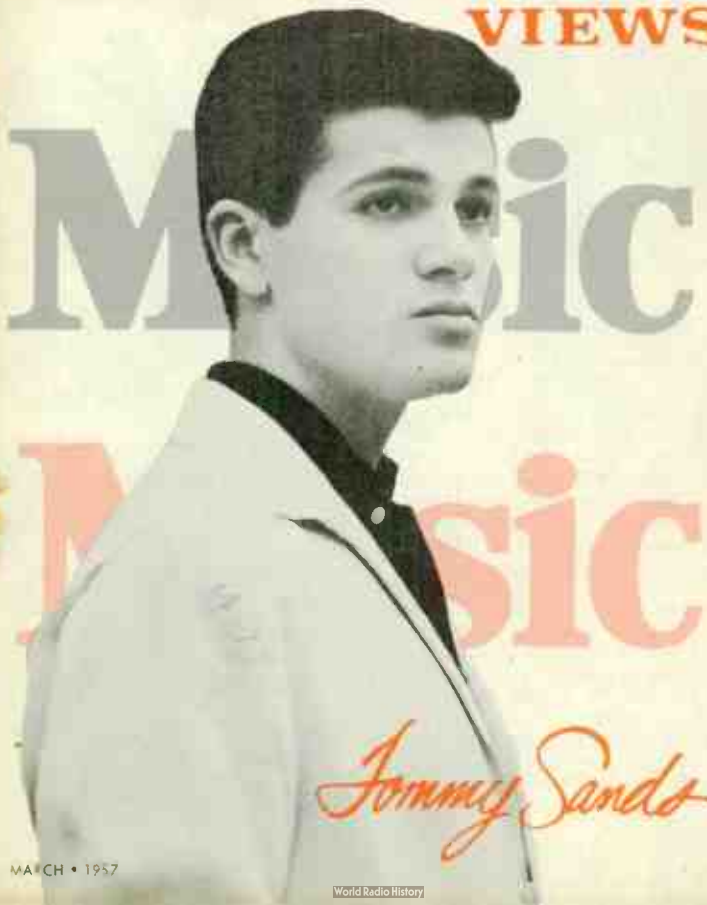


# Music

VIEWS



*Tommy Sands*

MARCH • 1957

World Radio History



The enthusiastic reception given the King Sisters' re-entry onto the music scene is well deserved, as their newest Capitol release, "I'm Not Free" and "Sentimental," will attest. Alvin Rey provides background.

### THE COVER

Although show business has long been known as a profession where people can skyrocket from nowhere into international prominence, even the old-timers have to scratch their heads in order to recollect a star who has risen as fast and with such meteor-like brilliance as this month's cover subject, Tommy Sands. A few short weeks ago this 19-year-old Chicagoan was just a talented youngster with a few TV credits and a yen for stardom. Today he's the "hottest" thing in show business. See Pages 5, 6 & 7 for more about Tommy Sands.

## Music Views

Mar., 1957 Vol. XV, No. 2

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## X-RAY IN HI FI

The shortage of desirable recordings in Soviet Russia recently prompted one of the most ingenious bits of bootlegging since the repeal of prohibition in the U. S. A group of students managed to transcribe songs monitored from "Voice of America" broadcasts onto pieces of old, ex-

posed X-Ray film which they cut into the shape of phonograph records. These they peddled to Russian phonograph fans.

The enterprising capitalists were found out, however, and hauled into court on the charge of engaging in private manufacture and sale.



In addition to their great new album, "Andrews Sisters in Hi Fi," the forenamed ladies have a new single disk doing well on Capitol titled "No, Baby" and "Rum and Coca Cola." "Rum" is a brand new recording of the very first Calypso to become popular in the country, their waxing of which sold millions of copies. Billy May and Vic Schoen orks accomp.



