

Musical Express

FRIDAY, MARCH 4th, 1949

Incorporating ACCORDION TIMES

No. 126

PRICE FOURPENCE

ON EVERYBODY'S LIPS BERG LARSEN MOUTHPIECES

PIANO MAGIC! KING COLE PIANO CAPERS MASTER THE "KING'S" TECHNIQUE

FINLAND PRODUCING "GRIMES"

FINLAND WITH BIG FINNISH OPERATIC COMPANY First English Opera

LAST SATURDAY MR. DENNIS ARUNDELL LEFT ENGLAND FOR FINLAND TO PRODUCE FOR THE OPERA AT HELSINKI "PETER GRIMES" — THE FIRST ENGLISH OPERA TO BE PRODUCED THERE. IT WILL BE PERFORMED BY THE FINNISH OPERA COMPANY AND SUNG IN FINNISH. THIS IS A GREAT COMPLIMENT, FOR THERE CANNOT HAVE BEEN MANY, IF ANY, BRITISH DIRECTORS OF OPERA WHO HAVE DIRECTED ANY CONTINENTAL OPERA COMPANY.

This will be Mr. Arundell's third opera production in four months—the other two being the successful first English production of "Schwanda the Bagpiper" at Sadler's Wells, the English version specially made by Mr. Arundell from the Czech original, and the world premiere of Arthur Benjamin's "Prima Donna" by the London Opera Club at the Fortune Theatre on February 25 and 24.

During the same time Mr. Arundell directed Michael Bondgrave and Freda Jackson in Strindberg's "The Father" at the Embassy Theatre for the Studenck century, which production transferred for a limited period to the Durham Theatre. At the same time Sadler's Wells are performing two operas of Mr. Arundell's productions, "Dues" and "Faust," the production of the latter is very popular in spite of some controversy as to its treatment.

BERTINI FOR WHITBY

Bertini, famous in holiday-makers both in Blackpool, where he was resident for ten years, and Edinburgh, where he was resident for four years, will take up a new position this Easter when he becomes musical director for the Spa, Whitby. The season will continue until September.

FURTHER CHANGES IN THE SONNY ROSE BAND

A SUCCESSOR to Len Dixon of Sonny Rose's Band has now been found. He is Oliver Moore, well-known Midlands broadcasting pianist. Oliver has been free-lancing since he left Leon Cottrell's Band at the Masque, and has earned a good reputation as a progressive musician. Another sensational happening in the spa left is that brass section since Sam Dickstock has left to join Cyril Stapleton. Pickett has played lead trumpet with the Rose band for the past twelve months and has made a fine reputation for himself. Prior to joining Rose, he was with Ken Green at the Carlton Ballroom, Boulevard, together with Desmond Higginet.

Higginet, incidentally, leaves the saxophone where he has been for the past twelve months, and although he is now fit will not be allowed to work for at least another six months. Higginet wishes his friends to know that he will be back at 300 Hope Road, Handsworth, and will be very pleased to hear from old friends.

SAM FOX PUBLISHING CO., (London) Ltd. KEITH PROWSE & Co., Ltd. Presenting THE HIT SONGS FROM THE SMASH AMERICAN MUSICAL BRIGADOON THE OPERA HOUSE, MANCHESTER, MARCH 23, THEN TO HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE, LONDON, 29th, 1949. NOW READY ALMOST LIKE BEING IN LOVE COME TO ME, BEND TO ME THE HEATHER ON THE HILL THERE BUT FOR YOU GO! DOUBLE-SIDED ORCHESTRATION—PRICE 3/-

GERALDO TREKS



Gerald and Denny Vaughan about to enter the Gerald coach on their trek to fulfil engagements. They have their copy of Musical Express to keep them entertained on their long journey.

CAB KAYE ON "JAZZ CLUB"

Cab Kaye and his Cabarettes will be the featured guest artists on B.B.C. "Jazz Club" this Saturday, March 5, at 6.15 p.m. The line-up for the broadcast is: Derek Hilson, piano; Tommy Folland, vibes; Nat Paris, bass; Joe Payne, drums; and Cab Kaye on electric guitar. This booking was arranged by Nur Century Artists.

