

Shop Talk at the Wax Works

By BILL NORENE

The program of the Chamber Music Society of Lower Basin Street returned to the air Monday evening amidst great rejoicing. Jerked a week ago for a long-hair program, the program returned to NBC's Blue network with its regular mainstays.

The program is devoted to the three "B's" of music, barrelhouse, blues, and boogie woogie. Backbone of the show is Dr. Gino Hamilton, announcer of NBC's classical shows, who treats this program in the same manner. Furnishing the music for the show are the orchestras of Dr. Henry Levine and Maestro Paul Laval.

Originally the society's singer was Dinah Shore. When she went on to greater things, her place was filled by Mademoiselle Luli Jean.

The society depends some on the guest artists who appear from week to week, such as Sidney Bechet and Woody Herman's Four Chips, but much of the show's following is the result of Dr. Hamilton's announcing. Levine's band is frequently billed as "Dr. Henry Levine and his Barefooted Dixieland Philharmonic," while Laval's orchestra is often announced as "Maestro Paul Laval and His Windy Ten."

Monday when he was introducing "Farmer in the Dell," to be played by Laval, Dr. Hamilton said that it is the only song about a farmer without a traveling salesman, but added that Dr. Levine had volunteered.

KEX, KGO, and KGA, Spokane (about 1500 on the dial) carry the program in this sector, 6:30 Monday evenings.

Hard to Understand

Why Artie Shaw should retire to study native American music when he can turn out records like "Pyramid" is hard to understand. It is of the same high standard as his "Stardust" and "Dancing in the Dark." Shaw's clarinet and Jack Jenney's trombone spark the number. "This is Romance" is on the other side of the (Victor) record.

A guaranteed gloom-chaser is Andy Kirk's "Cuban Boogie Woogie" with a neat vocal by June Richmond and the snappy piano stylings of Mary Lou Williams. (Decca)

Top Records

Best Bluebird record of the month is Rex Stuart's "Mobile Bay Blues" and "Linger Awhile." Leading a unit of Duke Ellington's band, Stewart goes to town with his blues trumpeting.

The Duke turned out another good record in "Jumpin' Punkins" and "Blue Serge" (Victor).

You may like: "I've Got to Get Hot," a catchy vocal sung by Patricia Gilmore with Enric Madriguera's band; Kay Kyser peddling another novelty in "Tell It to the Marines" and "The Wise Old Owl" ((Columbia); Jan Savitt's shuffle rhythm in "Green Goon Jive" and a smooth arrangement of Liszt's "Les Preludes" (Decca).

Loses Home in Fire

Bob "Billie" Rivers, veteran janitor at the University art school, was left homeless when fire destroyed his house and all the contents Monday afternoon.

The house and contents are a total loss. However, "Billie" and his family of five have already found temporary residence in a west side apartment.

In the Editor's Mail

Open Letter to Mr. Ridgley Cummings:

All previous statements made by me still stand AS STATED, sans retraction and certainly without much of the syllogistic reasoning that has been built out of them. A shaky premise on Mr. Cummings' part has given rise to a fantastically insecure conclusion and I should like to re-establish both in continued self-defense. However, in so doing, I shall TRY to stick to the point. The "Sideshow" restates it concisely enough as an argument whether a man who insists that "the great masses of human beings are not fit to govern themselves" is really a "potential fascist." (Latecomers are requested to check their gats before entering.)

Says It's Ridiculous

Now this "fascist" premise of Mr. Cummings' is on the face of it ridiculous. It is as though he chose to divide the world solely into two categories: i.e., "fascist" and "non-fascist." It is, in fact, nearly as risible as regarding the spectrum in terms of either "blue" or "not blue." In the latter instance, we would reasonably assume either acute color blindness or a deliberately narrow vision; and I hesitate to say which parallels this "fascist" business. To me it begins to take on the character of a surprising monomania, since Mr. Cummings can neither imagine nor recognize any other alternative than the term he has chosen.

I have already made what I considered a clear statement to the effect that it is this very unfitness of the masses to govern which induces ANY sort of government and have indicated specifically that this applies to a democracy in just as true a degree as it does to a dictatorship. We like to THINK that we govern ourselves, and it is a harmless notion that no one would think of seriously disturbing. But the very fact that we are unfit (and I speak with absolute literalism) is what leads us to elect our senators, our congressmen and our president. We do not rule ourselves; we merely express our elective faith in a man or group of men that we believe represents our approximate opinions and desires. And in this rather obvious way we are spared the embarrassment of making too many mistakes for which we might be immediately blamed and are left free to sit back in the sidelines to criticize and "run" the government over our coffee cups.

