

Music

VIEWS

MARCH • 1954



Connie [★]Russell

'THE SKY IS EXTRA BLUE'

Romantic Music for everyone!



SOFT LIGHTS AND BOBBY HACKETT

The mellowest horn there is
— Bobby Hackett's — plays
beautiful ballads in the lovely
lyrical style that has won
him the nation's acclaim.

Long Play Album No. H-458
Extended Play Albums Nos.
E8F-458, EAP 1-458 & EAP 2-458

LOVE SONGS ITALIANE

Tony Romano sings favorite
sentimental melodies from
the land of song...
to the delightful
accompaniment of
strumming mandolins.

Long Play Album No. H-478
Extended Play Albums Nos.
EAP 1-478 and EAP 2-478



Capitol
RECORDS

World Radio History

Music Views

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THE COVER

Lovely Connie Russell is one of the most talented and versatile girls in show business. In addition to carving out hit disks like "The Sky Is Extra Blue," she dances, acts, and is a fine comedienne. She appears regularly in these capacities on Eddie Cantor's NBC-TV "Comedy Hour" show, in addition to guest appearances on other top shows. These are the primary reasons why she adorns our cover this month, but obviously there is another important reason: She's so good looking!

on the stand

NAT "KING" COLE

Miami, Fla. 17 Feb. - 2 Mar.

RAY ANTHONY

Knoxville, Tenn. 19 - 20 Feb.
Foley, Alabama 25 Feb.
Dayton, Ohio 26 Feb.
Starkville, Miss. 27 Feb.
Washington, D. C. 28 Feb.
Pensacola, Florida 1 Mar.
Daytona Beach, Florida 2 Mar.
Cocoa, Florida 5 Mar.

BILLY MAY BAND

Dayton, Ohio 18 Feb.
Knoxville, Tenn. 19 Feb.
Cincinnati, Ohio 20 Feb.
Dayton, Ohio 21 Feb.
Ypsilanti, Mich. 26 Feb.
Albion, Mich. 27 Feb.
Youngstown, Ohio 28 Feb.

FRANCES FAYE

Miami, Florida 12 - 18 Feb.

FOUR FRESHMEN

Las Vegas, Nevada 16 Feb.
Columbus, Ohio 1 - 13 Mar.
Lima, Ohio 19 - 27 Mar.
Akron, Ohio 29 Mar. - 25 April

PEE-WEE HUNT

Columbus, Ohio 15 - 21 Feb.

FOUR KNIGHTS

Waikiki, Hawaii 15 Feb. - 4 Mar.
Reno, Nevada 10 - 24 Mar.
Las Vegas, Nevada 25 Mar. - 8 April

YMA SUMAC

Washington, D. C. 20 Feb.
Atlanta, Ga. 22 Feb.
Gainesville, Florida 23 Feb.
West Palm Beach, Fla. 24 Feb.
Daytona Beach, Fla. 25 Feb.
Tampa, Florida 26 Feb.
Fort Lauderdale, Fla. 27 Feb.
Miami, Fla. 28 Feb.
Jacksonville, Fla. 2 Mar.
Valparaiso, Fla. 3 Mar.

across the



Doris Day autographs for small visitor on "Lucky Me" set. "What Every Girl Should Know," new Columbia disk, was released Feb. 1. She's in "Lucky" with Bob Cummings.



Felicia Sanders, that curly-head singer, is current on Columbia with "Ma Curly Headed Baby"; "For Sale." Please note that's two titles. Background by curly-head Paul Weston.



Nat Cole tells Lena Horne about his new Capitol disk, "Answer Me, My Love," at El Rancho Vegas, Las Vegas. Lena was starring at The Sands while Nat played at Rancho Vegas.



Oh, for the life of a chorus girl on the NBC-TV Comedy Hour! The singing is okay, says Rexene Stevens, but the dance routines make you want to sit down and rub.

country



NBC singing star Jane Pickens will play Las Vegas in May and during stay will confer with Hollywood producers on film of her life story. Movie is to be produced in 1954.



Hollywood Models Joyce Cheney and Cathie Righter (l to r) take the hint on Tommy Leonetti's first Capitol release — "I'm Available" And, we ask, who wouldn't be?



Old spiritual, "Do, Lord," cut on Coral by Beryl Davis, Jane Russell, Connie Haines, Della Russell, is making quite a stir. All four girls are active in Youth for Christ.



