

# THE BROADSIDE

OF BOSTON

Volume II, No. 24

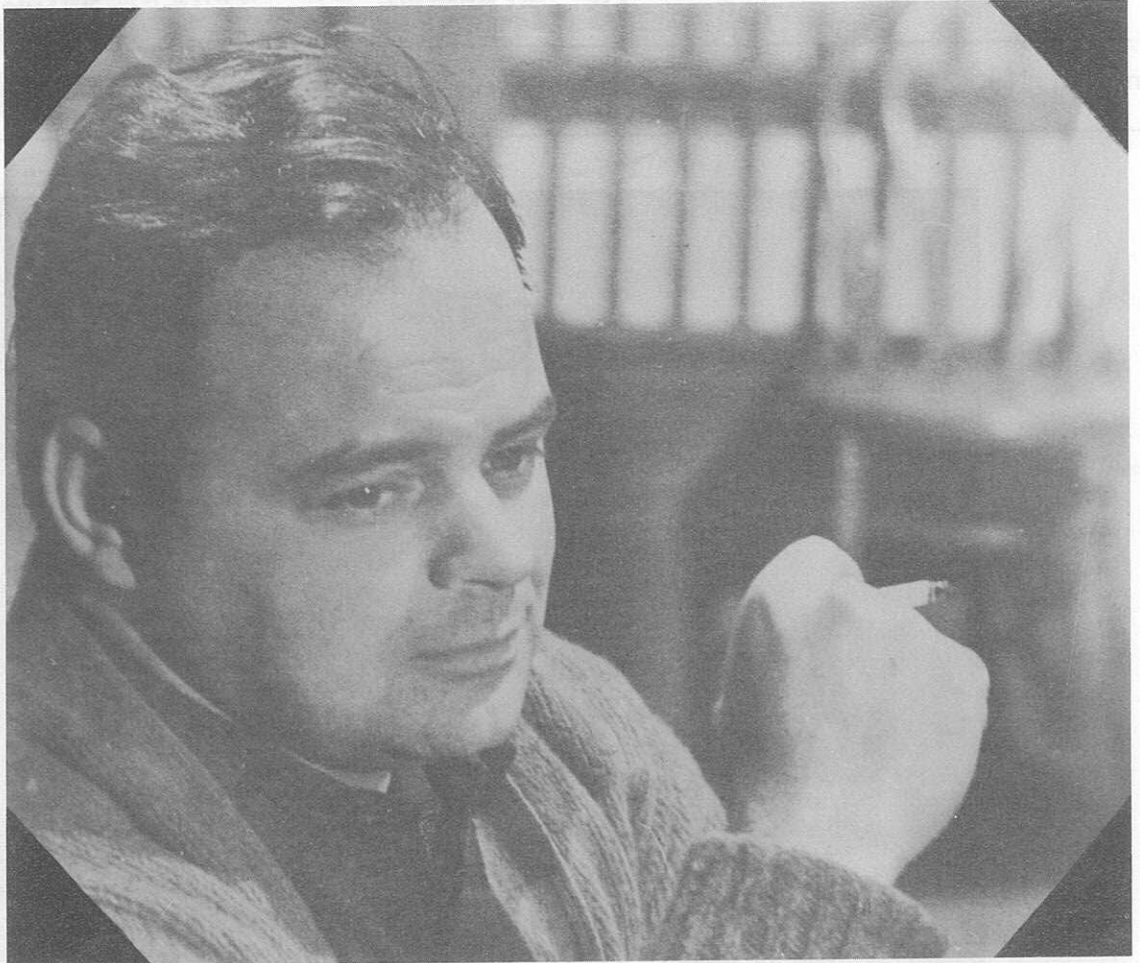
Cambridge, Massachusetts

February 5, 1964



FOLK MUSIC AND COFFEE HOUSE NEWS & TEN CENTS

# FOLK CITY U S A



with  
**Robert Lurtsema**  
every friday night

ON



**1330 AM/FM 102.5**

sked for February 1964	
7	Boston's February Performers
	phil ochs   j. washington
	miss. john hurt   jack elliot
	dave van ronk   len chandler
	bob carey   doc watson
14	a Valentine garland of love songs of many lands
21	songs of social awareness by Tom Paxton & Malvena Reynolds
28	classical & flamenco guitar



Volume II, No. 24

February 5, 1964

258 Harvard Street  
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

Phone: 491-0766

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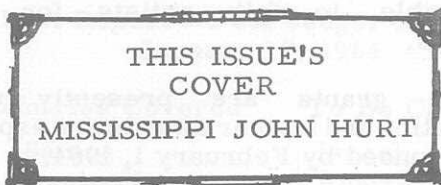
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## MISSISSIPPI JOHN HURT

"The beautiful seems right by force of Beauty,  
and the feeble wrong because of weakness."

