure a first-class audience than a variety crowd.

Jane Russell must certainly look good and sing very pleasantly with a nice stage presence. A very nice interlude occurs when she brings orchestra leader Frank Weir on stage to sing "For You" with her. Weir has an excellent personality and appearance and gave a first performance.

However, for me, Bertie Orde was the highlight of the show. He is a consummate and superb performer of the highest order and secured a terrific ovation which he rightly deserved.

Though young in his own way, he is a very well and naturally gifted first-night crowd who are his followers when he appears in concert.

LADBROOKE AT BUTLIN'S

LAST Saturday night, popular Midlands band leader, Ladbroke, commenced a two-week's engagement at Butlin's Clacton camp where he took over for the remainder of the season from the Squadroneiros.

The line-up consists of Ben Poley, Gordon Whitley, Arthur Barber, Fred Chandler, and Arthur Edwards, with Cliff Garlick trumpet, Arthur Collins drums, George Taylor piano, John Thaxton bass and Dick Hill vocals. Ladbroke and his Orchestra have been enjoying a successful summer season at the Grand Palais de Danse, Douglas L.O.M. For the past three months.

For the last two weeks of the season at Butlin's Ayr camp, Stanley Burnet will replace Colonel Mattie Miller.

PAUL FENOULHET Future Bookings

DURING the month of October Paul Fenouhét and his Orchestra will play the following dates: October 1 (at 11.15 p.m.), October 7 (at 1.15 p.m.), October 14 (at 1.15 p.m.), October 21 (at 1.15 p.m.), October 28 (at 1.15 p.m.).

For our own in reading the song and its sale in America in the next edition we offer our sincere apologies to Clonagh Music Co. Ltd. and its Director Mr. Rex Connolly.

OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS Extra Time Allotted

EXTRA time has been allotted for the broadcast of "Opportunity Knocks" on Thursday, September 29, which will represent the last of this series.

An elaborate script has been devised and will include twelve artists who have not with success as a result of their "Opportunity Knocks" appearances. The Harpenden Young Ladies' Choir are coming to London specially for the broadcast.

"Saturday Night," a radio montage, incorporating the girl choir, is to be one of the important features. "Saturday Night" incidentally devised by Hughie Green, James O'Neill and John Board, has been taken from their stage show, inspired by "Opportunity Knocks," which is now in production.

With Stanley Black's Orchestra the choir and artists will bring the programme up to 70.

HEATH & GERALDO TOGETHER IN FILM

A NEW FILM TO BE PRODUCED BY MICHAEL BALCON, WILL GO INTO PRODUCTION AT SALENS STUDIOS EARLY IN OCTOBER. OF GREAT INTEREST TO OUR READERS WILL BE THE FACT THAT FEATURED IN THIS MOVIE, TITLED "DANCE HALL," WILL BE TWO FAMOUS BANDS. NOT ONLY WILL THEY SUPPLY MUSIC BUT THEY WILL ALSO BE SEEN AND THEY ARE THE ORCHESTRAS OF TED HEATH AND GERALDO. ALSO TO BE STARRED IN THE FILM IS THAT EXCELLENT YOUNG ARTISTE PETULA CLARK.

Heath told Musical Express that both he and Geraldo would be conferring with production officials at Reading this week and that after this meeting further details would probably be available. The popular Heath Music has just had its recording contract with



Laurie Johnson listens to the Heath Music rehearsing one of his arrangements.

Decca re-signed for a further period of two years and an option for another two years. This is a surety evidence of the band's terrific popularity on both Decca and London Labels.

Next Sunday, Ted will present the Scorditis for the first time on stage with the band when they appear at Manchester for a concert. In spite of the fact that the Heath Music had just completed a week's appearance at the Royal Albert Hall, Ted was packed to capacity at the London Palladium last Sunday. Further evidence that big band music presented in the right manner is what the public wants.