Jane Froman receives key to the city from Commissioner Sam Spencer, Washington, D.C. Her current key to juke boxes is new Capitol record: "It's All in your Heart."

SONG IDEAS CLOSE AT HAND

POPULAR songs not only are played on every kind of musical instrument, but just about any instrument you can name has been the subject of one. A cardinal rule of song writing seems to be: "When possible, write about some instrument."

As a young composer Irving Berlin followed this theory and produced "I Love a Piano," "The Ragtime Violin" and "Pick, Pick, Pick on the Mandolin, Antonio."

For the guitar, there is "An Old Guitar and an Old Refrain," not to mention "Two Guitars." For the banjo—"When Uncle Joe Plays a Rag on His Old Banjo" and "In Banjo Land."

How about the violincello? That sounds like a tough one, but there's a song called "When Antelo Plays the Cello" (written by Elsie Janis, "The Sweetheart of the AEF" during the first World War) and another old one—"That Fellow with the Cello Rag." Nor should "The Big Bass Viol," beloved of minstrel bassos, be overlooked.

CARSON Robison celebrated the achievements of a rustic horn tootler in "His Old Cornet." And the saxophone has inspired dozens of comedy numbers. Ever heard "If I Give Up the Saxo-

phone Will You Come Back to Me?," "When You Hear Jackson Moan on His Saxophone," "Saxophone Sobs" and "Saxophone Sam?"

As for the harp, there is the old-timer, "The Harp That Once Thro' Tara's Halls" and the later "When Paddy McGinty Plays the Harp." The piccolo inspired "Piccolo Pete" and there have been at least two operas about its big brother, the flute—"The Magic Flute" and "Hans, the Flute Player."

Writers also have had a fondness for weird songs about the echoes of instruments. Examples are titles beginning with "The Ghost of the—" and followed by "Banjo," "Violin" (Mr. Berlin again), "Ukelele" and "Saxophone."

BUT WHAT, you may ask, about the bagpipe? Surely no one outside the highlands of Scotland has written a song about the raucous pipes?

Well, youre wrong. After the success of "Alexander's Ragtime Band" in 1911, its composer—once more we meet Irving Berlin!—teamed up with his brother-in-law, E. Ray Goetz, and A. Baldwin Sloane to produce "Alexander's Bagpipe Band." —**Jim Walsh.**

CREEPY

According to Mr. Webster, the word "creep" means: "to move or advance slowly." However, until a few months ago any high school kid could tell you that the real definition was: "a goon, a schmo, a nowhere square." Now the word has undergone another change of definition, more closely allied to Mr. Webster's findings: the "creep" is now a dance.

The step, a sort of reverse tango with the boy always moving backward, seems to have started in London. There are several stories as to how it began, but no one is very sure of its origin. One thing is certain—it has taken England by storm and is creeping up on the U. S.

The music to which the creep is crept is a simple 12-bar blues riff. Although the first recordings were made in England, U.S. labels quickly climbed on the creepwagon. Versions by Stan Kenton, the Three Sons and others have been released.

It now remains to be seen whether the creep will go at a gallop.



Monica Lewis poses for photographers backstage at the New York Paramount theater where she recently performed. Newest Capitol waxing: "Don't Make Me Love You."



Intently listening to the playback of his latest disk, "Venus di Milo," is Bob Manning, one of Cap's most promising new singers. Flip is "You Made Me Love You."

Anthony Buys May; Signs New Cap Pact

Ray Anthony, not content with having the country's Number One dance band, now owns two. In a recent deal, Anthony bought The Billy May Orchestra, lock, stock and baton.

The purchase included the orchestra's name; its style, legally defined in the purchase agreement as "unique . . . distinctive . . . popular"; its library of 150 arrangements and such "accoutrements" as uniforms, stand fronts and library trunks.

The May band, which continues to record for Capitol, is currently out on the road again, batoned by saxist Sam Donahue. Donahue has been a sideman with Artie Shaw, Tommy Dorsey and other name orchestras, in addition to fronting a band of his own.

Although Anthony's own Capitol contract still had two years to run, a new 5-year pact was recently drawn up between the bandleader and diskery. The new contract was motivated by the tremendous success of Anthony's recent recordings.

"Dragnet" and "Bunny Hop" were his biggest singles for 1953, with "Houseparty Hop" and "Campus Rumpus" leading the album parade.

