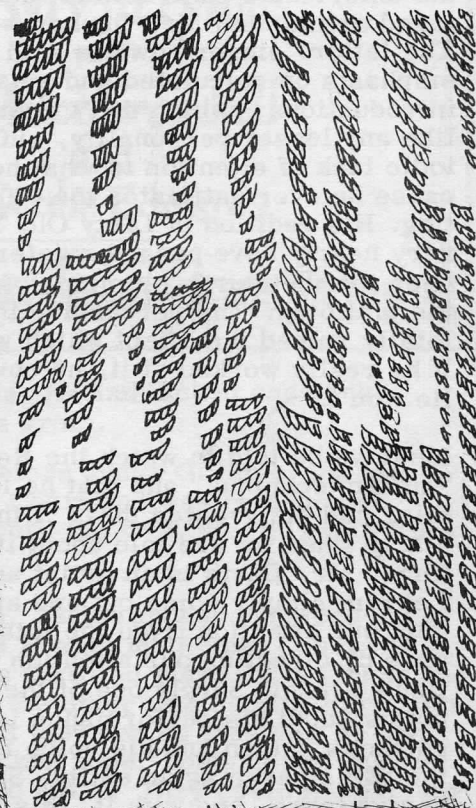


BOSTON'S FOLK MUSIC AND COFFEE HOUSE NEWS & TEN CENTS

Cambridge, Massachusetts

December 19, 1962



Not OARS, nor
 oars, nor oars,
 And storms
 of sorrow fall;
 Now I but safely
 reach my home.
 My God,
 my heaven,
 MY ALL.

CRITIQUE II

Reverend Gary Davis recently made coffee houses hereabouts into what they should be. His performances at the Yana were simple, direct and altogether genuine. This comes, I am sure as no surprise to coffee-housers, who greeted this Sanka Segovia warmly. Nothing can be said that would in any way serve his already unique and matchless blues singing (one doesn't complain to angels because their halos fit too tight). It is certainly true that his delivery would be better served by a larger hall than Yana affords, and that the unfortunate contrast between such a profound artist and Mr. Gerber was ill advised. The latter "singer" dwells with far too much emphasis on calculated and musings as spoken introductions - which don't come off - and, like any lesser personality, suffers from periodic lack of attention to what he is doing because he over estimates the effect he is creating. His rendition of Dirty Old Town would very nearly have passed muster had it not been for the sturdy clomping of his boots on the platform. The percussive thud of his boot totally ruined the effect which was called for. If he really worked at it, he could be a comer. He won't.

Must we be told to watch the Reverend Davis' "guitar technique" and that he is the greatest this, and the greatest that? I think not; particularly when we are told about it in such poor form. Mr. Davis is an artist and a humble man. Let him simply come out and sing. Do not divert our attention from the total performance by directing our attention to one particular facet. Surely one of the greatest points about his performance is that his guitar is golden and his voice is gravel, yet the two emerge as an entity. Spirit is the cohesive force, and with it, this remarkable man appeals to our highest qualities of perception. That is why we are enriched by listening to him.

Who are those insensitive persons who dare to walk casually by the stage while he is singing? What manner of ill breeding can allow a person to stand six feet from a performer of this type and snap photo after photo? Do these people have no conception of what they are witnessing? Does their cover charge permit them to thus sully such a performance? The worst performer in the world has the right to be heard until we know he is the worst - but to defile such an outpouring of pure art is utter blasphemy. Yana, too, is to blame for allowing such disgusting bad manners to prevail.

A three-word criticism of the Reverend?

He is Mensch.

torquemada

Ian Peerless

TUNING UP w/Bob Gustafson

Anything Called Time Magazine Ought To Be Shot on Sight

The crop of letters in this week's (Dec. 5) Time about the Baez article has prompted me to jump into the fray.