SID DEAN SIGNED BY COLUMBIA

SID DEAN, popular leader of that excellent broadcasting band which is resident at the Regent Ballroom, Brighton, last Tuesday signed a recording contract with Columbia Records. Leonard Smith of Columbia is to be congratulated on his capture of this first-class dance and show band.

GERALDO'S NEW SINGER

WHEN Geraldo commences his Melody Time series on October 1 he will have a new singer in Elizabeth Wade. This young artist has been featured in the Regent Park Open Air season during the summer months and is a singing scholar of the Royal College of Music. Although she studied under Toppan Green, Miss Wade sings all types of music from straight to ballad.

GELDRAY FOR IRELAND

Max Geldray who, with his electric mouth-organs, has been appearing with great success in variety all over the country, will be going to Ireland for the first time. His engagement at the Royal Theatre, Dublin, commences on Sunday next, October 2.

Following his very successful concert with the Ray Ellington Quartet at the Tower, Blackpool, Geldray will be doing another Sunday concert with the Quartet on October 23 at the Capital Theatre, Cardiff.

STOP PRESS

Exclusively announced in M.E. 25-piece orchestra for George Calverley Square, George Melachrino signed this contract as we closed for press. He will conduct exclusively personally.

TERNET PLAYING "WESTERN WIND"



Hubert Gregg also of "Western Wind" at the Piccadilly Theatre wrote a tune of the same title played at the "Daily Express" Film Ball. Musical Express picture of the Ternet playing at the concert with the writer at extreme right and John Macmillan and Ann Crawford.



GERALDO

year of hard contesting ever constructed by that great organizer Lewis Buckley. He has been proud to bring it under the banner of this great entertainment newspaper and we have been equally proud to lend our name to a scheme of such gigantic proportions.

The prizes for this Grand Fiesta include the magnificent silver Challenge Trophy given by Messrs. Jack Hayward, Ltd., in conjunction with the Blackpool Corporation and Lewis Buckley.

There will be displays of the latest in musical instruments by many of the country's representative dealers. And to make the event complete, Blackpool, most famous of all seaside towns for its brilliant illuminations, will be lit up, throwing the limelight on what is to be the most important event in dance music this year.

Three sets of two judges have been engaged. This

splendid arrangement makes certain that there is no confusion on the judge's part by hearing large and small bands and individual named leaders simultaneously. Edward O. Pagan and Harry Boche have been chosen to judge only the Large Band Class. Derrick Abbott and Steve Raine will judge the individualists. Keith Bird and Alan Frazer will judge the Small Band Class.

All the stars in professional and semi-professional dance music will be there. Don't miss this tremendous occasion. See you at Blackpool on Sunday!

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IVY BENSON ENGAGED Caryl Clarke Lucky Man

We offer our sincere congratulations to Caryl Clarke, one of Billy Caryl's and Hilda Mundy on his engagement last week to popular band leader Ivy Benson.

Just a

in a

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ALVINO GOES! THE VOCAL TEAM ARRIVES

Steve Race in the Sound Track talks about the

"Pianists of the NAAFI School who break into boogie"



Alvin Karpis

THE VOICE

THE co-operative idea in dance bands has much to recommend it, always providing good sense, keen business acumen and a high standard of playing prevail. It takes a great deal of money to launch a good band successfully, and this is not forgetting, then the logical step is to make every member of the band a shareholder. There are some outstanding examples in this co-operative field today. On the other hand there are some who are not successful. Many one-nighters today have not the capacity to play a band's reasonable share and hence or because do not hesitate to send the others to their places although they know full well it will result in a financial loss. The Musicians' Union lays down a maximum of 100 members engaged in a dance orchestra. Yet some members of co-operative bands often come out far less than the M.U. minima for their share of the band's expenses. It is not surprising that these musicians are their own "bosses" and so such as "privileged" to be so many. Curious situation, isn't it?