HANDY

Tired? Bored? Crazy?

Try a gag currently making the rounds among the younger teen-agers in Southern California:

Have a friend extend his palm. Take a ball-point pen and ink four dots on it. Then have him cup his palm and hold it to his ear.

Ask him what he hears. He'll say nothing. Then you say:

"Well, what did you expect—the Four Ink Spots?"

● '3 COINS' FOR LUCK

The past year has seen movies produce several hit songs, but 20th-Fox is now hoping that a song will produce a hit movie. The studio is so sold on the Jule Styne-Sammy Cahn effort, "Three Coins in a Fountain," that they are renaming the CinemaScope picture, "We Believe In Love," after the tune. After hearing Frank Sinatra's soundtrack of "Coins," the studio execs decided they would release the song first, in an effort to publicize the picture. "Three Coins In a Fountain" was the name under which the film originally began production, but the title was changed several times before ending up where it started.



Margaret Whiting accepts a gold plated "mike" from Capitol prexy Glenn E. Wallich on completion of her 10th year with the label. New disk: "I Speak to the Stars."



Marguerite Piazza and Gordon MacRae emote for their new Capitol album, "Naughty Marietta." Gordon recently hit best-seller listings with his "Stranger in Paradise."

NAGGER



The story behind Jerry Lewis' new children's album, "The Nagger," is briefly and un sentimentally as follows: Last summer Alan W. Livingston, Capitol Records vice president in charge of artists and repertoire, was playing host at his Beverly Hills home to two nephews from Neu Haven, Conn., Billy and Jimmy Drazen, aged 8 and 12 years, respectively. Well, one day Jimmy complained to Uncle Alan that his little brother was a whiner. "How you mean?" asked Alan, creator of the Bozo albums. "He whines," said Jimmy. "Why don't you make an album about him and call it 'The Whiner'." Uncle Alan, who knows a good thing when he sees it, denies that the title was changed to "The Nagger" to prevent Billy from snng.



Ray Bolger urges saxist Jimmy Maddin to "go, man, go," at rehearsal of Ray's ABC-TV show. Ray discovered Maddin playing with a jam session group in a nightclub.



Diana Adams, formerly premier ballerina with the New York City Center Ballet, emerges as somewhat of a comedienne in the Danny Kaye-produced musical, "Knock On Wood."

● 88's ON UPBEAT

Sales of close to 200,000 pianos in 1953 have caused some music publishers to drink their beer instead of crying in it. The sales figure represents a substantial increase and publishers are hoping that this return of "music to the home" will increase sheet music sales. Piano sales had reached 350,000 per year in the late 1920's, then fell off sharply.

● ONE GOOD TURN . . .

Some film stars are flopping as night club performers because they don't take the trouble to study the new medium, says H. D. Hoyer, operator of *Ciro's*, Hollywood, who also books talent for the *Last Frontier*, Las Vegas.

"The public," says H. D., "is no longer interested in going to see a film star who is merely going to say how wonderful it is to be here and then tell a tired story about 'a funny thing that happened to me while I was making my last picture'."

Hoyer made his observations to *Daily Variety*, which concluded: "If more Hollywood names had been Boy Scouts, they might be better able to make the transition from pix to niteries," and headed its story:

"A Good Name In Pix Isn't Enough For Niterly Demands; Filmsters Need Good Turn, Too."



Red Skelton turns chorine during a scene with Cara Williams from his latest MGM production, "The Great Diamond Robbery." Red is a folk song fan and loves to sing.



Andy Griffith, whose comedy disk, "What It Was, Was Football," catapulted onto hit rosters recently, is enjoying similar success with his new one, "Romeo and Juliet."



Frank Sinatra listens intently to comments by unseen producer Voyle Gilmore during recording of disk hit, "Young at Heart." Frank's new album: "Songs for Young Lovers."



Maestro Freddie Martin utilizes an intermission during his engagement at Coconut Grove, Los Angeles, to bid Jane Wyman fond welcome. Miss Wyman's latest pic: "So Big."

