

# AMERICA'S BAND LEADERS

25¢



## LIFE STORIES

OF AMERICA'S GREATEST BAND LEADERS

- GLENN MILLER
- ARTIE SHAW
- FREDDIE MARTIN
- TOMMY DORSEY
- BENNY GOODMAN
- HARRY JAMES

• 40 OTHERS •

World Radio History





# AMERICA'S BAND LEADERS

By  
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Cover by  
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**DEDICATED :**

**To :** — all the followers of popular music!

**To :** — the homebodies, who, while doing their daily housework, have the radio tuned to the recorded music of their favorite bands.

**To :** — the jitterbugs, who, disdaining fears of bodily injury, need only the rhythm of a “jump” band to send them into gyrations which defy all the laws of gravity.

**To :** — lovers the world over, who find themselves brought even closer together whenever they are within earshot of a sweet romantic orchestra.

**To :** — the thousands of cabbies, countermen, and other folks who are on the job all night long, and whose weary hours are made easier by listening to the music-makers.

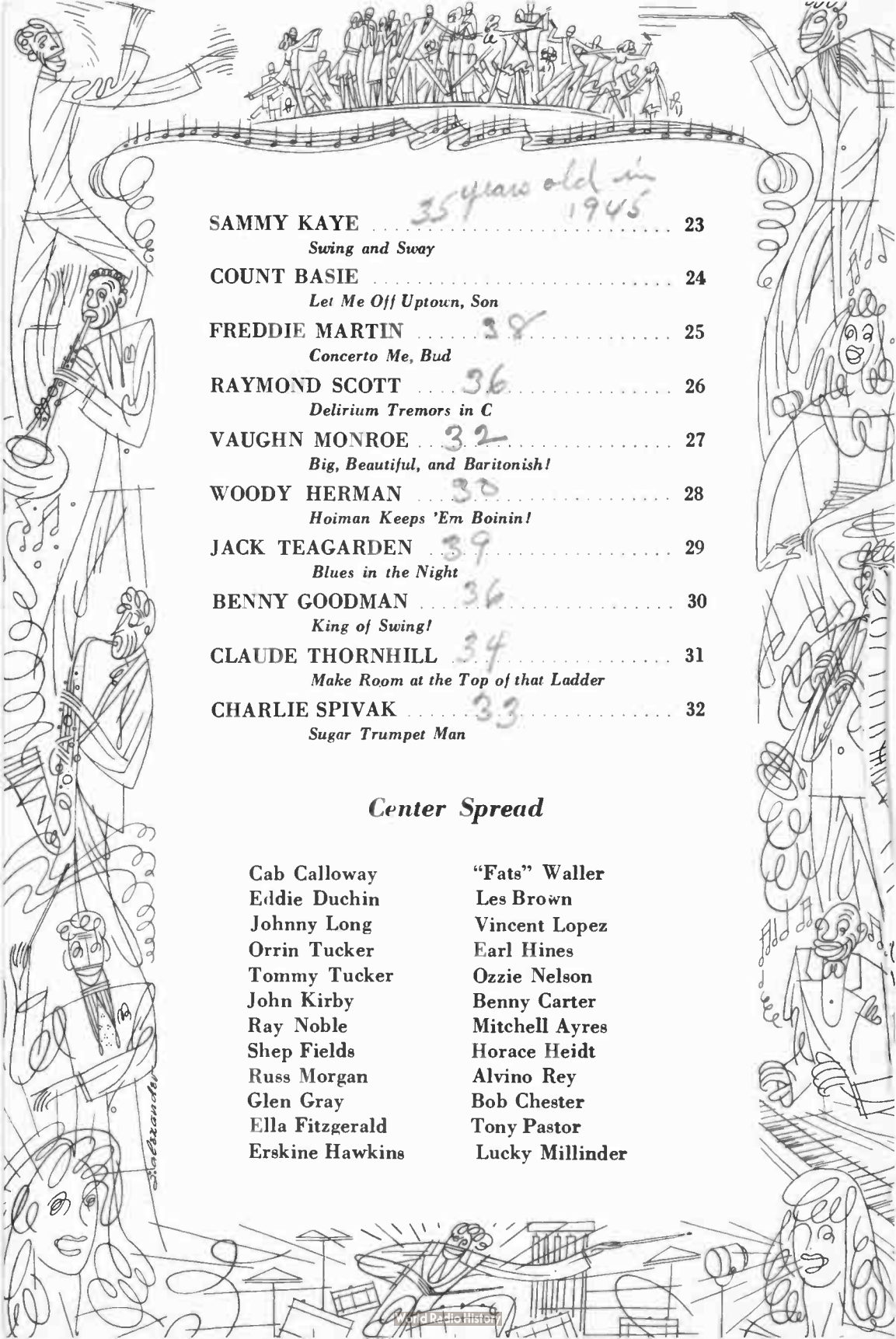
**To :** — the great army of shut-ins who derive such pleasure from tuning in on the melody dispensers of the nation.

**To :** — the bandleaders themselves; those smiling glamorous figures who help us all to forget our cares, and through the medium of music make our lives that much more enjoyable.

**To :** — all who have a song in their hearts, I respectfully dedicate this book!

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*35 years old in 1945*

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### Center Spread

- |                 |                 |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| Cab Calloway    | “Fats” Waller   |
| Eddie Duchin    | Les Brown       |
| Johnny Long     | Vincent Lopez   |
| Orrin Tucker    | Earl Hines      |
| Tommy Tucker    | Ozzie Nelson    |
| John Kirby      | Benny Carter    |
| Ray Noble       | Mitchell Ayres  |
| Shep Fields     | Horace Heidt    |
| Russ Morgan     | Alvino Rey      |
| Glen Gray       | Bob Chester     |
| Ella Fitzgerald | Tony Pastor     |
| Erskine Hawkins | Lucky Millinder |

35 years old in  
1945  
Born in 1910

## GLENN MILLER . . .

So they took a poll, and like Abou Ben Adam, Glenn Miller's name led all the rest . . . No band leader has ever matched Glenn Miller . . . Until he came along, the public's taste changed with the seasons . . . For 3 years now he's been at the top, and shows no signs of losing his position there . . . His story is interesting . . . Born in Iowa, 32 years ago . . . When he was five, family moved to Nebraska in heart of dust bowl, and led a hand to mouth existence . . . No neighbors . . . Grew up in loneliness, his only happiness listening to his Mother sing and play the organ . . . Later moved to Wisconsin, and worked for a butcher whose hobby was playing the trombone . . . One day Glenn picked up the instrument, put it to his lips and squeezed out a note . . . That did it . . . A great ambition was born within him to play that trombone, and play it right . . . He practiced every moment . . . Went through high school, and University of Colorado playing in dance bands . . . Then hit the big time, playing with Ben Pollock, Red Nichols, the Dorsey's and others . . . Came to New York, completed musical education under Professor Schillinger, and became great arranger . . . Had musical tricks put into arrangements, but bands never played them the way he wished, so he decided to form his own group . . . Despite initial setbacks, kept at it until today, he leads the No. 1 band in the country . . . Is married to his col-



lege sweetheart . . . He's a fine golfer, has tramped over practically every course in the country . . . Usually plays with his pianist "Chummy" McGregor and his fine manager, Don Haynes . . . Glenn is over 6 ft., weighs 185 lbs., black hair, brown eyes . . . Crazy over movie cameras . . . No man lives a cleaner life. . . Commands everyones respect . . . Has keenest business mind of any leader in band business . . . Just bought two valuable orange groves in California . . . Calls them "Tuxedo Junction" . . . Will never retire . . . Must be active . . . His informal, easy voice is great on the air, and he does practically as much talking on programs as his announcer, Paul Douglas . . . Chesterfield swears by Glenn Miller . . . They say he's the best salesman they ever had . . . 130,000,000 Americans seem to agree . . .