-Robert Browning (1806-1861)

To write about Mississippi John Hurt is such  
a paradox of simplicity and complexity that it  
clogs the mind and leaves no thoughts free to  
express themselves.

Perhaps I should take the advice of a friend  
who said, "There's just one thing to say about  
Mississippi John Hurt. Just one and nothing  
else. 'Mississippi John Hurt is a beautiful  
man! That's it! Finished! Period! That's  
all you can say because that's all there is."

Well, OK, that's true. He is a beautiful man  
but just because you know it and I know it  
doesn't mean that EVERYONE knows it.  
Maybe some people have just come up out of

their bomb shelters or wandered down from  
caves and they have never heard of Mississippi  
John Hurt. He's just a name to them and  
probably not even a familiar name at that.

Some years ago, when Babe Ruth was playing  
for the Yankees, Herbert Hoover was  
President-elect and Sandra Dee had not yet  
been born, Mississippi John Hurt cut a record  
on the Okeh label. It sold well, but not  
spectacularly and no one missed him when he  
vanished into obscurity.

Less than a year ago, a field researcher named  
Tom Hoskins was listening to "Avalon Blues"  
and, hearing the line, "Avalon's my home  
town," set out to find if the town - and  
Mississippi John Hurt still existed. The town  
was there, Mississippi John Hurt was there  
and American folk music immediately incur-  
red an unpayable debt to the inquisitive and  
persistent Tom Hoskins.

He brought John to Washington where he cut  
an album on the Piedmont label. The events of  
the months since then - if they weren't all true  
would appear to be straight out of a show biz  
publicity release.

He appeared at the Newport Folk Festival and  
proceeded to gas (pardon the cliché but no  
other term is applicable) 13,000 people upon  
whom he came an unknown and left - three  
encores later - as a reborn personification of  
Truth, Purity and Beauty.

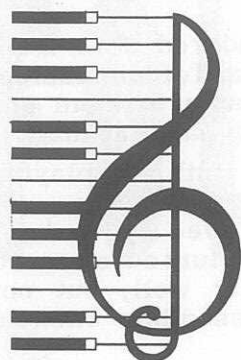
I can remember standing in the photographer's  
pit at the Festival and watching him slowly  
walk across the barren stage to where a chair  
was placed before the microphones. He sat  
down and looked out across an assemblance of  
more people than had passed through Avalon,  
Mississippi during his entire 35 year hiatus.  
He looked down at the horde of photographers  
(I might add at this point that John and I had  
quaffed a libation shortly before so he knew  
that he had at least ONE friend in the house)  
and then back up to the audience.

He pursed his lips and softly said "I've been  
gone a long time and now it's good to be back.  
It's good to be back and on the road again and  
playing for you folks."

From his triumph (what else can it be called?)  
at Newport, he went on to another stunning  
success at the Philadelphia Folk Festival and  
then to Washington where he is house musician  
at The Ontario Place.

Two weeks ago, he played at the Gaslight Cafe  
in New York City where Robert Shelton of The  
New York Times reached for some unTimes-  
like superlatives to call him "a country blues  
man of compelling artistry".

cont'd., p. 8



**LENNE'S**

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ARTISTS

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#### ATTENTION SUBSCRIBERS:

During the Christmas season, many of our subscribers did not receive their issues of BROADSIDE until the issue was way out of date. This was due mainly to the Christmas mail rush. Please accept our apologies. From now on, the subscriptions will be mailed out by our printer the day the issue comes off the press which will insure their receipt of current schedules etc. Also PLEASE NOTE: Our mail box was robbed and many pieces of mail were stolen. We have recovered a great deal of it, but are still receiving post cards from new subscribers wondering where their first issue is. Please be patient and let us know if you entered a subscription during the Christmas season and have not received an issue by the 22nd of January. The Post Office feels that the reason for the robbery may have been because some subscribers are sending their \$3.00 in CASH and thus creating an incentive for robbery. Please send only CHECK OR MONEY ORDER for your subscription for we cannot be responsible for cash sent through the mail. Thank you.