BRILL BLDG. THESAURUS

For tired advertisers who wish to pep up their sales with music, a suggested list of song titles:

<i>Diaper Service</i>	"There'll Be Some Changes Made"
<i>Finance Company</i>	"You Belong To Me"
<i>Income Tax Bureau</i>	"Oh, Promise Me"
<i>Weather Bureau</i>	"They Didn't Believe Me"
<i>Magician</i>	"I Wonder What's Become Of Sally"
<i>Deodorant</i>	"You'll Walk Alone"
<i>Aspirin</i>	"You Go To My Head"
<i>Paun Shop</i>	"Everything I Have Is Yours"
<i>Undertaker</i>	"After You've Gone"
<i>Dentist</i>	"The Yankys Are Coming"
<i>Chiropractor</i>	"Roll Dem Bones"
<i>Manicurist</i>	"The Touch Of Your Hand"
<i>Optician</i>	"The Nearness Of You"
<i>Bootlegger</i>	"In The Still Of The Night"

—Clegg Hoyt.

TIP-TOP BANANA

When "Top Banana" opened on Broadway in 1952, it was declared an immediate hit, and a personal triumph for its star, Phil Silvers. Neighborhood theatres will soon be showing the film version of the show, filmed exactly as presented on the stage. In addition Johnny Mercer's sparkling score is available in recorded form on a Capitol album, catching all the flavor of the show and movie.



Movie features original cast, includes Rose Marie, Danny Scholl and Judy Lynn. Silvers is Jerry Biffle, by his own admission the "funniest man on TV or anywhere."



Pictures are "as seen" in show and movie. (R) Jackie Gleason visits Silvers on movie set.



She floats through the air . . . etc. She's Marian Carr, playing a trapeze artist in "Ring of Fear," new Warner CinemaScope production. In addition, they say she can sing!



Jimmy Grissom does vocal chores on Duke Ellington's "different" version of the Rodgers and Hart standard, "Blue Moon." Flipside is Ellington's own "Ultra Deluxe."

● OPERA HEADACHES

The Metropolitan Opera is offering proof this season that jazz concerts aren't the only affairs where audiences may get out of hand. The recent appearance of a well-known tenor, appearing in "Il Trovatore," was greeted by boos and jeers from standees. Next performance, 20 Pinkerton detectives and the tenor's wife policed the hall. Additional headaches for the Met's management have been supplied by critics who resent being relegated this year to poor seats instead of their usual center berths. Even the artists' managers are getting into the act, because of canceling of the "door list" which had previously allowed them to be admitted free of charge.

UGH, MAN!

Music suitable for powwows, medicine dances and rain-making is being made available by the Library of Congress. Three LP albums of American Indian Music were recently issued for sale to the public at \$4.50 per album. The music was recorded early in the century and is said to be very rare. Each disk is accompanied by English translations.

CAPITOL HIGH FIDELITY IN FULL DIME

THE HI-FIVE SERIES



THE PASSIONS

— Les Baxter and Orchestra,
Vocals by Bas Sheva

An unforgettable musical experience — Les Baxter's unique compositions especially created for the spectacular vocal interpretations of Bas Sheva. A richly orchestrated musical delineation of seven powerful human emotions: Despair, Ecstasy, Hate, Lust, Terror, Jealousy and Joy.

LAL-486



POPULAR INSTRUMENTALS IN FDS

Capitol artists Ray Anthony, The Pittsburgh Symphony, Axel Stordahl, Joe "Fingers" Carr, Billy May, Stan Kenton, Pee Wee Hunt, and Les Paul.

LAL-9022

POPULAR VOCALS IN FDS

Ella Mae Morse, Margaret Whiting, the Encores and Billy May, Yma Sumac, Les Paul and Mary Ford, the Carr-Hops and Joe "Fingers" Carr, Nat "King" Cole and Gisele MacKenzie.

LAL-9023

CLASSICS IN FDS

Selections from the works of Copland, Albeniz, Delius, Beethoven, Villa-Lobos and Shostakovich.

LAL-9024

A STUDY IN HIGH FIDELITY

High fidelity's first and finest definitive study — 12 popular and classical selections and 2 virtuoso percussion tracks.

LAL-9020

All HI-FIVE records protected by soft plastic sleeve, and handsomely boxed with informative book.

ALBUMS

NSIONAL SOUND



NEW Capitol Classics

• exciting • colorful • modern...