*Autograph*



## HARRY JAMES . . .

If you ever ask anyone "Who is the greatest trumpet player of all time", and they answer, "Gabriel", forgive them for they know not what they say . . . When Ole Gabe can blow a horn like Harry James, he'll be entitled to recognition . . . Not until then . . . Harry was born in a circus, and at the age of five, was doing a contortionist act . . . Today, he has his clothes "specially made", to fit his swayback . . . Dad was the circus band leader, so our hero always wanted his own band . . . Got first break with Ben Pollack . . . Three years later, Benny Goodman heard him play a record solo and hired him pronto . . . Became

famous . . . Formed his own band and today is a box-office sellout . . . Plays baseball every chance he gets . . . Is red-hot Dodger fan . . . Wrote jump tune called "Flatbush Flannagan" and named his blue-blooded Irish terrier after the song . . . "Flannagan"  
Goes all over with the band . . . Harry's lip never gets tired from playing, but his feet get "beat" from standing . . . Became the legal guardian of "Corky" Corcoran so that the 17 year old sax wiz could play in the James Ork . . . Dislikes loud drunks on dance floors, white spotlights in theatres, and one-nighter bandstands that are too small to hold his entire band . . . Says only way to succeed musically, is practice and more practice . . . Thinks "Trumpet Rhapsody" is best recording he ever made . . . Keeps his band abreast of new musical ideas and changes . . . Now he has a string quartet in his band to lend color and beauty to ballads . . . Loves to listen to Duke Ellington's band . . . Continually explores the classics . . . On one-nighters, never takes long "jumps", because he doesn't believe in "knocking out his band". Home is in Beaumont, Texas . . . Wants to retire some day and own a ranch in California . . . Is married and has a youngster named Jeffrey . . . Some day he expects Jeffrey James will begin where Harry James ends . . .

*Autograph*



41 in 1945  
Years old

## TOMMY DORSEY . . .



Hats off to Tommy Dorsey! . . .  
"Sentimental Gentleman of Swing"  
. . . Born Nov. 19, 1904 at Mahanoy  
Plains, Pa . . . Father was a music  
teacher and went out of his way to  
get Tommy to toot a horn . . . Papa  
Dorsey had a brass band that toured  
jerkwater towns in coal district . . .  
Must have been a sight to see Tommy  
marching along trying to play trom-  
bone bigger than himself. . . Still very  
young when he joined "Scranton  
Sirens" . . . Don't laugh . . . might  
sound like a rinky-dink outfit, but it  
bridged the gap from the Dorsey  
Brass Band to big time music . . . In  
1924, T. D. broke into majors when  
he joined Jean Goldkette's band . . .  
Then, years with Red Nichols, Lopez,  
Whiteman etc . . . Once, hung up all-  
time record by playing with 22 bands  
in 12 months . . . Formed recording  
band with brother Jimmy . . . Favor-  
ably received . . . Band went into  
fashionable Sands Point Beach Club  
. . . Brothers had different ideas on  
how band should play, so they split  
. . . Tommy formed new group . . .  
Hit from the start, got big break by  
subbing for Waring on Ford Radio  
show . . . Knocked off his own pro-  
gram . . . From then on Dame Fortune  
was his steady girl friend . . . Today,  
he's at the top . . . Winner of all sorts  
of contests and popularity polls. . . Is  
5 ft. 11, 170 lbs., has straight black

hair, smiling eyes, is married and has  
two children . . . Intimates call him  
"Mac" . . . Proud of his collection of  
biggest postcards on record . . . Sent  
by T. D. fans clubs . . . Average size  
is 8 ft by 12 ft . . . Each is handletter-  
ed, and signed by hundreds of fans . . .  
Been all over, but every chance he  
gets, lights out for his 22 acre farm  
in Bernardsville, New Jersey . . . It's  
complete, with barns, horses, cows,  
swimming pool, tennis and handball  
courts . . . The Works . . . It even has  
a large miniature railroad . . . When  
Tommy was a kid, he wanted to be  
an engineer . . . Today, he knocks  
himself out running the toy trains . . .  
So you want to be a band leader?  
Tough life, but it has its compensa-  
tions . . . Ask Tommy Dorsey . . . He  
knows . . .

Autograph



41 years old in  
1945

## JIMMY DORSEY . . .

His billing reads, "World's Greatest Saxophonist" and few will deny the statement . . . Was born Leap Year Day, Feb. 29, 1904 in Shenandoah, Pa . . . While going to school and learning how to play the cornet and sax, he worked as a driller's helper to add to the family budget. . . His mining career came to an abrupt close when, quite by accident, he "conked" his foreman on the jaw with a sledge hammer . . . Always liked music better anyway . . . Played small jobs and eventually landed in big time, sitting in with Jean Goldkette, Paul Whiteman, Red Nichols, Rudy Vallee and others . . . Was such a marvel on his sax, that every big band going on the

air sought to corral him as a soloist . . . Then came his big "kick" when, with brother Tommy he formed the "Dorsey" orchestra . . . They achieved spectacular acclaim, but had a clash over music styles and finally separated, each to travel his own road to great success . . . Today they are friendly rivals . . . Jimmy reorganized his setup, went into various famous night spots . . . Trekked across the country and landed on the Kraft Music Hall with Bing Crosby, where he stayed for two years . . . Is a tremendous favorite in theatres and hotels and his records are in great demand in every juke box in the country . . . Bob Ripley wrote a "rave" about Jimmy Dorsey's feat of playing the 400 odd notes of Rimsky Korsakoff's "Flight of the Bumblebee" on his sax in two breaths . . . Hardly was the write-up printed when Jimmy played the entire shebang in ONE breath . . . Likes to play golf but considers himself world's worst . . . Enjoys soft ball . . . Jimmy is 5 ft. 7 and weighs about 160 lbs . . . When the Dorsey's were together, Jimmy would play a concert solo on a certain song . . . The tempo had to be just right, or Jimmy was lost . . . One night, Tommy gave the down beat too fast, and Jimmy played nothing but raspberries in tempo! . . . Tommy picked up his horn, walked off the stand, and that's how the "World's Greatest Saxophonist" was thrown on his own . . .

