

DISC

THE TOP RECORD & MUSICAL WEEKLY

No. 259 Week ending March 9, 1963
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CLIFF

Exclusive
full-page
picture

ELVIS

What that
British
trip would
mean

(page 5)

DATES FLOOD IN FOR BARRY



BARRY BARNETT didn't win the British heat of the Eurovision Song Contest with "If You Ever Leave Me," but he did win himself widespread praise and a host of new opportunities. Dates have come pouring in for radio, TV, and personal appearances, and his disc sales started upwards right after the show.

The song itself had already been circulated on the Continent, and cover versions are being cut in Scotland, France, Germany, and Spain. Barry himself will probably make one or two further changes to the recording of the number. Barry isn't the only one benefiting from "If You Ever Leave Me"; English DJ Lesley Sharp who penned it with a Lancashire songwriter called "Thanks For The Memory" starting next month, which he will do in interview leading up to the show. Barry has knocked everyone and with his TV performance and the help of Sharp's solid *DISC*, "He put the song across brilliantly."

ADAM

Why I
had to
speak
out

(page 4)

plus

John Leyton

(page 3)

Craig Douglas

(page 3)

Tony Meehan

(page 4)

Frankie Vaughan

(page 11)

● **PRESLEY** Rain would not stop Wembley show

● **LEYTON** 'Cupboard Love' still moving up

● **FAITH** Frankest interview ever

BARRY BARNETT

HIS MASTER'S VOICE

RECORDS

If you ever
leave me
POP 1126

RUNNER-UP IN THE
BBC-TV 'A SONG
FOR EUROPE'
CONTEST



THIS WEEK'S TOP SINGLE

THE EXCITERS



He's got the power

UNITED ARTISTS UP-1017

Carol Deene LET ME DO IT MY WAY

H.M.V. POP1123

Gerry AND THE PACEMAKERS HOW DO YOU DO IT?

COLUMBIA DB4987

Rolf Harris JOHNNY DAY

COLUMBIA DB4979

The Rockin' Rebels WILD WEEKEND

STATESIDE SS1162

Don Spencer

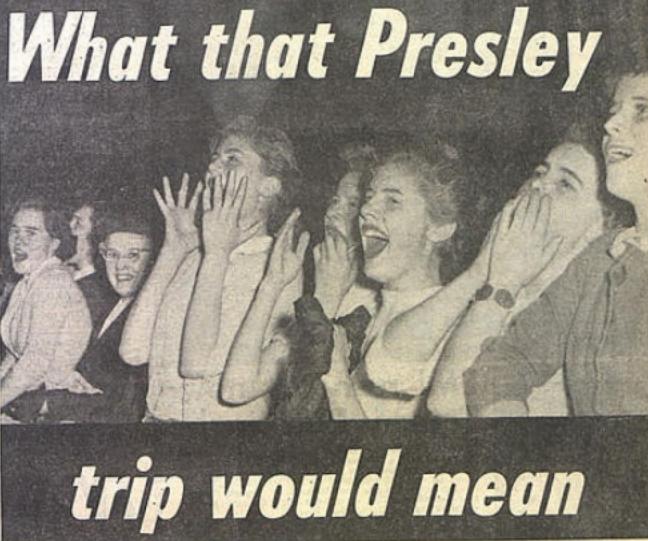
The original theme song from the ATV series

FIREBALL XL5

H.M.V. POP1087

Ricky Stevens MY MOTHER'S EYES

COLUMBIA DB4981



TWO weeks ago DISC revealed the exclusive news that the Elvis Presley management is negotiating with a British impresario for El's first-ever visit to this country.

At long last, it would seem, the dream of Elvis coming to Britain will become a reality with every chance of his being on his way before summer.

But the problem of presenting the idol of millions in the country that has been ruled by a sense of royalty would be easy to deal with in comparison?

On January 19, 1962, started the one of many reasons for El's prolonged absence appeared to be his fear of flying. A round trip by air to America from the ministerial White House in Hollywood to Britain would take upwards of 17 days before the contracts are taken into consideration.