... in the matchless fidelity of Full Dimensional Sound

Sparkling compositions for the harp —

MCDONALD: *From Childhood Suite*

CAPLET: *Mosk of the Red Death*

Ann Mason Stockton, harp,
with the Concert Arts Orchestra

P-8225

Piano concertos brilliantly performed —

PROKOFIEV: *Concerto No. 3 in C Major*

BARTOK: *Concerto No. 3*

Leonard Pennario, piano
with the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra,
Vladimir Golschmann conducting

P-8253

Superb presentation of a great work —

STRAVINSKY: *Rite of Spring*

William Steinberg conducting
the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra

P-8254



A few of Capitol's many superb High Fidelity Albums

COPLAND-SCHUMAN

Billy The Kid and Undertow *Ballet Theatre*
Orchestra conducted by Joseph Levine

P-8248

SHOSTAKOVICH: *Concerto in C Minor for*
Piano, Solo Trumpet and Orchestra

HINDEMITH: *The Four Temperaments*

Felix Slatkin conducting *The Concert Arts*
Orchestra with Victor Allen, piano

P-8249

VILLA-LOBOS: *Nonetto and Quatuor Roger*
Wagner conducting his Chorale and *The*
Concert Arts Orchestra

P-8191

PIANO MUSIC OF SPAIN
Leonard Pennario, piano

P-8190

TCHAIKOVSKY:

Quartet No. 1 in D Major

BORODIN: *Quartet No. 2 in D Major*
The Hollywood String Quartet

P-8187

BOZO MEDICINE

The personal appearances staged by Capitol's Bozo the Clown include visiting the wards in children's hospitals.

On one such trip—to the Newington Children's Hospital, Newington, Conn.—Bozo was approached by a victim of cerebral palsy, 7 years old, who pointed at him, turned to his nurse, and said:

"Look at the clown."

Bozo says he thought nothing of it until the nurse caught up with him in the hall after he had left the ward. There were tears in her eyes.

"Look at the clown," it turned out, were the first words the child had ever spoken.

● EDDIE ON THE BALL

Eddie Fisher is making progress in the music business. In addition to singing disclicks, he publishes and even writes them. His publishing firm, Blackstone Music, already has in its catalogue, "Until You Said Goodby," the flipside of Fisher's "Oh, My Papa." In addition, they own the title tune from his new album, "May I Sing To You," which Fisher co-authored with Harry Akst and Charles Tobias.



Francis Faye clowns with "Jazzbo" Collins on the stage of the Thunderbird Hotel, Las Vegas, during recent stint. Grin in the background is trumpeter Bobby Hackett.



Joni James displays some of many trophies she was awarded as one of 1953's top vocalists. Display is designed to plug her new album. Its title is "Let There Be Love."



Eartha Kitt recently appeared at Mocambo nitery and in "New Faces" revue at the same time in Los Angeles. Miss Kitt's new album has apropos title: "That Bad Eartha."



Billy May relaxes even while he's recording. Here he's in the middle of the session which produced his new single, "The Breeze and I" and very humorous, "Whistle Stop."

MUSICAL SIGN LANGUAGE

TEEPEE IN A NORTHEASTER



TEEPEE IN A SOUTHEASTER



TIRE STUCK IN THE MUD



DOLLAR SIGN WITH MEASLES



SOUND MADE BY A FLAT TIRE



KNOW YOUR MUSIC

"The Old Oaken Bucket" was written in the summer of 1817. One hot day, the story goes, Samuel Woodworth came into his house, poured out a glass of water and drank it eagerly, exclaiming, "That is very refreshing, but how much more refreshing 't would be to take a good long draught from the old oaken bucket I left hanging in my father's well at home!" "Selim," said his wife, addressing him by his penname, "wouldn't that be a pretty subject for a poem?" At this suggestion, Woodworth seized his pen, and as the home of his childhood rose vividly to his fancy, he wrote the now familiar words:

*"How dear to this heart are
the scenes of my childhood,
When fond recollection
presents them to view.
The wide spreading pond and
the mill that stood by it,
The bridge and the rock
where the cataract fell:
The Old Oaken Bucket, the
iron-bound bucket,
The moss-covered bucket that
hung in the well."*

Samuel Woodworth was a native of Greenbush, Massachusetts, and the well is still there on the farm where he spent his childhood. Woodworth was a printer. He wrote a great number of poems, but this is the only one that has survived—**Sylvan Breyn**.

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● LONGHAIR B. G.