*Autograph*

46 years old in  
1945

## DUKE ELLINGTON . . . .



One of the great musical figures of the era, Duke Ellington will be honored in history with George Gershwin and Jerome Kern as among the greatest melody geniuses of his age . . . Has been extolled by such diverse personalities as Artie Shaw, Charlie Barnet, Leopold Stokowski and Percy Grainger . . . From his prolific pen has flowed "Solitude", "Moon Indigo", "Sophisticated Lady", and many other classics . . . Has a magnificent sense of style and is one of the few real artists of swing . . . He didn't follow a pattern, he made one . . . Was born Edward Kennedy Ellington, April 29, 1899 in Washington, D. C. . . . Father worked for the government, and young Edward was directed toward an art career . . . Won scholarship to Pratt Institute in New York, but his soul was crying for musical expression . . . Started jobbing around in bands . . . Hit New York in 1924 with a small ork . . . It was tough going . . . One of the gang kept the band eating by "knocking off" strangers at pool . . . Suddenly, came the break . . . In 1927 they opened at the Cotton Club . . . When the engagement ended, both the club and the Duke were world-famous . . . Toured Europe and conquered it . . . The best musicians fought to work under his genius, and today he has a group of superb instrumentalists . . . Wherever the Duke is playing, you can find other famous band leaders, listening, marveling, and applauding this great artist . . . He plays chords never before attempted, even having certain notes on instru-

ments tuned flat or sharp to achieve the desired effect . . . Likes clothes . . . That's how he earned his nickname . . . In high school he dressed so fastidiously, that the other kids called him "Duke" . . . Is tall, well-built, and handsome . . . Has dignity and commands respect . . . Religious . . . only superstition is the sight of a loose button . . . When one comes off his clothes he gives the suit away . . . Has made 4 motion pictures . . . A band leader can't buy one of Ellington's arrangements . . . The Duke will gladly give it to him, though . . . But that doesn't help, because the band probably won't be capable of playing it . . . Down through the years no one has matched the Duke . . . Raymond Paige states that European musical savants recognize only 2 American composers as being thoroughly original . . . the late John Philip Sousa, and Duke Ellington . . .

Autograph

Born in 1906 is  
39 in 1945



## GUY LOMBARDO . . .

Guy Lombardo will be famed in musical history as the eighth wonder of the world . . . For over ten years, despite public's notorious fickleness, "The Sweetest Music This Side of Heaven", has remained at the top . . . Bands come and go, musical styles appear and fade into oblivion, but like Ol' Man River, Lombardo goes rolling along . . . Born 36 years ago in London, Ontario . . . Took up the sax and at the mature age of 12, directed a concert for the local mothers club . . . 'T'was a success, and he knew then he wanted a band of his own . . . In 1920, formed his own orchestra, and

the original gang is still together. . . Has never "fired" a man.. From time to time made additions, but even these have been few and far between . . . A theatrical agent became interested in the young leader and brought him across the border to play U. S. Vaudeville . . . People like Lombardo's style, which from the first placed great emphasis on melody and simplicity . . . Has always insisted on air time, and believes his success is due to radio . . . Had first commercial coast-to-coast program for an orch . . . Guy is tall, dark and handsome . . . Generally regarded as suave and sophisticated, but is really a great sentimentalist. . . Always plays "Rose Marie" on Nov. 22 'cause that's the day his kid sister was born, and she's named after the song . . . A Chi Club owner gave the band a chance when it wasn't known, and paid off even tho business wasn't so hot . . . Recently, this right guy was in a financial jam . . . Lombardo heard of it, brought his band to the club, and pulled his friend out of the red . . . As each year rolls around, some people think that maybe this year will be the "one" in which the public will tire of Lombardo's music . . . But that never happens, and the way things look today, Guy Lombardo will still be at the head of the Parade for another 10 years . . .

*Autograph*

## CHARLIE BARNET . . .

Of all the white bandleaders, Charlie Barnet comes closest to playing negro swing. . . Other bands are smoother, more suave and sophisticated, but the field of jungle rhythms excites Barnet and he makes no secret of it . . . His idol in music is Duke Ellington, and he likes nothing better than to get an Ellington arrangement and play it on down . . . It was Duke who helped Charlie at the start and offered him priceless arrangements . . . He was born in New York and began playing when he was 14 . . . He wanted a trumpet, but that was too much. . . His parents insisted on a soft-toned sax. . . They never realized what they were starting . . . He took to the horn immediately, and practiced so hard and earnestly, that his teacher began to groom him for concerts. . . But here, Charlie called a halt . . . He was beginning to feel something in his playing that called for a different form of expression . . . He found himself improvising, welding his own ideas into the notes before him . . . He started a career as a band leader on ship cruises . . . Crossed the Atlantic many times, saw Africa, South America and the South Seas . . . Came back to America and formed a dance band, but it flopped . . . Didn't have the men he wanted . . . Tried again . . . Toured the country searching for certain musicians . . . Found them and burst forth with an exciting new band . . . Became a sensation . . . Invaded



Harlem to play the famous Apollo Theatre and they had to call out the mounted police . . . Recorded "Cherokee" and it became a best seller . . . Now they storm the shops for his records . . . Looks like a movie star . . . Hollywood once planned to make a cowboy hero out of him, but he said "no" . . . Has soft spot for New York's Famous Door, cause it was there his band first clicked . . . Charlie has just made a new picture called "Fifty Million Nickels" . . . Wrote the theme of the picture himself . . . Loves to relax by listening to a hot Duke Ellington recording . . . His fans swear by him . . . Anytime you are in a theatre or ballroom, and Charlie Barnet is up there "taking off" on a chorus, just look about you . . . You'll see how real swing fans react to the most primitive sax soloist in the business

*Autograph*

*in 1945 is some  
33 years*



## KAY KYSER . . .

When the late Hal Kemp took the entire school orchestra with him, and left the University of North Carolina to turn professional, Kay Kyser found himself in the band business. . . Kay was just about the only man left on the campus, who owned a musical instrument, so he organized a new school dance orchestra. . . Everybody liked it, and by the time they graduated, the boys were doing so well, they decided to stick to band business. . . Kay worked out the idea of announcing numbers by singing the song titles, introducing vocal numbers with a set music pattern, and developed his fabulous program idea, "The College of Musical Knowledge", which has taken the country by storm. . . His weekly

radio commercial, holds the number one position among hour programs, and he automatically cracks records wherever he makes a personal appearance . . . Has made 3 motion pictures, and clicked so big that he will soon be rushed into a fourth . . . Kay was born in Rocky Mount, North Carolina, some thirty years ago. . . 5 ft. 9, weighs 155 lbs; has blonde hair, and is unmarried . . . Great sense of humor . . . Never takes himself seriously or loses his temper. . . Likes swimming, riding, golf and baseball . . . Is a tremendous worker . . . A fanatic on sleep, insists 7 hours each night are necessary . . . Rarely gets it himself. . . Tremendously loyal, has never gone "high-hat" on old friends . . . Has a definite aversion to liver and moustaches. . . Keen mind, quick wit, and a great ad-libber. . . Writes a good part of his radio material. . . Has uncanny memory for names and faces. . . Likes to recount band's early struggles. . . His men rib him and razz him but he has their complete respect. . . Is a sucker for movies . . . Likes them all; Mickey Mouse, cowboy pictures, dramas, musicals . . . Still has the "Model T" Ford he used in college . . . Calls it "Passion". . . Always "mugs" and acts into the "mike" as if he could see the millions of people listening. . . Has remarkable knack of picking good men for his organization. . . Since the founding of the University of North Carolina in the 18th century, there has always been a member of the Kyser family on its faculty. . . The odds are 6, 2, and even, tho, that of 'em all, Ol' Carolina is proudest of Kay Kyser . . .

