

A Gypsy Band among March Parlophones.

The latest "New Rhythm Style" Series record is **Louis Armstrong's Orchestra** in *Mahogany Hall Stomp* and **Duke Ellington** in a fine piano solo, *Black Beauty* (Parlophone R571). We should like to point out once more that these records are worth many ordinary dance discs, as the interest in them will last long after the ordinary record has been thrown on the scrap heap. It is only fair to say, however, that many people will have to persevere with them if they are going to enjoy them. If it does nothing else Rudy Vallee's film, "The Vagabond Lover," has resuscitated *If you were the only girl in the world*, and it is played by **Ed. Kirkeby's Orchestra** as a slow fox-trot on Parlophone R572, 3s. An interesting and enjoyable recording is provided by the **Roumanian Gypsy Orchestra** in *Caucasian Potpourri* and *Le Backou* (Parlophone R575, 3s.), while **Richard Tauber** with the **Dajos Bela Orchestra** comes once again into the realms of musical comedy in *Listening to the Violin* and *Schöner Gigolo* (Parlophone Odeon R020103, 4s. 6d.). That good tune, *I'll be getting along*, from "Splinters," is well sung by **Zaidee Jackson** (Parlophone R579, 3s.), while **Leslie Hutchinson** is as deft as ever in *I may be wrong* (Parlophone R578, 3s.). In the red label (2s. 6d.) list, there is some more yodelling by **Frank Marvin** and **Ralph Richardson** (E6245), and **Andy Sanella's Orchestra** gives straightforward renderings of *At Close of Day* and *I Love You* (waltz) (E6257).

Good Singing a feature of H.M.V. Mid-month List.

Those popular light opera stars, **Winnie Melville** and **Derek Oldham**, have made a charming record of *Moon Enchanted* and *The thought never entered my head* (H.M.V. B3276, 3s.). **Peggy Wood** is another stage star who is responsible for two songs that are above the average, *At close of day* (from "Wonder of Women") and *Give me back my heart* (from "Symphony in Two Flats") (H.M.V. B3282, 3s.). **Jeannette Macdonald** makes a successful gramophone debut in *Dream Lover* and a lively tune *March of the Grenadiers* from "The Love Parade" (in which she is the star) (H.M.V. B3289, 3s.). **John Henry** returns after a long absence in a sketch, *An Old Flame* (H.M.V. B3278, 3s.), and other artists appearing in the list with success are **Helen Morgan** (B3258, 3s.) and **Webster Booth** (B3283, 3s.).

Ancient and Modern.

Quite one of the finest discs ever made by **The Sunshine Boys** is *It's unanimous now*. The whole record is full of clever ideas and plenty of originality. On the reverse side is *Piccolo Pete*, well sung by **Ford and Glenn** (Col. 5718, 3s.). **Mr. Flotsam** and **Mr. Jetsam** have now recorded one of their favourite broadcasting numbers, *Simon the Bootlegger* (Col. 5709, 3s.), though *Song of the air* on the back does not make the same appeal. Old music hall songs are going splendidly just now, and many readers will want to secure **Kit Keen** in *Little Dolly Daydream* and *Lily of Laguna* (Col. 5720, 3s.). Opinions are much divided on the subject of **Billy Bennett**, but if you are a pro you must not miss *The Club Raid* (Col. 5719, 3s.), while **Layton** and **Johnstone** followers will enjoy their renderings of *Painting the clouds with sunshine* and *Tip-toe through the tulips* (Col. 5708, 3s.).

An Original New Singer in Parlophone Mid-February List.

Those who remember the sensation caused by **Fred Elizalde's** first records, issued when he was still an undergraduate at Cambridge, will note with interest the name of **George Monkhouse** and his **Cambridge University Quinquaginta Ramblers** in the Parlophone list. The name is rather a mouthful, and the three numbers played are rather amateurish. At the same time, the band does know what dance music should sound like, and, though it cannot exactly put its ideas into practise, it is at least trying to get out of the rut of most English professional dance bands. The best number is *Birmingham Bertha* on R560, and I hope the record will sell sufficiently well to encourage all concerned to persevere. On the back of one of these discs is *Sophomore Prom*, which is a very typical "college" number played by **Fred Hall's Sugar Babies**, which will be much appreciated by those who like this type of dance music (R561, 3s.). It is nice to be able to welcome an entirely new kind of singer, and **Stan Davis** will please everyone in *The body in the bag* and *The boy who stuttered and the girl who lisped* (R567, 3s.). Another good disc is by the **Pavilion Lescaut Orchestra** playing a charming waltz, *Listening to the violin*, and a tango, *Handsome Gigolo* (R568, 3s.), while **Arthur Rosebery's Band** will be as popular as ever in two comedy fox-trots, *Mickey Mouse* and *March of the chocolate soldiers* (R562, 3s.).



JEANNETTE MACDONALD IN
"THE LOVE PARADE"

Cinema and Other Organs.

The latest idol of the cinema world, **Leslie James**, revives the *Four Indian Love Lyrics* (H.M.V. B3275 and 3281, 3s. each) and demonstrates the superiority of the organ at the Regent Cinema, Stamford Hill, over that at the New Gallery. He deserves his popularity. **Quentin Maclean** gets more out of **Leslie Stuart's Lily of Laguna** and *Little Dolly Daydream* (Col. DB13) than any of the singers have got, and **Spencer Shaw** on the City Temple organ plays his own *The Storm* very well indeed (Broadcast 513, sin., 1s. 3d.). **Edward O'Henry**, too, on a Broadcast Twelve (5140, 10in., 2s.) is well suited by **Haines's Eastern Romance** and a *Potpourri of Old Songs*, and **Sydney Gustard**, dainty as usual, by **Chaminade's Air de Ballet** and **Ketelbey's Phantom Melody** (H.M.V. B3277, 3s.).

The Music Hall.

Tommy Handley handles the well-established subject of a skit on the B.B.C. with some freshness in *Tommy Handley Calling* (Col. DB9, 3s.), and the bit about the gramophone is well recorded. **Ike and Mike**, in a sketch by **Weston** and **Lee**, have a good idea as in "Abie's Irish Rose," but somehow fail to pull it off in *Ike's Musical Clothing Store* and *Mike's Daughter's Wedding* (Regal MR6, 2s. 6d.); the **Variety Singers** however, continue *Music Hall Memories*, Parts 3 and 4 (Regal MX2, 12in., 4s.), unabashed, and though still without a chairman carry on with *Hi-tiddle-ty-ti*, *At Trinity Church*, etc., and **Billy Bennett** rattles off his doggerel, *If Winter Comes* and *The Detective* (Col. DX13, 12in., 4s. 6d.) with gusto; while **Norman Long** bounces through his *Rule Britannia* travesty and *Our Dog* (Col. DB10, 3s.) as irrepressibly as ever. All are experienced recorders.