"Anything called a hootenany ought to be shot on sight..." So begins Time's Survey of Joan Baez and American Folk Music. This piece from Luceville is cute, trite, flip, --as Pete Seeger put it, sophmoric. Great writing style too. "Her voice is as clear as air in the autumn." Of Big Bill Broonzy "...he was the unwashed darling of the purist fans."

Pete Seeger eloquently came to Leadbelly's defense in his letter but he was too modest and dignified to come to his own. Well, here's what Time had to say about him. "Seeger commands so much respect among folk singers that the only criticism ever leveled against him* is that he can't carry a tune. But that gives him the seal of authenticity. His voice sounds as if a cornhusk were stuck in his throat." The asterisk is Time's and footnotes Pete's troubles with HUAC. I guess Time has settled Pete's hash, all right, huh? Well, I'll take Pete any day.

A favorite word in the story is "purist". Depending on how the word is used --slurringly I hasten to add --it means variously anyone who is intelligent, opposed to money or opposed to Time's point of view. To wit: "In the purists severe canon, which holds that it is not art unless it is faintly boring..." "When purist critics seek an example of everything that is corrupt about folk singing, they always pick on the hapless Kingstons." It's that hapless that gets me. Poor fellas.

Now that I've gotten the venom out of system, I have to admit that Joan Baez, and folk music in general for that matter, have survived worse things than this, so that no serious harm has been done. And when you stop to think of it -- if Time can treat the possibility that we may all be blown up to kingdom come with a few wisecracks, we can hardly expect much more on such a lowly subject as folk music.

One last thought on Timestyle. To borrow a statement from Frank Proffitt: "I'd like to be able to do it -- and then not do it." I might add --"ever".

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JACKIE WASHINGTON BRUTALLY ASSAULTED BY TWO POLICE OFFICERS

By this time, most of our readers are cognizant of the fact that Jackie Washington was brutally assaulted by two Boston Police Officers and was in turn charged with assault and battery by them. For those of you who have not heard about Jackie's case, we will briefly describe what happened.

Jackie was walking home from some friends' apartment about 1.30 AM December 3rd. As he approached the corner of Dartmouth and Newbury Street, a police cruiser pulled up and the officer called him over. After answering the usual questions, he asked if there was anything wrong. The officer came out of the car saying "I'll show you what's wrong." The officer then proceeded to grab Jackie's hand out of his pocket and did it so fast that he ripped Jackie's coat. Jackie protested "You ripped my coat!" At that the police officer grabbed his arm and held him by the collar interfering with Jackie's breathing. The other officer came out of the car and picked Jackie up by the legs. Jackie then said "Big man! I weigh 134 pounds. Aren't you brave." At that the officer holding his legs smashed Jackie in the face with his fist resulting in comminuted fractures of the nose, and contusion of the right eye. As the officer started to punch Jackie in the stomach, Jackie doubled up to protect himself and in doing so his foot brushed the officer's tunic. "Kick me will you" said the officer and grabbed Jackie's foot and wrenched it. X-rays and persistent swelling show severe soft tissue injury to his right ankle.

Jackie was taken to the 16th Precinct bleeding profusely from the nose and was booked on "being abroad in the night". He spent the night in jail and the next morning when he refused to sign a release agreeing not to sue the officers who arrested him, they changed the charge to assault and battery against a police

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Sylvia Mars
with
Mitch Greenhill
and
Gordie Edwards
on sale now for Christmas giving

officer claiming he had kicked one of the officers in the groin.

Jackie went before Judge Gillen of the Boston Municipal Court and was released on \$200.00 bail until the trial the following Tuesday.

December 11th, Jackie appeared before Judge Lewiton of the Boston Municipal Court. The police officers testified that Jackie kicked one of them while the other was holding him from behind and that they had no idea how he had received a broken nose, contusion of the eye and a wrenched ankle. They could not explain the photographs of Jackie taken later the same day of the assault showing the swelling in his eye, nose and ankle.

Five character witnesses testified on behalf of Jackie as to his truthfulness, honesty and characteristic mild and non-aggressive behavior.

