

*Catalogue*  
**Country & Western**

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# JAMBOREE®



# BIG



## 11th ANNIVERSARY



Top: Cliffie clowns during rehearsals with Molly Bee. Bottom: Ernie Ford drops in to say hello while Cliffie, Herman the Hermit and Eddie Kirk look on.



Here is part of the Hometown Jamboree gang in action. Left to Right: Sammy Litener, Mary Ford, Gene Walsh, Art Wenzel, Sid Robbins and Cliffie Stone.



Three old friends play host at a record shop opening are Merle Travis, Eddie Kirk and Cliffie.



During a break in a Capitol recording session, Ken Nelson, Cliffie Stone and Bob Rubian discuss changes in the musical score.

# THE STONE

CLIFFIE STONE is probably the only entertainer in show business who also performs as a business manager. Cliffie, who started as strictly an entertainer (he first appeared as "Stonehead" with Stuart Hamblen in 1934), is now personal manager for Tennessee Ernie Ford and for Molly Bee. Though he could have a stable full of clients, he prefers keeping his management business to a minimum, which allows him time to be an entertainer. Cliffie is seen every Saturday, over television station KTLA, Los Angeles, with his hour-long "Hometown Jamboree" and Monday through Friday over radio station KXLA. He has been on radio for the past 12 years and on TV for seven years. Cliffie also is a Capitol Records recording artist.

Cliffie's introduction to personal management came about in a strange way. He first heard Tennessee Ernie Ford at KXLA and induced Ford to join his "gang" on weekend dance dates around Southern California. Cliffie, who had been head of Capitol's country music



The horse may not like it, but Jerry Colonna serenades him anyway. Looking on and getting a kick out of it are, left to right, Johnny Mercer, Lee Gillette, Don Otis, Jim Conklin, Brady Cole, Wes Tuttle, Jack Rivers, Jerry, Cliffie, and Merle Travis.

# NOBODY KNOWS



Dick Hanes, left, must have told a dandy joke. Tennessee Ernie and Cliffie, both seem to be enjoying it.

department for two years, took Ford to the record firm where he was signed and made *Mule Train*, then *I'll Never Be Free*, a duet with Kay Starr. It was after *I'll Never Be Free* that Ernie was offered two weeks in Las Vegas, and it was at that time Ford asked Cliffie to manage him. Cliffie, told Ernie he'd never managed anyone and wouldn't know how or where to start. To this Ernie replied he'd never had a manager, so they would start even. To this day the pair work together on only a handshake.

Following the finding of Ford, Cliffie ran across a little 12-year-old named Molly Beachboard. She sang and Cliffie got her to work on his shows and got her a recording contract. Miss Molly Bee, as she is now known, is at this time 16 and developing into a wonderful performer.

Cliffie is also responsible for the appearance of Joan O'Brien on the entertainment scene. At the age of 15, Miss O'Brien came to audition for an amateur show Cliffie was doing. Cliffie

liked her so much he put her on his regular shows. Joanie is now and has been a regular on *The Bob Crosby Show*, CBS-TV, for the past two years.

Cliffie has, over the years, brought Capitol such names as Merle Travis, Tex Williams, Skeets MacDonald, Tommy Collins, Ferlin Huskey, Speedy West, Jimmy Bryant, Dallas Frazier, Bob Rubian and Stan Freberg.

Cliffie and Freberg had been friends for many years, and when Stan came to Stone with a routine called "John and Marsha," Cliffie thought it might make a wonderful record. He persuaded Capitol to record it, and the response was immediate for the young comedian.

Merle Travis was scheduled to make an album at Capitol with Cliffie as A & R man on the session. Not having enough material, Cliffie requested Merle to write a couple of numbers to fill out the album. Merle wrote a song called *16 Tons* and another called *John Henry*, which were put into the album. The rest is history.

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Here's the drummer's eye view of a typical crowd at one of Cliffie Stone's shows.

## CLIFFIE STONE

(From page 11)



It seems that Cliffie never gets away from a microphone. Here he is, doing a radio show with Tex Williams.



You'd never guess, but that's Cliffie at the left with Herman the Hermit and Tennessee Ernie Ford.

Most of the country performers living in California have at one time or another appeared on Cliffie's radio show. Two such names to appear very early in their careers are Polly Bergen and Coleen Summers—now Mary Ford.

Aside from discovering and recognizing talent, Cliffie has done pretty well on his own. He is the only West Coast performer who has been on radio for eight years and on TV for seven with a single sponsor.

He hit all the rhythm and blues charts with a young chap named Bob Rubian and *The Popcorn Song* and his *Square Dance Album* for Capitol has been a constant seller since 1947.

# SONGS OF THE MONTH

## TOP TEN

Following are the 10 top country and western records compiled from reports by the nation's leading disc jockeys made exclusively to *Country and Western Jamboree*.

SONG	ARTIST	LABEL
1. <i>Heartbreak Hotel</i>	Elvis Presley	Victor
2. <i>Blue Suede Shoes</i>	Carl Perkins	Sun
3. <i>Yes, I Know Why</i>	Webb Pierce	Decca
4. <i>I've Got Five Dollars</i>	Faron Young	Capitol
5. <i>You and Me</i>	Red Foley-Kitty Wells	Decca
6. <i>Little Rosa</i>	Red Sovine-Webb Pierce	Decca
7. <i>So Doggone Lonesome</i>	Johnny Cash	Sun
8. <i>Blackboard of My Heart</i>	Hank Thompson	Capitol
9. <i>Crazy Arms</i>	Ray Price	Columbia
10. <i>I Don't Believe You've Met My Baby</i>	Louvin Brothers	Capitol

## MOVIN' AHEAD

<i>Uncle Pen</i>	Porter Wagoner	Victor
<i>Will You Willyum</i>	Janis Martin	Victor
<i>I Walk The Line</i>	Johnny Cash	Sun
<i>Baby It's In The Makin'</i>	Johnny & Jack	Victor
<i>Hoping That You're Hoping</i>	Louvin Brothers	Capitol
<i>Honky Tonk Man</i>	Johnny Horton	Columbia
<i>20 Feet of Muddy Water</i>	Sonny James	Capitol
<i>What Would You Do If</i>		
<i>Jesus Came To Your House</i>	Porter Wagoner	Victor
<i>Mr. Blues</i>	Marvin Rainwater	MGM

## DID YOU KNOW THAT . . .

by Phillip Fortune

. . . Gene Autry and Jimmy Long's record of *Silver Haired Daddy of Mine* has sold over 5 million copies? Gene is married to Jimmy Long's niece, Ina.

. . . the late Fred Rose made records under the name of *The Rambling Rogue* in the 1940's?

. . . Bob Wills has been a preacher, hobo, cotton picker, barber and singer in a medicine show? Bob's been turning out hit songs for over 23 years, and his latest on *Decca* is *So Let's Rock* backed with *Sugar Baby*.

. . . Hank Williams made three records for the old *Sterling* label before he signed with *MGM*?

. . . Bill Haley of *Rock Around the Clock* movie and record fame, made many records for small labels such as *Cowboy* and *Holiday*? He was a western entertainer on these labels and he was billed as *Bill Haley and the Saddlemen*.

. . . the *Oklahoma Outlaws* were composed of Tim Spencer (guitar), Bob Nolan (string bass), and Leonard Slye (guitar)? This group came to Hollywood to work for Warner Brothers, then they were called the *Gold Star Rangers*. And a short time later, these three lads were called the *Sons of the Pioneers*. Leonard Slye later became the famous cowboy . . . *Roy Rogers*.