

# Letters to the *Recordings* Editor

## Pro *Recordings*

SIR: Your new section on music is very, very welcome. It is specially good to see serious and sensible criticism on jazz, which is certainly with us whether we like it or not. Thanks for giving Dizzy Gillespie credit for being something other than slightly mad. . . . In fact, thanks for the whole section."

JEAN H. STEWART.

Plymouth, N. H.

SIR: I'm delighted with *Recordings*—and feel very grateful to you for such excellent and valuable aid to us record-buyers.

(MRS.) LORING MERWIN.

Bloomington, Ill.

SIR: The new SRL supplement is fine. I particularly liked Kolodin's record reviews, the article by Virgil Thompson and the punch-uated paragraphs of Oscar Levant. I don't know whose idea it was to include the latter in your venture, but I'm grateful to whoever it was. I'll be looking forward to the next issue.

(MISS) D. SARGENT.

Hartford, Conn.

## Levant and Thomson

SIR: I think that *Recordings* is about the finest feature that the *Saturday Review* could inaugurate. I am most interested in the actual performance of music, but since I cannot go to all the concerts I would like, I try to buy a few records by my favorite musicians. I have learned in Mr. Levant's column of Mr. Horowitz's forthcoming album "Pictures at an Exhibition." Could the feature have an occasional article on the concert world? I hope that Mr. Thomson will write regularly for *Recordings*.

BARBARA WILLIAMS.

Racine, Wis.

## Dear Mr. Anthony

SIR: Taking advantage of the new department in SRL on recordings, I would like your recommendation in

this situation. We recently bought a combined radio-phonograph and are now anxious to develop a good record collection. To date we have bought three albums—"Student Prince," "Pin-afore," and "Great Gildersleeve" stories for children. We have three youngsters aged 2½, 4 and 5. As next purchases we have thought of "Show Boat," an opera which possibly will be "Faust," some of Stephen Foster and Strauss waltzes. But what would you recommend as a basic collection of records for an average middle-class family? We are definitely not interested in boop-a-doop.

RICHARD JAMES HURLEY.

Department of Library Science,  
University of Michigan,  
Ann Arbor, Mich.

EDITOR'S NOTE: *Nothing wrong with your next choices, though the new Columbia "Hansel and Gretel" might be more to the youngster's taste than "Faust." Addendawise, you might consider a Tchaikovsky or two: "Nutcracker Suite" or "Swan Lake," Dvorak's "New World," Chabrier's "Espana" Rhapsody, Weber's "Invitation to the Waltz," Mendelssohn's "Midsummer Night's Dream" music, the Haydn "Surprise" (a new version by Koussevitzky is on the way), Dorothy Kirsten's Victor Herbert album as counterpart to the G & S. Incidentally, boop-a-doop is now a collector's item, worth real money where found.*

SIR: Congratulations to you on a fine piece of clear and direct writing! The editorial in the new record supplement of the SRL is splendid. It goes right to the essential point, which of course, is that the law should recognize copyright in a record as in a published book. Something, perhaps, on the lines of the Performing Rights Society in England.

E. POWER BIGGS.

Cambridge, Mass.

## Going Up?

SIR: Please Note—  
"Because a maximum of only 250 records can be pressed from a master

(Answers from Quiz on page 47)

1. Duet from "Mme. Butterfly"—Farrar to Caruso.
2. Dorsey (T.) record of "East of the Sun"—the band to Bunny Berigan.
3. Chopin mazurka—De Pachmann to himself.
4. "A Monday Date"—Louis Armstrong to Earl Hines.
5. Berlioz's "Dance of the Sylphs"—Sir Thomas Beecham to the orchestra, at the end of the record.

to meet the exacting standards of the Society . . . the membership must be severely limited. Quantity is sacrificed at the altar of quality . . . we would want it no other way. . . . There can never be more than 2000 albums available."

(Prospectus 1st series, 1946-1947 season, Concert Hall Society, Inc.)

" . . . we will not sacrifice quality to quantity. . . . We will accept only 3,000 subscriptions to the Second Annual Series of Limited Editions Recordings. There can be no more."

(Prospectus, 2nd Series, 1947-48 season, Concert Hall Society, Inc.)

G. L. KACKLEY.

Washington, D. C.

## Department of Addition

SIR: Vide "Impressions" issue for August 30, 1947. Please be advised that you cannot fool a Centennial boy. I was born the same year Colorado was admitted as a state.

The anniversary of Edison's first recording is not LX, but LXX. Please so state in next issue with appropriate credit.

CHAS. McCULP.

Seattle, Wash.