*Autograph*

43 in 1945  
years  
old

## JIMMIE LUNCEFORD . . .

Look out there, it's "The Harlem Express". . . He comes on like "Gang-Busters" and goes off like "We The People" . . . It's Jimmie Lunceford folks, creator of the "School of Jazznochracy" . . . He's a perfect gentleman, an honor graduate of Fisk University, a former professor of English, recipient of musical awards all over the world, and the first Negro Orchestra leader to win his wings and hold a Civil Aeronautics Commission license in the U.S. . . He was born in Fulton, Mississippi, June 6, 1902. . . Is 5 ft. 11, and weighs 194 lbs . . . His nickname is "Piggie" . . . When Jimmie was professor of English in a Memphis high school, he was the faculty advisor of the school's band. . . When the boys graduated, he couldn't give them up, so he tossed aside his professorship, went back to college with them, took extra-curricular courses, and kept the band together . . . They went on from there, playing all over the country and gathering fame. . . When he played, even before the era of jitterbugs, the audience swayed and rocked and was completely under the control of his musical spell. . . He has a distinctive style, and real fans can always identify his band from all others . . . He plays as he feels, and that's why his music ranges from nerve-shattering jazz, to smooth syncopation, to sweet swing. . . His orchestra is one of the most intelligent in the world . . .



Every man is a college graduate and each one of them is capable of leading his own band . . . His hold on the public is amazing. . . Did something no other band leader has ever dared attempt. . . Booked four engagements in Harlem within a 10 day period! . . . Only a man with drawing power to the nth degree would attempt such a feat. . . And it was a success . . . Jimmie is a master of the guitar, clarinet, flute, drums, and trombone . . . He pays homage to the small units in New Orleans who specialize in playing for funerals . . . On the way to the cemetery they play dirges, but coming back, they swing. . . "And how they swing", he sighs . . . Well, when it comes to swing, Jimmie Lunceford doesn't have to bow to any man. . . He's really "A Musical Record Breaker" . . .

*Autograph*



33 years old in  
1945

## WILL BRADLEY . . .

In the year of Our Lord, 1941, America suddenly became Boogie-Woogie conscious. . . Why? . . . Because Will Bradley appeared on the dance horizon with, "Beat Me Daddy Eight To The Bar", "Scrub Me Mama With A Boogie Beat", "Bounce Me Brother With a Solid Four", and other Boogie numbers. . . Before Will, boogie-woogie had been played on piano alone, but he interpreted the exciting rhythm for a band, and it caught on like wildfire. . . Born in Newton, N. J. thirty years ago, he came from a musical family and mastered the trombone in record-breaking time . . . Broke in with a vaudeville unit, and picked up some band

experience with Milt Shaw's Detroiters, where he met his present drummer, Ray McKinley. . . Went into radio as a free lance musician . . . Was in terrific demand; playing on so many different programs, he couldn't appear for rehearsals. . . Would send a sub to rehearse and then appear himself a moment before show time . . . Played in Ray Noble's first American band . . . Finally formed his own crew and he's been whirling in the spotlight ever since. . . His record sales have been amazing, and wherever this modern apostle goes, he gathers new converts to boogie-woogie. . . What is boogie-woogie? . . . Well, they've been playing it for years and years in Dixie. . . It's based on a rolling, repeating bass, with eight beats to the bar, and it gets right under your skin and makes you want to "take off". . . Musicians have been admiring it for years, but Will Bradley brought it forth for public enjoyment. . . Bradley, although he looks like a kid, is married and the proud father of two children. . . Loves to drink beer and wear collegiate sport clothes. . . Handsome and tremendously popular, he is completely unassuming, and will talk for hours about his family and music. . . Likes all sports, and spends spare time composing string quartette numbers. . . Has a large collection of records. . . crazy about Walt Disney and spaghetti. . . Is a "musician's musician" . . . Other bandmen pay him homage because of his great versatility on the trombone . . . Sweet or lowdown, it's all the same to Will Bradley. . . He plays it and plays it fine. . .

*Autograph*



# MUSIC'S HALL OF FAME



**CAB CALLOWAY**  
"Has Anybody Seen Minnie?"



**EDDIE DUCHIN**  
"Magic Fingers of Radio"



**JOHNNY LONG**  
"Johnny Getcha Fiddle"



**TOMMY TUCKER**  
"Nero's Only Rival"



**ELLA FITZGERALD**  
"Ella, Every Fella Thinks You're Mella"



**JOHN KIRBY**  
"Biggest Little Band In The World"



**RAY NOBLE**  
"Top Hat, White Tie, and Tails"



**SHEP FIELDS**  
"Love Me, Love My Music"



**RUSS MORGAN**  
"Romeo With A Trombone"



**ERSKINE HAWKINS**  
"Boy With A Horn"



**GLEN GRAY**  
"Romance In Rhythm"



**"FATS" WALLER**  
"Yes, Yes, Well All Right!"



**LES BROWN**  
"It Pays To Jump"



**ORRIN TUCKER**  
"Oh Orrin, Oh Johnny, Oh Gee!"



**VINCENT LOPEZ**  
"Fantasia On The Keyboard"



**EARL HINES**  
"Father, Make Us Know It!"



**OZZIE NELSON**  
"From Rutgers To Rhythm"



**BENNY CARTER**  
"One More Request For Body And Soul"



**MITCHELL AYRES**  
"Mitch, When You Puch, Our Feet Itch"



**HORACE HEIDT**  
"Horace, You Never Bore Us"



**LUCKY MILLINDER**  
"Tempo In Tan"



**ALVINO REY**  
"An Ace And Four Kings"



**BOB CHESTER**  
"From Riches To Ragtime"



**TONY PASTOR**  
"Pastor, You're A Master With A Sax"



32 years old  
in 1945

## BOB CROSBY . . .

Have you ever had a big brother who was very good at something? . . . And you too were pretty good at the same thing, but nobody paid you any mind 'cause they were busy praising your big brother? . . . Then you know what Bob Crosby has had to contend with . . . Bing commanded so much attention that nobody ever noticed Bob; and it was a long, tough climb, strictly on his own merits, before he hit the top . . . Today, as the foremost exponent of Dixieland Jazz, he is a real star . . . Bob Crosby was born in Spokane, Washington, August 23, 1913. When he was 13 he made his debut singing "Has Anybody Seen My Gal" . . . The theatre was packed . . .

The organist played the intro . . . Bob opened his mouth but nothing came out . . . After they played the intro 5 times and young Crosby had yet to give with the voice, they gave with the bounce . . . Eventually, became a vocalist, and after two years at Gonzaga College, knocked around until Ben Pollack's old band selected him to front the combo . . . He's six feet tall, 185 lbs. has black hair and brown eyes . . . Quite a tennis and handball player . . . Most prized possession is his good luck piece, an Irish shilling . . . Wears conservative clothes, doesn't smoke . . . Likes to fly . . . Is an early riser and a real radio bug, always tuning in on something . . . Calls his band the "Bobcats" . . . Has some of the greatest musicians in the country, and each year when the "All-American" band is picked, more men are selected from Bob Crosby's gang than from any other . . . There was a time, when the "Bobcats" were first organized, that they played wild uninhibited Dixieland music . . . Now, although they're still Dixieland, they've toned down their deliveries to great advantage . . . Since 1935 they've played practically every tank town in America . . . Bob and his band recently made a picture . . . While it's true that Barrymore didn't commit suicide after seeing Bob emote, they've been signed for another picture, so there . . . Bob Crosby's a regular guy . . . Today, he's a big man, and he did it the hard way . . . We salute you, Mister Bob . . . You're O.K. . . .

