

CHOO CHOO SAMBA

Latin American Music Pub. Co., 8, Denmark St., W.C.2 TEL 4524

Musical Express

FRIDAY, JUNE 22, 1951

No. 233

PRICE SIXPENCE

PORTRAIT OF A TOY SOLDIER

Liter-Southern Music Pub. Co., 8, Denmark St., W.C.2 TEL 4524

MUSICAL PEACE GROUP

Sponsored by Sir Adrian Boult

WILL PARTY POLITICS BE INVOLVED?

SEVERAL WEEKS AGO SIR ADRIAN BOULT AND ARTHUR BENJAMIN, DISCUSSING THE FACT THAT BOTH ARTISTS AND WRITERS HAVE THEIR OWN REPRESENTATIVE ORGANISATIONS FOR THE FURTHERING OF PEACE MOVES, DECIDED THAT THE MUSICAL PROFESSION SHOULD ALSO LEND ITS WORDS TO SUCH MOVEMENTS. THEY, THEREFORE, CIRCULARISED SEVERAL HUNDRED FAMOUS MUSICIANS AND CONDUCTORS IN EVERY FIELD OF MUSIC. A VERY REPRESENTATIVE BODY OF MUSICAL PERSONALITIES WERE PRESENT AT THE FIRST MEETING, AT WHICH AN INTERIM COMMITTEE WAS FORMED.

The Musicians' Organisation for peace has been referred to in the daily Press as a non-political organisation. It might perhaps have been better to have titled it a non-party political movement, in that its members are drawn from many spheres, from pacifists to communists. The aims of the organisations are to further peace moves to the best of their ability.

The Vice Presidents who have been named this week include such famous musical celebrities as Sir Arnold Bax, Paul Hindy, Arthur Benjamin, Benjamin Britten, Perry Jones, William Parson, Sir Hugh Robertson, Thomas Russell, William Clark, Professor Edward Dent, Scott, Goddard, Robert Farnon, Gerald Finzi, Maurice Jacobson, Humphrey Lyttelton, Peter Peers and Dr. Vaughan Williams.

It is felt that were the communists to make their presence to the organisation's aims, a large-scale walk-out would be imminent.

It will be seen from the impressive list printed above that the branch of music has been left out, having as it does representatives in the straight, light, progressive, dance and jazz fields.

Although one newspaper stated that Sir Adrian Boult may leave the Peace Movement, it is believed that his secretary's statement had been misconstrued. Sir Adrian is known to be a very busy conductor and that he were not devoting his whole-hearted attention to the Movement he would, quite naturally, resign in favour of a man who could give it full support.

CARROLL GIBBONS TO WED

We offer our sincere congratulations on behalf of the profession to Carroll Gibbons, who is to marry Miss Joan Alexis at Marylebone Registry Office next Tuesday.

PETER MAURICE THE SENSATIONAL NEW HIT... IVORY RAG HE LIKE IT? SHE LIKE IT! MAY KWAY OH MAY KWAY DA-DIM DA-DOM (A RAINY DAY REFRAIN) ON TOP OF OLD SMOKY THE ROVING KIND THE CHICKEN SONG THE PETTIT WALTZ BOURNE MUSIC IN THE PRESS MARIANDL A FRIEND OF JOHNNY'S SUBSCRIPTION TERMS FOR 24 NUMBERS SMALL ORCH. 6/10s. FULL ORCH. 22s. TRIO 12/6s. PIANO SOLO (Song Copies) 1/6. P.C. 10/6. OTHER EXTRAS 5/6. THE PETER MAURICE MUSIC CO. LTD., 71 Denmark St., W.C.2, TEL. 2686

CLAUDE LUTER BAND FOR ENGLAND?

IF PRESENT NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND THE WILCOX ORGANISATION ARE SUCCESSFUL, IT MAY BE POSSIBLE FOR JAZZ ENTHUSIASTS IN THIS COUNTRY TO HEAR FOR THE FIRST TIME IN THE FLESH, THE FAMOUS CLAUDE LUTER BAND.

Negotiations are at present taking place between the Wilcox Office and the famous French Impresario and writer, Charles Delaunay endeavouring to effect a band exchange. This will mean that if the Claude Luter Band come to this country, whichever band goes to Paris in its place, will play at the famous Club Vieux Colombier in St. Germaine, and will accompany Sidney Bechet who is now resident in France.

The Luter line up was based on that of King Oliver. However, he has now dropped one trumpet, and is modelling his style on that of the Louis Armstrong Hot Five.

EDDIE MENDOZA RESIDENT AT NEWQUAY

AFTER A BUSY WINTER, ALTERNATING BALLROOM ONE-NIGHT STANDS AND WEEKS OF VARIETY, INCLUDING A TOUR IN IRELAND, EVER-POPULAR EDDIE "TASH" MENDOZA AND HIS CRAZY SPITS HAVE NOW COMPLETED THEIR 5-WEEK ENGAGEMENT AT THE BLUE BALLROOM, NEWQUAY, AND MOVED INTO THE BLUE LAGOON BALLROOM, NEWQUAY, FOR THE MAIN RESIDENT SUMMER SESSION.

They opened at the Lagoon on Monday, June 18, after playing to capacity at the 400 since Whitsun, with their own brand of music and slick crazy comedy presentation, and are contracted at Newquay through to September.

This interesting "double" season has been arranged by the Billy Forrest office, Billy personally handling the Band's affairs for all Ballroom dates.



The Mendoza Band in a typical comedy act.

RAPHAELLO FOR NEW ORLEANS

NEVA RAPHAELLO, WHO IS SHORTLY GOING TO NEW ORLEANS WITH LORD AND LADY DONEGAL FOR A SIX WEEKS' TOUR, SCORED A GREAT PERSONAL SUCCESS AT THE NUFFIELD CENTRE SHOW ON FRIDAY LAST.

