

Capitol Theatre, Victoria, British Columbia November 6th-7th, 1935



(Capitol Theatre, Victoria, British Columbia, Canada, Circa 1930)

For years the assumption was that Frank Sinatra's first appearance in Canada was the Orpheum in Vancouver in November of 1935 as a member of the Hoboken Four, with the Major Bowes travelling group. Sinatra, with that group of talented amateurs, did appear at the Orpheum starting on November 8, 1935 but the group first appeared in Victoria at the Capitol Theatre on November 6th and 7th of that same year. Sinatra, nor the other members of the Hoboken Four would receive any credit in local papers other than by the group name.

INVITATION TO AMATEUR UNIT

Major Bowes's Artists May Make Appearance in Victoria Next Month

Efforts are being made by the Victoria Chamber of Commerce in conjunction with J. Robertson, manager of the Capitol Theatre, to secure appearances in Victoria of one of Major Edward Bowes's units of radio amateurs.

This morning W. T. Straith, president of the Chamber of Commerce, wired to the popular radio announcer at Rockefeller Centre, New York, as follows:

"Understand amateur units appearing in Seattle commencing November 2. It would be deeply appreciated if this unit could play Victoria, capital city of British Columbia. If favorable reply received from you would approach mayor to proclaim Major Bowes's Day and would support it in every way possible."

Mr. Robertson has wired the agents of the units in Seattle suggesting November 6 and 7 for appearances in Victoria.

If the arrangements are completed it will be the first time one of Major Bowes's units has appeared in Canada west of Toronto.

↑Times Colonist
(Victoria, British Columbia)
October 28, 1935, Page 15

The effort to secure an appearance of Major Edward Bowes's radio amateurs in Victoria has met with success it was reported to-day. The unit which will appear in Seattle next month will come to the Capitol Theatre in Victoria November 6 and November 7.

↑Times Colonist, (Victoria, British Columbia)
October 29, 1935, Page 13

AMATEUR UNIT WILL APPEAR

Major Bowes's Traveling Group Will Be in City Next Wednesday

F. McWilliams, advance agent for the Major Bowes traveling amateur unit which will appear in Victoria on November 6 and 7, will be in Victoria to-morrow to make final arrangements for the show, which will be staged at the Capitol Theatre.

W. T. Straith, president of the Chamber of Commerce, is arranging to have some memento, peculiar to Victoria, sent to Major Bowes as a souvenir of his troupe's visit to this city. This will give valuable continent-wide publicity on the coast-to-coast NBC radio network.

Bob Oakley will represent Major Bowes as "Master of Ceremonies and Guardian of the Gong" at the performances here.

The following make up the group: Stauffer Twins, look alikes, sing alikes; the Hoboken Four, singing and dancing feats; Igor Ivans, Oxford University student; Oklahoma Mustang Wranglers; Marshall Haley, the retired redcap; Julio Vitalo, the fruit peddler; Ralph Lawrence, the triple-voiced wonder; Marie Julio, the Virginia nightingale; Bob Ryan, Columbia University xylophone wizard; Smiling Rae Souder, the Yankee yodeler; Vivian Barlow, impersonator, and Israel Margolis, the rabbi's son.

←Times Colonist
(Victoria, British Columbia)
October 31, 1935, Page 15

DAY DEDICATED TO MAJOR BOWES

At the request of the Chamber of Commerce, Mayor David Leeming to-day declared next Wednesday "Major Bowes Day" in recognition of the visit here of a visit of amateurs sponsored by the United States radio figure.

Major Bowes's performers will appear on Wednesday at the Capitol Theatre. Efforts are being made by officials of the Chamber to present him with some souvenir of his visit here.

↑Times Colonist
(Victoria, British Columbia)
October 31, 1935, Page 15

Amateurs Have Strange Tales

Major Bowes's Unit Coming Here Next Week Includes Pick of Performers

For twenty-four people from every walk of life who will be in Victoria next week, their most unbelievable dreams have come true almost overnight.

They make up Major Edward Bowes's Amateur Unit No. 5, considered the best of all the units which the Major has put on the road.

Made up of successful amateurs who took their chance on the Major's Sunday NBC radio hour and faced the threat of the Major's gong without flinching, they will be at the Capitol Theatre on Wednesday and Thursday of next week.

This will be the first visit to Canada by any of the Mayor's amateur units, although bookings have already been arranged to other cities in the Dominion for later dates.

Unit No. 5 is Major's select unit. Himself for a long time a resident of the Pacific Coast, he wanted the pick of his talent to tour his favorite district, and for that purpose chose the headlining acts from the first units formed and combined them in the new company.

STORIES OF PERFORMERS

The stories behind the appearance of each performer in the unit read like a fairy tale in some cases.

Marie Julio, coloratura soprano, known to the radio audience as the Virginia Nightingale, had studied voice culture in the United States and in Italy, and had learned the scores of eight operas, but had never done anything about it.

She lost her job as a secretary, and was at a loose end when she heard of the Major's amateur hour. Now she ranks as one of Major Bowes's best performers, and has the prospect of an operatic career before her.

The Oklahoma Mustang Wranglers, five youth whose ages range from sixteen to twenty-four, had never left their native New Jersey until their mothers made cowboy uniforms for them, and they went to try their luck with the Major.

Vivian Barlow used to be a social service worker in the East Side tenements of New York. Now she is an impersonator of screen and radio stars.

TRYING DEBUT

Miss Barlow had one of the most trying debuts conceivable for any performer. She opened on a gala programme in Hollywood, and had to impersonate stars who were actually watching her performance.

Israel Margolis, son and brother of Jewish rabbis, may be a rabbi himself some day. At present he is an opera singer.

The Stauffer Twins, who look alike and sing alike, left their jobs as professional models in a department store to try their luck with Major Bowes.

Ralph Lawrence, the man of the triple voice, sings soprano, tenor and baritone. Of Irish-Hungarian parentage, he hung around the Hungarian gypsy encampments as a boy and picked up singing and accordion playing without ever taking a lesson.

Igor Ivans, popular singer, was an Oxford undergraduate who fell into bad luck. When he applied for an audition he was working on a farm for \$3 per week.

Marshall Haley, colored singer, was a red cap who thought what he made in depression-time tips was not enough.

Julio Vitola, ex-fruit peddler and junk man, left a not very profitable fruit-and-junk partnership to become an operatic singer.

Bob Ryan, who can make a xylophone sound like an organ was a Columbia university student.

The Hoboken Four, singers, describe themselves as "the boys who used to hang around Jimmy's father's ice-cream parlor. They never found jobs.

H. K. McWilliams, advance manager of the unit, was in Victoria to-day making arrangements for the appearances at the Capitol Theatre.

←The Victoria Daily Times
(Victoria, British Columbia)
November 1, 1935, Page 15

The Victoria Daily Times
(Victoria, British Columbia)
November 5, 1935, Page 15→

CAPITOL ★
2 DAYS ONLY

STARTS To-morrow
SHOWING WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY ONLY

PRICES

Matinee: 25¢ - 12-1
35¢ - 1-6
15¢ - Children
50¢ - Loges

Evening: 50¢ - 6 Till Closing
25¢ - Children
60¢ - Loges

In PERSON on OUR STAGE NOT A MOTION PICTURE

Major BOWES RADIO AMATEURS
22 TALENTED WINNERS

★ BOB OAKLEY
Represents Major Bowes as Master of Ceremonies and Gong Ringer

| | |
|--|--|
| STAUFFER TWINS Look alike—Sing alike | THE HOBOKEN FOUR Singing & Dancing Fools |
| IGOR IVANS Oxford University Student | Oklahoma Mustang Wranglers From Passaic, N. J. |
| MARSHALL HALEY The Retired Red Cap | RALPH LAWRENCE Triple Voiced |
| JULIO VITOLA The Fruit Peddler with the Caruso Voice | BOB RYAN Columbia University Xylophone Wizard |
| MARIE JULIO The Virginia Nightingale | Smiling Rae Souder The Yankee Yodeler |
| VIVIAN BARLOW Impersonator of the Stars | ISRAEL MARGOLIS The Rabbi's Son |

★ STAGE SHOWS AT

1.30
4.13
6.56
9.39

ON THE SCREEN
ANN SOTHERN in "THE GIRL FRIEND"

TO-DAY — LAST TIMES
At 1.46, 4.23, 7.00, 9.37

"BROWN SKIN MODELS"
STAGE SHOW

ON THE SCREEN—"SPECIAL AGENT"
PRICES

Matinee: 25¢ - 12-1
15¢ - 1-6
10¢ - Children

Evening: 50¢ - Main Floor
35¢ - Balcony
15¢ - Children

The Victoria Daily Times ↑
(Victoria, British Columbia)
November 5, 1935, Page 15

Bowes's Troupe Here To-morrow

Young People Who Won Fame Over Air to Appear at Capitol

A short time ago a New England boy hitch-hiked his way to New York to fame and fortune. Just like Dick Whittington who years ago walked into London to become Lord Chamberlain, Paul Rogan trudged into New York and has already in that limited space of time become a radio and stage star with a national reputation.

Paul was recently at a C.C.C. camp and his talents unknown except to his buddies who gathered around him at night after their day's work was done, to be entertained. Then he appeared on Major Bowes's Amateur Hour on Sunday, August 4. Now he is a star in one of the Major's theatre units.

And so go the stories of most of the overnight "stars," winners of the Major's broadcasts, who are now appearing in theatres, in motion pictures, in radio broadcasts, and in the finest clubs of the nation. One of these groups will appear in person, on the stage of the Capitol Theatre to-morrow evening.

The cast of the Capitol show include: The Stauffer Twins, look alike—sing alike; the Hoboken Four, singing and dancing fools; Igor Ivans, Oxford University student; Oklahoma Mustang Wranglers; Marshall Haley, the retired red cap; Julio Vitola, the fruit peddler; triple-voiced Ralph Lawrence; Marie Julio, the Virginia Nightingale; Bob Ryan, Columbia University xylophone wizard; Smiling Ray Souder, the Yankee yodeler; Vivian Barlow, impersonator; and Israel Margolis the Rabbi's son.

Bob Oakley will represent the major as master of ceremonies and gong ringer.

STAGE SHOW AT CAPITOL

Twenty-two of Major Bowes' Amateurs Arrive Here for Local Engagement

Courage to face the long struggle for recognition is one of the qualities Major Edward Bowes recommends to amateurs who are heard in his weekly Amateur Hour broadcasts over NBC networks and courage is one of the most prominent characteristics of the genial major himself. One of his troupes will open at the Capitol Theatre to-day.

It is as a showman and radio impresario that he is best known in 1935, but thirty years before that Edward Bowes was known around the Golden Gate as a fighter for civic reform and a successful business man. He was born in San Francisco and went to school there.

Young Edward Bowes made his debut in the world of business as a calling card entrepreneur. Somewhat dissatisfied with his reward as an usher at a school teacher's convention, he put up a sign advertising the merits of cards which he wrote himself in a careful Spencerian style. In a few days his sales (at 25 cents a dozen) were the envy of all the other concessionaires at the convention.

His rise was sure and rapid and in a few years after reaching manhood he had acquired a considerable fortune in California real estate. He looked to other fields for amusement. As an amateur yachtsman he scorned power boats and sailed around the bay in a little boat.

Another favorite sport was automobile racing, then in its infancy.

In 1908 Bowes married the late Margaret Illington, one of the most beloved figures of the American stage. Soon after that they came to New York where he entered the theatrical business through the real estate door. In association with John Cort and Peter McCourt he owned and operated the Cort Theatre in New York and the Park Square in Boston and also produced plays.

The Capitol Theatre in New York City was his next venture and it was built in 1918, the largest playhouse ever constructed up to that time. As managing director he has guided the policy of the theatre since the opening day.

The Capitol was the first theatre to broadcast regular programmes and the weekly "Family" series began on November 19, 1922. Since July 25, 1925, Major Bowes has been the active director and producer of these programmes.

It was through the medium of the Capitol family that he became known to the nationwide radio audience as a genial showman who often lent a helping hand to beginners.

←The Victoria Daily Times
(Victoria, British Columbia)
November 6, 1935, Page 17

★

in

PERSON

ON OUR

STAGE

NOT A

MOTION PICTURE

CAPITOL

STARTS TO-DAY

FOR 2 DAYS ONLY

TO-DAY AND THURSDAY

Major

BOWES

RADIO

AMATEURS

22 TALENTED WINNERS

4 STAGE SHOWS DAILY

1.30, 4.13, 6.56 and 9.39

A WORLD OF TALENT

—EVERY ONE A NEW STAR

RADIO'S GREATEST SHOW IS

NOW THE GREATEST STAGE

SHOW IN YEARS!

— PRICES —

| MATINEES | EVENINGS |
|--------------|----------------|
| 25c 12 to 1 | 50c Till Close |
| 35c 1 to 6 | 25c Children |
| 15c Children | 60c Loges |
| 50c Loges | |

NO RESERVED SEATS

↑The Victoria Daily Times
(Victoria, British Columbia) November 6, 1935, Page 17

CAPITOL THEATRE

Major Bowes's amateur Show will be seen in person on the stage of the Capitol Theatre to-day, and the cast will include winners picked by national poll, through facilities of the National Broadcasting Company, through which the major's programme comes every Sunday night over the radio station.

The line-up of the cast promises interesting entertainment for theatre patrons. In addition to Mr. Oakley, the gong ringer and master of ceremonies, the show will include: The Staueffer Twins, look alike-sing alike; the Hoboken Four, singing and dancing fools; Igor Ivans, the retired red-cap; Julio Vitola, the fruit pedler; triple-voiced Ralph Lawrence; Mario Julio, the Virginia Nightingale; Bob Ryan, Columbia University xylophone wizard; Smiling Ray Souder, the Yankee yodeler; Vivian Barlow, impersonator, and Israel Margolis, the rabbi's son.

Ends To-day

In Person on Our Stage!
Not a Motion Picture

**"MAJOR BOWES'
RADIO AMATEURS"**

22 TALENTED WINNERS

At 1.30, 4.13, 6.56, 7.38

— On the Screen —

"THE GIRL FRIEND"

PRICES

| MATINEES | EVENINGS |
|--------------|-------------------|
| 25c 12 to 1 | 50c 6 till close |
| 35c 1 to 6 | 25c Children |
| 15c Children | 60c Loges |
| 50c Loges | No Reserved Seats |

←The Victoria Daily Times↑
(Victoria, British Columbia)
November 7, 1935, Page 19

Orpheum Theatre

Vancouver, British Columbia

November 8th-14th, 1935



Orpheum Theatre, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, 1930s)

Sinatra would perform five times in Vancouver over the course of his lifetime. He would return to do shows on the same day in 1957, and then would not return until 1976. His final appearances in the city would be in 1986 and 1988 but his Vancouver stops all started at the Orpheum in 1935. In fact, Sinatra's name would be erroneously tied with the Orpheum for his 1957 appearances but 1935 was the only time he would ever play this theatre.

Bowes' Amateur Show At Orpheum Friday

Major Bowes'



Entertainers picked through the facilities of the National Broadcasting Company from Major Bowes' Amateur Hour will be featured at the Orpheum Theatre, Friday, Nov. 8. Here are six of the twenty-two performers who are making the country-wide tour with Major Bowes.

When the gong rings out on the stage of the Orpheum Theatre, Friday, Nov. 8, it won't be chiming the time.

The gong will be in the hands of Bob Oakley of N.B.C., representing Major Bowes and the winners of his famed Amateur Hour.

Major Bowes' Amateur Show will be seen on the Orpheum stage commencing Friday, the cast including winners picked by poll through facilities of the National Broadcasting Company through which the Major's program comes every Sunday.

The amateur movement on the radio which has swept both this country and United States is best known locally through Major Bowes' program. They have provided an opportunity to thousands of potential entertainers.

The major arranged a tour of twenty-two of the most outstanding winners of his N.B.C. show and they are the entertainers who will appear at the Orpheum.

In addition to Mr. Oakley, the gong ringer and master of ceremonies, the cast will include: The Oklahoma

←The Vancouver Sun
(Vancouver, British Columbia)
November 2, 1935, Page 18

The Province
(Vancouver, British Columbia)
November 7, 1935, Page 4↓

Major Bowes' Radio Amateurs to Feature At Orpheum Theatre

A coming feature attraction at the Orpheum Theatre will be the stage appearance of Major Bowes' Radio Amateurs, with twenty-two nationally-acclaimed winners.

Commencing next Friday, the presentation promises to be one of the most popular ever staged at the Orpheum. Major Bowes' programme is known as one which has uncovered the cleverest talent and then afforded it an opportunity for public presentation.

The group of stars which will appear here are proven favorites. They will present four shows daily and five on Saturday and on Monday, Remembrance Day.

Included in the troupe are Bob Oakley, who represents Major Bowes as master of ceremonies and guardian of the gong; the Hoboken Four, singing and dancing fools; the Stauffer Twins, look alike and sing alike; Igor Ivans, the Oxford University student; Oklahoma Mustang Wranglers from Passiac, N.J.; Marshall Haley, the retired red cap; Julio Vitola, the fruit pedlar; tripled-voiced Ralph Lawrence; Marie Jullo, the Virginia nightingale; Bob Ryan, Columbia University's xylophone wizard; Smiling Rae Souder, the Yankee yodeler; Vivian Barlow, impersonator, and Israel Margolis, the rabbi's son.

Orpheum

ALL roads will lead to the Orpheum Theatre starting Friday and for an entire week when the most-talked-of theatrical event on tour today, Major Bowes' Radio Amateurs, appear in person on the stage with twenty-two nationally-acclaimed winners.

Here are those who will be seen at the Orpheum four times daily, with five shows Saturday and on Monday the holiday: Bob Oakley, who represents Major Bowes as master of ceremonies and guardian of the gong; the Hoboken Four, singing and dancing fools; the Stauffer Twins look alike and sing alike; Igor Ivans, the Oxford University student; Oklahoma Mustang Wranglers from Passiac, N.J.; Marshall Haley, the retired red cap; Julio Vitola, the fruit pedlar; Triple-voiced Ralph Lawrence; Mario Jullo, the Virginia nightingale; Bob Ryan, Columbia University's xylophone wizard; Smiling Rae Souder, the Yankee yodeler; Vivian Barlow, impersonator, and Israel Margolis, the rabbi's son.

On the screen will be seen Vina Delmar's gay romance, "Hands Across the Table," with Carole Lombard and Fred MacMurray.

←The Province
(Vancouver, British Columbia)
November 5, 1935, Page 4

Tomorrow
 "The wheel of fortune spins
 Around, around she goes;
 And where she'll stop
 —NOBODY KNOWS!"

Major BOWES
RADIO AMATEURS
22 TALENTED WINNERS

in PERSON ON OUR STAGE NOT A MOTION PICTURE

SCREEN!
 JUST A COUPLE OF HEELS
 HEAD OVER HEELS IN LOVE!
 Love sent a gift
 of roses—but she
 wanted orchids!

"Hands across the Table"
 A Paramount Picture with
CAROLE LOMBARD
FRED MacMURRAY
 A Joyously Gay
VINA DELMAR
 Romance of
 a couple of
 Fortune
 Hunters

3 1/2 STARS in LIBERTY

Orpheum

BOB OAKLEY
 Represents Major Bowes as Master
 of Ceremonies and Gong Ring

| | |
|---|--|
| STAUFFER TWINS Look alike—Sing alike | HOBOKEN FOUR Singing & Dancing Fools |
| IGOR IVANS Oxford University Student | Oklahoma Mustang Wranglers From Passaic, N. J. |
| MARSHALL HALEY The Retired Rod Cap | RALPH LAWRENCE Triple Voiced |
| JULIO VITOLA The Fruit Peddler with the Caruso Voice | BOB RYAN Columbia University Xylophone Wizard |
| MARIE JULIO The Virginia Nightingale | Smiling Rae Souder The Yankee Yodeler |
| VIVIAN BARLOW Impersonator of the Stars | ISRAEL MARGOLIS The Rabbi's Son |

★ 4 Stage Shows DAILY
 ★ 5 Stage Shows SATURDAY and MONDAY
 Special Prices For This Engagement Only
 25c to 1
 35c, 1 to 6
 Nights 50c

★ ENDS TODAY
 with Paul Mum
 'DR. SOCRATES'
 Plus
 "I Live For Love"

Sunday Night PREVIEW
 of his latest
WILL ROGERS in
 "IN OLD KENTUCKY"
 Plus: Major Bowes' Stage Show

↑ The Province (Vancouver, British Columbia)
 November 7, 1935, Page 10

BUDDING STARS

RADIO AMATEURS WELCOMED

A young group of budding radio stars were introduced to the audience of Vancouver at 10 a.m. today when 23 of the famous Major Bowes' artists said a few words over CKWX.

They arrived today for a visit of one week as the feature attraction at the Orpheum Theatre, starting today.

All amateurs who have been given a start on the stage by Major Bowes' radio programs over NBC, they will present 12 acts during their stage show in Vancouver.

While they are still classed as amateurs, their acts are as professional as any playing before the footlights, and their presentation here is as varied as any big time act.

Included in the 12 acts are: The Stauffer Twins who "look alike—sing alike"; The Hoboken Four, "singing and dancing fools"; Igor Ivans, an Oxford University student with a golden voice; the Oklahoma Mustang Wranglers; Julio Vitola, the fruit

←The Vancouver Sun
 (Vancouver, British Columbia)
 November 8, 1935, Page 20

peddler; triple-voiced Ralph Lawrence; Bob Ryan, the Columbia University xylophone wizard; Smiling Ray Souder, the Yankee Yodeler; Vivian Barlow, impersonator; Israel Margolis, the rabbi's son; and Marie Julio, "Virginia Nightingale."

Bob Oakley is Major Bowes' personal representative, master of ceremonies and guardian of the gang.

This unit of Major Bowes' show has played to capacity audiences in every large theatre on the Pacific Coast and endeared itself to the western public. Today Fred Bass, CKWX director, introduced them, along with Bob Oakley.

They were welcomed to Vancouver by Ald. A. C. Cowan and Manager Maynard Joyner of the Orpheum Theatre.

Major Bowes' Party Of Amateurs Proves Popular at Orpheum

The novelty of Major Bowes' amateurs, on their first visit to Vancouver, is drawing packed houses to the Orpheum Theatre this week.

Vancouver listeners who tune in every Sunday evening at 5 o'clock to this famous amateur hour are able to witness in the flesh the result of this modern experiment. The winners are sent on a tour of the country in six separate companies.

The result is a startling surprise. The hand-picked amateurs reveal unusual talent and put over their turns with a freshness and artistry which is new to vaudeville.

Vivian Barlow's impersonations of Zazu Pitts and W. C. Fields, the comedian, are popular, while Igor Ivans, the Oxford University Student, who sings "When I Grow Too Old to Dream," also makes a hit. Bob Ryan, the Columbia University xylophone wizard, stars with his new interpretation of that hackneyed old number "Trees." The others, including eight musicians and fourteen singers and dancers, are amply justifying their records as nationally-acclaimed winners, notably the "Oklahoma Mustang Wranglers," who before this trip were never further west than Passaic, N. J.; Marie Julio, an unusually gifted soprano, and the "Hoboken Four," mere youths, with one guitar and superb harmony.

The whole show is beautifully staged, with two ornately decorated grand pianos, back to back, played by a pair of gifted accompanists. There is a radio room setting in keeping with the show, with a "mike" occupying the centre position around which all the performers are grouped in turn to be introduced by "Bob" Oakley, representing Major Bowes.

The Vancouver Sun
(Vancouver, British Columbia) →
January 22, 1944, Page 6

They were still talking about Sinatra and
The Hoboken Four in Vancouver 9 years later!



By the time the Major Bowes Unit No. 5 reached Vancouver to play the Orpheum the lean young baritone with the hair that wouldn't stay in place was becoming pretty homesick, and the other three-quarters of the Hoboken Four was becoming pretty worried.

When the act reached Spokane the lean young baritone could stand it no more; he left for home. His partners closed ranks, got their agent to do a little simple arithmetic for them and became the Hoboken Three.

That was nine years ago, in the fall of 1935.

I don't know what has become of the Hoboken Three—maybe the draft has whittled them down to a duet, or, for all I know, they may be back in Hoboken running a delicatessen store. But I do know what became of the lean young baritone with the hair that wouldn't stay in place. He is back at the Orpheum this week, this time on the screen as the star of a musical called "Higher and Higher."

His name, of course, is—well, girls if you're strap-hanging on a No. 14 ask that fat man for his seat before you read on—for the name is Frank Sinatra.

The story was told to me one day this week by Harry Goldberg, the man who managed Frankie back in the pre-swoon era. Goldberg, who kicks himself Sunday, Monday and always for not glomming on to Sinatra, is in town now with the Dave Elman troupe.

The Hoboken Four, he recalls, mixed it up a little with a couple of guitars and some hoofing, although Frankie stuck to the vocals, specializing on "Shine." The Orpheum did a record business that week—that Bowes unit still holds the house record—but Harry can't recall anyone swooning.

Sinatra and company were the opening act, and made about as much as I do now, which is just enough to keep the wolf from the door, but not enough to become a successful wolf myself.

Now Frankie, whom our city editor calls "Gaunt With the Wind," could subsidize a whole pack of wolves. This year he should gross from his radio, picture and recording work from \$750,000 to \$1,000,000, probably closer to the latter. The estimate is made by Variety.

Out of this, with expenses and taxes, mostly the latter, he will net for himself approximately \$150,000. That is quite a shrinkage, to be sure, but with a little prudent economizing he should get by, especially the way he eats.

Here's a breakdown on Sinatra's estimated earnings for 1944:

\$12,500 weekly for his Vimm's vitamins radio show, out of which he pays for the accompanying talent;

\$2800 weekly for his Lucky Strike Hit Parade appearance;

\$100,000 from recordings—a conservative estimate;

\$60,000 from RKO for two films;

And possibly another \$150,000 from Warner Bros. for a film appearance.

If he can find time for, say, eight weeks of personal appearances he can probably earn another \$120,000, which is what our office boy calls diamond stick-pin money.

That, I submit, is not bad for a guy who a mere nine years ago was just the lean young baritone, third from the left, in the Hoboken Four.

Goldberg, like the rest of us, has attempted to figure out what sells Sinatra, and the only explanation he can come up with is that he looks and dresses like the male of the

bobby socks species, the species that idolizes him.

"It's really old stuff," says Harry. "Who do the hill-billy acts go over with? With the farmers, of course. Well, it's the same with Frankie. He's got that unruly mop of hair, the bow tie or the Windsor knot, one of those suits—he dresses like them all the way. He's one of them—that's the answer."

"And, of course," I added, "a voice that tickles them in the back of the neck."

Goldberg is a story himself, incidentally. He has been in the business for years, was in the big chips in London in the early twenties with a show called "Dover Street to Dixie." The Cohans were doing "Little Nellie Kelly" over there then; Stanley Lupino had a baby daughter called Ida; Paul Whiteman was the toast of the town, and George Robey, the comic, was singing "Balls, Parties and Dances." He has a story about each of them and about the Prince of Wales, too, and the rest of the nobility and top-drawer set he hobnobbed with over there.

The best, though, is about the bearded stranger, a Menshevik, he met in a Russian club in Berlin, just after he had concluded a 12-week stand in Moscow.

They struck up a conversation, and in the course of it the Menshevik asked Goldberg which American city he came from. Goldberg told him New York, and the Menshevik asked him if he knew the big town well. Did he know Second Street?

Goldberg said he did, and the Menshevik asked him if he knew the Cafe Royale on Second Street.

"Sure, I know it well; at Second and Eighth," Goldberg told him.

Then it struck him the man was no stranger, he'd seen him somewhere.

"Say, I know you," he said. "You used to wait table at the Cafe Royale. Is that right?"

The Russian said yes, that was right.

The Menshevik turned out to be the best known Menshevik of all. Leon Trotsky had just been kicked out of Moscow when Goldberg met him in that club in Berlin.

This is escapist week along Granville Street, with Sinatra starring in "Higher and Higher" at the Orpheum, everybody starring in "Thousands Cheer" at the Capitol, and Deanna Durbin, Franchot Tone and Pat O'Brien starring in "His Butler's Sister" at the Vogue. "Thousands Cheer" is one of those things which overwhelm you it's so colossal. The Durbin picture is one of her better efforts, and it's nice to see Pat O'Brien taking orders for a change instead of giving them.

As a matter of fact you can't miss on Granville Street this week.

Canadian National Exhibition, Toronto, Ontario September 4th-7th, 1940



(CNE DANCE TENT, 1940)

By 1940 Sinatra was singing with the Tommy Dorsey orchestra. The 1940 appearance of Dorsey at the Canadian National Exhibition (CNE) would represent Sinatra's first time singing in Toronto. Sinatra would not receive credit in any of the news clippings during his appearance at the CNE. Sinatra and Dorsey would return to the CNE again in 1941 and Sinatra would make solo appearances in Toronto in 1949, 1975, 1976, 1984, 1989 and 1991.

CANADIAN NATIONAL EXHIBITION

TORONTO

*Official Souvenir
Catalogue & Programme*

INCLUDING SPORTS ACTIVITIES

AUG. 23RD 1940 SEPT. 7TH

"CANADA PREPARED"

FOR WAR - FOR PEACE



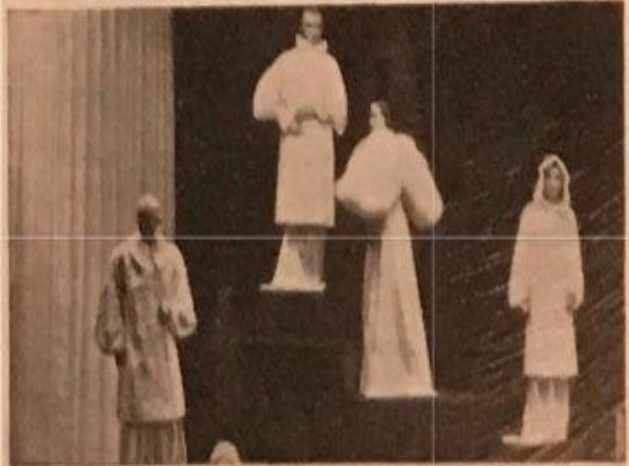
PRICE
10
CENTS

The front cover of the official souvenir catalogue & programme for the 1940 CNE.

**CANADIAN
NATIONAL
EXHIBITION**
TORONTO
AUG. SEPT.
23-7
1940
JOHN MILLAR • PRESIDENT
ELWOOD A. HUGHES • GEN. MGR.



LIVESTOCK FEEDS THE ARMY



GLAMOROUS FALL FASHIONS



INDUSTRY'S WAR EFFORT SHOWN



NIGHT-DANCING, PAGEANTRY, MUSIC

One of the inner pages of the official programme announced "Night-Dancing, Pageantry, Music".

1940 EXHIBITION FEATURES

CANADA'S WAR EFFORT



See how the Navy, the Army, the Air Force are being supported by the whole Dominion—industries, sciences, agriculture, women's work. A dramatization of Canada at War.

GOLDMAN BAND



Famed throughout the world is the big Goldman Band from the United States. Playing each night from the modern outdoor Band Shell you hear it without charge.

ART SHOW



Direct from the San Francisco World's Fair, and presented through the courtesy of International Business Machines... "Art of 79 Countries"—an impressive contemporary show.

FAMOUS DANCE BANDS



Duke Ellington, Tommy Dorsey, Jimmy Dorsey, Sammy Kaye, Eddie Duchin, Al and Bob Harvey with their Canadian Coster Band, head the list of big-time dance bands that will be featured in this year's vast, cool Dance Pavilion. Don't miss them.

MOTOR SHOW



A brilliant presentation of latest advances in the automotive industry including a preview of many 1941 models.

HORSE SHOW



One of the most brilliant and daring Horse Shows on the continent. Many special features, harness and hunter classes. Sept. 2-7th.

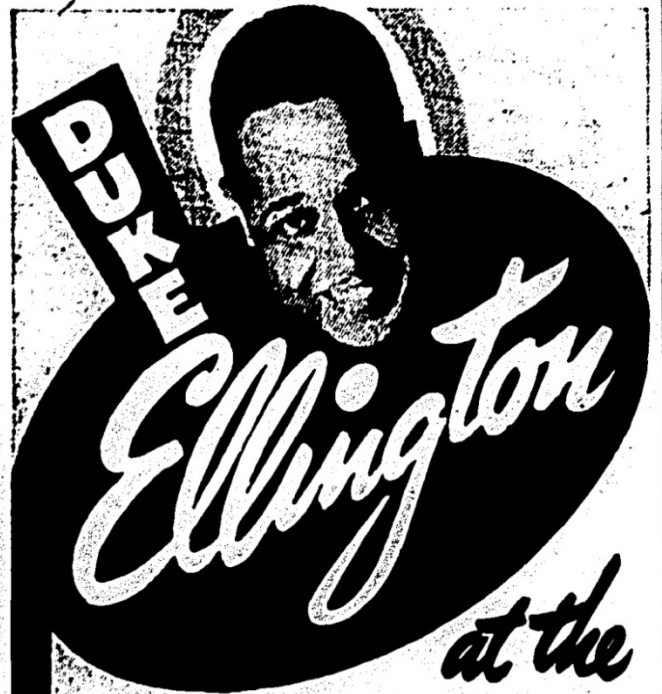
RED CROSS



Women's war work dramatized in a huge Red Cross Exhibit. Learn there how you too can help the national effort.

CANADIAN NATIONAL
EXHIBITION
Toronto
AUG. 23 to SEPT. 7

The Globe And Mail→
Toronto, Ontario
August 23, 1940,
pg. 13



at the EXHIBITION

For two days only—August the 23rd and 24th—the Duke! One of the real masters of modern music. Don't miss this rare opportunity to see, hear, and dance to this unusual orchestra. Prices are moderate—the dance pavilion is large and airy. Afternoons and evenings.



LOOK WHO ELSE IS COMING!

- JIMMY DORSEY
August 26, 27 and 28
- EDDIE DUCHIN
August 29, 30 and 31
- SAMMY KAYE
September 2 and 3
- TOMMY DORSEY
Sept. 4, 5, 6 and 7
- Al & Bob HARVEY
and their Canadian Coster Band
Aug. 23—Sept. 7

PRICES
DANCING—Evening
\$1.00. Afternoon 50c.
After 5 p.m. cars may enter
Park for \$1.00 including
driver. Advance tickets
at the Exhibition Ticket
Office, 41 Adelaide St. West,
W.A. & M. Monday 9:00 a.m.
St. W. & M. Monday, Robert's,
18 Bloor St. West, N.L. 345.

**CANADIAN NATIONAL
EXHIBITION**

TORONTO · 1940

**AUG. 23
to
SEPT. 7**

JOHN MILLAR, President

1000 ...

Jimmy DORSEY

It's an experience you'll never forget when you listen and dance to the tantalizing music of Jimmy Dorsey, his saxophone and his orchestra!

MON., TUES., WED. AUG. 26-27-28

Eddie DUCHIN

Master of piano rhythm, the incomparable Eddie Duchin and his famous orchestra. Make it a date to hear him this weekend.

THURS., FRI., SAT. AUG. 29-30-31

and

SAMMY KAYE, Sept. 2-3

TOMMY DORSEY
Sept. 4-5-6-7

AL & BOB HARVEY
and their Canadian Costar Band
Aug. 23-Sept. 7

PRICES - Dancing
Evenings \$1. Afternoon 50c. After 5 p.m. cars may enter Park for \$1.00 including driver. Advance Tickets at the Exhibition Ticket Office, 44 Adelaide St. W., WA. 2226; Moodey's, 90 King St. W., EL. 1098; Roher's, 15 Bloor St. West, KL. 3425.

CANADIAN NATIONAL EXHIBITION
TORONTO 1940

AUG. 23 to SEPT. 7

JOHN MILLAR, President
ELWOOD A. HUGHES, General Manager

↑Toronto Daily Star, August 26, 1940, pg. 23

(JIMMY GETS BETTER BILLING THAN HIS BROTHER TOMMY!)

Take HER to see these things

DANCING

Dance to the persuasive rhythm of music made famous on radio, stage and screen! A rare chance to see and hear the most exciting dance musicians on the continent. The Pavilion is large and airy—the prices reasonable—afternoons 50c, evenings \$1.00.

Jimmy Dorsey—August 28
Eddie Duchin—August 29, 30, 31
Sammy Kaye—September 2, 3
Tommy Dorsey—September 4, 5, 6, 7
Al and Bob Harvey and their Canadian Costar Band throughout

FLOWERS

PAGEANT

HANDCRAFTS

MODEL HOMES

R.C.A.F. EXHIBIT

ART GALLERIES

KNITTING BEE

FROLEXLAND

RED CROSS

LUCKY TETER

GOLDMAN BAND

SPORTS-GAMES

FASHIONS

RED CROSS

In last year's Graphic Arts Building is a beautiful and thrilling Red Cross exhibit.

CLOTHES

See a demonstration of designing, cutting and sewing clothes. Clothes will be modelled at 12 noon, 3 p.m., 6 p.m. — Rainbow Room, Women's Building.

COOKING SCHOOL

Electrical Building—2.30 and 8 p.m. Prizes, complete demonstrations.

MODEL HOMES

Four exquisitely furnished Canadian homes—full of valuable suggestions for decorations in your own home.

ADVANCE TICKETS

for dancing, and all Exhibition featured attractions may be purchased in advance from the Exhibition Ticket Office, 44 Adelaide St. West, WA. 2226; Moodey's, 90 King St. W., EL. 1098; Roher's, 15 Bloor St. W., KL. 3425.

AUG. 23 to SEPT. 7

CANADIAN NATIONAL EXHIBITION
TORONTO 1940

JOHN MILLAR
PRESIDENT
E. A. HUGHES
GEN. MANAGER

↑Toronto Daily Star, August 28, 1940, pg. 16

See THESE THINGS AT THE EXHIBITION

● There are thousands of things to be seen and done at this year's big wartime Exhibition. Below is a partial list of a few outstanding features. Take this advertisement with you and tick off the things as you see them!

See the SKY THRILLERS

TODAY — A new experience for Exhibition visitors. The greatest display of daring air tactics ever seen in Canada will be presented on the Canadian National Exhibition Waterfront. A flight of precision fliers defying all laws of aeronautics will be seen daily at 6:30 p.m., beginning today. The world famous navy fighter "Boeing F. Four" will trace with smoke in the heavens the most awe inspiring air tactics of which modern flying is capable. Aerial dare devils will demonstrate tandem flying with racing Wacos mounted on each other. America's most renowned stunt pilot will reproduce the power dive from twelve thousand feet with engine full open.

Many other timely features of air tactics, including the delayed parachute jump.

These masters of the air have never appeared before a Canadian audience. Each evening at 6:30 on the Canadian National Exhibition Waterfront, beginning today.

OTHER FEATURES that shouldn't be missed!

- PAGEANT
- COOKING SCHOOL
- ROSE GARDEN
- SPORTS EVENTS
- CHILDREN'S ZOO
- TYPEWRITING MARATHON
- C.I.L. THEATRE
- INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITS
- LIVESTOCK
- GOLDMAN'S BAND
- ART SHOW
- MANUFACTURING



LUCKY TETER Afternoons, in the Grandstand Spectacle—a roaring show of dare-devil drivers! See them drive cars off ramps, jump them over barricades, crash through flaming hoops! It's auto-motive fury at its peak.

HORSE SHOW One of the most brilliant events of the season! Magnificent hunters, prancing hacknies and harness horses, ponies, work horses, teams! The Horse Show this year is bigger, more dramatic than ever. Evenings, in the Coliseum. Admission 25c, reserved 50c, boxes \$1.00.

DANCE BANDS You've heard such famous bands on the radio—but visit the Exhibition Dance Pavilion and see them in action! Tonight's your last chance to hear Sammy Kaye with his swing and sway rhythm! For the rest of the week —Tommy Dorsey his trombone and his orchestra! Al and Bob Harvey and their Canadian Coster Band. Afternoons, 50c, evenings, \$1.00.

WAR FEATURES Only a few days left to see these special features—armoured war vehicles, display of Bren Guns, Royal Canadian Air Force exhibits and air force ground show, the vast Red Cross exhibit, and special war films!

MOTOR SHOW Many of the gleaming new 1941 motor cars are on display for the first time at the Exhibition Motor Show. While in the building, see the coloured film of the "Futurama" —sensation of the General Motors exhibit at the New York World's Fair!

MODEL HOMES You'll be thrilled and you'll get dozens of ideas for your own home when you visit these fully equipped and modernly decorated model homes. One of the sensations of this year's Exhibition—in the International Building.

FROLEXLAND Have fun — visit the surprising new side-show attractions, try your skill with a tommy gun, take a ride on one of the breath-taking new thrill-rides!

ADVANCE TICKETS at the Exhibition Ticket Office, 44 Adelaide St., W., WA. 2226; Moodey's, 90 King St., W., EL. 1098; Rober's, 15 Bloor St., W., KI. 3425.