EDITOR'S NOTE: *It is so stated, and with the additional notation that Mr. McCulp is a CPA. We are ordering a new adding machine, and advising all West Coast correspondents that Mr. McCulp can be trusted with their figure work.*

## Canby to Kolodin

SIR: Let me congratulate you on your issue of August 30. A fairly constant record-buyer, I am ever avid for criticism that is informed and discerning. The writings of Edward Tattall Canby originally attracted me to your magazine. Its general excellence has made me a steady reader who looks forward expectantly to each issue.

The addition of a monthly record section under the editorship of Irving Kolodin is a good step. My record collection has been built, to a large degree, according to the recommendations in his "Guide to Recorded Music."

CHARLES A. MULLER.

New York, N. Y.

EDITOR'S NOTE: *As noted in the introductory issue of RECORDINGS, Mr. Canby's column will continue to appear each week in the SRL. He will also be a contributor to RECORDINGS, as he has been in the two issues to date (see page 53).*

## THE CONTRIBUTORS

**HOWARD HANSON** is the American composer-conductor, and director of the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, N. Y.

**CHARLES O'CONNELL**, former recording director for Victor's Red Seal records, is author of "The Other Side of the Record" (Knopf).

**BERNARD HERRMANN** won an Academy Award for his "Devil and Daniel Webster" music, and scored such films as "Citizen Kane," "Anna and the King of Siam," "Hangover Square," and "The Ghost and Mrs. Muir." He also conducts the CBS Symphony.

**HERBERT WEINSTOCK** is the author of "Handel," and "The Opera."

**ROBERT LAWRENCE**, formerly of the *New York Herald Tribune* music staff, has conducted opera in the United States, Canada, and Italy, and is often heard on the Metropolitan Opera broadcasts' "Forum."

**HARRIET VAN HORNE** is radio editor of the *New York World-Telegram*.

**HERBERT MENGES** is music director of the Old Vic, and conducts the Southern Philharmonic, one of England's famous touring orchestras.

# Records Over the Nation

A Dealer Survey of Top Record Sellers

City and Store	Popular Singles	Popular Albums	Classical Singles	Classical Albums
<b>BOSTON</b> (Charles W. Homeyer)	Near You (B)	Park Ave. Hillbillie (C)	Jalousie (V)	Gayne (C)
<b>CHICAGO</b> (Hudson Ross Inc.)	Smoke (Cap)	Jolson Vol. 2 (D)	Jalousie (V)	Rachmaninoff Concerto No. 2 (V)
<b>CINCINNATI</b> (Steinberg's Inc.)	Peg O' My Heart (Vita)	Jolson Vol. 2 (D)	Polonnaise (V)	Schubert No. 9 (C)
<b>DALLAS</b> (A. Harris and Co.)	Peg O' My Heart (V)	Three Suns (V)	Clair de Lune (V)	Rachmaninoff No. 2 (V)
<b>DETROIT</b> (Doubleday Shop)	Feudin' and Fightin' (C)	Jolson Vol. 2 (D)	Clair de Lune (V)	Khatchaturian Concerto (EDA)
(Grinnell Bros.)	Near You (B)	Jolson Vol. 2 (D)	Clair de Lune (V)	Rachmaninoff No. 2 (V)
<b>KANSAS CITY, MO.</b> (Jenkins Music Co.)	Peg O' My Heart (Vita)	Miller Album (V)	Clair de Lune (V)	Nutcracker (V)
<b>LOS ANGELES</b> (G. Schirmer Co.)	Whiffenpoof (D)	Park Ave. Hillbillie (C)	Faithfully Yours (V)	Gayne (C)
<b>MIAMI</b> (Associated Stores)	Near You (B)	Prom Date (V)	Herr Kavilier (V)	Appassionata (V)
<b>NEW YORK</b> (Doubleday Shops)	Come to the Mardi Gras (C)	Dietrich (VOX)	La Perichole (D)	Henry V (V)
(Dynamic)	Peg O' My Heart (Vita)	Holiday for Strings (MGM)	Roman Carnival (EDA)	Bach Arias (C)
(Haynes-Griffin)	Peg O' My Heart (Vita)	Jolson Vol. 2 (D)	Eugen Onegin (V)	Rachmaninoff Bell Symphony (DISC)
(Heins and Bolet)	Whiffenpoof (D)	Jolson Vol. 2 (D)	Un Bel di (C)	Gayne (C)
(Rabson's)	Smoke (Cap)	Park Ave. Hillbillie (C)	Bachianas Brasilieras (C)	Gayne (C)
<b>OMAHA</b> (Lyon and Healy)	Peg O' My Heart (V)	Park Ave. Hillbillie (C)	Paganini Var. (V)	Rhapsody in Blue (C)
<b>PHILADELPHIA</b> (H. Royer Smith)	Near You (B)	Miller Album (V)	Marche Slav (EDA)	Daphnis et Chloe (EDA)
<b>PORTLAND, ORE.</b> (Sherman Clay and Co.)	Lady from 29 Palms (V)	Jolson Vol. 2 (D)	Paganini Var. (V)	Traviata (C)
<b>ROCHESTER</b> (Esler's)	Whiffenpoof (D)	Park Ave. Hillbillie (C)	Paganini Var. (V)	Manhattan Tower (D)
<b>ST. LOUIS</b> (Doubleday Shop)	Feudin' and Fightin'	Park Ave. Hillbillie (C)	Allegro Appassionata (V)	Henry V (V)