Autograph

1945 year old 45

## XAVIER CUGAT . . .

If you're sitting in a night club minding your own business, and all of a sudden the marracas start to shake and some luscious young thing throws her hip out of joint right before your eyes, blame it on the "Rhumba King", Xavier Cugat. . . He is far and away the leader in his own field, the one man who made America dance conscious of Latin rhythms . . . Cugat was born in Barcelona, Spain, January 1, 1900. . . His parents were well off, and as patrons of art, decided that the boy should become a concert violinist. . . He studied under the best teachers in Spain, and in the most exclusive conservatories of Europe. . . It was his violin that finally brought him to America. . . He came as an assistant artist to the great Enrico Caruso. . . The famous canary taught him how to draw, and today he is an accomplished caricaturist. . . As a matter of fact, he once worked as a cartoonist on the Los Angeles Times. . . Finally quit art to form a small band . . . They did relief jobs here and there, playing authentic Latin music . . . That went on for 12 years, and, though the band grew, nothing happened. . . Finally Renee Black of the Waldorf-Astoria heard them in California and brought Cugat to New York. . . In 1933 he introduced "Begin The Beguine". . . It caught on like wildfire. . . He deluged America with rumbas, bequines, congas boleros, sambas, etc. . . His music has



made him the top exponent of good will between the U. S. and her Latin-America sister republics. . . He's a master showman and jams any theatre he plays . . . Is one of the 3 persons in history awarded the Order of The Grand Cross, from the Cuban Government. . . This, for popularizing Cuban and other Latin music; providing employment for thousands of Cuban musicians; and enhancing Cuba's attraction as a vacation spot. . . He's tall, dark and looks like a Spanish nobleman. . . Married to Carmen Castillo. . . She calls him Coogie. . . He calls himself X. . . Will shortly realize a life's ambition, when he plays a concert in Carnegie Hall, that will feature symphonic arrangements of "South of the Border" tunes. . . Felicites Senior. . .!

Autograph

33 years old in  
1945

## JAN SAVITT . . .

His father was one of the crack musicians of the Czar's Imperial Band . . . At 6, he studied violin under the master, Carl Flesch . . . At 13, a Curtis Institute scholarship. . . At 15, the Philadelphia Symphony under an admiring Stokowski, and a gold medal from the Philharmonic Society for heading the best string quartet of the year . . . A chance to study music in Paris and Vienna . . . At 17, the concert master of the Philadelphia Symphony . . . the youngest in the country . . . and Stokowski said, "the best . . . !" In 1934 as a Doctor of Music, and tremendously interested in radio, he took the job as musical director of radio station W.C.A.U. . . . Then to K.Y.W. in same capacity . . . One of his duties was the organization of a house band to play popular music . . . He brought into play his great knowledge of the Masters, and all the magnificence and scope of his musical intellect . . . Brilliant arrangements with an infectuous off-beat 'shuffle rhythm', made the bands' sustaining shows over the N.B.C. network a "must" to listeners . . . Letters poured in and the band took a "short" leave of absence to play one-nighters . . . Savitt was a sensation . . . He went into New York's Hotel Lincoln, following Artie Shaw, and wowed 'em . . . From there he was a cinch . . . Jan was born in Petrograd, Russia, on Sept. 4, 1912, but was brought to America when but 18 months old . . .



Short in stature, but gigantic in ability, he can be seen at most important concerts of the great symphony orchestras, ears cocked attentively, every fibre of his body intent on absorbing their musical might . . . Unlike most "long-hairs", he recognizes "jazz" as good music . . . He believes sweet swing to be *the* American music, and as such, worthy of serious study . . . He has been asked why, with his brilliant training as a concert violinist, he is leading a dance band. . . His answer is, "Because I am an American. Because this music is the tempo, and feeling of America . . . Because here is a new art form. Because this music I play, I love" . . . That's Jan Savitt . . . Wotta man . . . ! Wotta musician . . . !

Autograph

45 in 1943  
old years



happened to him, because while in the Home, he learned to play the cornet . . . His ear was keen, his chest deep, and he had a trumpeter's lip . . . When he left the Home, the famous King Oliver gave him lessons and finally got him a job with a band . . . Then followed years up and down the Mississippi, to Chicago with King Oliver, New York with Fletcher Henderson, and back to Chi . . . His fame was growing, and they started to bill him as the "World's Greatest Trumpeter" . . . He came to New York again in 1929, opened at Connie's Inn, took the town by storm, and became the star of "Hot Chocolates" . . . From then on, it was one triumph after another . . . Five years in Europe . . . every prominent spot in the U. S., the only performer to ever play 12 command performances for the King and Queen of England . . . Blown more high C's in succession than any other trumpeter, 280 . . . Has been a sensation in pictures, and scored in the swing version of Shakespeare's "Midsummer Nights Dream" . . . His records are collectors items, and during the past year, two competing companies simultaneously released Louis Armstrong albums . . . Ol' Satchmo is a beloved personality . . . Always smiling, always happy, always reaching out into the hearts of his audience . . . He's a terrific worker, and plays each show as if it is the most important in his career . . . Hollywood is talking of making a picture about the life of Louis Armstrong . . . If and when they do, you'll see the first authentic picture yet produced on swing . . .

## LOUIS ARMSTRONG . . .

His intimates affectionately call him "Ol' Satchmo" which is short for satchelmouth . . . More record collections have probably been inspired by him, than by any other artist . . . That's because when people think of swing, they just naturally think of Louis Armstrong . . . He was born in New Orleans on July 4, 1900, and he's been sizzling ever since . . . His youth was like that of any average tenement-bred colored boy . . . Poverty and little to be happy about . . . In 1913, on New Year's Eve, he got hold of an old six-shooter and fired it . . . For that, they tossed him in the "Waif's Home" for a year and a half . . . Louis says that was the best thing that ever

Autograph

31 in 1945  
years  
old.

## ARTIE SHAW . . .

The stormy figure of modern music. . . Is noted for doing what he wants when he wants, come "hell or highwater" . . . Believes that the present recognized dance band can never perform American music as it should be played . . . Feeling that way, he disbanded his own organization while it was at the peak of its popularity, and returned with a 30 piece crew that includes, besides the regular saxes, brass and rhythm, 8 violins, 4 violas, and 3 cellos . . . Here is a symphony he claims that can really interpret jazz . . . He's a stickler for perfection and will not excuse the pressure of long one-nighters and taxing theatre dates for a let-up in his music . . . Won't record an arrangement until his band has had it in rehearsal for at least a week . . . Was born in New York 28 years ago . . . As a kid he haunted vaudeville houses . . . Heard a sax player take a solo in the Palace Theatre, and he saved till he had enough to buy a horn of his own . . . With it came 5 free lessons . . . This is the only instruction that Shaw ever had . . . He picked up his background knocking about the country . . . Still a kid and tooting in a band, he won an essay contest on the Cleveland Air Races . . . It gave him a free trip to Hollywood . . . There he joined Irving Aaronson's orchestra . . . Finally landed back in New York



and became a "house" man . . . In 1936 at a big swing concert, brought down the house with a small dance group featuring strings . . . Booked into big jobs, but the country wasn't ready for him . . . Nothing happened . . . Reorganized his band . . . Clicked . . . Recorded "Begin the Beguine" and "Indian Love Call", and hit the top . . . Now he has his own organization, and no one knows how far he will go . . . Doesn't care about a "style" . . . Believes each tune should have the particular treatment it calls for . . . Was married to movie star Lana Turner, but it didn't take . . . Some folks think he's strange . . . Doesn't care about personal popularity or money . . . Wants only to contribute something lasting to American music and he probably will . . .