RABIN BREAKS ALL RECORDS

LAST week, prior to opening at Green's Playhouse, Glasgow, this Monday, Oscar Rabin and his band, with Harry Davis, played four one-night stands to capacity audiences. They broke all records at Preston, Liverpool, and Glasgow. The band played at the Green Rooms, Fleetwood, and a sell-out for their twenty-fifth concert at Newcastle.

GERALDO Presents Stars

When Geraldo appears at the Empire Hall this Sunday his band selection will be from the film "The Glass Menagerie." He will then surprise the audience by introducing the stars of this picture—Michael Denham and Dulcie Gray.

REVEL TERRY FILM

An urgent telephone call to Harry Dawson of New Century Artists from the Gainsborough Film Company resulted in the popular Revel Terry Quartet being used in one of their latest comedies "Helter Skelter" (in the picture). The quartet recorded one of Terry's own compositions for the film.

GREAT ELGAR FESTIVAL

THIS Henry Wood Concert Society announces one of the most important features of the forthcoming summer music season in London. It is the first comprehensive festival of the music of Elgar ever to be held in London. Concerts will be given, between May 20 and June 15.

MUIR MATHIESON AND ROYAL PHIL FOR KILBURN

FOR some time past it has been the aim of the 2 Arthur Road, Kilburn, to present a series of special Sunday concerts at selected London suburban theatres, so that many people may have opportunities of hearing good music performed by famous orchestras, choirs and solo artists at theatres near their homes.

DOREEN STEPHENS FOR EARL'S COURT

DOREEN Stephens will make a guest appearance as a solo artist at the Empire Hall, Earl's Court, when that enterprising concert presents the popular radio features, "Waterloo Spa." On March 18 she will be heard as guest vocalist with Fella King and his Orchestra when they broadcast in the Light Programme.

RONNIE MUNRO A Correction

Our apologies are extended to bassist RONNIE MUNRO, whose name was inadvertently spelled incorrectly last week.

MERSEYSIDE CHAMPIONSHIP TONIGHT!

At the Grafton Rooms, Liverpool, tonight, four local bands, Alan Alderson and his Music, Johnny Dunn Quintette, J. C. Quintet, and The Squires Dance Orchestra—conteste against last year's Merseyside champions (The Legionaire Dance Orchestra of Horwich) and others, for the right to appear in the North-Western Area Championships later in the year. Dancing will be non-stop from 7 p.m. to midnight, with the resident band, the WHIRLWIND Orchestra, lining-up between contests. A large attendance is anticipated at this popular Lancashire ballroom. Dates are invited to come early and are sure not to miss this gigantic rhythmic battle.

THE CONQUERERS



The winning bands in the 1948 "Three-Countries" Championship held at Chesham on February 18. Leslie Chappell (left) of Chesham (small band class) and New Messengers (large band class).

JIMMY GREEN RECUPERATING

HE many friends in the profession will be glad to hear that popular Jimmy Green returned home from hospital last Tuesday, March 1, at 2.15 p.m. at the Christ Church, Stoke-on-Trent. The reception was held at the Grand Hotel, Burton, Stoke-on-Trent.

CHAMBERLAIN MARRIED

Rennie Chamberlain, well-known alto player, was married to Miss Mabel Harrobin on Tuesday, March 1, at 2.15 p.m. at the Christ Church, Stoke-on-Trent. The reception was held at the Grand Hotel, Burton, Stoke-on-Trent.

ELLINGTON'S NEW NUMBER First airing this Thursday in "Sunny Side of the Beat"

FUTURE dates for the Ray Ellington Quartet during the month of March include the week commencing March 6, Harrogate, Kelligay, Gole, Crewe, Bradford, Batley, Leeds and Wakefield commencing March 18. The Quartet will appear as guests on Musical Express National Dance Band Championships at Preston, Southampton and York, and these will be followed by Ellington starting his own club, and readers interested should send a stamped addressed envelope to the Secretary, Ray Ellington Club, 125 Lightfoot Road, N.W.5. A pressing of Ella Fitzgerald's recording of Ray Ellington's composition, "Old Mother Hubbard," has been received over here. It is a big version, and she herself is wittily enthusiastic about the number. It will be released through Capitol in America. On their broadcast this Thursday "On the Sunny Side of the Beat" opposite Ted Heath, the Ellington quartet will be broadcasting a new number of Ellington's in follow-up to "Brother Saverus", called "Love Out Ladies"; it is very amusing and on the style of the former.