Appearing before a packed audience of Service men and women, Neva sang several jazz numbers which were much to the liking of the crowd. She was forced to give two extra numbers before the audience were appeased and would let her go.

ALAN DEAN "SINGS IT AGAIN"

ON JULY 23 popular singer Alan Dean will return to the new Sing It Again series. The programme actually commences on July 9 but owing to variety commitments Dean will be unable to start until the later date.

Dean's bookings in variety are numerous and due to this he has been forced to turn down a series of fourteen broadcasts scheduled to commence next month. However, his many fans will have the opportunity of hearing him when he is featured on Henry Hall's Guest Night on July 22.



While visiting Bolton last week, singer Alan Dean was asked to help judge their Festival Dog Show. Alan seen here with two of the contestants and their owners, helped choose the dog which will be the mascot for Bolton's Festival week celebrations.

LEWIS AUGMENTING WITH STRINGS FOR FESTIVAL JAZZ CONCERT

WHEN THE N.F.J.O. PRESENTS ITS FESTIVAL CONCERT OF MODERN JAZZ ON JULY 16 THE PROGRESSIVE FANS MAY ANTICIPATE A GREAT INNOVATION WHEN VIC LEWIS WILL PRESENT, ENTIRELY FOR THE OCCASION, A LARGE AUGMENTED ORCHESTRA. FOR THE CONCERT LEWIS INFORMS US HE HAS AUGMENTED HIS ORCHESTRA TO FIVE TRUMPETS, FIVE TROMBONES, FIVE SAXES, THREE RHYTHM, FOUR VIOLIN, TWO VIOLAS AND TWO CELLOS.

CONTRARY TO EXPECTATIONS LEWIS WILL NOT BE PRESENTING AN ALL-RENTON CONCERT. HE INFORMED "MUSICAL EXPRESS" THAT HIS IDEA WAS TO PRESENT THE BEST IN BRITISH MUSIC AND FOR THIS REASON THE GREATER PART OF HIS SHOW WILL HIGHLIGHT WORKS BY BRITISH COMPOSERS AND ARRANGERS.

Among those who have been approached to carry out this specialised work are: Reg Owen, Johnny Keating who is, of course, the Lewis Band staff arranger, Ken Thorne and Edwin Holland. At the time of going to press, a regular replacement has yet to be effected.

Lewis has asked us to stress that although the band will be playing strictly progressive concert they will immediately revert to their recent policy of strict dance music for resident engagements.

The fans, however, may later in the year have the opportunity of once again hearing out-and-out progressive music when Lewis will augment for a series of eight or ten specialised concerts in the leading Provincial towns.

CHARLES SMITTON BIG DRAW AT YARMOUTH

DRAWING enthusiastic crowds at Great Yarmouth is radio organist Charles Smitton, appearing daily at the Winter Gardens on a resident summer season negotiated by the Billy Forrest office.

Noted especially for his broadcasts in the modern idiom, 25-year-old Charles has been airing regularly since 1943 on Light Programme. Monday morning "Musically Yours" series, and last April he made his debut on "Variety Bandbox."



CHARLES SMITTON

The Great Yarmouth engagement marks a new step in his career, as up to Whitsun Charles' main engagements had been in the sphere of cinema and ballroom playing. Since the early part of last year, he has of course been resident Hammond Organist at Birmingham's Ambassadors Ballroom, but has been specially released from his two-year contract with the management in order to undertake the important G.P. Yarmouth summer season. Popular Colin Hems and his Orchestra continue to play to good business at the Ambassadors in Charles' absence.

WALLY PETERSON FOR LUXEMBOURG

HIS MANY FANS WILL BE INTERESTED TO HEAR THAT WELL-KNOWN SINGER WALLY PETERSON LEAVES FOR LUXEMBOURG THIS MONTH TO PRESENT HIS OWN FEATURE OVER RADIO LUXEMBOURG FIVE NIGHTS A WEEK. THE PROGRAMME TO BE TITLED "TIME ON MY HANDS" WILL BE HEARD AT 8.30-9.30 P.M. AND PETERSON WILL BE HEARD SINGING AS WELL AS BEING THE DISC JOCKEY AND SCRIPT WRITER OF THE HOUR'S MUSICAL LISTENING.

Peterston will commence his shows on June 26 and they will be heard right through to September when he will return to England to take over a part in the American production "South Pacific" which will commence rehearsals that month.

In addition to these many activities Wally will fly to England every Friday to take part in the new Music From The Movies series which commences next month. This versatile young man has just sold his latest song "I Wish I Knew" to Francis, Day & Hunter.



WALLY PETERSON

ROWBERRY BAND BIGGEST SEMI-PRO

GREAT interest is being shown in big changes in the well-known consulting handleader Arthur Rowberry's line-up. This Saturday at the Marine Ballroom, Fleetwood, Rowberry will present the largest semi-pro orchestra which now consists of five saxes, four trumpets, three trombones, three rhythm plus a complete Latin American group led by trumpeter Harry Smart. Vocals will still be handled by Margaret King plus comedy presentations by Peter Gunster and Tim Driscoll.

The new orchestra is appearing at all the leading ballrooms and proving a great draw. Since winning the "Musical Express" N.D.B.C. 1949/50 their popularity has increased all over the country. Staff arranger for the new orchestra is still Reg Tilley who is at present on his way to the States for the Geraldlo office. Rowberry informs us that he will again defend his N.D.B.C. titles at Blackpool on September 30.

NELLIE LUTCHER AT GRANADA

TOPPING the bill for two shows at the Granada Theatre Supton this Sunday will be the "real gone gal" Nellie Lutcher together with the accompanying rhythm section consisting of George Duvalier and Earl Hyde. Jack Jackson, who first introduced her recordings, will also be on the show together with Nat Allen and his Orchestra with Maxine Russell who is guest singer with the band for the occasion.