36 in 1945  
old  
years



# GENE KRUPA . . . .

When the gang speaks of "The Ace Drummer Man", the boy who sets your feet a tapping, the skinbeater whom all alligators idolize, they're talking about only *one* cat . . . The Kolossal Krupa . . . Few people know it, but Gene once studied for the priesthood . . . Gave it up when he realized how much he wanted to express himself musically . . . In his case, the pulpit's loss was the dancer's gain . . . Gene Krupa was born in Chicago Jan. 15, 1909 . . . Took up drums when he was a kid but nearly changed to another instrument, 'cause the band rehearsed across town, and the conductor wouldn't let him on the car with his "skins" . . . Fortunately, the

rehearsal place was changed . . . He never took a lesson in his life . . . Believes real swing must be improvised . . . Plays strictly from imagination . . . Spends fortunes for clothes, because he works so hard while performing . . . Carries a wardrobe of over 30 suits and changes after each show . . . Often that means 5 times a day . . . First big job was with Red Nichols in 1929 . . . From there, Krupa held a chair with a succession of combos until 1934 when he signed with Goodman . . . The rest is history . . . His ambition is to play drums in a symphony orchestra . . . Practices hard every day and uses a rubber pad to drill on . . . Man, do those pads take a beating . . . Always wears his hat during rehearsals to get the true sounds of the drums . . . Plays the piano because it helps develop his left hand which he is eternally trying to improve . . . Married to the former Ethel Fawcett of Chicago . . . He stands 5 ft. 8, weighs 145 lbs., and has black hair and brown eyes . . . Has written a book on drumming and lectured at New York Museum of Natural History on the subject of primitive drums . . . If you see a drummer perched high over a band, a wild, indescribable look on his face, teeth flashing, jaws working furiously, and shouting the meaningless phrase "Lyonnaise potatoes and pork chops" as he arouses everyone within hearing distance to a pitch of abandoned emotion, that, brother, is Gene Krupa . . .

*Autograph*

35 years old in  
1945

## SAMMY KAYE . . .

So you want to lead a band" . . . So did Sammy Kaye . . . Today he does, and, realizing that most of us have a secret desire to lead a band, is cashing in on that knowledge . . . At each performance, Sammy allows members of the audience to take over his baton and conduct the music . . . You can imagine what goes on . . . The "Swing and Sway" maestro was born in Cleveland, Ohio, March 13, 1910 . . . Went to Ohio University where he was an all-round athletic star, leader of a dance band, and in between times collected a degree in civil engineering . . . He never did get to use that sheepskin . . . His college band was good, and they went from one place to another, until, at Bill Green's Casino in Pittsburgh, with a radio wire to bring his music to the nation, Sammy Kaye really clicked . . . Then came the New York Paramount, The Hotel Commodore, fabulous road tours, and the ability to establish charge accounts wherever he wished . . . At Frank Dailey's Meadowbrook Club where Sammy broke the all-time record, he was rewarded with an amazing contract . . . He and his band are to play there at least 8 weeks a year for the next 10 years! . . . Readily admits that radio is largely responsible for his rise to fame . . . His Victor records are tremendous sellers . . . "Daddy" didn't do so badly,



you know . . . Sammy Kaye is 5 ft. 9, weighs 150 lbs. has light wavy hair and blue eyes . . . Likes to compose songs, read, play golf, and invent things . . . Is really quite normal but does have one superstition . . . On the first program of any new series, he plays an old medley consisting of three ancients . . . "Let's Try It Again", "If You Were Mine", and "I Can't Believe It's True" . . . A few years ago, an announcer signing off a program said, "You've been listening to the music of Sammy Kaye. The music that swings, the music that—" . . . Here, he was at a loss for words. . . Kaye leaned into the mike . . . "Sways", he blurted . . . "Yes", trumpeted the announcer . . . "The music that swings and sways" . . . And that's how "Swing and Sway" was born . . .



## COUNT BASIE . . .

The Count was born in Red Bank, N. J. and today is one of that community's most illustrious sons . . . They even have a "Count Basie Day" in New Jersey. . . His name is William Basie and when he was 5, his mother gave him his first piano lesson . . . Three men have been instrumental in his rise to fame . . . "Fats" Waller who took him when he was young and helped develop his style, the Great Benny Moten in whose band Basie played during the early 1930's, Benny Goodman who heard him play . . . Benny claimed he was big time, set the Count with his own personal manager, and brought him to national prominence . . . He started his professional career in 1929

as pianist and arranger with the Blue Devils of Walter Page, who today plays in the Count's band . . . He knocked around until he landed with Benny Moten's great orchestra . . . Became the assistant conductor, and took over after Moten's unfortunate death . . . Then Benny Goodman heard him play and he was on the way to fame . . . They call him "Jump King of Swing" . . . Critics claim his band today has the greatest rhythm section of all time . . . Joe Jones on drums, Walter Page on Bass, Freddie Greene, guitar, and the Count at the Ivories . . . Is top favorite with college men . . . Has given two tremendously successful concerts in Carnegie Hall . . . He also composes . . . His "One O'Clock Jump" is the swing addicts bible . . . Owns tremendous collection of recordings . . . His popularity is amazing . . . He played a dance at Rocky Mount, N. C. and they jammed 16,000 people into a huge warehouse . . . That was bad enough, but there were 10,000 more outside who couldn't get in . . . The house manager promised he'd hold the Count over, but that didn't satisfy the swing-mad mob . . . Finally, the National Guard had to be called out to prevent a riot . . . The "Count" was so named in Chicago . . . Down and out, broke, he was trying to scrape up fare to get home to Red Bank . . . He filled in at a nickel movie house, and the royal manner in which he conducted himself when his fingers struck the keyboard, caused the manager to exclaim, "What is this guy, a Count or something?" . . . He's been the Count ever since . . .

*Autograph*



38 years old in  
1945

## FREDDIE MARTIN . . .

You know who Freddie Martin is, don't you? . . . He's the guy who discovered Tchaikowsky. . . At least he put the old boy's "Piano Concerto" into every juke box in the country, and sister, that aint hay. . . He also had four other big record hits which boosted his platter sales for 1941 over the one million mark! . . . All told he's had a tremendous year, smashing records everywhere, taking over the Lady Esther air show, making a movie, "The Mayor of 44th St.", soon to be released, and right now probably deserves the band's billing, "America's Outstanding Musical Organization" . . . At the moment he's as "hot as a firecracker" . . . His band is predominantly sweet, smooth, and sophisticated, but it doesn't stop there. . . Richard English, band music authority for Colliers and Cosmopolitan says, "Freddie Martin has everything. . . be it smooth, sweet, gutbucket, corn, mellow, or just solid swing" . . . He has a sense of the dramatic and will often hit a hot lick in the middle of a dreamy chorus. . . Freddie was born in Cleveland, Dec. 1907 . . . His parents died when he was four, so he spent his childhood in the Knights of Pythias orphanage at Springfield, Ohio . . . When he was 16 he left the orphanage and soon had a job selling musical instruments . . . Being around them all the time led to a natural desire to learn how to play one himself,



and he picked the sax . . . Two years later, he was with a band in Europe . . . Returned to America and joined a vaudeville band that stranded him in New York. . . Worked for a while with Arnold Johnson but wanted his own organization . . . In 1931, sold himself to Hotel Bossert in Brooklyn . . . From there he went on to the peak . . . Believes December is his lucky month 'cause he was born on the ninth, his wife on the eleventh, and they were married on the tenth . . . There's one fellow who can't forget his wedding anniversary . . . Has one son . . . Is a great sentimentalist and it shows in his music . . . "Freddie Martin is a nice little man, a little embarassed to be out in front of so many people, but he's a true musician . . . and what a band!" . . .

