

MUSIC—AS WRITTEN

ASCAP-TV Per Program License Formula Extended

The interim agreement between the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (ASCAP) and TV negotiating committees for a per-program licensing formula has been extended one month to April 1.

Romero Signs Landford to Personal Mgr. Pact

Garet Romero has signed Bill Landford and the Landfordaires, rhythm and spiritual group who are waxing for Columbia, to a personal management pact. Landford was once a key vocalist with the Golden Gate Quartet. Romero is preparing a promotion campaign, including radio, TV and personal appearances.

Keystone Label Grabs Cody and Haley

Philadelphia radio artists Wayne Cody and Bill Haley were grabbed by Eddie Wilson for his Philly Keystone label. Cody, who conducts the "Uncle Wip" children's shows on WIP as well as disk air shows of his own, cut a pair by localite William B. Richter in "Let's Go Out to the Ball Game" and "Down on the Delaware." Haley, who airs Western platter shows three times daily on WPWA, Chester, Pa., cut four sides with his Saddle Men.

Csida and Grean Attend Chi MOA Conjab

RCA Victor artists-repertoire chief Joe Csida and staffer Charlie Grean hopped to Chicago this week for the Music Operators of America convention (6-8). Grean will cut a date there with Tommy Dorsey's Clambake Seven, Dixieland combo.

Keys Takes Over Distribbing of Dana Catalog

Nat Tannen's Keys Music firm has taken over national distribution of the Dana Music catalog. Material included is mostly polkas sliced for Dana disks, about 50 of which are ready imprinted copies. Among the titles are "Ferryboat Polka" and "Gloria Polka." Keys has also readied the "Howdy Doody Song Book" in conjunction with the Martin Stone Agency, producer of the smash TV show.

New York:

Phil Brito is back from the Coast, where he cut the "Square Dance Katy" flick for Monogram pix. . . . Warbler Johnny Parker has written "Moon of Love," which he is skedded to record with the Charlie Ventura ork. . . . Veteran contact men Irv Tanz and Sol Loft have each set up in music publishing under the names of Irving Tanz Music and Loft Music, respectively. . . . Harry Bluestone has returned from Hollywood to serve as production head of Standard Radio Transcription Services. . . . Louis Prima ork, into the Apollo for a week beginning Friday (3), opens a two-week stand at the Click, Philadelphia, Friday (10).

After an absence of three years, Connecticut's own Charles Spivak played a one-nighter at the Ritz Ballroom, Bridgeport, Sunday (26), drawing 1,206 persons who paid a \$1.50 admission.

Eddie Fisher, 20-year-old Eddie Cantor protege, is the latest Bluebird artist to be upped to the Victor parent label. Despite the recent thinning of Bluebird ranks, RCA spokesmen say that the junior label will continue as a testing ground for new talent.

Ben Bloom has been named chairman of the music publishing industry division of the Red Cross drive. . . . Lester Santly and Al Hoffman left for Florida Sunday (5). Santly will stay two weeks, while Hoffman will stick it out for a month. . . . Flack Dick Linke, ex-Capitol disk promoter, is branching out into radio publicity and will handle the Barry-Enright productions, splitting the chores with Kurt Weinberg. . . . George R. Marek, music editor of "Good Housekeeping" magazine, has been appointed assistant to General Manager Paul A. Barkmeier, of the RCA Victor record department. Marek will be in charge of co-ordinating Red Seal artists and repertoire activities with sales and promotion functions.

Hot Lips Page opened at the Regal Theater, Chicago, March 3. The orkster is also set for four weeks at the Brass Rail there starting March 22. . . . Juanita Hall, Victor-"South Pacific" thrush, started her own weekly show over WNEW Sunday (5). . . . Leo Fuad, London disk artist who hopped here from England to promote his records, returns to London Tuesday (7) for 12 weeks of theater dates and TV shows. This will be followed by a concert tour of Holland, Scandinavian countries and Israel. . . . Mindy Carson opens at the Fairmont Hotel, San Francisco, for three weeks starting March 7. She'll broadcast her regular NBC show from there.