Ken Briery, manager of the Granada and himself a keen jazz fan, has asked "Musical Express" to advise its readers that owing to great demand for tickets, party rates for twelve and over can only be accepted from accredited Jazz Clubs for the first show. All seats are bookable and a few seats in each category (2s. 6d. and 7s.) are available for early applicants. Briery recently presented Kenny Baker and his Band in the first jazz concert expressly for schoolchildren ever held in Britain.

# Musical Express

Editorial and Advertising Offices  
38 Store Street, London W.C.1.  
Telephones—LANGham 2131-2

Read throughout the wide world

## THE VOICE

### HONOURS

**K**NIGHTHOODS are conferred upon citizens who have distinguished themselves and the entertainment industry is not without its honours. Yet it is a curious fact that those who have brought this glory to our profession have done so from the audience atmosphere of the concert platform and the aloofness of the legitimate stage. None, not even the most obscure comic to put red on his nose in the cheapest touring revue, shall feel anything but professional pride in the Shakespearean actor or orchestral conductor who, through music and histrionics, has become a Knight of the Realm. Such artists have brought dignity and recognition to their professions.

### DO WE SHARE?

**W**HILE we in other spheres of entertainment are pleased to believe these honours are reflected upon us, does the legitimate stage and the concert platform think the same way? I doubt it. An actor-knight might conceivably feel that his honour is for the theatre only. A conductor-knight might well be of the opinion that his distinction reflects only upon legitimate music. Accuse either of them of being "performers" and tell them they are members of the show business and it is not improbable that you would offend their susceptibilities. From personal experience I have found that actors take themselves as seriously as orchestral conductors. While members of other branches of show business have always shown a keen interest in the theatre and the concert platform it cannot be generally admitted that vice versa is the case. For all I know Sir Thomas Beecham might be an admirer of Ray Ellington's Bop and Sir Laurence Olivier (why do they persist in saying Oliv-TAY?) might be a devotee of Ben Fianca's fans. But such was never a mutual admiration society has yet been established between the theatre and vaudeville or the concert platform and popular music. It does not really matter, of course, what this or that master of honours thinks. Then one is immediately impressed by the fact that these two branches of entertainment, and these only, are singled out for recognition.

### PUBLIC SERVICE

**P**OPULAR music and vaudeville are not without members who have rendered distinguished public service. For every concert played by the orchestral conductor the popular bandleader plays dozens. Statistically his public throughout the nation may be many times as great. In bringing entertainment to his vast audience, platform it cannot be generally admitted that vice versa is the case. For all I know Sir Thomas Beecham might be an admirer of Ray Ellington's Bop and Sir Laurence Olivier (why do they persist in saying Oliv-TAY?) might be a devotee of Ben Fianca's fans. But such was never a mutual admiration society has yet been established between the theatre and vaudeville or the concert platform and popular music. It does not really matter, of course, what this or that master of honours thinks. Then one is immediately impressed by the fact that these two branches of entertainment, and these only, are singled out for recognition.

### COURT JESTERS

**P**ER the same reasoning entertainment does not begin and end on the legitimate stage. As actors do not represent all performers. While an actor has his own public with an especial appreciation for his histrionic art, the vaudevillian tours around every nook and cranny of the country with the specialised ability to appeal to the tastes of the masses. If he reddens his nose, blacks his face or falls on his fanny, who shall dare say his calling lacks dignity? Did not Kings have Court Jesters? And was it not their business to make their Royal Masters laugh by the expedient of the gag book and the comedy fall? I do not know whether any were ever knighted for their successes, but it is said that some were beheaded for their failures. Be that as it may, the fact remains that the comedian and the musician were enjoying Royal patronage when the actor was an itinerant vagabond.

### COMICS, MUSICIANS AND WRITERS

**O**NE thinks immediately of the honour conferred upon the late Sir Harry Lauder, himself a comedian. Since then, however, honours for vaudevillians are curiously infrequent and for musicians plentiful. Regular popular music are non-existent. When Jack Hylton was our greatest representative dance orchestra leader it took the French to honour him with the Legion d'Honneur. Knighthoods have been conferred upon composers of serious works but none have been conferred upon composers of popular music. It is a curious fact that those who have brought this glory to our profession have done so from the audience atmosphere of the concert platform and the aloofness of the legitimate stage. None, not even the most obscure comic to put red on his nose in the cheapest touring revue, shall feel anything but professional pride in the Shakespearean actor or orchestral conductor who, through music and histrionics, has become a Knight of the Realm. Such artists have brought dignity and recognition to their professions.

Great News for 'Fats' Waller enthusiasts  
**'FATS' WALLER'S LONDON SUITE**  
(Composed and recorded in London in June 1937)  
Piccadilly: Chelsea; Soho; Bond Street: Limehouse; Whitechapel - B 10059-61  
The *Markham of Quality*  
THE GRAMOPHONE COMPANY LIMITED, HAYES, MIDDLESEX.

A GREAT WRIGHT DOUBLE—  
**LAND OF MAKE-BE-BEVE**  
AND  
**THE MINUTE WALTZ**  
Only the WRIGHT ORCHESTRAL CLUB—24 Nos. (S.O.) 24/-— can give you these sensational songs. AND...  
**TIN PAN ALLEY RAG**  
LAWRENCE WRIGHT 19, DENMARK ST., LONDON, W.1. Telephone: TEMple Bar 2161

# COMPLETE SELL-OUT FOR FESTIVAL JAZZ

## Dixieland Fills Royal Festival Hall

**W**ITHIN a day of tickets for the Traditional Jazz concert at the Royal Festival Hall for July 14 being available at the booking office, the Festival ticket office and the N.F.J.O. reported a complete sell-out. Frantic attempts by jazz enthusiasts who had delayed getting their tickets met with disappointment.