Canadian National EXHIBITION

TORONTO **AUG. 23** to **SEPT. 7** 1940

JOHN MILLAR, President
E. A. HUGHES, Gen. Mgr.

WEDNESDAY AT C.N.E. IS FARMERS' DAY

- 9.00 a.m.—Boys, Judging Competition—Livestock—Coliseum Arena. Girls—Homemaking club exhibits—Judging and demonstration.
- 9.30 a.m.—Building and Froelaxand open. Fifty-second Annual International Dog Show—Horse Palace Annex. Poultry, pigeon and pet stock show—Upper West Annex, Coliseum. Judging horses—Coliseum Arena.
- 9.30 a.m. to closing—R.C.A. Victor Recording Studio commences—North Wing, National Industries Building.
- 10.00 a.m. to 9.00 p.m.—Children's Zoo open, north of Pure Food Building, east of Art Gallery. Featuring Hiawatha and Minnehaha with their woodland friends in word and song, many different species of animal mothers and babies. Exhibition of Ontario's snakes, turtles and frogs.
- 10.00 a.m. to closing—Motion Picture, "On Guard for Thee"—Theatre, National Industries Building.
- 10.00 a.m. to closing—Canadian Homes Beautiful—International Pavilion.
- 10.00 a.m.—Mezzo Soprano, Preliminary—Musical Ride—Exhibition Squadron Red Cross Demonstrations commence—Red Cross Building.
- 11.00 a.m. 2 and 5 p.m.—Modelling of costumes made from Canadian hand-woven fabrics. West Wing, Women's Building.
- 11.00 a.m. to 9.00 p.m.—at two-hour intervals—Traditional tribal dances and modern piano and violin concert by Indians from north of Lake Superior—Centre Court, National Industries Building.
- 11.00 a.m.—Exhibition Squadron, Royal Canadian Air Force parades through Park.
- 11.30 a.m.—Mezzo Soprano. Finals—Music Amphitheatre.
- 11.50 a.m.—Outdoor Theatre opens—East of Manufacturers Building No. 1.
- 12.00 noon, 3.00 p.m. and 6.00 p.m.—Style presentation by models—Rainbow Room, Women's Building.
- 12.45 p.m.—Directors' Luncheon—Administration Building.
- 2.00 p.m. and 5 p.m.—"New Clothes for Old"—Last year's clothes to year's style—East Wing, Women's Building.
- 3.30 p.m.—Judging cattle—Boys' Calf Club Competition—Coliseum Arena.
- 3.30 p.m.—Cotton house dress competition. Cooking School—Electrical and Engineering Building.
- 2.00 p.m.—R.C.A. concert. 2.30 p.m. Cooking School: What can be done in similar stretching. Special features. Broadcast 3.30 p.m.—Cooking School—Electrical and Engineering Building.
- 2.00 p.m.—Lucky Teter's Hell Drivers—Smashing, roaring, automotive fury. Vaudeville—Grandstand. Motor boat race for the championship of the world. 225 Cubic Inch Class. Division One. Hydroplanes first five-mile heat—Waterfront Grandstand. Contralto, Preliminary—Music Amphitheatre.
- 2.30 p.m.—Auction of valuable lots of swine—Livestock Pavilion, The Goldman Band—Band Shell.
- 3.00 p.m. to 5.00 p.m.—Tommy Dorsey, Al. and Bob Harvey and their Canadian Coster Band, with Patricia Bailey—Dance Pavilion.
- 4.00 p.m.—Murals being painted by children from Art Centre—Music Pavilion. Changing of the Guard by R.C.A.F.—In front of Coliseum.
- 4.30 p.m.—Junior Farmers' Farnettes parade through Park. Contralto. Finals—Music Amphitheatre. Canadian Motor Boat Championships. 225 Cubic Inch Class. Division One. Hydroplanes for the B.A. Oil Company Trophy, second five-mile heat—Waterfront Grandstand. Exhibition Squadron, Royal Canadian Air Force parades through Park.
- 6.00 p.m.—Toronto Symphony Band—Band Shell. Royal Canadian Engineers Band—North Band Stand.
- 6.15 p.m.—"Canada's Divers on Parade." Directed by Dr. Frank Wood and Alex Duff—Waterfront Grandstand. Canadian National Exhibition Girls' Softball Tournament, Sunday Morning Class and playoffs, both of the Olympic Ladies Softball league. Softball Diamond, west of Dufferin Gates. Game "D".
- 6.30 p.m.—Canadian Motor Boat Championships. 225 Cubic Inch Class. Division One. Hydroplanes for B.A. Oil Company Trophy. Third and final heat. Waterfront Grandstand.
- 6.20 p.m. and 7.10 p.m.—Trans-Canada Air Lines planes over Exhibition. Plane-to-ground radio salute broadcast throughout Park.
- 7.15 p.m.—Canada's Premier Horse Show. Judging horses—Coliseum Arena.
- 7.30 p.m.—R.C.A. concert. 8.00 p.m.—Cooking School: Special features. Community singing—Electrical and Engineering Building. Vaudeville—Musical Ride—Exhibition Squadron. R.C.A.F. Spectacular pageant. "Cradle of Empire"—Pyrotechnic finale—Grandstand. R.C.A.F. Flag-lowering ceremony—Band Shell Flaxpole.
- 8.30 p.m.—The Goldman Band—Band Shell. Toronto Police Silver Band—North Band Stand.
- 9.00 p.m. to 1.00 a.m.—Tommy Dorsey, Al. and Bob Harvey and their Canadian Coster Band, with Patricia Bailey—Dance Pavilion.
- 9.20 p.m. and 11.20 p.m.—Trans-Canada Air Lines planes over Exhibition—Picked out by searchlights.

THURSDAY AT C.N.E. IS TRANSPORTATION TRAVELLERS' DAY

- 9.00 a.m.—Judging floriculture—Horticultural Building. Boys' Judging competition—Fruits, grains, vegetables—Coliseum.
- 9.30 a.m.—Buildings and Froelaxand open. Poultry, pigeon and pet stock show—Upper West Annex Coliseum. Judging horses—Coliseum Arena.
- 9.30 a.m. to closing—R. C. A. Victor Recording Studio commences—North Wing, National Industries Building.
- 10.00 a.m. to 9 p.m.—Children's Zoo open—North of Pure Food Building east of Art Gallery. Featuring Hiawatha and Minnehaha with their woodland friends in word and song. Many different species of animal mothers and babies. Exhibition of Ontario's snakes, turtles and frogs.
- 10.00 a.m. to closing—Motion Picture, "On Guard for Thee"—Theatre—National Industries Building.
- 10.00 a.m. to closing—Canadian Homes Beautiful—International Pavilion.
- 10.00 a.m.—Mezzo Soprano, Preliminary—Musical Ride—Exhibition Squadron Red Cross Demonstrations commence—Red Cross Building.
- 11.00 a.m. 2 and 5 p.m.—Modelling of costumes made from Canadian hand-woven fabrics. West wing, Women's Building.
- 11.00 a.m. to 9.00 p.m. at two-hour intervals—Traditional tribal dances and modern piano and violin concert by Indians from north of Lake Superior—Centre Court, National Industries Building.
- 11.00 a.m.—Exhibition Squadron Royal Canadian Air Force parades through Park.
- 11.50 a.m.—Outdoor Theatre opens—East of Manufacturers Building No. 1.
- 12.00 noon, 3.00 p.m. and 6.00 p.m.—Style presentation by models—Rainbow Room, Women's Building.
- 12.45 p.m.—Directors' luncheon—Administration Building.
- 1.00 p.m. 4 and 7 p.m.—"New Clothes for Old"—Last year's clothes to this year's style—East wing, Women's Building.
- 2.00 p.m.—R.C.A. concert. 2.30 p.m.—Cooking school: Special features. Broadcast 3.30 p.m.—Electrical and Engineering Building.
- 2.00 p.m.—Lucky Teter's Hell Drivers—Smashing, roaring, automotive fury. Vaudeville—Grandstand. Motor boat race for the championship of the world. 225 Cubic Inch Class. Division One. Hydroplanes first five-mile heat—Waterfront Grandstand. Lyric Soprano, Preliminary continued—Music Amphitheatre.
- 2.00 to 4.00 p.m.—National Executives of Red Cross will be in the Red Cross Building to meet the public.
- 2.30 p.m.—The Goldman Band—Band Shell.
- 3.00 p.m. to 5.00 p.m.—Tommy Dorsey, Al. and Bob Harvey and their Canadian Coster Band, with Patricia Bailey—Dance Pavilion.
- 3.10 p.m.—Lyric Soprano Finals—Music Amphitheatre.
- 4.00 p.m.—Murals being painted by children from Art Centre—Music Pavilion. Changing of the Guard by R.C.A.F.—In front of Coliseum.
- 4.30 p.m.—Motor Boat race for the championship of the world. 225 Cubic Inch Class. Division One. Hydroplanes, second five-mile heat—Waterfront Grandstand. Coloratura Soprano. Preliminary—Music Amphitheatre. Exhibition Squadron, Royal Canadian Air Force parades through Park.
- 6.00 p.m.—Toronto Symphony Band—Band Shell. Royal Canadian Engineers Band—North Band Stand.
- 6.15 p.m.—"Canada's Divers on Parade." Directed by Dr. Frank Wood and Alex Duff—Waterfront Grandstand. Canadian National Exhibition Girls' Softball team winners of Games "A" and "C"—Softball Diamond, west of Dufferin Gates.
- 6.20 p.m. and 7.10 p.m.—Trans-Canada Air Lines planes over Exhibition. Plane-to-ground radio salute broadcast throughout Park.
- 6.30 p.m.—Motor Boat race for the championship of the world. 225 Cubic Inch Class. Division One. Hydroplanes, third and final five-mile heat—Waterfront Grandstand. Amazing exhibition of "stunt" flying, delayed parachute jumping and many other thrilling demonstrations of aerobatics—Over Exhibition waterfront.
- 7.00 p.m.—Canadian Table Tennis Championships. Small judging ring, east wing of Coliseum.
- 7.00 p.m.—Coloratura Soprano. Preliminary continued—Music Amphitheatre.
- 7.15 p.m.—Canada's Premier Horse Show. Judging horses—Coliseum Arena.
- 7.30 p.m.—R.C.A. concert. 8.00 p.m.—Cooking School: Special features. Community singing—Electrical and Engineering Building.
- 7.30 p.m.—Vaudeville—Musical Ride—

FRIDAY AT C.N.E. IS LIVESTOCK DAY

- All day, starting at 9 a.m.—Daily Star news flashes on the Flash-a-Graph, atop the Horse Palace.
- All day, starting at 10 a.m.—The Toronto Star's world premiere of "On Guard for Thee," official government film of Canada at war, opens in The Star's theatre in the National Industries Building. Continuous show until 10 p.m. See Star Weekly color display in National Industries Building.
- All day, starting at 10 a.m.—Children's Zoo opens to aid Star Fresh Fruit Fund. Zoo is just behind Pure Foods Building.
- 12.00 noon, 3.00 and 6.00 p.m.—Style presentation by models—Rainbow Room, Women's Building.
- 12.45—Directors' Luncheon—Administration Building.
- 1.00, 4.00 and 7.00—"New Clothes for Old"—Last year's clothes to this year's style—East wing, Women's Building.
- 2.00—R.C.A. concert. 2.30—Cooking school: special features—Broadcast. 3.30—Electrical and Engineering Building.
- 2.00—Lucky Teter's Hell Drivers—Smashing, roaring, automotive fury. Vaudeville—Grandstand. Parade of prize-winning livestock—Coliseum Arena.
- 2.30—The Goldman Band—Band Shell. 3.00 to 5.00—Tommy Dorsey, Al. and Bob Harvey and their Canadian Coster Band, with Patricia Bailey—Dance Pavilion.
- 4.00—Murals being painted by children from Art Centre—Music Pavilion. Changing of the Guard by R.C.A.F.—In front of Coliseum.
- 4.15—Canadian championship motorboat race—225 cubic inch class, division "B", first five-mile heat—Waterfront Grandstand.
- 4.30—Exhibition Squadron Royal Canadian Air Force parades through Park.
- 4.45—Canadian championship motorboat race—225 cubic inch class, division "B", second five-mile heat—Waterfront Grandstand.
- 5.15—Canadian championship motorboat race—225 cubic inch class, division "B", third and final five-mile heat—Waterfront Grandstand.
- 6.00—Time trials in attempts to establish world's records, at one mile. All classes of 225 cubic inch boats—Waterfront Grandstand.
- 6.20 p.m.—Walter Bowles, news broadcaster for CBL from "Red" Foster's open-air theatre just behind Premier Building.
- 6.30—Amazing exhibition of "stunt" flying, delayed parachute jumping and many other thrill packed demonstrations of aerobatics—Over Exhibition waterfront.
- 7.00—Concert by first prize winners in all classes under 16 years of age—Music Amphitheatre.
- 7.00—Canadian table tennis championships—men's singles, ladies' singles, men's doubles, ladies' doubles, mixed doubles, veteran men's singles—Small judging ring, east wing of Coliseum.
- 7.15—Canada's premier horse show: judging horses—Coliseum Arena.
- 7.30—R.C.A. concert. 8.00—Cooking school: special features. Community singing—Electrical and Engineering Building. Vaudeville: musical ride; Exhibition Squadron R.C.A.F. Spectacular pageant. "Cradle of Empire"—Pyrotechnic finale—Grandstand.
- 7.15—R.C.A.F. flag-lowering ceremony—Band shell flaxpole.
- 8.30—Canadian table tennis championships for Gimbel trophy—Small judging ring, east wing of Coliseum. The Goldman Band—Band Shell. Queen's York Rangers band—North Band Stand.
- 9.00 to 1.00 a.m.—Tommy Dorsey, Al. and Bob Harvey and their Canadian Coster band, with Patricia Bailey—Dance Pavilion.
- 9.20, 11.20—Trans-Canada Air Lines planes over Exhibition.
- Exhibition Squadron R.C.A.F.—Spectacular pageant, "Cradle of Empire"—Pyrotechnic finale—Grandstand.
- 7.15 p.m.—R.C.A.F. flag-lowering ceremony—Band Shell Flaxpole.
- 8.10 p.m.—Coloratura Soprano—Music Amphitheatre. Finals.
- 8.30 p.m.—Canadian Table Tennis Championships. Inter-Provincial team championship, Quebec versus Ontario—Small judging ring, east wing of the Coliseum. The Goldman Band—Band Shell. Originals Club Band—North Band Stand.
- 9.00 p.m. to 1.00 a.m.—Tommy Dorsey, Al. and Bob Harvey and their Canadian Coster Band, with Patricia Bailey—Dance Pavilion.
- 9.20 p.m. and 11.20 p.m.—Trans-Canada Air Lines planes over Exhibition—Picked out by searchlights.

SATURDAY AT C.N.E. IS CITIZENS' DAY

- 9.30 a.m.—Buildings and Froelaxand open.
- 9.30 a.m. to closing—R.C.A. Victor Recording Studio commences—North Wing, National Industries Building.
- 10.00 a.m. to 9 p.m.—Children's Zoo open—North of Pure Food Building east of Art Gallery. Featuring Hiawatha and Minnehaha with their woodland friends in word and song; many different species of animal mothers and babies. Exhibition of Ontario's snakes, turtles and frogs.
- 10.00 a.m. to closing—Motion Picture, "On Guard for Thee"—Theatre, National Industries Building.
- 10.00 a.m.—Canadian Table Tennis Championships. Boys' singles—Small judging ring, east wing of Coliseum.
- 10.00 a.m. to closing—Canadian Homes Beautiful—International Pavilion.
- 10.00 a.m.—Red Cross Demonstrations commence—Red Cross Building.
- 11.00 a.m. 2 and 5 p.m.—Modelling of costumes made from Canadian hand-woven fabrics. West wing, Women's Building.
- 11.00 a.m. to 9.00 p.m. at two-hour intervals—Traditional tribal dances and modern piano and violin concert by Indians from north of Lake Superior—Centre Court, National Industries Building.
- 11.00 a.m.—Exhibition Squadron Royal Canadian Air Force parades through Park.
- 11.50 a.m.—Outdoor Theatre opens—East of Manufacturers Building No. 1.
- 12.00 noon, 3.00 p.m. and 6.00 p.m.—Style presentation by models—Rainbow Room, Women's Building.
- 12.00 noon—Girls' Guides and Boy Scouts cooking competition. Camp west of Dufferin Gates.
- 12.45 p.m.—Directors' luncheon—Administration Building.
- 1.00 p.m. 4 and 7 p.m.—"New Clothes for Old"—Last year's clothes to this year's style—East wing, Women's Building.
- 1.30 p.m.—Canadian National Exhibition Junior Amateur swimming and diving championships—West Wing, Grandstand.
- 2.00 p.m.—Canadian National Exhibition dirt track bicycle championships—Grandstand.
- 2.00 p.m.—Canadian Table Tennis Championships. Small judging ring, east wing of Coliseum.
- 2.00 p.m.—R.C.A. concert. 2.30 p.m.—Cooking School: Special features. Broadcast 3.30 p.m.—Cooking School—Electrical and Engineering Building. Motorcycle and bicycle races—Grandstand. Vaudeville—Waterfront Grandstand.
- 2.15 p.m.—Demonstration of class instruction in piano—Music Amphitheatre.
- 2.30 p.m.—Canadian motor-cycle championships—Grandstand. Canadian championship Class "B" runabouts, first five-mile heat—Waterfront Grandstand. The Goldman Band—Band Shell.
- 3.00 p.m.—Canadian championship motorboat race. Class "B" Runabouts—second five-mile heat—Waterfront Grandstand.
- 3.00 p.m. to 5.00 p.m.—Tommy Dorsey, Al. and Bob Harvey and their Canadian Coster Band with Patricia Bailey—Dance Pavilion.
- 3.30 p.m.—Canadian championship motorboat race. 135 cubic inch class. Hydroplanes, first five-mile heat—Waterfront Grandstand.
- 4.00 p.m.—Murals being painted by children from Art Centre—Music Pavilion. Changing of the Guard by R.C.A.F.—In front of Coliseum.
- 4.30 p.m.—Canadian championship motorboat race. 135 cubic inch class. Hydroplanes, third and final five-mile heat—Waterfront Grandstand. Exhibition Squadron Royal Canadian Air Force parades through Park.
- 4.45 p.m.—Motor boat time trials in attempts to establish world's records at one mile. All classes of boats—Waterfront Grandstand.
- 6.00 p.m.—Canadian National Exhibition dirt track bicycle championships—Grandstand.
- 6.00 p.m.—Queen's Own Rifles Band—Band Shell. Royal Canadian Engineers Band—North Band Stand.
- 6.15 p.m.—"Canada's Divers on Parade." Directed by Dr. Frank Wood and Alex Duff—Waterfront Grandstand. Canadian National Exhibition girls' softball tournament. Final game. Softball Diamond, west of Dufferin Gates.
- 6.20 p.m. and 7.10 p.m.—Trans-Canada Air Lines planes over Exhibition. Plane-to-ground radio salute broadcast throughout Park.
- 6.30 p.m.—Canadian National Exhibition championship motor boat cruiser race—Waterfront Grandstand.
- 7.00 p.m.—Canadian Table Tennis Championships. Finals—Men's singles, men's doubles, mixed doubles, veteran men's singles, boys' singles—Small judging ring, east wing of the Coliseum. Concert by first-prize winners in all classes over 16 years of age—Music Amphitheatre.
- 7.15 p.m.—Canada's Premier Horse Show. Judging horses—Coliseum Arena.
- 7.30 p.m.—R.C.A. concert. 8.00 p.m.—Cooking School: Special features. Community singing—Electrical and Engineering Building. Vaudeville—Musical ride—Exhibition Squadron R.C.A.F. Spectacular pageant. "Cradle of Empire"—Pyrotechnic finale—Grandstand.
- 8.30 p.m.—Canadian table tennis championships. International team championship for Gimbel Trophy—United States and Canada. Small judging ring, east wing of the Coliseum. The Goldman Band—Band Shell. Originals Club Band—North Band Stand.
- 9.00 p.m.—Tommy Dorsey—Al. and Bob Harvey and their Canadian Coster Band—Dance Pavilion.
- 9.20 and 11.20 p.m.—Trans-Canada Air Lines planes over Exhibition—Picked out by searchlights.
- 11.00 p.m.—Closing ceremonies—Final R.C.A.F. flag-lowering ceremony—Band Shell Flax Pole.

U.S. LIKES ENGLAND SONG HIT

Tommy Dorsey and His Orchestra would play shows at 3pm and 9pm September 4th-7th, 1940 at the CNE.

See THESE THINGS AT THE EXHIBITION

● There are thousands of things to be seen and done at this year's big wartime Exhibition. Below is a partial list of a few outstanding features. Take this advertisement with you and tick off the things as you see them!

SEE THE Sky Thrillers

● The greatest display of daring air tactics ever seen in Canada will be presented on the Canadian National Exhibition Waterfront. A flight of precision flyers defying all laws of aeronautics will be seen daily at 6.30 p.m. Aerial daredevils will demonstrate tandem flying with racing Wacos mounted on each other. America's most renowned stunt pilot will reproduce the power dive from twelve thousand feet with engine full open.

Many other timely features of air tactics, including the delayed parachute jump.

These masters of the air have never appeared before a Canadian audience. Each evening at 6.30 on the Canadian National Exhibition Waterfront.

Other Features that shouldn't be missed!

- PAGEANT
- ROSE GARDEN
- SPORTS EVENTS
- C.I.L. THEATRE
- ART SHOW
- LIVESTOCK
- TYPEWRITING MARATHON
- INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITS
- GOLDMAN'S BAND
- COOKING SCHOOL
- MANUFACTURING
- CHILDREN'S ZOO



LUCKY TETER Afternoons, in the Grandstand Spectacle—a roaring show of dare-devil drivers! See them drive cars off ramps, jump them over barricades, crash through flaming hoops! It's automotive fury at its peak.

HORSE SHOW One of the most brilliant events of the season! Magnificent hunters, prancing hacknies and harness horses, ponies, work horses, teams! The Horse Show this year is bigger, more dramatic than ever. Evenings, in the Coliseum. Admission 25c, reserved 50c, boxes \$1.00.

TOMMY DORSEY Now's your chance to hear this famous band! Dance on Canada's largest al fresco floor, sit in comfortable seats and watch the fun. It's the most persuasive rhythm in the world—and thrill to the famous Dorsey Trombone. Supporting Orchestra: Al and Bob Harvey and their Canadian Coster Band! Evenings \$1.00, afternoons 50c.

WAR FEATURES Only a few days left to see these special features—armed war vehicles, display of Bren Guns, Royal Canadian Air Force exhibits and air force ground show, the vast Red Cross exhibit, and special war films!

MOTOR SHOW Many of the gleaming new 1941 motor cars are on display for the first time at the Exhibition Motor Show. While in the building, see the coloured film of the "Futurama"—sensation of the General Motors exhibit at the New York World's Fair!

MODEL HOMES You'll be thrilled and you'll get dozens of ideas for your own home when you visit these fully equipped and modernly decorated model homes. One of the sensations of this year's Exhibition—in the International Building.

FROLEXLAND Have fun—visit the surprising new side-show attractions, try your skill with a tommy gun, take a ride on one of the breath-taking new thrill-rides!

ADVANCE TICKETS
at the Exhibition Ticket Office, 44 Adelaide St., W., WA. 2226; Moodey's, 90 King St., W., EL. 1098; Rober's, 15 Bloor St., W., KL 3425.

Canadian National
EXHIBITION
TORONTO **AUG. 23 to SEPT. 7** 1940

JOHN MILLAR President
E. A. HUGHES General Mgr.



ONLY A FEW DAYS LEFT... TO SEE THESE Features!

MOTORCYCLE AND BICYCLE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Saturday afternoon the Grandstand Show will feature thrilling dirt-track motorcycle and bicycle races. See these daredevil racers in a fight for the Canadian Championships! Consult your C.N.E. Programme for exact times of the various exciting events!



Frolexland shouldn't be missed this year! There are dozens of new attractions, special games, amusing side shows, exciting

thrill-rides. See the latest in the amusement section!

SPECIAL PRICES! After 5 p.m. cars may enter Park for \$1 including driver.

ADVANCE TICKETS for dancing, and all Exhibition featured attractions may be purchased in advance from the Exhibition Ticket Office, 44 Adelaide St. West, W.A. 2226; Moody's, 90 King St. West, E.L. 1098; Rober's, 15 Bloor St. West, K.I. 3425.

TOMMY DORSEY AND HIS ORCHESTRA
 Never have you danced to such exciting, swingy music! Don't pass up this rare opportunity to see and hear the famous Dorsey at close quarters! There are seats in the Pavilion if you just wish to watch and listen. Afternoons 50c; evenings \$1.00.



Every afternoon up to and including Friday—**LUCKY TETER** and his troupe of sensational stunt drivers. See them run cars off ramps, jump them over big barricades.

SKY THRILLERS

A troupe of the most daring precision flyers ever to perform in Canada. See their tandem flying with racing Wacos mounted on each other, thrill to the power dive from 12,000 feet. Watch the famous navy fighter "Boeing F. Four" twist and turn in amazing aerobatics, tracing a smoke pattern against the sky. Every afternoon, 6.30. Waterfront.



Famous throughout the world is the **GOLDMAN BAND**—yet you can hear it free of charge. Seats in front of the big Exhibition Band Shell—performances daily.

CANADIAN NATIONAL EXHIBITION

AUG. 23 to SEPT. 7 1940

JOHN MILLAR, President

ELWOOD A. HUGHES, General Manager



ENDING IN A WHIRL OF EXCITEMENT!

TOMMY DORSEY



Music with more swing, rhythm and lilt than you ever heard before. It's the famous favourite of the air-waves—Tommy Dorsey and his orchestra. Playing afternoons and evenings to record crowds. The Dance Pavilion—afternoons 50c, evenings \$1.00.



HORSE SHOW

It's brilliant, it's exciting, it's packed with thrills. This year's Horse Show is stealing the spotlight. Don't miss it. In the Coliseum Show-Ring, evenings. General admission 25c, reserved 50c, boxes \$1.00.

SKY THRILLERS

A troupe of the most daring precision flyers ever to perform in Canada. See their tandem flying with racing Wacos mounted on each other: thrill to the power dive from 12,000 feet, watch the famous navy fighter "Boeing F. Four" twist and turn in amazing aerobatics, tracing a smoke pattern against the sky. Every afternoon, 6:30. Waterfront.



WAR FEATURES

Examine a Bren Gun at close quarters, see the R.C.A.F. Ground show, visit the motorized war equipment in the Automotive building, and roam through the stirring Red Cross exhibit in the old Graphic Arts Building.



GOLDMAN BAND

Find a comfortable seat in front of the big outdoor Band Shell and hear this famous band free of charge. Afternoons and evenings.



PAGEANT

Brilliantly staged and gorgeously costumed the huge Pageant of England's might unfolds each evening. Don't miss it. The extraordinary pyrotechnic finale is a whole show in itself!



LUCKY TETER

See automotive fury at its most thrilling. Lucky Teter and his troupe of daredevils drive cars off ramps, shoot them over big barriers, crash through flame. A chill a minute!



MOTOR BOAT RACES

The rest of this week the Exhibition waterfront will be churned to white foam as power boats and out-board motor-boats battle for Canadian and World Championships. Races every day. See your C.N.E. Programme for exact dates and times!

ADVANCE TICKETS
at the Exhibition Ticket Office, 44 Adelaide St., W., WA. 2226; Moodey's, 90 King St., W., EL. 1098; Roher's, 15 Bloor St., W., KI. 3425.

CANADIAN NATIONAL

JOHN MILLAR
PRESIDENT
E. A. HUGHES
GEN. MANAGER

AUG. 23 - SEPT. 7

EXHIBITION

TORONTO 1940

Dorsey's 'Swing' Will Protect Toronto Girl's Title to Hit Tune



TROMBONE TOMMY AND KEY-KITTEN RUTH

"Rocco's gonna get a socko" is what Toronto's Ruth Lowe and her friend, Tommy Dorsey, are singing these days. "Rocco" is a Brooklynite, who claims he sold the lyrics of the big Lowe-Dorsey hit, "I'll Never Smile Again," to Band Leader Dorsey for \$15, and passes out hand-bills to that effect signed "Rocco". Ruth and Tommy laughed about it yesterday after the husky jazzman's matinee performance in the C.N.E. dance tent.

Ruth says she wrote both music and lyrics of the song, and can prove it by many Toronto people who had a chance to see her before she tried to sell it. Dorsey's recording of it has hit 240,000 in 12 weeks, while the all-time champion record before it, Gene Austin's "My Blue

Heaven", only reached about 330,000 in six years. "Ruth's song will wind up 100,000 ahead of that one," Tommy predicted. Saturday night he's introducing two brand new Lowe-Dorsey specials.—"My Next Romance" and "Funny Little Pedro."

This is Tommy's third time at the "Ex". During his broadcast Saturday night he is going to correct some of the wrong impressions that keep so many U.S. folks out of Canada, he said. "Lots of people in the states think everyone here is walking around with a gun on his shoulder, cocked for Americans. We're going to tell 'em it isn't so. Why, they even give you an extra buck for a \$10 bill. That dazes me!"

←Toronto Daily Star,
Toronto, Ontario,
September 6, 1940, pg 3

Toronto Song-Writer Here With Orchestra



Ruth Lowe of Toronto, who wrote the hit-tune, "I'll Never Smile Again," after her husband died, is shown above with Tommy Dorsey, orchestra leader, who gave

her song its New York premiere. He will play two others of her songs, "My Next Romance" and "Funny Little Pedro," during his orchestra's engagement at C.N.E.

↑The Globe And Mail, Toronto, September 6, 1940, pg 4

Ruth Lowe, who wrote "I'll Never Smile Again", would receive good press in Toronto but the boy singer of the song would receive no mention.

Thinks Citizens in U.S. See Canada as Fortress

A possible reason for the decrease in United States visitors to Canada this year was given yesterday by Tommy Dorsey, noted orchestra leader and trombone player, who is here to fulfill a four-day engagement at the Canadian National Exhibition.

"Many people in the United States have an idea that every man, woman and child able to carry a weapon is shouldering a gun," he said, adding that this country was considered to be nothing short of a fully equipped fortress.

The orchestra leader, whose brother, Jimmy Dorsey, played a three-day engagement here last week, will feature the songs of Ruth Lowe, a Toronto girl, whose latest "hit," "I'll Never Smile Again," is approaching all records in the United

States and Canada for popularity. Two of her newest compositions, as yet never played in public, will be a feature of the Saturday night performance when "My Next Romance," and "Funny Little Pedro" will be played and sung.

Tommy Dorsey's Dance Band has played here three years in succession now, and he hopes he will be asked to come back next year.

Born in Mahons Plain, Pa., Dorsey is married and has two children, a daughter, 15, and a son, 10, whose home is in Bernardsville, N.J. He admits that he has his troubles with them. "The teacher wrote on my daughter's last report card that she would be far better off if she would concentrate on school work, and not on her father's orchestra," Dorsey related.

Under Cloud

TORONTO, Sept. 6.—Orchestra Leader Tommy Dorsey, here to fulfill an engagement at the Canadian National Exhibition, said in an interview Thursday that a possible reason for decrease of United States visitors to Canada was the American belief that the Dominion is "nothing short of a fully-equipped fortress."

"Many people in the United States have an idea that every man, woman and child able to carry a weapon is shouldering a gun," he said.

←The Windsor Star
(Windsor, Ontario)
September 6, 1940
Page 12

Dorsey tries to set the record straight about Canada!

LAST CHANCE

To see



TOMMY DORSEY

Come and dance to the swinging rhythm of Tommy Dorsey, his trombone, and his orchestra! It may be his last appearance in Canada for many a day — don't miss this chance to hear and see him. Evenings \$1.00, afternoons 50c.

PAGEANT

It's more glorious and brilliant than ever this year. See 1500 players unfold the history of England's naval might. Every Canadian will thrill to its beauty and drama! Evening only, the Grandstand.

WAR FEATURES

See a Bren Gun operated, visit the R.C.A.F. Ground Show, get a close-up of the grim, camouflaged motorized army equipment, thrill to the beauty of the vast Red Cross exhibit... don't miss any of the big war features!

HORSE SHOW

The biggest Horse Show of the season! See the exciting jumpers, the ponies, the hacknies, the teams, the finest horse flesh in the country. It's a brilliant show—the Coliseum, evenings. General admission 25c, reserved 75c, boxes \$1.00.



BIG NEWS!

KIDS 5c

Today is a "special" for youngsters! A nickel takes you into the Park if you're twelve years old or less. A nickel will get you many a thrill in Froxeland! A nickel will get you a seat in the Grandstand! A nickel is worth a lot today! And don't forget it, it's your last chance to see the big Exhibition features!

SKY THRILLERS 3 o'clock today

Held over—the last special performance of these daredevils of the air—tandem flying, power dive, amazing aerobatics, smoke writing, delayed parachute jump—along the waterfront, 3 o'clock.

Canadian National

EXHIBITION

TORONTO **AUG. 23** 1940

SEPT. 7

JOHN MILLER President
E. A. HUGHES Vice-President

From the Glen Miller Archives, University of Colorado, Boulder, comes the following two listings of radio broadcasts during Dorsey's appearance at the CNE in 1940. These are part of the Tommy Dorsey Catalog for 1940 prepared by Dennis M. Spragg. The first listing was a live broadcast from the CNE on September 5 and the second appears to be a broadcast from the CBL Studios in Toronto on September 7.

September 5, 1940 (Thu) 11:30 p. m. - Midnight

The Fairgrounds Bandstand, Toronto, Ontario

(NBC Red) (CBL) (Sustaining)

RCA MT 1031 (Part 2)

Hugh Bartlett, announcer

1. I'll Never Smile Again (FS-PP)
2. Swing Time Up In Harlem (CH)
3. East Of The Sun (And West of the Moon) (FS-Band)
4. So What
5. I'm Getting Sentimental Over You (close)

(Also broadcast over the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC))

September 7, 1940 (Sat) 5:00 - 6:00 p. m.

CBL Studios, Toronto, Ontario

(NBC Red) (CBL) (Sustaining)

"The Dorsey Hour"

Hugh Bartlett, announcer

1. I'm Getting Sentimental Over You (open)
2. Six Lessons From Madame La Zonga (CH)
3. All This And Heaven Too (FS)
4. Make Me Know It (SO arr)
5. I'll Never Smile Again (FS-PP)
6. My Next Romance (FS)
7. Medley of old favorites: Until The Real Thing Comes Along (FS), Lost In A Fog, Snuggled On Your Shoulder (CH)
8. Devil's Holiday
9. Station break
10. Funny Little Pedro (PP)
11. And So Do I (CH)
12. The Eyes And Ears Of The World (Paramount on Parade)
13. Swing Your Blues Away (PP)
14. Make Up Your Mind About Me (CH)
15. Lead On, My Heart Will Follow (FS)
16. The Pied Piper Of Harlem (PP)
17. Blue Moon (FS-Band)
18. The Pied Piper Of Harlem (PP) (reprise)
19. Old Black Joe
20. I'm Getting Sentimental Over You (close)

(Only broadcast over NBC Red in the United States (no CBC simulcast). The first 15 minutes were not heard on the west coast.)

**Canadian National Exhibition,
Toronto, Ontario
August 22nd – August 23rd, 1941**



(CNE DANCE PAVILION)

Dorsey and Sinatra's second appearance was in 1941 again at the Canadian National Exhibition in the Dance Pavilion. Sinatra would again not see his name in any of the press out of Toronto.



The front cover of the official souvenir catalogue & programme for the 1941 CNE.

Service Bands' Martial Music To Be Daily Feature at C.N.E.

Martial music and marching men will be a daily feature of the Canadian National Exhibition this year. The navy, army and air force will be represented by specially detailed and trained squads, each accompanied by its band. The army band

will be an organization of seventy men from Camp Borden, the Air Force Band from Ottawa will head the files; and from Halifax will come the Royal Canadian Navy Band, in whose ranks are many musicians from Toronto and Toronto area.

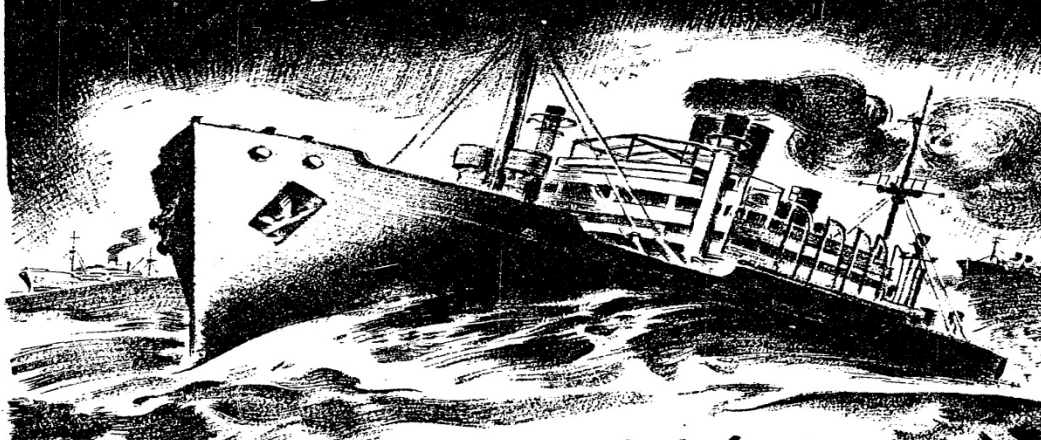
The famed United States Navy Band from the Washington Navy Yard will appear in several parades as well as play in the band shell daily and nightly. Uncle Sam's representatives will number 85, the Air Force 70, the Army 75 and the Royal Canadian Navy 60, a total of 290 men as the nucleus of the massed bands at the tattoo.

Lieut. Charles Benter, conductor of the United States Navy Band, has purchased \$15,000 worth of new instruments for the Toronto engagement. On Warriors' Day between 40,000 and 50,000 veterans and men of the active services will be joined by numerous posts of the American Legion and United States Veterans of Foreign Wars with their bands. What with brass and pipe bands, competitors in the band competition on Muste Day, and bands of local and other non-permanent units, there will be between fifty and sixty musical organizations on the march at various periods of the Exhibition.

For the "rug cutters" there will be "swing" by Goodman, Dorsey, Ina May Hutton, Vaughn Monroe and Tony Pastor. Guy Lombardi, the London, Ont., maestro, will entertain the devotees of "sweet" as opposed to "swing." Sir Ernest MacMillan's Toronto Symphony will make one appearance in the band shell.

The Globe and Mail, →
Toronto, Ontario
August 18, 1941, pg. 4

They dodged bombs and U-boats!



See Exhibits from

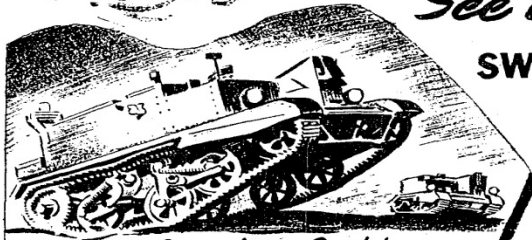
SWITZERLAND,

CZECHOSLOVAKIA,

BRITAIN, FREE FRANCE

and the four corners of the world!

IN SPITE OF submarines and Nazi "statistics"—in defiance of bombs and bombast—you'll see eye-opening exhibits from free nations all around the world! Canada's greatest Exhibition brings you a dramatic picture of life today in a war-torn world.



SEE *Canada's Fighting Men in Action!*

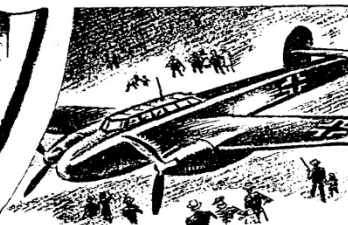
Canada's Navy, Army and Air Force will give you a "ring-side seat" for today's war of swift, smashing movement. Canadian-built fighting machines go through grueling tests on a specially constructed "battlefield."

-AND a line-up of breath taking features for every Exhibition Visitor!



SEE *actual production of war weapons!*

Expert hands and fast machines will finish guns and shells and other "tools of war" before your very eyes. A steady stream of war materials will be shipped from the Exhibition to serve Empire fighting men. It's the real thing!



SEE *Messerschmitts from the Battle of Britain!*

Ever see a Nazi fighting plane "hit the dirt"? Don't miss the amazing display arranged by the British Ministry of Information through the Department of Overseas Trade. You've never seen anything as chilling and thrilling as these grim "souvenirs" from the Battle of Britain.

● **A Woman's World!**

See clothing being made for bombed cities of Britain; Red Cross work rolling smoothly ahead; war-time styles and menus; prize contests for food, flowers and handicrafts.

● **A Mighty Pageant!**

On the 1000-foot grandstand stage an Empire "comes to life" in the colourful pageant—BRITANNIA! And every afternoon a brilliant assembly of the world's outstanding vaudeville. "Lucky" Peter again, too, Aug. 25 to Sept. 5.

