WORDS WITHOUT MUSIC

By LOUIS REID

Music Features & Photo Syndicate

OF all contributors to America's entertainment the songwriter alone is without a following. Actors, band leaders, singers, columnists, even novelists, count their public in the millions. Not so the tunesmith. The rivers of fan mail stay away from his door.

Louis Reid

One would think that such melody men as Irving Berlin, Jerome Kern, Walter Donaldson, Gordon and Revel, Warren and Dubin, Rodgers and Hart, Nacio Herb Brown, Vincent Youmans, with dozens of song hits to their credit, would be assured of enormous sales of any number they might write. Yet, if the number isn't what the Rue de la Tin Pan calls a "natural," it has no more chance of clicking than a composition by any unknown aspirant to songwriting fame.

In the purchase of phonograph records, books, theatre tickets people pay tribute to the artist. They ask for the latest records of Benny Goodman, Bing Crosby, Rudy Vallee. A new book by Somerset Maugham, Sinclair Lewis, Ernest Hemingway, Hervey Allen is certain to attain a handsome sale. Movie and stage stars have enormous publics. Playwrights such as Shaw, Cohan, Kaufman, Coward have a wide following.

Harry Armstrong
A.S.C.A.P.

Public Must Be Shown

But with the tireless tunemen of Broadway and Hollywood the public must be shown before it makes its purchase. If a song tickles the public ear it will sell. If it doesn't it is laid away in the musical graveyard, and all the great names of Tin Pan Alley mean nothing.

The songwriter courts fortune rather than fame. And fortune comes most quickly to him who can write a love song a little tinklier than the next man. In the past few years the writing of love songs has become a mass production—the leading mass production, it seems at times—in America. Dance bandmen, crooners and torch-singers are the most occupied persons today in the land. The amorous arias of Tin Pan Alley keep them occupied.

But who writes the arias makes little difference to the public. It never asks for the latest tune by Kern or Youmans or Romberg. The exception that proves the rule was in the case of Irving Berlin at the time of his marriage to Ellin Mackay. His wedding drew such quantities of newspaper space that his name, rather than the song just then fresh from his pen, called "Always", was a potent lure in the sheet music shops.

When "Smoke Gets in Your Eyes", "Love in Bloom" and "Cheek to Cheek" were national crazes, people, purchasing these numbers mentioned only the titles. They did not qualify their requests with the names of Jerome Kern, Robin and Rainger and Irving Berlin who were, respectively, the tunesmiths involved.

Most Popular Nursery Ditty

What is the most popular tune year in and year out that is based upon a nursery rhyme? "Mary Had a Little Lamb?" Wrong; "Jack and Jill?" Wrong again. It is "Rock-a-Bye Baby." But "Rock-a-Bye Baby" is closely pressed by "Three Blind Mice", "Old King Cole" and "Sing a Song of Sixpence".

The radio adapt their moods and modes to broadcast music. In most of the studios business is conducted in a manner bizarrely foreign to usual standards. Letters are written, dictated, dispatched; telephones are answered, errands run, interviews and auditions are given—all to the accompanying distraction of music.

The assisting musicians, however, do not often fit the action. Seldom does "We're in the Money" or "Happy Days Are Here Again" echo through the halls when commercial contracts are being signed. On the other hand, when no sponsor is in sight, there is inexplicably no comforting note of "Gold Mine in the Sky" or "Look for the Silver Lining."

A Dizzy Age

It's a dizzy business, you might exclaim, and most persons would uphold you. Yet, music while you work seems to fit a special need of the dizzy age. It is said to prevent—and the scientists will have to tell us why—spirits from becoming depressed. Our own theory is that music stimulates workers, makes them believe for the moment that life is not as real, not as earnest as the poet would have us believe.

Comes word that Turkey has gone completely overboard about swing music. The report, of course, is old stuff. Turkey went overboard about swing music centuries ago.

Not much sense to the new song hit, "I Double Dare You," but the tune is jingly.