For several weeks before the tickets were available at the booking office the N.F.J.O. had been busy reserving blocks of seats for members and for provincial members-clubs. The response to this scheme had been enormous, and three-quarters of the huge Royal Festival Hall was quickly booked by N.F.J.O. supporters. On Monday, immediately the balance of tickets became available to the general public the demand was extraordinary, and by Tuesday every seat in the Hall was taken. The enthusiasm and interest caused by this major N.F.J.O. jazz concert far outstrips anything known in the commercial entertainment world these days. More than anything it has proved that such jazz bands as Humphrey Lyttelton and his Band, Graeme Bell's Australian Jazz Band, the Crane River Jazz Band, the Saints' Jazz Band, Mick Mulligan's Magnolia Jazz Band, Freddy Randall and his Band and Joe Daniels' Jazz Group now hold tremendous drawing powers—no saying nothing of other famous jazz celebrities such as Neva Raphaelo, Sid Phillips and Cyril Scott.

Meanwhile, the Monday night Modern Jazz Concert on July 16 is rapidly selling out. Enthusiasts should book their seats without any delay at the Royal Festival Booking Office, near Waterloo Station at the South Bank. N.F.J.O. members and affiliated clubs can still obtain their tickets for this show from the N.F.J.O. National Secretary, 18, Timbercroft Lane, S.E.18. A great deal of excitement is being caused in the modern music world by the news (printed elsewhere) that Vic Lewis' Bell's affiliated clubs can still obtain their tickets for this show from the N.F.J.O. National Secretary, 18, Timbercroft Lane, S.E.18. A great deal of excitement is being caused in the modern music world by the news (printed elsewhere) that Vic Lewis' Bell's affiliated clubs can still obtain their tickets for this show from the N.F.J.O. National Secretary, 18, Timbercroft Lane, S.E.18. A great deal of excitement is being caused in the modern music world by the news (printed elsewhere) that Vic Lewis' Bell's affiliated clubs can still obtain their tickets for this show from the N.F.J.O. National Secretary, 18, Timbercroft Lane, S.E.18.

## THE JAZZ SCENE BY JAMES ASMAN

**THE JAZZ SCENE BY JAMES ASMAN**

means, in effect, that from July onwards the Humphrey Lyttelton band ends its long association with the L.J.C. and, after a month's holiday, will begin a far more ambitious series of Conway Hall "Jazz for Listening" concerts. Their last concert before the vacation will be on June 22. They will also open up their jazz club for dining at 100 Oxford Street (Mac's Restaurant) on Wednesday nights commencing August 15.

Wood Green Jazz Club, held every Tuesday and Sunday night at the Bourne Hall, "The Fishmongers' Arms," near the Wood Green tube station, carries on with its two popular regular groups. On Tuesdays Chris Barber's New Orleans Jazz Band pulls in the purists as well as the dancers, whilst the more commercial Joe Daniels' Jazz Group add the tricks of the trade to jazz evergreens every Saturday evening. Art Saunders, Secretary of the club for many years, tells me he is organising two major shows in conjunction with the N.F.J.O. London Area Committee during the Festival of Jazz Week July 14 to July 21, 1951.

On July 15, on Sunday evening, Humphrey Lyttelton and his Band will be featured at the Wood Green Jazz Club, and on Tuesday July 17 for the special night arranged for the week's activities, the visitors will be the Graeme Bell Australian Jazz Band.

A new club in Manchester, City of jazz clubs, is the Crossin Jazz Band, featuring a brand new jazz group under the direction of Bob Connell. Sessions are held weekly at the Midland Hotel, near Belle Vue, Greater Manchester, on every Monday night. The Pleadilly Jazz Club has requested at the Carlton Restaurant, Brown Street, Manchester, with a meeting featuring the Derek Atkins Dixielanders every Thursday night. Meanwhile, the Saints' Jazz Band remains as popular as ever at their Saturday night Luncheon Society of Jazz Music Club in dancing at the Grosvenor Hotel, Deansgate. The Manchester Jazz Appreciation Circle continues to hold weekly recitals at the Adult Education Centre, View Tree Schools, Sale Road, Northenden, every Thursday at 7.30 p.m. in Room 15.

The latest JAZZ RECORDS, price 1/-, contains jazz record reviews by yours truly and modern music records reviews by Steve Race, together with articles by such eminent jazz writers as Ernest Bennet, Graham Boatfield, John Davis, and G. F. Gray Clarke. Special book reviews and features are also included, and the magazine is full of photographs and cartoons by Ditley and Monty Sunshine. You can obtain your copy, and back issues, from Jazz Record Publications, 21, Linden Avenue, Sheffield 8.



By **LEE CONWAY**

**EVERY BAND HAS A VOCALIST AND I SUPPOSE EACH ONE HAS HIS OR HER SPECIAL QUALITIES OTHERWISE THEY WOULD NOT HOLD DOWN THE ENGAGEMENTS. SOME ARE GOOD, MANY ARE INDIFFERENT AND SEVERAL ARE SUB-STANDARD. THE GOOD ONES OFTEN BRAN-H AWAY FROM POPULAR BAND VOCALISM AND START UP ON THEIR OWN AS SOLOISTS OR SINGLE**

## ANOTHER SHOT AT GOOD SINGERS?

**ACTS, ONE EXAMPLE OF THIS IS ALAN DEAN WHO SANG WITH BANDS, WAS AN INTEGRAL PART OF A FAMOUS SINGING TEAM AND THEN BURNED HIS BOATS TO SEEK STARDOM IN HIS OWN RIGHT. ANNE SHELTON AND VERA LYNN ARE OTHER EXAMPLES OF PRESENT-DAY VOCAL STARS WHO ONCE SANG WITH BANDS IN THEIR CASES IT WAS AMBROSE WHO WAS THEIR SVENGLAL.**

FEW really excellent vocalists are left with popular dance

**I**n the male species nothing very exciting has happened since Harry Dawson's arid burst forth on the radio and captured the imagination of the British public. Now the great British public is not very discriminating. They often rave over very poor and quite indifferent singers but making stars of the first magnitude out of very nebulous astronomical dust. That they should acclaim an artist like Harry Dawson proves that once in a while the public realises the existence of great talent and is capable of appreciating it. Will they acclaim the newest vocal



RITA WILLIAMS

Both performances brand him as a great artist. He has all the chances of becoming the new vocal star. I hope the British public can appreciate him to the full.

