

# Disc Success — A Lonely Trail

By DICK KLEINER  
Newspaper Enterprise Assn.



NEW YORK (NEA) — Success can be a lonely thing. A young singer can be the toast of the town, surrounded by constant crowds, and yet be very alone.

That is the case with Johnny Tillotson. His last few records, climaxed by the big-selling "Poetry in Motion," have made him one of the darlings of the bobby-sox battalion. His new one, "Jimmy's Girl," should solidify his position.

"It's a lonely life," Johnny says. "I've moved up to New York from home (Palatka, Fla.) and have a nice apartment. But, of course, I'm on the road a lot. I go bowling and I go on dates, but there are lots of lonely times."

a dream come true.

But the dream never talked about the loneliness of it all.

Another aspect of this same problem is touched on by Bobby Rydell. Like Johnny, Bobby is a hot young singer, the idol of dewy-eyed young girls.

Bobby is on the road a lot, and he says a boy singer has to be very careful with his girl fans.

"Once I was playing in Peoria," he says, "and there was this cute 14-year-old girl who came back to see me. She was a real knockout — she's going to be a heartbreaker. Well, she wanted me to smuggle her on the bus to the next stop. I could really have been in trouble."

He has given some thought to marriage, as a means of combating the loneliness. But he doesn't really want to get married — at least, there's no specific girl in mind.

"I believe in the old saying, 'He

He says he soon learned to be on guard when he's in his hotel room on the road. The girl autograph seekers hunt him down and knock on the door.

"I always step out into the hall," he says, "and close the door behind me. A fellow can get into a bad jam if he isn't careful."



Bobby Rydell Johnny Tillotson

travels farthest who travels alone," Johnny says. "My career is the most important thing in the world to me — it takes up 95 per cent of my time, with 5 per cent for other things. I just don't want the responsibility of a wife right now."

"Look at it this way. If I should have a bad month right now, OK, I could get along on coffee, peanut butter sandwiches, cereal and milk. Well, I couldn't ask a wife to do that, could I? I'd have to get some money somewhere."

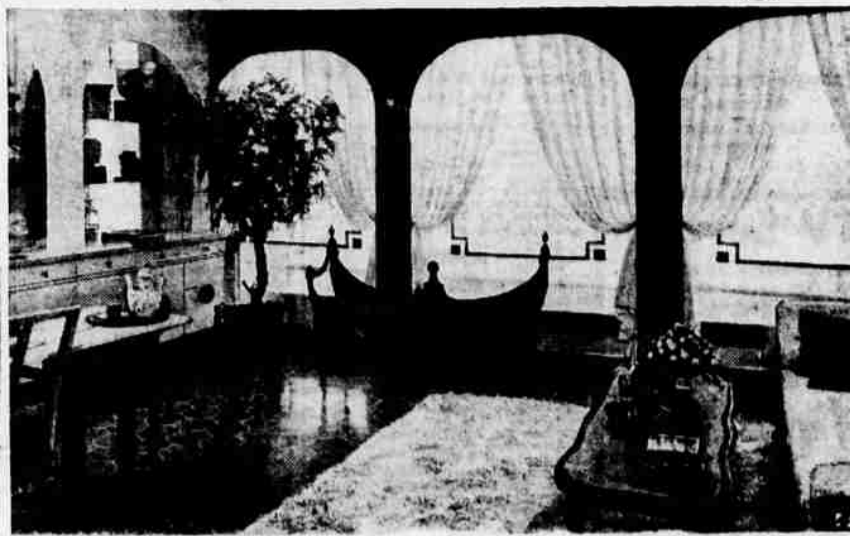
So there's no wife. There's no one to come home to. He admits that he has all but given up his family, back in Palatka, because it's so hard to get to see them and he's not much of a letter writer. He says they find out more about him from newspapers and the radio than they do from him.

He's a hard worker, practicing his singing and writing some songs himself. He has wanted to be a singer as long as he can remember. And now he has arrived. It's

Dick's Picks: Dinah Shore does a great job with "I Ain't Down Yet," from "The Unsinkable Molly Brown," on Capitol. Others: "Love to Dance" (Eydie Gorme, UA); "Milk Cow Blues" (Ricky Nelson, Imperial); "The Song of the Skier" (Vaughn Monroe, MGM); "Cold, Cold Heart" (Ronnie Hawkins, Roulette); "Count Every Star" (Tommy DeNoble, Dot); "If I Knew" (Nat King Cole, Capitol); "Johnny, Wait for Me" (Lynn Roberts, Roulette).