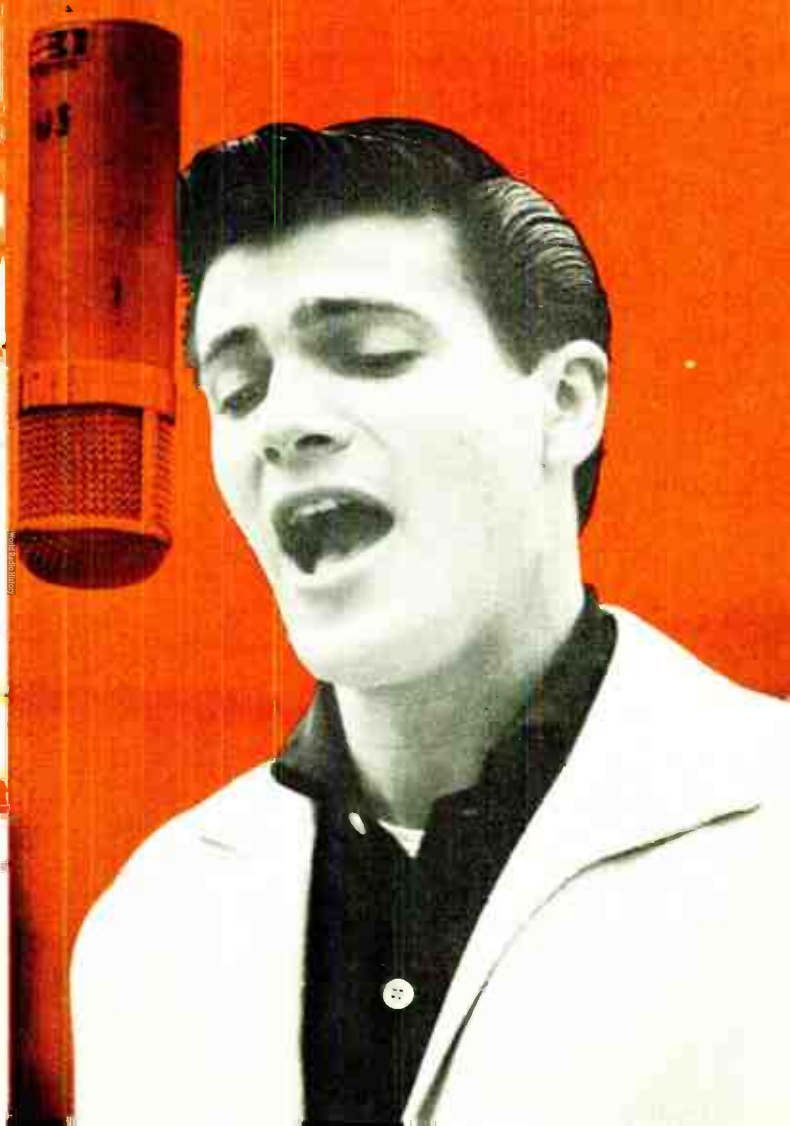
Teamed up for the first time on a new Cap platter are two of the top artists in the ragtime field, Pee Wee Hunt (above) & Joe "Fingers" Carr (below). Duo swings on "How Ya Gonna Keep 'Em Down On the Farm," "Swingin' Down the Lane."



## WHO'S ON FIRST

A couple of recording companies recently decided to fight their differences out in the record stores instead of the courts. It all started when "Big Bob" Kornegay, an entertainer who calls himself "The Happy Wanderer," cut a recording of a song called "Man In the Phone Booth" for Flair-X Records. But Kornegay was under contract to Herald Records at the time and this company objected. After thinking it over, Herald decided not to sue, called Kornegay in, assembled the same musicians and arranger, recorded the song and released it themselves. Now there are two recordings out . . . one by "The Wanderer" and one by "Big Bob Kornegay the Happy Wanderer." They are, of course, one and the same person.

To add to the confusion, Deluxe Records contacted Herb Zane, writer of the song, and made another version, with the same musicians and arranger.

