



**JUST DROPPED IN**—Elton John (r), and Pat Pipolo (l), vice president and director of promotion for MCA Records, flank Cash Box president and publisher George Albert during their most recent visit to the Cash Box west coast offices. John's current LP, "Honky Chateau," was recently certified gold by the RIAA, while his newest single, "Honky Cat" is listed at #35 with a bullet on the singles chart.

## Two New LPs From Elektra

NEW YORK — Elektra Records will soon release new albums by Atomic Rooster and Casey Kelly.

"Made In England" is the third album by Atomic Rooster to be released in this country. The group is headed by Vincent Crane, former organist for the Crazy World of Arthur Brown and composer of his greatest hit, "Fire." This album marks the first appearance with the group of their newest member, Chris Farlowe, who is now their lead singer. The LP contains Rooster's current single, "Stand By Me." A tour for the group is being planned for November.

"Casey Kelly" is a solo debut album by a singer/songwriter from Louisiana. Most recently, he was accompanist for Tom Rush. Kelly is currently on an extensive tour of the country, with many of the dates played with Loggins and Messina. His first date, played in Boston, has resulted in airplay in that city for his single, "Poor Boy," which was taken from the album.

## Zucker Back To Nat'l Promo

HOLLYWOOD — Veteran record promo specialist Irwin Zucker, who started with Decca in 1948, has re-activated his national Promotion in Motion firm, incorporating the service of record promo and publicity.

Returning to the Zucker organization is Miss K. Terry Bright, who, in recent years, has been associated with Dick Clark Productions and Vox Musical Instruments.

Three labels have signed the Zucker firm for national promotion:

Newly-formed Pelegrin Sands Records, headed by Warren Grown, is kicking off with Leslie Jon's, "What Time's the Show?"

Wolf Point Records, another new company, is accenting the country field with Wayne Storm's novelty, "Martin City Car Wash."

Rampart Records, being re-activated by Eddie Davis, has just released an instrumental, "Cho Cho San," by Hummingbird 4.

## 3rd Son For Irv Lichtman

NEW YORK — Irv Lichtman, vp and editorial director of Cash Box, became the father of his third son when his wife, Phyllis, gave birth to David Marc on Sat., Aug. 12, in New York. The couple's other sons are Steven, 6, and Robert, 3.

## Black Oak Guitars To Inmates

NEW YORK — The Atco rock and roll band, Black Oak Arkansas is initiating a program to donate guitars to prison inmates. To be active in the state of Arkansas around Christmas, the group plans to extend the program throughout the country in 1973.

"It all started when we spent 30 days in jail together many years ago for stealing the high school public address system," commented manager Butch Stone. "We quickly found out how important our instruments were to us, and how important it is to have something to do with your hands—and some way to express your emotions."

Black Oak hopes to set up a continuing program between national penal authorities and a major guitar manufacturer to donate guitars to prisons on a regular basis. They are looking forward to setting up a national guitar distribution system during the next six months.

Black Oak Arkansas are currently represented on the charts with their third best-selling album, "If An Angel Came To See You. Would You Make Her Feel At Home?"

## Paragon Inks King Floyd

NEW YORK — King Floyd has signed a new booking agreement with the Paragon Agency of Macon, Georgia recently.

Floyd, on Atlantic, has scored record success in the past with "Groove Me" and follow-up disks such as "Baby Let Me Kiss You" and the current release, also on Atlantic, "Woman Don't Go Astray." Paragon president Alex Hodges said he and Rodgers Redding are currently planning an extensive tour of the eastern markets for Floyd.

## Randazzo's Vegas Return

NEW YORK — Teddy Randazzo, producer, arranger-composer, will return to Las Vegas as an entertainer after several years absence from the stage.

He will appear at the Hilton International Hotel, Las Vegas, from Aug. 23 for a four-week engagement. Of the hundreds of songs Teddy Randazzo has penned, his "Going Out of My Head" is best known followed by "Hurt So Bad", "It's Gonna Take a Miracle" and others.

# ASCAP Special Awards Panels Give \$630G To Society Writers

NEW YORK — The American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers has announced the completion of the eleventh annual meeting of the special awards panels, which distributed \$630,000 in awards to 1,763 of its writer members for the year 1972-1973. Society president Stanley Adams noted that the awards, designed to recognize and offer financial encouragement to ASCAP's newer writers as well as to established composers, are over and above the regular distribution of royalties paid by the performing rights organization.

This year's list of award winners includes Pulitzer Prize winner Jacob Druckman; John Guare, co-writer with Galt MacDermott (CAPAC) of the Tony and Grammy Award winning musical "Two Gentlemen Of Verona"; top Nashville writers Jerry Foster and Bill Rice; jazz mainstays Billy Taylor, Dizzy Gillespie and Guggenheim Award recipient Mary Lou Williams; and contemporary writer/artists Carly Simon, Booker T. Jones, Jackie DeShannon and Harry Chapin.