There is one famous American ditty that is never accorded any hospitality on the airwaves. Can you guess it? Of course. The theme song of the brass rail, "How Dry I Am." And there is only scant favor for its companion piece, "We Won't Go Home Until Morning," despite the fact that the melody, which has been traced back to the Crusades, was borrowed by Beethoven and Sir Arthur Sullivan.

However, occasional greeting is given "Sweet Adeline." With the exception of the first two airs, no song has ever approached "Sweet Adeline" in its hold upon the bibulous spirit of America.

Golf Champion Demonstrates for Cornhuskers

Intermittent April showers failed to dampen the spirit of twenty enthusiastic members of the Cornhusker Golf club and auxiliary, who gathered at the Fontenelle Park golf links, Wednesday afternoon, April 27, to watch and listen to Johnny Goodman, one of the world's outstanding amateur golfers, and Prof. Stanley Davies, demonstrate how the game should be played.

These two master's of America's most popular outdoor sport gave a very thorough talk on the game starting with 'driving' and taking up each stage and shot and ending with 'putting.' All of those present were held spell bound by the skill and deptness shown by the speakers and expressed themselves as having a better understanding of how to improve the skill of their play. Many of the members took advantage of asking about how to correct their 'pet' difficulties, such as slicing, dubbing, hooking and improper body movement.

In spite of the showers most of them present either played over the classy nine hole layout or watched their favorites perform. After which the group gathered on the club house veranda, exchanged courtesies and retired to the reception room where the picnic festival consisting of an abundance of apetizing foodstuffs was spread. During which time Mr. Art. McCaw, past club president, who served as master of ceremonies, gave a talk on the life of Goodman, the Omaha youth, who thrilled millions with his golfing skill both in America and Europe.

Mr. Bowie Gillaway, club president, gave a talk in appreciation of the honored visitors, who gave an hour of their valuable time to the club. He also thanked the ladies auxiliary for their past support of the club and urged them to continue the active interest.

This golf meeting officially opened the 1938 golf season for the Cornhuskers, who have been organized for six years. Being members of the Central States Golf Association, the out-of-town tournament activity will include tournaments in Kansas City, Minneapolis and Des Moines. The Omaha activity consists of an invitational tournament on July 4 and seven other smaller club engagements.

The next meeting of the Cornhuskers and auxiliary will be held jointly, Monday, May 9, at the Urban Center.

Others present at the outing were: Mrs. Valera McCaw, Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Hanger, Mr. and Mrs. William Davis, Mrs. Justice, Mr. and Mrs. Malcolm Scott, Mrs. Bernard Squires and family, Miss Bessie Mae West, Mrs. Milton Johnson, Lonnie Thomas and Wyatt Williams of Lincoln, Jess Hutton, Tom Chandler, Penny Murray, Chester Hodges and U. Watson and Joe Owen.

All of the ladies present volunteered to assist in the formation of the auxiliary's 1938 program. Mr. Bernard Squires, Mal[illegible], Bessie Mae West and Penny Murray, Chester Hodges U. Watson and Joe served on the committee which arranged the golf outing.

Neaves to Fight Tuffy O'Dial, May 12

By BILLIE DAVIS

Charlie Neaves, Olympic champion and heavyweight, of Kansas City, Mo., who won his fight here a few weeks ago on a technical knockout in the first round, will have as his opponent on May 12, Tuffy O'Dial, who is rated a tough fighter.

This should be one of the best fights on the card, because each fighter is a big chunk of granite with plenty of speed behind their punches. Tuffy also won his fight on the same card with Neaves on a knockout. The fight fans are sure that this will be one of the most dynamic fights on the card as both boys will be in there fightings.

Buddy McCrae Will For N. D. Title

Buddy McCrae, flashy little fighter from Wichita, Kansas, who has had a number of fights here in Omaha and throughout the middlewest, has proven to be a great fighter, with plenty of speed will fight Dick Emery, of Grand Fork, North Dakota, sometime in May for the welterweight championship of North Dakota, in a ten-round bout, which is the main event on the program.