#### NEWPORT FOLK FOUNDATION GRANTS

The Newport Folk Foundation announced on the 6th of January, the first of a series of financial grants to individuals, organizations, and publications who have distinguished themselves by dedicated service to the world of folk arts.

The following are recipients of awards: Council of Southern Mountains, Inc., Berea, Ky., \$500.00; Cooperative Recreation Service, Inc., Delaware, Ohio, \$250.00, Broadside Magazine, New York, \$250.00; Settlement School, Hindman Ky., \$250.00; Settlement School, Pine Mountain, Ky., \$250.00; John C. Campbell Folk School, Brasstown, N.C., \$250.00; Institute of American Indian Arts, Santa Fe, N.M., \$200.00; WGBH, Educational Foundation, Boston, Mass., \$500.00; Little Sandy Revue, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minn., \$250.00; Old Town School of Folk Music, Wilmette, Ill., \$500.00.

The Foundation has made two grants of \$500.00 each to Guy Carawan, Johns Island N.C. to help finance two Folk Song Festivals held on Johns Island. A guitar was purchased and given to Mississippi John Hurt. A tape recorder was purchased for Dorsey Dixon, and in the near future, other tape recorders will be available to folk artists for field recordings.

Additional grants are presently under consideration and further awards are expected to be announced by February 1, 1964.

The funds for these and future grants were raised entirely from the profits of the 1963 Newport Folk Festival, held at Newport, R. I., last July. All of the artists who appeared at the three day, nonprofit music festival performed for minimum union rates, thus creating this Fund for the Foundation to distribute.

Charles Bourgeois, Newport Folk Foundation.

#### MIT FOLK SONG SOCIETY TO HOLD TOPICAL SONG HOOTENANY

On Sunday afternoon, February 16, the MIT Folk Song Society will hold its first meeting of the Spring term. After a short business meeting, a hoot of topical songs — both old and new — will begin.

Although membership in the MIT FSS is limited to members of the MIT community and their families, the meetings are all open to the public. The Topical Song Hoot will begin at 2:00 PM in Walker Memorial, Room 201.



# PETE SEEGER GIVES TWO CONCERTS IN ROME

PETE SEEGER and his family arrived in Italy on January 11 from Ghana, West Africa. They completed a month's tour in Africa that covered KENYA, TANGANYIKA, NIGERIA, and GHANA.

Pete was booked for two concerts in Rome under the auspices of the Teatro Club of Rome, which sponsors the major international concert artists in that city. This is the first time an American folk singer has given two consecutive concerts in Italy.

The Seegers flew to ISRAEL on January 19th to begin a two-week tour of that country.

The tour thus far by PETE SEEGER has been a most interesting and exciting one both for Pete and his family as well as for the audiences and people they have met on this trip. It would be near impossible to convey the experiences they have had on this trip in this column, but the Seegers have written long, detailed letters, journals, etc., which present plans call for publishing in book form sometime next year.

## Last Report - Pete Seeger Itinerary January 17, 1964

Countries Covered	To Be Completed
Samoa	Israel
Australia	Austria
Indonesia	England
Japan	Holland
India	Belgium
Kenya	Czechoslovakia
Tanganyika	Poland
Nigeria	Soviet Union
Ghana	Ireland
Italy	Return 6/30/64

## ATTENTION COLLEGE RADIO STATIONS:

We are compiling a complete list of all radio and TV programs on folk music and would like any College Radio Stations who are scheduling new programs this semester to let us know so that our files will be complete and we can print a complete listing in our next issue.

BROADSIDE extends congratulations to Amy and Stan Stansky on the birth of their daughter during the first week of January.

# BROADSIDE REORGANIZES CIRCULATION DEPARTMENT, SEEKS ADDITIONAL STAFF MEMBERS

With this issue, BROADSIDE institutes a new method of processing subscription copies, which we hope will ensure that our subscribers receive their copies promptly. Name-and-address plates will soon be made to speed up the mailing. Our list of subscribers has been zip-coded by the Post Office.

In line with our desire to increase the speed with which we serve our readers, we are seeking several new members of our "business-oriented" staffs (business, circulation, and distribution). The only qualification for these positions is the ability to type, and even that's not too important. A motor scooter or car might also help, but is not a necessity.

If you're interested in joining the staff of BROADSIDE, for which you will get large amounts of fun and oft-hectic activity but very small amounts of tangible reward, write to BROADSIDE, 258 Harvard Street, Cambridge, attention Business Manager.