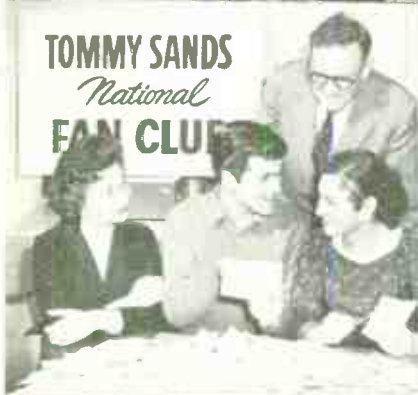


© 1954 RCA Victor Records

# Tommy Sands

**T**HINGS HAVE happened awfully fast for a slim, dark, goodlooking teenager named Tommy Sands. In a matter of weeks he has become a top recording artist (his waxing of "Teen-Age Crush" has already sold over a million copies), a sought-after television performer, a top personal appearance attraction, a prospective movie star and the idol of millions of teen-agers all over the nation. This 19-year-old bundle of talent is a native Chicagoan who began performing at the age of nine. At 12 he was a disc jockey in Houston, Texas, where he attended high school. Then, a few weeks ago, Tommy began making appearances on "Tennessee" Ernie Ford's daytime television show. Shortly after that he starred in the Kraft Television Theatre presentation "The Singing Idol." Concurrent with this, his first recording on Capitol, "Teen-Age Crush" and "Hep Dee Hootie (Cutie Wootie)" was released and became an overnight smash. More TV appearances have followed and by this time Tommy will have signed a contract with one of the top movie studios. Some of the highlights of Tommy's career are pictured below and on the next page. (1) Tommy as "The Singing Idol" on the Kraft Television Theatre. (2) Tommy and "Tennessee" Ernie Ford share the spotlight on Ernie's nighttime TVer, "The Ford Show." (3) Tommy records for Capitol. (4) Tommy goes over fan mail with Adele Mallard, his national fan club chairman; Vi Nixon, Honorary national president; and Ken Nelson, his Capitol producer. (5) Tommy poses for his Capitol album cover. (6) Tommy autographs records for his many fans in Kenmac Music Shop in Chicago.







Sultry actress Mamie Van Doren (who also happens to be Mrs. Ray Anthony) is first artist to record on Prep Records, Cap's new subsidiary label. First release will be two songs from pic, "Untamed Youth."

## ● TUNE UP TALES

With the success last year of the musical version of "Jack and the Beanstalk" as a TV spectacular, viewers can expect a liberal dose of tuned up stories by the Brothers Grimm, Hans Christian Anderson, Aesop and others. CBS-TV has scheduled "Cinderella" for showing on March 31, and is already prepping a musical TV version of "Aladdin."

The mass appeal of this type of material to both children and adults makes the choice of stories so desirable. Better yet, the stories are free.



It probably isn't part of spring training but Mickey Mantle swung a mean bow during recent appearance on Leon McAuliffe's TV show in Tulsa, Oklahoma, prior to additional appearances in Las Vegas.





With their new album, "Four Freshmen and Five Trumpets" climbing ever higher on the sales charts, the boys also have a single which is stepping out for a hit, "What's It Gonna Be" and "That's the Way I Feel."

## SONGS UPDATED

The revival of show tunes, sparked by the need for new material in record albums, is not without its problems. Many of the tunes have topical lines which are so far out of date as to be practically without meaning to present day record buyers. For instance, the original version of the Rodgers and Hart tune "Manhattan" from "Garrick Gaities" contained the line "Abie's Irish

Rose is a great show they say, we both may live to see it close one day." When Tony Martin and Dinah Shore reprised the tune several years ago, the name of the show was changed to "South Pacific." For the recent Ella Fitzgerald package, "Rodgers and Hart Songbook," the show was changed once more, this time to "My Fair Lady."



"Turn the darn thing off before Yma Sumac hits another high note."



Dinah Shore admires Donald O'Connor's cuff links during rehearsals of recent "Chevy Show" for which Dinah is hostess. She has a new Victor album, "Bouquet of Blues."



Barry Frank is new vocalist with the Sammy Kaye band and is heard on Kaye's new Columbia recording, "Mountain of Kisses." Frank has previously waxed on other labels.



Lovely Virginia Atter has a new one stepping out on Capitol, "Forgetting" and "You Can't Stop Me From Dreaming." Charlie Trotta ork.

#### ● SKED NEW FISHER TV

Eddie Fisher is scheduled to do a regular hour-long show next fall. NBC-TV plans are for a variety format in the 8-9 p.m. spot but no day has been set.



Dean Martin lends critical ear to playback during recording of newest disk, "Captured" and "The Man Who plays the Mandolino." Both sides show great sales potential.

## OOPS!

Once in a while an advertising copywriter gets carried away by a bright idea and lives to rue the day. Such an event happened recently when Canadian deejay read an ad for the Epic recording of "I Put a Spell On You" and noticed a line which promised: "Deejays, give this one a spin. If you get fired we'll

get you a job."

So the jockey played the record all night long and the station decided to dispense with his services. Epic and its parent company, Columbia, are now on the spot to make good their promise.

Maybe the guy could have the job of whomever thought up the ad line.