*Autograph*

36 years old in  
1945



When graduated, joined C. B. S. staff as pianist. . . His famous "quintet" was created there. . . C. B. S. asked him to get together a small group to accompany a singer . . . Took six "house" men, called them a quintet, and wrote "Twilight In Turkey" for the occasion. . . When he played it, fan mail poured in. . . He responded with "Powerhouse", "Dinner Music For A Pack of Hungry Cannibals", "War Dance for Wooden Indians", and other classics. . . Doesn't create like ordinary composers who write notes on paper. . . Uses a phonograph . . . Records themes for each instrument and plays it until each man can play his part back. . . Then the group plays together. . . Before the number is ready they may make 75 recordings. . . His wife is a beautiful little brunette with a remarkable background in popular and classical music. . . They have one daughter. . . Raymond Scott is 5 ft. 10, weighs 180 lbs . . . Has black hair, and piercing brown eyes . . . Usually smiling, and often in a "fog" . . . Always thanks his men after each performance . . . Records for Columbia, and has a clause in his contract which gives him the right to veto any recording he doesn't consider fit to release. . . His place in musical history is assured. . . Now he has a big band, but his music goes right on "being different" . . . Revolutionary is the word for Scott. . . Many think he's a musical "whack", but who can say where the "Whack" stops and genius begins? . . .

# RAYMOND SCOTT . . .

When is a sextet not a sextet? . . . When Raymond Scott is its leader . . . Then it's a quintet. . . Puzzled? . . . Well, Mr. Scott's habits are beyond ordinary mortals. . . He seldom looks at a newspaper, is virtually unaware of anything going on outside of his own dream-world . . . Real name is Harry Warnow. . . Born in Brooklyn, Sept. 10, 1909, he soon showed strong interest in acoustics and things mechanical. . . However he was detoured from engineering by big brother Mark, present leader of the "Hit Parade" . . . Mark heard the kid play an original number called "Metropolis" and promptly sent him to the Institute of Musical Art. . .

36 years old  
in 1945

Autograph

32 years old in  
1945

## VAUGHN MONROE . . .

Was literally forced into fame . . . While singing and playing trumpet for Jack Marshard in Boston, Marshard got the idea of putting a band behind the personable young vocalist . . . Monroe put up a "squawk" . . . He didn't want the headaches that automatically become a part of every bandleader's life. . . But Marshard insisted, and finally threatened to fire the rebel unless he listened to reason . . . Faced with unemployment and not having a nickle, reluctantly agreed. . . Today he can look back and laugh at his fears. . . Although there have been headaches, his band is definitely on the upgrade, their records are selling very well, and the young maestro is zooming into the kind of popularity that pays big dividends. . . Born October 7th, 1913 in Akron, Ohio. . . Had a natural flair for mechanics . . . Received an engineering degree at Carnegie Tech . . . Started playing trumpet when 11 years old, and worked his way through college by tooting in dance bands. . . The horn got under his skin and he gave up his engineering ambitions to follow the musical trail. . . Worked with various outfits until Marshard gave him the big push. . . Now he's riding high . . . Looks like a matinee idol. . . Stands 6 ft. 2, weighs 195 lbs., has blue eyes and brown curly hair. . . Is an all-round athlete. . . Has a rich, trained baritone voice. . . Still takes voice lessons daily. . . Band was originally organized to play sweet "society" music, featuring strings, waltzes, etc. . .



They worked very select dates, appearing at class spots and were well received, but Vaughn didn't like what he was playing. . . So in 1940 he re-organized his orchestra. . . Now they play all types of music; he's happy, and the customers certainly aren't complaining . . . His hobbies are flying and outboard motor boat racing . . . He also plays golf, tennis, swims, and rides horseback. . . Owns a farm in New Hampshire and though it's a little early to be looking so far ahead, he wants to retire to those arces some day and become a gentleman farmer . . . Was voted most popular young band by students of 171 colleges in annual poll conducted by "Billboard" . . . Will soon make a motion picture. . . Veteran showmen claim he is the first great singing bandleader since the days of Rudy Vallee . . . When you hear him work, you'll know the reason why. . .

Autograph

32 years old  
in 1945

30 years old in  
1945



## WOODY HERMAN . . .

He literally grew up in vaudeville, so today he is right at home before the admiring throngs that flock to theatres to see him play. . . Born 1915 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and named Woodrow Wilson Herman in honor of the war-time President. . . By the time he was 12, he was touring vaudeville as a child genius. . . Danced and did a spectacular turn on the sax and clarinet. . . Parents wanted him to be educated, and so he landed at Marquette University. . . As soon as he got out, however, he joined Gus Arnheim's old band. . . Then followed jobs with Harry Sosnik, Tom Gerum and Isham Jones. . . In

1937 when Jones suddenly retired, the band was left high and dry. . . Woody suggested they form themselves into a co-operative unit. . . This they did, choosing him as their leader. . . Today, seven of the original "Board of Directors" are still in the band and collecting fat dividends on their stock. . . The first three years of the new band's existence was hard going, but last year they skyrocketed into national prominence, and are now cashing in. . . They are known as "The Band That Plays The Blues" . . . Woody is curly-haired, handsome, married, and the proud father of a new little girl named Ingrid. . . Sings a grand vocal . . . Also a songwriter of note. . . Goes in for horseback riding and ice-skating. . . Likes to read, especially in bed. . . Follows all the comics strips . . . Once played in the same band with Tony Martin, and today the two stars like to get together and reminisce. . . Gets a tremendous kick out of his music and his family . . . Wants to retire to California someday. . . Claims a musician must love the work he is doing, or he is a "dead pigeon". . . Believes the "blues" will be the next big rage with the public. . . Swing Magazine picked him to be the bandleader most likely to hit the top in 1942. . . Is the only leader in America to claim two small bands within a band!" . . . His sudden popularity doesn't phase him a bit . . . Has had to work very hard to get into the top brackets, and is grimly determined to stay there.