● **Music at its best!**

The U.S. Navy Band and 50 other musical organizations will fill the Exhibition air with moving, martial music at its finest. Laurence Tibbett, Lily Pons, the Coliseum Chorus and other musical "muses" await you at the "Ex".

● **And America's top Dance Bands!**

The breeze-cooled Exhibition Dance Pavilion will palpitate with the irresistible rhythms of Guy Lombardo, Benny Goodman, Tommy Dorsey, Ina Ray Hutton, Tony Pastor, Vaughan Monroe and The Modernaires. Let's dance!

● **New thrills in Frolexland**

To relieve the tension, an hour on the new "streamlined" Frolexland will make you "years younger"—with new laughs, new rides, new fun and games.

● **Models "Shot" Daily**

One of many novel demonstrations will be the actual photographing of beautiful Canadian models in glamorous settings. C-I-L presents "Life in an Air Raid Shelter"—an authentic close-up of a grim business.

★ Everything you've *always* enjoyed—the Horse Show, the sporting events, the industrial and agricultural features—will be included in the star-studded line-up of features at this year's Exhibition. And on top of these, Canada's fighting forces will make this an Exhibition you will never forget. Plan to be there early and often.

Advance tickets for dancing and all Exhibition's featured attractions may be purchased from the Exhibition Ticket Office, 44 Adelaide St. W., 22nd Floor, or King St. W., Rm. 108; Rober's, 15 Bloor St. W., Rm. 342.



See Canada's Answer

CANADIAN NATIONAL EXHIBITION

JOHN MILLAR, President ELWOOD A. HUGHES, General Manager

AUG. 22 to SEPT. 6

DANCE TO TOMMY DORSEY AT THE EX!

★ AND LOOK WHO'S COMING!

GUY LOMBARDO
Aug. 25 and 26

INA RAY NUTTON
Aug. 27 and 28

BENNY GOODMAN
Aug. 29, 30 and Sept. 1

TONY PASTOR
Sept. 2 and 3

VAUGHAN MONROE
Sept. 4, 5 and 6

Added feature!
THE MODERNAIRES every afternoon and evening.

2 DAYS ONLY:
Fri. Aug. 22—Sat. Aug. 23

Come out and meet The Sentimental Gentleman of Swing—with the world's top trombone—and his all-star musical organization. Join the crowd on Canada's largest dance floor at the breeze-cooled C.N.E. Dance Pavilion.

Evenings \$1 a person; afternoons 50c. Car and driver admitted to grounds after 5 p.m. for only \$1. Tickets at C.N.E. Ticket Office, 44 Adelaide St. W.; Moody's, 30 King St. W.; Baber's, 15 Bloor St. W.—or at the Dance Pavilion.

CANADIAN NATIONAL EXHIBITION
TORONTO · 1941

AUG-22
SEPT-6

The Globe and Mail, Toronto, Ontario, August 21, 1941, pg. 7

Opening Day

AT THE 'EX' TODAY!

• Fighting men march. Bands fill the air with music. Military vehicles crash their way through muck and mire. Industry forges the tools of war. Champions clash in sport classics. The farmlands parade their finest and fairest. Wide-eyed kiddies shriek with joy. The spotlight falls on a "Woman's War-time World." The smoothest, hottest, swiftest tunesters "give out." Thoroughbred jumpers clear the hurdles. A breath-taking pageant ends in a glorious pyrotechnic fantasy.

It's Exhibition! — a dramatic, thrilling, informative Exhibition you'll want to see early and often

SPECIAL FEATURES EVERYWHERE, EVERY DAY

WAR ON WHEELS! Don't miss the spine-tingling demonstrations of Canadian-built fighting machines. Gun Carriers, Artillery Tractors and other war vehicles go through grueling "battlefield" tests. Admission free. South end of Frontland.

U.S. NAVY BAND every afternoon and evening—and other famous bands in the lakeside bandshell. Parades through the park every day. The Coliseum Chorus of 2000 voices. The Military Tattoo Saturday, Aug. 23 only.

RELICS OF WORLD WAR II. See the "de-blitzed" Messerschmitts. See the escape device removed from a Nazi U-Boat. See relics from Buckingham Palace, Westminster Abbey and St. Paul's Cathedral. An amazing museum of modern war. British Empire Building.

A MIGHTY PAGEANT! Beginning August 25th, "Britannia"—the action-packed story of an Empire in the making—will be on the 1000-foot Grandstand stage each

evening. "Lucky" Teter and his Hell Drivers will thrill afternoon audiences with their motor madness.

WORLD-FAMOUS DANCE BANDS Lead-off man in the breeze-cooled C.N.E. Dance Pavilion is Tommy Dorsey, with his famous trombone (Aug. 22 and 23). Comes then the great Guy Lombardo (Aug. 25 and 26), Ina Ray Hutton (Aug. 27 and 28), Benny Ray Hutton (Aug. 29, 30 and Sept. 1), Tony Pastor (Sept. 2 and 3), Vaughan Monroe (Sept. 4, 5 and 6). Rounding out this all-star musical staff, The Modernaires will be an added attraction every afternoon and evening.

SPORTS CHAMPIONSHIPS There'll be championship events every day of the Exhibition! Opening Day features—The Hottest, coloured softball champions from Chicago—Armed Forces Boxing Championships Aug. 22 and 23.

As soon as you arrive Opening Day, be sure to get one of the attractive Official Programs (10c) so you don't miss a single tick in this feature-filled Exhibition.

**Air Commodore
H.R.H.
THE DUKE
OF KENT**
K.C.M.G., C.M.G., C.V.O.
opens Exhibition

His Honour the Hon. ALBERT MATTHEWS will introduce Canada's Royal guest who will officially open the 1941 Canadian National Exhibition.

SPECIAL PRICES
After 5 P.m. cars may enter Park for \$1.00 including driver.

ADVANCE TICKETS
for dancing, and all Exhibition featured attractions may be purchased in advance from the Exhibition Ticket Office, 44 Adelaide St. W., W.A. 222, Monday, 10:30 King St. W., 21, 1941; Tuesday, 15 Bloor St. West, 21, 242.



JOHN MILLAR, President
ELWOOD A. HUGHES, General Manager

TORONTO
AUG-22
to
SEPT-6
1941

CANADIAN NATIONAL EXHIBITION

Dorsey's Orchestra Delayed, 'South of Border, Buffalo Way'

Some one had blundered. Some one had forgot to tell Immigration authorities that Tommy Dorsey and his orchestra were coming to the Canadian National Exhibition yesterday, and the troupe of "aliens" was held at the International Peace Bridge in the small hours of Friday morning. Instead of arriving for their afternoon scheduled show, the dance band did not get on the scene until 9:10 last night.

"We landed at the Peace Bridge at 5:30 in the morning and we couldn't get across," said Dorsey. "We just turned around and went back to Buffalo to get some much-needed shut-eye." Later on, Toronto was contacted and the difficulty straightened out. In making his apologies to the huge crowd parked in the dance pavilion last night, Dorsey played a parody on the dance tune, "South of the Border--Down Buffalo Way."

↑The Globe And Mail, Toronto, August 23, 1941

Dorsey and his orchestra were supposed to play afternoon and evening performances on the 22nd but a delay at the border prevented Dorsey from making the afternoon appearance.

C.N.E. Program for Today

The program of the Canadian National Exhibition today is as follows:

9:30—Buildings and Froelund open. to closing—R.C.A. Victor Recording Studio commences — North Wing, National Industries Building.

9:30—to closing—Advertising Models Contest — General Exhibits Building.

10:00—Piano Solo (under 7 years). Preliminaries — In tent near North Band Stand.
—Violin Solo (under 13 years). Preliminaries — Music Amphitheatre.
—Red Cross Demonstrations commence — Red Cross Building, to closing — Motion Picture "Britain at War" Theatre Automotive Building. Film "Life in United Kingdom" — National Industries Building.

10:00—to closing — Canadian Homes Beautiful — International Pavilion.

10:00 to 6:00 p.m. — Mural painting, drawing and clay modelling. free to all children — Outside south wall Food Products Building.

11:00 and 1:05 p.m. — American Air Lines over Exhibition — Plane-to-ground radio salute broadcast throughout Park.

11:00 to 9:00 p.m. at two-hour intervals — Handicrafts of Canadian Reservations. Tribal dances and songs by the Northern and Six Nations tribes — Centre Court, National Industries Building.

11:15—Violin Solo (under 13 years). Finals, Music Amphitheatre.

11:25—Piano Solo (under 7 years). Finals. In tent near North Band Stand.

11:45—Outdoor Theatre opens — East of Manufacturers' Building No. 1.

p.m.

12:45—Directors' Luncheon — Administration Building.

1:30, 4:30 and 7:30 — "New Clothes for Old" — Last year's clothes to this year's style—East Wing, Women's Building.

2:00—Piano Duet (under 15 years). Preliminaries and Finals — In tent near North Band Stand.
—Violin Solo (under 8 years). Preliminaries, Music Amphitheatre.
—Royal Hamilton Light Infantry Band—Band Shell.

2:00, 3:30, 5:30, 7:00 and 8:30 — "Canadian Story" — Latest fashions for Canadian women — Theatre, International Pavilion.

2:00, 4:00, 7:00 and 9:00—Fighting machines in action — "Proving Ground" — south of Grandstand.

2:00 to 5:00 and 7:00 to 9:00—"Dramatized Photography in Modern Advertising" — General Exhibits Building.

2:30—Warriors' Day Parade enters through Princess' Gates. —Cooking School. Trans-Canada Food Service. Special features. Brantford choir. Electrical and Engineering Building.

3:00 to 5:00—Tommy Dorsey. The Modernaires. Dance Pavilion.

3:00—Violin Solo (under 8 years). Finals. Music Amphitheatre.
—Canadian Fourteen Mile Tandem Canoe Marathon Championship —Waterfront Grandstand.

3:05—Piano Duet (open). Preliminaries and Finals. In tent near North Band Stand.

3:30—Violin Solo (under 17 years). Preliminaries and Finals. Music Amphitheatre.

3:40—Sight Reading (under 15 years). Preliminaries and Finals — In tent near North Band Stand.

4:00—United States Navy Band—Band Shell.

4:35—Piano Duet (under 15 years). Preliminaries and Finals. In tent near North Band Stand.

5:00—Piano Duet (under 12 years). Preliminaries and Finals — In tent near North Band Stand.

6:00—Canadian Army Service Corps Band — North Band Stand.

6:30—Violin Solo (open). Preliminaries — Music Amphitheatre.

6:15, 6:30 and 7:45—Trans-Canada Air Lines planes over Exhibition — Plane-to-ground radio salute broadcast throughout Park.

7:30—Military Tattoo — Dozens of bands in dress uniforms. Exhibition Squadron Royal Canadian Air Force. Spectacular pyrotechnic finale—Grandstand.

8:00—Concert by Brantford Choir.

8:30—Royal Hamilton Light Infantry Band—Band Shell.
—Originals Club Band — North Band Stand.

8:45—"Ritzin' the Blitz"—stage show — Theatre, Electrical and Engineering Building.

9:00—The Globe and Mail Motion Picture "Empire Cavalcade" — Outdoor Theatre, East of Manufacturers' Building No. 1.

9:00 to 12:00—Tommy Dorsey. The Modernaires. Dance Pavilion.

9:10—Violin Solo (open). Finals. Music Amphitheatre.

10:00—General Motors Motion Picture "On to Victory" — Outdoor Theatre, East of Manufacturers' Building No. 1.

10:30 and 11:15—Trans-Canada Air Lines planes over Exhibition. Picked out by searchlights.

↑The Globe And Mail, Toronto, August 23, 1941

Tommy Dorsey would perform shows 3pm to 5pm and then again at 9pm to 12am, except August 22nd when they were delayed and missed the afternoon performance.

The Forum, Montreal, Quebec May 6th, 1942



(THE FORUM, Montreal, 1940S)

Frank Sinatra would perform at The Forum in Montreal a total of five times. His first appearance in the city with Tommy Dorsey in 1942 would see Sinatra's name in the local press. Sinatra would next perform at The Forum in 1944 and then again in 1975, 1976, and 1979.

Tommy Dorsey's Band At Forum on May 6

Definite confirmation of the previously rumored engagement of Tommy Dorsey and his band for a one-night performance at the Forum here, was made yesterday by the Canadian Arena Company which has booked one of the biggest name bands in America today through the Music Corporation of America. Dorsey makes his first appearance in Montreal with his entire band and featured stars on Wednesday, May 6.

It was Dorsey himself who swung the issue of where he would play his only open date in favor of the Forum, when he admitted he had wanted to play Canada for a long time. This seemed the awaited opportunity and the deal was completed on a long distance call and then later confirmed by all parties.

Musical talent, it is said, runs in Dorsey's family, his father Thomas Dorsey senior, is a well-known eastern music teacher, professional band organizer and director. His brother, Jimmy, is a famous band leader, saxophone and clarinet virtuoso. His sister Mary is accomplished on the piano and several other instruments while all of the younger Dorseys were started in music by their father. Tommy Dorsey specializes with the trombone.

Dorsey first attracted attention as a musician as a member of Jean Goldkette's orchestra, then as a member of the original California Ramblers. Paul Whiteman signed Dorsey next, and he has been in the bands of Ted Lewis, Rubinoff, Kostelanetz, Nat Shilkret, Vincent Lopez, Victor Young and Rudy Vallee. He once made a record that has never been equalled of having played in 22 major orchestras in 12 months.

The Dorsey Brothers orchestra did recordings for years under their own names and as accompanists to Bing Crosby, Ruth Etting, the Boswell Sisters and many other stars. Then Tommy Dorsey organized his own band and he has since become one of the ranking band leaders of America.

←The Gazette (Montreal, Quebec)
April 25, 1942, Page 24

Tommy Dorsey vient au Forum

La confirmation définitive des rumeurs antérieures au sujet de l'engagement du fameux Tommy Dorsey et son orchestre pour une soirée au Forum a été fournie hier par Tommy Gorman, gérant général de la Canadian Arena Company, qui a engagé cette plus grande vedette de la musique en Amérique par l'entremise de la Music Corporation of America, après l'avoir disputé à d'autres propriétaires de patinoires aux États-Unis.

Ainsi Tommy Dorsey fera sa première apparition à Montréal avec son orchestre au complet et de fameux artistes, mercredi soir, le 6 mai.

Dorsey est actuellement reconnu comme un des quatre meilleurs chefs d'orchestre sur le continent, sinon le plus fameux de tous.

Il présentera des numéros classiques et des morceaux de danse.

↑La Patrie, Montreal, Quebec,
April 25, 1942, Pg. 43

Tommy Dorsey comes to the Forum

The final confirmation of past rumors about Tommy Dorsey and his orchestra's commitment to an evening at the Forum was wrapped up yesterday by Tommy Gorman, General Manager of the Canadian Arena Company, who hired the greatest music star in America through arrangement with the Music Corporation of America, after arguing with other rink owners in the United States.

Tommy Dorsey will make his first appearance in Montreal with his full orchestra and famous artists on Wednesday night, May 6th.

Dorsey is clearly recognized as one of the four best conductors on the continent, the most famous of all.

He will premiere classical numbers and dance pieces.

Tommy Dorsey au Forum le 6 mai

Tommy Dorsey, le fameux "gentilhomme sentimental" viendra au Forum pour un engagement d'une soirée seulement, mercredi le 6 mai prochain, grâce à l'entremise de la Music Corporation of America.

En plus de diriger un orchestre célèbre, Dorsey est acclamé par les critiques et les musiciens comme un des plus grands, sinon plus fameux joueurs de trombone de tous les temps.

Tommy Dorsey amènera à Montréal son orchestre complet pour son engagement au Forum; avec lui seront les figurants qui précéderont la saison de danse à l'amphithéâtre de l'ouest. Le nouveau plancher de danse, de \$5,000 sera installé pour la venue de Tommy Dorsey de même qu'un nouveau système d'acoustique.

Les villes minières de Pennsylvanie ont entendu parler de Tommy Dorsey bien avant les débuts de la société. Il était alors un tout jeune homme dans la fanfare de son père. Plus, plusieurs années après, il fit partie de quelques orchestres et devint célèbre, surtout depuis 1924, lorsqu'il fit partie de l'orchestre de Jean Goldkette, à Détroit. Ce furent ensuite des engagements avec les California Ramblers, avec Roger Wolfe Kahn, Vincent Lopez et Paul Whiteman.

←La Patrie, Montreal, May 2, 1942, Pg 38

Tommy Dorsey
at the Forum on May 6th

Tommy Dorsey the famous "sentimental gentleman" will come to the Forum for a one-night engagement only on Wednesday, May 6th, hosted by the Music Corporation of America.

In addition to conducting a famous orchestra, Dorsey is acclaimed by critics and musicians as one of the greatest, most famous trombone players of all time.

Tommy Dorsey will bring Montreal his full orchestra for his engagement at the Forum with the aerobic extras that precede the dance show at the West Amphitheater. The new \$5,000 dance floor will be set for Tommy Dorsey's arrival as well as a new acoustic system.

The mining towns of Pennsylvania have heard of Tommy Dorsey well before the beginners of the company. He was then known to all his men in his father's fanfare. Then, several years later, he was part of a few orchestras and became famous, since 1924, when he was part of the band of Jean Goldkette, in Detroit. These were the California Ramblers commitments with Roger Wolfe Kahn, Vincent Lopes and Paul Whiteman.

FORUM
MERCREDI
6 MAI A 8.30 P.M.
Ce gentilhomme sentimental

THAT SENTIMENTAL GENTLEMAN

Tommy
DORSEY

ET SON
ORCHESTRE
CONCERT
ET DANSE

Billets maintenant en vente
au contrôle du Forum: \$1.00,
\$1.50, \$2.00, taxes comprises.
Location: Wilbank 6131.

←La Petit Journal,
Montreal, Quebec
May 3, 1942,
Pg. 40

Tommy Dorsey intime

L'idole des clubs de nuit et des salles de bal, l'interprète suprême de l'entente musicale moderne, Tommy Dorsey, qui viendra au Forum mercredi soir prochain, le 6 mai, pour un soir seulement, grâce à des arrangements conclus avec la Music Corporation of America, préfère se demeurer à toute autre distraction, selon les intimes de ce célèbre chef d'orchestre.

Lorsqu'on demandait à Tommy comment il passait ses jours de loisirs, il répondit: "Les rares jours de congé que j'ai, je tente de les passer à la maison; je suis très orgueilleux de mon foyer. C'est un édifice de 21 pièces, style colonial, construit en brique à Bernardsville, N.-J. et est entouré d'une ferme de 21 acres ainsi que de parties boisées. Sur la ferme il y a des granges, des écuries, des chevaux, vaches, etc. A sa résidence, Dorsey a une piscine en tuile de 65 pieds, un système de

chauffage, un court de tennis illuminé pour jouer le soir, une place pour la balle au mur, des courts de tennis et de badminton, un fourneau pour le "barbecue" et plusieurs autres installations utiles.

Ceux qui ont entendu Dorsey décrire sa résidence ne s'étonnent plus de chercher à comprendre pourquoi en ses jours de loisirs il s'empresse de quitter le Broadway pour devenir le gentilhomme-fermier et inspecter sa vaste propriété.

AU FORUM, MERCREDI

Dorsey sera à Montréal avec son orchestre au complet pour son engagement au Forum avec tous les figurants qui précéderont la session de danse à l'amphithéâtre de l'ouest. Le nouveau plancher de danse de \$5,000 sera installé pour la venue de Tommy Dorsey de même qu'un nouveau système de haut-parleurs.

←La Petit Journal,
Montreal, Quebec
May 3, 1942, Pg. 40

Intimate Tommy Dorsey

The idol of nightclubs and proms, "the supreme interpreter of the enticing modern music, Tommy Dorsey, who will come to the Forum next Wednesday night, May 6, for one night only, through arrangements made with the Music Corporation of America, prefers his

home to any other distraction, according to the intimates of this famous conductor.

When Tommy was asked how he spent his spare time, he replied: "The few days of leave that are spent, I attempt to pass them at home. I am very proud of my home, 21 rooms, Colonial style, built in brick in Bernardsville, New Jersey and is surrounded by a farm of 21 acres with wooded parts. On the farm there are barns, stables, horses, cows, etc.

At his residence, Dorsey has a 65-foot pool, a heating system, a lighted tennis court for playing at night, a place for the ball on the wall, tennis and badminton courts, a stove for the public. Barbecue "and several other useful facilities.

Those who have heard Dorsey describe his residence are no longer surprised to try to understand why in his spare time he hastens to leave Broadway to become the gentleman-farmer and inspect his vast cleanliness.

AT THE FORUM, WEDNESDAY

Dorsey will be in Montreal with her full orchestra for her engagement at the Forum with all the extras who will precede the dance session at the West Amphitheater. The new \$ 5,000 dance floor will be installed for Tommy Dorsey's arrival as well as a new speaker system

• DANCE •
• WED. MAY 6 8.30 P.M. •
To Closing
• IN PERSON •
• TOMMY •
• DORSEY •
• AND HIS BAND •
 With
• Frank Simotra ★ Buddy Rich •
• Ziggy Elman ★ Pied Pipers •
• CONCERT and DANCE •
• FORUM •
• \$1.00 - \$1.50 - \$2.00 •
• No Cover Charge Of Any Kind. •
• No Charge For Checking. •
• RESERVATIONS, Wilbank 6131 •

↑The Gazette (Montreal, Quebec)
 May 5th, 1942, Pg. 3

The Gazette (Montreal, Quebec) ·
 May 5th, 1942, Pg. 3→

NOW IT'S 'DOCTOR' DORSEY



It's "Doctor" Tommy Dorsey now. Recently the Sentimental Gentleman who brings his band and revue to the Forum tomorrow night, was awarded a degree of "Doctor of Swing" at the University of Buffalo by the students of that institution. In a recent poll conducted on the campus, Dorsey's orchestra was voted the favorite of the day and so attired in cap and gown, Tommy received his sheepskin.

The Forum's new \$5,000 dance floor, one of the largest in America, will be brought into use for the first time for the Dorsey engagement here. The revue will precede the dance session.

**Dorsey Dance Session at Forum
 Introduces \$5,000 Dance Floor**

A new \$5,000 dance floor will be brought into use for the first time at the Forum tomorrow night for the engagement of Band-leader Tommy Dorsey. Believed to be one of the largest dance floors in America this huge masonite surface has an area of more than 12,000 square feet and, following the close of the Skating Vanities at the Forum on Sunday night, a large staff of skilled workmen required 44 hours to install this new flooring which experts believe to be the finest of all surfaces for dancing.

A strong program is reported to have been arranged by Tommy Dorsey for his first engagement in Montreal tomorrow night. A one hour concert will precede the dance session which will go through until 1 a.m. The "Sentimental Gentle-

man" says he has been looking forward to his engagement in this city and he will play, during the course of the evening, every one of his newly recorded hit tunes.

In the past four years only 16 of the hundreds of hits that won their way into the Social Register of the musical world, the Hit Parade, have been played for 15 weeks or more on the Parade. Three of these numbers were introduced by Tommy Dorsey and his orchestra, giving them first their start and then the momentum to carry on to honors. These hits were Once In Awhile, My Reverie and I'll Never Smile Again.

I'll Never Smile Again, is probably the bandleader's pet of the Parade. It was the first composition of a Canadian composer he

discovered and developed, a young Toronto girl named Ruth Lowe. Dorsey's own music firm published the hit and although now more than a year old it still remains one of the most requested of numbers.

DANSE
FORUM CE SOIR à 8.30
TOMMY DORSEY
 et son orchestre avec
 Frank Sinatra ★ Buddy Rich
 Ziggy Elman et ses Pied
 Pipers
 ★ ★ ★ ★
 Nouveau système sonore —
 Nouveau parquet. Pas de
 frais de couvert — Vestiaire
 gratuit. — \$1.00, \$1.50, \$2.00.
 Taxes comprises.
LOCATION: Wilbank 6131.

↑La Patrie,
 Montreal, Quebec
 May 6, 1942, Pg. 17

The Gazette (Montreal, Quebec)
 May 6, 1942, Pg. 3→

**Tommy Dorsey's Band
 Holds Forth Tonight**

Tommy Dorsey, the Sentimental Gentleman, will make his first personal appearance in Montreal at the Forum tonight before what is expected to be the largest crowd to hear a dance band in this city.


Described as a great showman as well as musician, Dorsey will present his own entertainment prior to the dance session and will feature such stars as Frank Sinatra, Buddy Rich, Ziggy Elman, Jo Stafford, the Pied Pipers and others. The concert will run for about an hour and a half starting at 8.30 and then the dancers will take over until 1.00 a.m.

Few musicians have come to Montreal with the reputation Dorsey has built up in the past three years, it is claimed. Thirty-seven colleges of the United States have made him "president" of the hot bands of that country and, although Dorsey never went to college, he holds a "degree" of "doctor of swing" accorded to him by the students of the University of Buffalo.

Dorsey is said to have set records that few bands can touch. He has been in demand and a standout attraction from coast to coast and besides his great aggregation of musicians he is acclaimed by critics and other musicians as an outstanding trombonist.

Among the better known engagements of the Tommy Dorsey Band the past few seasons have been the Hotel Astor Roof, New York, the Empire Room of the popular Palmer House, Chicago, the Ainsley

PERSONAL APPEARANCE
 •
 Meet
TOMMY DORSEY
 Victor Recording Artist
 At The
RECORD SHOP
 Wed., May 6, 4.30 p.m.

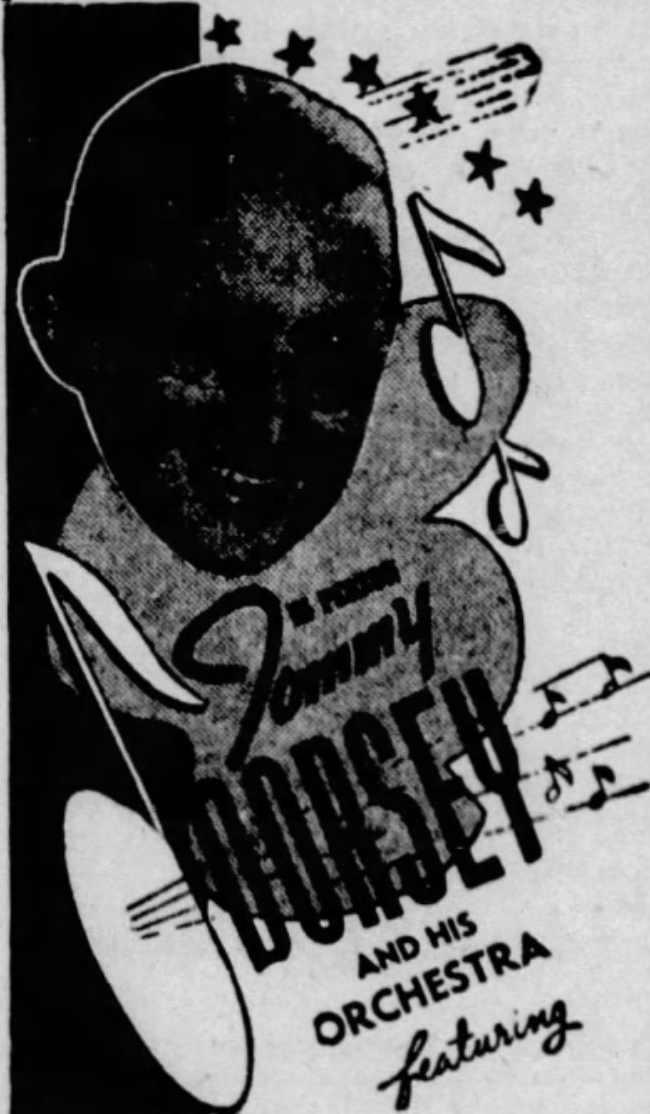


**DANCE TO HIS MUSIC
 at the FORUM**
 Wed., May 6, 8.30 p.m.

RECORD SHOP
 2175 St. Catherine St. W.
 (Near Seville Theatre)

FORUM

TONIGHT at 8.30
CONCERT and DANCE



Frank Sinatra* Buddy Rich*
Ziggy Elman and the Pied Pipers

New Floor—New Sound System
No Cover Charge of Any Kind.
No Charge for Checking.

\$1.00, \$1.50, \$2.00 Incl. Taxes

RESERVATIONS—Wilbank 6131

Tommy Dorsey et son orchestre

Le nouveau plancher de danse de \$5,000 sera mis en usage pour la première fois au Forum ce soir, lors de l'engagement du réputé d'orchestre Tommy Dorsey. Ce plancher mesure 12,000 pieds carrés, et un groupe d'ouvriers a pris 44 heures de travail pour l'installer.

Un brillant programme a été préparé par Tommy Dorsey pour son premier engagement à Montréal. Un concert d'une heure précédera la session de danse, qui se continuera jusqu'à une heure. On entendra les airs fameux que Tommy a enregistrés sur disques. On sait que c'est lui qui lança "Once In a While", "My Reverie" et "I'll Never Smile Again".

Plusieurs membres de l'orchestre étaient bien connus avant de se joindre à Dorsey, Buddy Rich, le "Joe Di Maggio" du tambour, est l'un des plus connus. Rich vient d'une famille qui fit pendant longtemps du vaudeville et qui, pour s'amuser, le fit monter sur la scène pour jouer du tambour alors qu'il était tout petit. Buddy a toujours continué à faire de la musique. On l'entendra à plusieurs reprises demain soir, tant durant le concert que pendant la session de danse.

Les autres vedettes sont Frank Sinatra, baryton, Ziggy Elman et sa trompette, Jo Stafford, fameux chanteur et les Pied Pipers, un quatuor réputé pour ses harmonisations.

Le concert commencera à 8 h. 30, et il ne faut qu'un seul billet d'admission pour assister au concert et par la suite prendre part à la session de danse.

←La Patrie, Montreal, May 6, 1942, Pg 17.

Tommy Dorsey and his orchestra

The new \$ 5,000 dance floor will be put to use for the first time at the Forum this evening, with the engagement of the reputed orchestra of Tommy Dorsey. This floor measures 12,000 square feet, and a group of workers took 44 hours to install it.

A brilliant program has been prepared by Tommy Dorsey for his first engagement in Montreal. An hour-long concert will precede the dance session, which will continue until one o'clock. We'll hear the famous tunes that Tommy recorded on records. It was said that he'll play "Once In A While", "My Reveries" and "I'll Never Smile Again".

Several members of the orchestra were well known before joining Dorsey, Buddy Rich, the "Joe Di Maggio" of drums, is one of the best known. Rich comes from a long time vaudeville family who, for fun, made him rise on the stage to play the drum while he was very small. Buddy always goes on making music. It will be heard several times tomorrow night, both during the concert and during the dance session.

The other stars are Frank Sinatra, baritone, Ziggy Elman and his trumpet, Jo Stafford, famous singer and the Pied Pipers, a quartet reputed for their harmonizations.

The concert will start at 8:30, and only one admission ticket is required to attend the concert and then take part in the dance session.

Note: Frank Sinatra's name is misspelled.

Dorsey's Sweet and Swing Music Heard by Record Crowd at Forum

By TRACY LUDINGTON

"Doctor" Dorsey came to the Forum last night—and he had the right prescription.

True, in addition to the Doctor of Music himself and his major trio, there was little to rave about—but the quartet already mentioned more than "carried the mail."

True to his tradition of being a great showman, Dorsey paid a tribute to the British Empire and to Canada by playing a chorus of *There'll Always Be An England* even before he played his well-known radio theme-song.

The deft musical nod to Montreal was appreciated, and long before the people in the top rows heard the first five notes of his sweet trombone in the first strains of *Gettin' Sentimental*, he had the audience in his lap. And he kept them there.

Sweet? The Dorsey sweet tunes were all you have heard them to be over the air and more, and the Forum's new loudspeaker system aided materially in putting them over.

Swing? Definitely a lot of the tunes had it—whatever it is—and the crowd liked it almost as well as they did the rest of the variations.

Hot? Not quite so hot as some of the sepia combinations that have

graced the local boards from time to time, but, for white jazz, the Dorsey crew were well up in front with the average. In addition to Dorsey and his trombone, Frank Sinatra, Buddy Rich and Ziggy Elman were the whole show.

Sinatra, the very mention of whose name brought a moan of delight from the large percentage of ladies present, sang *Night And Day*, *This Love Of Mine* which, incidentally, he wrote himself, and *How About You*, closing with a rendition of *Ol' Man River* in his special phrase-conscious style.

Elman kicked things around the rafters with his trumpet in a fashion reminiscent of Roy Eldridge and some of the more torrid trumpeters. Buddy Rich did a very personable imitation of Gene Krupa et al but left a little something to be desired for those who have heard Cab Calloway's drummer, Cozy Cole, in action.

The Pied Pipers were good in a few selections, and the rest of the 17 men were ample in their background role.

The record crowd went for the entire performance and, long before the final show selection was concluded, poured over the boards and across the dance floor, bandstand bound with autograph books and pencils in their hands.

↑The Gazette (Montreal, Quebec) · May 7th, 1942, Pg. 20

This article documents Sinatra singing four songs that night: "Night And Day", "This Love of Mine", "How About You", and "Ol' Man River".

Au Forum

L'orchestre de Tommy Dorsey

Le chef d'orchestre Tommy Dorsey, qui n'en est pas à sa première, a certainement contenté un public nombreux qui s'est rendu, hier soir, au Forum, pour le voir tout d'abord, écouter ses instrumentistes merveilleux et en dernier lieu, évoluer sur le nouveau parquet spécialement préparé pour cette occasion.

Tous les amateurs de jazz qui habituellement écoutent l'orchestre de Dorsey à la radio, sont retournés enchantés après avoir passé une des plus agréables soirées qu'il puisse être donné à l'amateur de jazz et de danse.

Le programme élaboré qui avait été préparé par le maestro comprenait ses favorites compositions dont: "Once In a While", "My Reverie", "I'll Never Smile Again" et moult autres.

Parmi les vedettes qui sont des virtuoses, on remarquait: Buddy Rich, Frank Sinatra, baryton, Ziggy Elman, Jo Stafford, fameux chanteur., et les Pied Pipers, quatuor qui a su amuser le public avec ses harmonisations.

Le maestro et ses musiciens se sont particulièrement fait remarquer au cours de la soirée d'hier, par les nombreuses improvisations musicales auxquelles ils se sont prêtés.

←La Patrie, Montreal, Quebec,
May 7, 1942, Pg. 17

At the Forum

The Tommy Dorsey Orchestra

The orchestra conductor Tommy Dorsey certainly pleased a large audience that went to the Forum last night, to see him first of all, to listen to his wonderful instrumentalists and to revolve on the new floor specially prepared for this occasion.

All jazz aficionados who usually listen to the Dorsey Orchestra on the radio, have returned enchanted after having spent one of the most enjoyable evenings that can be given to the jazz and dance lover.

The elaborate program that had been prepared by the maestro included his favorite compositions including: "Once In A While", "My Reverie", "I'll Never Smile Again" and many others.

Among the stars who are virtuosos, we noticed: Buddy Rich, Frank Sinatra, baritone, Ziggy Elman, Jo Stafford, famous singer, and Pied Pipers, quartet who knew how to amuse the public with their harmonizations.

The maestro and his musicians were particularly noted in the courtyard of the evening of yesterday, by the many musical improvisations to which they are famous.

NOTE: Frank Sinatra's name is misspelled again.

**The Forum,
Montreal, Quebec
November 19th, 1944**

COMING TO THE FORUM
SUNDAY, NOV. 19th, 9 P.M.



**FRANK
SINATRA**
IN PERSON

With an Orchestra
of 50 and His Own
Special Director

Hear—
"This Love of Mine"
"Night and Day"
"I'll Never Smile
Again"
And Other Hit
Parade Songs

The Voice
That Thrills Millions

**His Only Canadian Appearance,
One Night Only**

Seats Now on Sale at Forum Box Office
North End \$1.25, Circle \$2.25, Amphitheatre \$3.25,
Boxes \$4.00, Orchestra \$4.00 All Taxes Included
Reservations (Willbank 6131) must be picked up
before Saturday 6 p.m.

↑The Gazette (Montreal, Quebec), November 8 1944, Page 3

This was Sinatra's second appearance at the Montreal Forum. This time it's his first solo appearance in Canada. Sinatra would only sing one of the songs mentioned in this advertisement. His set list included "Swinging On A Star", "Embraceable You", "If You Are But A Dream", "What A Difference A Day Makes", "Old Man River", "Night and Day", "I'll Walk Alone", "Kiss Me Again", "The Song Is You", "I Love You, Dear", "Do not Blame Me", and "Brahms' Lullaby".

Frank Sinatra Coming to Forum For One-night Stand November 19

Frank Sinatra, that young gentleman from Hoboken, New Jersey, currently called the greatest rave in the show business, the singer who makes the youngsters swoon and faint when he raises his voice in song, will make a personal appearance at the Forum on the night of Sunday, November 19. After months of negotiations with the Music Corporation of America—one of the biggest industries in show business—Manager Tommy Gorman of the Forum, reports he has succeeded this week in completing arrangements for the coming of the crooner to Montreal.

It will be a one-night stand only and Sinatra will sing for about forty minutes. He will be accompanied by an orchestra of fifty pieces, it is announced, and will present his own program of songs.

Sinatra will be accompanied by his own personal director, Axel Stordahl, who will direct the orchestra while Sinatra is on the stage. The singer's coming has been rumored for many weeks, and it is expected that he will attract one of the largest audiences that any musical offering has ever brought into the Forum.

Sinatra, incidentally, appeared in the Forum three years ago with Tommy Dorsey and his orchestra but that was before he jumped to

fame. Since then he has acquired the reputation of having since broken thousands of hearts in New York, Chicago, San Francisco and



FRANK SINATRA

Los Angeles and has also made two motion pictures. Recently he lunched at the White House in Washington with President Roosevelt, who is said to be one of his admirers. Sinatra is now in greater demand than any other radio, stage or screen star and last year his earnings ran up into millions. When he appeared two weeks ago in the Paramount Theatre in New York, the police reserves had to be called out to handle the mobs which thronged around Times Square.

Sinatra will be flown to Montreal on the afternoon of November 19 and will return to New York the following day.

To Men of Montreal! Young and Old!

Be Good to Your Mothers, Your Wives, And Your Sweethearts Or You'll Lose 'Em, Because . . .

FRANK SINATRA

IS COMING TO THE FORUM

SUNDAY, November 19th

One Night Only. Exclusive Canadian Appearance.

Plan of Seats Opens At The Forum Wed., Nov. 8th

Prices — Orchestra \$4.00 Boxes \$4.00 and \$3.25
Amphitheatre \$3.25 Circle \$2.25 North End \$1.25
All Taxes Included

All Tickets Must Be Picked up by Sat., Nov. 11th.

Complimentary List Completely Suspended

←The Gazette
(Montreal, Quebec),
November 4 1944,
Page 20

Two years after his first visit to The Forum with Tommy Dorsey, Frank Sinatra was considered a threat to the men of Montreal!

←*La Patrie, Montreal, November 5, 1944, pg. 70*



FRANK SINATRA, singer of the screen and the radio, the biggest attraction present in the world of the spectacle at the Forum on November 18th. An orchestra of 30 musicians will accompany him.

(note: Sinatra's performance was actually on November 19th)

FRANK SINATRA, chanteur de l'écran et de la radio, la plus grande attraction actuelle dans le monde du spectacle au Forum le 18 novembre. Un orchestre de 30 musiciens l'accompagnera.

HOMMES DE MONTRÉAL! JEUNES ET VIEUX

Soyez bons pour votre mère, votre épouse et votre amie ou vous les perdrez parce que...

FRANK SINATRA

SERA AU FORUM

Dimanche, le 19 novembre

Un soir seulement . . . Unique apparition au Canada

Billets en vente au Forum mercredi le 8 novembre:

Orchestre, \$4.00 - Loges, \$4.00 et \$3.25

Amphithéâtre, \$3.25 - Circle, \$2.25 - Section nord, \$1.25

Taxes comprises

On devra aller chercher ses billets au plus tard le 11 novembre.
Aucuns billets complimentaires.

←This advertisement ran in *La Patrie, Montreal, November 5, 1944, pg. 70.*

It is a French language version of the ad that ran in *The Gazette, (Montreal, Quebec), November 4, 1944*

Frank Sinatra au forum dimanche, le 19 novembre

Concert organisé par la Corporation de musique d'Amérique—Sinatra, le chanteur le plus applaudi à l'heure actuelle

Les amateurs de musique, les fervents de la radio, les habitués du cinéma et tout le public en général seront beaucoup intéressés d'apprendre une récente nouvelle communiquée par M. Tommy Gorman, gérant du Forum de Montréal.

Cette nouvelle nous dit que le seul et unique Frank Sinatra, actuellement la plus grande attraction dans le monde des amusements, apparaîtra au Forum le soir du dimanche, 19 novembre. Après plusieurs mois de démarches, les arrangements ont été complétés pour que le fameux chanteur présente un programme au Forum, un seul soir. Sinatra qui est présentement en demande partout, arrivera à Montréal dans l'après-midi du 19 novembre et repartira par avion pour New York le lendemain matin.