Dick Emery is highly praised by the North Dakotans and is rated as a fighter of championship caliber. McCrae has been training very hard for this fight. He is working out at Jensen's gym and looks to be in very good condition

McCrae hopes to get a return bout with Bob Venner, whom he lost to on a very close decision a few weeks ago. Barney Ross knocked out Venner in Des Moines last week in a no-title bout.

WHY RIDE A HOBBY?

On Saturday evening, May 7 the Girl Reserves are having a Hobby Show to which the public is invited. If you are a hobby rider the Girl Reserves will be glad to have you exhibit your hobby. A very delightful program his been planned.

Colored Prisoner Dies

Huntsville, Tex., May 7 (ANP)—Just as he finished singing the hymn of an old spiritual at State prison shortly after midnight last Friday, Johnny Banks, erst while preacher, met death in the electric chair for slaying his 13-year-old sister-in-law. Banks had previously won a week's reprieve with John W. Vaughn, 37, a white prisoner, when the electrocution machinery failed a week ago.

Vaughn, scheduled to follow Banks to the death chair last Friday night, was saved temporarily, when Judge F H. Kirby of Groesbeck issued an injunction restraining prison officials from proceeding with the execution. Reason: Homer Vaughn, brother of the condemned man alleged the prisoner has become insane since his experience last week in the execution room, when the chair's mechanicism broke down. Vaughn was found guilty of killing a policeman. He was granted a 24-hour stay by Governor Allred on the strength of Judge Kirby's injunction.

Lewis' Grocery Has Full Stock of Beers

Lewis' Grocery, 2723 Blarney, which was formerly known as Epstein's Grocery is ready to serve you with a complete line of high quality merchandise, canned goods, fruits, vegetables, choice cuts of fresh tender meats and ice cold beer.

The public is invited to come in and visit with them. What they want are satisfied customers. You are sure to be pleased.

Paxton H and M Softball Team Lose to Paul Christensen

By BILLY DAVIS

The count is all even now with the H. and M. Buffet soft ball team and the Rhythm King Paul Christensen team. The Christensen team was defeated earlier in the season by the Paxton boys.

Well, the story was althogether different Sunday, the Christensen team ran away with the Paxton boys. The score being Christensen 12, Paxton H. and M. 7. The pitcher for the H. and M., was Charlie Banks, who pitched a fine game. Baggeege was on the mound for Christensen. Big Jerry of the Paxton team made the longest hit of the day that went for a home run. He was called out by the umpire, Charlie McWhorter, for over-running third base. The umpire was yanked in favor of Tip-Foster, of the Paxton squad.

On the sidelines were seen Mr. and Mrs. Branch. Mr. Branch is the top notch of the waiters at the Paxton hotel, along with Mr. and Mrs. Branch was Miss Mery Alice Willis and her boy friend Henry Levels who is the brother of Mrs. Branch. Captain Thomas was there cheering for his Paxton Broncos. Manager Booth of the Paxton team was very much pleased the attendance at the game and he hopes that his team will do better next time.

Watch for the next game that the Paxton team will play, and be sure and come out.

The Eight Link Bridge club met at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Gray, 2716 Corby street.

A lovely evening was spent.

Mrs. Greta Wade. President.
Mr. Lloyd Gray, Secretary.
Mr. Jean Monday, Treasurer

NOTE:—Your question will be answered FREE in this column ONLY when a clipping of this column is enclosed with YOUR QUESTION, YOUR FULL NAME, BIRTHDATE and CORRECT ADDRESS. For PRIVATE REPLY send twenty-five cents and a self-addressed, stamped envelope for my NEW ASTROLOGY READING and receive by return mail my FREE ADVICE on THREE QUESTIONS. Send all letters to Abbe Wallace, care of The Omaha Guide, 2418 Grant Street, Omaha, Nebraska.

D. R. H.—Will you please tell me why it is I cannot make a success? Are those parties still after me that caused me to lose my business?

Ans: No one is after you nor trying to cause you any trouble. Just as soon as you forget your past business difficulties you will be able to make some headway again. A change no doubt help you.