CAMARATA FLAMES HOME

TUTTI CAMARATA flew back to America last Sunday after a longer than usual visit to England. It is possible that he will return in superlative voice on recordings for London. Last summer time in June, with his wife Milton R. Bachman, executive president of American Decca, Mr. Bachman had no further statements to make prior to leaving, but we understand that there is every possibility of his returning here within the next few weeks. Meanwhile, Wally Moody, their English representative, continues to make experimental recordings.

WILDEMAN ON PARLOPHONE

FURTHER to the information recently published in these columns that Jim Wildeman would possibly sign a recording contract with E.M.I., news is now to hand that Wildeman and his Quintet have just recorded two titles for the Parlophone Label. These were "Until I Hear From You Again" and "Wildeman doing vocals on both sides. It is possible that these will be available in the April issue.

RAY NOBLE IN LONDON

Popular English-born band leader, the famous Ray Noble, arrived in England last week for his annual visit to see his family. Noble told us that he will probably be staying for a couple of months, and is not here on business but purely for a vacation.

STAPLETON'S NEW MEN

IN place of Cyril Moore and Frank Thornton, who left Cyril Stapleton and are now (with Harry Roy at the Carlton, Jack Beckett (ex Johnny (ex-Rose) and Frank Pickett (ex-Rose) have been announced with the band on trumpet. On March 11 drummer Bobby Hildridge will be leaving Stapleton after two years, for free-lance work in town, and taking his place will be Thomas Verrall, who is playing with the resident band at the Pavilion, Gillingham. He is considered by many experts to be the best drummer in the country. He was shown by Ted Heath as "Jazz Club" when he was able to choose his group for the broadcast, and has recently been with the Londonians in Munich and also with Carl Barncroft.

TOMMY SAMPSON NOW HANDLED BY PRAGER

WELL-KNOWN agent Alfred Prager informs us that he has taken over the sole handling of the Tommy Sampson Band. It will be recalled that this outfit, consisting of eight men, five saxons and four rhythm, concentrated mainly on progressive jazz and dance music. Prager tells us that this will now be altered, and Sampson will cater for the dancers and those more commercially minded. His Ed appearance with the new style group on Saturday, Future dates for the outfit have already been booked, and we will advise our readers of those next week.

SWING GROUP AT DARLINGTON

A VERY well-known outfit will give distinction to the Darlington contest next Friday, March 11. It is the Derek Donking Swing Group. Donking is a talented alto and clarinetist, having won many individual prizes on these instruments. His orchestra, too, has distinguished itself in that sphere, and Donking has run several most successful band contests himself. By the way, the title in clearing "The South Durham" in "The Durham Championship".

THE STORK CALLS

WE offer our sincere congratulations to well-known drummer, Billy Withshire, whose wife, Connie, presented him with a baby son on February 21. The baby weighed 9lb. 5oz. at birth.

IT'S a waltz, a foxtrot... in fast company and going to the top "THE HEART OF LOCH LOMOND" Watch this one Hit the Top! Take a tip and write for... "IT'S A WONDERFUL WORLD AFTER ALL" Thank you AMBROSE and RAY BURNS for a wonderful first broadcast of MICHAEL CARR'S SENSATIONAL NEW BALLAD THE LONELY SHEPHERD UNIT MUSIC PUBLISHING CO., 1, SOUTH ST., LONDON, W.1

TOMORROW'S FAVOURITE! Direct from the American Hit Parade! LAVENDER BLUE RADIO RELEASE JUNE MARCH TODAY'S POPULAR G.R.L. FRIEND! GLORIA She's Smooth! She's Lovely! She's Melodious! SUN MUSIC CO., 11 DENMARK ST., W.C.1 TEL. BAR 9451

Musical Express

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THE VOICE

EYE OF RECOVERY
Are we on the way of a great recovery? That is the question the musical instrument trade is asking today.

OUR CAMPAIGN
Readers will remember the virtue campaign against the unwarranted imposition waged by Musical Express at the time the Tax was announced.

THE REPRESENTATIONS
I wonder how many of our readers can remember the pages of musical performance before the war?

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TO THE FUTURE
In all our conditions have been adversely affected by the Purchase Tax on our instruments, our loyal and constant friends the local dealers have fared no better.