## Top Songs may not be Best Sellers

### ILLUSTRY FIGURES

**TIN PAN ALLEY**  
By **JACK WEBB**

**T**HIS is the meaning season. The clothes worn by music publishers during the summer. The sun has only to shine high in the heavens and Tin Pan Alley will be in a national crisis and therefore the end of the world. It has always been thus. But people have always bought less music in a public's hand in the winter. One of the reasons is the call of the great outdoors. This summer, perhaps, the shortage of money is an additional factor and does not make the music publisher's outlook any easier.

Every summer in every year the song factories talk of defeat with remarkable lack of reticence, although it is a fact that one never hears of a reputable music publisher firm going into liquidation. The winter always brings along its songs, its hits and their appeal to an interested and appreciative public's hand in October. All's well that ends well.

Sales, of course, fall off during the summer, during a slump or in a national crisis. That cannot be helped. And while a song may be Number One in the Top Ten it does not mean that it is a best seller. Being Number One means only that it sold the most

copies during the week in comparison with the other nine songs listed.

Happily the "Top Ten" is purely a comparative list. But it must be remembered that a song may sell a large number of copies over a period of weeks while it is climbing to the Number One spot. Take for example Unit's "Good Luck, Good Health, God Bless You." It is number four as I turn this column in for press. The song has been going steadily for weeks. Note also how Southern's "Mockin' Bird Hill" climbed up to Number One, steadily and healthily.

Songs to watch are Campbell Connelly's "Shot Gun Boogie," way up around number four in the Hit Parade. Lawrence Wright's "Land of Make Believe" and Unit's pretty waltz "As Long as the River flows On." And in conclusion here are the current "Top Ten."

## DAVID HUGHES

**DAVID HUGHES**

Outstanding among those of the feminine gender is petite Rita Williams to be heard with such telling effect with Henry Hall. Her recent broadcast with Hall during which she sang "Always True to You" places her among the really great popular singers of this era. One wonders how such a tiny person can produce such a big, driving voice with all its richness of quality and its big range. But with all these qualities Rita Williams is to be relied upon for perfect intonation at all times and in all circumstances. They also tell me that she is infallible with an orchestra through her natural musicianship. That may well be for I have never yet heard her broadcasting except to the best possible advantage.

**HENRY HALL** who finds, presents and booms many artists of merit currently engaged. David Hughes in his Guest Night broadcast. Never since Harry Dawson's success have we heard anything quite so fine as the voice of David Hughes. I think he will make vocal history. He has the rich quality with the big, round top notes. His understanding of the lyric is found in the most beautiful sense of expression, but that expression has the benefit of perfect vocal control. I heard him singing "I'll Never Know Why" and "With These Hands."

**O**f course in Alan Breeze he has one of the most versatile vocalists of this or any other age. Breeze is one moment a comedian and the other a ballad singer. Handling of the number "Jezebel" was mastery, sung to an excellent arrangement. With its remarkable sense of continuity Cotton finishes the number with a superb gag. Orchestral numbers, comedy production, versatility and vocal highlights make this, and keep it without opposition, the greatest band show in the business with the most successful and most dominating the whole.

**TOP TEN**

1. Mockin' Bird Hill (Southern).
2. With These Hands (Dreyer).
3. Be My Love (F. D. & H.).
4. Shot Gun Boogie (Campbell Connelly).
5. Good Luck, Good Health (Carroll).
6. My Resistance is Low (Morley).
7. Ivory Rag (MacMelodies).
8. Would I Love You (Walt Disney).
9. Rose, Rose (Stirling).
10. Sparrow in the Tree top (Cinephonic).

True Jazz Feeling on Record

THE LATE THE GLORY ROAD TO JAZZ

FOR MANY YEARS AMERICAN NEGRO SPIRITUAL SINGING, OF THE MORE GENUINE KIND, HAS BOCKED THE CHURCHES FROM THE DEEP SOUTH TO THE LESS SEGREGATED NORTHERN STATES. EXAMPLES OF NEGRO SPIRITUALS, AS HAD BEEN PRESENTED ON THE AMERICAN CONCERT PLATFORM AND TO THE WESTERN WORLD, HAVE CERTAINLY APPEARED IN RECORD LISTS IN THE PAST, BUT STRANGELY ENOUGH, NONE OF IT HAS BEEN EXCITING, OR MADE THE FINEST RATTLE IN THE JAZZ WORLD. IT HAS, IN FACT, ALL BEEN TERRIBLY, TERRIBLY SELF-CONSCIOUS, VERY "EUROPEAN," AND PERSISTENTLY PHONEY.

The Negro Spiritual meant Paul Robeson, Marian Anderson or the Fisk University Jubilee Singers. Cold, deliberate music, presented with all the dignity of a Bach cantata. During the last few years, however, a few records were creeping through the customs, almost by accident, with choirs and congregations of Negro worshippers singing the most amazing music. New names began to demand notice from critics and enthusiasts alike—names like Sister Thyagaraj, Sister Goldenberg, Goldia Haynes, Mahalia Jackson and the Rev. R. A. Daniels with the Mount Zion Church Gospel Choir.