At the close of the trial, Judge Lewiton stated that if Jackie pleaded nolo (neither admitting nor denying the charge of Assault and Battery) he would file the charge. Jackie refused and stood firm on his plea "not guilty".

The maximum penalty for the crime charged is 2 1/2 years in jail or \$500.00 fine.

Jackie was found guilty and fined \$10.00 and was released without bail.

He has appealed to the Superior Court and the case will now be heard before a jury.

COMMISSIONER OF POLICE OPENS PROBE IN JACKIE'S ASSAULT CASE

Police Commissioner Edmund McNamara, upon receiving official word of the charges Jackie Washington has brought against the two Boston Police Officers who so brutally assaulted him December 3rd last week ordered Superintendent of Police Francis Hennessey to start an investigation of these charges to bring the true facts to light. As of this Saturday, Jackie has been granted a public hearing on these charges

We realise that a great deal of pressure has been put on the Boston Police Department not only by Jackie's friends but by public minded citizens who have read the fine newspaper coverage Jackie's case has received (and rightly so) Let's just hope that the pressure keeps up until Jackie receives the justice he deserves

ZOLA TO PRESENT TWO CONCERTS

The International Institute will present Zola in an evening of her international folk songs on January 6, 1963. Proceeds we have been informed will be used to assist immigrants to our country

January 10th, Zola will give a concert of international folk music at the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum in the afternoon. We are not sure of the time, but do call the Museum so that you will not miss what promises to be a delightful afternoon.



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WTBS-FM will leave the air for about two weeks during the Christmas Vacation. They will be back on the first week of January

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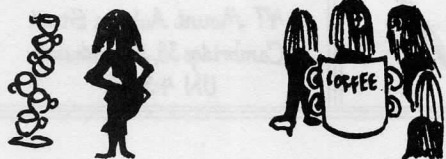
Perhaps the nicest part of being involved in this business is the people we get a chance to meet.

Up until a week or so ago, we had not heard very much of Logan English, and after having spent a fair portion of a weekend with him we regret it very much. Logan is one of those performers who manages to strike an immediate and comfortable rapport with his audiences. His delivery is direct and unembellished with his emphasis on letting a song say what it has to say.

Late Friday night while we were swapping songs with him and Don McSorely, Logan was talking about a Guthrie song, "East Texas Red". Logan had been a close friend of Cisco Houston and Cisco had once left a number of Guthrie manuscripts with him. There were three versions of "East Texas Red" among them and one curious similarity struck him. What might have been a typographical error in one manuscript could hardly be when it appeared in all three. A Brief explanation. Red, a mean RR worker comes upon three men cooking stew on a fire on the tracks and kicks the pot of stew over. Before they leave, Red's death is prophesied for a year from that day. Toward the end of the ballad, two of the same men buy some stewing beef and go back to the track to cook, just a year to the day of the above event. Red comes down the track and sees the same "three" men he saw a year ago, and approaching, falls on his knees to beg forgiveness. He gets shot. The last verse has the "two" men dishing up their stew. Now the question, quite unnoticed by most of us is whether it should be two men, three men or whether the third man is a supernatural warning of Red's approaching death. All quite academic, but very puzzling. Any ideas?



Howard Ferguson has opened a Print Shop, the kind of print you hang on a wall, in the KING'S ROOK, and we sense that it should be a proper place to go for a number of difficult Christmas gifts. Marblehead is a beautiful place in the winter, and while we do not particularly hope for snow, the ROOK should be particularly snug in a storm.



We are very happy to see that CLUB 47 is bringing in a Gospel Group, The Silver Leaf Quartet. They are going to sing Gospel, Spiritual and Christmas Music. We have heard that they are a local group and we are anxious to hear them. It's about time we had some Gospel in our folk music clubs. It belongs.

