

Capitol Extends March LP Discount, Cancels April LP Release

HOLLYWOOD—As a result of "overwhelming" dealer and consumer acceptance of its March 1/3-in-merchandise discount plan, Capitol Records Distributing Corp. is extending the program through the month of April and cancelling the planned April releases of all Capitol and Angel albums, with two exceptions, a special educational LP and a comedy album. Other albums scheduled for April release on both labels will be incorporated into subsequent releases.

Announcement of the moves was made last week by J. K. Maitland, president of CRDC, who termed the program "the most successful dealer-incentive and traffic-building plan we have ever offered."

Maitland said that dealers who qualified for the March program would continue to receive the 1/3 merchandise bonus on all purchases. To be eligible for the Capitol plan, retailers need buy only 100 Capitol-label LP's. After qualifying, they receive one album free for every three purchased. Qualifying order for the Angel program is 50 LP's, with the same benefits applying afterward. Bonus albums must be chosen from the titles purchased.

CRDC's March-April program, which expires at the close of business Friday, April 28, applies to all LP and EP albums in the Capitol and Angel catalogs. Not covered under the programs are four-track stereo tapes,

Dick Linke Moves Offices To Hollywood

HOLLYWOOD—Dick Linke, president of Richard O. Linke Associates, last week announced the moving of the firm's offices from New York to Hollywood. The move was necessitated by Linke's expanding interests on the west coast, mainly the handling of Andy Griffith and his position as associate producer of "The Andy Griffith TV Show." On April 1, Linke gave up his offices at the Park Sheraton Hotel in New York, and will headquarter at Desilu Studios—846 North Cahuenga Boulevard, Hollywood 38, California.

A New York office for Linke's firm will be located at 37 West 57th Street, New York City—Suite 1204.

Because of this move, Linke had to do some reshuffling of his talent and will give singer Tommy Leonetti his release as of May 1st. Linke terms this "an unfortunate turn of events" since the pair have been together over five years and the association has been a "most happy one." However, the problem of 3,000 miles plus other interests made the split a necessary one, Linke said.

Linke will still continue to manage Margaret Ann With The Ernie Mariani Trio and 11-year old singer, Robin Clark, from Nashville. He has made the necessary arrangements for eastern reps for both artists. In addition, he will continue to handle actor Bob McQuain from Hollywood.

"The Andy Griffith Show" finishes filming for this year, March 29, and then Griffith and Linke leave for New York, where Griffith will be the guest-star on "I've Got A Secret" on April 12. On April 17, Griffith is scheduled to do a feature picture for Columbia entitled, "The Diamond Bikini."

Mel Shayne Linke's former assistant in New York, will form his own personal management company after April 1.

Compact 33 Doubles, and the new educational album, Symphonic Movements From The Masters, which will be the only Capitol album released on April 3 (see separate story).

The comedy album, "2000 Years With Carl Reiner & Mel Brooks, which was recently purchased by Capitol Records from World Pacific Records and which will be reissued by the label on April 10, is included in CRDC's program.

Mercury's Smash Label Acquires Jin Master

CHICAGO—Mercury Records new subsid, Smash Records, issued its third release last week, via a distribution-production deal on a reportedly hot New Orleans and Houston deck by Joe Barry on the Jin label of "I'm A Fool To Care."

Up to now, production of the Joe Barry single was being handled for Jin at Houston Plastics, however, Mercury is now putting it into the plants at Richmond, Indiana and Los Angeles, which service Mercury. The Richmond plant also has facilities for printing, color separation work and packaging in addition to its pressing facilities.

The negotiations for the Jin-Smash deal were handled by Shelby Singleton and Kenny Myers of Mercury and the producers of the Jin single, Floyd Soileau and Huey Maux.

Smash's first release was an original cutting expressly for the label by the Paramours called "That's The Way We Love"; the second release was a master purchase of "Marie" by the Mus-Twangs, which was a break-out hit in the Chicago territory on the Nero label.

Cadence Pacts Eddie Hodges

NEW YORK—Archie Bleyer, president of Cadence Records, announced last week the signing of Eddie Hodges to an exclusive recording contract.

Although only 13-years-old, Hodges is already well established in many facets of show business. His versatile talents include stints in Broadway shows, such as the smash musical, "Music Man" and the current hit, "Critics Choice"; movies; "Hucklebury Finn" and "A Hole In The Head," and many network TV appearances.

Cadence is readying an "all-out" promotional campaign for Hodges' first record, which he will introduce on the April 13 Dick Clark American Bandstand Show.

Man, Like Bronze



NEW YORK—Dizzy Gillespie admires an enlargement of Dexter Jones' famous bronze portrait of him on display at Colony Record Shop. The great jazz star was honored by the Broadway store in a special drive on all his Verve albums, tying-in with his recent Carnegie Hall concert.

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