Paul Szittyai, Hungarian violinist who has cut RCA Victor disks with Emery Deutsch, has formed his own combination and is currently booked at the Tokay Cafe. . . . The Burke-Van Heusen settlement with E. H. Morris finds the writers taking with them those tunes in the catalog which they wrote, the remainder staying with Morris. B-VH gets such copyrights as "Swinging on a Star," "But Beautiful," "Personality," among others; Morris retains "Christmas Song," "Old Buttermilk Sky," "Ivy" and others. Settlement was reportedly cash-free, on a straight copyright split. . . . The projected BMI pubbery to be headed by Henry Spitzer will reportedly include orkster Freddy Martin's publishing interests. Tentative arrangement will have Spitzer heading up the operation from the Coast, Lester Sachs serving as New York rep, and possibly Jack Ostfeld as Chicago rep.

Chicago:

Don Goins, once with Music Corporation of America's (MCA) New York office, has replaced Bob Bodine, with RCA Victor here, in the slacker department. . . . Al Miller, ex-sales manager for King disks, has joined Victor as district sales rep out of Cincinnati. . . . Master Record pressery here, operated by Egmont Sonderling, of United Broadcasting, is combining some of its equipment with that of Armour Plastics, pressery operated by Ari Sheridan. New plant will enlarge to more plating equipment and will also wax 16-inch e. t.'s. . . . Cy Stern, local flack, is selling agent for the bankrupt assets of Music of the Month Club, record promotion firm which folded last year. Merchandise for sales includes 10,000 assorted records and miscellaneous album covers and office supplies. . . . The Freddy Nagels (he's the MCA orkster) are expecting in June. . . . George and Ernie Leaner, formerly with Monroe Passis's Chord Distributors, have formed their own distributor set-up, United Record Distributors, 4804 Cottage Grove. They are handling Swingtime, New Jazz, Prestige, Birdland and Hop labels. . . .

Monroe Passis, of Chord Distributors and Parkway label, and J. Mayo Williams, chief of Chicago, Southern, Harlem and Ebony labels, are forming a personal management firm. Thus far they have Memphis Minnie, Muddy Waters, Sunnyland Slim, Jimmy Rodgers, Little Walter, Baby-Face Leroy and St. Louis Jimmy under contract. . . . The Hotel Sherman has announced that it plans to close its College Inn sometime in the near future and will reopen the room as an eatery, the Byfield Room, in memory of the late Ernest Byfield, hotel prexy. Spot may use society orks.

Hartford, Conn.:

Francis S. Stern, president of Stern & Company, Hartford area distributors of Columbia Records, and Mrs. Stern are on a West Coast vacation. . . . Song Hits, Inc., of Derby, a new corporation, has filed incorporation papers with Connecticut's secretary of state, listing as officers Edward Levy, president; John Santangelo, treasurer, and Burton N. Levy, secretary. . . . Maestro Bob Crosby, who has been living at Westport, Conn., returns to Los Angeles late in March because of a new contract whereby he is to resume as head man of "Club 15," CBS network show.

Don Morelli is running a series of Sunday afternoon jam sessions at the Casino, Old Saybrook, Conn. . . . Albert Latauska, branch manager for Capitol Records in Boston, formerly Hartford branch manager for the record concern, has moved his family to Boston. . . . Six pop concerts will be held at the Yale Bowl, New Haven, this summer, under sponsorship of the New Haven Junior Chamber of Commerce. They will be June 27, July 11, and 25, and August 1, 15 and 29. . . . The Star Theater, 1,800-seat downtown film theater, has discontinued temporarily its weekly bop concert and talent revue. The stage presentation has been on view Friday nights in addition to film programs.