*Autograph*

39 years old in  
1945

## JACK TEAGARDEN . . .

Born in Vernon, Texas, Aug. 20, 1906, an offspring of musically talented parents, Jack Teagarden has lived to become the foremost blues vocalist and trombonist of all time . . . His entire family plays various instruments, and when little Jack was barely up to here, he started tooting a horn . . . At 15 he joined his first band, a four piece crew that haunted roadhouses . . . From the very first, he favored the blues . . . He'd heard the workers singing in the cotton fields, and the forlorn lovers wailing their woe in the colored quarters at night . . . He felt the blues and he played them, and sang them . . . Red Nichols picked him up in Chicago, and now Jack was rubbing elbows with such musicians as Benny Goodman, Pee Wee Russell and Gene Krupa . . . When he hit New York, it was to join Ben Pollack's famous crew . . . He stayed for five years and then succumbed to the pleas of Paul Whiteman to join the King of Jazz . . . In 1939 he formed his own band . . . Many of the country's outstanding instrumentalists were eager to play under him, and "Mr. T's" orchestra was a surefire hit . . . His greatest hobby is steam . . . When he was a kid, he tended a steam engine for his uncle in a Texas oil field . . . Loved it ever since . . . Holds an honorary membership card in the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers . . . It entitles him



to ride in the engineer's cab of any train he takes, and he does . . . He and Glenn Miller wrote one of the greatest of all blues classics, "Basin Street" . . . Has played and sung just about every blues tune there is, but his favorite is Wolverine Blues. . . Is married and has two boys . . . Jack is 5 ft, 11 weighs 174 lbs . . . Has jet black hair and brown eyes . . . Has a lot of nicknames, among which are "Jackson", and "Big Gate", to distinguish him from brother Charlie, "Little Gate". . . His intimates affectionately call him "Mr. T" . . . Has just made "Birth of The Blues" with Bing Crosby, and his performance is the talk of movieland . . . His theme is "I've Got A Right to Sing The Blues", but now that the country has taken his beloved blues to its heart. Mr. T. should be very happy . . .

*Autograph*



36 years old in  
1945 May

No soap . . . Big Town wasn't ready . . . B. G. hit the road . . . Cross Country to the Palomar in Los Angeles . . . Wowed 'em. . . Then to Congress Hotel in Chicago for 7 months and the jackpot . . . Became the number one band in the country . . . Radio, pictures, recordings, hotels, and that fine big dough . . . Many critics call Benny the "greatest clarinetist of all time" . . . Equally at home playing Boogie-Woogie or Beethoven and Bach . . . Has appeared as guest soloist with great symphonic organizations of the country . . . Won hoozannahs everywhere . . . His band gave the first swing concert ever heard in Carnegie Hall . . . When it was over, the mothers stood up and threw their babies out of the balconies . . . Yessiree bob, they loved him . . . Benny Goodman was born in Chicago, May 30, 1909 . . . He's single and has had to fight for everything he's ever had . . . On him, success looks good . . . When you know that he studied hard under Boguslowski, Franz Schoepp, and Joseph Schillinger, it isn't difficult to understand why not only the cats in the Palomar and Roseland think he's great, but even the long hairs at Carnegie Hall pay him homage . . . Years from now when they look back at the age of "Jump and Jive", and they want to pick one man who will embody the musical spirit of this era, that man will be the King of Swing . . . Benny Goodman! . . .

## BENNY GOODMAN . . .

Benny Goodman started playing Lake Michigan excursion boats while still in short pants . . . Met Bix Beiderbecke there . . . Earned the great man's praise while tooting with him in four piece combo . . . Studied furiously and worked like a dog . . . Played in pit bands, clubs, shows, made recordings. . . Worked under Ben Pollack, Paul Whiteman, Ted Lewis, etc. . . In 1924 formed his own band . . . Country was on a "sweet kick", but Benny had his own ideas . . . Opened in New York's Hotel Roosevelt and nearly blew the dignified patrons right out of the joint . . .

*Autograph*

34 years old in  
1945 August

## CLAUDE THORNHILL . . .

When the public applauds the work of great bands, it rarely stops to realize that these same bands owe their popularity to the men who make their music possible, the arrangers . . . These arrangers, like the gag writers of great comedians, operate behind the scenes, and remain unknown to the man in the street . . . Only once in a great while does one of them step out from behind the eight-ball, and become known to America's dancing millions . . . Claude Thornhill spent 15 years as an arranger for the greatest names in show business: Andre Kostelanetz, Bing Crosby, Morton Downey, Benny Goodman, Ray Noble, and many others . . . It is a well known fact that his arrangement of "Loch Lomond" for Maxine Sullivan lifted that dusky star into the spotlight . . . He was born in Terre Haute, Indiana, August 10, 1911 . . . A child prodigy, he was sent to Cincinnati's Conservatory of Music, and Curtis Institute . . . In 1927, joined Austin Wylie's orchestra; then worked with Hal Kemp, Goodman, and others. . . His own band was formed in January, 1940, and has had increasing success . . . Doesn't play too many "pop" tunes . . . Goes in more for arranging classics in swing tempo . . . Is only dance band in existence using French horns . . . Has two . . . They keep harmony sustained and full, so the band has an organ effect . . . Composed his own theme, "Snowfall" . . . Is 5 ft. 11, weighs 175 lbs., has brown hair and brown eyes . . . Is a terrific coffee



drinker . . . Takes it black and in dabs . . . Drinks out of demi tasse cups . . . Wherever he plays, there is always a waiter handy with a cup of the strongest java available . . . On his rare nights off he goes to plays . . . Likes both musicals and drama . . . Only other relaxation is driving in the country . . . Believes "Autumn Nocturne" is his best recording . . . In a theatre, amazes his audience by standing a few feet from his piano, announcing the next number, then whirling, and without looking, striking the opening chords of the arrangement . . . He never hits the wrong chord . . . Lives in a furnished home with his pal, Gil Evans and a great dane that weighs a ton . . . Claude claims he must make a fortune so that he can pay for the meat his dog devours . . .

Autograph



33 years old in  
1945

## CHARLIE SPIVAK . . .

When a man has a job which pays him top money, and he knows the job will last, it takes an awful lot of courage to give up the whole thing and go into a different proposition, which at best is a big gamble and which means the investment of a large sum of hard-earned dough . . . Charlie Spivak did it . . . He was firmly entrenched in New York as a free lance musician . . . He "worked" all the best radio shows with the biggest bands, played under the Dorsey's, Paul Specht, Ray Noble, and Ben Pollack... But he wanted his own band . . . So guided by his pal, Glenn Miller, he took the leap and gathered about him

a group of young 'uns who could really play . . . They went into Glen Island Casino, cradle of many famous orchestras, and were a sensation . . . Many critics called it "The Band of 1941" . . . Charlie won the juicy engagement to play the Daily News Harvest Moon Ball . . . He made records and the public couldn't buy them fast enough . . . Thinks "This Is No Laughing Matter" is his best recording to date . . . Was born in New Haven, Connecticut, February 17, 1912 . . . Is 5ft. 8, 160 lbs., has brown hair and brown eyes . . . Likes to watch a ball game if the Dodgers are playing . . . Haunts movies in spare time . . . Is married and has a 6 yr. old son, Joel, who listens to every program, and is his dad's severest critic . . . Plays "The Sweetest Trumpet in The World" . . . Puts it right against the mike and plays so soft you can't hear it three feet away . . . Has invented his own mute for the trumpet . . . His band is a "jump" ork, but their groovy, swing arrangements only go to show off Charlie's sweet trumpet . . . Every musician who has ever worked with him, every promoter with whom he has done business, thinks he's a swell guy. . . Very calm, even temperament . . . Never flares up . . . Tries very hard to please everybody and invariably does . . . Always travels in the same car with his men when on the road, because he loves the repartee and horseplay that goes on . . . His boy and his band fill his life . . . You'll hear a lot more of him in 1942 . . .

*Autograph*