### Pop Awards

Awards were again made to writers whose compositions were strongly received as indicated by their prominent appearances on the music trade paper charts. Among such writers were: Jackson Browne who had hits with "Take It Easy" and "Rock Me On The Water"; Jim Croce for his current "You Don't Mess Around With Jim"; Jonathan Edwards who wrote "Sunshine"; Tom Evans and Peter Ham who co-authored the recent Nilsson hit "Without You"; and Elliot Lurie who wrote "Brandy," recorded by Looking Glass.

Other award winners whose songs made the trade paper charts this year included Judy Collins ("Open The Door"), Buzz Cason and Don Lewis ("Ann (Don't Go Runnin')"), Tom Lazarus ("That's What Leaving's All About"), Churchill Kohlman ("Cry"), Ann J. Morton ("We've Got To Work It Out Between Us"), and Walter Nims ("Precious And Few"). Among the writer-performer groups who received awards after scoring on the charts were Grateful Dead, Led Zeppelin, Doors, Black Sabbath, War, Grass Roots, the Band and Mountain.

In the area of musical theater the panel presented awards to such writers as Melvin Van Peebles who, following his production of "Ain't Supposed To Die A Natural Death," has another winner in "Don't Play Us Cheap"; Jim Jacobs and Warren Casey whose "Grease" has moved to Broadway after a successful off-Broadway run; Al Carmines who has an off-Broadway production in "Joan"; Peter Link whose "Lysistrata" is set to open this season; Dave Finkle and Bill Weeden who will have their first Broadway show opening this season with "Hurry Harry"; Sidney Michael who, with Mitch Leigh, has written "Halloween," which will open this fall. Also receiving awards are Chris Gore, who has written the upcoming "Via Galactica" with CAPAC's Galt MacDermott; and Stephen Schwartz for his soon to open "Pippin."

## Oscar Levant Is Dead At 65

HOLLYWOOD — Oscar Levant, pianist, a close friend of George Gershwin and noted wit, died of a heart attack at this home in Beverly Hills last week (14) at the age of 65. Levant first met Gershwin in 1929 when he was called in to serve as a pianist for a recording of the composer's "Rhapsody in Blue." For most of his piano playing career, Levant performed the works of Gershwin. A songwriter himself, he wrote such standards as "Blame It On My Youth," and "Lady, Play Your Mandolin." He is survived by his wife and three daughters.

The popular awards panel consists of T. Edward Hambleton, managing director of APA, Phoenix; Father Norman O'Connor, of the Paulist Fathers' Community, a noted jazz expert and first vice president of NARAS; Associate Justice Haydn Proctor of the Supreme Court of N.J.; and William B. Williams, WNEW radio personality and noted jazz/pop music authority.

### Standard Awards

Among writer members in the standard field who received awards were composers as Guggenheim recipients Paul Cooper, Donald Keats, William Kraft, and Roy E. Travis; as well as Harold Farberman, recipient of an award from the National Institute of Arts and Letters; and Jacob Druckman who received a Pulitzer Prize for "Windows," premiered by Bruno Maderna with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra.

Other ASCAP awards winners with premieres this past year are Benjamin Lees, whose "The Trumpet of the Swan" received its world premiere in May in a performance by the Philadelphia Orchestra; John La Montaine, whose "Wilderness Journal" was premiered by Antal Dorati conducting the Washington National Symphony in November at the Kennedy Center; Carlisle Floyd's "Flower and Hawk" was premiered in May by the Jacksonville Symphony, featuring soloist Phyllis Curtin; Nikolai Lopatnikoff's "Fourth Symphony" was premiered by the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra this season; and Marvin David Levy's "Triialogus" was premiered by the Chicago Symphony, Bruno Maderna conducting.

Newer writer members receiving awards this year included Verne Reynolds whose "Scenes for Wind Ensemble" was premiered by the Eastman Wind Ensemble this season; and Robert Morgan, who writes for chamber and vocal groups, jazz band and percussion ensemble. Reynolds is on the faculty of the Eastman School of Music and Morgan is on the music faculty at the U. of Illinois.

The Standard Awards Panel consists of: Professor Donald E. Brown, director of the School of Music of Barrington College, R.I., and executive vice president of the National Church Music Fellowship; Donald Engle, professional president of the Minneapolis Orchestra Assoc.; Dr. Frederick Fennell, conductor of the Miami Symphony Orchestra; Walter Hendl, director of the Eastman School of Music at the U. of Rochester; and Dr. Louis G. Wersen, director of music in the Philadelphia public schools and past president of the Music Educators National Conference.



**BETTER LATE THAN NEVER!** — While Larry Page (r), producer of the current hit, "Beautiful Sunday" by Daniel Boone, was in Chicago, he was presented with a gold record by Irwin H. Steinberg (l), president of Mercury Records, for producing "Wild Thing" by the Troggs on Fontana Records over six years ago. It seems that prior attempts to award the gold record to Page missed connections before his visit to Chicago to discuss Daniel Boone's forthcoming LP and the Barron Knights' single, "You're All I Need," which Page also produced.