CLUB 47 SCHEDULE

12/19		Dayle Stanley and Geoff Muldaur
12/20		Rooney, Val and Applin
12/21		SILVER LEAF QUARTET
12/22		Eric Von Schmidt and Robert L. Jones
12/23	11-3	Brunch with NY Times
	9-1	Hootenany (open to all)
		Christmas Eve
		Closed (Merry Christmas)
12/25		Jackie Washington
12/26		Hootenany
12/27		Rooney, Val and Applin
12/28		Eric Von Schmidt
12/29		BLUEGRASS BUDDIES
12/30	11-3	Brunch with NY Times
	9-1	Hootenany (open to all)
12/31		New Year's Eve
		Closed (Happy New Year)



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Beaver's got his winter coat on, though he doesn't wear it around the CLUB JOLLY BEAVER. It's warm enough there to make it unnecessary. For those cold nights, may we suggest the warm cider with a real cinnamon stick. Last time we were there, Beaver was about to try a new punch. Dicken's Punch we believe. Ask him about it.

WE HAVE A TITLE - DO YOU HAVE A SONG?

Many of the most stirring and meaningful folk songs sung today have been written as a direct result of a disaster or crisis which has affected our everyday life and evoked strong feelings. Jackie Washington's Case certainly falls into this category. What better subject could we offer for a folk song?

It has been suggested to us that we should hold a contest for the best folk song written entitled "Being Abroad in the Night" which is the name of the statute under which Jackie was arrested December 3rd. So, all persons interested, pick up a pencil and start writing and send your compositions to BROADSIDE, 96 Columbia Street, Cambridge along with a 50 cent entrance fee. The winner will have his song published in BROADSIDE plus receive a copy of Jackie's new record. All entries will be treated confidentially by the Staff and will be returned to the author when the contest is over. We know we will have an entry from the Hildebrand contingent in Indiana; how about you Cantabrigians and Bostonians? We even plan to enter the contest ourselves! It's too good an issue to sing about to pass by.

RECORD REVIEWS

Because records make fine Christmas gifts and because in the last few weeks two albums have been released which feature Boston performers, we offer our evaluation of them.

JACKIE WASHINGTON
Vanguard VRS-9110

Jackie's host of devoted fans will not be happy with this record, but will want it anyway. Those who will be listening to Jackie for the first time will be divided in their reaction.

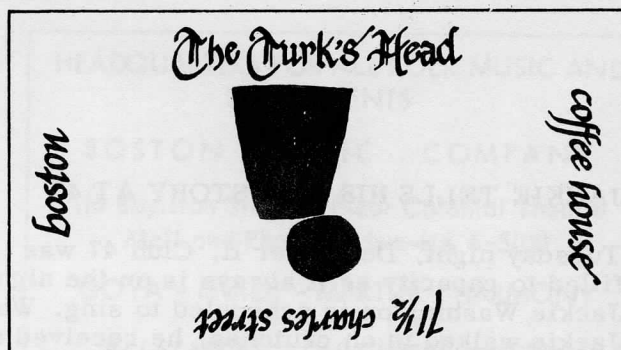
Jackie's fans will be disappointed because, we think, that Jackie on record will never be as effective as Jackie in person and unless he is given a chance to do an "in concert" recording his personality and rapport with his audience will never be evident on wax. We can't even imagine Jackie singing in a recording studio. But his followers will still want this album because with just a little imagination and the memory of performances witnessed, many of the lackings in the record can be filled.

People who have never heard Jackie before may very well be attracted to him by this record for his delivery is gentle and straightforward. He never leans on a song, he carries it. This is a point which deserves more expansion than we have room for here. Jackie is a fine musician. While there are many guitarists around, there are not enough with the knowledge of when and where intricate guitar runs should be used to the advantage of a song. His guitar work is excellent, but never overrides. People who have only heard of Jackie via his many advocates are apt to wonder what all the hullabaloo has been about and unless they return to listen to this record more than once will most likely pay little attention to further remarks.