Benny Goodman will make a concert tour next fall in which the accent will be on classical music. The entourage is expected to consist of a quintet, quartet and classical trio, in addition to a jazz trio. Spotlight will be on classical chamber music, with Goodman performing the clarinet literature of Mozart, Beethoven, Brahms, Hindemith, Copland and others.

● \$2,000,000 BONANZA

The windfall of a sizeable check came through recently to affiliates of the American Society of Composers—both to publishers and writers. The checks were received from TV stations following a court order setting the interim television music fee at 80 per cent of the blanket license fee. The stations' back fee came close to two million dollars.

TIMING

No one can dispute the fact that Stan Freberg's timing is just about perfect. During a rehearsal for his CBS radio show, "That's Rich," Stan had just read a line which said, "One thing California has more than anything else, is earthquakes." Just then Mother Nature provided the punctuation by shaking the studio with a mild quake. Stan turned to the writers and ad libbed: "Alright, stop it! I believe you! I believe you!"



Harry Stewart pulls another "character" out of the hat in the person of "Claude Hopper." Claude's first disk is a musical version of Chic Sale poem, "The Specialist."



Formerly a singer, Bev Michaels' additional talents were brought to the fore in her newly released Green-Rouse picture, "Wicked Woman." Hers is the title role.



Les Baxter holds the brass down while the strings take over the melody on his new Capitol waxing, "Flirtation Waltz." Reverse side is new instrumental "Atlantis."



Marilyn Maxwell, here with actor Jeff Chandler at Hollywood Ciro's, has sung with bands for years but never was recorded until she signed with Crystalette Records



Ava Gardner, who now has recording out, relaxes to music during the shooting of MGM's "Knights of the Round Table." She is Lady Guinevere. Anyone for knighthood?

BENEFIT

Carl Nutter, arranger for Sammy Kaye, has written a song for his granddaughter, Holly Ann Nutter, who was stricken with polio in 1949. The song, "The Man Upstairs," was recorded by Holly Ann for Jubilee Records and will benefit the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis which acted as Holly Ann's guardian during her crisis. For each record sold, Republic Music, the publisher, and Jubilee Records will donate five cents and one cent respectively to the Foundation.

from the top



TYPE casting: Mickey Rooney's new disk, "Alimony Blues" . . . NBC-TV is prepping a situation comedy show for Dorothy Shay . . . Same gal received a note from Princess Margaret Rose, thanking her for her latest album, "Park Avenue Hillbillie" . . . Variety's Mike Kaplan explains a new music game: Composers sit around trying to identify the unbilled musical "bridges" used by TV stations. David Rose has recognized 26 of his own pieces being used without credit . . . The Hollywood Stars baseball club is starting a promotion drive which includes possible recording tie-ins . . . Singer Georgia Carr has her own disk show emanating from New York in the wee hours of the morning . . . Pupi Campo, Cuban bandleader says the tragedy of his life is that he didn't marry Lucille Ball . . . Harry Stewart, alias "Yogi Yorgesson," alias "Harry Kari," has a new nom de plume—"Claude Hopper." Claude's first Capitol release is a version of the Chic Sale classic, "The Specialist" . . . Keefe Brasselle, breaking in his nightclub act at Tops in San Diego, pointed to a banner outside and quipped: "Gosh, my name up in cloth!" . . . Ella Logan cut an album for Capitol . . . The most high-priced sextet in history sang the finale at the installation of the Las Vegas Variety Club: Nat Cole, Frankie Laine, Donald O'Connor, Tony Martin, Ezio Pinza and James Melton—all singing for free . . . Columbia Records reissued Doris Day's "Secret Love," cutting a minute off its playing time. This gives more time for deejay chatter . . . Several years ago, Capitol gave Margaret Whiting a clock with gold record attached to celebrate her entry into the Millionaire Club. Recently Maggie yielded to her curiosity and put the disk on her record player. From the speaker came the voice of Bud Freeman, formerly of Capitol publicity, chiding: "So you couldn't stand it! So you couldn't wait! So you had to take the record off and play it!"

Faith in His Pipes Puts Plumber over

If you're trying to break into show business, but, like all of us, tend to become discouraged at times, you may want to clip this out and save it.

It's a press release, designed to be rewritten before publication, but reprinted here verbatim in order to preserve the moral:

"At the age of 17 he was singing with name and semi-name bands — but nothing important was happening with his career. He entered the Army for two years at the age of 21, and upon his release, he decided not to go back into show business unless he could do it the right way, that is, with recordings, a manager, etc.