Broadway on LPs — Columbia has "Camelot," the new Lerner and Loewe show, which has a pleasant score and good voices to sing it; Capitol has "The Unsinkable Molly Brown," a bit more imaginative than "Camelot" and the unique voice of Tammy Grimes to lend spice; MGM has an instrumental version of the "Camelot" score, done by Ormandy and The Starlight Symphony Orchestra. Columbia has the "Camelot" score played by Percy Faith and "The Unsinkable Molly Brown" by Andre Kostelanetz, both rich and well orchestrated; on Audio Fidelity, "Patachou Sings Hit Songs from Hit Broadway Shows in French and English"; on Time, the lovely voice of Felicia Sanders sings "Songs of Kurt Weill"; Design has "The Twin String Orchestra Playing George Gershwin," a compatible stereo release.

# New Emphasis Placed On Light



NEW POINT OF VIEW . . . Decorator Ethyl Alper, A.I.D., uses arches of compressed wood covered in Mediterranean blue silk, draperies of white silk shantung over chic window shades trimmed with blue picot-edged ribbon to highlight these large windows in an apartment furnished in Italian style.

By VIVIAN BROWN  
AP Newsfeatures Writer

"Let There Be Light" is the aim of the average home seeker and builder.

But with the greater use of glass in the home, more emphasis must be placed on the decorative aspects of these areas for evening drama as well as daytime charm.

New treatments were given to enormous windows of model apartments in a new building at Kips Bay in New York. Members of the American Institute of Decorators tackled the problem and designed windows so that any degree of light could be had. And when the light was closed off the window treatments enhanced the room decor.

Homemakers who look for new ideas for glass expanse or picture windows should avoid either leaving them too bare or treating them too heavily with cornices or fabrics, it would seem.

Ethyl Alper, who believes "large windows are treated less heavily today," decorated an apartment for an Italian bachelor, one in the series of international room schemes. The enormous windows are highlighted by a series of arches linked together placed in front of them. The arches go to the ceiling, making the room look larger and giving the illusion of a Roman vista.

The arches were made of compressed wood, about one-half inch wide, covered by Mediterranean blue silk. The large windows are

draped handsomely in white silk shantung, over chic window

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# ON THE HOUSE

By ANDY LANG

There are few subjects in the field of housing that can spark more heated discussions than that of discounted mortgages.

Obtain a conventional mortgage for a house you're buying and you'll find that the interest rates will be about 6 per cent, more in some areas of the country. Obtain a mortgage guaranteed by the Federal Housing Administration or the Veteran's Administration and you'll get it at lower interest rates—5 1/4 per cent if it's FHA, 5 1/2 per cent if it's VA. But, on either of these latter mortgages, the loan will be discounted (that is, reduced) by a certain number of what are called "points." A 4-point discount on a \$10,000 mortgage, for example, would amount to \$400. This means that, while the face of the loan is \$10,000, the amount actually advanced is \$9,600.

Since the interest rates on FHA or VA-guaranteed loans are fixed by law, the discount can not be charged to the purchaser and so must be paid by the seller.

Why is there a discount? Apparently to make the yield from

a loan as attractive as it would be if the money were invested in some other area in the current market. Or to compensate the lender for the lower yield he receives from an FHA or VA mortgage than from a conventional loan.

The lending institutions say the discount is economically necessary. But they aren't entirely happy with the system. It's often difficult to explain to a good individual customer what it's all about. The seller doesn't see why the discount should come out of his pocket. And there is no doubt that, in some cases, the difference is added to the price of the house and thus is indirectly paid by the purchaser.

The National Assn. of Real Estate Boards has urged Congress to put an end to fixed interest rates, which it says are responsible for the discounts. The National Assn of Home Builders has been fighting excessive discounts and says they conceal the true cost of money. The president of the American Bankers Assn., Carl A. Bimson, says steep discounts have forced builders to shrink room and lot sizes to make up for the extra cost of financing

Some states have taken action to declare excessive discounts usurious. Congress has twice set limits on discounts but later had to rescind them because they were not solving the problem. Various suggestions have been advanced before a congressional committee studying the subject, but there is no unanimous agreement on a solution.

Some experts see mortgage discounts making a gradual disappearance in the months ahead if money continues to get "easier," that is, easier to borrow. Reports from all sections of the country indicate that fewer points are being charged on FHA and VA mortgages than earlier in the year. But some mortgage authorities say that, as soon as business conditions show an improvement and the demand for houses picks up, discounts will return to former levels or, at the very least, remain where they are now.

There can be no doubt that the discounting of mortgage loans is generally unpopular. It will be surprising if some legislative action isn't taken in 1961 to eliminate them or keep them under control.

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