Included on this record are BLACK FLIES, NOTTAMUN TOWN, MOONSHINER, LITTLE BROWN DOG & BALLAD OF THE CARPENTER. Sad to say SWEET MAMA and ACNE BLUES are sadly absent.

WAS YOUR SUBSCRIPTION COPY LATE?

Due to the large amount of subscriptions and the convalescing of our Subscription Manager, many of our mailed copies of the last few issues went out late. We are revamping our methods now so that you will not be so poorly treated in the future.



BLUES WALK RIGHT IN - SYLVIA MARS

w/Mitch Greenhill on Guitar
Gordie Edwards on Harmonica

Folk Lyric FL124

This is Harry Oster's first attempt to record an Urban Folk Singer and we think he has made an excellent choice. Sylvia has long been a favorite of ours, we have watched her develop from an imitator of Odetta to a singer who is purely herself.

Her first record displays one of the best facets of her virtuosity. It is half and half, half with accompaniment, and half a capella, and we prefer the latter. It is on these numbers which Sylvia demonstrates her ability to use her voice as an instrument and a fine instrument at that.

Mitch Greenhill is an excellent guitarist and his ability, as well as Gordie Edwards' proficiency on the harmonica, are evident on this record. Unfortunately, neither of them are fine accompanists and at times they overpower Sylvia's delivery with overembellishment.

Blues and Spirituals are the materials used, including a beautiful moan written by Sylvia I HAVE A FRIEND.

Sylvia's roots are in the South and her music has been tempered without being distorted by her life in New England. This is a good record.

Songs included on this album: WALK RIGHT IN, LET THAT LIAR, NOAH NOAH, HE'S GOT ME GOIN', JACOB'S LADDER, DARK WAS THE NIGHT and BACKWATER BLUES

TONY SALETAN TO SING FOR CHILDREN

December 22nd, Tony Saletan will present a concert for children at 2 30 P M. at the Boston Center for Adult Education at 5 Commonwealth Avenue in Boston.

JACKIE TELLS HIS OWN STORY AT 47

Tuesday night, December 11, Club 47 was filled to capacity as it always is on the nights Jackie Washington is scheduled to sing. When Jackie walked in on crutches, he received an ovation - but one of a different tone than usual - this was an ovation of complete silence. Unknown to Jackie, the statement of fact concerning his case had been read to the audience before he arrived by Jack Parmley and the audience was choked with emotion and shock upon hearing what had happened to Jackie. After Jackie sang several songs, he told his story in his own words and in his inimitable fashion broke the tension in the Club by adding humour to his description of his night in jail. The most important factor in this whole case we feel after hearing Jackie's story both from the fact sheet and Jackie's own words is that here is a young man of excellent reputation throughout the Boston Community as a folk singer, as a youth worker, and last but not least, as a person who has the courage to stand up for his rights in this so called "cradle of liberty" and use his case as a precedent to show the citizens of Boston the police brutality which does exist.

The response which has been shown from both Jackie's friends and fans who know and love him and the many people who have read about his case and have acted out of concern has been wonderful. If you wish to join all of us who are supporting Jackie, just send letters and telegrams to Mayor John F. Collins, the Police Commissioner, the newspapers and tell your friends what has happened so that the citizens and public officials may realize the importance of this situation and do something about it.

We can only say at this time that we are very proud that we know someone as fine as Jackie Washington who has the courage and strength to fight this case in the open to try and regain some of the original statutes of freedom and liberty upon which this country was founded.

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JACKIE WASHINGTON FUND STARTED

There have been many calls to BROADSIDE and to friends of Jackie Washington asking where donations can be made for the defense of his case. A fund has been started to help cover the great expenses already incurred by court costs and medical expenses Jackie has, and for the expenses that will arise while Jackie's case is being processed. In answer to these calls, and for others who would like to contribute to this fund, just send your donations to The Jackie Washington Fund, 24 Alpine Street, Cambridge, Massachusetts. If after the case is over, there is any money left over, it will be used to further investigation of problems and cases similar to Jackie's until these atrocities cease completely.