For "St. Patrick's Day"
17th March 1949

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WRIGHT HITS
SAY SOMETHING SWEET TO YOUR SWEETHEART

CAN YOU LOOK ME IN THE EYE DOWN IN THE GLEN DREAM OF OLWEN

THE LAUGHING VIOLIN

LAWRENCE WRIGHT Music Co. Ltd.

BARBARA SHAW "MUSIC IS TRASH" says Artie

Artie that the interior decorator has departed from my mind and I am able to find the necessary peace and quiet to be able to get down to recording. Barbara has recently fled back from this, I am now faced with a huge pile of records issued over the month or so. Until I have managed to catch up on those, the records for The Concertos series will have to go by the board.

To begin with, we play Tchaikovsky's 1812 Overture, played by the London Philharmonic Orchestra, conducted by Sergiu Celibidache on Decca D.20541. We have recently had a magnificent recording of the Fourth Symphony, and in the light of the Sixth, this, of the Fifth, cannot compare with either. As a matter of fact, it is very satisfactory of all Tchaikovsky's Symphonies. Here the conductor's authority is most apparent, his conducting is superb. The orchestra is superb. The recording is superb. The performance is superb.

ALTHOUGH reports were made here earlier this month that our own George Shearing, fronting his own quartet at the Clive Club in N.Y., would sign a year's pact with MGM. He cut his first sides with Leslie and Teacher, supervising last week. Shearing recently made four sides for Discovery with a quintet.

MAESTRO on the Jack Smith and Jack Carson airwaves. Frank DeVol has been invited to be the honored guest of the Music in May Festival to be conducted by Pacific Union at Forest Grove, Oregon, on May 12-13-14, with the popular artist-performer taking a special 10-day orchestra and 125-piece band, comprising entirely of music students from the Pacific Northwest. They also will devote to lecture the student convention on "The Future of Music in the Field of Television."

IRISH tenor Clark Dennis features on ABC Network's "Thursday" program. He will be appearing in a showback about as his next four Capitol releases will be typical of his work. Clark's current Capitol waxing couplet "Marilyn" with "Rose of Tralee" and "Advance Ladies" (Decca) are not good enough playing. Quite obviously, too, he is not in the form of his former self. He is a bit of a mess. He is a bit of a mess. He is a bit of a mess.

PRANK SINATRA and Dinah Shore are negotiating for definite programs in which they will play musicals and operettas, as well as selections from the classic and modern opera.

FAVORITE tunes from Broadway musicals and operettas, as well as selections from the classic and modern opera.

Large music stores could also be visited by the demonstration unit and great deal of publicity and advertisement thus obtained. Writes Mr. Perkins: "I have had my own personal experience, when some years ago I traveled for a local firm demonstrating a new drum, it was a great success, and an eye would be a great stimulus to players and clubs throughout the whole country."

Mr. Perkins hands a bouquet to Musical Express for the article which has been published in the magazine, and a great deal of publicity and advertisement thus obtained. Writes Mr. Perkins: "I have had my own personal experience, when some years ago I traveled for a local firm demonstrating a new drum, it was a great success, and an eye would be a great stimulus to players and clubs throughout the whole country."

I hope that, at some time in the reasonably near future, it will be possible to carry out the idea of Birmingham. This has been done in the past, but there is little doubt that finance will be one of the obstacles for some time to come. Meanwhile, all readers who wish to hasten the quick development of music activities are suggested by Mr. Perkins should join the Birmingham Accordion Organisation without delay.

NEW LONDON CLUB
A NEW member of the Accordion Teachers' Guild is Mr. (Continued on page 3)

"MUSIC IS ALWAYS BETTER"

says MALCOLM RAYMENT while reviewing orchestral records

work belongs to an age very different from our own, yet not sufficiently distant to be viewable without bias, moreover, I find the recordings of the certain well-known themes by Wagner most disturbing. One piece in particular, I will mention, and that is that Milton's verses are not ideally suited to a musical setting. There are far too many

Some performances I have heard have reminded me of snake farm. The choir here could very well with this difficulty, and only in the second part does the preponderance of alto voices become disturbing. As for an estimate of the performance as a whole, I should say it is good but not great. In view of the difficulty of recording large choral work adequately, the recording engineers have done well.