## DAVE VAN RONK AT THE UNICORN

Starting February 11th, and continuing through February 23rd, Dave Van Ronk will make his most extended visit to Boston in over a year when he will be performing at the Unicorn. Dave has become a Boston favorite, despite his NY roots, and has recently attained the loyalty of many new fans through his latest Prestige LPs.

# ... AND COFFEE TOO



## CLUB 47 SCHEDULE:

### February

- |    |                                 |
|----|---------------------------------|
| 1  | Tony Saletan & Irene Kossoy     |
| 2  | Hoot with Don MacSorely         |
| 3  | Tom Rush                        |
| 4  | Jackie Washington               |
| 5  | JACK ELLIOTT                    |
| 6  | JACK ELLIOTT                    |
| 7  | JACK ELLIOTT                    |
| 8  | Tim Hardin & Jerry Corbitt      |
| 9  | Charles String Quartet 2:30 PM  |
|    | Hoot with C. Langstaff 9 - 1 AM |
| 10 | Tom Rush                        |
| 11 | Jackie Washington               |
| 12 | Charles River Valley Boys       |
| 13 | LEN CHANDLER                    |
| 14 | LEN CHANDLER                    |
| 15 | Jerry Corbitt                   |

## CAFE YANA SCHEDULE:

### February

- |         |                            |
|---------|----------------------------|
| 1       | Peter Lenz                 |
| 2       | Folk Fest w/Dusty 3-6      |
|         | Gospel Fest w/Silverleaf   |
|         | Gospel Singers 8 - 12      |
| 3       | Judi Campbell & Bob Sproul |
| 4       | Barbara Bowden             |
| 5       | Denise Kennedy             |
| 6       | Bill Lyons                 |
| 7       | Nancy Michaels             |
| 8       | Don MacSorely              |
| 9       | Folk Fest w/Dusty 3-6      |
|         | Gospel Fest 8-12 midnight  |
| 10      | MISSISSIPPI                |
| through | JOHN                       |
| 15      | HURT                       |
| 16      | Folk Fest w/Dusty          |
|         | Gospel Fest 8-12 midnight  |
| 17      | Judi Campbell & Bob Sproul |
| 18      | Barbara Bowden             |
| 19      | Norm Paley                 |

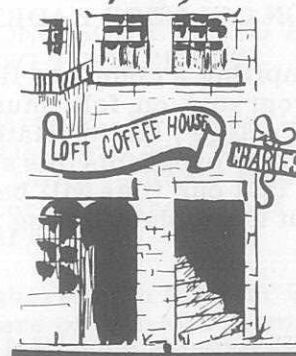
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9 ~ 12 pm



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43 Charles St.  
Boston  
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*Monday Hoot  
entertainment  
Nightly*



## KING'S ROOK AT IPSWICH

### February

- |    |                                |
|----|--------------------------------|
| 1  | Eddie Motteau & Joe Hutchinson |
| 3  | Hoot and Auditions             |
| 6  | Gil DeJesus                    |
| 7  | Denise Kennedy                 |
| 8  | Denise Kennedy                 |
| 10 | Hoot and Auditions             |
| 13 | Gil DeJesus                    |
| 14 | PAT SKY                        |
| 15 | PAT SKY                        |

# NEXT FSS PROGRAM: WOODY GUTHRIE HOOT

Friday evening, February 7th, at 8:30 PM in the Library of the Huntington Avenue YMCA, The Folk Song Society of Greater Boston will offer a hootenanny of Woody Guthrie songs. This program is designed as a follow up for last month's production of "California To The New York Island" and will give everyone a chance to learn some new songs and perhaps to teach some as well as offering the opportunity to give vent to their own urge to perform either alone or en masse.

## ORLEANS SCHEDULE:

### February

- |    |                     |
|----|---------------------|
| 1  | Phillipe from Haiti |
| 2  | John Rowlinson      |
| 3  | To Be Announced     |
| 4  | Max's Open Hoot     |
| 5  | Tim Sawyer          |
| 6  | Max's Open Hoot     |
| 7  | Dianey & Arney      |
| 8  | Phillipe from Haiti |
| 9  | John Rowlinson      |
| 10 | To Be Announced     |
| 11 | Max's Open Hoot     |
| 12 | Tim Sawyer          |
| 13 | Max's Open Hoot     |
| 14 | Dianey & Arney      |