Sinatra vient à Montréal sous les auspices de la Corporation de musique d'Amérique. Ce sera sa première et unique apparition au Canada cette année. Frank est à l'heure actuelle l'artiste le mieux payé de l'écran, et de la radio. Ses revenus dépassent le million depuis qu'il a atteint le ciel de la gloire l'an dernier, et il recevra pour son programme au Forum une des plus fortes garanties jamais offertes.

Cette visite est la deuxième de Sinatra au Forum. Trois ans au-

paravant, alors qu'il n'était qu'un "crooner" dans l'orchestre de Tommy Dorsey, il chanta ici plusieurs numéros. C'était avant qu'il devienne une idole de la scène, de l'écran et des ondes. New-York, Chicago, San Francisco et Hollywood ont admis enfin à l'unanimité le charme amusant du jeune chanteur de New Jersey. Frank est maintenant connu d'un océan à l'autre comme "la voix de la radio". Il y a quinze jours, lorsqu'il commença un engagement au théâtre Paramount de New-York, des milliers de personnes entourèrent le Times Square Building; ils brisèrent la parade organisée en faveur de Dewey, manifestèrent lorsque leur chanteur favori fit son apparition, et causèrent une telle commotion dans le théâtre que les réserves de la police newyorkaise durent être mandées.

Jamais dans l'histoire des spectacles de New-York pareilles scènes ne s'étaient produites.

Le 29 octobre dernier, Sinatra chanta avec Phil Baker et autres célébrités du Broadway. Il eut probablement une des plus nombreuses audiences radiophoniques jamais réalisées et son interprétation de "Old Man River" fut l'une des meilleures de tous les temps.

L'ascension phénoménale de Sinatra vers la gloire est sans comparaison sur la scène et l'écran
(Suite à la page 4)

←Le Courrier de Beauharnois
(Beauharnois, Quebec)
November 6, 1944, pg.2

Frank Sinatra at the forum
Sunday, November 19th

Concert organized by the Music Corporation of America - Sinatra, the most acclaimed singer at the moment

Music lovers, radio enthusiasts, moviegoers and the general public will be very interested in hearing a recent news from Mr. Tommy Gorman, Montreal Forum Manager.

This news tells us that the one and only Frank Sinatra, currently the biggest attraction in the world of amusements, will appear at the Forum on Sunday evening, 19 November. After several months of arrangements, the arrangements were complete for the famous singer to present a program at the Forum one evening. Sinatra is currently in demand everywhere, will arrive in Montreal in the afternoon of November 19 and will fly to New York the next morning.

Sinatra comes to Montreal under the auspices of the Music Corporation of America. It will be his first and only appearance in Canada this year. Frank is currently the best-paid artist on the screen and radio. His income has surpassed one million since he reached the sky of glory last year, and he will receive for his program at the Forum one of the strongest guarantees ever offered.

This visit is Sinatra's second at the Forum: Three years ago, when he was only a "crooner" in Tommy Dorsey's orchestra, he sang several numbers here. It was before he became an idol of the

scene, the screen and the waves. New York, Chicago, San Francisco and Hollywood have finally admitted unanimously the fun charm of the young New Jersey singer. Frank is now known from coast to coast as "the voice of the radio". A fortnight ago, when he began an engagement at Paramount Theater in New York, thousands of people surrounded the Times Square Building; they broke the parry organized in favor of Dewey, manifested when their favored singer appeared, and caused such a commotion in the theater that the reserves of the New York police had to be summoned.

Never in the history of the spectacles of New York have such scenes occurred.

On October 29, Sinatra sang with Phil Baker and other Broadway celebrities. It was probably one of the most successful radio audiences ever, and his interpretation of "Old Man River" was one of the best ever.

Sinatra's phenomenal ascent to fame is without comparison on the stage and the American screen.

(Continued on page 4)

Frank Sinatra...

(Suite de la page 2)

américain. Quatre ans auparavant, il chantait par les soirs dans une boîte de nuit de New Jersey. Un agent de Tommy Dorsey découvrit Frank et lui offrit un contrat. Le même soir Frank fit sensation. Il est apparu depuis dans plusieurs films et tout dernièrement il dîna avec le président Roosevelt à la Maison Blanche à Washington.

Il a dû payer à Tommy Dorsey quelque chose comme \$100,000 pour résigner son contrat et après cela il a chanté devant des audiences-foules dans toutes les parties des Etats-Unis. Le 19 novembre était la seule date où il fut disponible, car il vient de commencer un engagement à longs termes à la grande salle de bal du Waldorf Astoria à New York.

Un orchestre de 50 instruments accompagnera le chanteur au Forum, et le conducteur personnel de Sinatra, Alex Stordahl, sera aussi au Forum. Les sièges pour le concert de Sinatra seront en vente au Forum à partir du 8 novembre prochain à 10 a.m. On ne vendra pas plus de quatre billets à la même personne, bien que des industries montréalaises ont déjà pris des arrangements pour réserver un grand nombre de billets pour leurs employés. L'intérêt de la venue de Sinatra est tel que toutes les places disponibles au Forum seront réservées et utilisées pour cette occasion. Les commandes postales seront acceptées, si accompagnées d'un chèque ou mandat poste.

← Le Courrier de Beauharnois (Beauharnois, Quebec)

November 6, 1944, pg.4

Frank Sinatra...

(continued from page 2)

Four years ago, he sang in the evenings in a nightclub in New Jersey. An agent of Tommy Dorsey discovered Frank and offered him a contract. The same evening Frank made a sensation. He has since appeared in several films and most recently dined with President Roosevelt at the White House in Washington.

He had to pay Tommy Dorsey something like \$ 100,000 to resign his contract and after that he sang in front of crowd audiences in all parts of the United States. November 19 was the only date he was available because he has just started a long-term engagement at the Waldorf Astoria Ballroom in New York.

An orchestra of 50 instruments will accompany the singer at the Forum, and Sinatra's personal conductor Alex Stordahl will also be at the Forum. The seats for the Sinatra concert will be on sale at the Forum from November 8 to 10 am We will not sell more than four tickets to the same person, although Montreal industries have already made arrangements to reserve a large number of tickets for their employees. The interest of the coming of Sinatra is such that all the places available to the Forum will be reserved and used for this occasion. Postal orders will be accepted if accompanied by a check or money order.

Frank Sinatra To Sing In Montreal

An announcement of enormous interest to music lovers, radio listeners movie fans and to Montrealers in general was made recently by Manager Tommy Gorman of the Forum. It is to the effect that the one and only Frank Sinatra, currently the greatest box office attraction in the amusement world will appear in the Forum on the night of Sunday November 19th. After many months of negotiations, arrangements have been completed whereby the famous singer will present his concert program in the Forum for one night only. Sinatra, who is now in terrific demand, will arrive in Montreal on the afternoon of November 19th. and will return to

Leo Lavergne

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100
YEARS

*The best
Household
Medicine*

**TAKE IT FOR GRAMPS
& CHILLS, APPLY IT FOR
SPRAINS, BRUISES, ETC.**

New York by plane the following morning.

Sinatra is being brought to Montreal and presented by the Music Corporation of America. This will be his first and only appearance in Canada this year. Frank is now the highest paid artist on the screen or in the air. His earnings ran up over a million dollars since he skyrocketed to unheard of fame last year and he will receive for the one appearance on the Forum program one of the largest guarantees ever offered.

This will be Frank Sinatra's second visit to the Forum. Three years ago when he was just an up and coming crooner in Tommy Dorsey's orchestra he sang here in several numbers. That was before he became such an idol of the stage, the screen and the air waves. New York, Chicago, San Francisco and finally Hollywood all fell before the amazing charms of the young New Jersey singer. Frank is now known from Coast to Coast as "The Voice of Radio"

An orchestra of fifty pieces will provide the background for Sinatra's appearance in the Forum. and he will bring along his own personal conductor, Axel Stordahl. Seats for the Sinatra concert went on sale at the Forum this morning.

No more than four will be sold to any one person, though local industrial companies have already arranged to secure large blocks of tickets for their employees. So great is the interest in the forthcoming appearance of Sinatra that the entire auditorium of the Forum will be reserved and used for the occasion. Mail orders are now being accepted and must, of course, be accompanied by cheque or money orders.

Frank Sinatra, suaive chanteur

Aucune personnalité théâtrale n'a jamais captivé autant le public que le jeune chanteur Frank Sinatra, populairement surnommé "La Voix", et qui viendra à Montréal le 19 novembre où il chantera au Forum.

Dans son ascension ultra-rapide vers la renommée, il a été choisi dans la plupart des enquêtes menées à la radio et dans les revues de cinéma comme "le chanteur masculin numéro 1 de l'Amérique".

Alors que Sinatra chantait avec l'orchestre de Tommy Dorsey et gagnait de la popularité à chaque représentation, des gens du théâtre jugèrent qu'il ferait mieux de se séparer de cet orchestre et de se faire valoir par lui-même comme artiste. Et c'était sage car, depuis, Sinatra a tourné des films aux studios de la RKO et de la Metro-Goldwyn-Meyer, il est la vedette du populaire "Hit Parade" et d'un programme radiophonique sur le réseau Columbia en plus d'enregistrer des disques exclusifs pour Columbia. Il est maintenant celui qui reçoit le plus de courriers.

Ce mélange d'un homme du monde et d'un petit garçon est ce qui fait battre les cœurs. C'est un don qui ne s'acquiert pas. Il faut qu'il soit inné. Appelez cela personnalité, voix, entraînement, minutage ou comme vous voulez. Ce n'est pas seulement l'une de ces choses. C'est leur ensemble et c'est ce qu'on appelle du dynamisme.

←La Patrie, Montreal, November 9 1944, pg. 15

Frank Sinatra sweet singer

No theatrical personality has ever captivated the public as much as the young singer Frank Sinatra, popularly known as "The Voice", and who will come to Montreal on November 19 where he will sing at the Forum

In his fast-paced rise to fame, he has been selected in most radio and movie reviews as "America's Number One Male Singer".

So while Sinatra sang with Tommy Dorsey's orchestra and gained popularity at each performance, some theater people felt that it would be best to separate from that orchestra and claim self-esteem as an artist. And it was wise because since then, Sinatra has been shooting movies at the RKO and Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer studios, he is the star of the popular "Hit Parade" and a radio program on the Columbia network in addition to recording exclusive records for Columbia. He is now the one who gets the most mail.

This mixture of a man of the world and a little boy is what makes hearts beat. It is a gift that is not acquired. It must be inborn. Call it personality, voice, training, timing or whatever you want. It's not just one of those things. It's all together and it's called dynamism.

Photo Journal, Quebec, November 9, 1944, pg. 8→

To Montreal

Frank Sinatra, famous popular singer of the United States, will sing at the Forum on Sunday 19 November. He will only give a concert one night, arriving by plane in the metropolis on the 19th in the morning and leaving the next morning. The prices, \$ 1.25, \$ 2.25, \$ 3.25 and \$ 4.00.

A Montréal



Frank Sinatra, célèbre chanteur populaire des États-Unis, chantera au Forum le dimanche 19 novembre. Il ne donnera qu'un concert d'un soir, arrivant en avion dans la métropole le 19 au matin et repartant le lendemain matin. Les prix, pour l'entendre, sont, tenez-vous bien, \$1 25, \$2 25, \$3 25 et \$4 00 /

Sinatra's Concert at Forum Here His Only Canadian Appearance

Frank Sinatra's engagement at the Forum on the night of Sunday, November 19, will mark his first and only appearance in Canada this year—and perhaps for a long time after that. A great many Canadian cities are said to have been clamoring to see and hear the voice, but Montreal was the only fortunate centre in this respect.

Sinatra, after a record-breaking engagement at the Paramount Theatre in New York City, where he turned thousands away, is now singing nightly in the Wedgewood Room of the Waldorf Astoria. After a three-week contract-run there he will go back to California to make two more pictures. He only has one off night and he will spend that in Montreal.

Sinatra will be flown up to Montreal on the morning of his concert here and then back to New York, immediately after his Forum stand. One of the highest-paid personalities in the amusement world today, he was signed for his Montreal concert by the Music Corporation of America and Harry Moss, general executive manager of that big organization, will be here to supervise the arrangements. Sinatra, of course, will not make any other public appearances in Montreal.

The singer will be accompanied to Montreal by his own personal conductor, Axel Stordahl and will be heard with an orchestra of fifty pieces. His complete program is now being arranged and will be announced early next week. The sale of seats is now reported in full swing at the Forum and there is no doubt that a capacity crowd will hear the crooner on November 19. Sinatra's Montreal concert will not be broadcast.

Arrangements have already been made for special police services both inside and outside the Forum building when the singer comes to Montreal. Hundreds of suggestions have been received regarding the Sinatra songs, it is said, and all these will be given due consideration by the Music Corporation of America, in charge of the Sinatra entertainment here.



FRANK SINATRA



←The Gazette (Montreal, Quebec)
November 9, 1944, Page 3

The Gazette
(Montreal, Quebec)
November 10, 1944, Page 7→

THE \$10,000 VOICE



The fabulous Frank Sinatra looms at Montreal. The crooner, who is to be heard in concert at the Forum on Sunday, November 19, will be paid \$10,000 for that appearance. This is reportedly the largest sum ever paid any performer for a solo appearance here.

McIver Will Conduct Orchestra During Sinatra Appearance Here

When Frank Sinatra, now considered the most magnetic box office attraction in America, appears at the Forum on Sunday, November 19, he will be supported by an augmented orchestra of fifty pieces. Sinatra is bringing up his own private conductor, Alex Stordahl, and the key men for the various units, while the local orchestra will be under the management of Al Begin and the direction of Allan McIver.

Allan McIver is known as one of Canada's foremost radio conductors. He is a man whose talents range from purely popular idiom in music to symphony and as an arranger his name is a byword with producers of radio programs. In a given week, Mr. McIver's schedule will sometimes call for the composition and scoring of incidental music for dramatic sketches, arrangements for swing bands, conducting of orchestra ensembles and appearances as soloist with orchestras.

A few highlights of his career in radio would indicate that Mr. McIver was musical director of the famous Spotlight Parade; the Northern Electric Dial of Pleasure; the Imperial Oil Hockey Broadcasts and the Canadian tour of the Jack

Benny program. In addition he has followed a constant round of shows for the CBC, including Music From Montreal, the Canadian Drama series and the Sunday Night Show. Since the inception of the Victory Loan shows, Mr. McIver has won wide notice for his able handling of its difficult musical variations. In short, he is a musicians musician, conductor, soloist and composer all in one.

Mr. Begin (who is associated with Mr. McIver as promoter and manager of the orchestra, is equally well-known in Montreal. He has been musical director at the Forum for four years and has been at the head of the organizations which produced orchestral backgrounds for the Ice Capades, the Ice Follies, the Skating Vanities, Roy Rogers Rodeo, and many other international attractions which have been brought to the Forum. Mr. Begin will have fifty men in the orchestra which will furnish music for Frank Sinatra.

The advance sale for the Sinatra show at the Forum indicates that one of the largest crowds that has ever packed into the St. Catherine street building will see and hear the singer just one week from tomorrow. Hundreds of out-of-town Sinatra fans are reported coming

The Gazette (Montreal, Quebec)
November 11, 1944, Page 6

to Montreal for the occasion and the Voice is certain to get a noisy reception. Sinatra will not be here until the afternoon of his concert and his only public appearance, of course, will be at the Forum. His manager, Harry Moss, representing the Music Corporation of America, will be here the latter part of next week to confer with Forum officials and to complete arrangements. Sinatra will be flown here on the morning of the 19th as he is now appearing nightly in the Waldorf Astoria at New York.

The complete program for his Montreal concert—his only Canadian appearance—will be announced next week. Immediately after the conclusion of his engagement at the Waldorf Sinatra will return to Hollywood to make two more pictures.

Chief Inspector Leggatt, of the Traffic Branch of the Montreal Police Department, will be in charge of the protection arrangements in and around the Forum on the night of the Sinatra appearance here. Special fire Department men will also be on hand, so that every possible protection will be given to Sinatra and the audience.

Michel Normandin will be master of ceremonies and will introduce the singer, who will take part in both the first and second halves of the program, which is to get under way at 9 o'clock sharp.



FRANK SINATRA
Star of Stage, Screen and Radio

**A Special Invitation
To The Ladies of
Montreal:**

**"I'll Be Seeing You At
The Forum Sun.,
Nov. 19th"**

**FRANK
SINATRA**

One Night Only

**DON'T BE CROWDED
OUT**

SEATS NOW ON SALE AT FORUM BOX OFFICE
PRICES: \$1.25, \$2.25, \$3.25, \$4.00 All Taxes Included
RESERVATIONS: Wilbank 6131

↑The Gazette (Montreal, Quebec) November 11, 1944, Page 6
(This time the ad is tailored for the "Ladies of Montreal")

In the same issue of The Gazette on page 21, Sinatra is declared a public menace:

Psychologist States Sinatra is Harmful

Hamilton, Ont., November 10.—(P)
—Frank Sinatra "would be doing a public service to parents and children of this continent if he would stop singing," Dr. Angelo Patri of New York, noted child psychologist and educationist, said here today.

"Hysteria to the point of swooning is definitely harmful," Dr. Patri said in an interview on his arrival to address meeting in connection with Education Week.

"If a person spreads a disease, we want him out of the way. This is a nervous disease and it is a harmful thing. . . . Apparently such singing upsets nerves that are already keen."

Alan McIver avec Frank Sinatra

Lorsque Frank Sinatra, actuellement la plus puissante attraction en Amérique, apparaîtra au Forum, dimanche le 19 novembre, il sera supporté par un orchestre de 50 musiciens. Sinatra viendra ici avec son propre directeur, M. Axel Stordahl, et les musiciens importants pour les différents instruments, pendant qu'une symphonie locale, sous la gérance de M. Al Bégin et la direction de M. Allan McIver complètera l'orchestre.

Allan McIver est un des conducteurs les plus en vue de la radio en Canada. Il est un musicien dont les talents varient de la musique populaire à la symphonie. M. McIver a aussi une excellente réputation pour les arrangements spéciaux. En une semaine, il se voit quelquefois forcé de préparer des arrangements pour des sketches dramatiques, composer des morceaux pour des numéros spéciaux, préparer des compositions de danse, conduire un orchestre et apparaître comme soliste dans une symphonie.

Dans les faits intéressants de sa carrière à la radio, on voit qu'il fut le directeur musical de la fameuse "Spotlight Parade", la "Dial of Pleasure", des émissions de hockey, et de la tournée canadienne de Jack Benny. De plus il a constamment été à l'affiche dans les programmes musicaux de Radio-Canada, y compris "Music from Montreal", les séries Canadian Drama, le "Sunday Night Show". Depuis la création des programmes de l'Emprunt de la Victoire, M. McIver s'est de nouveau mis en évidence par la façon experte avec laquelle il a dirigé ces programmes difficiles. En somme, il est musicien, directeur et compositeur.

Al Bégin, qui est associé à M. McIver comme promoteur et gérant de l'orchestre, est aussi bien connu à Montréal. Il est directeur musical au Forum depuis quatre ans et a été en charge des organisations qui ont produit les splendides programmes musicaux pour les Ice Capades, Ice Follies, Skating Vanities, Roy Rogers and Rodeo, ainsi que plusieurs autres spectacles internationaux, qui sont passés au Forum.-- (Communiqué).

←La Patrie, Montreal, November 14 1944, pg. 15

Allan McIver
with Frank Sinatra

When Frank Sinatra, currently the most powerful attraction in America, will appear at the Forum on Sunday, November 19th, he will be supported by an orchestra of 50 musicians. Sinatra will come here with his own director, Mr. Axel Stordahl, and the important musicians for the various instruments, while a local symphony, the management of Mr. Al Bégin and the direction of Mr. Allan McIver will complete the orchestra.

Allan McIver is one of the most prominent drivers of radio in Canada. He is a musician whose talents range from popular music to symphony. Mr. McIver also has an excellent reputation for special arrangements. In a week, he is sometimes forced to prepare arrangements for dramatic sketches, compose pieces for special issues, prepare dance compositions, conduct an orchestra and appear as a soloist in a symphony.

In the interesting facts of his career on the radio, we see that he was the musical director of the famous "Spotlight Parade", the "Dial of Pleasure", hockey programs, and Jack Benny's Canadian tour. In addition, he has been starring in Radio-Canada's music programs, including "Music from Montreal", the Canadian Drama series, and the "Sunday Night Show". Since the creation of the Victory Loan programs, Mr. McIver has again demonstrated how expertly he has directed these challenging programs. In short, he is a musician, director and composer.

Al Bégin, who is associated with Mr. McIver as promoter and manager of the orchestra, is also well known in Montreal. He has been Music Director at the Forum for four years and has been in charge of the organizations that have produced the splendid music programs for the Ice Capades, Ice Follies, Skating Vanities, Roy Rogers and Rodeo, as well as several other international shows, which have been at the Forum. -- (Communicated).

Sinatra Show at Forum Sunday Follows Record Paramount Stay

Frank Sinatra closed his record breaking engagement at the Paramount Theatre with an off the record thank you to his overflow audience present on the last evening of his appearance there. Before he sang, when the applause which greeted his appearance on stage died down, he told his audience "You have given me one of the happiest moments I've ever had. If I had a talent for words, I'd write about it."

For fifteen minutes before he



FRANK SINATRA

sang, gifts were handed Sinatra from the audience, which he stacked up by the bandstand, and occasionally displayed to the members of the band. He sang only request songs, and read a poem written him by one of his fans. When

he remarked laughingly that it sounded like the lyrics of a song, enthusiasts suggested he sing it, and he told them, "Oh, no. I have enough trouble singing my own songs."

Tomorrow after having had a brief rest from appearances for war charities, bond drives and servicemen, Sinatra will be heard at the Memorial Auditorium in Buffalo, with the Buffalo Civic Orchestra, and then he comes to Montreal for his appearance at the Forum on Sunday evening. On November 26, he will sing at Symphony Hall in Brighton, Mass.

For his concert here Sunday, Sinatra will arrive Sunday morning and will make no public appearance other than that in the evening. The singer, who is being paid \$10,000 for this concert, will be accompanied by the musical director of his radio program, Alex Stordahl. He will sing with an orchestra of Montreal musicians under the directorship of Allan McIver.

←The Gazette
(Montreal, Quebec)
November 15, 1944,
Page 3→

COMING TO FORUM

Sunday, Nov. 19th

The Voice That Thrills Millions



Frank Sinatra

FRANK SINATRA

Star of Stage, Screen and Radio

Seats Available at All Prices:

\$1.25, \$2.25, \$3.25, \$4.00

All Taxes Included

RESERVE NOW — WI. 6131

←La Patrie, Montreal,
November 15 1944, pg. 15

Au FORUM

Dimanche
le 19 Nov.

La Voix qui
électrise des
millions de
personnes



Frank Sinatra

FRANK SINATRA

Étoile de la scène, de la radio
et de l'écran

Billets en vente à tous les prix:
\$1.25 - \$2.25 - \$3.25 - \$4.00
toutes taxes comprises.

Retenez vos billets sans tarder
Wibon's 631

At the Forum

Sunday
Nov. 19

The Voice who
Electrifies millions of
people

FRANK
SINATRA

Star of the stage, radio
and screen

Tickets on sale at all prices:
\$ 1.25 - \$ 2.25 - \$ 3.25 - \$ 4.00
all taxes included

Get your tickets without delay

Popular Sinatra Favorites Set For Program at Forum Sunday

When Frank Sinatra sings at the Forum Sunday night next in his one and only concert in Canada this year, his program will include the song which he first rendered in his initial appearance on the Major Bowe's amateur hour in New York City three years ago. Sinatra was a hustling young newspaperman in New Jersey when he applied for an opportunity on Major Bowe's program. It was granted him and the song, which is said to have electrified his audience, was Night and Day.

Hundreds of suggestions concern-

ing the Sinatra program at the Forum are reported to have been received and many of the Sinatra fans have demanded Night and Day. Yesterday Harry Moos, executive manager for the Music Corporation of America, which is in charge of the Forum concert, announced that Night And Day had

been included in the Sinatra repertory. Another number which has also been added by popular request is I'll Walk Alone. His complete program for the Sunday feature will be announced later in the week. Hundreds of requests are pouring into the Forum, it is said, but it will be impossible to comply with all of these.

Representatives of the Music Corporation of America will be here tomorrow to assist in the final arrangements for Sinatra's sensational appearance at the Forum. Mr. Moss will confer with the Forum officials, as well as with representatives of the Police and Fire Departments, which will have special men posted all round the interior of the Forum for the occasion. He will also have conferences with Al Begin, musical director of the Forum, as well as Allan McIver, who will direct the fifty-piece orchestra. Orchestra rehearsals will be held Saturday and Sunday. Axel Stordahl will be here with Sinatra to conduct for the crooner when he takes the centre of the stage. Michel Normandin has been named master of ceremonies.

The Gazette (Montreal, Quebec)
November 16, 1944, Page 8→

According to advance ballyhoo for the Frank Sinatra appearance here, three Montreal psychiatrists have arranged to be present to study the effect of the cadaverous crooner on his more hysterical juvenile fans. Just for fun, it might be a good idea to delegate somebody to study his effect on the psychiatrists.

←The Gazette
(Montreal, Quebec)
November 16, 1944,
Page 8

SINATRA SINGING SUNDAY



Gazette cartoonist John Collins visualizes how it's going to be at the Forum on Sunday night, when Frank Sinatra keeps a \$10,000 date with local bobby soxers. Despite reports to the contrary, that ten thousand is not the highest price ever paid for a soloist in Montreal. Back on September 27, 1920, the late Enrico Caruso took \$20,544 for a single appearance. History does not record, however, that the flappers of the day swooned for Caruso.

The Gazette (Montreal, Quebec),
November 17, 1944, Page 10→

←The Gazette (Montreal, Quebec),
November 17, 1944, Page 10

Prices for Sinatra Show Drop To Insure Capacity House Sunday

Following special negotiations with the Music Corporation of America which is in charge of his local appearance, the Canadian Arena Company announced yesterday arrangements by which all the Frank Sinatra fans in Montreal will be able to hear and see the radio, screen and movie star at the Forum Sunday night at special prices. Though the advance sale for the Sinatra concert has been reported exceptionally large, the announcement reads "it has been decided to make special concessions to men and women of the Army, the Navy and the Air Force; also to students and the general public." The choice seats have, it is admitted, been disposed of, but on Saturday morning the Forum will place on sale at its box office orchestra, Amphitheatre and circle seats at popular prices. The sale will open at 9 o'clock and seats will remain on sale until 6 p.m. when the sale will have to be suspended until Sunday morning because of the Boston-Canadian hockey game. All available seats in all parts of the building, incidentally, will be sold to the men and women of the respective forces at half price.

Following the Saturday sales, if any seats remain, they will go on sale Sunday morning. These concessions were intended originally to apply only to the men and women of the Armed Forces, but at the request of Harry Moss, executive manager of the Music Corporation of America, they have been made general, as he wishes to present Sinatra before a capacity audience at the Forum.

Sinatra is being flown up from New York and will arrive about noon on Sunday. He will hold a rehearsal with the fifty piece orchestra and his own conductor, Axel Stordahl, in the Forum Sunday afternoon. The Montreal or-

chestra will be directed by Allen McIver, with Al Begin, musical director for the Forum, also present.

The program will get under way at 9 o'clock and special arrangements have been made with the City Police Department for the protection of the singing star. Special police will be stationed at numerous points throughout the Forum and the complete ushers staff of the Canadian Arena Company will also be on duty.


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Progressive
Conservative
Chronicler

on
**VITAL
NATIONAL
ISSUES**

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FRANK
SINATRA
FORUM

Dim. 19 nov., à 9:00 p.m.



ANNONCE SPECIALE

En vente samedi de 9 h.m. à 6 p.m. et toute la journée dimanche.

Sièges d'orchestre spéciaux à \$1.50, plus taxe. Tous les meilleurs sièges du "Circle" à 75c, plus taxe.

Pour les membres de l'armée, hommes et femmes et les étudiants, tous les sièges disponibles à moitié prix.

←La Patrie, Montreal, November 18 1944, pg. 38

HEAR
FRANK SINATRA
FORUM
Sun, Nov. 19, at 9:00 p.m.

Special Announcement

On sale Saturday
from 9a.m. to 6 p.m.
and all day Sunday.
Special orchestra seats at
\$1.50, plus tax. All the best
seats of the "Circle" at 75c,
plus tax.

For members of the men's
and women's army and students, all seats available at low
prices.

La Patrie, Montreal, November 18 1944, pg. 39→

Tickets at low prices for Frank Sinatra

Following special negotiations with the Music Corporation of America, which is in charge of the local appearance of Frank Sinatra, the Canadian Arena Company announced yesterday that arrangements had been made for all Frank Sinatra admirers to hear this famous star of the stage, of the screen and the radio at the Forum Sunday night.

Although the ticket sales for the Sinatra concert were very good, it was decided to make special concessions for men and women in the armed forces, aviation, army and navy, as well as a for students and general audience.

The good seats are naturally gone, but this morning at nine o'clock the Forum will be selling for the first time a good band of orchestra, amphitheater and "circle", at very popular prices.

The sale will begin at nine o'clock and continue until seven o'clock, when the sale will be halted because of the hockey between the Canadiens and the Boston Bruins on Saturday night. All the seats available in the large enclosure will be sold to members of the forces at a low price. They are still available in the amphitheater, the circle and the southern section. Special attention will be paid to ticket requests by members of the armed forces and students.

After the sale on Saturday, if there are still tickets, they will be on sale Sunday morning. These concessions were only applicable to members of the armed forces, but at the request of Mr. Harry Moss, managing director of the Music Corporation of America, they will apply to all who want to see the Sinatra concert in front of a packed house.

**Billets à bas prix
pour Frank Sinatra**

A la suite de négociations spéciales avec la Music Corporation of America, qui est en charge de l'apparition locale de Frank Sinatra, la Canadian Arena Company a annoncé hier que des arrangements avaient été conclus de façon à ce que tous les admirateurs et admiratrices de Frank Sinatra pourraient entendre cette fameuse vedette de la scène, de l'écran et de la radio au Forum dimanche soir.

Bien que la vente des billets pour le concert de Sinatra ait été très élevée, il a été décidé de faire des concessions spéciales pour les hommes et femmes dans les forces armées, aviation, armée et marine, ainsi que pour les étudiants et le public en général.

Les bons sièges sont naturellement partis mais ce matin à neuf heures le Forum mettra en vente au contrôle de bons sièges d'orchestre, d'amphithéâtre et de "circle", à des prix très populaires.

La vente commencera à neuf heures et se continuera jusqu'à six heures, alors que la vente sera arrêtée à cause de la lutte de hockey entre les Canadiens et les Bruins de Boston, samedi soir. Tous les sièges disponibles dans la vaste enceinte seront vendus aux membres des forces armées à moitié prix. Ils sont encore disponibles dans l'amphithéâtre, le "circle" et la section sud. Une attention spéciale sera apportée aux demandes de billets par les membres des forces armées et les étudiants.

Après la vente de samedi, s'il reste encore des billets, ils seront placés en vente dimanche matin. Ces concessions ne devaient tout d'abord s'appliquer qu'aux membres des forces armées, mais à la demande de M. Harry Moss, directeur-gérant de la Music Corporation of America, elles s'appliqueront à tous car on est anxieux de voir le concert de Sinatra présenté devant une salle comble.

Sinatra Will Arrive By Plane Tomorrow

One of the largest crowds to greet a vocalist in Montreal is expected at the Forum tomorrow night, to see and hear Frank Sinatra. Due to a change in the stage set up at the Forum, it is announced, many additional seats have been provided.

Sunday night's program gets under way at 9 o'clock and special police and fire department representatives will be on hand to assist in maintaining order. All the Forum doors will be opened and patrons are requested to use the Closse and Atwater avenue entrances as much as possible. The Forum box office will be open all today and tomorrow.

Six prominent Montreal psychiatrists will attend for purpose of making professional observations, it is stated. Many out of town newspapermen are coming to Montreal for the occasion and, if Sinatra concludes his rehearsal in time, efforts will be made to arrange for a press conference. A request for this was placed last night before Mr. Moss, who said he would comply if at all possible. Sinatra will be in Montreal only tomorrow as he returns Monday night to the Wedgeroom of the Waldorf Astoria in New York City. This will be his only Canadian appearance this year, it is announced.

←The Gazette (Montreal, Quebec) November 18, 1944, Page 6

H E A R

FRANK SINATRA



FORUM Sun. Nov. 19th 9.00 p.m.

Special Announcement

On Sale Sat. from 9 a.m. Until 6 P.M.

Also All Day Sunday

**Special Orchestra Seats at \$1.50
Plus Tax**

All Best Circle Seats at 75c Plus Tax

For Service Men, Service Women and Students
All Available Seats at Half Price

Frank Sinatra

↑The Gazette (Montreal, Quebec)
November 18, 1944, Page 6

La Patrie, Montreal, November 19 1944, pg. 66→

AT THE FORUM: - Frank SINATRA, the popular screen and radio star, can be seen in person tonight at the Forum. An orchestra of 50 musicians will accompany him.



AU FORUM:—Frank SINATRA, la populaire vedette de l'écran et de la radio, que l'on pourra voir en personne ce soir au Forum. Un orchestre de 50 musiciens l'accompagnera.

Au Forum

12,000 personnes vont entendre Frank Sinatra.

Il est venu, on l'a vu et entendu, et tout le monde semble content. Frank Sinatra, l'homme du jour chez les fillettes, a chanté hier soir au Forum devant le public mont-réalais, une série de douze ballades langoureuses et romantiques. Hâtons-nous de dire qu'il ne reçut pas d'oeuf poché, comme à New-York, en hommage à son talent et à ses efforts. Car Frank Sinatra, avouons-le, a un talent réel dans son genre de "swooner", et disons qu'il fait de vrais efforts pour rendre sa voix agréable. Cependant, un groupe d'adolescentes, subissant elles aussi l'effet du cyclone de folie soufflant partout aux Etats-Unis pour Frankie, se sont mises à pousser des lamentations quand Frank dirigea ses regards d'un côté ou de l'autre. Il n'y avait cependant que quelques groupes, mais on sait ce que la contagion peut faire dans pareil cas.

Frank Sinatra, Frankie comme "elles" l'appellent, est apparu sur la scène en complet de ville bleu nuit, avec chemise bleu pâle et cravate assortie. Ses admiratrices n'ont pu voir sa traditionnelle boucle à pois. C'est un homme très sympathique et très à l'aise au micro. Dès qu'il est apparu sur la scène, une longue ovation lui fut faite; des gens debout avec des lunettes d'approche pour mieux le voir, et des applaudissements sans fin. Il faut dire aussi que l'orchestre des soixante musiciens, dirigés par Allan McIver, avait peut-être abusé de la foule en présentant six pièces pour commencer. Et si la musique de McIver fut couverte, c'est un peu de sa faute.

At the Forum

12,000 people came to hear Frank Sinatra

He has come, we have seen and heard him and everyone seems to be content. Frank Sinatra, the man of the day with the girls, sang last night at the Forum in front of the Montreal public, a series of twelve languid and romantic ballads. Let us say that he did not receive a poached egg(?), as in New York, in honor of his talent and his efforts. Because Frank Sinatra, let's face it, has a real talent in his kind of "swooner", and let's say that he is making real efforts to make his voice pleasant. However, a group of teenage girls, also suffering the effect of the hurricane blowing across the United States for Frankie, began lamenting when Frank turned his gaze to one side or the other. There were, however, only a few groups, but we know what contagion can do in such a case.

Frank Sinatra, Frankie as "they" call him, appeared on the scene in darky navy, with pale blue shirt and matching tie. His admirers could not see his traditional polka-dot tie. He is a very friendly man and very comfortable at the microphone. As soon as he appeared on the scene, a long ovation was made to him; people were standing with binoculars to see him better, and there was endless applause. It must also be said that the orchestra of sixty musicians, led by Allan McIver, may have abused the crowd by presenting six pieces to begin. And if McIver's music was covered, it's a bit of his fault.

Surexcités, les jeunes entendirent d'abord "Swinging On A Star", "Embraceable You", "If You Are Not a Dream", "What a Difference a Day Makes", "Old Man River". Et dans la 2e partie du programme, Frank Sinatra chanta "Night and Day", "I Walk Alone", "Kiss Me Again", "A Song Is You", "I Love You, Dear", "Don't Blame Me", et "The Lullaby", une berceuse dédiée à ses deux jeunes enfants.

Des jeunes gens qui réclamèrent à la fin d'une chanson Bing Crosby, s'attirèrent une réponse intelligente car Frank Sinatra prononça: "Si Crosby était ici, vous auriez un bon chanteur. Moi aussi j'aimerais sa présence". Sinatra semble estimer Crosby et dans sa chanson humoristique "Don't Blame Me", il admet qu'il ne peut se comparer à lui.

Pour résumer, disons que l'orchestre McIver, sans la présence d'adolescentes qui jouaient à crier le plus fort possible, aurait pu être goûté. Ayant très mal entendu la musique donnée, je peux difficilement en parler. Quant à Frankie, l'étoile de la soirée, il est assez sympathique et sa voix de baryton est plaisante à entendre; sa façon de donner certains sons à quelques notes du registre élevé ou bas est toute personnelle et n'a aucune ressemblance avec la voix des autres "crooners". La soirée lui rapporte \$10,000; et comme dans la chanson, "who pays my taxes"?

Frank Sinatra rappela avoir déjà chanté au Forum, il y a trois ou quatre ans, à un concert donné au bénéfice de la Croix-Rouge.

Michel Normandin était maître de cérémonie.

Il n'y eut pas d'évanouissement ni de crise hystérique, hier soir. Seulement un engouement assez prononcé... et quelques cris. On n'eut pas besoin du secours des officiers du Service Ambulancier St-Jean qui étaient présents.

Lydia PATRY

←La Patrie, Montreal, November 20 1944, pg. 6 (part 2)

The youngsters first heard "Swinging On A Star", "Embraceable You" "If You Are But A Dream", "What A Difference A Day Makes", "Old Man River" and in the second part of the program, Frank Sinatra sang "Night and Day", "I Walk Alone", "Kiss Me Again", "The Song Is You", "I Love You, Dear", "Do not Blame Me", and "The Lullaby", a lullaby dedicated to his two young children.

Young people who demanded at the end of a Bing Crosby song, attracted an intelligent response because Frank Sinatra said: "If Crosby was here, you would have a good singer, and I too would like his presence". Sinatra seems to esteem Crosby and in his humorous song "Do not Blame Me", he admits he cannot compare himself to him.

To summarize, let's say that the McIver orchestra, without the presence of teenage girls who were playing shouting loudest, could have been tasted. Having misunderstood the music given, I can hardly talk about it. As for Frankie, the star of the evening, he is quite friendly and his baritone voice is pleasant to hear; its way of giving certain sounds to some notes of the high or low register is quite personal and has no resemblance to other crooners. The evening brings him \$ 10,000; and as in the song, "who pays my taxes"?

Frank Sinatra recalled having already sung at the Forum, three or four years ago, at a concert for the benefit of the Red Cross.

Michel Normandin was a master of ceremonies.

There was no fainting or hysterical crisis last night. Only a pretty pronounced craze ... and some shouting. There was no need for the help of two St. John Ambulance officers who were present.

Sinatra, Delayed, Finally Earns His \$10,000 Here

Canon Blasts At 'The Voice'

"Surely none but morons could be attracted to such an exhibition and we as Christian people should make some definite protest against this abuse of the Sabbath," thundered the Reverend Canon G. Oliver of St. Mathias' Church, Westmount, yesterday in a Sunday morning sermon that made no direct reference to Frank Sinatra or the Forum but was taken by all in the congregation to be a blast at the long-heralded appearance of "The Voice" in Montreal.

Referring directly only to a "deplorable exhibition scheduled to take place tonight in one of our large public buildings," Canon Oliver said, "surely the vested interests have time enough during six days of the week to make money without encroaching on the Christian Sunday."

"We have been silent too long about the happenings in this city on the Sabbath," the canon continued. "Are we never to make a stand?"

Scolding those whom he described later as pandering to the emotions of the emotionally immature, the canon said in his sermon that he understood that not only was a performance to be given on Sunday night but that the ticket office was to be open all day Sunday, "which proves," he said, "that whatever Christian feeling there may be in this city is utterly ignored so that profit may be made."

Canon Oliver led up to his forthright denunciation of "this abuse of the Lord's day flaunted before our very eyes" by referring to the opening in Westmount by Rev. Bryan S. W. Green of a campaign under the title of "A Faith for the Times."

"When we stop to consider the situation at the present time in our own community we realize there is need for a stronger, more virile Christian witness. The Christians of this city should shudder at the deplorable exhibition scheduled to take place tonight in one of our large public buildings," the canon said.