Today's nation is comprised by three single records, on which are contained six compositions. The most important is the "Saint-Saens" well-known work, the Symphonic Variations, which has been played by the Concertgebouw Orchestra of Amsterdam, conducted by the composer, Decca K.2605. This is descriptive of a beautiful scene in a churchyard, between midnight and dawn, with a solo flute, the solo string of which is tuned a semitone flat, the significance of which is not until they are abruptly ended by the crowing of a rooster, heralding the dawn. The composition is in the form of a distorted waltz based on two contrasting themes, and including a burlesque of the old ecclesiastical chant, the "Dies Irae." Needless to say, the beautiful xylophone adds its characteristic touch. The very good performance and recording bring out fully the detail of the score.

H.M.V. C.3828 contains compositions by no less than three Russians. On one side is a Russian, "The Red Poppy," a very piece, but a little long, and on the other side are the two pieces from "The Fair of Novoludsk" and "The Flight of the Bumble Bee." From both the recording and performance point of view this is a wonderful record. How also is the wholehearted and how well the necessary instruments recorded? "Bumble Bee" is not really a Russian, but it is a beautiful composition, and the recording is superb.

Lastly, on Columbia DB.2480 we have the Platonic Flute, a composition in which Chopin and Josef Haydn collaborated. Needless to say, it is written entirely for piccolo strings. On the reverse is the Rhapsody in March by the older Johann Strauss. The Philharmonic Orchestra, conducted by Sir Krips give us the performance. The march is played brilliantly and the string part has a surprising fullness. My pressing has some minor surface noise which is very annoying in the quieter passages.

MUSICAL CROSSWORD

How true this is, it should be the terrible solution, which Heifetz has himself written, and which we see in tune with Mozart's performance. A comparison between the Heifetz and Szigeti recordings of this work will show the gramophone more about sympathetic Mozart playing than could be contained in voluminous literature. Szigeti is happily still available on Columbia LX.288-8. The recording is of the highest quality. The orchestra is the London Philharmonic and the conductor is Sir John Barbirolli. The recording is superb. The performance is superb.

PRESENTING!!

THE SHASH HIT FROM WARNER BROS. MUSICAL "IT'S MAGIC" TWO REALLY GREAT SONGS

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# SPOTLIGHT ON MERSEY MATHIESON CONDUCTING THE NATIONAL DANCE BAND CHAMPIONSHIP

WITH tonight's special event, The National Dance Band Championships, being held at Grosvenor Rooms, Liverpool's most important dancing rendezvous, the spotlight is on Merseyside. Liverpool and its adjacent environs provide much employment for dance musicians and show people in general. Their entertainment facilities are among the best in the country.

The name closely associated with Liverpool's jazz history is that of Marie Day, now known as Mrs. Wilf Hamer, a pianist of great ability, the new organ and plays with her hand at the Star Ballroom, Wallasey. Her story is one of such interest that it will form the nucleus of a special feature in an early forthcoming issue of Musical Express. Meanwhile, her hand comprises Gene Cottrell (alto sax and clarinet) who is said to play like Goodman, Ian Hamer (trumpet), Les Waddy (bass), Stewart Hamer (drums), a guitarist awaiting

and violin; Eddie Bibby, 2nd tenor sax, clarinet and violin; Sam Ledsham, 1st trumpet; Ray Walker, 2nd trumpet; Norman Jones, 3rd trumpet; Steve Bly, trombone; Eric Martin, bass; Gene Cavannagh, drums; Dave Roberts, guitar, accordion and vocalist; Cyril Kynaston and Damon Robinson, pianos; Jean Malcolm, feminine vocalist.

BUT New Brighton features dancing also at the Grosvenor Rooms, in the fine hotels as well, in addition to dancing on the Promenade Pier during the summer. During the Easter the "Pier" Pavilion features Harry Gold and his Forces of Eight with a strong variety programme.

RETURNING to Liverpool, a very progressive orchestra delights in the determining element in the Rio Ballroom is that of Hal Graham. This band did an excellent broadcast on February 2.

Hal Graham, known for his ability to "discover" new singing talent, has a new find with his orchestra in the Rio Ballroom, for whom Hal prophesies stardom.

## CONTEST RESULTS AND FIXTURES IN COLS. 7 and 8

As an overseas musician shortly returning to Australia after residing in this country for seven months, I should like to take this opportunity to thank, through your paper, those organisations which have been so generous and helpful to me. The Philharmonic Orchestra, the London Symphony Orchestra, the R.C.M. Symphony Orchestra, the Royal Albert Hall Orchestra and the Royal College of Organists' Symphony Orchestra.