Not His Belief

It is not my belief to defend democracy, fascism, "the divine right of kings" or any other form of government. The only point that I wish to make is the extremely simple one that the recognition of the necessity FOR government is simultaneously an admission of our need to be governed, (i.e., our UNFITNESS TO GOVERN) and I merely regard this need as inherent.

With characteristically misdirected enthusiasm Cummings appends the word "stupid" to one of my comments about the "masses." Yes, if they were stupid they

would need nothing but a political sheepherder; but WE (No, Mr. Cummings, WE are not stupid) believe idealistically enough in the rule of those particularly qualified to deal with the specialized complexities of administration. And please let me quench any notion that I "think it is all right for Hitler to govern the 'German barbarians'." Never in my rashest moments have I even intimated such an opinion. This is purely a columnistic chimera hatched out of Cummings' sometimes fertile brain.

As for Mill

Everyone is likely wearied to death of all this typhoon in a thimble and it is not my place to expound at length my political theories or personal philosophy. Mr. Cummings snapped at the bait (18 inches worth!) afforded by Mill. I merely SUGGESTED Mill as "material from which to construct a web or noose" and it took. "Out of your own mouth you shall be condemned" sounds terribly dramatic and it is a fate rather interesting to contemplate, since one is usually crucified upon somebody's else words; but since I didn't advance any particular defense of MILL, there seems little reason to be particularly terrified at the prospect of being condemned out of HIS mouth! Sorry, old man, but Mill, Shakespeare, and the Bible have it all in common when it comes to proving things and if you work at it you can even rationalize all of them into wonderful contradictions. I'm glad Mill was useful. I like some of it, too!

Why It Started

But in my aversion to stereotyped labels (which, by the way, started all of this!) there is only one which I will admit to those interested. I indulge perhaps what sometimes approximates an undue amount of catholicity in my interests, my opinions and theories. It is so much more interesting to avoid the static agreement, to pick and choose among the philosophic pastures, to avoid stifling orthodoxy and, in short, to be completely ECLECTIC.

So, if you'll withdraw that "potential fascist" label, we can both relax for a while and forget the threat of sabers at dawn!

With friendly animosity,

—Gene Edwards.

P.S.—I'll ask my mother to morrow what a Tory is before I take exception to that!—G.E.

Passing Parade

(Continued from page four)

for dinners at the Sigma Nu house . . . bull sessions at Seymour's . . . get-togethers at the Three Pines . . . thankx to Tiger Payne, for staying up all night waiting for me to drive into town in a semi-wrecked car. Thankx to you George Root for your time. And radio KORE for a thing or two. Thankx a million, Oregon.

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From All Sides

By MILDRED WILSON

Senator Gerald P. Nye, speaking to university students at Southern Cal recently on the subject of "How Shall We Prevent Further Involvement in European War?" viewed his opinions as to student participation.

"College men, especially the juniors and seniors, should be allowed to finish their courses—unless, of course, war comes," he emphasized.

A reporter afterwards asked him what students could do to make their own desires felt and Nye recommended that each man write a "sincere, intelligent letter to his congressional representative. He should explain how much it means to get that additional year or two of schooling," he added.

—Daily Trojan

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A journalism prof at Montana was annoyed when one of his students kept making bright remarks during a lecture. He reprimanded the heckler several times.

Finally the student, after a tongue lashing from the prof, rose from his chair and stalked angrily toward the door. Suddenly he turned and snarled scornfully, "I don't like your class even a little bit."

Then he drew a pistol from his pocket and fired point blank at the prof who crumpled to the floor. The class sat stunned. Finally, someone gingerly approached the "corpse" and rolled it over. Coming to life the body grinned and commanded the class to write an accurate story of what they had just seen.

Incidentally it was also the first day of April.

—University of Washington Daily

* * *

When questioned she revealed, on the campus of the University of Illinois causing many difficulties for student in between classes, one coed was discovered walking in the rain carrying her shoes in her hand.

When question she revealed, and quite reasonably, that her shoes were wet and had shrunk, so it was more comfortable to carry them.

—Indiana Daily Student

Air Corps Calls Skilled Grads

ROTC Department Releases Request For Trained Men

According to a communication received by the University military department, the war department wants between 800 and 1000 business administration, mechanical engineering, or aeronautical engineering graduates for duty in the air corps.

The letter stated that not more than 10 per cent of the graduating ROTC officers in other branches of the service may enter the air corps in administrative capacities and post maintenance service.

These will be commissioned officers but rated for ground duty only. The war department intends in this way to get the largest number of trained men in the air, the letter stated.

The air corps needs reserve officers for supply, procurement, and general administrative ground work to be on active duty for one year at a time. No applications will be accepted, the letter said, until the applicant has received his commission in his present branch of service.

Seniors interested in this branch of the service may get further information from Captain F. I. Agule at the ROTC building.

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