Key: B—Bullet C—Columbia Cap.—Capitol D—Decca DISC EDA—English Decca MGM V—Victor Vita—Vitacoustic VOX

Leaders: A new label, a new tune and a new artist challenge "Peg O' My Heart" as the best-selling popular record this month: all represented on Bullet 1001, with "Near You," sung by Francis Craig. It was reported by four stores, as was the Vitacoustic "Peg." The second Jolson album and Dorothy Shay's "Park Ave. Hillbillie" continue to lead among popular albums, with seven stores and six noting them, respectively. Jose Iturbi's "Clair de Lune" continues as leader of the classical single records, with four stores reporting it as "best seller"; and the Rachmaninoff Second Piano Concerto with three stores, gave ground slightly to Khatchaturian's "Gayne" ballet, the nomination of four.

## RECORD MART

RECORD MART is designed to provide a bulletin board on which may be posted buyers' or sellers' notices of anything odd, unusual, rare, or out of print on discs or the accessories thereto. Individuals as well as dealers may submit their offerings of duplicated discs, rare labels, old acoustics, society sets, private issues, or withdrawn items, albums, needles, record brushes, or the like. Rate: 25¢ per word; 12-word

minimum. Count two extra words for Box and Number. Full payment must be received fifteen days before publication. We forward all mail received in answer to box numbers and submit postage bills periodically. Mail to be called for at this office will be held thirty days only. Address: RECORD MART, The Saturday Review, 25 West 45th Street, New York 19, N. Y.

DOES HILDEGARDE'S "DARLING, Je Vous Aime Beaucoup" interest you? Will exchange for her "Let's Call the Whole Thing Off." Box R19.

WHO HAS FAT'S WALLER'S "Thou Swell"? Either original or reissue considered, provided condition is good. Box R20.

COLLECTING "RIVER BOAT SHUFFLE" discs? Have Isham Jones in good condition for Bix Beiderbecke same piece in playable condition. Box R21.

ORIGINAL MEMPHIS FIVE version of "Meanest Blues" for sale. Label is perfect, condition fair. Box R22.

JAZZ STUDENTS TAKE NOTE! I have large number of French publication "Le Jazz Hot," pre-war period. What records will you give in exchange? Box R27.

WILL PAY PREMIUM first edition Kolodin "Guide to Recorded Music." Must be fresh, unused copy. Box R28.

WANT TO KNOW when your Victor disc, pre-war, was issued? Information confidentially supplied, 25¢ per record. Box R29.

WHO HAS JAMES JOYCE "Anna Livia Plurabelle"? Want it in mint condition. Box R30.

TIRED OF ADVERTISING for first volume Hugo Wolf Society, but willing to try again. Prefer to pay on installment plan. Box R31.

## RECORD MART

CONCERT HALL SOCIETY ALBUM, mint condition; only one of each; for sale by subscriber, Telephone Plaza 8-2884. N.Y.C. Box R36.

WHAT OFFER BOB HOPE and Shirley Ross singing "Two Sleepy People"? Box R16.

HAVE YOU BEEN LOOKING for Libby Holman "Can't We Be Friends?" Have it for sale. Offers invited. Box R17.

HAVE BROKEN MY RECORD Teddy Wilson "Coquette" (Brunswick 7943.) Would pay reasonable price or make exchange. Box R18.

WANTED from fellow collectors Boninsegna (Victor), Supervia Spanish Songs (Odeon). Box R34.

HIGH-FIDELITY JEWEL NEEDLES (Hand Made). Best you have ever heard, or prompt refund. \$5.00. Stuart D. Noble, Gem Cutter, Box 2150, Hollywood 28, California.

SELL, EXCHANGE: JENSEN A-12-PM speaker, Brush PL-20 pickup, Mozart Requiem, Harris Symphony 1933; like new. Want: Outlaw Ballads, Operas, etc., Box R35.

WANTED: The Whiffenpoof Song, the original by Rudy Vallee and Connecticut Yankees. Good condition. Box R-37.

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