Philadelphia:

The Jazz Guild will sponsor Illinois Jacquet for a March 24 bash at Turner Hall. . . . Lenny Daniels and Dave Kessler have teamed up under the former's name as a disk promotion firm handling the Four Keys, June Christy and Tommy Tucker. . . . The Barthel label in Chicago waxed Myers Music's "I'm Not To Blame," with Toni Rami handling the vocals. . . . Eddie Gelespi takes over the bandstand at the new C. & L., teen-age dancery in the Frankford sector of town. . . . Stan Kenton concertizes at the Academy of Music April 11 and 12. . . . Publisher-tunesmith Frank Capano's recovering at St. Joseph's Hospital. . . . Count Basie bows his small combo here at Club 421. . . . Sidney Bechet started last week at Lee Guber's Rendezvous, with Don Cornell, former Sammy Kaye vocalist, set to follow.

Detroit:

Charles Dubin, pianist, and Arthur Peters, former Metropolitan opera star, are teaming up as a piano-vocal duo. . . . The Modern Mustangs recently closed at the House of Fogarty and moved east to open at Gene's Inn, Watertown, N. Y. . . . Frankie (Sugar Chile) Robinson cut eight sides at the Campbell Studios, Detroit, for Capitol Records. . . . Bill Holleman, currently at the Topper Bar, Dearborn, Mich., cut a number of organ pieces to be released on tape for skating rinks.

NBOA Grows Another Wing; Iowa Ops Organize Chapter

CHICAGO, March 4. — Another State organization within the National Ballroom Operators' Association (NBOA) was formed Monday (27) at Des Moines, when Hawkeye terp ops formed the Iowa Ballroom Operators' Association (IBOA). Hank Heimen-dinger, Surf Ballroom, Clear Lake, was elected prexy; L. T. Luther, Coliseum, Oelwein, v.-p., and Bob Reichardt, Riverview, Des Moines, secretary-treasurer. Otto Weber, managing secretary of NBOA, will be recording secretary for the Iowa chapter.

Board members include Wally Peters, Iowa Falls; Walt Lawrence, Storm Lake; Darlowe Oleson, Havelock, and Bud Phillips, Remsen. An advisory committee made up of Tom Archer, Des Moines; Larry Geer, Fort Dodge, and Ken Kerker, Davenport, was appointed. These men were original officers of the first Iowa association elected in 1938. It was this group which eventually became the Midwest Ballroom Operators' Association and thence the NBOA. The Iowa ops will meet again in June at Clear Lake. The ballroom org now has four State chapters, with others being formed currently in Wisconsin, Illinois and California.

In another meeting held Friday (24) at Lincoln, Neb., Cornhusker State ops heard a report that their Say It While Dancing program, which was to be aired nightly over KFAB, Omaha, as a band remote pickup from Nebraska ballrooms, has hit an AFM snag. Following the first remote pickup in January, union execs thruout the State clamped down on the venture and demanded rehearsal salary

and regular broadcast scale for the promotional show. As a result Vic Schroeder, Omaha band booker, and execs of the Nebraska org are meeting with officials of various locals to determine some kind of modification of union demands. The program is still airing nightly for a half hour, with Bill Selah, KFAB jockey, doing a half hour of disks, with plugs for the ballrooms.

Following the afternoon ops' meeting the group went to the Turnpike Casino, local dancery operated by Herb Pauley, prexy of the Nebraska chapter, where the finals for the Nebraska princess contest were held. Miss Betty Boothe was selected to represent the State at the annual Cherry Blossom Festival in Washington, to be held March 29. Fourteen finalists, selected in ballrooms thruout the State, participated. Henry Durst, McConkey music band chief, was one of three judges. Sammy Kaye's ork, which played the event, drew 1,821 dancers at \$2.30, including tax.

Tom Jones Joins Peer - Internat'l

NEW YORK, March 4.—Tom Jones, music biz veteran and noted for his some two decades of work as right-hand man with Al Goodman, this week joined the Peer-International and Southern Music organization.

Jones will serve as director of repertoire for the pubbery.