It was, indeed, yet another case of realizing just how impossible the musical standards of America really are, and just how magnificent is the simple, unaffected music which springs from across the Atlantic, despite all that these "standards" can do in ignoring and debasing it. First we came to understand that jazz wasn't Paul Whiteman and Artie Shaw. Then we learnt that Sister Goldenberg did not mean the Negro folk songs of America. Now we know, or should know, we hear some of the new records being released, that Paul Robeson was not an American Negro Spiritual singer. The proof, if we need it now, can be found in the new Vogue release of

**Mahalia Jackson**  
"In My Home Over There"  
"Since the Fire Started Burning in My Soul"—Vogue V.301.

Mahalia Jackson has the power and delivery of a Beate Seeth, which is precisely the reason. She possesses a native beauty of intonation, and an ability to swing these religious songs over the unaccompanied choirs of an harmonium. The melodic invention she gives to both sides of this record belongs to the traditional jazz school of Sidney Bechet and Johnny Dodds, for she rides with tremendous grace and ease over the plain structure of the chords.

Here is a lesson in both jazz feeling and imagination. Miss Jackson sings with the same attack and freedom as a jazz soloist, and yet conforms to the discipline of a music which is naturally belonging to her race and environment. This is a wonderful record musically—and so much more is the pity that the dubbing and pressing do not do it justice. Nevertheless, despite this, it is a record which must be heard, listened to and studied.

**The Rev. R. A. Daniels**  
(with the Mount Zion Church Gospel Choir)  
"He's The Lily of the Valley"  
"I Shall Wear a Crown"—Capitol CL 13530.

While Mahalia Jackson is able to overcome the limitations of the recording studio, perhaps because she is a soloist, the earlier attempts in America to recapture the rhythm and the ecstasy of the genuine Negro Spiritual have always failed. The spirit and emotion of the coloured religious singers of the American churches become empty and self-conscious in a cold recording studio under the eyes of white engineers and studio officials.

More recently, however, both American Capitol and M.G.M. have released series of recordings made during actual services, in which the handclapping assumed proportions of a Baby Dodds' drum accompaniment, and the various instrumentalists who joined in provided pure jazz backing to the most uninhibited music to appear on a gramophone record.

This record was also recorded "on the spot" as it were, and the essential ingredients are all there. Fierce, rocking hand claps, spontaneous invention and crowd feeling. This, too, is a record which MUST be heard. Backed by handclapping all day long.  
"He's the Lily of the Valley"

Jazz Records Reviewed

By JAMES ASMAN

**Johnny Dodds' Washboard Band**  
"Bucktown Stomp"/"Weary City Stomp"—H.M.V. B. 1002

This is the latest N.F.J.O. sponsored release on H.M.V. following the great Jelly Roll Morton classics. It presents New Orleans veteran Johnny Dodds in top form as the King of jazz clarinetists with a band of star jazz musicians. Both sides were recorded 23 years ago. Neither show any sign of age. In any case, good art of any kind can't date, and these Dodds' masterpieces are no exception to the rule. Quite apart from the leader, the biting, decisive trumpet of Nifty Dominique drives the group along in a most exciting way. And in the tone and style of Dominique I imagined no other jazz clarinetist. I wish I could have sought at least some of his inspiration.

Honore Dutray, on trombone, plays his part with power and energy, and there is a school of jazz lovers who insist that this is no Dutray but Ory. Nevertheless, Honore Dutray or Kid Ory, it is a pleasure to hear a trombone on both sides. Another feature of the band is the rhythm section, which is both virile and swinging. It produces an almost unequalled lift, and Lil Hardin (piano), John Licidays (bass) and Baby Dodds (drums) do nothing to tarnish the lustre of their names in the jazz field.

**The Saints' Jazz Band**  
"I Wish I Could Shimmy Like My Sister Kate"/"When the Saints Go Marching In"—Decca J. 2.

This competent jazz band from the Lancashire Society of Jazz Music in Manchester has made four recordings, and the result is rather like the proverbial ostrich's egg, for these sides could be called good and bad in parts. The good parts can be found, for instance, in "The Saints" and particularly in "Old Stack O'Le Blues." The latter is a special feature of the Saints' repertoire, a slow number played with light and shade and a degree of technique, too. It uses some attractive chord changes, and pursues its way through the grooves of a logical conception. "The Saints," which is a very much over-played number these days, along with "Streets of the City," "Get Out of Here and Go On Home" and "Just a Closer Walk with Thee," has its points, too. It has a pleasing bounce, and sounds like jazz to me.

On the debit side comes the generally stodgy rhythm (which has improved since their first issue on Decca), the persistent flatness of the trombone, the vocal on "Sister Kate" (which might be amusing in the flesh, but which slips a cog on record) and other less important items. Anyway, the Saints' Jazz Band has been selected by the N.F.J.O. to represent the provinces at the traditional Festival concert on July 14, and I don't think the North and Manchester will have cause to be ashamed.

**Willard Cole (Sageoet)**  
"Penny Whistle Boogie"/"Penny Whistle Blues"—Decca F. 9691.

A South African musician makes dull listening with what sounds to me like a genuine penny whistle. Both sides remain uninteresting from the first to the last note, and I have only one question left about the whole thing—why?

**Graeme Bell & His Australian Jazz Band**  
"When the Saints Go Marching In"/"Muskrat Ramble"—Parlophone R. 3367

This band of Australian jazz musicians has, unfortunately, lost a great deal of its former glory. Their first visit to this production of this famous part, has just received the Picturegoer Film Trophy Award for the best made actor of the year. "Kind Hearts and Coronets" won him another award from the Ameri-

groups who, inspired by their earlier work, and by the achievements of such local musicians as George Webb, Humphrey Lyttelton and so on, have now improved almost beyond recognition. Today the Bell band has a new rhythm section which hasn't the gay two-beat drive of the Varney-Murphy partnership, and far too often the band as a whole sounds ragged and tired. A recording session is a hard taskmaster, and these facts are highlighted.