## The Turks Head

Boston's Oldest Coffee House  
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## SUBURBAN EVENTS OF INTEREST

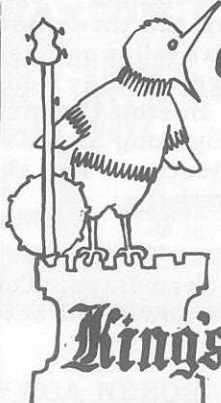
### February

- |   |  |         |
|---|--|---------|
| 7 | Jackie Washington<br>Newton High South<br>in conjunction with American<br>Field Service Foreign Exchange | 8:00 PM |
| 8 | Tom Rush & Jackie Washington<br>Fitchburg State Teachers College<br>Fitchburg, Mass.                     | 8:00 PM |
| 8 | Charles River Valley Boys<br>Emmanuel College<br>Boston, Mass.   | 8:00 PM |

## FOLK MUSIC USA SCHEDULE

The schedule for Folk Music USA, broadcast on WGBH-TV (channel 2) on Wednesday from 8:00 to 8:30 PM, and repeated the following Saturday at 6:30 PM, is as follows.

- |                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| Feb. 5 and 8:   | Lilly Brothers and Don Stover,<br>Lisa Kindred, Eddie and Joe  |
| Feb. 12 and 15: | The Clan Sutherland Pipe Band<br>(Scotch), Priya Mehta (Indian),<br>Zev Rejmen (Israeli), Bill<br>Vanaver (Eastern), Eddie La<br>Hage and his Arabs (Arabic),<br>International Music |



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Each Monday  
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## MISSISSIPPI JOHN HURT AT CAFE YANA

Mississippi John Hurt, legendary blues singer, and star of the Newport and Philadelphia Folk Festivals will make his first Boston performances at the Cafe Yana on Monday through Saturday nights, February 10th to the 15th.

Because John is being presented by Dave Wilson and not by the Cafe Yana per se, Courtesy Passes and Playboy Samplers will not be honored during this engagement.

Reservations may be made in advance by calling 491-8675, or by writing Dave Wilson, 80 Wendell Street, Cambridge, Mass. When writing be sure to include the date you wish to attend and the number of persons in your party.

The Cafe Yana is located at 50 Brookline Avenue, just one block from Kenmore Square in Boston. Due to construction of a new bridge between Kenmore Square and the Cafe Yana, the route is blocked to vehicles, but there is a temporary bridge for pedestrians or cars may approach from the Brookline Avenue end at Sears Roebuck.



# DAYLE STANLEY, RAY PONG, AL SEARS RECORD FOR VERITAS

Dayle Stanley has recorded "Little Boxes" (the ticki tacki song) for the Veritas Records album, "Folksingers 'Round Harvard Square No. 2." Because of the popularity of "Little Boxes," it was released as a single 45 rpm last month. On the other side was "The Homely Man," a folk ballad written by Miss Stanley. The recording of "Little Boxes" by Miss Stanley marks her debut on records. Many critics of the United States and Canada consider her as the most exciting new folk-singer in America.

Miss Stanley was selected by Lemuel Wells of Veritas Records to be one of the three new stars to appear on the Veritas album. The others appearing on the record are Ray Pong and Al Sears. Mr. Pong is a Boston University medical student from Hong Kong and Mr. Sears is a folksinger from Boston. The album will be released this month.

The original album "Folksingers 'Round Harvard Square" introduced Joan Baez, Ted Alevizos, and Bill Wood. It is now a collector's item.

## MISSISSIPPI JOHN Continued from page 3

If fame has brought Mississippi John Hurt a financial reward beyond his dreams and expectations, it has not touched the man himself. If people don't come backstage to visit him, he comes out from and visits THEM. He chats, smiles, and shows everyone the new Guild guitar that was recently presented to him by Newport Folk Foundation ("Look at my beautiful baby!"). No one is a stranger to Mississippi John Hurt. He has warmth and friendship to give and asks nothing in return.

His music is casual and relaxed but it is done in an arresting style that is uniquely his. He sings blues, ragtime and even gives the audience a big wink sometimes and sings a naughty one but it's really all right because he is your friend.

Mississippi John Hurt is a genuine one in a time of pseudos. He's not copying or imitating or turning it on for show. He's a real one in a time when there are too damn few real ones left.

I guess my friend was right after all.