"In these days when the lads overseas are shedding their blood in order to establish ideals that make life worth living," the sermon concluded, "we at home should surely maintain a reasonable and decent standard in our public life."

Plane Two Hours Late But His Faithful Wait

More than two hours late due to plane transportation difficulties Frank Sinatra—the Voice—arrived at Montreal's Forum yesterday afternoon and almost immediately went into a huddle with the 50-piece orchestra that was sitting on the edge of its chairs and waiting to get going.

Although a sparse crowd of bobby-soxers attempted to affect an entrance when the sultan of swoon put in an appearance, those who had expected a 5,000 crush at the gate were sadly disappointed.

A few of the more dyed-in-the-wool Sinatra disciples were out at Montreal Airport yesterday as early as noon, and shivered in the wind while they awaited the winging of his plane from the south. These were unable to get onto the airfield or even close to it, for airline officials and Transport Command directors had heard of the Voice and his appeal and stalwart officers were stationed at all roads leading to the airport.

'Oh, Frankie, Please; But He Flees His Fans

Outside a Metcalfe street nightclub early this morning a crowd of wide-eyed citizens shuffled and shivered. Six broad-shouldered constables and a lieutenant hovered around the club's shiny door. Several of the shivering citizens held autograph books in shaking hands.

At 1:35 a.m. a slight, thin faced young man came out of the night club. Then it happened.

The crowd shrieked, groaned, lunged forward. The young man made toward the Mount Royal Hotel.

Hot on his heels they chased him across the lounge. No elevators were waiting. He darted around to the service entrance. The hundred solid citizens were right behind him.

The door of a freight elevator opened and he bounded in. The mob tried to follow but the operator slammed the door.



When Gazette photographer Caroline Harder couldn't get shots of FRANKIE from the Forum floor, the crooner invited her on to the platform yesterday with the above results. A further result: "I wasn't a Sinatra fan before. I am now," says Miss Harder.

Crowd Is Mild At Appearance

Controlled ecstasy was the order of the day when Frank Sinatra appeared in an hour-and-a-half long concert which drew an audience of about 10,000. A liberal sprinkling of city and Forum police was not overworked, Canadian devotees of The Voice being presumably a more orderly lot than their kind below the border.

This is not to say that there was no expression of emotion. Each song title announced by the slim soloist brought forth its bursts of delight. Each song contained moments—a line in the lyrics, an extended musical phrase, a smile to one particular area of audience, even an occasional flat note—which brought forth the famous Sinatra-squeal, a note attainable only by the very young and highly devoted.

That the ecstasy did not get out of hand was partly due to Canadian reserve, partly to the singer's control over his audience. Sinatra impressed as a bright young man who knows his business. He also gets a fair amount of amusement out of it, too, a fact which boosted him in the opinions of the older, staid members of the audience.

Occasional mice-like squeals of "Frankie!" from the Forum gods, brought a spontaneous grin to the cadaverous face of Sinatra. A masculine cry in unison came from the same area (the escorts of the ecstatic young ladies no doubt). "We want Crosby!" The singer's good-humored response to this was: "So do I. You'd hear a good singer if he were here!"

Sinatra also paid tribute to Crosby in a jingle set to the popular song, "Don't Blame Me. In this item, second to last on his program, the swooner declaimed responsibility for all the swooning, and squealing of his public, made jocular references to a certain egg-throwing incident and to his own lack of avoirdupois. He admitted that with Crosby he couldn't compare, but claimed that at least he had his own hair.

The current King of Crooners ran through such popular numbers as Night And Day, I'll Walk Alone (a high point of swooning in the upper regions), The Song Is You, Victor Herbert's Kiss Me Again, — Greig's Ich Liebe Dich in a new translation, and Old Man River. Skillfully he closed on Brahms' Lullaby, dedicated to his own two children, and slipped off while his audience was still in reverent mood.

There were no encores. To those uninitiated in the mysteries of Sinatra worship, he appeared to be a young man with a pleasant light baritone and a highly personalized way of singing. The bobby sox contingent also found something highly personal about his singing. "Frankie!" they squealed in rapture, but their rapture stayed this side of unconsciousness.

So Sinatra came to Montreal. He came, he sang, they loved it all... and they're paying \$10,000 for it. —H. W. W.

↑ Montreal Gazette November 20, 1944, pg. 13

The following story broke shortly after Sinatra's concert at the Forum. It centers around five girls who ran away from their New York homes to try and attend the Montreal performance.

Four Families Seeking Five Missing Girls

Disappearance of five young girls, the eldest, 17, the youngest 10, has prostrated four families in Manhattan's East Side and set police of eight States on the alert.

Two of the five are sisters, Jennie and Eleanor Scridano, aged 17 and 10, of 58 St. Mark's Place. The others are Concetta Livelli, 16, of 103 St. Mark's Place; Frances DeParri, 16, 172 Forsythe St., and Joan Ragusa, 13, of 119 St. Mark's Place.

The four "big" girls all wore red coats, bobbie socks and red fascinators. Eleanor wore a green coat. Jennie and Concetta both left long farewell notes, indicating that parental discipline was too irksome and that youth could no longer stand "false accusations and the blame for everything that happens."

Jennie told her folks not to worry about Eleanor, who is very small for her age.

"I will get work and take care of her and send her to school," she wrote. "I'm going far away. It's no use trying to find me. We have done a lot of screwy things but we have been falsely accused this time."

John Scridano, her father, explained that last Wednesday he had asked Jennie whether she or her friends knew anything about the disappearance of \$132 in cash and two watches. The same day, Concetta, whose note contained similar lines, drew out the \$606.13 she had in her savings bank account. The parents estimated that the capital of the quintet totaled about \$715. Concetta is known as a Sinatra fan.

↑The Brooklyn Daily Eagle (Brooklyn, New York), December 11th, 1944, Page 9

5 Missing N.Y. Girls Found Here, About to Hop Freight, Had \$1,998

The story of how five little girls from New York, ranging in age from 10 to 17 years, who were stricken with the wanderlust, drew lots to see whether they would go to Chicago, San Francisco, Hollywood or Montreal, was revealed here yesterday after they were discovered huddled together in the C.P.R. freight yards in Outremont at 5 o'clock in the morning.

Although they had \$1,998 in U.S. currency and a \$100 American Liberty bond in their possession, the cold, disillusioned and homesick youngsters were awaiting an opportunity to "hop a freight" when they were finally discovered by members of the city police night patrol.

The names and ages of the girls, who had been missing from New York since December 7, were given as follows: Helen Scridano, 10; Jeanne Scridano, 17, her sister; Frances DiParri, 15; Joan Lagusa, 13; and Concetta Livelli, 16.

When the youngsters were finally discovered after a 14-hour search by police here, they had six valises, one hat bag and another cardboard box filled with clothes in their possession.

Officers of the police Missing Persons Bureau said that one of the girls, Concetta Livelli, 16, had apparently adopted the leadership among the girls, although, she was a year younger than Jeanne Scridano, 17. They said she had admitted that she took \$600 from her own bank account, and had signed her mother's name to a cheque for another \$2,000 and cashed it in the United States before coming to Montreal.

The youngsters had spent about \$500 since their arrival in Montreal. A sign of the times was evident when they revealed that the first thing they did after their arrival here and their discovery that boots and shoes are not rationed in Canada as they are in the United States was to rush to shoe stores in the centre of the city. They bought about \$50 worth of the high leather boots on the style of riding boots that have become the fashion during the past few years.

Local girls, who have been having much difficulty trying to find these kind of boots during the past sev-

eral weeks, will most likely get excited over this news, but it will not help them much. The kind the youngsters managed to obtain were not the ones with the fleece lining. And while they managed to get boots, even without fleece lining, they fared no better than other Montreal girls as the result of another war shortage—the extreme shortage of stockings. As a result they were walking around the city for hours in the leather boots and wearing no stockings. When discovered yesterday morning, their feet and legs were chafed so much from the leather boots that they were almost bleeding.

The search for the girls started here on Monday after a request was received by city police from Chief Insp. J. O'Connell of the New York police.

Sgt. Det. William Phillips of the Missing Persons Bureau, accompanied by Sgt. Det. Albert Deighton immediately set out on the trail that was to keep them going for 14 hours before they received word from officers of the police night patrol that the girls had been found at 5 a.m.

Sgs. Det. Phillips and Deighton were led on merry chase around the centre of the city as several "hot tips" were received during the space of the next six hours after the notice of the missing girls had been issued on the police radio and broadcast over a local station.

They were first told that the girls had been seen in a Durocher street rooming house. While one detective rushed to the rooming house the other officer telephoned to the place. But there was an extension telephone in the rooming house and one of the girls heard the conversation by accident.

The other "hot tips" received led the officers to a spot on Cathedral street, to the corner of Durocher and Sherbrooke streets, and to the Queen's Hotel.

The officers notified Chief Inspector O'Connell in New York yesterday that the girls had been found. A return telegram was received within a brief time stating that the parents of the girls had been notified, and that they would be coming here to get the youngsters. The parents are expected here today or tomorrow.

5 Sinatra Gals, 10 to 17, Gone; \$715 Roll, Too

Five Sinatra fans—aged 10 to 17—were the objects of a nine-state police search last night after a



Jenny Scridano

mass runaway from their downtown Manhattan homes.

The five girls disappeared Thursday, garbed alike in maroon coats and blue shoes. Last seen entering a cab on St. Marks Place, they are known to have \$715 taken from the apparent ringleader's savings account.

The girls are: Concetta Livelli, 16, of 103 St. Marks Place; Jenny Scridano, 17, and her sister, Helen, 10, of 58 St. Marks Place; Joan Ragusa, 13, of 119 St. Marks Place, and Frances DiParri, 15, of 172 Forsythe St.

The Livelli girl, a student enrolled at New York University, apparently was the ringleader, police said, and cleaned out her bank account to finance the runaway.

↑Daily News (New York), December 11th, 1944, Page 97

← The Gazette (Montreal, Quebec) December 13, 1944, Page 11

5 Returning N.Y. Girls Get Varied Welcomes

New York, December 13.—(P)—Five penitent girls, their quest of the Bohemian life now just a memory and a sigh, were back home tonight—and Frank Sinatra was as unattainable as ever.

The 'teen-aged girls, missing since December 7, were found huddled together for warmth yesterday in a freight yard at Montreal, where they had gone in the hope of seeing the gangling idol of the bobby socks partisans.

They missed by two weeks Sinatra's one-night stand and remained in police custody until fathers of three of the girls arrived to shepherd them back to the humdrum existence of school books and lessons.

Jennie Scribano, 17, her sister, Eleanor, 10, and Frances di Parri, 16, came home to a chicken dinner in lieu of the proverbial fatted calf.

They said they stopped at a tourist camp their first night in Montreal but added, "then we got scared." All five went to a boarding house the second day.

Police turned \$1,998 over to the parents. It was in the possession of the girls and belonged to one of the runaways, Concetta Livelli, 16. The girls said they spent about \$200.

Concetta, ringleader of the group, and Joan Ragusa, 13, were unavailable for comment tonight—possibly because they came home to a different reception than the others.

But Concetta's mother showed reporters one of her daughter's school textbooks, "A Thesis on Prehistoric Man."

On the inside front cover, in big block letters, was printed: "Sinatra, I love you."

← The Gazette
(Montreal, Quebec)
December 14, 1944, Page 7

The Ottawa Citizen →
(Ottawa, Ontario)
December 14, 1944,
Page 5

Five Sinatra Fans Returned to N.Y.

NEW YORK, Dec. 13.—(AP)—Five penitent girls, their quest of the Bohemian life now just a memory and a sigh, were back home tonight—and Frank Sinatra was as unattainable as ever.

The 'teen-aged girls, missing since Dec. 7, were found huddled together for warmth yesterday in a freight yards at Montreal, where they had gone in the hope of seeing the gangling idol of the bobbysocks partisans.

They missed by two weeks Sinatra's one-night stand and remained in police custody until fathers of three of the girls arrived to shepherd them back to the humdrum existence of school books and lessons.

Ran Away to See Sinatra

MONTREAL, Dec. 13.—(AP)—Five New York girls with a wanderlust were heading homeward by train today, while three fathers who came here to get them attributed the whole thing to the fact the youngsters had heard Frank Sinatra was in Montreal.

The girls were found huddled in Outremont freight yards by Montreal police early yesterday, after a spending spree in Montreal. They had misjudged the time of Frank Sinatra's one-night stand in Montreal by two weeks.

Thirteen year old Joan Ragusa went back with the father of two sisters in the group—Helen and Jeanne Scribano—when her own father was unable to make the trip to Montreal to collect her. It took the parents to get the Frank Sinatra story out of the girls, who previously had told police they came here after drawing lots to see whether it would be Montreal, Chicago, San Francisco or Hollywood.

The other girls were identified by police as Frances Diperri, 15, and Concetta Livelli, 16. Police said that apparently Miss Livelli had been chosen as leader of the group when they started their wanderings.

The San Francisco Examiner →
December 14, 1944, Page 8

The following image and description captures the missing girls on their return home to New York.



RUNAWAYS RETURN HOME

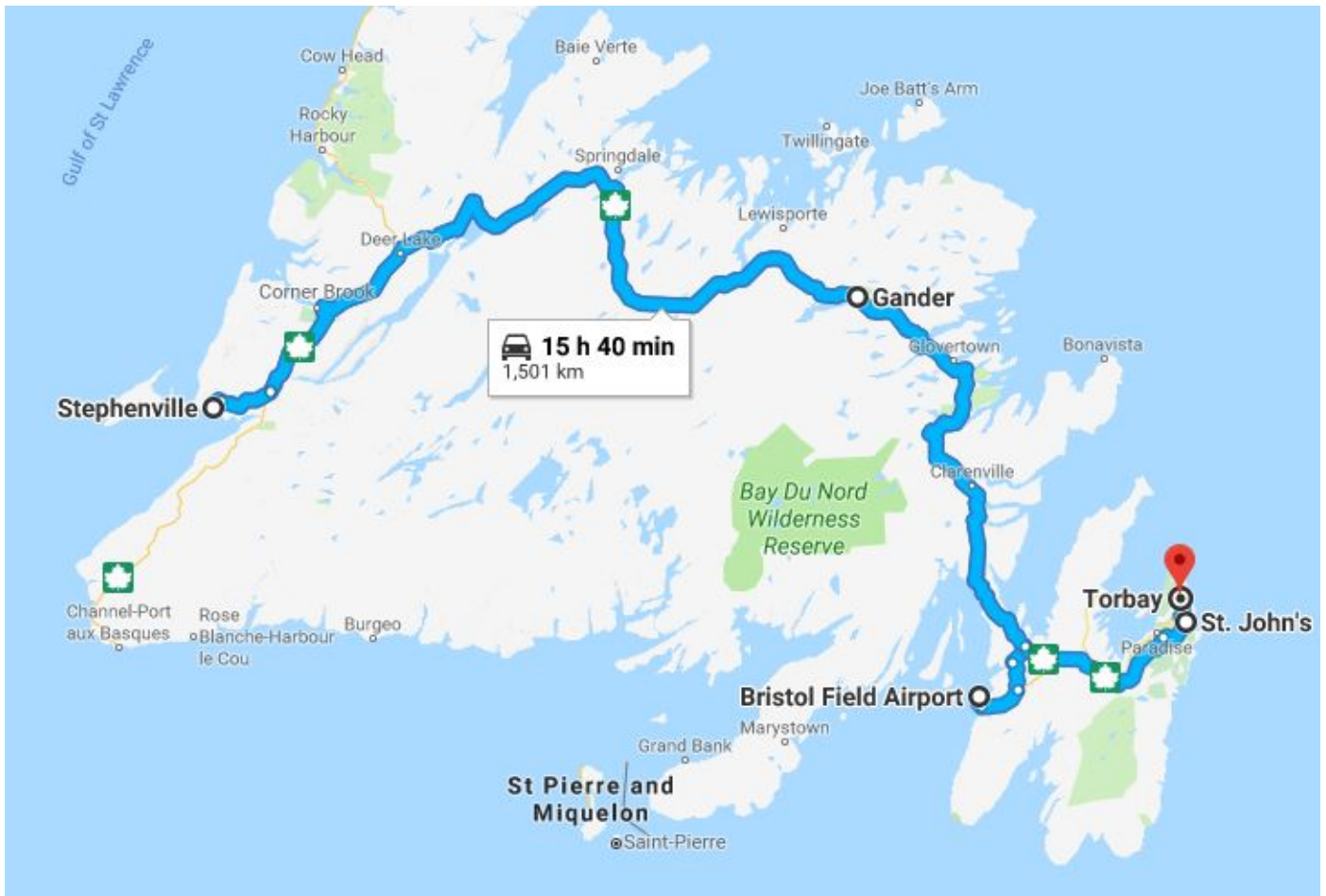
NEW YORK, N.Y.--FIVE RUNAWAY GIRLS FROM NEW YORK'S EAST SIDE, WHO WENT TO MONTREAL IN A FUTILE ATTEMPT TO SEE FRANK SINATRA, RETURNED HOME TONIGHT WHERE THEIR PARENTS HAVE PROMISED TO FORGET THE ESCAPE. HERE, THEY ARE SHOWN AS THEY TOOK THE TRAIN AT WINDSOR STATION IN MONTREAL ON THEIR WAY TO NEW YORK. AT THE LEFT, IS MR. FAGUSA, ONE OF THE FATHERS THAT CAME FOR THE GIRLS; HIS DAUGHTER, NOAN, 13, OF 119 ST. MARKS PL.; FRANCES DIPEPPI, 15, OF 172 FORSYTHE ST.; CONCETTA LIVELLI, 16, WHO PROVIDED MOST OF THE MONEY FOR THE TRIP; JEANNE SCRIBANO, 17, OF 58 ST. MARKS PLACE; MR. LIVELLI, CONCETTA'S FATHER, OF 103 ST. MARKS PLACE; AND HELEN SCRIBANO.

CREDIT LINE (ACME) 12-13-44 (M.L.)
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The U.S.O. Tour

Newfoundland

May/June 1945



A current map of Newfoundland.

The 1945 USO Tour made stops at Harmon Field Air Base in Stephenville, Camp Gilbert in Gander, Fort McAndrew (close to the location for the current Bristol Field Airport) in Argentia, Fort Pepperrell in St. John's, and Canadian Air Base Torbay.

Carl Rasmussen, Sinatra aficionado and researcher, has done an excellent job of tracking the 1945 USO tour. After V-E Day (Victory in Europe Day) May 8th 1945, Sinatra embarked on a USO (United Service Organizations) tour. The group that went on the tour included Frank Sinatra, Phil Silvers, Betty Yeaton, Fay McKenzie, and composer and pianist Saul Chaplin.

It is very difficult to pinpoint exact dates for the USO shows this group performed in Newfoundland. Without a published itinerary, I have had to cobble together a possible itinerary based on newspaper articles published around that time or articles that may have been published a few years after the tour. Here is what I suspect is a rough timeframe of shows and bases in 1945 where the group performed:

- May 30th-31st, 1945 Harmon Field Air Base, Stephenville
- June 1st-2nd, 1945 Camp Gilbert, Gander
- June 3rd-6th, 1945 Fort McAndrew, Argentia
- June 7th, 1945, Fort Pepperrell, Pleasantville (near St. John's)
- June 9th, 1945, Canadian Air Base Torbay

There are two consecutive photos below of Sinatra, Silvers, and Chaplin photographed outside a restaurant in New York City as young bobby-soxers swarm around their convertible, 29 May 1945.



(photos courtesy of Carl Rasmussen)

This would suggest that the group either flew off to Newfoundland on either May 29th or May 30th, 1945. The articles and photos on the ensuing pages are presented as they support the chronological order of the itinerary above.

The following article from Photoplay, October 1945 explains why the tour performed as many shows as they did in Newfoundland:

Competition: Chester Morris is a mighty embarrassed papa. His teen-aged daughter is now such a Sinatra fan that pictures of Frankie have crowded every picture but one, of Chester, out of her room! Frankie-boy is back in Hollywood after his overseas trip—and what a trip! He and his troupe got themselves slightly in dutch with the USO, which had their traveling schedule all mapped out to the last minute. And they risked the wrath for a very good and heart-warming reason. You see, when they got to Newfoundland, Frankie discovered that up to then, that big island was used only as a short stopover by big planes carrying entertainers. For refueling, etc. And he learned that the lonely soldiers stationed there never got a show. So instead of continuing on to Europe in a couple of hours as they were supposed to, Sinatra and company stayed on in Newfoundland for two whole weeks and saw to it that every hamlet—yes, even posts that consisted only of a few guys in a hut somewhere—got a full show from him!

←Photoplay, October, 1945, pg. 10

The article states that “Sinatra and company stayed on in Newfoundland for two whole weeks.” This might have been a slight exaggeration as I have only been able track their movement for the eleven days from May 30th to June 9th, 1945.

HARMON FIELD AIR BASE, STEPHENVILLE, NL

MAY 30TH, 1945

4-C AKRON BEACON JOURNAL Sunday, June 10, 1945

AROUND THE DIAL

Akron G.I. Reviews Sinatra Show

Soldiers Accept Frankie's First Appearance; Kibbee May Sign

By BEE OFFINEER, Radio Editor

HERE'S AN EXCLUSIVE preview of the first Frank Sinatra show given on his overseas tour through the eyes of Sol Auerbach, Akron G.I., who was in the audience.

"Frank was introduced to the overseas G.I. on Memorial day," writes Sol, "with the remark that he doesn't care for all the 'squealing' of the bobby soxers. Capacity crowds jammed the post theater and came away filled with enjoyable entertainment presented by Frank; Phil Silvers, bespectacled Hollywood comic; and their beauteous assistants, Betty Yeaton, contortionistic dancer, and Fay McKenzie, movie actress-singer."

The boys greeted Frank with artificial squeals and the young women, employed on the base, attended—did not applaud as it's not ladylike to do so in this country—but seemed to enjoy his singing, Sol reports.

The G.I.s appreciated his efforts he put on no airs, asked no quarter, made no sentimental speeches but sang and sang. In addition to his swoon-type song he added "Old Man River" and "Lullaby" by Brahms to his soldier repertoire.

"Big credit must go to Phil Silvers who kept the audience in stitches with his antics as magician, clarinet player, singer, and general emcee," says Auerbach. Fay McKenzie's rumba routines got most applause.

After four shows on this base, Frank headed for the Mediterranean area.

. . .

←The Akron Beacon Journal
(Akron, Ohio)
June 10, 1945 · Page 26

This article mentions Sinatra and his group were "introduced to the overseas G.I. on Memorial day." Memorial Day in 1945 was on May 30. Although the article maintains that after four shows the group headed for the Mediterranean area, it is more likely they flew to other bases in Newfoundland.

This first review is of the shows performed at the Harmon Field Air Base in Stephenville. The article also suggests four shows were performed during the group's time in Stephenville. It is possible there were shows on May 30th and May 31st and possibly shows on June 1st before leaving for Camp Gilbert in Gander.

Sinatra and company not only performed shows on the base but helped to open the base radio station VOHF. The articles on the next two pages come from "Harmoneer", a magazine published by North Atlantic Division Air Transport Command, Harmon Field Air Base in Stephenville. This issue is Volume 1, Number 2, August 1945 and the pages reprinted here are from pages 4 and 14.

VOHF – Ten Fifty on Your Dial

Best in American Radio Is Now Aired Direct From Harmon Field

By Sgt. Henry R. Marquit

Six months ago the Information and Education Program was non-existent. Its foundations were laid far in advance of V-E Day, and upon cessation of hostilities in the ETO, Information and Education activities began to take a more active part in the life of the soldier. And so as a special function of this department as specified by directives, a radio station was authorized to supplement methods of bringing information and entertainment to troops.

Upon the arrival of Col. Albert L. Edson at Harmon Field action was taken in securing authorization for the establishment of a broadcasting station. It was realized that facilities for news coverage and its dissemination were inadequate for this base. Due to the fact that there were no local newspapers in this area and that papers coming from the United States were often outdated, and further, radio reception was often poor, the necessity for a local radio station became apparent.

After months of planning on the part of Lt. John B. Struble and others, VOHF finally attained reality. Lt. Struble, Information and Education Officer, was charged with the responsibility of maintaining and operating this station. With the assistance of Capt. Carl Bloom, Capt. Donald A. McMaster, and Lt. Weishaupl, Communications Officers, the equipment necessary for the transmissions of radio broadcasts was obtained and installed. The Signal Corps and the Radio Maintenance Section cooperated in perfecting the engineering difficulties encountered in radio electronics.

Before this could be done it was necessary to secure the approval of the Newfoundland Department of Posts and Telegraphs. On June 20 final negotiations were completed and approval granted, thus giving official confirmation to broadcasts made prior to this date.

On June 19, the formal dedication of the "Voice of Harmon Field" took place. The Commanding Officer, Col. Edson, dedicated the station, with Lt. Herbert Schapiro acting as Master of Ceremonies.

Today VOHF operates on a frequency of 1050 kilocycles with a 10-watt emission. It broadcasts from eleven in the morning till one-fifteen in the afternoon, and from six o'clock in the evening until eleven o'clock.

Sgt. Henry R. Marquit of the I&E section is the station manager, assisted by two enlisted men, Sgt. Jim King of AACs and Cpl. Charles Charney of I&S, who work after duty hours in announcing and scheduling programs. Sgt. King has had experience in announcing and studio engineering, and Cpl. Charney has done radio advertising and production work. S/Sgt. Sam G. Rosenstein, NCOIC of the I&E section, who has done previous radio work in the Army, works along with the station manager. Lt. Struble is directly responsible for the management of VOHF.

In the near future the studios will be enlarged to enable the presentation of productions originating at Harmon, such as radio drama, orchestra broadcasts and variety shows. It is contemplated that "remote" broadcasts will be done from the Recreation Hall, the NCO Club and the Officers' Club. At the moment,



"The Voice" and Phil Silvers cut loose with some ad-libbing at debut of VOHF.

equipment valued at \$500 is on order so that facilities which are prevalent in commercial stations will be emulated.

Recently received was a large record library consisting of most of the current popular tunes of the day and a wealth of classical music. Now, most of the programs heard are transcriptions sent each week by the Armed Forces Radio Service. Two "super-pro" shortwave receivers have been installed enabling programs to be broadcast direct from the United States.

The Voice of Harmon Field gained immediate popularity, and has a range of approximately 12 to 20 miles. Already it is becoming a vital factor in the entertainment of our personnel. The staff of VOHF, realizing fully its responsibility, is endeavoring to present the best in radio entertainment and service. To this end it is planned to extend the daily broadcast day and produce programs which are most entertaining and popular.



Col. Edson dedicates VOHF in a special program at the studios. Assisting are Major Augustinus, left, Lt. Schapiro and Lt. Struble.

First program to be broadcast over VOHF was Frank Sinatra's USO show, aired from the post theater.





Betsey Yeaton spots her picture in the *Harmoneer* when a member of Pat O'Brien's troupe, as Frank Sinatra peers over her shoulder. Left, the "King of Swoon" caresses a mike at the post theater.



Temporarily forsaking the squeals and screams of the bobby-soxers back home who made him famous, Frank Sinatra, one of the top vocalists of all time, warbled Harmon Field soldiers delirious with delight during a brief stop-over at the field this Spring. Even the Crosby fans blinked and admitted that the noted swoon-crooner had what it takes.

Frankie himself was just as impressed with Harmon Field as the local GIs were with him, which is saying quite a bit. This was the first stop on his initial overseas junket, which led him from here to other installations on the island, and to the way-stations between Newfoundland and the Mediterranean theater.

Fingering his snappy Sinatra-style bow

Sinatra Soothes the Skeptics

By Sgt. Nat Boynton

tie, the teen-age idol flashed a broad grin and commented that "you guys have a sweet layout here."

Was Frank surprised to find an air base like this one in a remote corner of Newfoundland? "I'll tell the world I was," he observed. "The minute we touched the ground I was amazed at the size and hustling spirit of the base."

Asked if singing to a packed house full of GIs was any different than crooning to adoring thousands in the New York Paramount, the King of Swoon drew a deep sigh of relief. "I'll say it's different! And, believe me, this is for the better! At the Paramount you never get to hear yourself. The boys gave me a swell hand here at Harmon, and, brother, that means a lot more to me than the theater crowds back in the States!"

"The Voice" had plenty of praise for his reception here. "You can't beat the ATC for transportation, and the DeGink rooms and the meals were swell. Everybody was great to us and got us off to a fine start on our tour."

The owner of the voice that has literally floored millions of the so-called weaker sex headlined a talented quartet of USO Camp Shows troupers that included Phil Silvers, well-known Hollywood comic, Betsey Yeaton, brunette

contortionist, and Fay McKenzie, curvaceous redhead who has appeared cinematically on the receiving end of Gene Autry's romantic serenades. For Betsey it was a return to the scene of a former triumph, as she scored a smash hit as a member of Pat O'Brien's well-travelled troupe last December.

Frank and his entourage reeled off four performances in two days before SRO crowds at the base theater, sang to hospital patients in the wards, entertained air evacuation patients on the flight line, and made brief informal appearances at the NCO and Officers' clubs in a breakneck schedule that failed even to ruffle his contagious grin and natty haberdashery. His conquest was complete, not only drawing admiration from the worshippers of The Bing but more notably winning over the more skeptical brethren who, mindful of the publicity emanating from the States during long months in Newfoundland, had come to regard the Sinatra menace somewhat

with alarm. After all, who is this guy who has our wives and sweethearts gasping for breath whenever he steps to a mike?

But the slender singer stopped the boys in their tracks as he went through a full repertoire of tuneful favorites, his own

Please Turn to Page 30



Fay, Phil and Frankie in action.

Sinatra Soothes the Skeptics

From Page Fourteen

as well as everybody else's. The audience was his even before he sang a note, when, early in the show, he came through with some clever ad-libbing in a wisecracking duel with the aforementioned Mr. Silvers, who is something of a comedian himself. The deft Phil, whose gags practically stole the show in "Cover Girl," "Something For the Boys," "Don Juan Quilligan," and "1001 Nights," convulsed his Harmon audiences as master-of-ceremonies and all-around funny-man.

All of which boils down to the obvious: that Frankie is a "regular guy" who can't help it if the gals get dizzy. He's shy and embarrassed about the whole swoony business, is convinced he can't compare with Bing ("although all the hair on my head is my own!"), and is proud of his wife and child.

"This swooning stuff is just over-enthusiasm, I guess," Frank says. "It's one of those things that happen once in a lifetime, but why does it have to happen in *my* lifetime?"

A regular fellow, Frankie. And the guy can sing.

Continuation of article from "Harmoneer", Volume 1, Number 2, August 1945, page fourteen.

←"Harmoneer", Volume 1, Number 2, August 1945, page 30.

Harmon Field
June 2

Dear Gracie:

Well, honey, Frank Sinatra was here and sang a coupla songs for us guys and he was pretty good, only don't tell my kid sister I think he's good, she would never let me hear the end of it after all the razzing I've been giving her about all this swooning stuff. Maybe I shouldn't tell you this, honey, but Frankie had two American girls in his show, and it sure was a thrill to see a girl again. Boy, these girls were plenty oh-kay. First time I'd seen a girl since I left home. Well, honey, I sure miss you and I sure wish I could get back to the States and see you.

Love and stuff,

Hinky

"Harmoneer", Volume 1, Number 2,
August 1945, page 18→

The "Harmoneer" created a fictional character for a series of jovial letters home regarding life on the base. Corporal Merryweather K. Dinkle, ASN 39648113, is described as "a stalwart if somewhat hypothetical warrior stationed at Harmon field." I reprint this comic letter because it helps to establish that Sinatra was in Stephenville near the end of May, beginning of June 1945.

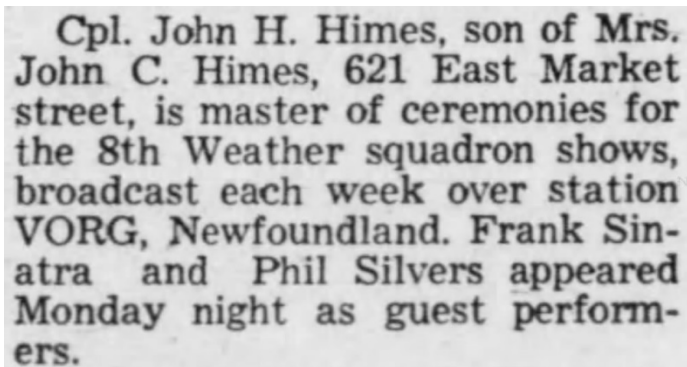
On the next few pages are some very nice reprints of the photos that appeared in the *Harmoneer* magazine. I want to thank Carl Rasmussen who supplied these from his research on the 1945 USO Tour.





CAMP GILBERT, GANDER, NL JUNE 1ST-2ND, 1945

The next stop on the USO Tour in Newfoundland was at Camp Gilbert, Gander. The only newspaper article I could find that mentioned the stop was from the article below.



Cpl. John H. Himes, son of Mrs. John C. Himes, 621 East Market street, is master of ceremonies for the 8th Weather squadron shows, broadcast each week over station VORG, Newfoundland. Frank Sinatra and Phil Silvers appeared Monday night as guest performers.

←The Gazette and Daily (York, Pennsylvania)
Thursday, June 7, 1945 · Pg. 26

The article mentions that Sinatra and Phil Silvers appeared on a broadcast over VORG out of Gander on the Monday night. The

article having been published on June 7th would have meant the VORG performance would have been on June 4th. This is not possible because the group was at Fort McAndrew on June 4th. Luckily, an unofficial newspaper does survive from that timeframe that mentions the arrival of the group on June 1st, performances at Camp Gilbert on June 1st and 2nd and documents the VORG broadcast as possibly occurring on June 1st, a Friday. This comes from The Prop of APO 865 from June 1st, 1945, a newsletter published daily, except Sundays, on the base in Gander. Three articles mention both the USO shows on June 1st and 2nd and the VORG broadcast. The newsletters appear over the next three pages.

USO CAMP SHOW featuring Frank Sinatra and Phil Silvers today at 9 pm for military personnel and guests only. On Saturday there will be shows at 2 and 9 to which everyone on the base is invited.

AT THE RED CROSS TONIGHT

If present plans materialize THE VOICE (Mr. Sinatra to you) will appear on the regular LAUGHTIME broadcast which emanates from the Red Cross Rec Hall each Friday night at 7:30. It is broadcast over VORG. Everyone is always welcome at these broadcasts.

CELEBRITY ARRIVES

This morning we tore away from the typewriter for a few minutes to go over and see P&T in operation when 'personalities' appear. There was not a small crowd around to see what could be seen.

Piling out of the plane were several GIs back from furlough, we gathered, a couple of nurses from our hospital, two young girls who we understand will sing and dance tonight on our stage, Sinatra, looking tan and fit and chewing gum madly, and the big broad Harold Lloyd smile of Phil Silvers. Everyone seemed in the best of spirits and we can predict a lively show tonight.

THE PROP

of APO

865 NYC

Friday
1 June 1945

GANDER, NEW FOUNDLAND

AMERICAN THEATRE

USO CAMP SHOW featuring Frank Sinatra and Phil Silvers today at 9 pm for military personnel and guests only. On Saturday there will be shows at 2 and 9 to which everyone on the base is invited.

Movie schedule:

Today: SALOME, WHERE SHE DANCED at 2
Saturday: HOLLYWOOD AND VINNY with James Ellison and Benda McKay and THE SCARLET CLUE with Sidney Toler and Anton Moreland, at 10 am and 6:30 pm only.

AT THE RED CROSS TONIGHT

If present plans materialize THE VOICE (Mr. Sinatra to you) will appear on the regular LAUGHTIME broadcast which emanates from the Red Cross Rec Hall each Friday night at 7:30. It is broadcast over VORG. Everyone is always welcome at these broadcasts.

at 8:00, a pinochle tourney.

CELEBRITY ARRIVES

This morning we tore away from the typewriter for a few minutes to go over and see R&I in operation when 'personalities' appear. There was not a small crowd around to see what could be seen.

Piling out of the plane were several GIs back from furlough, we gathered, a couple of nurses from our hospital, two young girls who we understand will sing and dance tonight on our stage, Sinatra, looking tan and fit and chewing gum madly, and the big broad Harold Lloyd smile of Phil Silvers. Everyone seemed in the best of spirits and we can predict a lively show tonight.

DECIDING BATTLE

San Francisco, ANS - Premier admiral Baron Kantaro Suzuki told the Jap cabinet Wednesday that the battle of Okinawa was the deciding battle of the war and that the fate of Japan depends on its outcome, the Tokyo radio reported. "Our hopes and determination to win this war are anchored solely on actions of fighting the situation on Okinawa," he said. "The battle of Okinawa is the deciding battle of this war. The fate of Japan and its peoples now as a result of the shattered hopes and confusing enemy strategy depends on the outcome at Okinawa which is rapidly reaching a climax."

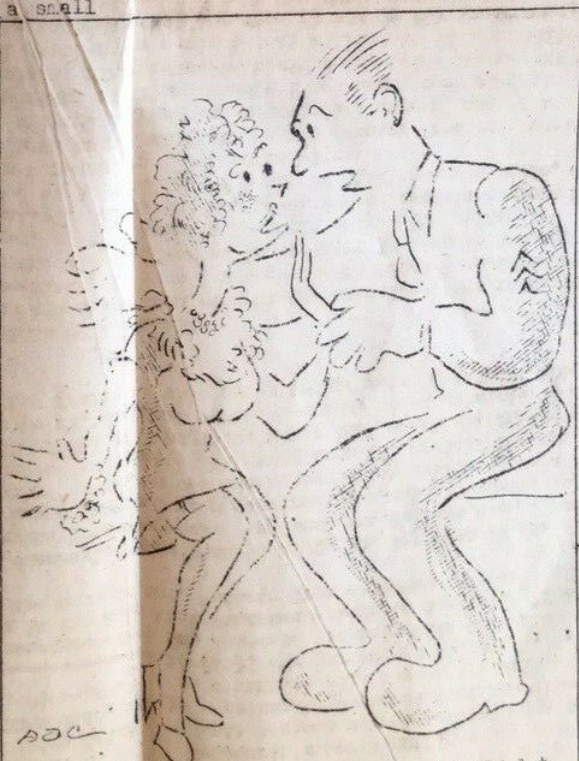
MANCHURIA

JAPAN'S INNER FORTRESS

ANS - Manchuria, almost as unknown to most Americans as Shangri-La Tibet, but where the opening guns of World War II were fired, may, if the Jap war-lords have their way, be also the last citadel of the remaining partner of the now defunct Rome Berlin-Tokyo axis.

Now that American Armies have reached back across the Pacific from Pearl Harbor and Australia to the front yard of the Jap home islands - Okinawa; now that the Navy has won its freedom to roam at will in the "sacred Japanese seas" and our Super-Fortresses are methodically razing the major cities of the Nipponese homeland, the Japs are looking to a new inner-fortress from which to continue their long-laid plans for world domination if the home islands are conquered.

On Feb. 26 of this year the Tokyo radio declared, "Today, when raids on Japan itself are growing in intensity, the country which will be able to take the place of the Jap mainland in the MORE next page



"Do I look like the kind of girl that would let a GI kiss me goodnight?"

THE PROP

Monday
4 June 1945

WEATHER: A long stretch of low clouds, fog and drizzle--slight improvement tomorrow afternoon.

GANDER, NEWFOUNDLAND

AMERICAN THEATER

Today: **PILLOW TO FOST** with Ida Lupino and Sydney Greenstreet; **Bugs Bunny** and **Paramount News**. Shows at 6:30 and 9:00
Tomorrow: **MURDER, HE SAYS** with Fred MacMurray and Helen Walker. Shows at 2:00, 6:30 and 9:00.

RCAF MUSIC HOUR

Monday at 8 pm. **WD Lounge** on Chestnut street... **Symphony No. 4** in C minor by Schubert, **Brandenburg Concerto No 5** in D by Bach and **Finlandia** by Sibelius. Everyone welcome.

ALL PHYSICAL TRAINING "business" will be conducted through Gym 2... **S/Sgt Howell**

SWIMMING

American personnel may use the RCAF swimming pool in the evenings.

TONIGHT AT THE RED CROSS, Bingo at 8:30.
BUS TO THE POND: Lv PX: 1,2,3,4,6,7,8, 9 pm, return half hour later.