**Humphrey Lyttelton and His Band**

"Suffolk Air"/"The Door-Mouse"—Parlophone R. 3398

"Suffolk Air" features Lyttelton and Fawkes in clarinet and saxophone with grace and delicacy. The band rides easily, and the melody is delightful. The reserves, starting trombonist Keith Christie, in another place original. Christie, who as far as this reviewer is concerned is England's leading jazz musician, plays well but not quite at his best. You'll see what I mean by that when you put the new Christie Brothers' Stompers release on your turntable.

**The Christie Brothers' Stompers**  
"Moonshine"/"Rum and Coca-Cola"—Esquire 10-130.

This, the debut of what is merely a pick-up group based half on Lyttelton band and half on the Crane River Jazz Band, reaches new heights in British jazz. "Moonshine" is a twelve-bar blues, has a beat and a strange "authenticity" which, five years ago, would have caused a major sensation in the British jazz world. Today we are more blasé, perhaps because there are so many jazz bands, dozens of jazz clubs, and too many jazz releases on wax for the average enthusiast.

This is something which must stir our indifference, however. It has an earthy, rocking, negroish quality about it. It boasts of the best rhythm section we have amongst the traditional bands, and Ken Colyer's Berry lead has an immense propensity for giving the basis and inspiration to his talented sidemen, Ian and Keith Christie. "Rum and Coca-Cola" is quite an original vehicle for this forceful, biting jazz music, and I can only leave you, said all the complimentary things I might have said about it, and finish by recommending it to you with all my best.

MOVIE TALK

By Ken Ryan

AN interesting new company has been formed. Group 2 National Film Finance Corporation, has stressed via its Board that the concern's aims are for the encouragement of the young men and women of talent who, harassed by the present condi-

tion National Theatre Academy for his brilliant performance in eight leading parts.

WALT DISNEY is scheduled to arrive here this week to cover many angles of his various productions. Included in his list is personal supervision of his live action Technicolor film "Robin Hood." Next week Kathryn Beaumont, daughter of one-time singer and now independent dealer, Ken Beaumont, arrives next week. Kathryn, who plays Alice's off-screen voice, will make television and radio appearances.

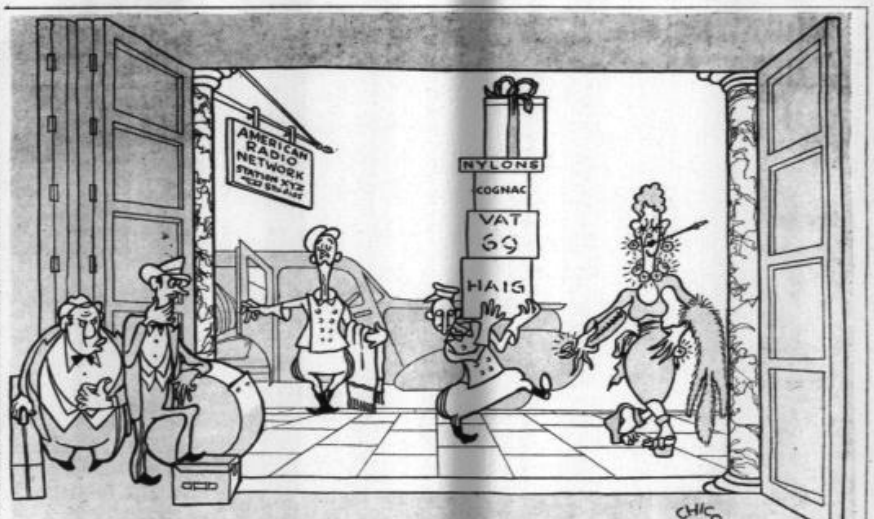
DANNY THOMAS, the irrepressible comedian in Betty Grable's new film "Call Me Mister" is enraged at suggestions that his elongated nose should be operated upon.

"Did a King-size nose hamper Schnozzle Durante?" he asks. "Have you ever heard an elephant complain that its trunk was too long? I don't see how people with small noses manage to breathe. They wear themselves out like an overworked air pump trying to get enough oxygen into their lungs. Me—I take one deep breath day and have enough air left over with which to start the next day."

When it was suggested to him once before that he try plastic surgery, Danny suggested the well wisher was a saboteur from the Durante camp.

JASCHA HEIFETZ, currently to be seen in "Of Men and Music" at the Rialto together with such famous artists as Jan Peerce, Nadine Connor, Arthur Schnitzler and Dimitri Mitropoulos, is known for his perfection. It is said that George Bernard Shaw, after hearing a Heifetz concert wrote him "Young man, such perfection angers the Gods. I advise you to appease them by playing one or two wrong notes every night before you go to bed."

IRENE DUNNE plays the role of a song-writer who marries a cowboy in R.K.O.'s "Never a Dull Moment." Fred MacMurray is cast as the rancher. Owning two thousand acres of pasture land in California he should understand the role perfectly.



"Yeah, she used to be the attendant in the ladies' cloakroom. Now she's a disc jockey with her own programme!"

BIG BAND BOOM

TRANSATLANTIC American Commentary by CHICK MADISON

OLD DAUGHTER, CATHY, WHO HAS MADE SEVERAL APPEARANCES ON HER POP CLUB IS SHOW, WILL JOIN THE OLD MAN IN DUETS FOR CAPITOL THIS FALL.

BIG bands are again enjoying the popularity they did in the late thirties. Jimmy Dorsey is currently at the Hollywood Palladium for four weeks having followed in Woody Herman, Goodman, Basie, Crosby, Herman and Dorsey are all having great success reviving the style that ensured their popularity in the thirties.

AT the Tiffany Club, Los Angeles, where George Shearing, King Cole and Munny Spanner have recently appeared, Sharky Bonano and his Kings of Dixieland are set open on June 21. The band which has enjoyed popularity in New Orleans for twenty years has its first record album released this month featuring overgreens of jazz. The boys are booked into New York's swank Waldorf Astoria in September.

