

THE CASH BOX RHYTHM N' BLUES Ramblings

NEW YORK:

The Clovers, Atlantic Records, looking for that real big one, seem to have come up with it in "If You Love Me." Only out a couple of weeks, reports coming into the office indicate the fellas will shortly be on top of the heap again. Some of the reports, though in lesser quantity, show that the other side, "Blue Velvet" is also being asked for. Although at this stage it is too early to tell, it could be a two sider. The Clovers used to make it a habit—issuing two sided hits, that is. . . . Here's one we've been hearing about. "Two Hearts" by The Charms. Seems the etching was tested territorially and only this week was shipped nationally. . . . Eddie Mesner, Aladdin Records, hot about his Patti Anne's "Shtiggy Boom." Tune was written by Al Jarvis, Coast jockey. . . . Bill Cook, Roy Hamilton's personal manager, the latest to be erroneously declared dead. Bill's in fine health and in a happy frame of mind as long as Hamilton keeps turning out those hits. . . . Herald may have something in the new Charlie & Ray "Take A Look At Me." Spot tested it in New York and the orders were instantaneous. Al Silver, out with the virus, should be cheered by this news. . . . Chet Baker, scheduled for New York on March 12 for his Carnegie Hall jazz concert, is readying his new "Chet Baker

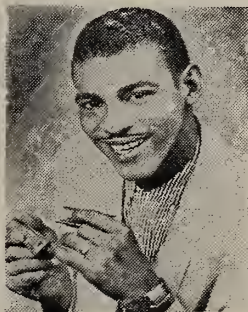


THE CLOVERS

Sings, Vol. II" to be released sometime next month. . . . Jack Rowzie (WWDC-Washington, D. C.) started a two year old platter going recently by spinning it once a day for two weeks. Deck is Bob Scobey's "Hindustan" on Good Time Jazz. . . . The March 12 Jazz Concert at Carnegie Hall, spotlighting Dave Brubeck, Gerry Mulligan and Chet Baker, with vocal discovery Carmen McRae rounding out the bill, will bear the official production name, "New Jazz At Carnegie." . . . Ralph Watkins is sporting the handsomest sultan in town. Ralph just returned from a two week Havana vacation to supervise the re-decorating of his Basin Street Jazz Palace which opens its doors again April 7 in the grooviest fashion—starring the great Satchmo Armstrong. . . . Miriam Abramson, Atlantic Records, only one week back at the desk and moaning about losing that Miami tan. . . . Baton Records has come up with what looks like another strongee in "Lonely Nights" by The Hearts, a group of young girls who look like real comers.

CHICAGO:

It is reported that plans are underway for Mahalia Jackson to star on her own TV show, this city. In the meantime, CBS showcasing Mahalia on several local TV's. Her "Rusty Old Halo" doing mighty well for her. . . . Roy Hamilton drawing raves at the Chicago Theatre where he's singing all his big records including the current, "I Believe" which is really catching on in a big way. . . . Milt Salstone tells us that "No Chance" by The Cadillacs on Josie may be his next big seller. . . . Chess boys out with several hit potentials again. Such as "I Wanna Hug Ya, Kiss Ya, Squeeze Ya" by Buddy & Claudia; Jimmy Witherspoon's "Time Brings About A Change"; and a brand new Little Walter release titled, "My Babe". All Phil will say about this Little Walter disk is, "Just watch it!" Phil, who just returned from a Florida vacash where, he claims, it did nothing but rain for his entire stay, is now holding down the fort here while Leonard travels his regular Southern route, stopping in Memphis to ship boxes of all their hits. . . . "I Wonder Why" on Vee-Jay by the Rhythm Aces seems to be going pop but fast. Chicago jocks have really jumped on this one. Calvin Carter of this diskery now in New York on biz. . . . Johnny Ace's "Pledging My Love" is a big seller here. But it is beginning to look like the tributes to the late Mr. Ace, especially "Johnny Has Gone" by Varetta Dil'ard, will also be a tremendous item. Though out just a short time, disk is already hitting the best seller charts. . . . Mercury Records running a dj contest in connection with Sarah Vaughan's "How Important Can It Be", which looks like it will be as big, if not bigger than, "Make Yourself Comfortable" for the 'divine Sarah'. Incidentally, during her stay at the Chicago Theatre, seems Sarah was a frequent visitor to the Rodeo Lounge where she enjoyed watching Carmen MacRae. . . . Johnny Hodges breaking it up at the Crown Propeller where his loyal legion of fans continually return to watch and listen to this popular favorite.