It has been through the generosity of the Australian Broadcasting Commission in allowing me twelve months' leave of absence that I have been able to visit the United States and Europe, thereby obtaining valuable musical experience which will be of use to me on my return to my own country. Such experience, however, is of little use unless it is put to use in the most constructive manner. I feel that I will carry back with me to Australia a happy memory of my association with these orchestras and a very deep gratitude.

**MISCHA KOOGAN**  
DEL MAR CONCERT ON MARCH 8

WHEN Norman Del Mar conducts the Chelsea Symphony Orchestra on Tuesday, March 8 at Chelsea Town Hall, the rarely heard Piano Concerto of Maurice Strakosky will be performed. The soloist will be Noel Newton-Wood. This concerto involves a mixture of man's voice, and among them will be several musical and at least one composer.

Del Mar was the week invited to conduct two concerts in Dublin. His first took place on the 2nd and the second tonight. Del Mar first appeared there last April when he conducted the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra for one hour on Sir Thomas Beecham's programme. It was a concert with the Radio Eilsean Orchestra. Del Mar has been allowed a total of three concerts. He allowed his own choice of programme.

## Swing and Symphony, Geraldo and Royal Philharmonic, record Mischa Spoliansky's great score

\* By NORMAN HUDIS \*



Mathieson (right) with the session. A consultation with some of the star musicians from Gerald's Orchestras.

NOBODY can complain of lack of variety in the musical score of the fourth concert of the new season. In fact it presents more problems in some respects than a symphony orchestra of 60 players.

"A satisfactory balance can be obtained from a symphony orchestra by placing one microphone at a distance from the orchestra," says Ted. "But the result of using too distant microphones is to pick up the sound of a dance band is one of that characteristic 'compact tight' sound which is so essential to the 'drive' and 'life' of dance music."

"Therefore," he goes on, "it is usual to place a microphone close to the orchestra, making it necessary to pay very careful attention to the balance of sound from each instrument. Take, for example, a brass section of five people - each one is playing a different note or chord, and the resultant sound must be a solid blend of those notes. It is the recorder's job, by careful placing of the microphones to obtain a 'tight' sound which is so essential to the music of the arrangement."

MUSIC RECORDED by Drake made some interesting points about the technique of recording.

By seeing brass and rhythmic units within itself and also with each other.

## TWO NEW CARMENS IN LONDON

AT THE PRESENT MOMENT IN LONDON, CARMEN CAN BE SEEN AS AN OPERA, AS A BALLET OR ON THE CINEMA SCREEN. IN THE LAST THREE MONTHS NO FEWER THAN THREE PRODUCTIONS OF THE OPERA HAVE BEEN STAGED. THE NEW PRODUCTION AT THE STAGE AS WELL AS SOME OF THE CAST IN DRAM AND THEATRE BAGS. PERSONALLY I FEEL THIS TO BE FAR THE MORE SYMPATHETIC TREATMENT OF THE TWO. PERHAPS THE BIGGEST CONTRAST WAS IN THE TREATMENT OF THE PART OF ESCAMILLO, THE TORREADOR.

At Covent Garden, as characterised by Sivori, he was the great hero and appeared in his magnificent clothes. As taken by Rodrick Jones at Sadler's Wells in Birmingham, he was as we would, appropriately enough a white bowler. Indeed, he might have appeared in any somebody's circus. His treatment of the famous Torreador aria, however, was something that one should take the Torreador song seriously.

Anna Poliak, singing in her first leading role, proved an adequate but not great Carmen. She could hardly have been given a more fitting part for her "debut", for young Carmen is very, very few and far between. Great, however, is perhaps the