L. R. A.—Dear Mr. Abbe, I want you to tell me if my husband is going with another woman? He don't give me any money.

Ans: Your husband is using his money on his own good times but he isn't spending it on another woman. My suggestion to you is get you a job and give him a taste of his own medicine, in other words act just as independent as he is acting.

J. B.—My daughter wants me to come and live with her. I am not able to work as I suffer with rheumatism in my hip. Would you please tell me what to do?

Ans: The place for you is with your daughter. Dou are very fortunate in having a nice home as she will give you to go to and by all means try to be cheerful and pleasant so that conditions around the house will be just the same as they were before you came. You do so want to please her I am sure.

L. E. B.—I have a friend and we have been angry for the past two years or more. Tell me how I can get back in her good graces again?

Ans: Quite impossible to ever mean anything to this girl again for she is determined to carry her point out to the end. Make some new friends for she will never mean anything to you.

O. P.—Would I be successful if I were to move to the place where my husband is working?

Ans: To make this change would be the sensible thing for you to do. Both you and your husband would be better satisfied being nearer to one another and you could easily find employment there also and continue working.

V. H. M. I am a married woman have gone with a man for two years. I was doing O K. until I told my husband. Now tell me if this man intends to still love me and will make me his wife?

Ans: He has had his fun, you are just left holding the Bag." The best thing for you to do is wash your hands of the whole affair and make some other nice friends. An association of this kind will never work out; you made your mistake by leaving your good husband.

L. M. N.—Would I be acting wise to visit this man that I write to in Virginia?

Ans: The trip to Virginia would do you a world of good, but do not go with the intention of visiting him. Make him believe that you are traveling and only stopped by to see him. To show him too plainly what you think of him will have a tendency to make him lose interest.

C. A.—What is the best thing for me to do to get rid of this man living in my house?

Ans: Have him put out. You have tried some other way without success. You must stoop to forcing him out now.

M. M. J.—Why is my husband so different? He don't seem to think as much of me as he used to. Why won't he stay home with me?

Ans: You had better get busy and make a change in your home life. Fix yourself up just as attractive as you can and meet your husband with a broad silme each evening. Do nice things for him and let him know how important a person he is to you. You can't accomplish anything by acting indifferent with him.

M. S. My troubles are financial ones. I stay in the same rut all of the time and I wonder why I can't get ahead. What would you suggets?

Ans: You just haven't tackled the right kind of work yet. Make the change of locations that you are contemplating ande establish yourself in a different field. The coming months are going to be prosperous ones for you.

C. M. I have been married three months and for some reason I am awful jealous of her for nothing. I often tell her of her past life and I wonder what will be the outcome.

Ans: Can't you be bigger than that? What good is it doing you to be so absolutely disgusting as to bring up what she did before you two were married. You may as well make up your mind right now to facts, if you don't stop and give her the benefit of the doubt, you are going to be without a nice wife. She is innocent of what you suspect her of doing.

Memphis, April 30. (ANP)—Colored Memphians this summer will have to take their chances on swimming in rivers and creeks without guards or else go without swimming, for the park commission has decreed that the lone colored municipal pool will not be opened and park finances will not allow guards for unofficial swimming places used by Negroes.

Formerly a pool was operated at Washington park but officials said patronage did not pay operating costs, and when the city health department called for a big investment in new equipment, the pool was closed. The commission has been considering the construction of a new pool near Booker T. Washington high school, but the plan was dropped at the time being when the six acres was offered for sale at $30,000.

Los Angeles, April 30. (ANP)—Off to Honolulu goes Thelma Porter on Friday fo ra year's stay in the islands. She will jion her husband, Duke Upshaw, who left over a month ago to open with an eight piece band at the Casono Ball room. From Los Angeles he took Dizzie Derricote, Frank Vally, Le Grant Mason, and Rafuel Gregory. He was joined there by Andy Flakeman, Kirt Bradford, and Buck Campbell who had already been sojourning i nHonolulu for some time.

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