Henry Fonda, who plays trumpet, learned to play bass for his role as a musician in the Warner Bros.' motion picture, "The Wrong Man."



Pretty Wanda Jackson is making a big dent in both the country and pop record markets. Her newest on Capitol is "Cryin' Thru the Night."



And she also sings. As proof she has an MGM release titled "More Than That" & "I Couldn't Care Less." Oh, her name. It's Helene De Lys.



Les Brown becomes a Trinidad lad on his newest Cap wax, a calypso titled "Original Joe." Butch Stone does vocal honors on "Joe" as well as flipside, "If I Had the Money."

#### ● SIAM NIXES 'KING'

One of the few countries in the world which will not see the 20th-Fox musical "King and I" is Thailand. The pic, based on the novel "Anna and the King of Siam," was viewed with enjoyment by the king of Thailand (formerly Siam) but the king's relatives object to the picture and the censors forbade a scheduled booking in Bangkok.



Here, in Studio B of Capitol Tower recording studios in Hollywood, Gordon Jenkins conducts his latest Capitol album, "Night Dreams."

### CHINA BAND TO TOUR

The famous Kokhong Chinese Band of 60 musicians, playing ancient Mandarin and Thai instruments, will make a coast-to-coast American concert tour next Fall to promote the Columbia production, "The Sea Wall." The group provides mood background music for the film, in which Silvana Mangano, Richard Conte, Anthony Perkins, Jo Van Fleet and Alida Valli are starred.

The musicians, together with

12 Thailand classical dancers, will arrive in the United States late in August and will launch their tour with a guest appearance on the CBS-TV Ed Sullivan show. Initial concert engagement has been booked for the McMillan Auditorium of Columbia University in New York. The band will also make appearances at universities and before cultural and musical groups in addition to regular stage concerts.

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**CHASING SHADOWS**—Jackie Davis T 815



**HEY LET YOURSELF GO!**—Nelson Riddle T 814



**"MISH-MOSH"**—Mickey Katz T 799



**EVE**—Eve Boswell T 10077

## vamp till ready



**E**VERY ONCE in a while a voice is raised loud and clear in agonized protest over the manner in which the standard of musical taste has been "lowered" by this and preceding generations. It should be obvious to even the most casual observer that this is certainly NOT the case.

A glance at the sales figures of phonograph recordings immediately establishes the fact that vastly more people are now hearing the truly great music of the past, present and possibly the future, than ever before in history. In the past, only a limited few could hear concerts and performances of great music and great artists. Today it's a pretty good bet that even the most humble home will contain a phonograph and a collection of "good" music.

The fact that millions of people listen to rock 'n' roll or popular music means only that music as a means of communication and entertainment has now spread to all age and cultural levels, instead of being reserved for the select few. It is now economically possible for each individual to pick out the kind of music which most adequately fills his needs. It is also possible for him to select, from a wide variety of types of music, that which might appeal to him at any particular time. Many observers have been startled to find the same teenager who is "sent" by rock 'n' roll listening intently to the complicated works of Stravinsky, Prokofiev and Bartok. This diversification of taste may be abhorrent to the intellectual snob, but it is an indication of the adventuresome and inquiring spirit which makes for progress, even in art.



Captivating might best describe this singer's voice as she offers "Line (leen) Renaud's Paris," another Capitol of World album.

### ● BRIT SINGERS TOPS

Although the English have a penchant for American songs, they still stand by their home-grown recording artists. In many instances, the British version of an American hit outsells its American hit-maker. Tommy Steel's waxing of "Singing the Blues" leads over the Guy Mitchell version, as do the British versions of "Green Door" and "Two Different Worlds."



Behind colorful album cover photo by Capitol's Ken Veeder is voice of this famous singer, Yma Sumac, offering "Legend of the Jivaros."



Sammy Kaye peers over shoulder of tunesmith Jule Styne during recording of album of tunes from "Bells Are Ringing" made at dance tempo.



**Gloria Jean, former child singing star, has obviously grown up and recently played a dramatic part on NBC-TV's "Lux Video Theater."**

## ● HI FI TOUR

On the theory that there is no fan more ardent than a Hi Fi fan, KLM Royal Dutch Airlines is establishing a Hi Fi Music Tour of Europe. Tour will begin on May 15 and will take in visits to the recording studios of such labels as Decca, EMI, Deutsche Grammophon, HMV and others.