Mississippi John Hurt is a beautiful man. ...

dick waterman

# JEAN RITCHIE CONCERT AT TUFTS

Jean Ritchie, described by Kenneth S. Goldstein as "the singiest member of America's most famous folk-singing family, will sing in the Tufts University Combined Arts Concert Series on February 14. The Jean Ritchie concert will be held in Cohen Auditorium on the Tufts campus. Tickets are priced at \$2.25 each.

Jean Ritchie comes from the town of Viper, in the Cumberland Mountains of Kentucky, and is familiar to most persons interested in folk music as one of the foremost performers. Hers is not an acquired style. She has grown up in a family tradition which had been well established before her. Although the youngest of fourteen in her family, she has made the mark on her own. She currently has out about one dozen records on Folkways, Riverside, and Elektra; has written numerous books of folk songs and tales; studied American folk music roots in the British Isles on a Fulbright grant; and has appeared in many concerts and folk festivals around the United States.

This will be her first concert in Boston in quite a while, and will be a good opportunity to hear one of our great female folk singers. As Will Hinkley once remarked, "If you don't know Jean Ritchie, you don't know anybody."

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**hours**  
 Sunday through Friday  
 9 p.m. ~ 1 a.m.  
 SATURDAY  
 8 p.m. ~ 12 mid.

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
SUNDAY BRUNCH WITH THE N.Y. TIMES 11-12	HOOTE NANNY with Don MacSorley	ATTENTION! SHERI	Washington	RAMBLIN	JACK ELLIOTT		Lisa Kindred
SUNDAY BRUNCH WITH THE N.Y. TIMES 12-1	HOOT Carol Langstaff		JACQUE WASHINGTON	Charles River Valley Boys	LEO CHANDLER		JERRY CORBETT
SUNDAY BRUNCH WITH THE N.Y. TIMES 1-2	jones hootenanny	TOON	DOG WATSON	Charles River Valley Boys		Tim Hardin	
SUNDAY BRUNCH WITH THE N.Y. TIMES 2-3	Back to Mozart Players	Lisa Kindred Hootenanny	Jackie Washington	Square Dance with MR. DUDLEY BRIGGS	CHARLES RIVER VALLEY BOYS	The Lilly Bros. & DON STOVER	carol langstaff ROBERT L. JONES
SUNDAY BRUNCH WITH THE N.Y. TIMES 3-4	Ray Long Hootenanny	MONDAYS 9 p.m.	Jackie Washington	JERRY CORBETT			

Rayon Loan Insurance, Inc.

## BITS &amp; PIECES

DOC WATSON starts an engagement at Gerde's Folk City in NYC on February 4th. DAVE VAN RONK has a new album to be released shortly of just ballads, i.e. "House Carpenter." ABC-TV HOOTENANNY show to fold in March (so it is rumored) with possible reruns until June. MISSISSIPPI JOHN HURT is at The Gaslight in NYC and drawing large crowds nightly. BUFFY SAINT MARIE is recording a solo LP for Vanguard. DAVE GUDE is an Editor at Vanguard. Trini Lopez' "If I Had A Hammer" was top pop single in Belgium and Holland for 1963. IAN & SYLVIA aided by JOHN HEROLD will appear shortly on the Bell Telephone Hour. MITCH GREENHILL has left Harvard for a Semester to tour across the country - first singing stop at Gallery Flambeau to start the 3rd of February. BILL KEITH who has left Bill Monroe's group is travelling to Greece soon to see JIM ROONEY and then will return to work at Bacon Banjo, formed by Bill, Danny Bump (Treasurer of Board of Directors of Club 47), and Earl Scruggs to manufacture their Scruggs-Keith pegs. JACK ELLIOT will be at Club 47 during February. CHARLES RIVER VALLEY BOYS record to be released in February titled "Comin' From The Ball" on Prestige. JUG BAND will be performing in Los Angeles at The Troubadour in February.

## YWCA NEEDS VOLUNTEERS FOR HOOT

Mrs. Jane Christie from the YWCA in Cambridge has been asked to run a hootenanny for the teenagers on February 21st. If you are interested in volunteering your services for this hoot, please contact any member of the BROADSIDE Staff or call Mrs. Christie evenings at UN 8-8089.

## NORTH SHORE MUSIC STORE TO NEW LOCATION

Jimmy Mosher's Studio and Music Store, located for the past 8 years at 18 Summer Street in Lynn has been forced to vacate its location. The store is moving on or about February 1st to 198 Oxford Street in the same city.

