

# MOVIE MACHINE REVIEWS

## Program 1118

Assembled and released by Soundies Distributing Corporation of America, Inc. Release date, May 18.

**Musical Movie Memories** presents scenes from BING CROSBY'S and BOB HOPE'S earlier movies. Bing sings *I Surrender Dear* in his most popular style, and Bob and Leah Ray do a comedy routine which is fairly amusing but proves that Hope's forte definitely isn't singing. JIMMY WALLINGFORD does the introduction in his usual smooth style. Should be popular with all Crosby and Hope fans. (Soundies)

**Black Party Revels** presents hot music in a highly acceptable way. LYNN ALBRITTON, an excellent pianist; BILLY and ANN and the HARLEM CUTIES in a good dance routine and a novelty musical group, the SIX KNOBS, show what goes on at a Harlem block party. (Soundies)

**Stand Up for Your Rights** presents the REIS BROTHERS and HARRY ROSS in a rough and tumble number of a type too often seen. Background is a night club. Three unidentified lovelies as the singers' wives have a brief appearance and attempt to prove the men have no rights. (L. O. L.)

**The Irish Washerwoman** brings together one of the better harmony teams, THE KING SISTERS, ably assisted by ALVINO REY'S orchestra. Clever background, but the introduction of the inevitable cop flirting with the washerwoman is pure corn. Good entertainment otherwise. (Minoco Reissue)

**Showboat Melodies** stars THE MARSHALLS, a pleasant and capable group singing *Oh, Susannah; Old Folks at Home* and *Camptown Races*. Not for the jitterbugs, but should do well in neighborhood spots. An unidentified eccentric dancer does a short turn with two pretty stooges. (Minoco)

**Plant a Little Garden in Your Own Back Yard** is highly topical, what with the popularity of Victory Gardens. THE SONG SPINNERS sing a song by the same title with enthusiasm, and an unbilled girl does a highly unoriginal dance routine. Some very pretty feminine gardeners add to the entertainment value. (Soundies)

TONY PASTOR and two of his stars, JOHNNY McAFEE and JEANIE BAIRD, star in *That Did It, Marie*. Typical Pastor arrangement—noisy and not too high a quality—but should go over with people who like the type. The vocalists do well and some sweater girls add atmosphere. (Minoco Reissue)

SLIPPERY WALSH, comedy dancer, performs in typical style in *Grandpappy's Birthday*. A good hillbilly band, which is not named, is much better than the star of the piece. With the return to popularity of hillbilly stuff in some locations, this may be more successful than it deserves. (Minoco)

## Program 1119

Assembled and released by Soundies Distributing Corporation of America, Inc. Release date, May 31.

THE SONG SPINNERS turn in a neat arrangement of a song which will probably land on the Hit Parade, *Johnny Zero*. Scene starts in a schoolroom and ends with shots of some fighter planes. Topical and entertaining. (Soundies)

THE RADIO ACES, in *Global Rhythm*, manage to hit a new low in quality. A song concerned with world unity is marred by too much horseplay on the part of the singers, and flashes of them in *Pagliacci*, a Harlem item and something supposedly Arabic (the latter with horrible costuming) don't add much. (L. O. L.)

JOY HODGES stars in *Row, Row, Row*, singing the not impressive song of the same title far better than it deserves. RUDOLPH FRIML JR.'S orchestra provides a pleasant background, and altho the RIO BROTHERS' TRIO is billed, they do nothing but sit in the background. (Globe Reissue)

JOE MOLE, unicyclist; the KEENE TWINS, and the HARLAN CO-EDS, dancers, are stars of *Swingeroo Circus*, which started with a good idea but failed to come thru. Mole is fairly good, but the twins' routine is unoriginal, and the Co-Eds don't keep step. (Glamourettes)

LYNN ALBRITTON really gives in *Backstage Blues*, and five fans should eat

it up. Lou Ellen and the Harlem Cuties dance, but lack the enthusiasm usually associated with such groups. Little background, but the pianist is good enough so that it's not missed. (Soundies)

NAOMI WHEAT AND GENE GROUNDS, radio singers, are teamed in *Let's Talk It Over*. Both have pleasant, if unexceptional voices, but Miss Wheat is such a dead pan and Grounds grimaces so much that it becomes annoying. Starts with a telephone conversation, then swings to a night club where they are reunited. Would have been much better if either singer had any acting ability. (Weiss)