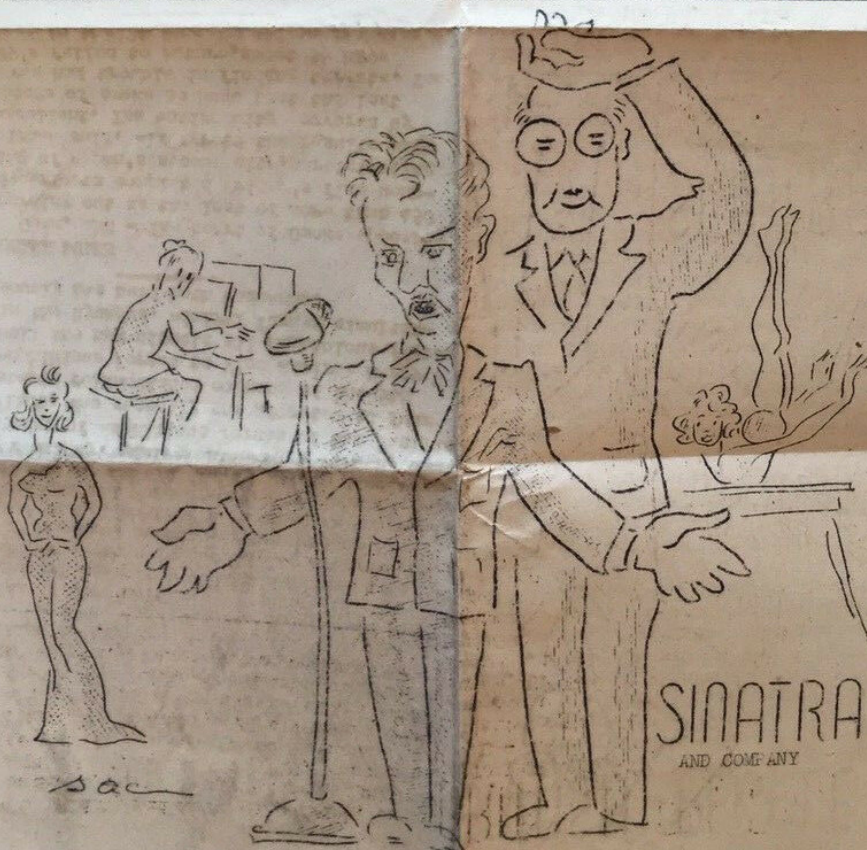
HALSEY RETURNS

Guam, ANS - Admiral William F. Halsey has returned to the Pacific with his famed 3rd Fleet, confident it can go anywhere, even into Tokyo bay. Admiral Nimitz announced that Halsey and his staff have taken over the job of fighting the Japs in the enemy's home waters from Admiral Raymond Spruance's 5th Fleet preparatory to launching new attacks. In a farewell message to his fleet Spruance reported the greatest naval casualties of the Pacific war were suffered in the Okinawa campaign.

After four months in command of the world's mightiest naval fighting force during which he directed the conquest of Iwo Jima, Okinawa, Spruance moved to the temporary shore headquarters on Guam where he was reported planning even

ON next

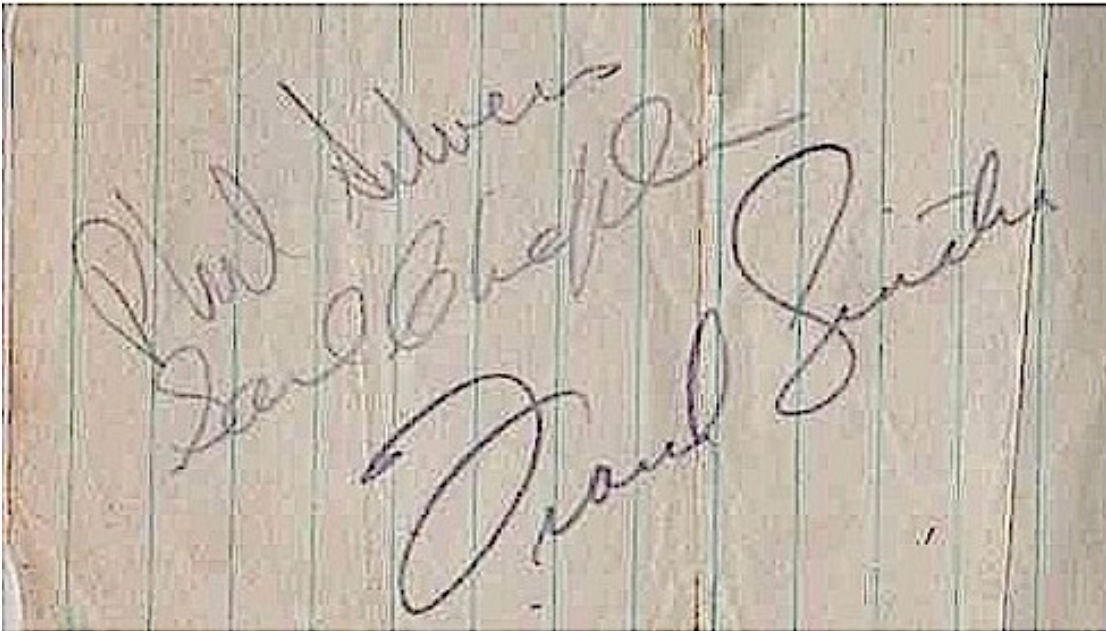
FOUND at theater: Identification disc marked **Dirk H Hlveftreydt--T 62576**



↑The Prop of APO 865 from June 4th, 1945.

Other than the illustration of the USO Group, there was no reference to the group in the rest of the edition.

The autograph below was acquired by Gloria Lindsay (née Durham) who was a Morse code radio operator stationed at Camp Gilbert, Gander from 1944-1946.



Source: <http://bobsganderhistory.com/mog.html>

"I was twice in the U.S. reception hall. Once with an English dance instructor who was an officer in the RAF and wanted a partner for New Years' Eve. It was a delightful evening; we danced the whole night – latin dances, waltzes, foxtrots, jive - and he was pleased that I could follow his lead. The 2nd visit was with an RCAF airman. He had worked as a cartoon artist in Hollywood but joined the RCAF to help with the war effort in 1939. He knew of a visit by Frank Sinatra, Phil Silvers and Saul Chaplin, who were on tour. He introduced me to them and they gave me an autograph.

FORT MCANDREW, ARGENTIA

JUNE 3RD-6TH, 1945

HERE ARE impressions Frank Sinatra left with GIs, whom he entertained at Fort McAndrew, Newfoundland:

"Frank Sinatra arrived here Sunday without his bobby sox worshippers, but he left Fort McAndrew Wednesday with plenty of GI admirers.

"Sinatra, along with Phil Silvers, Faye McKenzie, Betty Yeaton and Soy Chaplin, appeared in three performances at the Post Theatre and two at the Navy North Rec Hall.

"Sinatra's songs, Silver's gags, McKenzie's vocals, Yeaton's dancing, and Chaplin at the piano made up a million dollars worth of entertainment which has been the talk of the post ever since.

"His willingness to sing numerous requests, to sign autographs, and to mix with the fellows, allowing no preferences for rank, pleased McAndrew GIs greatly.

"I sure changed my opinion of him," one corporal said later.

←The News Journal (Wilmington, Delaware), June 25th, 1945, Page 6.

The only reference that I could find published in 1945 regarding the stop at Fort McAndrew is this article from The News Journal from Wilmington, Delaware. It mentions that the group arrived on the Sunday which would have been June 3rd, 1945 and left on the Wednesday June 6th. The article also mentions that there were five shows on the base. There were "three performances at the Post Theatre and two at the Navy North Rec Hall."

Arriving on the Sunday follows with the last reference of the tour at Camp Gilbert in Gander on Saturday June 2nd.

In 1998, on the occasion of Sinatra's death, the article below was published in The Tribune-Democrat, Johnstown, PA. A woman serving with the Red Cross at Fort McAndrew recalls Sinatra's visit. She remembers the visit being near the beginning of World War II but that would have been too early in his career. The 1945 tour date was probably more correct.

↓The Tribune-Democrat, Johnstown, Pa., May 17, 1998, Page A6

Dinner with Frank was memorable

Johnstown woman met singer during WWII

By PETE BOSAK
THE TRIBUNE-DEMOCRAT

Betty Fleck, of the Allegheny Lutheran Home in Johnstown, can still recall her brush with greatness well over 50 years ago - when she was in the company of the great crooner Frank Sinatra.

Fleck was with the Red Cross then, serving in Newfoundland, Canada, at Fort McAndrew, an Army Post Office. It was near the beginning of World War II and Sinatra was coming to entertain the soldiers there, Fleck said.

"I spent well over an hour talking with him," Fleck recalled in a telephone conversation from Allegheny Lutheran Home on Saturday.

"He was very nice. He really wanted to see the boys, and that really impressed us. He was very interested in doing all he could for them."

Sinatra, who dominated popular music longer than any other entertainer, died Thursday in Los Angeles of a heart attack. He was 82.

After his performance in Newfoundland more than 50 years ago, Sinatra and Fleck were invited to the base commander's home, where the two talked. "He talked about his family and getting ready to do the show," Fleck said. "He told me what it meant to him for so many people to want to see him."

Sinatra did not like the idea of going to the com-

mander's residence that evening. The singer had been invited to the Non-Commissioned Officers Club and rather would have been there, Fleck said.

"He said it wasn't the officers he was there to entertain, it was the boys," she recalled.

Sinatra tried to make a short boat ride through rough seas off the coast of Newfoundland to Fox Island, where the Army had men stationed, Fleck said. But, unfortunately, rough seas prevented the singer from getting to the island, she said. Fleck was along for that unsuccessful ride.

His down-to-earth demeanor, friendly, outgoing personality and concern for the military men are what Fleck said she remembers most about Sinatra. "He was the one famous person I had the opportunity to talk with," Fleck said.

The following photo comes from the Maritime History Archive Public Photo Catalogue. The caption for the photo was "*USO Troop with Phil Silvers and Frank Sinatra visit Argentina*". Argentina was the location of Fort McAndrew in Newfoundland.



Source: https://www.mun.ca/mha/pviewphoto.php?Record_ID=9794&pagev=1.



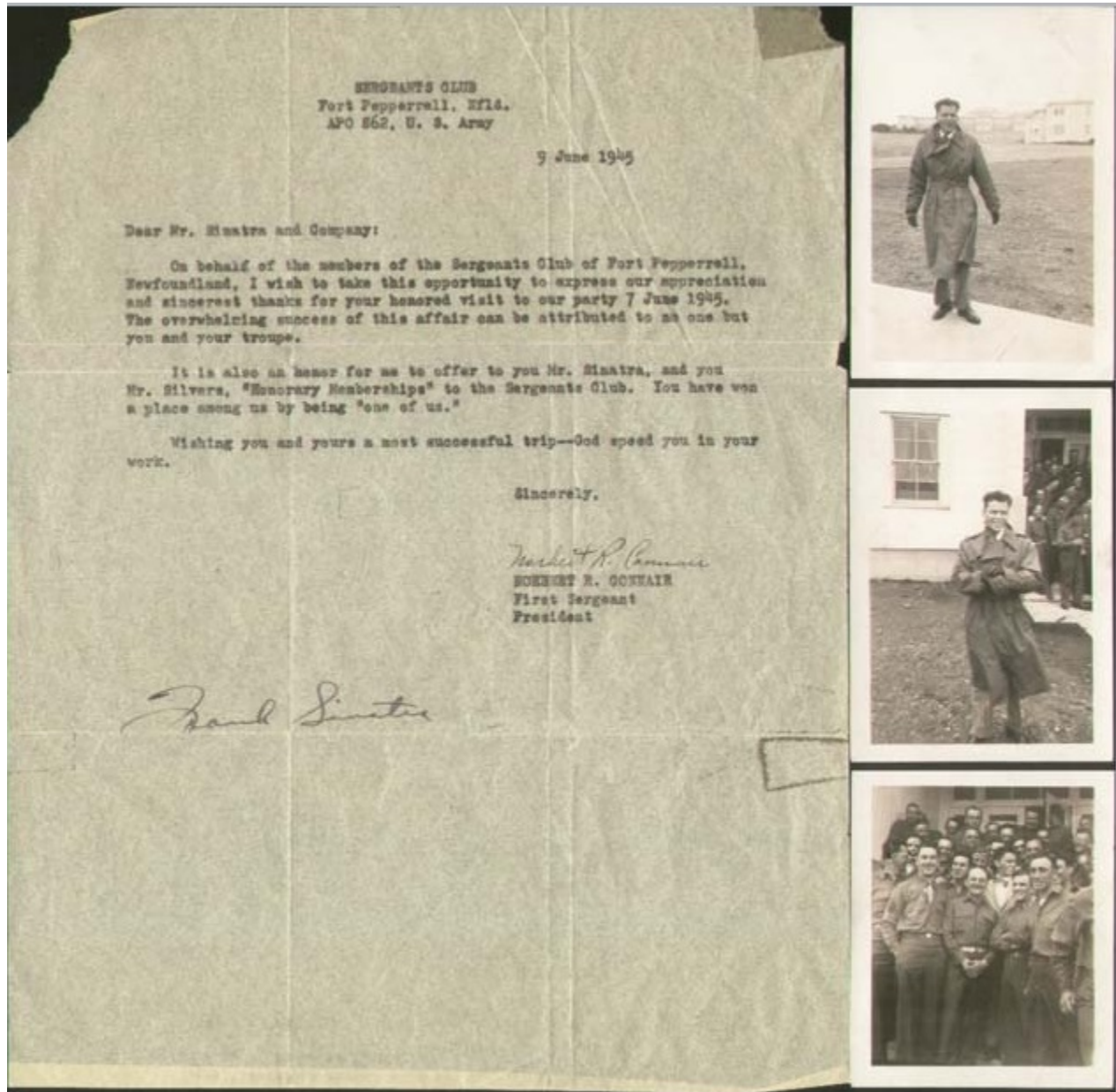
Source: "A Friendly Invasion II: A Personal Touch" by John N. Cardoulis

The caption for this image was "Performance by Frank Sinatra at Buckmaster's Field, St. John's in 1945—Chris Andrews, far right on stage, was the MC for the event. The Argentina CB Band played that night.

FORT PEPPERRELL, PLEASANTVILLE

JUNE 7TH, 1945,

The following letter and accompanying photos appeared on an online auction site. The letter, dated June 9th, places Sinatra and the group at Fort Pepperrell, St. John's, Newfoundland on June 7th, 1945. It is not clear from the letter how many shows may have been performed at Fort Pepperrell.



↑*"On behalf of the members of the Sergeants Club of Fort Pepperrell, Newfoundland, I wish to take this opportunity to express our appreciation and sincerest thanks for your honored visit to our party 7 June 1945. The overwhelming success of this affair can be attributed to no one but you and your troupe.*

It is also an honor for me to offer to you Mr. Sinatra, and you Mr. Silvers, "Honorary Memberships" to the Sergeants Club. You have won a place among us by being "one of us."

Wishing you and yours a most successful trip—God speed you in your work."



←These were the complete group of photos that were included with the letter that was auctioned off.

ROYAL CANADIAN AIR FORCE STATION TORBAY

JUNE 9TH, 1945,

The following is an excerpt from the Daily Diary of the 42 Radio Unit - Cape Spear, Newfoundland, April 1, 1945 to July 3, 1945. The entry for June 7th, 1945 mentions receiving "12 ticket from RCAF Station Torbay for personnel at this Unit to attend a USO show at Torbay this evening featuring Frank Sinatra". This is the only reference I have found regarding the Torbay performance.

2 Jun 45

Dull, clearing up during afternoon. One WOG posted in as replacement for another discharged on quota for "more than three years service". One airman returned from leave. Rations drawn.

3 Jun 45

Bright and sunny. Religious held on Unit. Softball game with the Army Unit during afternoon. Scores: 12 - 13 for the Army. Activity slight.

4 Jun 45

Dull and windy. Census taken of personnel who wish to volunteer for Service in the Pacific Theatre. Five volunteers on this Unit. Also received instructions for "point system" of priority for future demobilization. Aerial activity slight (16 tracks in 24 hours).

5 Jun 45

Dull and windy, later turned to fog. Unit censorship abolished eff 1st June; instructions received today. Aerial activity slight (18 tracks in 24 hours). Rations collected in St. John's. Softball game with the Army during the evening, score 11 - 27 for the Air Force!

6 Jun 45

Thick fog. Aerial activity very slight. One Radar Operator proceeded on leave. One small cooling fan in main Radar Transmitter compartment burned out. (There is no provision for oiling the bearings on this fan and bearing wear soon causes rotor eccentricity which overloads motor.) Transmitter may be operated without this fan for a few days.

7 Jun 45

Fog and heavy rain. Aerial activity very slight. Collected new fan motor from No 14 RU Also collected rations. Dental parade (4 airmen) at RCAF Torbay during the afternoon. Purchased 500 lbs of ice from St. John's for ice box (local purchase on RCAF Torbay).

8 Jun 45

Fog and rain. Operations slight (18 tracks in 24 hours). Operated on stand-by power plant for one hour during morning (as routine).

9 Jun 45

Dull, clearing during the afternoon. Operation more busy (41 tracks). Collected rations. Received 12 ticket from RCAF Station Torbay for personnel at this Unit to attend a USO show at Torbay this evening featuring Frank Sinatra.

10 Jun 45

Bright and sunny! Rations included turkey for supper. Religious service held on Unit. Operations normal with 54 tracks. Played the Army team on the camp at softball - 3 - 15 for the Army.

11 Jun 45

Source: National Archive of Canada

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS FROM THE 1945 USO TOUR STOPS IN NEWFOUNDLAND

The following photo was included in Carl Rasmussen's research on the 1945 USO Tour. Although Carl maintains the photos were taken in Newfoundland, I have been unable to ascertain the exact locations or dates.



The following picture and article appeared in the Atlantic Guardian, Vol. 06, No. 02, February 1949. It is a photo of a group of soldiers with Sinatra and Phil Silvers but it does not identify the base in Newfoundland or the date. The date of April 1945 is obviously incorrect but the location of Signal Hill suggests Fort Pepperrell. According to the information regarding Fort Pepperrell on the website for Heritage Newfoundland & Labrador, <https://www.heritage.nf.ca/articles/politics/pepperrell-base.php>, "1,000 troops were stationed at Signal Hill to operate four anti-aircraft guns and maintain a 24-hour surveillance of the area".

Atlantic Guardian, Vol. 06, No. 02,
February 1949, Pg. 6↓

● This other picture, along with a two-year subscription, comes to us from Edward Saunig, former soldier with the U. S. Army, who was a member of 421 AAA Battery stationed on Signal Hill near St. John's, during the war.



Mr. Saunig, who now lives in New York, still retains a great interest in Newfoundland. This picture, he says,

ATLANTIC GUARDIAN

Atlantic Guardian, Vol. 06, No. 02,
February 1949, Pg. 9↓

shows "Frank Sinatra being crowded by a few of the members of 421 AAA Battery about April 1945".

He doesn't say which one is Mr. Sinatra, or which one is ex-soldier Saunig, but we think we can spot the old dream boat in the centre there.

And is not that Phil Silvers looking over Mr. Sinatra's right shoulder?

And doesn't the pretty girl have a familiar look? Just to show that we are hep to what cooks in the entertainment world we'll take a little bet that it's either Ginny Sims or a reasonable facsimile thereof.

Anybody like to confirm this identification?

The following three photos of Sinatra in Newfoundland were included in Tony Consiglio's book "Sinatra and Me: The Very Good Years". The exact base or location in Newfoundland is not identified.



The Auditorium, Ottawa, Ontario July 6, 1949



(The Auditorium, Ottawa, Ontario, Circa 1950)

July 6, 1949 would be only one of two performances that Sinatra would ever perform in Ottawa, Canada's capital. He would next perform in Ottawa in 1982. In 1949 Sinatra embarked on a short Canadian tour along with the Page Cavanaugh Trio & comedian Timmie Rogers. Sinatra performed a 4:00 PM rehearsal with a twelve piece orchestra plus Page's trio. Requests were made ahead of time for song selections. Among the songs confirmed to be on the program were "Soliloquy", "Old Man River", "Again", "Some Enchanted Evening", "Nancy", "Bali Hai", "Wrap Your Troubles In Dreams", "Don't Worry About Me", "A Foggy Day In London", "Embraceable You", "Old Black Magic", "Fools Rush In", "Night And Day", and "Old Black Magic."

AT THE AUDITORIUM

Ottawa

Wednesday, July 6th — 8.30 p.m.

"The Voice" in Person

FRANK SINATRA

Accompanied by Famous Page Cavanaugh Trio
And Other Stage-Radio Favorites.

Dancing After Show

Seat Sale at Lindsay's, Sparks Street, and the Auditorium

Frank Sinatra Presented Under Auspices of Music
Corporation of America — Popular Prices

←The Ottawa Journal (Ottawa, Ontario)

June 18, 1949, Page 13

The two earliest references announcing Sinatra's appearance are the one to the left from the Ottawa Journal and the one below from the Ottawa Citizen. Both advertisements appeared on the same date

At the Auditorium, Ottawa
Wednesday, July 6th, 8:30 p.m.
"The Voice" In Person

FRANK SINATRA

**Accompanied by Famous
Page Cavanaugh Trio**

And Other Stage-Radio Favorites. Dancing After Show.

Seat Sale at Lindsay's, Sparks Street, and The Auditorium.

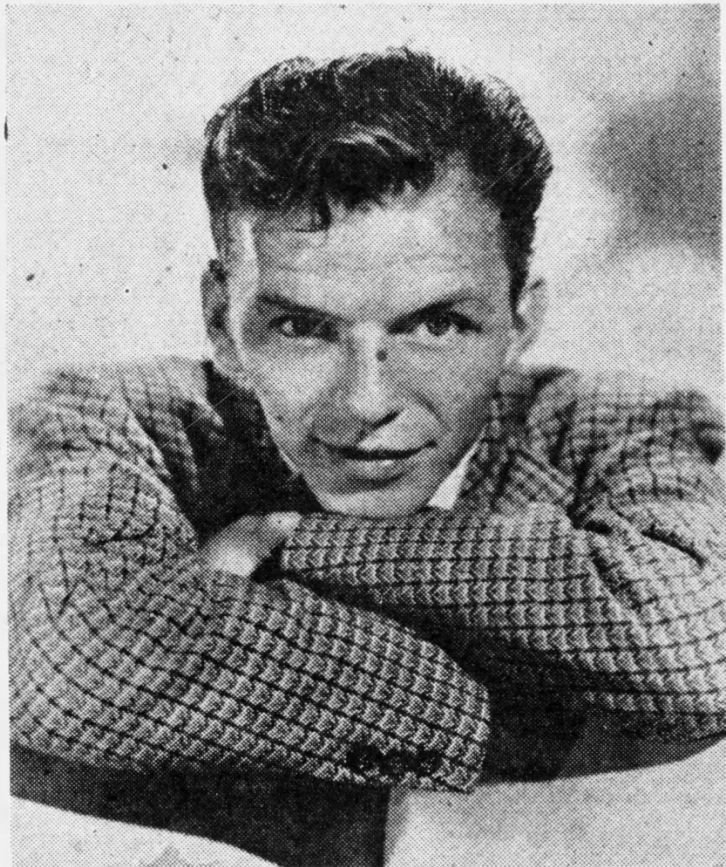
Frank Sinatra Presented Under Auspices of Music Corporation of America

POPULAR PRICES

←The Ottawa Citizen
(Ottawa, Ontario)
June 18, 1949, Page 29

These two styles of advertisements would be repeated several times in both papers leading up to the date of the concert.

World Famous Singer Coming To The Auditorium. Thousands Will Hear And See Him On Night Of July 6th.



Frank Sinatra, who makes his first appearance in Ottawa Wednesday, July 6th. He will be accompanied by Page-Cavanaugh Trio and special orchestra for dancing. Seat sale at the Auditorium and C. W. Lindsay's, Sparks Street. One night only.

←The Ottawa Citizen (Ottawa, Ontario)
June 21, 1949, Page 26

The Ottawa Journal (Ottawa, Ontario) →
June 21, 1949, Page 29

**Hey Gals and Boys !
He's Coming to Ottawa**



FRANK SINATRA, world-famous singer, who makes his first Ottawa appearance in the Auditorium on the night of Wednesday, July 6th. Frank comes with the celebrated Page-Cavanaugh Trio and a special orchestra for dancing. Seats are now on sale at the Auditorium Box Office and at C. W. Lindsay's, Sparks Street.***

Don't reel or squeal — just listen for "The Voice", at the Auditorium, Ottawa, Wednesday, July 6th, 8.30 p.m. FRANK SINATRA—in person. Also Page Cavanaugh trio. Dancing after the show.

Seat Sale at the
Auditorium
C. W. Lindsay's,
Sparks St.
POPULAR PRICES



↑The Ottawa Journal (Ottawa, Ontario) June 23, 1949, Page 38

Two very similar advertisements appearing only two days apart in two different newspapers.

↓The Ottawa Citizen (Ottawa, Ontario) June 25, 1949, Page 34

Don't reel or squeal — just listen for

"The Voice"

at the

Auditorium

Ottawa

Wednesday July 6th.

8.30 p.m.

Frank Sinatra

in person

Also Page Cavanaugh Trio

Dancing after the show

Seat Sale at the Auditorium, C. W. Lindsay's, Sparks St. -
Popular Prices.



Frank Sinatra Comes to Ottawa!

Frank Sinatra (The Voice) is finally coming to Ottawa. At the biggest guarantee ever offered an individual entertainer in the Capital, the famous movie, stage and screen star appears in the Auditorium on the night of Wednesday, July 6th. Manager Tommy Gorman, of the Auditorium, signed a contract at New York this week and Sinatra, after many weeks of negotiating, will positively be here on July 6th.

Frankie brings with him the highly popular Page Cavanaugh Trio, which recently scored a terrific hit over the Lucky Strike Radio hour; also a special orchestra and Timmie Rogers, a youthful colored comedian, who has zoomed to great heights. Sinatra will appear in only two Canadian cities on his Canadian tour, Ottawa and Toronto. He is said to be getting \$10,000 per night at Toronto and to bring him to the Capital the Auditorium Company also had to post a record-breaking amount. Sinatra is under contract to the Music Corporation of America and is coming direct from Hollywood for his two Canadian engagements. Many other Canadian cities wished to hear and see the famous singer, but they were all passed up as Sinatra must fly back to California to make additional pictures. He will arrive in Ottawa on the day of his show in the Auditorium.

Sinatra is in greater demand than any other singer. Thousands of "bobby soxers" will be on hand to welcome their popular idol and one of the largest crowds that has ever thronged into the Auditorium will be on hand for the occasion.

Seats for the Frank Sinatra concert are on sale in the Auditorium and at C. W. Lindsay's, Sparks Street. There will be dancing after the show and Sinatra is to be tendered an official welcome to Ottawa.***

←The Ottawa Journal (Ottawa, Ontario)
June 25, 1949, Page 47

This is the first article that fully mentions Sinatra's appearance in Ottawa. It appeared a full week after advertisements for the show first started appearing in Ottawa newspapers on June 18, 1949. This article in the Ottawa Journal appeared three days before the first article in the Ottawa Citizen on June 28th, 1949.

The Ottawa Citizen (Ottawa, Ontario)
↓June 28, 1949, Page 35

Frank Sinatra Here July 6th

Frank Sinatra, glamorous American idol of radio, screen and stage, is finally coming to Ottawa. After several trips to New York city, Manager Tommy Gorman, of the Auditorium, secured last week the signature of Sinatra to a contract and famous Frankie will positively appear in person in Ottawa on the night of Wednesday, July 6th. Sinatra will arrive direct from New York on the morning of the 6th and his appearance will be in the Auditorium. He will be supported by the wonderful Page-Cavanaugh Trio, another radio combination that has zoomed to tremendous popularity; also "Timmie" Rogers, a colored comedian, who is likewise in demand. Sinatra will be accompanied by a 12-piece orchestra in addition to the Page-Cavanaugh Trio and he will appear on the Auditorium stage at 9 o'clock. Sinatra will render an hour or so of popular songs, the complete program of which is to be announced shortly.

Seats for the Frank Sinatra concert are on sale in the Auditorium and at C. W. Lindsay's, Sparks Street and one of the largest crowds that has ever jammed into the O'Connor Street Amphitheater will undoubtedly throng the big building for the occasion.

Excursions will be run by bus and railroad from many Ottawa Valley points for the Sinatra show. The Ottawa Legion of the Sons of Italy have arranged to attend and to make a presentation to Sinatra.



FRANK SINATRA
America's No. 1 Singer

Coming
TO THE 'AUDITORIUM

— ON —

Wednesday Next

*His First Appearance
in Ottawa*

Supported by Page-
Cavanaugh Trio and
Twenty-Piece Dance
Orchestra.

Seats on Sale in the
Auditorium and at C. W.
Lindsay's, Sparks Street

Popular Prices

Make Reservations Early

←The Ottawa Journal
(Ottawa, Ontario)
June 29, 1949, Page 42

America's No. 1 Singer

The Ottawa Citizen →
(Ottawa, Ontario)
June 30, 1949, Page 16

*America's Favorite
Singer*

**AMERICA'S FAVORITE SINGER
COMING TO THE AUDITORIUM**



Frank Sinatra, who comes to the Auditorium for a one night concert on Wednesday next, July 6th. Sinatra is now singing in Atlantic City, where he has scored another terrific hit. This will be his first appearance in Ottawa, where he will be supported by the famous Page-Cavanaugh trio. Seats for the Sinatra concert are on sale in the Auditorium and at C. W. Lindsay's Sparks Street.

FRANK SINATRA COMING WEDNESDAY

Ottawa bobby soxers, Sinatra fans and music lovers in general will have an opportunity Wednesday night of welcoming Frank Sinatra to the Capital for the first time. Sinatra comes to the Ottawa Auditorium, direct from Atlantic City, and will appear in the Auditorium for one night only. . . He will arrive in Ottawa Wednesday at noon and his only appearance in Ottawa will be at the Auditorium. Frank will be accompanied by the famous Page-Cavanaugh Trio and a special orchestra, which will provide music for dancing after his concert. Sinatra is in terrific demand and will play only two cities on his current Canadian tour. Ottawa and Toronto. He returns to the United States immediately after his Toronto engagement and will return to Hollywood to star in another picture.

Sinatra is still one of the world's highest paid artists. He receives \$10,000 for two nights in Toronto and \$6,000 for his Auditorium engagement. Frank will be tendered a buffet supper and official welcome after Wednesday's concert. . . He comes to Ottawa under the management of the Music Corporation of America which, within the past few months, has presented Spike Jones, Harry James and Tex Beneke in the Auditorium. Seats for the Sinatra concert are on sale in the Auditorium box office and at the C. W. Lindsay Company, Sparks Street. Frank will probably be greeted by a capacity audience. ***

The Ottawa Citizen →
(Ottawa, Ontario)
July 4, 1949, Page 22

←The Ottawa Journal
(Ottawa, Ontario)
July 4, 1949, Page 24

Frank Sinatra Here Wednesday Evening

After many months of negotiating, Frank Sinatra, America's No. 1 Singer, is finally coming to Ottawa. Sinatra and his company which now includes the famous Page-Cavanaugh Trio, appear in the Auditorium on Wednesday of this week, July 6th. Sinatra comes to Ottawa direct from Atlantic City, where he scored another sensational success last week. He will arrive in Ottawa Wednesday morning, accompanied by his manager, Perry Charles, and his only appearance will be at the Auditorium concert, which will be followed by a dance. Sinatra brings a special orchestra and will render his own favorite program, which will be augmented by special melodies, hundreds of which have been requested. Seats for the Sinatra Concert are on sale in the Auditorium and at C. W. Lindsay's Sparks Street, and Frank is assured of a rousing welcome from Sinatra fans, Ottawa Bobby Soxers and music lovers in general.

He will appear in only two cities on his current Canadian tour—Ottawa and Toronto. Frank is still one of the highest paid artists in the business. He gets \$10,000 for two concerts in Toronto and his Ottawa guarantee is around \$6000. The Sinatra concert gets under way at 8.30 o'clock and at the close of his show, famous Frankie will be guest of honor at a buffet supper in the Little Hall of Fame.

Sinatra is being presented in Ottawa under the management of the Music Corporation of America, which recently sent Spike Jones, Tex Beneke and Harry James to the Auditorium. On account of the Sinatra Concert the Geneva-Ottawa baseball game, scheduled for Lansdowne Park that evening will be postponed and played as part of a doubleheader Thursday evening. Auditorium patrons are requested to make their Sinatra reservations as early as possible to avoid congestion on the night of the big show.

FAMOUS VOICE SINGS HERE TOMORROW !

FRANK SINATRA, whose coming to Ottawa has aroused great interest amongst the Bobby Soxers and lovers of popular music, will make his only appearance in the **AUDITORIUM** Wednesday night of this week, July 6th. Frank had been requested to carry out a number of Radio interviews, but his new \$10,000 per week contract with Lucky Strike prevented him from doing this. Sinatra arrives direct from New York by plane Wednesday night, and his concert in the Auditorium gets under way at 8.30 o'clock. He will be accompanied to Ottawa by the Page-Cavanaugh Trio, his manager, Perry Charles, and his key musicians, who will assist with the dance ceremonies after the show. Sinatra is to be honored by Italian residents of Ottawa and will be guest of honor at a buffet supper in the Little Hall of Fame at 11 p.m., with Mayor Bourque of Ottawa, Mayor Moussette of Hull, and other civic officials in attendance. Seats for the Sinatra Concert are on sale in the Auditorium and at C. W. Lindsay's, Sparks Street, with popular prices again in vogue.

The Auditorium Company has been deluged with demands for special songs by Sinatra, and these were submitted to Frank by mail. He sent word back yesterday that his program would include, by popular request, the following:

Soliloquy, from Carousel; Old Man River, Again, Some Enchanted Evening, Nancy, Bali Hai, Wrap Your Troubles in Dreams, Don't Worry About Me, Foggy Day in London, Fools Rush In, Night and Day, Embraceable You, Old Black Magic, and others.

Frank will be accompanied by the Page-Cavanaugh Trio and his special orchestra. Timmie Rogers, a sensational young colored comedian who recently scored a tremendous hit over Radio, has been added to the Sinatra entourage and will make his first appearance in Ottawa.

Special police have been engaged for the occasion and one of the largest crowds of the year is assured to see and hear the great Sinatra.

←The Ottawa Journal (Ottawa, Ontario), July 5, 1949, Page 31

FAMOUS "VOICE" (Sings Here Tomorrow)



FRANK SINATRA, famous American singer, who is due for warm welcome in the Auditorium Wednesday night. His concert and show will be followed by a dance.

←The Ottawa Journal
(Ottawa, Ontario)
July 5, 1949, Page 31

The Ottawa Citizen →
(Ottawa, Ontario)
July 5, 1949, Page 15

Famous "Voice" Here Tomorrow

Frank Sinatra, whose coming to Ottawa has aroused great interest amongst the Bobby Soxers and lovers of popular music, will make his only appearance at The Auditorium Wednesday night of this week, July 6th. Sinatra arrives direct from New York by plane Wednesday night, and his concert in The Auditorium gets under way at 8.30 o'clock. Sinatra is to be honored by Italian residents of Ottawa, and will be guest of honor at a buffet supper in the Little Hall of Fame at 11 P.M., with Mayor Bourque, of Ottawa, Mayor Moussette, of Hull, and other civic officials in attendance. Seats for the Sinatra Concert are on sale in The Auditorium and at C. W. Lindsay's Sparks Street, with popular prices again in vogue.

The Auditorium Company has been deluged with demands for special songs by Sinatra and these were submitted to Frank by mail. He sent word back yesterday that his program would include, by popular request the following—

Soliloquy, from Carousel; Old Man River, Again, Some Enchanted Evening, Nancy, Bali Hai, Wrap Your Troubles In Dreams, Don't Worry About Me, Foggy Day In London, Fools Rush In., Night and Day, Embraceable You, Old Black Magic, and others. Frank will be accompanied by the Page Cavanaugh Trio and his special orchestra. Timmie Rogers, a sensational young colored comedian, who recently scored a tremendous hit over the radio, has been added to the Sinatra entourage, and will make his first appearance in Ottawa.

Special police have been engaged for the occasion, and one of the largest crowds of the year is assured to see and hear the great Sinatra.

FRANK SINATRA, America's No. 1 Singer, makes his first appearance in Ottawa tonight. For one of the largest guarantees ever offered an individual star, Sinatra will sing within the **AUDITORIUM AT 9 P.M.** Frank will reach the Uplands Air Port at 7 o'clock. Sinatra will be accompanied by his manager, Perry Charles, and they will go direct to the Chateau Laurier. They will reach the Auditorium about 8.15 and Frank is scheduled to make his debut at 9 o'clock.

The **PAGE-CAVANAUGH TRIO**, Timmie Rogers and other members of Sinatra's all-star package show arrive earlier and will hold a rehearsal in the Auditorium at 4 o'clock. After the concert Sinatra and his company will be guests of the Ottawa Auditorium Company in the Little Hall of Fame. Frank leaves for Toronto tomorrow morning, where he is booked to sing two nights. His Montreal and Hamilton engagements have been cancelled as Sinatra must return to New York and thence back to California immediately after his brief Canadian tour.

The Ottawa Auditorium Company has been overwhelmed with requests for special songs by Sinatra, and Frank, who never fails to produce a great show, has consented to vary his usual program accordingly. Among the songs he will sing by special request are the following: Soliloquy, Old Man River, Again, Some Enchanted Evening, Do the Hucklebuck, Bali Hai, Wrap Your Troubles in Dreams, Don't Worry About Me, Foggy Day in London, Fools Rush In, Night and Day and Old Black Magic.

Seats for the Sinatra Concert and Show are on sale in the Auditorium box office and at C. W. Lindsay's, Sparks Street. One of the largest crowds that has ever jammed into the Auditorium will probably be on hand to see and hear the famous "Voice" and to give Frank a warm welcome on his first visit to Ottawa. . . . Mayor Eddie Bourque and other civic officials will be among the guests of honor for the Sinatra Reception after his concert. On account of the Sinatra visit, the Geneva-Ottawa ball game and many other local attractions have been postponed.

Ottawa Gives Big Hand To Frankie Sinatra.

Frank Sinatra, America's famous bobby-sox crooner, took Ottawa's rousing reception last night at the Auditorium in stride as he delighted over six thousand fans with his personality and technique.

"They were a wonderful audience, both co-operative and alert," he told The Citizen after he pushed his way through hundreds of autograph-seekers to the comparative security of the "Little Hall of Fame."

But although "Frankie" signed hundreds of autographs and thanked an equal number of well-wishers, his thoughts were elsewhere.

"I've got a little girl, Tina, just a little over a year old, and she doesn't know me yet," he said. "I don't want her to grow any more without knowing her dad, any more than I want Nancy and Frankie Junior to forget they have a father."

The nattily dressed, slim crooner, who has a Toronto engagement to finish and some business to look after in New York, told The Citizen that he was about to take his first month off in seven years, as soon as that was done.

Will Get Acquainted

"I'm never going to leave my home in California for a whole month. I'm just going to get acquainted with my wife and kids again," he explained.

During his rehearsal yesterday, an hour after he arrived at Uplands airport, "The Voice" spotted the three-year-old daughter of a photographer.

"When you see a kid like that it sort of takes you back a bit, makes you homesick," he told The Citizen as he reached out to give the youngster a pat on the head.

"It makes you feel well when a crowd greets you the way they did at the airport this afternoon, and at the show here tonight," he said later, "but some day I won't have to travel so much and will be able to take it easier, and be a 'home' man."

Sinatra, well tanned and completely unassuming, was met at Uplands by around 150 fans, many of whom had cycled from town. He was greeted by T. P. Gorman, manager of the Auditorium, and after a brief interview with the press was besieged by autograph fans until rescued by his manager and whisked away to the safety of his hotel.

←The Ottawa Citizen
(Ottawa, Ontario)
July 7, 1949, Page 19↓



ITALIAN COLONY GIFT TO "THE VOICE"—During the reception in the Auditorium last night for Frank "The Voice" Sinatra, members of St. Anthony's church presented the singer with a travelling bag as "a spontaneous recognition of his achievements." Front row, left to right:

Frank Sinatra, Miss Mary Dilabio, who made the presentation, and Rev. Father Jerome Ferraro, OSM. Back row: Italo Tiezzi, Frank Cuccaro and Mrs. Frank Cuccaro and John Carbonetti.

—Photo by Newton



SINATRA AND HIS FANS — Frankie Sinatra willingly gives autographs to some of the hundreds of fans who greeted him on his arrival at Uplands airport yesterday afternoon. Looking tanned and boyish, and without his famous bow

tie, "The Voice" kept wishing he had time to look over the Canadian aircraft parked nearby, and told The Evening Citizen he had a plane of his own in California.

—Photo by Newton

THURSDAY,
JULY 7, 1949.

Ottawa Odyssey

The more emotional bobby-soxers went mad in Ottawa yesterday. Sinatra, the sultan of swoon, was in town.

The moon king rocked 'em from his afternoon arrival at the airport to his evening departure to his hotel room.

Frankie was no flop.

Although everyone that heard him hailed him, the turnout was not what it could have been.

But here is the story of his visit.

Fainting for Frankie was the objective at Uplands when he arrived, but lacking the fervor of their sisters to the south, admirers at the airport failed to faint.

The 200-odd swoon-aged girls that were gathered at the airport did their best, but something was missing.

