

BUZ SAWYER



STEVE CANYON



LIL ABNER



SHORT RIBS



GASOLINE ALLEY



REX MORGAN



FRECKLES



STEVE ROPER



BUGS BUNNY



BOOTS



ALLEY OOP



CAPTAIN EASY



OUT OUR WAY



MAJOR HOOPLE

Recorded Music

Singing Politician Records Another Hit

By HUGH MULLIGAN
Of the Associated Press

An unusual thing happened to hillbilly singer Jimmie Davis last month. He came out with a fine new Decca album of hymns, called "Supertime," that is selling like hot chitterlings.

And, oh yes, he won the Democratic nomination for governor of Louisiana, which in that Republican-scarce state means certain election.

It isn't often that governor-to-be comes out with a new record album or that a record artist gets to be a governor-to-be. But then Jimmie Davis is an unusual singer and an even more unusual politician who manages to blend both careers nicely.

Davis was governor of Louisiana once before, from 1944 to 1948, and managed to slip away from the mansion that Huey Long built long enough to make a couple of movies in Hollywood and to keep up on his singing career.

In fact, his opponents charged that he spent more time behind his guitar than behind his desk. Because of his singing background, the tendency is to dismiss Davis as a political freak in a state where anything can and usually does happen in politics. Actually, Davis is an able administrator who ran up an acceptable record as governor and even left a sizeable surplus in the treasury.

Never having lost a major election, the tall, handsome singing politician is the only Louisiana candidate who has consistently beaten the Long regime every time out and, as a matter of fact, beaten them at their own game: personal popularity combined with colorful campaigning.

Davis is also a song writer of no mean ability. Perhaps his best known number is "You Are My Sunshine," which he uses as a campaign song and intones at the slightest provocation. Being more handy with songs than with speeches, Davis has been known to serenade a hostile legislature and to entertain visiting



dignitaries with his own compositions. In "Supertime," Davis is at

his camp meeting best, smoothly and reverently delivering a collection of backwoods hymns that range from "My God Is Real" and "I'd Rather Have Jesus" to his own composition, "Long, Long Journey." When folk singers eventually run through the seemingly inexhaustible fund of blood and guts ballads, they might well look into the hymns of the type that Davis sings for a new insight into American folklore. Many of these hymns go back to the days of the circuit rider and have a pulsating, passionate beat that could only come from the heart of the people.

Hymn albums, like the new Davis collection, find a ready market across the country and frequently wind up high on the

sales charts.

Other new and listenable hymn collections include:

"A Friend We Have" (Capitol) — Tennessee Ernie Ford, whose singing career began in Methodist Church choir in Bristol, Tenn., joins the Jordanaires in a tasteful, superbly rendered collection of favorite songs of faith. Available in both monaural and stereo.

"We Gather Together" (Decca) — The Ray Charles Singers, a versatile group known for their many television appearances, blend voices beautifully against an organ background. Selections include "The Old Rugged Cross," "Let the Lower Lights Be Burning," "Beautiful Isle of Somewhere" and other devotional numbers.

Bedtime Story

Blacky Warns Crows of a Hunter

By THORNTON W. BURGESS

You'll find, if you will but reflect, That each has something to respect.

—Reddy Fox

Such a racket as those Crows were making just ahead of Reddy Fox! How they did caw! It was evident that they were having a good time and it was equally evident that they were sure that there was nothing to be afraid of. They were so excited that they had forgotten to leave one on guard unless they felt that Blacky, who was the last to arrive and had refused to join in the fun, would do the watching for them. Several times Blacky had called a warning but each time it had gone unheeded.

"There is something he doesn't like," thought Reddy as he crept along under cover of some brush until at last he could see what was going on. In a little opening among the trees on a stump

in the middle sat an Owl. Reddy grinned.

"I thought as much," said he, under his breath. Some Crows were sitting around in the nearest trees. Some were flying in circles overhead. Now and then one would dart down and scream fairly in the face of that Owl. One was bold enough to actually pull a feather from that Owl's back. It was this that suddenly aroused Reddy's suspicion that all was not as it should be. You see, that Owl made no move. He didn't even turn his head, and this wasn't like any Owl that Reddy ever had seen.