LITTLE WALTER

LOS ANGELES:

The Paul Coates' "Confidential File" TV show 2/6 was one of the most controversial issues ever to hit the trade. During the show Coates blasted the "dirty" R & B records that are now on the market and their influence on teen-agers. He pointed particularly at the "Annie" series and put Ralph Bass, A & R rep. for King and Federal, in the "hot seat" as one of the biggest offenders in turning out risque records. Also appearing on the show was Dick Hugg and Joey Adams, LA deejays. Earl Bostic and his orchestra are slated for a two month tour of the Western territory starting April 5. They will open at the Club Oasis here in LA on April 22 for two weeks. . . . Dinah Washington will also hit the West Coast in April along with organist Bill Doggett who will kick off his first Western junket in May. . . . Oscar McLollie and his band is one of the few groups that can boast about having one of the longest single engagements in history. They have appeared continuously at the Trade Winds in Inglewood for almost two years. Oscar is mighty happy over his latest Modern release "Pretty Girl" and "Lolly Lolly." . . . The Hollywood revue, now on tour throughout California, staged an appearance at The Harlem Hot Spot in San Pedro Feb. 11. The package unit included Linda Hayes, Roy Brown, Johnny Watson and Tommy Jones' Orchestra. . . . A promising new R & B

bouncer "Shtiggy Boom" is showing strong signs of becoming a hit. It is getting both POP and R&B coverage and is out by The Nuggetts (Capitol), Leo Diamond (Victor), The Dooley Sisters (Tampa), and Patty Ann Mesner (Aladdin). Tune was written by deejay Al Jarvis and harmonica wizzard Leo Diamond. . . . The tune "Slow But Sure," which was written by Benny Carter and Adeline Hanson, is being released on the Forecast label by Bernice Gooden. . . . Deejay Hunter Hancock is attracting turn-away crowds with his bi-weekly talent shows at The Club "400" in San Diego. . . . The Orioles were so successful at The Five-Four Ballroom that they were held over for an additional week-end 2/11 thru 2/13. Charles Brown and His band also appeared on the same bill. . . . Louis Jordan hits the market with his latest Aladdin release this week. Titles are "Gal, You Need A Whippin'" and "Time Is a Passin'." . . . Watch Imperial Records during the months ahead. Prexy, Lew Chudd, has some big plans that should make Imperial the hottest label in the country. With the cooperation of his two ace A & R men—Eddie Ray and Dave Bartholomew—he has a winning combination he feels can't be beat. . . . The Bihari Brothers are going great guns with five new releases out this week by Bobby Ref & The Laurels (Flair), Oscar McLollie (Modern) Jimmy McCracklin (Modern), Arthur Lee Maye & The Crowns (RPM), and Joe Houston (RPM). . . . Publicist Hal Spector is making plans to record a tune called "Mattress Mambo" by Dian 'Comfort' James which will be released on Innerspring Records. . . . Art Tatum opens at Zardi's on Mar. 11 to be followed by Coleman Hawkins Mar. 25.



BILL DOGETT

records he makes in the next two years to Boystown. Seen above, left to right, are Jack Cohen, president of Cuyahoga County Phonograph Merchants Ass'n., M. M. Kraus, Chairman of Ohio Boystown, Inc., Tommy Mara holding plaque awarded him by the Phonograph Association, and James S. Ross, vice president of the Phonograph Merchants Ass'n. and trustee of Ohio Boystown.

Singing Ambassador of Boystown



CLEVELAND—Tommy Mara, personable young MGM recording star, this week became a symbol of Ohio Boystown as he was designated by James Ross, Ohio Boystown trustee, "Singing Ambassador of Ohio Boystown." Tommy has pledged 100% of all royalties which accrue from the sale of "Pledging My Love" in Ohio, 25% of royalties from his National sales and 25% of royalties from all

records he makes in the next two years to Boystown. Seen above, left to right, are Jack Cohen, president of Cuyahoga County Phonograph Merchants Ass'n., M. M. Kraus, Chairman of Ohio Boystown, Inc., Tommy Mara holding plaque awarded him by the Phonograph Association, and James S. Ross, vice president of the Phonograph Merchants Ass'n. and trustee of Ohio Boystown.

A HOT ONE!
BOBBY MITCHELL
"NOTHING SWEET AS YOU"
b/w
"I WISH I KNEW"
IMPERIAL # 5326
Imperial Records
6425 Hollywood Blvd., Hollywood 28, Calif.

R & B
A SURE HIT!
"TRY AND GET ME"
b/w
"DREAM"
by Earl Curry
R&B # 1313
CONTACT YOUR DISTRIBUTOR

Headed
For The Top!
"IT MAY
SOUND SILLY"
IVORY JOE HUNTER
ATLANTIC # 1049
Atlantic RECORDING CORP
234 WEST 56th STREET NEW YORK 19 N Y

A New Charlie & Ray Smash!
"TAKE A LOOK
AT ME"
b/w
"MY LOVIN' BABY"
447
Herald RECORDS
234 W 55th St
New York N Y