WTBS ADDS BLUEGRASS HOUR

Radio Station WTBS-FM (88.1) has added an hour of Bluegrass, Oldtimey and Mountain music to their schedule. It may be heard between 6 and 7 o'clock each Monday night and has been named "Perloo, Stomp, and Glee" (sounds vedy Pogoish to us). Host for the show will be Lonnie Bourn, who has also been announcing Folkside, Sunday evenings from 5 to 6:30 for the same station.

HOLIDAY GIFT SUGGESTIONS!

With the Holiday Season approaching, we would like to make a few gift suggestions to our readers who don't know what to give their folk music minded friends, relatives and sweethearts. Many of our advertisers suggest gifts in this issue, and we would like to point out a few that may have slipped your notice.

- Tickets to Folklore Productions' Concerts
- Handmade silver tie tack or lapel guitar pin from Carol Cravats
- Instruments from any music store
- A Charter membership to Club 47
- Records of all types (in particular: Joan Baez, Scruggs and Flatt, Jackie Washington, Sylvia Mars, Clancy Boys, Jack Elliot, Tom Rush, The Charles River Valley Boys ad infinitum)
- A Subscription to BROADSIDE
- Guitar Lessons from Folklore Center, Club 47 or individuals (call BROADSIDE for contacts)
- A copy of Oscar Brand's Ballad Mongers
- A Subscription to "Sing Out!"
- Leadbelly's New Songbook (available through NY Folklore Center or "Sing Out!")
- A new guitar or banjo case
- Christmas Dinner for students and friends unable to travel home for holidays
- A membership to the Folk Song Society
- FM Radios (to hear Folk programs)
- Tape Recorders
- Folk music song books and instruction manuals

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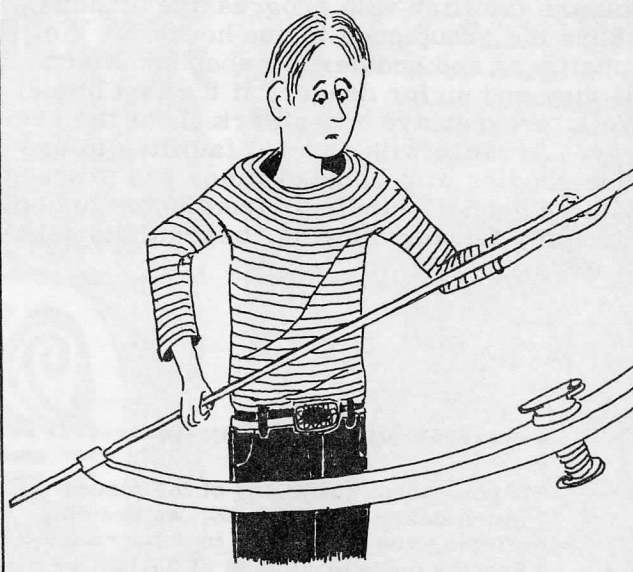
BROADSIDE has a proposition for you, one which may help you to make some pocket money and which will help us become better known at your school. If you are interested, call us - just dial KIS-KIDI during the evening and we will tell you about it.

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PROGRESSIVE HOOT - IDEAL CHRISTMAS PARTY

Here's an idea for a Christmas party which has been brought to our attention. Most of you are familiar with progressive dinners, where the group goes to one house for the appetizer, and another for soup and so on til they end up for dessert at the last home. Well, progressive hoots work about the same way. Arrange with several families to provide goodies at scheduled times and proceed with ye band of minstrels from home to home for some friendly singing, bearing the season in mind.

BOSTON FOLK MUSIC GUIDE

BROADSIDE is considering printing a guide to Folk Music in a future issue which will include a listing of teachers of guitar, banjo, autoharp, lute etc. in this area. If you teach or instruct in any phase of folk music, won't you drop us a card so that we may include you in our listing. This will also apply to the calls we receive asking for teachers for various age groups and institutions.



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