Tour is under the supervision of James Lyons, editor of Hi-Fi Magazine.

## HOT TUNE

"Music to Cook By" has become a reality. The new models of Hotpoint electric ranges nudge the housewife's memory by playing a few bars of "Tenderly" when the pre-set oven control announces that the meat is done.

Hotpoint pays the standard 2-cent royalty for use of the tune. Although "Tenderly" became a standard, it was never really a pop hit. Now it could really be a smash... if Hotpoint sells a million ranges.



**Formerly with The Cues on Capitol, Jimmy Breedlove goes it alone on the same label with "Danny Boy," with Les Baxter orchestra.**



**Mr. and Mrs. Louis Prima (she's Keely Smith) are teamed up on their first single record, "Baby, Won't You Please Come Home" and "Sentimental Journey," on Capitol wax.**



Capitol producer Lee Gillette (left) and band leader Guy Lombardo take coffee break at session making new "Decade on Broadway" album.



New Decca pactee, Judy Scott, is the 18-year-old discovery of comedian Jerry Lewis. She accompanied him on his night club tour.

### PERILS OF R & R

In an effort to get a "live" quality for a rock 'n' roll recording session, RCA Victor invited 14 teenagers to the session which nearly ended in complete bedlam. The shouts of "go, man, go" and the handclapping made it impossible for the director to be heard over the "mikes," so the kids had to be quieted. Order was restored and the session continued with the juves dancing in the background.

## SMALL WORLD

The names by which most of the recording companies call their Hi Fi recording processes are inclined to sound technical and scientific, but Bethlehem has come up with probably the most impressive sounding name of them all. They call their process "Micro Cosmic." According to the dictionary, "microcosmic" means, "Pertaining to a little world." Anybody can see how that applies to high fidelity recording.



Handsome Luciano Virgili offers "Italian Popular Songs" in new Capitol of the World album, recorded in that boot-shaped land.



Gordon MacRae and Peter Lind Hayes switched wives recently . . . but just for television. Mary Healy (Mrs. Peter Lind Hayes) and Sheila Stevens (Mrs. Gordon MacRae) were each cast as the wife of the other's spouse in a recent "Lux Video Theater" production. Well, variety is the . . .



Thelma Gracen has new Wing album titled "Thelma Gracen" which is really very appropriate since that is the lady's name. She was formerly vocalist with Jan Garber ork.



Relaxing far from recording studio is Dino Olivieri, who, in a new Capital of World album, conducts "Romance In Rome" music.

## WHAT ELSE?

A record collector named  
Hackett  
Thought music made far too  
much racket  
His collection grew big  
With no Hi Fi rig  
For he sure liked the girls on  
the jacket.

—bolof.



Don "Happy Whistler" Robertson has two new sides out on Capitol, "Rockaway" and "Fantasy," a pairing bound to please Don's fans.



## GI's DIG DISKS

The G. I. stationed overseas can't get home very often, so a little bit of home is shipped to him . . . on wax. A recent estimate reveals that servicemen spend \$5,500,000 to \$6,000,000 at Army and Air Force overseas post exchanges for records from home. Of this total 70% is spent for LP albums.

An interesting note is that

30% of the albums sold are classical, while only 20% are jazz. Classical favorites are "Scheherzade" and "1812 Overture." Best selling pop artists include Bill Doggett, Fats Domino, Elvis Presley, Frank Sinatra, Perry Como, Joni James, and Bill Haley. Tops in the jazz field are Ella Fitzgerald and the Dukes of Dixieland.



Cute, blonde and talented, the Nilsson twins recently completed an Australian tour and now have new wax on Cap, "I Dance When I Walk." They're with Les Baxter.



Title of Sonny James' new Extended Play package is "Young Love" which is title of his current smash single. He also appeared recently on the Ed Sullivan CBS-TV show.



**Vivacious Annie Cordy, who is featured vocalist in Capitol's "This Is Paris" album, debuts as a singles artist with catchy "Parisian Rag." Flip is European hit, "Amore Mio."**

### HI-CLASSED MECCA

Mecca Records, an independent recording company, recently changed its name to "Hi-Class." The change was made as a result of action brought against the firm by Decca and to avoid confusion of the names.

There is speculation in some quarters as to how this will affect the Mohammedan trade.