Reddy carefully tested the air. Then he began to circle around that little opening, all the time testing the air with that keen nose of his. At last he stopped. He stopped so abruptly that he stood with one foot lifted in an incomplete step. For a full minute he stood there working that sensitive nose of his to catch every bit of moving air. Then

carefully, very carefully, he withdrew to thicker cover.

"So that's it," he muttered under his breath. "There is one of those two-legged hunters hiding over there and I have a feeling in my bones that he has something to do with that Owl. Right is something not quite right about that Owl and of all those Crows, Blacky is the only one to notice it. Not once since I got here has that Owl moved his head. Not once has he blinked his eyes. Blacky has seen this and suspects something wrong. He hasn't seen that hunter or he would have given the alarm. All he has done so far is to give warnings which his silly friends have paid no heed to. Hello! What is he up to now?"

Blacky had mounted into the air and flying in circles was mounting higher and higher. Still he made no sound. Not until he was so high that he looked to be only about half his real size did he widen his circles. Wider and wider those became until one of them brought him right over where that hunter was hidden. For just an instant Blacky paused in his flight. Then he flew in a small circle that kept him just above that spot.

"He has seen something but isn't quite sure what," thought Reddy.

All this time Blacky had been silent. Now he opened his mouth and gave the danger call, the call that meant get away and don't stop to ask questions. Don't stop for anything!

Instantly all those screaming tongues were still. And instantly every one of those Crows took to headlong flight. They had not heeded Blacky's warnings but not one of them was so foolish as not to heed the danger signal. Bang went a terrible gun from the blind where the hunter was hidden. Another bang and still another. Two of that erstwhile noisy flock lay dead on the ground. Reddy glanced at the Owl. It had not moved. Then Reddy took to his heels, taking care to keep out of sight of that hunter. And as he ran, it was with increased respect for Blacky the Crow.

"They'll never get him. He is too smart for them," thought he. (c) 1960 by Thornton W. Burgess

Olympic Games Series Planned

By SYD KRONISH
Of the Associated Press

Togo's special Olympic Games issue will consist of seven colorful stamps designed by United States and Israeli artists.

The three low values will show winter sports—skiing, ice hockey and tobogganing. The four higher values will depict bicycling, discus throwing, boxing and track. The latter will honor the summer games in Rome. The Winter Games are being held in California.

Each stamp will bear the five ring symbol of the Olympic Games in addition to the particular sport.

These stamps mark the first time that a Togo stamp honors an American locale.

Great Britain has announced that it will issue two new stamps in the summer of 1960 to commemorate the tercentenary of the establishment of the General Post Office by an act of Charles II. The values will be 3-pence (violet) and 1 shilling 3 pence (green).



Also to be issued in 1960, presumably around October, are two stamps honoring the first anniversary of the European Postal Telecommunications Conference. The values will be 6-pence (violet) and 1 shilling 6 pence (blue). All four of these new British issues will be double the size of the present type stamps and will include a portrait of Queen Elizabeth in their designs.

The U.S. Post Office Department announces that the 10-cent Inter-American Conference stamp, previously mentioned in this column, has been postponed indefinitely. Two minor changes were made

in the design. A hyphen was inserted between the "Inter" and "American." And the period after the "U" in "US" has been deleted.

The Australian Post Office Department says that some time during 1960 it will issue a postage stamp honoring the Northern Territory Centenary of Exploration. The Centenary celebration is sponsored by the government. One hundred years ago John McDouall Stuart reached central Mount Stuart, the center of the Australian continent.

A survey has been started by Linn's Weekly Stamp News to find the "world's prettiest stamp."

The stamp publication is asking readers to give their three choices. Scarcity or value of the stamp will have no bearing on the survey.

Stamp collectors can make their views known by contacting Julius Weiss, Linn's Weekly Stamp News, 3417 E. 147 St., Cleveland 20, Ohio.