FRANK SINATRA'S new movie is to be titled "Meet Danny"

Wilson. The Voice recently proved he's still a top draw by summing them in at N.Y.'s Paramount... Carmen Miranda one of the most mimicked of all artists recently tried her own hand at this game in her new cabaret act. She gave her impersonation of singer Billy Daniels... Sarah Vaughan played a successful date at a small nite spot in California less than four years ago. The singer's fame has rocketed so high in that short period that she returns to the West Coast this month at a salary of fifteen hundred dollars a night for her first three appearances.

Mickey Ronney as a Dixieland drummer and the Armstrong All Stars.

NOT satisfied with his work on major recording labels and feeling that the titles allotted him did not do justice to his own particular brand of music, Dizzy Gillespie has formed his own recording label—Dee Gee Records. First sides cut last February featured Mill Jackson vibes, John Cultrane tenor, Kenny Burrell guitar, Percy Heath bass, Kansas Fields drums.

VICTOR LOMBARDO has returned to his brother Guy's Band after fronting his own group for three years... Tommy Dorsey is currently playing at his own Casino Gardens Ballroom at Ocean Park. Dorsey says that if business is good he may keep his group at the Casino all summer... Stan Kenyon started at Los Angeles' Costa June 18 and the band celebrates its tenth anniversary this month. Ray Wetzel has left the combo and Johnny Capaldi is in on flugelhorn. Kenyon will be followed on July 18 by Lionel Hampton. As mentioned elsewhere, Sharky Bonano's Dixie crew are playing a few blocks away and interest is high as to whether the ultra-modern Kenyon or the evergreen Bonano will draw biggest crowds.

MUSIC is now being used in psychiatric therapy and the Music Research Foundation has named Earl lives as its head of folk music. Scientists, under the sponsorship of the Foundation have contributed greatly to the education of mental and physical cases.

PELÉ RUGOLO, outstanding progressive arranger, has acquired his first movie job. He will be arranger and assistant to George Stoll on the new M.G.M. film, "The Strip," which features



Cary Grant and his wife Betty Drake are surrounded by one of the world's greatest guitarists Victor Gomez on the set of a recent M.G.M. picture.

MOCKEY BIRD HILL

Southern Music Publishing Co. 7, Grosvenor St, W.C.2 TEL 424

COLIN HULME'S SUCCESS AT AMBASSADORS

MIDLAND Manager Billy Forrest informs us that Colin Hulme and his Orchestra...

A recent personnel change in Colin's modern styled sextet brings Derek Beck into the drum chair...

JAZZ HOUSE PARTY AT COUNTRY MANOR

An interesting innovation in the jazz world is the news that on September 14-16 jazz fans may have the opportunity of spending a jazz week-end at a country manor in Tring...

RADIO LUXEMBOURG PROGRAMMES

SUNDAY, JUNE 24 RADIO LUXEMBOURG I (1,295m)

2.30 p.m. THE MELACHRINO ORCHESTRA Conducted by George Melachro on gramophone records.
2.45 THE MUSIC SHOP Twelve tunes beginning with 'A' chosen by our listeners.
3.30 GRACIE FIELDS, with the Keynotes and Billy Terrell and his Orchestra...

MYSTERY OF 1,000 JAZZ RECORDS

THE MYSTERY INVOLVING 1,000 JAZZ RECORDS IS AT PRESENT CAUSING CONTINENTAL CABLE WIRES TO HUM...

The first news that Stan received that the records had arrived in this country, was when a well known transport firm sent to him...

Sharon At Burnley RALPH SHARON and his music with vocalist June Ramar are making their first appearance in East Lancashire...

Successful Opening of THE NEW JAZZ SOCIETY The New Jazz Society, which is British branch of American...

at the opening session, some interesting American records, unreleased in this country, were played by recitalists Steve Rose and John Gee...

DANISH MUSIC ACADEMY HEAD IN LONDON

The British Council have arranged a programme for Mrs. Jette Tikjoh, head of the Jutland Music Academy...

Lorna Martin AT EMPRESS HALL Lorna Martin, the well-known accordionist, who was featured for over two years with Gerald's Orchestra...

Esquire Features Scott AFTER a long period, outstanding modernist tenor player, Ronnie Scott, has been given a big break in the recording field...

Christie Band AT WOOD GREEN ON Tuesday last, the Christie Bros. Stompers made their bow at the Wood Green Jazz Club...

Mendelssohn DOES GOOD BUSINESS SINCE ILLNESS FOLLOWING Felix Mendelssohn's operation and convalescence, he has been enjoying one of his most successful engagements...

LONDON JAZZ CLUB SUMMER GUEST BANDS

During July and August, the London Jazz Club are presenting a big series of guest jazz bands in response to considerable demands from their members.

The Yorkshire Jazz Band The Yorkshire Jazz Band, Mick Gill's Imperial Jazz Band, were all given their first London hearing when they were booked to appear at the London Jazz Club...

Menellssohn DOES GOOD BUSINESS SINCE ILLNESS

Following Felix Mendelssohn's operation and convalescence, he has been enjoying one of his most successful engagements...

FESTIVAL YEAR CLUB

During the unavoidable absence of 'Musical Express' from the bookstalls, a lot has happened at that famous musicians' haunt...

NATIONAL DANCE BAND CHAMPIONSHIP & CONTEST FIXTURES

Preliminary Contests PORTHAWL (Grand Pavilion) Wednesday, July 18, Dancing 7.30 p.m. to midnight...

CLASSIFIED ANNOUNCEMENTS

Fast Motor Launch, 22-ft. built by Taylor & Co., Chertsey; brand new, never been used. Built of magnesium, Vosper V 8 engine, speed 50-55 miles per hour...