### ● WAX MANY VERSIONS

With LP's gobbling up songs at a prodigious rate, many "standard" selections are available in so many versions that the listener can hear his favorite song by just about any artist he chooses.

Leader in number of versions recorded is Hoagy Carmichael's "Stardust" with 127 different renditions. Runners-up include: "St. Louis Blues" with 112. "Tenderly" with 102, and some 50 other songs with fifty or more versions. The top-ranking show writers are most often the beneficiaries of these multiple presings, with Cole Porter, Jerome Kern, Oscar Hammerstein, Richard Rodgers, Lorenz Hart and the Gershwins topping the lists.



**Dolf van der Linden conducts the orchestra in the new "Ongetrouwd Man Kamer! (Bachelor's Apt.)" Capitol of World album, out now.**



William Steinberg conducts the famous Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra in another important Capitol classical album presentation including Hindemith's "Mathis Der Maler" and Toch's "Symphony No. 3." Other new Cap classical albums are by Sylvia Marlowe, Nathan Milstein.

#### ● USSR BRIEFED ON JAZZ

An upcoming issue of "America Illustrated," a Russian-language magazine published by the U. S. Information Service, will be devoted to "illustrating the distinctive styles of well-known jazz musicians." Pictures and a brief history of jazz will be used to help explain the American Way to those behind "iron curtain."

#### BEAUCOUP WAX

To give an idea of the selection available to today's record buyers, deejay Ira Cook of KMPC in Los Angeles, announced that in the first month of 1957 he received a total of 457 new single records and 77 albums!



Joni James and friend do a little fireside dreaming about the possibilities of her new disk, "To You I Give My Heart," becoming a hit.



Molly Bee has been busy buzzing between NBC-TV, where she appears on the Tennessee Ernie Ford show, and ABC-TV, where she's been for weeks on the Ray Anthony show. She records for Dot.



Alberto Calderon recently completed album "Tropical Heatwave," for Tropicana Records. He's a Timbalero (plays Latin drum, timbale).

## ROCK 'N' REEL

An enterprising representative of the entertainment newspaper "Variety," in Scotland, dug up the fact that the 18th Century poet Robert Burns was hip to this rock 'n' roll business. Lines from "Bessie at the Spinning Wheel" read:

"O leeze me on my spinning wheel,  
And leeze me on my rock and reel!"

## GOOD 5c CIGAR

Bearded, cigar-smoking Mitch Miller, Columbia Records exec, has been named "Man of the Year" by the Cigar Institute of America. He also has advice to offer to cigar smokers in show business:

To actors: "Don't build up a long ash. Viewers bite their nails waiting for it to drop."

To emcees: "Don't talk with a cigar in your mouth. Even Edward G. Robinson gave that up." To all bearded performers: "There's nothing safer than a long cigar."

The Cigar Institute is concerned with returning the cigar to its previous position of respectability.



Ray McKinley (left), leader of the Glenn Miller ork, plays "Strike It Rich" and poses with the TV show's MC, Warren Hull, and June Lundi.



Tennessee Ernie Ford duets with TV guest Jack Bailey on recent show. Ernie's newest wax, "The Watermelon Song," is tune to toot about.



Jane Powell collects a group of well known show tunes and standards in her successful new MGM album titled "Something Wonderful."



James Brown (Lt. Rip Masters of Rin Tin Tin TV series) plugs his recording of the tune "Forward Ho."

## ● NBC-TV GETS MARTIN

Dean Martin will star in two hour-long shows per year for the next five years, according to his recently signed NBC-TV contract. Date for first show has not been set as yet. Martin will also do two or three shows per year as a guest artist, the first of which may be Dinah Shore's upcoming hour show.

### NO DIFFERENCE?

After Jayne Mansfield appeared on a recent "Shower of Stars" telecast, CBS-TV received a letter from a viewer who stated, "If you can't show Elvis from the waist down, don't show Jayne from the waist up."

## ● COPELAND SOLOS

After nearly nine years as a member of the "Modernaires" singing group, Allan Copeland has left to go on his own as a single. His first release all by his lonesome on Coral is "Feeling Happy" and "You Don't Know." The latter tune was penned by Copeland.

# MUSIC VIEWS

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There's certainly no doubt that Gene Vincent (second from left) and His Blue Caps, Capitol artists, have a good time while recording. In this photo we see the five youths hard "at work" cutting their newest wax, "Important Words," a ballad written by Vincent and his manager.