BUDDY ROGERS AND HIS BAND present a noisy, ragged arrangement of *Twelfth Street Rag* in the reel by the same name. Rogers plays practically every instrument in the band, a routine he did for years. An old reel like this serves to point up the progress and improvement of more recent releases. (Cameo Reissue)

HARRY DUNCAN, a cadaverous hillbilly, is shown courting his gal in *Hillbilly Tillie*. Neither original nor very entertaining, it may click in locations which like hillbilly stuff. (Minoco)

## Program 1120

Assembled and released by Soundies Distributing Corporation of America, Inc. Release date, June 7.

JAYNE AND ROYE DODGE are the stars of *Side Street*. Scene is a sidewalk

cafe, and the Dodges do a dance routine. Slow in getting started, and the dancing lacks any original twists. (Soundies)

THE MARSHALLS, an attractive and capable group of singers, star in *The Old Mill Stream*. Starting with a rustic scene of many years ago, the title song is sung straight, then developed in swingy style, circa 1925, and comes up to the present with a military note. Well done thruout. Jack Barry, president of the Minoco Company, delivers a background commentary (Minoco)

RITA RIO and an all-girl orchestra perform in *Feed the Kitty*. Rita sings the lyrics in her usual peppy style, but the tune isn't particularly good, and the playing is inclined to be ragged and noisy. A lovely blond harpist adds considerably to the few brief moments in which she is shown. (Globe Reissue)

THE REIS BROTHERS AND HARRY ROSS engage in some typical rough-and-tumble antics in *Public Nuisances*. Singing a song by the same title, they knock themselves out with their own humor, which is of the hot-foot variety. Night club background. (L. O. L.)

HAL AND BETTY TAKIER, a good jitterbug dance team, overcome the handicap of a slow and senseless beginning in *Maharaja* to deliver some enjoyable dancing. Very good accompaniment by Bergin Kane's orchestra, which unfortunately isn't billed. (Weiss)

ROMO VINCENT, as *Chickey the Cop*, is unfortunate in having to cope with a mediocre song. His voice is better than average and, given the right material, he should prove highly popular. This little opus shows a routine day in the life of a policeman, but is pretty uninspired. (L. O. L.)

STEARNS AND DEANE do a mechanical doll dance routine, and LORRAINE PAIGE'S orchestra furnishes the music in *Parade of the Wooden Soldiers*.

The actors are all costumed as dolls or wooden soldiers. Unfortunately it is all too reminiscent of dancing school recitals and lacks any spark of originality. (Globe Reissue)

GEORGE WASHINGTON BROWN, dressed as a seaman, sings *Keep Waitin'* in a powerful voice of considerable quality. Night club background isn't particularly appropriate, altho it does lend class to the reel. Will probably appeal most to higher type locations. (Soundies)

## Baltimore Distribs Ask Co-Operation in Disk Scrap Drive

BALTIMORE, May 29.—Music-box operators, together with record retailers, are being urged by local record distributors to get in the scrap in the matter of collection and turning in of old, used and scrap records. The distributors have told both operators and retailers that they must turn in old records if they wish to secure new recordings.

The reason for this record drive, it is pointed out by the distributors, is that without the scrap manufacturers will not be able to make needed new recordings. The shellac recovered and reprocessed from old scrap records makes possible the production of new recordings.

## Showing of Movie Spurs Disk Sale

HARRISBURG, Pa., May 29.—Recordings made by the famous Ink Spots have been on the "Wanted" list around this area for quite some time, but since the showing locally of their latest movie their record sales have gone up.

Murphy's store has offered 2 cents for old records made by the following: Victor, Bluebird, Decca, Variety, Royale-Elite-Melotone and Oriola. This music counter, which sells both records and sheet music, is ever popular with the younger set, and it is not uncommon to hear both the piano and the record player both blaring forth at the same time with different music.

*The Marine's Hymn* is one of the very few songs to be found on most boxes, and it's rare for one to be long in any place where there is a box without hearing it played at least once or twice.