Here five days

But the new deal—still shrouded in mystery—apparently takes care of that. It would be conceivable to spend that amount of time plus five working days.

Preparation for his trip, however, could take months, with an intricate itinerary taking care of his every minute and planning events so that his every move will tread on British soil.

Getting him through South Africa and on to London in due course will call for a good deal of El's population would swell well in advance of his arrival and every effort will be made to give him all the help he can get without touching distance.

Southern's deputy Chief Executive, Mr. Alan Lomax, said today: "Mr. Presley would probably require arrangements similar to those we make for incoming royalty."

Police escorts

Country hideouts

Special venues

For him to stay at a London hotel is impossible. Remember, an army of policemen couldn't get Cliff Richard into the Lyric Theatre for the recent "Rock Around the Clock" premiere?

Even a country house would therefore be the only way of keeping him safely between shows.

Wembley Stadium has been marked down as the opening date and here they have a picture capacity of 100,000 for football events; it is unlikely that FCC would allow more than 60,000 in for such a show as this.

But if Elvis agreed then one afternoon performance would be arranged with little short of three hours between them to empty out the stadium of spectators.

A Wembley Stadium official said: "We've had a few days ago, 'Elvis' dressing rooms. Instead he would be given facilities in the retiring rooms behind the royal box."

David Gandy would form a stage in the centre of the ground and with the right field of glasses and the left side of the glasses lasses could be seen at night under the best lighting system in Europe (in cost £35,000—not a

great deal more than the Stadium itself net as rental for the two shows).

The weather might present another hazard with the possibility that no insurance company would be prepared to underwrite it. But the man from Wembley assured me that there is no problem.

"Our new roofing system covers every one of the spectators and even provides a high canopy over the stage area."

Only hindrance was then, it would be said, how far he could go in view of his fans.

Chris Hutchins

HEINZ—A BIG NEW STAR?

It's a big new star at last about to drive on Britain's best scene. Are we to have an audience of fanatics like the ones in New York who followed Tommy Steele in 1956 and Cliff Richard in 1958?

More than a few people think that's what the public wants. And they have in mind a singer whose solo voice has so far been little heard in public. He is gerade come from America, Helmut Heinz.

Burt's manager—recording expert Joe Meek—told my ear that he was looking for a position as fantastic. Disc firms are after Helmut. He has already recorded

"Leading promoters want him to share top billing in package shows. He has already created a cult in America. He is the most important of all—vast numbers of fans are racing for his autographs."

That 25-year-old Helmut would go solo was announced late last December. But Joe Meek revealed to me that the decision was made only a few days ago, less than a month before.

He has already recorded Helmut's first disc which will be released by a major firm some time in April.

Armed with a fanatical following, the first showing of the Rank "Race," "Farwell Performance," Helmut plays a solo singer in the style of Cliff Richard.

Could Helmut be as big as Cliff? "Yes," says Joe. "He has the looks, the voice, the personality that's needed."

A lot depends on whether I can come up with the right package and the right place to put him. I hope he'll be back by June or July to take fill the end of the year to get him in orbit."

DICK TATHAM

listen to ALAN DELL'S SHOWCASE

Next Sunday's programme will include excerpts from these LPs

- ELLA FITZGERALD Rhythmic Business Verve VLP620 (mono)
- LES DOUBLE SIX PARIS Columbia 33X1463 (mono)
- THE ARENA BRASS The Lonely Bull Columbia 33X1466 (mono)
- STEVE LAWRENCE GOES LATIN United Artists SLP1022 (stereo) ULP1022 (mono)
- THE LETTERMAN Jim, Tony and Bob Capitol ST1764 Columbia T1761 (mono)
- CABARET NIGHT IN LONDON Columbia 33X1481 (mono)
- FREDERICK FENNELL CONCERTS GENE PORTER Mercury CMS10073 (stereo) MCRC14113 (mono)

CLIFF RICHARD



Exclusive DISC picture