Mosher's features a complete line of folk instruments and accessories. Sheet music, including a large selection of folk songs, is available. Instruction will be given on any instrument in their new soundproof studio.

## CLASSIFIED ADS

Flamenco Guitar - Excellent condition. Built by José Ramirez, Madrid, 1961. Asking \$500. Call ED 5-7054 after 6:00 PM.

## RAMBLIN' ROUND w/dave wilson

Have you ever thought about opening your own coffeehouse? We recommend that you forget about it. The reason for that is not that we wouldn't like to see a number of new places, because we would, but rather that the process which one must go through is as frustrating and difficult as trying to explain a mistake to the Division of Employment Security.

Point 1: The authorities do not like coffeehouses. They suspect them of being unamerican because they don't serve alcohol, and they can't afford to pay off the cop on the beat. One inspector I've met dislikes them because they don't use his cigarette machines, and still manage to get a license to open, sometimes. I know of one or two coffeehouses which have managed to open and operate without paying off a politician or two but they do it with constant expectancy of being closed on any technicality which a Board might feel prone to contrive.

Point 2: The press and media of our area are pretty antagonistic toward coffeehouses and are willing to jump on them from any angle they can find. When a Boston coffeehouse was raided last Spring and the dozen patrons were arrested and booked for "being present where narcotics were found," (the narcotics found being a small quantity of marijuana quickly discarded on the floor by one patron when the police entered) the papers headlined front page columns and the radio stations made it the headline of the hour. No mention was made at all in any paper that I saw that everyone involved was found not guilty. On the same block, a bar gets raided frequently on suspicion of illegal booking, but that never makes the papers. It's interesting to note that if one individual was arrested in Boston Garden for "possession" everyone there could be arrested for being present.

Point 3: Everybody who has never been to a coffeehouse knows all about them.

There is a hope. Shows like Folk Music USA help to improve the image of coffeehouses, the ever-growing number of patrons who have found that they are not in dens of iniquity, that there is good music to be heard, and substantially fewer obnoxious drunks interfering with the pleasure of listening, are indications of a more hopeful future.

Political reform would help, of course, but we are not naïve enough to look for much hope in that direction.

## KINGSTON TRIO's NEW RELEASE

The Kingston Trio recently released a new album entitled "Time To Think" and it appears that the Trio has spent some time thinking this one out. Through the razamatuzz music which the Kingston Trio has heretofore published, they have become labeled as crassly commercial singers and few give them credit for having any legitimate place in folk music even though they really helped bring the revival about at least to the mass audience across the country.

Through the efforts of one member of the group, the Trio has put into this album serious folk music. Some of the selections include "Hobo's Lullaby", "Deportee", "Alley Alley Oxentree" and "Patriot Game" all with proper credits given. There is no bawdy banjo or loud guitar on any of these selections - but rather serious thought out interpretations of the music. Music which makes you think.

jm

FOR ALL YOUR FOLK MUSIC NEEDS

**BRIGGS & BRIGGS**

Mississippi John Hurt

Dave Van Ronk

*records are always  
available at*

1270 Mass. Ave. - Harvard Sq. - KL-7-2007

## FOLK SONG SOCIETY EXTENDS THANKS

The Folk Song Society of Greater Boston wishes to express its most heart felt thanks to those members of the Professional folk community who gave of their time and talent so unstintingly to help make "California To The New York Island" the grand success that it was. We especially wish to thank Bob Lurtsema for his fine job of directing the production, and Mitch Greenhill, Jerry Corbitt, Mel Lyman, Ray Pong, Robert L. Jones, Jill Henderson, Bob Siggins, John Cook, and George and Marjie Geisser for their fine performances and also to Hartley Gurney for his imaginative and effective construction and handling of the lighting and sound system. We also wish to thank all those who attended and say that we hope that you enjoyed watching and listening to us as much as we enjoyed presenting it to you.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

ON FADISM, THE DICTATION OF PUBLIC TASTES AND HYPOCRASY

After reading BROADSIDE's editorial commentary and continually listening to the onstage remarks of performers and offstage discussions of aficionados, one cannot help but become aware of the ridicule, pity, and distaste in which the Boston - Cambridge folk community holds the Madison Avenue and Hollywood types who dictate and feed the public taste for crass, super-slick, commercialized folkum. Further, one also sees the anger and pity felt for the public which is gullible enough to eat it up. We, however, are being grossly hypocritical, for our response or reaction to this fadism has been the initiation and support of our own fad, one which is no less horrendous.

