

Recordially Yours



Jeff Chandler

THE BIGGEST news in Hollywood these days is that numerous film stars are branching out into the recording field. Set for the big disk build-up are Jeff Chandler, Bob Mitchum, and Mamie Van Doren, the latter on a new label, owned by Capitol Records, to be known as Prep Records. In reverse, watch Tommy Sands, who made his name as a singer, receive a motion-picture build-up. Sands, incidentally, gets the nod from industry seers as the next big teen idol.

Despite a film contract which tends to restrict his disk activities, Tab Hunter plans to do more recordings as a result of public reaction to his first two slicings. And again in reverse, Sonny James, whose "Young Love" disk hit the

two-million sales mark, has landed himself a movie contract.

MUSIC FOR FAMILY LISTENING: Johnnie Ray has had his ups and downs in the record business, but he now seems to be on the upgrade again. The whole family will enjoy his latest Columbia package, "The Big Beat," with Ray Ellis and Ray Conniff each taking a turn conducting the background music. Also on the Columbia label is a package called simply "Tony." It features, of course, Tony Bennett.

While Mom and Pop listen, the kids can cut a piece of rug to Sil Austin's "Slow Walk Rock" on Mercury. An unusual instrumentation featuring electric organ, two guitars, bass, and drums produces some ex-

cellent tones and most danceable rhythms. Something which can be called "definitely different" is Britain's Lonnie Donegan, accompanied by a skiffle group, on "An Englishman Sings American Folk Songs."

For a smooth transition to the classics, spin Frederick Fennell conducting the Eastman-Rochester Pops Orchestra in their first Mercury release, "Music of Leroy Anderson." We guarantee this to be a real family listening experience. On the same label, but in a more serious vein, try the Halle Orchestra performing "Les Sylphides" and "La Peri" and the same orchestra, plus Richard Farrell, in a most sympathetic reading of Liszt's "Piano Concerto No. 1 in E-Flat Major" and Grieg's "Piano Concerto in A Minor, Opus 16." Fi-

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