"He, therefore, went into the plumbing-supply field, and for the next three years saved every possible penny, until he had enough money saved to finance his own recording session of four songs. He rounded up the best possible arrangers, musicians, etc., and at the same time signed a personal management deal with publicist Arthur Pine.

"When the records were made, he (the singer) took them around personally to the various New York disk jockeys, who, in turn,



The life of a leader of a rhumba band was never like this! "Lucy" plants a wifely buss on the countenance of Desi in scene from new movie, "The Long, Long Trailer."

unanimously agreed that 'he'll be the country's next big singing star.' The next 72 hours brought bids from every major record firm, with MGM Records winning him over with an important, long-term recording contract and plans to build him up as their top male singer for 1954-1955-1956, etc.

"His name is Bob Stewart, a boy from the Bronx, and his own recording of 'Did I Remember' and 'Careless' was released by MGM on December 31st. At the age of 25, he is now set for the big time—thanks to his belief in himself!"

IF IT COMES TO A
CHOICE

*You take opera,
I'll take be-opera.*

—Richard Armour

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● 'I BELIEVE' TOPS

Summing up the top pops and standards of the past year, the John G. Peatman Office of Research reports that "I Believe," popularized by Jane Froman, was the No. 1 song in television and radio audience coverage. "I Believe" earned a total of 31,339 Peatman points or more than two-thirds of 1,000,000,000 listener-impressions."

Runner-up in the Peatman pop survey was "Song From Moulin Rouge." "Tea For Two" copped the standard honors. Irving Berlin got writer's honors with seven of his tunes among the top 35 standards.

The survey's top ten pops are, in order, "I Believe," "Song From Moulin Rouge," "April In Portugal," "No Other Love," "Side by Side," "Dont Let The Stars Get In Your Eyes," "Till I Waltz Again With You," "Pretend," "Vaya Con Dios," "Your Cheatin' Heart" and "You, You, You"



Eddie Fisher, Victor's top record salesman for 1953, shows how he gets that "youthful quality" into his recordings. Eddie now has a publishing co. and writes songs.



Pat O'Day goes over the arrangement of her latest MGM disk with conductor Joe Lippman. This session produced the current "Tell Me" and "Until You Came to Me."



Jo Stafford's latest Columbia release is "Make Love to Me." She is now seen and heard weekly on her own CBS-TV show, "The Jo Stafford Show," originating from New York.



Eileen Barton discusses plans designed to entice young men into the Marine Corps, with her agent Buddy Basch and Lieut. Col. L. A. Gilson. Her new disk, "Don't Ask Me Why."

● RUGOLO, ROGERS SIGN

Two alumni of the Stan Kenton organization have signed individual contracts to make records at the head of their own bands. Pete Rugolo, former arranger and composer for Kenton, has signed to five years with Columbia Records and is expected to hit the road for concert and dance dates in addition to waxing. Victor has issued two albums by Shorty Rogers, former Kenton sideman.

VIENNA WOODS

Austria, long one of the music centers of the world, is depending almost entirely on the U.S. and Germany to provide hit tunes. In 1953 not a single domestic hit was produced in the birthplace of the waltz. "Moulin Rouge," "Granada," "Half as Much," "Blue Tango" and "I Believe" were top tunes with the Austrians.

● LAG IN BRITAIN

British music is feeling for the first time the full impact of records. The fact that songs are being popularized by records and not sheet music became apparent for the first time this past year in England. This trend has gripped the U. S. for several years.

● NEW JAPAN HIT?

Flair Records, Hollywood rhythm and blues label, has entered the pop field with a new Japanese song which it hopes will become another "Gomen Nasai." Tune, titled "Sayonara" ("Goodbye"), was written by Tom Oliver and Stan Saget while on duty with the U.S. Air Force in Japan. Disk jockey Ira Cook of KMPC, Los Angeles, discovered the song when an RCA Victor record on it was released abroad and made its way into his hands.

C'EST SI YALE

Eartha Kitt, recently considered "too risqué" for the King and Queen of Greece by Los Angeles civic leaders, is evidently just right for the college crowd. She reigns as Queen of the Junior Prom at Yale University this spring.