- (Small Band Class)  
FRANK WILSON AND HIS ORCHESTRA, 55, Walmer Road, Birdside, Southport.  
Instrumentation: Clarinet; Trumpet; Piano; Bass; Drums; Individual Awards: Fred T. Page (Clarinet); Frank D. Wilson (Trumpet); Bill Taylor (Piano); Bob South (Drums).  
Highly Commended: Fred T. Page (Clarinet); Frank Wilson (Trumpet); Bob South (Drums).
- (Large Band Class)  
RON HALL AND HIS BAND, 106, Belling Road, Ashton-in-Makerfield, Warrington, Telephone: Ashton-in-Makerfield 710.  
Instrumentation: Two Alto Saxophones, doubling Clarinets; Tenor Saxophone, doubling Clarinet; Tenor Saxophone, doubling Alto Saxophone; Trumpet; Piano; Guitar; Bass; Drums; Conductor.  
Individual Awards: Eric Leach (Alto Saxophone); Ken Rimmer (Tenor Saxophone); Ron Hall (Tenor Saxophone); Harry Dainton (Guitar); (Highly Commended: Eric Leach (Alto Saxophone); Ron Hall (Tenor Saxophone)).  
Commended: Arthur H. Ashurst (Alto Saxophone); Ken Rimmer, John B. Foster (Tenor Saxophone); John E. Moore (Baritone Saxophone); Bernard Lacey (Trumpet); Harry Dainton (Guitar); Arthur A. Abbott (Conductor).  
Eight hands counted.
- ADJUDICATORS:  
Paul Fensholt and Steve Race  
COMPERE:  
Ronald Taylor  
RESIDENT BAND:  
Jimmy Nossell and his Band

## Contest Fixtures List

- LIVERPOOL—Tonight, Friday, March 4, Dancing 5-12 p.m. Grosvenor Rooms, Merseyside Championships. Resident Band. Directed by EMMY'S GRIP. FITZIE, featured also at the Labour Ballroom, Wallasey, Merseyside.
- DARLINGTON—Friday (next), March 11, Dancing 7-11 p.m. Bath's, Bath, Durham Championships. House Band SERGEY DUNNING SWING GROUP of York.
- PRESTON—Friday, March 18, Dancing 8 p.m.-11 a.m. Queen's Hall, North Lane, Chorley. Resident Band LES MATHIESON AND HIS BAND. AWARD-WINNING QUARTET RAY ELLINGTON QUARTET.
- TORRIS—Sunday, March 20, Dancing 7-11 p.m. Balfour Cinema, North Yorks Championships. Directed by RAY ELLINGTON QUARTET.
- WIMBORNE—Thursday, March 10, Dancing 7-12 p.m. Town Hall, South London. Resident Band THE ARCHIE HAY AND HIS ORCHESTRA with Johnny Rager (Violin).
- SWINDON—Thursday, April 7, Dancing 8 p.m.-11 a.m. Majestic Cinema, Wilshire Championships. A comprehensive list of contests is being arranged throughout the country, and Dance Band Secretaries are invited to contact with the Organiser regarding events in their district.
- Entry forms and full particulars from the Organiser: LEWIS BUCKLEY, 28 CARR LANE, BIRKDALE, SOUTH YORKS. Telephone: BIRKDALE 2888.

## THE SOUND TRACK (Continued from page 2)

We could, perhaps, have wished for more solid material than these two songs, but the Key-note management to get a lot of charm into "Pink Parade", even if the childish "Pretty Blue" is a little more than we would like. We'll give an example of the rhythmic numbers at which they excel. The accompaniment might inspire the accompanying artist to provide more lustre support. The "Blue Bird" and "Heaven in Your Smile" are both very interesting. It is only fair to add, perhaps, that according to the matrix number the record was made long ago, before Broadhurst Gardens was perennially filled with a chorus of "We En Ha". It is an epitome of the York orchestral technique, the music being strings, a fondness for moving minor parts, and an unfeeling insistence on using the same tempo to use these. There is never any medium in a Peter Turner recording. In this instance, in so many of Morton Gould's.

Williams was a fine singer long before York and others discovered his talents. His singing might be better played in "Heaven", and how obvious is his legitimate vocal training. The "Heaven in Your Smile" is a "natural" singer! The orchestral work is again good on this side, though some lines have been worried about the shrillness of York's cornet-led brass, and the fault of Peter Turner's recording. So much as of the leader himself for scoring them just that little more. The "Heaven in Your Smile" and "Heaven in Your Smile" are the best examples of modern tenor playing. "The Chase" by Warfield Gray and Doctor Gordon, I look forward to reviewing it when it is released.

Finally, on behalf of several correspondents, may I ask E.M.I. if and when the four sides made by Eugene and the Glass Menagerie, including "SHARD" are going to be brought out?

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