Maybe it was the Civil Service's salutary silence that hit the mob; anyway, something stilled the storm and, although the gasping girls swamped the swooner, Sinatra was safe.

Many marauders sought his signature, but not one sweet young thing grabbed for his tie (no bow for the beau this time, by the way, but a contraband four-in-hand), and the crooner's curls weren't even mussed in the fuss.

Despite rampant rumors that the vocal vamp is skinny and undernourished, the boy that half-Sed. Bing stepped to the larmac looking like a million of the crisp stuff.

En route to rehearsal, Sinatra stopped to stuff the stomach. The group of reporters accompanying him were only able to gaze with amazement as the so-called square-jaw put away a staggering dose of sliced eggs, which he slapped inside a rare roast beef on white and crowned with dill pickles. Me'a n white, other customers griped in vain as waitresses gathered in the doorway of the kitchen and argued about who was to have the honor of serving the great man. While the chosen one served, the others stayed to gape.

When the Sinatra show was due to open at the German grandstand the crowd, with typical Ottawa politeness, was only half in.

After considerable delay by the lounging latecomers, the show started only to be interrupted again and again by over-eager photographers.

Finally things were brought to a complete stall when a shutter snuffer from the Ottawa Citizen dragged a chair out from the aisle and climbed on it, blocking the the crowd's view of Sinatra while he was singing "Nancy With the Laughing Face" (in honor of his eldest daughter, Nancy) and bringing the singer to a halt while he took the picture.

But the star pressed on through the show and, after only a few more such interruptions, everything went smoothly.

When the whole thing was through, Sinatra submitted to a further barrage of autograph friends (he'd been signing books all day) to get to a reception held in his honor.

At the reception, he spent his time signing autographs.

After his pencil went out he was allowed by his fans—fans turned out to mean anybody that saw the guy—to relax in a corner with only reporters to bother him until he had to leave.

A few of the answers to impertinent questions.

His collar size has jumped from 13½ to 16 since his throat has grown with singing.

He's an old newspaperman himself (in Hoboken, where he hails from).

He thinks baseball is terrific (had a chat with Nationals' manager Bill Metzig).

His wife doesn't get jealous of the bobby-soxers that propose to him.

Canadian audiences are quieter than American (although he was heckled with such cries as "Get out from behind the microphone—we can't see you").

—Bob Blackburn.

←The Ottawa Journal,
(Ottawa, Ontario),
July 7, 1949, Page 3

THURSDAY, JULY 7, 1949.

SCREAMS AND YAUKS

Almost Mauled by His Fans Frank Sinatra Wows Big House

Judged by the screams and yauks which sounded out in the Auditorium Wednesday evening, Frank Sinatra was "sending" every one of the 5,000 persons who came to hear him and the Page-Cavanaugh trio.

He tried to slide past the shrieking mobs which descended on him each time he started for his dressing room. The two policemen on duty had to call upon eight burly ushers to keep the swarming Sinatra fans from mauling the crooner.

They clamored for the star from eight-thirty to the end of the show. They jammed the corridors from the stage to the dressing room, whooping and howling whenever they had a meagre glimpse of his curly head.

The backstage flood of young people left the genial artist unperturbed. He signed hundreds of autographs and answered an equal number of frivolous questions. When the crush appeared to be getting out of hand at one point, Sinatra looked troubled but the flying wing of police and ushers got him through unscathed.

Onstage, the celebrated romantic singer did what was expected of him. He also injected a little nonsense where it was least expected. He sang love songs with a treatment that drew vocal audience reaction ranging from a whine to a whinny.

Dressed in a neat blue twill suit, Sinatra wore a dark blue four-in-hand tie. He took up his habitual languid stance before the microphone, wooing his audience with his arms and snapping his fingers in rhythm with his words.

As the temperature rose, Sinatra loosened his collar and tie

and was chummy with the audience. The boys who bawled out insults in quavering falsettos were advised to "Go away — far, far away" and a few times, the singer stopped his performance to deal in engaging fashion with the catcalls.

He closed his program on a serious note singing a dramatic selection from the Broadway musical "Carousel". "Soliloquy" demanded both dramatic ability and wide range of tone and the Hollywood star proved adaptable to the requirements.

After the show, the Ottawa Auditorium Company, held a buffet supper in the Hall of Fame. Among those who attended were Mayor Bourque and members of his family, the United States Ambassador and Mrs. Steinhardt and their daughter, Dulcie. There, the local celebrities took over the autograph hunt.

←The Ottawa Journal,
(Ottawa, Ontario),
July 7, 1949, Page 3

Game Called—Sinatra

OTTAWA, Ont., July 7 (A).—
Baseball lost the play to Crooner
Frank Sinatra here last night.

Because Sinatra was making a
personal appearance at a local
theatre, the Geneva-Ottawa Border
League night game was postponed
by mutual consent.

←The News Journal
(Wilmington-New Castle, Delaware),
July 7, 1949, Page 36

Sinatra's appearance in Ottawa also
made the sports pages in two
newspapers following his July 6th,
1949 appearance.

Jack Koffman's Column

Along Sport Row

Joining The Sinatra Club

The other night at the Auditorium Frank Sinatra was in the process of announcing his next tune "a chorus or two of Nancy" when a voice from the wilderness (that's just the way it struck us) rent the air. "Oh-h-h Frankie-e-e-e-e," came the cry. The audience, having a time, chuckled loudly when "The Voice" interrupted himself, looked in the general direction of Section S and asked: "Where does it hurt the most, dearie?"

We laughed along with the crowd but pulled up short when our neighbor in the press-box sent an elbow our way. "Doesn't Frankie remind you of Bobby Copp?" she asked. "The curly hair hanging down a little, his actions?"

We hedged. After all, perhaps Copp wouldn't like the comparison. Say, come to think of it, maybe Frankie wouldn't be too happy about it!

"Well," we slowly replied, "suppose he resembles Bobby in a way. Not too much, but there could be a slight resemblance." There the matter rested until we got a closer look while chatting with Frankie in the Auditorium's Little Hall of Fame after the show. We still aren't too greatly convinced about the resemblance.

Ordinarily, we had belonged to the school who could take Frankie or leave him alone — and it didn't hurt too much to leave him alone. We had heard him on the radio and seen him in the movies, without going overboard.

Sure, You Know How It Is

But, you know how it is when a fellow is married. The li'l woman wanted to hear Frankie and, well — we were among those present. Now, as of last Wednesday, we're a Sinatra fan. We haven't reached the stage where we would hound the fellow for his autograph were he to pay a return visit next week but we'd certainly make it a point to see and hear him again.

They kept a lot of the bobby-soxers from getting into the Little Hall of Fame but, as it was, getting at Frankie for a word or two while he was wriggling clear of giggling gals wasn't a particularly easy chore. We wanted to discuss his connections with the fight game and hear what he had to say.

Frankie's association with the ring is something of an unpleasant memory. They say that, while he shines with a mike in front of him, he isn't exactly a star or a champ when dealing with the fisticufflers and the folks who run the fisticuffling sport.

Boxing, though, doesn't rate with baseball, as far as Sinatra is concerned. Crowded into a corner where we couldn't have pried ourselves loose without solid interference, Sinatra told Bill Metzsig and this reporter that he has managed to see only ten big league games this season.



Frank Sinatra

DiMaggio Is His Ball Player

"I wouldn't have missed ten all year if I could have managed it," smiled Sinatra. "I'm a ball fan from away back. I'd just as soon be sitting in the ball park watching a couple of teams go at it as doing anything else you can mention. But a fellow has to make a living the best way he can. You know how it goes."

Just then Tommy Gorman stepped in and reminded Frankie that Metzsig was playing-manager of the Class C club representing Ottawa. "Yes, so I've heard," replied The Voice. "Wish I was staying around here long enough to see your team play," he said, turning to Bill.

"The Giants are my club," went on Sinatra. "I've rooted for them a long time. But part of me automatically switched to the Yanks the day Joe DiMaggio returned to action. We're chums apart from anything else. And he's my ball player. Boy, what a treat to see him in action!"

Still on the subject of Jolting Joe, Sinatra added: "Joe and I had a bite to eat at Toots Shor's last night (Tuesday, the day the Red Sox beat the Yanks 4-2, on Dom DiMaggio's homer and brilliant catch of Phil Rizzuto's bid for an extra-base-hit). We were sitting there when Dom came in and I really gave it to him," chuckled Sinatra. "I warned him he could be arrested for the way he robbed Rizzuto of a triple."

The Giants And Their Problems

Metzsig mentioned the trouble the Giants were encountering this year and Sinatra said: "I had lunch with Horace Stoneham (owner of the Giants) and Mel Ott yesterday. Horace was telling me he thought the two colored boys, Irvin and Thompson, who had been brought up from Jersey City that day, would help his club.

"I hope they do because I'd certainly love to see the Giants in the thick of the pennant race, but I warned Horace and Mel that there have been other minor league stars of the past who have failed to make the major grade. After all, it's a big jump. The pitching is different and so are a lot of other things even if they tell you there isn't a great deal of difference between Triple A ball and the majors.

It was getting warmer every minute as the crowd closed in. We finally wished The Voice the best of everything after he concluded with a tribute to Ted Williams. "Don't let anyone ever tell you he isn't a ball player," smiled Frankie. "His motion when swinging that bat is something to see."

←The Ottawa Citizen (Ottawa, Ontario) ↑
July 9, Page 14



SINCERELY YOURS

Frank Sinatra uses a CARE parcel to good advantage while signing a personal letter of thanks to all Canadians who share through CARE. Although the noted singer is one of the busiest artists in show business, Frank keeps up to the minute on conditions abroad. Canadian CARE is located at 73 Albert Street, Ottawa.

←The Glengarry News,
Alexandria, Ontario
August 5th, 1949, pg. 2

This article appeared not only in The Glengarry News On August 5th, 1949 but also a cropped version was published in the Toronto Daily Star, July 12, 1949.

It is not clear where the photo was taken but The Glengarry News tag mentions the Canadian CARE location in Ottawa. It is not inconceivable that Sinatra might have made a stop at the Ottawa offices during his time there.

Toronto Daily Star, July 12, 1949, pg. 19. ↓



LETTER OF THANKS is written by Frank Sinatra to all Canadians who share through C.A.R.E., non-profit organization for sending food packages, other items to Europe

**Hamilton Armouries,
Hamilton, Ontario
July 7, 1949
(Cancelled)**



Imaged by Heritage Auctions, HA.com

The poster for this concert has circulated on the internet for a few years and an alleged copy of the poster was sold through Heritage Auctions. Although the poster is alleged to be authentic, I have checked numerous newspapers from the Hamilton region as well as other newspapers from other Ontario cities as well as those in the United States and can find no mention of an announcement for the concert in Hamilton in 1949. Sinatra would make his only appearance in Hamilton in 1993 and it would be the last Canadian concert he would perform.

Montreal, Quebec

July 9, 1949

(Cancelled)

A listing exists among Sinatra fans for Montreal, Quebec as being a possible stop during Sinatra's 1949 short Canadian tour. It is not known what venue in Montreal was being considered but only that the concert was cancelled and Sinatra appeared in Toronto on this date. The venue might have been the Forum where Sinatra played with Dorsey in 1942, solo in 1944, and would next play in 1975.

Mutual Street Arena, Toronto, Ontario, July 8 & 9, 1949



The Mutal Street Arena in the 1940s.

This would be Sinatra's first solo appearance in Toronto. The two previous appearances were with Tommy Dorsey in 1940 and 1941 at the Canadian National Exhibition. Mutual Street Arena, initially called Arena Gardens or just the Arena, was an ice hockey arena and sports and entertainment venue in Toronto. The Arena was also used for musical concerts and gathers. In 1962, it was converted to a curling club and roller skating rink known as The Terrace. The building was eventually demolished in 1989.

Sinatra at Mutual, To Get \$10,000

Frank Sinatra will appear at the Mutual Arena on July 8 and 9, the management of that hall announced yesterday. This will be Sinatra's first appearance in Toronto in almost a decade; the last time he was a comparatively unknown vocalist in Tommy Dorsey's orchestra.

For the two-day Mutual engagement Sinatra is getting a reported \$10,000, one of the highest prices ever paid an entertainer for two shows.

The Globe and Mail, May 23, 1949, pg. 15→

←The Globe and Mail, May 21, 1949, pg. 10

This was the first announcement regarding Sinatra's two appearances at the Mutual Street Arena. The announcement for the Toronto concerts appeared in Toronto newspapers three weeks prior to announcements in Ottawa newspapers on June 18th for the July 6th concert in Ottawa.

Sinatra Fans

When Cay Moore, social hostess at the Royal York, picks up the telephone these days and an eager young voice says, "You remember me, Miss Moore," it's 10 to one the teen-ager on the other end has heard that Frank Sinatra is coming to town in July. And will be a guest at the hotel.

In her many-fold capacity as guest locker-after, adviser, first aid to the press and helper-outer in functions ranging from weddings to conventions, Cay answers a good many telephone calls a day.

But the urgency and insistence of the Voice's admirers—so early—has her stymied. She thinks there's going to be quite a congregation on hand to seek him out.

Hope the kids don't let us down. We went to see Mr. Sinatra at work on a movie a while back in Hollywood, and told him that when he came to Canada he wouldn't have his bow tie torn off, his brilliant-hued shirt ripped from his slender frame, and his wavy black hair removed lock by lock.

Seemed a nice enough young fellow, full of exuberance the day we met him (he'd just given the feminine star a handsome ring as a token of his celluloid esteem) and not unaware of the adulation his own peculiar type of charm had showered upon him. Concerned as heck about boys and girls who were growing up as he had, without too many advantages, and amazingly accessible to them.

**The Show
of the Year!**

IN PERSON

**Frank
SINATRA**

TWO NIGHTS ONLY

**FRI. & SAT.
JULY 8 & 9**

Added Attraction!

**The
PAGE CAVANAUGH
Trio**

Plus!

**Dancing to
MUSIC by NAMARO**

**ADVANCE TICKET SALE
\$1.75 Plus 35c Tax**

NOW ON SALE AT:

Eaton's Record Bar, Main Store;
Simpson's Record Bar; Moody's
Ticket Agency, 90 King St. West,
21 Bloor West and 2068 Yonge St.;
Campus Record Bar, 658 Spadina (at
Bathurst); Meyers Ticket Agency,
561 Bloor West, and 1606 Bloor
West; Parkway Music, 1332 Queen
West; Meyers, Bloor and Spadina;
Ace Record Bar, Long Branch;
— Eaton's, Hamilton, Ontario —
and Mutual Arena, Telephone
W.A. 1554.

Mail orders accepted now.
Money orders payable to
Mutual Arena, Toronto.



FREE!

A Personalized 8 x 10

Portrait of

**Frank
SINATRA**

By Courtesy of

**A. GILBERT
STUDIOS**

We have a limited number of
tickets for the appearance of
Frank Sinatra, and the Page
Cavanaugh Trio at Mutual
Arena, July 8 and 9. With each
purchase of tickets at prevailing
prices we will give you abso-
lutely FREE one 8 by 10 portrait
of Frank Sinatra.

**THESE PORTRAITS ARE A
GOODWILL GESTURE TO
SINATRA FANS THROUGH THE
COURTESY OF**

A. GILBERT

**Personalized Portrait
Photography**

424 COLLEGE ST. (At Bathurst)

Telephone MI. 8363

←The Globe and Mail,
Toronto, Ontario
June 10, 1949, pg. 13

The Frank Sinatra two - night
stand (July 8-9, Mutual Arena) is
beginning to look like a sellout al-
ready. Ted Dickson reports ticket
orders from both sides of the bor-
der pouring in.

↑The Globe and Mail,
Toronto, Ontario
June 11, 1949, Pg. 13

Nimrod Sinatra

There is a rumor that Frank
Sinatra is planning a fishing and
hunting trip in Canada and this
lies behind his willingness to come
all the way up here for his appear-
ances at Mutual Arena on July 8
and 9. The singer, formerly known
as The Voice, will give two even-
ing concerts, supported by the Page
Cavanaugh Trio and Jimmy Na-
maro's orchestra.

↑The Globe and Mail,
Toronto, Ontario,
June 18, 1949, Pg. 10

\$10,000 FOR FRANKIE

Frank Sinatra, who is scheduled
to sing at the Mutual Arena here
on July 8 and 9, has just been
signed up by the American To-
hacco Co. for \$10,000 a week. He'll
do a five-a-week broadcast series
over the NBC network this sea-
son.

↑The Globe and Mail,
Toronto, Ontario,
June 25, 1949, Pg. 4

Frank SINATRA

THE with
PAGE CAVANAUGH TRIO

plus
"MUSIC BY NAMARO"
& All-Star Orchestra

TWO NIGHTS ONLY

FRI. & SAT.
JULY 8 & 9

Tickets now on sale at \$2.00 plus 40c tax. Over 3,000 good seats for your convenience. Tickets on sale at all agencies. Out-of-town money orders payable to Mutual Arena.



←The Globe and Mail,
Toronto, Ontario
June 29, 1949, pg. 8

The Globe and Mail,
Toronto, Ontario
July 8, 1949, pg. 28↓

TONIGHT AND TOMORROW NIGHT ONLY

Frank SINATRA

THE with
PAGE CAVANAUGH TRIO
plus

"MUSIC BY NAMARO"
& All-Star Orchestra

Tickets on sale at all agencies. \$2.00 plus 40c tax. Tickets also available on admission.





—Globe and Mail.

Thrill of a lifetime came to these girls yesterday when they managed to get Frank Sinatra's autograph at Malton Airport. "The Voice" sings in Toronto tonight and Saturday. It's his first Canadian tour in eight years. —*Story on Page 4.*

↑The Globe and Mail, Toronto, Ontario, July 8, 1949, Pg. 1

Frankie Still Girls' Idol, Won't Alter Basic Style

By ALEX BARRIS

Frank Sinatra, the skinny, little guy who sang his way from a \$25-a-week job in a New Jersey roadhouse to a point where young girls have been known to buy admission tickets for his shows and then faint while he was crooning, breezed into Malton Airport yesterday.

Smiling naturally and signing autographs for the giggling girls who flitted around him, he eased his way out of the plane and spent the afternoon driving around Toronto with friends.

The last time Sinatra was here, in 1941, there was a little less fuss made over him and a little more work connected with his appearance. He was one of six vocalists with Tommy Dorsey's Orchestra and still had not hit his stride. That was before girls began swooning at the sound of The Voice.

He hasn't changed his act much since then, and doesn't intend to. "If a singer keeps some basic, identifiable style and expands it to keep up with the times, he doesn't have to worry. There's no need to change your style radically," he explains.

Sinatra says that a classic example of this is Bing Crosby, who is still Frank's favorite. "That guy can sing anything," he says admirably. Frankie also likes Perry Como.

Since Frankie first became the hobbysoxers' delight a lot of new

singers have cut into his territory. But The Voice is too well established now to have to worry about them.

With a straight face, the fly-weight crooner talks about "the lean years." He still seems tickled pink at his rapid rise in a business where tomorrow's public is as unpredictable as the weather.

Back in the New Jersey roadhouse days, his usual night off was Monday. The girl singer who worked with him asked him to switch to Tuesday—so he was around one Monday night when Harry James brought his orchestra into the place. Frankie was hired on the spot, later switched to Dorsey. Sinatra calls it fate—"an accidental move that can change your life."

Frankie isn't worried over such things as bop or other fads that affect the music business. He thinks that if the band business is going to come out of its slump it will be some one like Dorsey, Goodman or Glenn Miller, who will be responsible. The newer men are "fine," but their stuff "doesn't catch on."

As for the swooning business, it's still pretty healthy. Frankie heads back to New York after his two appearances here tonight and tomorrow and starts rehearsing a new radio show. Then back to Hollywood for another movie, and another. The lean years are all in the past.

FIVE COPS CONVOY FRANKIE PAST GIRLS, FIND JOB ROUGH

←The Toronto Daily Star,
Toronto, Ontario,
July 9, 1949, Pg. 24

By HUGH THOMSON

Frank "The Voice" Sinatra certainly gave his fans who jammed Mutual Street arena last night what they wanted. The bandstand from which he sang was at the south end and the dance floor was packed solid around it for yards, while the sidelines were packed to the rafters.

With that perennially boyish face, small but honeyed voice, and gestures alternating between the anguishing and dramatic, he sang all the crowd's favorites for an hour. The real show came after the show (sounds kind of Irish), when five burly policemen drove a flying wedge through the hysterical stage-door crowds and politely but firmly deposited their charge in a standing taxicab.

Gets Last Laugh

When Frankie first appeared on stage there was such an outburst of applause and screaming, mostly treble, we felt the roof would come crashing down any moment. But whether you like "The Bowtie" or not he's a showman with a keen appreciation for handling near riots. To cope with the heavy emotions his impassioned singing generated, he frequently resorted to some ad-lib wisecracking which had the crowd roaring.

At one point between numbers, some male voice high in the west sideline shouted out "Oh, Frankie!" in piercing falsetto. This brought forth laughter. But Sinatra instantly turned the laugh on the scoffer by quipping: "That fellow must have found the seat that was broken." This caused loud applause mingled with rapturous feminine screams of "Oh, Frankie!"

Blonde Faints

At another point when he was singing his longest offering, "Soliloquy" from "Carousel," filled with impassioned song and patter lines, a young man was seen carrying his blonde partner out from the crowd on the floor. Thinking we might find a victim of this "swoon-crooning" power, we followed. When the lady was brought around we asked anxiously: "Did Frankie knock you out?" "No." was the reply. "It was just the heat!"

When we got back the show had ended so we made for the stage door—and so did a few hundred others! Suddenly it flew open, and out dashed the convoy of cops, literally carrying Frankie through the mob. At one point, a girl grabbed his arm and was borne along with the constabulary spearhead.

That was a rough assignment," panted P.S. Charles Bond, officer in charge, afterward, wiping the inside of his cap with his handkerchief.

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last night what they wanted. The bandstand from which he sang was at the south end and the dance floor was packed solid around it for yards, while the sidelines were packed to the rafters.

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"That was a rough assignment," panted PS Charles Bond, officer in charge, afterward wiping the inside of his cap with his handkerchief!

Showman Sinatra Scoffs at Squeals, Sings With Charm

By ALEX BARRIS

Say what you will about his hungry look, or the way he creeps up on the microphone, Frank Sinatra still has it in him to charm an audience.

If he didn't make history at the Mutual Arena last night, he at least provided 40 minutes of pleasing entertainment. He would probably have done more, but the audience, apparently tired of waiting around from 9 o'clock until almost 11 for Sinatra to sing, lacked enthusiasm.

If the powers that be want better results tonight they would do well to step up the proceedings.

To get back to Sinatra, he proved himself a seasoned and shrewd performer. Playing to an audience that seemed incapable of resisting an occasional squeal isn't the easiest job in the world. Frank was able to go along with the gag most of the time, however, and usually made the best of these ill-mannered outbursts.

The influence of such stars as Gene Kelly, who has worked with him in several movies, has given Sinatra a sort of showmanship that fills in the gaps that left his voice from time to time. Sinatra burlesquing Sinatra on "All of Me," one of his earlier successes, can be a lot of fun to watch.

Frankie Boy displayed some guts in attempting to sing the baritone's soliloquy from "Carousel" to a dance hall crowd, but he got through all six minutes of it without mishap.

On such Sinatra standbys as "Old Man River," "Nancy," "Some Enchanted Evening," he was on more familiar ground and kept the kids both happy and reasonably quiet.

On the bill with Frank was the Page Cavanaugh Trio, one of those pass-piano-guitar combinations that specialize in contrived renditions of such standards as "Honeysuckle Rose."

Jimmy Namara's orchestra provided the dance music and even got into the act with Sinatra at times, bursting forth with a rousing chord to denote that the song in question was finished.

←The Globe and Mail,
Toronto, Ontario
July 9, 1949, pg. 4

. . . . FRANK SINATRA dropped into the PADDOCK TAVERN to cool his pipes after his Saturday night concert. . . . They've started to "raise the roof" of the MONTREAL FORUM. . . . When the roof has been lifted the arena will be enlarged by 3,000 seats, making it almost as large as MAPLE LEAF GARDENS. . . . The Montrealers hope to stage the CANADIAN JUNIOR hockey championships in their enlarged rink next year.

↑The Globe and Mail, Jul 12, 1949, pg. 14

Chez Paree, Montreal, Quebec February 6th - 15th, 1953




The staff at Chez Paree, a popular Montreal nightclub, in 1951

Sinatra appeared with the Bob Harrington Orchestra. Historian Ed O'Brien reports "that Harry Ship, nightclub owner and booking agent, offered Frank Sinatra a \$15,000 advance if he would play the Chez Paree for a week. Frank opened on a Friday and did shows at 8:30, 11:30, and 1:30. He did the same on Saturday evening and repeated that schedule the following weekend. Sunday through Thursday the shows were at 9 and 1. The cover charge Monday through Friday was \$1.50 and \$2.00 on Saturday and Sunday." Ava Gardner was in attendance. Some of the reviews were not kind.

❖ ❖ ❖


● **SHOW BUSINESS:** *Frank Sinatra signed to open at Chez Paree on Friday, February 6, with his appearance guaranteed by a performance bond. No word on Ava yet. . . . Montreal-born Playwright Lionel Shapiro revising the third act of his play The Bridge, based on his novel Torch For A Dark Journey. Will go into rehearsal after Christmas for London opening early in the new year. . . . Billy (Mr. Fingers) Eckstein honored at the Saturday luncheon of the St. George's Club. Chairman was Ernest Cousins. . . . Ruvenoff's birthday party, scheduled for Tuesday for the Chez Paree, advanced to tonight, which is closing night for the spot till after the holidays. . . . Joe (Vogue) Solomon adds this one to the long list of be-hop musicians' gags: Two of them arrived in London during the recent fog. Said one: "Man, dig this crazy steam-bath!"*



↑The Gazette, (Montreal, Quebec), December 15, 1952, Page 4

❖ ❖ ❖

● **SHOW BUSINESS:** *Note to Bunny Dixon: Gerry Taylor at Chez Paree wants to get in touch with you. He wants you to play piano for the Delta Rhythm Boys opening in the Black Magic Room on Friday. . . . For the Bated Breath Dept. According to current word, Ava Gardner will spend four days here with Frank Sinatra when he opens at Chez Paree on February 6—if they're still married. . . . A total of 37 hours of entertainment is required for Red Cross marathon blood donor clinic on January 10 and 11. So far 20 hours have been booked. Any talent, amateur or professional, wishing to help for part of the remaining 17 should contact Ed Fiegelman at Harbor 8790. . . . On New Year's Eve the Bellevue Casino will open at 6.30 p.m., serve dinner, run a show at 9 sharp, and close before 11. . . . Jane Morgan, who just closed at the Ritz Cafe, has gone to England to prepare for the Coronation Revue, in which she will star. . . . Owen & Murray, who just closed their best date yet at Ruby Foo's Starlight Roof, have gone North for the holidays before heading south.*



↑The Gazette, (Montreal, Quebec), December 30, 1952, Page 4

Si vous êtes NOCTAMBULE...

Frankie Boy, au
"Chez Paree" en février

La réouverture du Chez Paree aura lieu le 8 janvier et Gerry Taylor a promis qu'un spectacle de haute qualité sera alors à l'affiche. La vedette sera Sammy Davis fils. Ce dernier est placé au premier rang des artistes de cabaret, et comme on évalue souvent les vedettes américaines par les cachets qu'elles touchent, soulignons que Sammy Davis fils gagne plus de \$3,000 par semaine.

Sammy Davis fils sera secondé par le Will Mastin trio.

A la salle Black Magic, qui est adjacente au Chez Paree, on peut entendre et voir depuis jeudi soir le populaire quatuor nègre Delta Rythm Boys. Ces artistes présentent un tour de chant varié, remarquable par sa précision, son entrain, sa spontanéité. Chacun des membres de ce quatuor a été soigneusement choisi; ils possèdent des voix jolies et bien cultivées, qui s'amalgament d'une façon harmonieuse. Les Delta Rythm Boys ont inscrit à leur tour de chant des "spirituals", des chansons américaines à succès, des pièces de folklore et des chansonnettes françaises. Leur interprétation de "Trois fois merci!" leur mérite des tonnerres d'applaudissements.

Gerry Taylor a annoncé que Frank Sinatra sera la vedette du spectacle qui prendra l'affiche le 6 février.

Frank Sinatra à Montréal ...après Lucienne Boyer

←Le Petit Journal, Montreal, Quebec,
January 4, 1953, Pg. 70.

Frankie Boy, at "Chez Paree" in February

The reopening of Chez Paree will take place on January 8 and Gerry Taylor has promised that a high quality show will be on the bill. The star will be Sammy Davis Jr. The latter ranks first among cabaret artists, and as American stars are often judged by the awards they receive, Sammy Davis Jr. earns over \$3,000 a week.

Sammy Davis' son will be accompanied by the Will Mastin trio

At the Black Magic Hall, which is adjacent to Chez Paree, we can hear and see since Thursday night the popular Negro Delta Rhythm Boys quartet. These artists present a varied turn of song, remarkable for its precision, its spirit, its spontaneity. Each of the members of this quartet has been carefully selected; they have well-spoken and well-cultivated voices, which are enamelled in a harmonious way. The Delta Rhythm Boys have, in their turn, introduced "spirituals", American songs to success, pieces of folklore and French songs. Their interpretation of "Three times thank you" merits thunderous applause.

Gerry Taylor has announced that Frank Sinatra will be the star of the show that will take the position of February 6.

I'M FIRST



First of the 1953 season at Chez Paree is the sensational Will Mastin Trio featuring Sammy Davis. Coming soon are the "hottest" stars of the show business — Frank Sinatra, Dr. Arthur Ellen, Billy Vine, Johnny Howard, Billy Daniels, Billy Eckstine, yet we wonder if they will be able to make Montreal audiences forget the 1952 new star award winner, the amazing Sammy, himself. He is terrific. Come to dinner at 7.30 and see him tonight at Chez Paree.

↑The Gazette
(Montreal, Quebec),
January 16, 1953, Pg. 13

Ché, Ava ? Ça va ?



Ava Gardner, dont les démêlés avec Frankie Boy défratent actuellement la chronique de Hollywood, n'en reste pas moins sereine lorsqu'elle pose chez le photographe. La voici telle qu'on la verra dans VAQUERO, qu'elle vient de terminer aux côtés de R. Taylor.

←Le Petit Journal,
Montreal, Quebec,
January 4, 1953, Pg. 71.

Ava? Is it okay?

Ava Gardner whose demos with Frankie Boy are currently defending the Hollywood chronicle, nonetheless remains serene when posing with the photographer. Here she is, as will be seen in "Vaquero", which she is about to finish beside. R. Taylor.

◆ ◆ ◆
● **SHOW BUSINESS:** The first of the Betty Spiers fashion shows for the new season will be staged at Jack Horn's Continental Cafe on Saturday afternoon. . . . Patachou, now at the Waldorf-Astoria in New York re-opens the Cafe Society Room of the Wonderbar on Friday, February 6. . . . Chez Paree is already sold out for the Frank Sinatra opening on Friday, February 6. Gerry Taylor's Girl Friday at that spot, Rita Smith, sporting on Algiers-type tan from Miami Beach. . . . Joey Mills, the New Yorker who sings in recital at the Windsor Hotel on Monday next, is booked to visit veterans at Queen Mary Hospital next Wednesday. . . . A session that would have been priceless if it were recorded was the one between Hunts Hall of the Bowery Boys, at the Seville until last night, and Jockey Fleming in the lobby of the Mount Royal.

↑The Gazette (Montreal, Quebec), January 15, 1953, Pg. 4

◆ ◆ ◆
● **SHOW BUSINESS:** Phil Maurice, Consolidated Theatres g.m., in Manhattan to close a contract to bring the Four-Poster here to Her Majesty's. . . . Bob Goodier opens at the Labe Bros. Pensteakhouse on Friday. . . . Newsreels of President Eisenhower's inauguration are being processed in Associated Screen News laboratories here, and will open today and tomorrow in the local first-runs. . . . Maurice The Rocket Richard will guest Friday on Frank Heron's Small Fry Frolics on CBFT at 5.30 p.m. . . . The annual Fossils Club Revue will create precedent this year by playing the new Westhill High School Auditorium on April 22, 23, 24 and 25, instead of making the traditional stand at Victoria Hall. . . . Lucille and Eddie Roberts demonstrate they've lost none of their showmanship and appeal in their current stand at Ruby Foo's Starlight Roof. . . . Johnny Howard comes into Chez Paree with a complete unit show after the Frank Sinatra date. The latter opens Friday, February 6.

↑The Gazette (Montreal, Quebec), January 22, 1953, Pg. 4



←The Gazette (Montreal, Quebec),
January 31, 1953, Pg. 19

The first newspaper ad/poster for Sinatra's engagement at Chez Paree. It's not very appealing as a teaser poster.

● **SHOW BUSINESS:** Emulating another well-known Irish singer, Morton Downey, Coca-Cola ambassador and tycoon, Frank Gallagher, whose songs are very well-known here, has taken up a franchise covering parts of both Canada and the United States for a new soft drink. A contract has been signed with a local bottler, and it will be on the local market in a couple of months. Frank will continue in show business, and is booked for the Normandie at the Sheraton-Mount Royal, opening next Monday. He'll sing at the St. Patrick's Ball in the Windsor Hotel on Friday, March 13, and will then fly out to spend St. Patrick's Day in Nassau. . . . Harry Holmok still mighty pleased at the smiles of the vets in Queen Mary Hospital as they saw his show from the Bellevue Casino last week. . . . It's a busy week for openings. Marcelle Bordas of Paris makes her North American debut at Jack Horn's Continental Cafe on Wednesday. Annette Warren opens the same day at the Ritz Cafe. There's a new show Thursday at the Bellevue Casino. Frank Sinatra opens at Chez Paree on Friday, and Patachou opens at the Sans Souci on the same day.

↑The Gazette (Montreal, Quebec), February 3, 1953, Pg. 4

● **SHOW BUSINESS:** Bill Young today marks his 25th anniversary with Paramount Pictures. He's the head booker here, the man who sets the date for showings in the various theatres. . . . The Montreal counterpart of New York's jazz haven, Birdland, is set to open this weekend at the revived St. Moritz, atop the Maroon Club. Tenorist Brew Moore, Dick Garcia, guitar, Phil Arabin, drums, and Montrealers Neil Michaud, bass, and Buzzy Bley, piano, will comprise the first musical group. . . . Outside of Shipstads and Johnston, there are only three people with the Ice Follies, due at the Forum Sunday, who were members of the original troupe back in 1936. Phylliss Legg is the only skater left from the original cast of 24; and Heim, former stage manager, is now company manager; and Bert Lundblad, the original bus driver, is now stage manager. . . . The pencilling in of a third show on Friday's Frank Sinatra opening at Chez Paree gives Gerry Taylor a chance to accommodate an additional 300 guests, and reservations are open again.

Fifty

↑The Gazette (Montreal, Quebec), February 4, 1953, Pg. 4

5 février 1953



←Photo Journal,
(Montreal, Quebec),
February 5, 1953, Pg. 44

Frank Sinatra will be featured at Chez Paree's cafe, starting Friday night, February 6th. This is the first time that Frankie comes to sing in a club of the metropolis.

Frank Sinatra sera en vedette au café Chez Paree, à partir du vendredi soir 6 février. C'est la première fois que Frankie vient chanter dans une boîte de la métropole.

"At Chez" Tonight!!! 3 Shows



FRANK SINATRA
(IN PERSON)

RESERVATIONS
UN 6-6666

"CHEZ PAREE"
Stanley at St. Cath.

*PLEASE
NOTE:*

COVER CHARGE

MON-FRIDAY - \$1.50 PER PERSON
SAT-SUNDAY - \$2.00 PER PERSON

SHOW TIMES

FRI-SAT: 8:30, 11, 1:30
SUN-THUR'S: 9 & 1.

↑The Gazette (Montreal, Quebec), February 6, 1953, Pg. 15

This was a poster advertisement more fitting for Sinatra's appearance at the Chez Paree!

CHEZ PAREE

STANLEY ST.

Good news to popular song fans is the engagement of the most famous of all the modern singers, Frank Sinatra at the lavish **Chez Paree**. Following the club's policy of booking in big names whenever they are available, Sinatra's date will undoubtedly prove to be one of the biggest events of the season. His style, well-known to film-goers and record fans, has never been displayed to better advantage than on the stage at the club. Mr. Sinatra has an irresistible show personality that is guaranteed to please all comers. Of his singing voice we need say nothing, as it is doubtful if there is a person in town who has not heard him sing at one time or another. During his shows here, he trots out all the numbers that have made him famous in the show business world and all go to prove that he is probably the smoothest performer in the business today. Bob Harrington's Orchestra plays the show music at the **Chez Paree** and the Perry Carman outfit takes over as the relief band for the dance sets between performances.

←The Gazette (Montreal, Quebec),
February 7, 1953, Pg. 23

Frank Sinatra est redevenu populaire et ses admirateurs le réclament partout. Il a électrisé la foule à Boston et il chantera à Montréal durant dix jours, avant d'être invité au programme de télévision de Milton Berle. Il sera à Hollywood en mars, afin de commencer, dans *From Here to Eternity* un rôle dont il rêve depuis, longtemps.



Frank Sinatra

↑Le Petit Journal, Montreal, Quebec,
February 8, 1953, Pg. 78.

Frank Sinatra is once again popular and his admirers claim it everywhere. He electrified the crowd in Boston and sings in Montreal for ten days before being invited to Milton Berle's television program. He will be in Hollywood in March, to begin, in From Here To Eternity a role he has been dreaming of for a long time.

Frank Sinatra, actuellement au **Chez Paree**, sera l'une des vedettes du grand film que les studios Columbia doivent sous peu tourner et qui a pour titre "From Here to Eternity"... L'aguiçante De-

↑Le Petit Journal, Montreal, Quebec,
February 8, 1953, Pg. 81.

Frank Sinatra, currently at Chez Paree, will be one of the stars of the big movie that Columbia Studios is about to shoot, titled "From Here to Eternity"

Make Reservations Early!



FRANK SINATRA (IN PERSON)

RESERVATIONS
UN 6-6666

"CHEZ PAREE"
Stanley at St. Cath.

PLEASE
NOTE:

COVER CHARGE

MON-FRIDAY - \$1.50 PER PERSON
SAT-SUNDAY - \$2.00 PER PERSON

SHOW TIMES

FRI-SAT: 8:30, 11, 1:30
SUN-THURS: 9 & 1.

←The Gazette (Montreal, Quebec),
February 10, 1953, Pg. 12

The Gazette (Montreal, Quebec), →
February 11, 1953, Pg. 14

This is the best review of Sinatra's performance at the Chez Paree that I could find. The rest would focus on his behavior on stage and off while in Montreal.

Frank Sinatra Singing Here

This is the first time we have seen Frank Sinatra perform and we may say that we were very pleasantly surprised. He stars the current show at Chez Paree.

Like most well-known personalities, his career has been surrounded by such masses of publicity that the real artist seldom emerged. Ignoring the publicity, then, and discounting all the embroidery that has been draped around him, what is left is an artist of impressive talent who performs smoothly and simply.

No great popular recording fan, we never noticed before what a really remarkably good voice Sinatra has. He also knows how to use it to put a song across the footlights without the obvious prop of his surface technique.

19 février 1953

LES BRUITS

de la ville

Frank Sinatra et les musiciens de l'orchestre du cabaret où il se produit (CHEZ PAREE) ne garderont pas un bon souvenir les uns des autres. Lundi dernier, au beau milieu de son tour de chant, le mari d'Ava Gardner se mit à enguirlander les membres de l'orchestre et alla même jusqu'à les traiter de "rouges".



Frank Sinatra

←Photo Journal, (Montreal, Quebec), February 19, 1953, Pg. 5

THE SOUNDS of the city

Frank Sinatra and the musicians of the cabaret orchestra where he performs (CHEZ PAREE) will not keep a good memory of each other. Last Monday, in the middle of his song, Ava Gardner's husband began to freak out the members of the orchestra and even call them "reds".

Une jeune fille s'exclame :

"SINATRA ? UN PAUVRE MARI POUR AVA GARDNER !"

Sinatra, le crooner qui fit longtemps se pâmer les femmes, semble maintenant perdre beaucoup de son prestige et de sa popularité. A Montréal, du moins.

Ses colères répétées ont fini par tomber sur les nerfs des Montréalais(es) qui ne le regardent plus avec cet oeil admirateur, qui ne l'écourent plus avec ces soupirs à la bobby-soxer.

Car Sinatra l'a voulu !

Un soir, il s'est arrêté de chanter pendant son numéro, et s'est mis à vociférer contre les membres de l'orchestre de Bob Harrington du Chez Paree. Les musiciens ne lui pardonneront jamais cet affront. Un autre soir, il a réclamé l'aide de la police pour sortir de sa loge afin de

Un autre jour, alors que les autres membres du spectacle du Chez Paree faisaient leur numéro, il déclara que ces artistes ne donnaient pas un spectacle digne "d'une soirée Sinatra" et menaça de ne pas chanter.