NOW the pound is devalued some musicians possessing American instruments will find the value of those instruments much lighter. The cost of the American product in this respect was always a handicap for a musician as well as the restrictions, duty and tax. Musicians with Olds brass and Ludwig, Leedy and Deagan percussion, for example, may now discover that a musician for a small fortune in second-hand instruments taking their value in pounds sterling. I know a man who has an Olds trumpet. Before the war it was worth in the country about £20. His value has increased to about £100. Now, with the pound at £2.50 it is worth nearer £100. As they say, "it's an ill wind."

It used to be said that great artists—and musicians too—were unteachable and uneducational owing to their peculiar bent for one thing only—their art. You always had to be given an artist or a musician for a special reason, and this being unteachable because you had to take into consideration the fact that he lived in a world where a world of ideas cost about £100. Now, with the pound at £2.50 it is worth nearer £100. As they say, "it's an ill wind."

THE GRAND FINAL. ON October 3, at Blackpool, the Grand Final of the National Dance Championships will be fought on national television. The splendid bands who have distinguished themselves throughout the country. During the running of the bands some of the finest bands in the world have been seen. The Grand Final will be a most interesting event. It will be a most interesting event. It will be a most interesting event.

WINTER AFFAIRS. RECENT seasons have been noticeable for the number of first bands appearing in resident bands engagements. Butlin first took the big name bands and transplanted them to the seaside for the winter season. But other seaside towns competed with Butlin's in securing the best of the first bands. One town in particular was attracting a great deal of attention. The seaside towns are competing for the best of the first bands. One town in particular was attracting a great deal of attention.

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'A' YOU'RE ADORABLE
PIGALLE
THE MERRY-GO-ROUND WALTZ
THE MAD MONK Sets 3/6

Don't forget the greatest musical social function
TIN PAN ALLEY BALL
OCTOBER 27th

It is one goes through life listening to jazz records and occasionally passing the cup of tea, and the other (pianists) are going to make their own money. It is one goes through life listening to jazz records and occasionally passing the cup of tea, and the other (pianists) are going to make their own money.

Here we go again, though this time we're getting a little nearer to the real thing. Buckner has been noted for years as one of the few modern pianists who still trouble to play boogie. He made a big name out of it with Lionel Hampton's Orchestra, and has recently gone out on the road with his own band, whose first release in England the "Milk's Boogie" is exactly modelled on "Hamp's Boogie".

"Milk's Boogie" is exactly modelled on "Hamp's Boogie". It is a very good example of the boogie style. It is a very good example of the boogie style. It is a very good example of the boogie style.

Walter Fuller's "Co-Be" is an up-tempo affair, with less happy than the usual boogie. It is a very good example of the boogie style. It is a very good example of the boogie style. It is a very good example of the boogie style.

RECORD OF THE WEEK CHARLIE BARNET AND HIS ORCHESTRA "WHY?"
Capitol Cl.1332. Price 5/6.

even from a swing point of view. It is a very good example of the boogie style. It is a very good example of the boogie style. It is a very good example of the boogie style.

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LAST Saturday night we had the opportunity of hearing "Ladies' Choice" broadcast from the Quarter. It also gave us the opportunity of hearing "Ladies' Choice" broadcast from the Quarter.

ONE of the greatest show conductors of this age, Sammie Davis, is no longer with us. He was a brilliant leader as he was when he gave this nation its first broadcast of dance music.

THE music-hall band has made a name for itself in the country. It is a very good example of the boogie style. It is a very good example of the boogie style. It is a very good example of the boogie style.

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NO need for a dumb act to open on radio, because the audience is so large and so varied. It is a very good example of the boogie style. It is a very good example of the boogie style. It is a very good example of the boogie style.

By Lee Conway. It is a very good example of the boogie style. It is a very good example of the boogie style. It is a very good example of the boogie style.

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THE "ELEKTRA" OF STRAUSS

A discussion and review of records by MALCOLM RAYMENT

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BABY, IT'S GOLD OUTSIDE
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TIN PAN ALLEY BALL—OCTOBER 27th