A glance at the schedules of the more prominent coffee houses, especially that of Club 47 which is the commonly accepted yardstick of folk talent and arbiter of local folk tastes, reveals that we are only supposed to consider "folk" those forms of musical expression which are stylistically traditional. More specifically, bluegrass, old timey, blues and jug band music are about the only forms that can hold the stage.

Singing in harmony is only permissible for mountain or jug band music. If three or four guys get up there and try to sing in harmony, they are immediately suspect and we try to have fun guessing as to which commercial group they are trying to imitate. After all, if you're not bluegrass, old timey or jug, what else could you be but----?

Female folksingers don't have a ghost of a chance. If they are sopranos, they are trying to be a Baez; low voices give them away as Odetta worshippers, and medium range voices identify them as followers of Judy Collins.

Singing a meaningful song with conviction won't get anyone half as far as it would have three years ago. A good voice can be a liability. What really matters is how fast and clean you pick "Saturday Night Shuffle". The ballad singer is becoming extinct. What the hell is folk music anyway.

Come on Boston - Cambridge folk community! Grow up! And if this sounds like sour grapes from a would-be ballad singer, I'm a would-be half gravel voiced blues singer - but a liberal one.

toby kravet

\* dave wilson \*  
presents  
first boston engagement  
of  
MISSISSIPPI  
John Hurt  
February 10-15  
Café Yana  
8:30 nightly

50 BROOKLINE AVE. 1 BLOCK FROM KENMORE SQ.

PHIL OCHS AT UNICORN

Phil Ochs, one of the best of the new crop of folksinger/writers is now appearing at the Unicorn Coffeehouse in Boston. Phil who has had numerous songs published by the Broadside of New York will be finishing his first extended Boston engagement on Sunday February 9th. He has already appeared on Channel 2's Folk Music USA, and has recently firmed plans for his first record with Elektra. Students of the Topical Song will find Phil's own material to be a powerful moving commentary on our social and political foibles and by all means worthwhile.



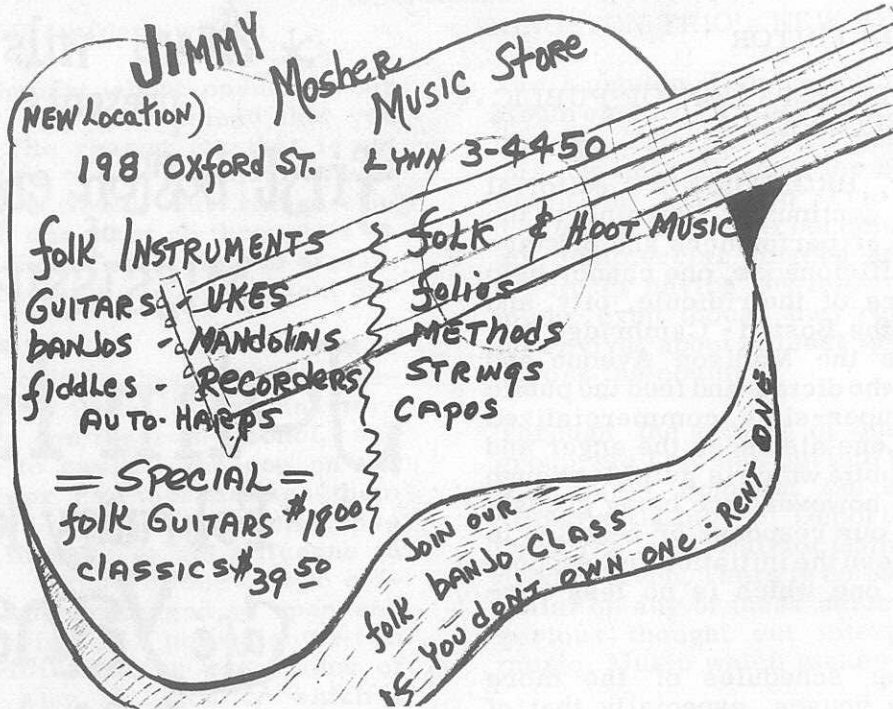
MARCH RECORDING

"We Shall Overcome," the authorized phonograph record of the March on Washington, produced by the Council for United Civil Rights Leadership, is on sale for \$3.00. Proceeds go to the civil rights movement. Write Council for United Civil Rights Leadership, 10 East 44th Street, New York 17, New York.

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