## New Orleans

NEW ORLEANS, May 29.—Coin machine patronage is showing a normal leveling off for the warm weather period except for war industry neighborhoods where business continues to boom. Pin games are meeting somewhat better favor of late at expense of bells in the downtown part of the city, while play in the suburban area is divided among bells, consoles and pin games. Phonograph operations are holding up well, altho there are growing complaints of record shortages. A visit this week to record distributors confirms the growing scarcity of hits, altho stocks of classics and albums are still fairly large. Needles and other phonograph needs are still plentiful.

R. M. McCormick, Southern sales manager for Decca, has returned from a business trip to Atlanta, Birmingham and Jacksonville branches, where he conferred with managers. He reports that Decca is enjoying a great year in spite of the war conditions and is particularly pleased by the recent acquisition by his company of the old Brunswick catalog.

Bob Adams, manager of the branch office for Decca records at Memphis, has joined the armed forces and has been succeeded by John Hornsby, who has covered the Memphis area for Decca for several years.

Dan Cohen, of the Crescent Cigarette Service, has bought the wholesale tobacco distributing firm of American Wholesale Company here and has announced no change in personnel for the time being. J. L. Dominguez is manager of the company, which is distributor here for numerous brands of tobacco products.

Nick Carbajal, head of the Dixie Coin Machine Company, reports continued good demand for Seeburg Charm phonographs, pin games and bells.

# RECORD BUYING GUIDE—PART 2



A Forecast of What New Songs and Record Releases Are Most Likely To Be Needed by Phonograph Operators

## POSSIBILITIES

These Records and Songs show indications of becoming Future Nationwide Hits in Automatic Phonographs. Selections are based upon Radio Performances, Sheet Music Sales, Information from Music Publishers on the relative Importance of Songs in their Catalogs and upon the judgment of The Billboard's Music Department.

### NOTE

Decca this week released four sides by the Song Spinners, vocal group which previously made four sides for the Muscraft label. Releases include two of the current top Hit Parade songs, *Comin' In on a Wing and a Prayer* and *Johnny Zero*. *Comin' In* has been released on the Hit label and has already made the Guide. *Zero* will also be released on Hit. Other two sides are *Stalin Wasn't Stallin'*, modern spiritual popularized by the Golden Gate Quartet, and *Love Is Goin' To Be Rationed*. Decca also has the Jimmy Dorsey version of *All or Nothing at All* on tap. Song is in for a big drive by its pub, and, altho the Sinatra-James waxing released last week may draw more attention, the JD-Bob Eberly rendition should attract plenty of nickels. Eight sides by Cab Calloway were also issued by the same label and should get a few spins, especially in race areas. Tunes include *Minnie the Moocher*, *St. Louis Blues*, *Some of These Days* and *Nobody's Sweetheart*.

Columbia and Victor are both holding off until later in June on new releases. Victor will re-issue *It's Always You* and *In the Blue of Evening* by Tommy Dorsey and Frank Sinatra next week. Both tunes are being revived by their pubs, with big drives being cooked up. The following week Columbia is bringing out a Golden Gate Quartet waxing of *Comin' In on a Wing and a Prayer* mated with *Run On* and a Kay Kyser waxing of *You're So Good to Me* and *Pushin' Sand*.

## THE WEEK'S BEST RELEASES

These Records have the Strongest Chance for Success among the Past Week's Releases by the Record Companies. Selections are based upon Commercial rather than Musical Value. These are not definite predictions, but merely the opinions of The Billboard's Music Department.

### ALL OR NOTHING

AT ALL ..... JIMMY DORSEY (Bob Eberly).....Decca 2580

Right on the heels of the Frank Sinatra-Harry James re-issue comes this newly pressed copy of *All or Nothing at All*, originally cut several years back by Jimmy Dorsey. Altho Sinatra enjoys the jump on the side on the strength of all the pre-issue publicity, plus the "swooner's" widening gulf of worshipers, there's still plenty of phono appeal in Dorsey's back-dated entry. With the love ballad itself destined to reach the popularity heights, there can be no under-estimating the appeal of a Jimmy Dorsey-Bob Eberly combination on a record's label. Particularly since the cutting sounds as fresh as if it were made only the day before yesterday. Fact of the matter, there is no reason why both sides shouldn't enjoy a wide play in the same machine, the strength of the four names involved sure-fire to attract two nickels for the one song.

Names in parentheses indicate vocalists.

Double-meaning records are purposely omitted from this column.