● RCA TOUR IN APRIL

A personal appearance tour by RCA Victor hillbilly talent, "Country Caravan," has been delayed until April 25. The group originally was scheduled to tour 10 southern cities in 15 days beginning late in February.



They laughed when he sat down at the piano. But then, they're supposed to. He's nightery comedian Tommy Noonan, who plays Judy Garland's pianist in "A Star Is Born."



Jimmy Boyd, whose face is already well covered by freckles, covers it with jelly, too, according to his new disk, "Jelly On My Head." Flipside is titled simply "Blues."

Reprinted from Variety

Name bands and singers are cashing in on sponsors' yens for topline's peddling merchandise. . . There has been a rash of this sort of ill-advised buckstering on commercial radio-TV programs, and latterly Eartha Kitt has waxed the "Halo" singing commercial. . . Guy Lombardo's band nostalgically does parodies of yesteryear hits for Rheingold ("my beer, the dry beer"), and Les Paul and Mary Ford have a 5-minute series of vidpix on

behalf of Listerine.

There was a time when Monica Lewis was "Chiquita Banana" anonymous;—probably for the same reason that Marilyn Monroe started with calendar art; it was a job. It is not unknown that name songsmiths also have whipped up those singing commercials. But will it be "Calling All Men to Barney's" by Irving Berlin, or the "Robert Hall" theme song by Cole Porter, next?



French import Robert Clary is one of the singing stars of hit revue, "New Faces," the production which also introduced Eartha Kitt. Clary has previously played nightclubs.



7-year-old Bruce Weil learns the recording ropes from Victor exec, Joe Carlton, who knows them. His new wax for the Little Dog Label is "Bimbo" and "Poppa Piccolino."



Sammy Davis Jr. learns that four of his disks are being re-issued by Capitol. He just completed a stint at Ciro's, Hollywood, with his group, The Will Mastin Trio.



These three pretty lasses are the Fontaine Sisters, pride of Victor Recording Company and the CBS-TV "Perry Como Show." Their newest: "Kissing Bridge" and "Silver Bells."



Donald O'Connor "assists" fellow comedian George Gobel in taking a picture at the Sahara, Las Vegas, where they appeared recently. Gobel will soon have own TVer.

● THE WILD ALBUMS

RCA-Victor and Decca recently found themselves out of the picture temporarily as both were in the process of releasing title albums from Columbia's Marlon Brando film, "Hot Blood." It was suddenly announced that the name of the picture would be changed to "The Wild One." Hurried consultations resulted in an agreement by Columbia Pictures to foot the bill for new album covers and record labels. The recording companies then recalled the albums and reissued them under the new title.



Tommy Edwards, whose record of "Baby Baby Baby" did quite well, is making another bid with newest pressing, "There Was a Time," with offbeat flip-side, "Wall of Ice."



Starlet Myrna Fahey receives the first copy of Lawrence Welk's new album, "Nimble Fingers," autographed by the Maestro. Welk has played 125 weeks at LA's Aragon.

● ALL HOLES BUT SOLID!

Capitol Records' Dixieland virtuoso, Pete Daily, a top jazzman credited with helping to revive jazz recently in Southern California, plays a horn that is 40 years old.

Although some disk jockeys have quoted its price at \$4.15, Pete says he paid a friend \$15 for it. There are holes in the trumpet, but Pete has these taped up. He says he has never found a new horn that blows like this.

Daily's trumpet bears the plate: "Holton Company, Chicago." The Holton company moved its factory to Elkhorn, Wisconsin, in 1914, Pete recalls, "so the horn must be older than that."

His latest records for Capitol are "Gramophone Rag" and "Asleep In The Deep."

● COOL OVER THERE

The cool winds wafting over Scandinavia are being blown up by the bevy of U.S. jazz musicians currently holding forth in Denmark, Sweden and Norway. Current tourists include Billie Holiday, Buddy de Franco, the Red Norvo Trio and Norman Granz's "Jazz at the Philharmonic." Scheduled for later this spring are Count Basie, Louis Jordan and Milt Jackson's Quartet.

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Les Paul and Mary Ford get happy—it ain't hard—over gold records won by hits "How High the Moon," "The World Is Waiting for the Sunrise" and "Vaya con Dios." Gold disks signify sales of 1,000,000—but "Vaya," having sold 2,000,000, won Les and Mary a second gold record just before Music Views went to press. Gold statuette is a Cash Box Magazine award.