Il a fait son petit Charles Trenet américain, quoi !

Mais un Charles Trenet en beaucoup moins bien. Un Charles Trenet sans génie, aucunement merveilleux.

C'est le premier engagement de Sinatra depuis longtemps à Montréal, et il prendra encore



„Ava... t'y le laisser ?"

contenir "la foule" qui se pressait au dehors. Cinq personnes seulement l'attendaient.

Un midi qu'il déjeunait à l'hôtel Windsor, le garçon lui servit un filet mignon que le mari d'Ava Gardner ne jugea pas à point. Il se leva, et fila dans la cuisine dire sa façon de pensée au chef.

ersonnifiée . . .

bien longtemps avant qu'un cabaret le réengage. Au sortir du Chez Paree, une jeune fille s'est exclamée :

"Sinatra ? Pouah ! . . . C'est un bien piètre mari pour une femme. Et je comprends Ava Gardner de vouloir l'abandonner !"

On sait que le crooner américain a épousé la belle actrice il y a environ un an, et que les querelles de ménage les ont tenu séparés depuis plusieurs mois. Mlle Gardner, car elle tient à ce qu'on l'appelle "Mlle Gardner", tourne présentement "Vaquero".

A.R.

← Samedi-Dimanche, Montreal, Quebec),
February 21, 1953, pg. 27

A young woman exclaims:

**"SINATRA? A POOR HUSBAND
FOR AVA GARDNER!"**

Sinatra, the crooner who had long been pampering women, now seems to lose much of his prestige and popularity. In Montreal, at least.

His repeated anger ended up falling on the nerves of the Montrealers who no longer look at him with this admiring eye, who no longer listen to him with these sighs to the bobby-soxer.

Because Sinatra wanted it!

One night, he stopped singing during his number and vociferated against members of Chez Paree's Bob Harrington orchestra. The musicians will never forgive this affront. Another night, he called for the help of the police to get out of his box to contain the "crowds" that crowded outside. Only five people were waiting for him.

A lunch that he had at the hotel Windsor, the waiter served him a filet mignon that the husband of Ava Gardner did not judge right. He got up and went to the kitchen to tell the chef what he thought.

Another day, while the other members of the Chez Paree show were doing their number he declared that these artists did not give a show worthy of "a Sinatra evening" and menaced not to sing.

He made his little American Charles Trenet, what!

But a Charles Trenet in a lot less good. A Charles Trenet without genius, no wonder.

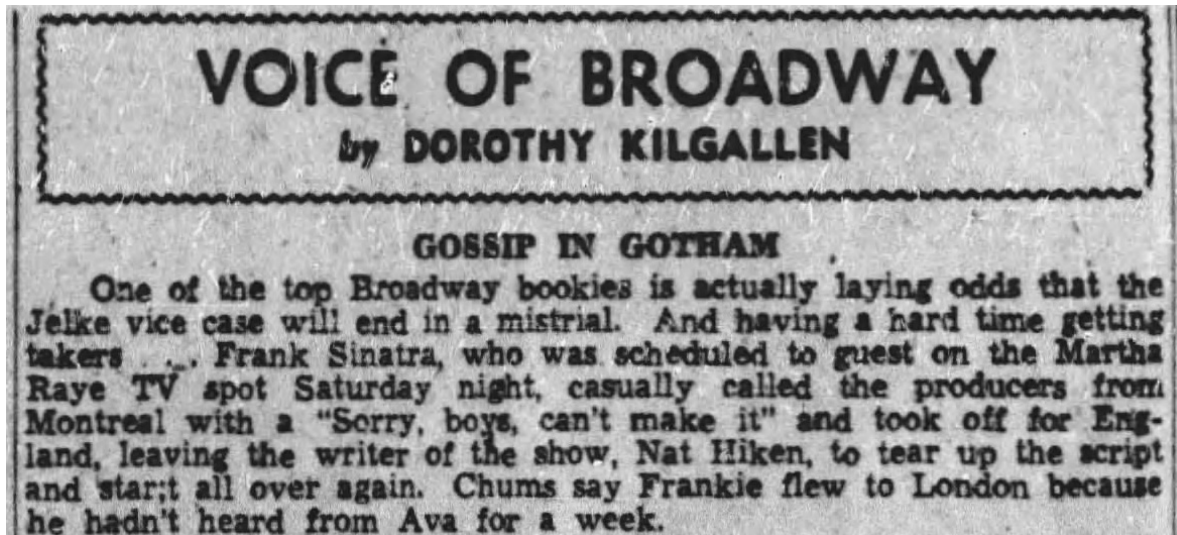
This is Sinatra's long-standing commitment to Montreal, and it will be a long time before a cabaret re-engages it. At the end of Chez Paree,

a girl exclaimed:

"Sinatra, Pooh ... it's a very poor husband for a woman, and I understand Ava Gardner to want to give him up!"

We know that the American crooner married the beautiful actress about a year ago, and that the household quarrels kept them separate for several months. Miss Gardner, because she likes to be called "Miss Gardner", is currently filming "Vaquero".

And one last story after the Chez Paree engagement was over:



↑The Gazette (Montreal, Quebec), February 21, 1953, Pg. 24

Posted online at auction site was the original contract for Sinatra's appearance at the Chez Paree, dated December 11th, 1952:

NEW YORK BEVERLY HILLS CHICAGO LONDON PARIS

www.cvtreasures.com
Established 1999

**WILLIAM MORRIS AGENCY
INC.
NEW YORK**

AGVA Standard Form of Artists Engagement Contract

AGREEMENT made this 11th day of DECEMBER, 1952, between
CHEZ PAREE, MONTREAL hereinafter called the "Operator" and
FRANK SINATRA hereinafter called the "Artist."

1. The Operator hereby engages the Artist, and the Artist hereby accepts said engagement, to present his act as a PRINCIPAL, consisting of ONE (1) persons, at the CHEZ PAREE in the City of MONTREAL, CANADA, for a period of TEN (10) consecutive ~~days~~ SEVEN (7) days weekly, TWO (2) shows ~~daily~~ Friday & Saturday commencing on FEBRUARY 6th, 1953, for which the Operator agrees to pay the Artist, and the Artist agrees to accept, as full payment, the sum of SEVEN THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED FIFTY - Dollars (\$7250.00 weekly & pro rata thereof, payable immediately preceding the first performance on the concluding night of each week's engagement hereunder.

~~2. The Artist hereby gives and grants to Operator the option of extending this agreement for consecutive additional periods of () consecutive weeks each, immediately following the conclusion of the original engagement hereunder, upon the same terms and conditions as contained herein for the original period hereof. The weekly payment during each option period shall be Dollars (\$). Each of these options to be effective must be exercised in writing by the Operator not later than weeks (days) prior to the termination of each preceding period. (NOTE: On engagements for one week or less AGVA Rules require at least three days written notice; on engagements of 2 or 3 weeks, the Rules require at least one week's written notice and on engagements of 4 or more weeks the Rules require at least 2 weeks' written notice.)~~

3. IT IS A CONDITION OF THIS AGREEMENT THAT STANDING UPON THE EXECUTION HEREOF AND SHALL BE OF THIS CONTRACT. The parties jointly and severally agree that the Artist's prior obligations to AGVA as a member thereof, (b) to AGVA as of the date hereof, and (c) to the Rules and Regulations of the AGVA as they are not in conflict with those of the National Association of Musician's Union.

4. The Artist shall render his act in the variety hall under the name of FRANK SINATRA or otherwise consented to by the Operator.

9. In addition to the compensation herein set forth of TWO HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS (\$250.) per week and PIANO Artist's pianist.

10. Artist shall receive Sole Star Headline Bill lights, displays, programs, etc. and no other art than 50% of the size type afforded Artist.

11. The Artist shall not be required to perform or appear perform or appear, directly or indirectly, in Television regardless of the written consent and approval thereto of AGVA and Artist.

9. SPECIAL:
SEE RIDER ATTACHED HERETO WHICH

IN WITNESS WHEREOF we have signed this agreement on
FRANK SINATRA
Artist Frank Sinatra
(Stage Name)
Operator CHEZ PAREE, MONTREAL
C&H 26439
7-12-13M



The details of on the contract stated:

The Operator hereby engages the Artist, and the Artist hereby accepts said engagement to present his act as a PRINCIPAL, consisting of ONE persons at the CHEZ PAREE in the City of MONTREAL, CANADA for a period of TEN consecutive days, SEVEN days weekly. TWO shows daily commencing on February 6th, 1953, for which the Operator agrees to pay the Artists, and the Artist agrees to accept, as full payment, the sum of SEVEN THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED FIFTY - Dollars (\$7,250.00 weekly payable immediately preceding the first performance on the concluding night of each week's engagement hereunder.

Here is a close-up picture of Sinatra's signature at the bottom of the contract:

9. SPECIAL:
SEE RIDER ATTACHED HERETO WHICH IS HEREBY MADE A PART HEREOF.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have signed this agreement on the day and year first above written.

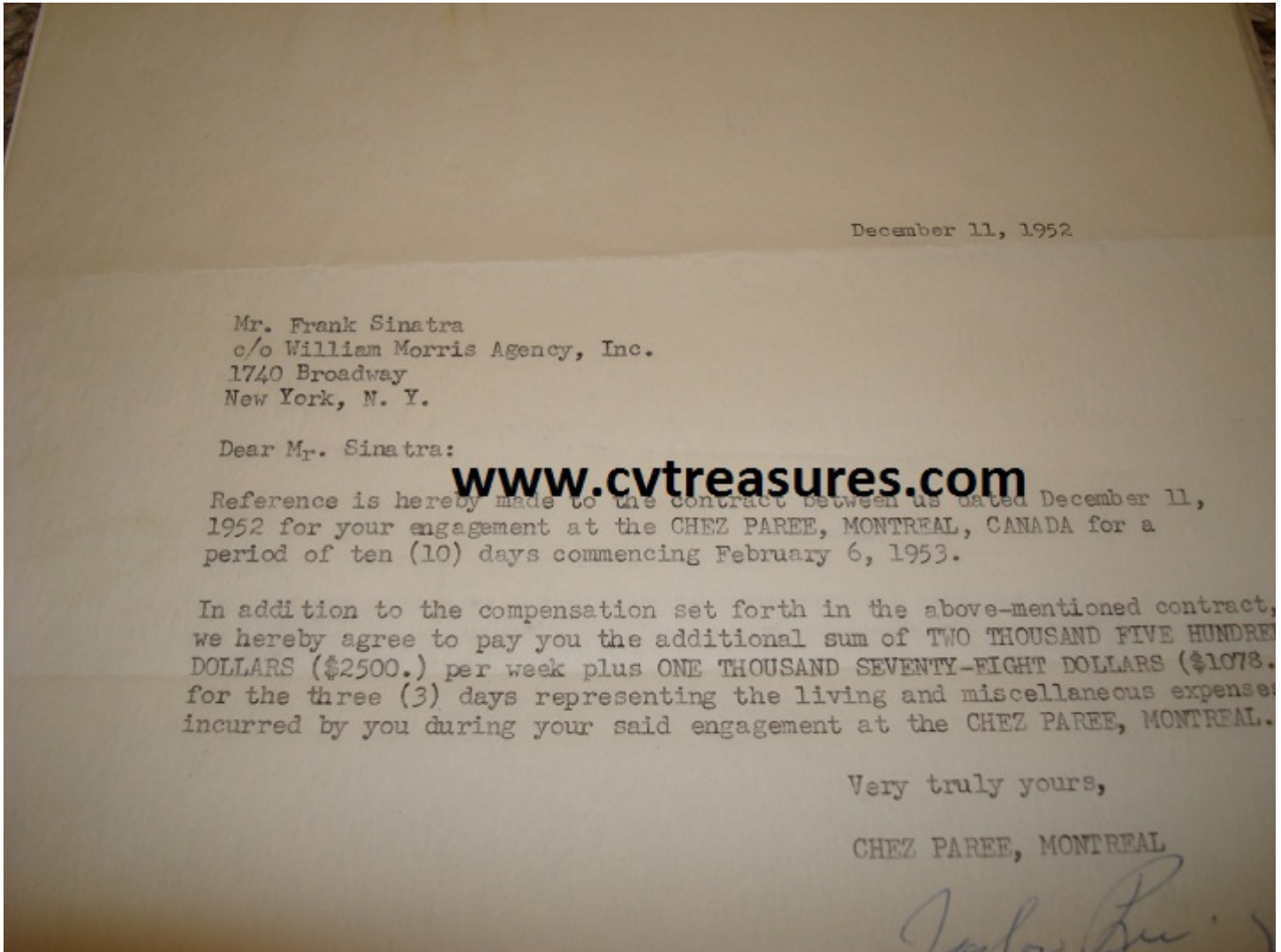
FRANK SINATRA
Artist Frank Sinatra
(Stage Name)

Operator CHEZ PAREE, MONTREAL
C&H 26439

By: Jaylor Ruffin Miller
(Legal Name)

7-52-1M

There was also a further memo to Sinatra from the Chez Patee agreeing to additional \$2500 plus living expenses in the amount of \$1,078.



December 11, 1952

Mr. Frank Sinatra
c/o William Morris Agency, Inc.
1740 Broadway
New York, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Sinatra:

Reference is hereby made to the contract between us dated December 11, 1952 for your engagement at the CHEZ PAREE, MONTREAL, CANADA for a period of ten (10) days commencing February 6, 1953.

In addition to the compensation set forth in the above-mentioned contract, we hereby agree to pay you the additional sum of TWO THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$2500.) per week plus ONE THOUSAND SEVENTY-EIGHT DOLLARS (\$1078. for the three (3) days representing the living and miscellaneous expenses incurred by you during your said engagement at the CHEZ PAREE, MONTREAL.

Very truly yours,

CHEZ PAREE, MONTREAL

Dear Mr. Sinatra,

Reference is hereby made to the contract between us dated December 11, 1951 for your engagement at the CHEZ PAREE, MONTREAL CANADA for a period of ten (10) days commencing February 6, 1953.

In addition to the compensation set forth in the above-mentioned contract, we hereby agree to pay you the additional sum of TWO THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$2500.) per week plus ONE THOUSAND SEVENTY-EIGHT DOLLARS (\$1078.) for the three (3) days representing the living and miscellaneous expenses incurred by you during your said engagement at the CHEZ PAREE, MONTREAL.

Very truly yours,

CHEZ PAREE, MONTREAL

There was an additional memo sent to the William Morris Agency regarding the executed copy of the contract and agreement and further stating that Sinatra would need the contract to cross the border into Canada.



WILLIAM MORRIS AGENCY, INC.
INTER-OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. George Wood

Date Jan. 20, 1953

RE: FRANK SINATRA - Chez Paree, Montreal - Feb. 6th for 10 days

www.cvtreasures.com

Attached hereto is an executed copy of this contract^{and agreement.} Please give this copy to Frank Sinatra for his records as he will need contract to cross the border.

Bea Knoblock

Signed _____

Put It In Writing

The Stampede Corral

Calgary, Alberta

June 8, 1957

(Cancelled)



The Stampede Corral in Calgary, Alberta, Circa 1954

Frank Sinatra began a tour of the Pacific Northwest in June of 1957 to pay off Lee Gordon who arranged Sinatra's ill-fated 1957 Australia tour. Booked for mid-February 1957 in Australia, Sinatra abruptly cancelled just two days before the scheduled opening night. Lee Gordon took a heavy loss because of the cancellation, so Gordon sued, but in an out-of-court settlement, Sinatra agreed to perform a series of concerts to compensate Gordon. The shows were performed on weekends in June during the filming of "Pal Joey." There were two stops on each Saturday and Sunday with matinees in the afternoon in one city and evening performances in another city. The tour began June 1st and ended June 16th with stops in Albuquerque, Denver, El Paso, Phoenix, Calgary, Vancouver, Portland, Seattle, San Jose, Salt Lake City, San Francisco, and Sacramento. The Calgary date would be cancelled and two shows held instead in Vancouver on June 8th. Sinatra would not return to Calgary until 1991.

Sinatra Scheduled To Sing At The Corral

The show's bound to be cool, crazy and stark when Frank Sinatra of the velvet tonsils appears at the Stampede Corral June 8.

The Hollywood star who recently completed "The Joker is Wild" is being presented by Darcy Scott attractions. He will make only one appearance here before returning to the U.S.

SINATRA AT 4 P.M.

Singer Sinatra will be featured at 4 p.m. on Saturday, June 8, with a 20 piece band from Capital Tower, Hollywood.

Gene Vincet and his Blue Caps—with Cligg Gallup on lead guitar, Jack Neal on bass fiddle, Wee Willie Williams on rhythm guitar and Be Bop Harrel on drums will entertain at a concert at 8:30 p.m. Six-foot-three crooner Sonny James will be another highlight of the show.

A Rock'n Roll dance with Jean Vincent at 11 p.m. will close the program.

←Calgary Herald (Calgary, Alberta)
May 28, 1957, Page 20

The first article announcing Sinatra's
afternoon show in Calgary.

D'ARCY SCOTT ATTRACTIONS PRESENTS

Capitol *Spectacular*
RECORDS

**THE BIGGEST "ONE NITE STAND"
IN ENTERTAINMENT HISTORY**

**IN PERSON
4pm ONLY**

FRANK SINATRA
AMERICA'S No. 1
ENTERTAINER

PLUS
20-PIECE STUDIO ORCHESTRA
direct from Capitol Tower
HOLLYWOOD
HAL LOMAN
AND
HIS PLAYMATES
GIGANTIC STAGE
SHOW PRODUCED AND
DIRECTED BY

Frank Sinatra
ADMISSION IS ONLY
\$2.25-\$2.50-\$2.75

**IN PERSON
8:30pm ONLY**

SONNY JAMES
THE "SOUTHERN
GENTLEMAN"

GENE VINCENT
The "Screamin' End"
PLUS
BOBBY HELMS-BOBBY LORD
JEAN CHAPEL

A Tremendous Grand
Ole Opry Style Show
featuring Top Pop
Country Western and
Rockabilly Stars.

Rock N' Roll Dance
With
**GENE VINCENT'S
BLUECAPS BAND**

\$2.00 - \$1.75

**IN PERSON
11pm**

SATURDAY, June 8th-CORRAL
• ADVANCE TICKET SALE AT HENTZMAN - CALGARY PHONE AM 2-1210

The Calgary Herald, Calgary Alberta, June 1, 1957, pg. 37

This same advertisement would appear in the Calgary Herald June 1st, 3rd, 4th, and 5th. There was no paper on the Sunday June 2nd. The advertisement would eventually be replaced with the one on the following page which appeared June 6th, 1957.

D'ARCY SCOTT ATTRACTIONS PRESENTS



Spectacular

SATURDAY JUNE 8th CORRAL

IN PERSON
8:30 p.m. ONLY

The Sensational
GENE VINCENT
and his
BLUECAPS

Hear Gene sing his
great "million seller"
"BE-BOP-A-LULA"

Featured In The
20th Century Fox Film
"The Girl Can't Help It"



ROCK 'N' ROLL
DANCE
WITH THE
'Blue Caps Band'

IN PERSON
11 p.m.

IN PERSON
8:30 pm ONLY

SONNY JAMES



THE "SOUTHERN GENTLEMAN"

Hear Sonny Sing!
"YOUNG LOVE", "FIRST DATE",
FIRST KISS, FIRST LOVE"

Featured on
ED SULLIVAN
and BOB HOPE
TV SHOWS

PLUS

BOBBY HELMS

"Fraulein"

BOBBY LORD
JEAN CHAPEL

AND SONNY'S BAND

COUNTRY GENTLEMEN

ADMISSION: 2.00 -1.75

TO DANCE ONLY — \$1.10
CHILDREN — \$1.00

ADVANCE SALE HEINTZMAN'S — PHONE AM 2-1210

The Calgary Herald,
(Calgary Alberta) →
June 6, 1957, pg. 26

The same day the new poster advertisement appeared minus Sinatra, the notice to the right explained the reason for the cancellation. For years it was believed that the concert was cancelled due to poor ticket sales. This story seems to refute that notion and even notes that 2,000 advance seats had been sold for the show.

The article below, from the Vancouver Sun, the day previous, June 5th, 1957 backs up the same claim that the concert was cancelled due to issues related to Sinatra's plane and air regulations. Note that the Calgary Herald did not announce the cancellation until a day after it was announced in the Vancouver Sun.

Sinatra Cancels Date, Not At Saturday Show

Singing date of Frank Sinatra in Calgary Saturday has been cancelled.

The Herald learned today that the singer, moving in an extremely tight schedule, has not been able to arrange air transportation to and from the city.

"The Voice" will instead be appearing both Saturday afternoon and Saturday night in Vancouver.

It is probable Sinatra will be appearing in a night date in Calgary in mid-July, after his latest picture, "Pal Joey," is completed.

Air regulations governing chartered planes moving into Canada have thrown up the stumbling block to the ambitious plan to bring the great singer here.

Sinatra was to have left Hollywood Saturday morning, following a week of shooting "Pal Joey," and was to fly to Calgary for an appearance at 4 p.m. He then had to complete a singing date in Vancouver Saturday night, an appearance in Seattle Sunday afternoon and another in Portland Sunday night. His schedule called for him to be back on the "Pal Joey" set Monday morning.

Due to the fact that U.S. chartered plane requires a 30-day permit to land in Canada and Sinatra's Calgary date was only made two weeks ago, one of the few ways the singer could have completed his entire schedule was for a TCA charter plane to fly him on the whole trip. This would have entailed taking a TCA Viscount off a regular run for six days, an impossibility, air line officials felt.

"Frankie" can keep the Vancouver dates by flying in on regular U.S. flights.

Approximately 2,000 advance seats sold for the Sinatra show will be refunded, promoter D'Arcy Scott said this morning. The Sonny James and Gene Vincent rock and roll show which was to follow Sinatra will be going on as scheduled.

The events which made it possible for Scott to bring Sinatra here were also partly responsible for this sudden cancellation. When the singer backed out on an Australian tour last fall, he was sued by the tour's promoter, Lee Gordon, of Seattle.

The suit was settled with Sinatra agreeing to devote a number of weekends to filling singing dates on this continent for Gordon. For the past few weekends he has been singing in four different cities each weekend.

←The Vancouver Sun
(Vancouver, British Columbia)
June 5, 1957, Page 25

★ ★ ★
Frank Talk — Tuesday's sudden decision to bring **Frank Sinatra** into Vancouver for a matinee Saturday in addition to the scheduled nighttime performance is the latest switch in the already garbled arrangements for the crooner's Pacific Northwest tour. When the tour was announced two weeks ago it started in Spokane. Then the Spokane date was switched to Calgary. Sinatra was planning to fly in a chartered TWA Constellation. That fell through. Sinatra dickered for the hire of TCA Viscount from L.A. and return. That fell through. Then there was the problem of taking a United Airlines DC-7 into Calgary. Date was switched to Vancouver as of late Tuesday afternoon. Incidentally, the evening performance has been sold out since Saturday, bearing out a prediction made in this space when the concert was first announced.

This notice from the Calgary Herald on June 1, 1957 was laying odds that Sonny James and Gene Vincent would outdraw Sinatra on June 8th.

Saturday Notes

★ ★ ★

Butch, Red and all the other stalwarts at Alcoholics Anonymous send a friendly invitation for their big open weekend featuring a meeting at the Palace Theatre Sunday at 2 p.m. In addition there will be registration at the Chapter House, 110 6th Ave. W., and a Saturday night dance . . . insiders are betting that Sonny James and Gene Vincent will outdraw Frank Sinatra next Saturday when "the Voice" does an afternoon show and the swooners move in at night . . . Sinatra will fly in from Hollywood for the bit and right out again . . . which is something to be said for the producer . . . Gene Vincent by the way packed in 15,000 last month in Chicago.

★ ★ ★

←The Calgary Herald,
(Calgary, Alberta)
June 1, 1957, pg. 21

4,500 Fans Attend 'Rockabilly' Show

Saturday was a disappointing day for many Calgarians, with the Air Force Day program cancelled because of wet weather, and the afternoon Frank Sinatra show at the Corral called off. But the 4,500 people who attended the Sonny James "Rockabilly" show at the Corral during the evening showed few signs of disappointment in the entertainment offered.

Rockabilly music — a combination of rock and roll and hillbilly music — with the band instruments consisting of guitars and drums, seemed to have more ap-

peal to Calgary audiences than either the straight rock and roll show which appeared here earlier this year or the hillbilly shows which frequently appear here.

ENTERTAINING

Saturday night's performance was highly entertaining, not only for those who were "real carried away" by the music, but for those who just sat back and laughed at the antics of the performers as the cavorted around the platform and gave forth with their "songs" from a prone position on the stage floor.

Particularly entertaining during the first portion of the show was the chubby drummer who spent most of his time in the air, about three feet above his chair.

The only unfortunate part about this show was the timing of the appearance of the star performer, Sonny James. The audience appeared to have become worn out keeping time with the fast-moving music with foot stomping and hand clapping and by the time the show's star made his appearance, the lanky crooner did not receive the full applause which he deserved.

Gene Vincent, Bobby Helms, Bobby Lord and Jean Chapel, performing during the first half of the show, captured their audience with their Elvis Presley style of singing and guitar playing. Bobby Lord, in particular, did a hilarious take-off on "The Pelvis."

←The Calgary Herald, (Calgary, Alberta)
June 10, 1957, pg. 18

4,500 were in attendance for Sonny James and Gene Vincent on June 8th. Sinatra's advance ticket sales before the cancellation were only 2,000. Compare that to his Vancouver show where some reports state that there may have been as many as 3,500 in attendance at Sinatra's matinee performance and 6,400 at his evening show.

The Vancouver Forum

Vancouver, British Columbia

June 8, 1957

2 Shows: 3 pm & 8:45 pm



The Vancouver Forum

The Vancouver 1957 date represents one of the most iconic concerts, of the two, that Sinatra performed in Canada. Due to a bootleg recording that exists of the matinee concert, it has become a favorite among Sinatra fans. He is in good form and seems to be having a wonderful time. The addition of the matinee show was a result of the cancellation of the Calgary matinee for that date. This was Sinatra's first trip back to Vancouver since appearing at the Orpheum in 1935 as a member of the Hoboken Four. Sinatra would not return again to perform in Vancouver until 1976.

Frank Sinatra makes Vancouver debut June 8

Frank Sinatra sings in Vancouver Saturday, June 8, marking his first appearance ever in the northwest.

The entertainment headliner flies in on a chartered TWA Constellation and brings with him an orchestra of 25 musicians and other acts.

Famous Artists Ltd., who'll handle the event, announce that the Sinatra spectacular will be in The Forum at 8:45 p.m., and there will be only one show.

←The Province
(Vancouver, British Columbia)
May 24, 1957, Page 1

The Vancouver Sun →
(Vancouver, British Columbia)
May 24, 1957, Page 1



Famed crooner and dramatic actor, Frank Sinatra will make one-night stand in Exhibition Forum June 8. Officials expect sell-out crowd of 6,000.



SINGER FRANK SINATRA comes to Vancouver for the first time Saturday, June 8, for one show only. He'll be at The Forum with a 25-piece orchestra and other top acts. He appears also in Seattle, Portland.

←The Province
(Vancouver, British Columbia)
May 25, 1957, Page 13

Of course, the article mentions that "Frank Sinatra comes to Vancouver for the first time." The Province obviously missed the fact that he had been there in 1935 with the Major Bowes touring show at the Orpheum. Oddly, the 1957 concert at the Forum would often be mislabeled as having been at the Orpheum.

The Vancouver Sun→
(Vancouver, British Columbia)
May 25, 1957, Page 30

FAMOUS ARTISTS LTD.

EXHIBITION FORUM, 8:45 p.m.

Saturday, June 8th

One Performance Only, The Great

FRANK SINATRA

SHOW !

25 Piece Orchestra and Other Acts

MAIL ORDERS ONLY NOW BEING ACCEPTED

Mail all remittances payable to Famous Artists Ltd., and mail c/o Kelly's Music Store, Seymour & Georgia Sts., Vancouver, B.C. Include self-addressed, stamped envelope for return of tickets! **\$2.75, \$3.75, \$4.75 incl. tax.**

★ ★ ★

Party Lines—The surprise tour that brings **Frank Sinatra** to Vancouver June 8 is reportedly the aftermath of a "Frankie - Boy's" Australian tour that didn't come off last year when Sinatra decided en route that he'd rather be somewhere else. In an effort to settle the resultant legal tangle Sinatra gave the Aussie promoter four dates. The Aussie transferred those dates to a Seattle man who'll play Sinatra here, and in Seattle, Portland and Spokane . . . Five-line scoop in Thursday's Sun final resulted in orders for \$532 worth of tickets, which haven't been printed yet . . . I've already made a fat wager with Famous Artists' impresario **Hugh Pickett** that Sinatra will draw an overflow crowd to the Forum. If he's happy when he gets here you'll see one of the greatest pop performers in the entertainment business today . . . Only other time Frankie appeared in Vancouver he was singing in a quartet with a **Major Bowes** Amateur Hour unit at the Beacon, circa 1936.

←The Vancouver Sun
(Vancouver, British Columbia)
May 25, 1957, Page 25

The Vancouver Sun explains why Sinatra ended up in Vancouver on the current tour. Although they mention Sinatra's appearance with the Hoboken Four as the only other time he had appeared in Vancouver, their date of 1936 was off by a year. Sinatra, as mentioned, performed in the Major Bowes tour in Vancouver in 1935.

Frank Sinatra will bring 51 persons with him on his three-city northwest tour June 8 and 9 . . . included are 26 musicians, a couple of acts, and Frankie's usual collection of chums . . . it's had enough asking anybody to perform in the barn-like Forum, let alone use its bare, drafty dressing-rooms . . . so, promoters are rigging a posh trailer as Sinatra's dressing quarters . . . the troupe flies here just in time for the June 8 show, stays overnight, and plays Portland Sunday afternoon and Seattle Sunday night . . . and if Sinatra can't sell out the Forum, nobody can . . .

↑The Vancouver Sun, (Vancouver, British Columbia), May 27, 1957, Page 27

. . . **Frank Sinatra** will not be called upon to change his cuff links in the basement of the Forum when he plays here June 8. Local impresario **Hugh Pickett** has been instructed to hire a super de luxe type house trailer and park it beside the Forum for use as Sinatra's dressing room. Ho hum . . .

↑The Vancouver Sun, (Vancouver, British Columbia), May 28, 1957, Page 17

\$7,000 IN SINATRA TICKETS SOLD IN DAY

Famous Artists sold \$7,000 worth of tickets Monday for Frank Sinatra's appearance in Exhibition Forum June 8.

"This is the biggest business in one day since Sadler's Wells ballet came here three years ago," said manager Hugh Pickett.

"And they all want front row seats."

↑The Vancouver Sun, (Vancouver, British Columbia), May 28, 1957, Page 23

★ ★ ★

Town Round — A city taxi firm ordered 100 tickets for the **June 8 Frank Sinatra** show Wednesday. At the rate the orders are flowing it could be a sell-out by Saturday. Nothing like it since **Danny Kaye** sold out weeks in advance of a 1952 appearance here . . . Twentieth an-

↑The Vancouver Sun, (Vancouver, British Columbia), May 30, 1957, Page 29

Music and Drama

STANLEY BLYGH, Editor

10*** THE VANCOUVER SUN: SATURDAY, JUNE 1, 1957

Sinatra as Single Artist Rings Up Record for One-Week Ticket Sale

| | | |
|---|--|--|
| <p>Frank Sinatra fans have created the biggest one week sale of tickets for a one-night stand by a single artist in the history of Famous Artists.</p> <p>A sell-out is expected for his concert at Exhibition Forum on Saturday, June 8 at 8:45 p.m.</p> <p>For fans who want to know what made the bobby-soxers swoon over him in the days before the Second World War, Columbia records has re-issued albums he made early in his career as he established himself as a model of mature craftsmanship in the not-at-all-easy art of popular singing.</p> <p>The Columbia albums by The Voice include: <i>Adventures of the Heart</i>, CL 953; <i>The Voice</i>, CL 743; <i>Frankie</i>, CL 606; <i>Frank Sinatra Conducts the Music of Alec Wilder</i>, CL 884; and <i>That Old Feeling</i>, CL 902.</p> | <p>It was on Columbia records that The Voice scored his first and most lasting successes. His singing was always well-phrased and he hit the best-selling lists with consistency.</p> <p>In "The Voice" album the old songs are just as soft and caressing as when the young gals were swooning over him—I Don't Know Why, That Old Black Magic, She's Funny That Way and nine others.</p> <p>Sinatra selected the songs included in the Frankie album—All of Me, Falling in Love With You, Almost Like Being in Love, I Only Have Eyes for You and eight others he recorded at the peak of his early fame. Some are romantic, others sentimental and their charm grows with repeated hearings.</p> <p>The effortless grace and feeling for which Sinatra long has</p> | <p>been famous show up also in his <i>Adventures of the Heart</i> album. A 1941 hit starts it off—I Guess I'll Have to Dream the Rest—and it ends with a 1933 hit, <i>It's Only a Paper Moon</i>.</p> <p>Old-line Sinatra fans will wax mellow over these.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">—IVERS KELLY.</p> |
|---|--|--|

←The Vancouver Sun, (Vancouver, British Columbia) June 1, 1957, Page 10

FRANKIE TO THE RESCUE

Frank Sinatra has come to the rescue.

Ticket sellers at Famous Artists' box-office were wondering just where they were going to put all the people who wanted to see him.

So Frank has cancelled his Calgary matinee and announced he'll do one in Vancouver instead.

It's at 3 p.m. in the Forum and another 7,000 seats now are available.

Until the change, it would have been standing room only for his 8:45 p.m. show at the Forum, with the last 1,000 seats — behind the stage — being sold and bought up as quickly as they were offered.

←The Province
(Vancouver, British Columbia)
June 5, 1957, Page 11

This article in The Province appeared on June 5th, 1957, announcing the cancellation of the Calgary matinee in favor of Vancouver. Calgary would learn about it in the Calgary Herald a whole day later on June 6th. This article leads one to believe that the Calgary performance was cancelled because the demand in Vancouver was so high that only the addition of another show on June 8th would solve the problem. Again, this contradicts stories that appeared in Calgary and Vancouver newspapers noting Sinatra's problems with flying into Calgary. The advertisement below from The Vancouver Sun on June 6th also suggests the special matinee was due to "popular demand."

The Vancouver Sun→
(Vancouver, British Columbia)
June 6, 1957, Page 22

FAMOUS ARTISTS LTD.
Presents
BY POPULAR DEMAND
SPECIAL MATINEE
FRANK
SINATRA
Exhibition Forum
Saturday, June 8th, 3 p.m.
All Seats Unreserved
\$3.00 Includes Tax
ON SALE NOW AT KELLY'S
Seymour and Georgia
Only Capacity of Forum Will be Sold

New Sinatra Series Worth \$3 Million

Will Make Him Highest Paid Entertainer on Television

By **JIM GILMORE**
Vancouver Sun Entertainment Writer

Switching on all channels . . .

A severe critic of television, **Frank Sinatra** is also the medium's highest paid entertainer . . . The Voice will pocket a record \$3,000,000 for his series next fall on ABC's Channel 5 . . . the money is earmarked for a trust fund for his two children and **Nancy**, his first wife . . . the switching of Saturday's matinee show from Calgary to the Forum was welcome news for many Sinatra fans unable to get tickets to the evening performance . . . but they're not too happy in Calgary, I hear . . .

The Province, (Vancouver, British Columbia)→
June 7, 1957, Page 29

From Our Tower

By **DICK BEDDOES**

To Whom It May Concern:

TOWN TURNTABLE . . . F. Sinatra is a crooner who frenzies to fight. Extravagant chap, too. He arrives tomorrow with a vast staff of lackeys who cater to his personal wants. His batting order includes a valet, a rubdown man, a phone-answerer. So? So Sinatra is a minor-leaguer compared to **Sugar Ray Robinson**, the fighter, who craves to roon. On a tour here three years ago Robinson's retinue comprised a secretary, a barber, an accountant, a masseur and a French midget, for laughs . . . **The Quotebook—**

↑The Vancouver Sun, (Vancouver, British Columbia)
June 7, 1957, Page 21

←The Vancouver Sun
(Vancouver, British Columbia)
June 6, 1957, Page 55

Sinatra was also making news in Vancouver about his upcoming television series. It was also nice of Jim Gilmore to rub salt in Calgary's wound.

Below two other articles herald Sinatra's appearance the next day by noting his extravagance and how he will avoid the crowds for Air Force Day.

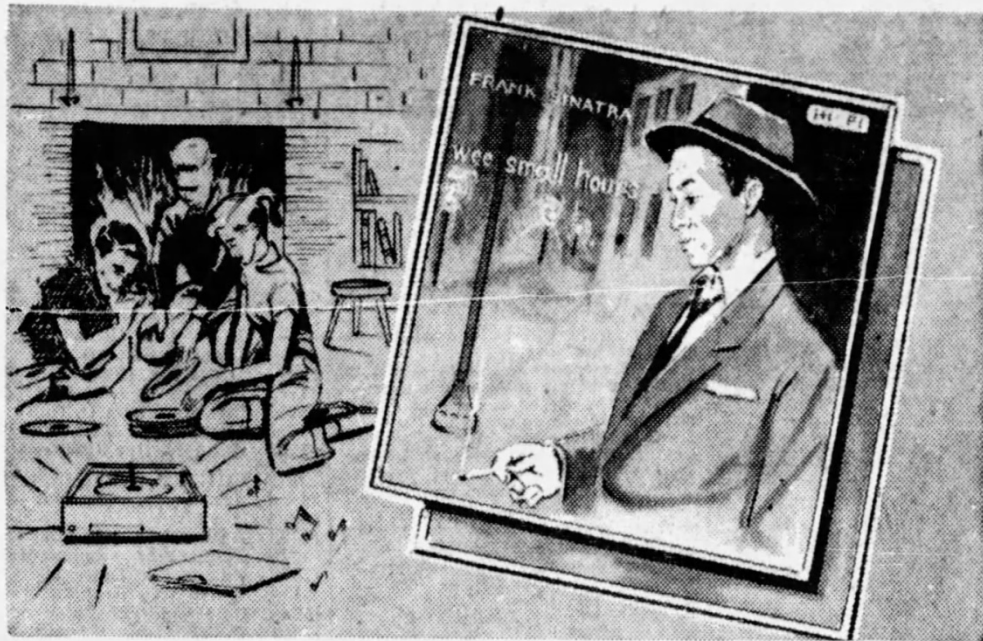
'Frankie-boy' may go aloft to avoid jam

Frank Sinatra may use a helicopter to by-pass cars plugging the road between the airport and the Forum Saturday afternoon.

That's when the singer arrives for two shows, but it's also Air Force Day—an event that attracts tens of thousands and creates an even greater traffic problem than already exists at Marpole.

Sinatra may use a whirlybird to fly over the crowds, but his 25-piece orchestra and other acts will still have to battle the traffic.

Huge Selection of Sinatra's NEW RECORDINGS



Frank Sinatra in Vancouver Saturday
Hear him - then buy his Recordings
At EATON'S

**His newest singles and L.P.'s specially brought in
by EATON'S. 45's (extended plays) 78's, and 33 $\frac{1}{3}$**

Enchantingly entertaining recordings done in the inimitable Frank Sinatra way that's always listenable, sometimes exciting, sometimes romantic . . . definitely desirable records.

Each **1.00** to **5.00**

- Add these "destined-to-be classics" to your record collection NOW.

EATON'S Music Centre—Fifth Floor—Telephone MARine 7112
ALSO AT EATON'S NEW WESTMINSTER, LA 2-2741

The Province, (Vancouver, British Columbia), June 7, 1957, Page 48

Eaton's finds a way to cash in on Sinatra's appearance in Vancouver.

**Famous Artists Limited
Exhibition Forum**

TODAY!

**3:00 p.m. & 8:45 p.m.
IN PERSON**

**Frank
Sinatra**

**25 PCE. ORCHESTRA
AND OTHER ACTS**

**Good Tickets for
Matinee Available
at Kelly's, Seymour &
Georgia until
12 Noon - After
1 p.m. at Box Office
Forum**

**ALL SEATS UNRESERVED
\$3.00 incl. tax.**

Evening Performance
Rush Seats Available at
Kelly's Until 5 p.m. after
7:30 at Forum

←The Province, (Vancouver, British Columbia)→
June 8, 1957, Page 22

'Good tickets' were still available for the Matinee performance on the morning of June 8th and 'rush seats' were available for the evening performance. Later in the day, by the time the Vancouver Sun went to press, as seen in the article below, the matinee had produced a record crowd and the evening concert had already sold 6,200 tickets for the near 7,000 seats.

The Vancouver Sun, (Vancouver, British Columbia)
June 8, 1957, Page 1↓

RECORD CROWD SEEN FOR SINATRA SHOW

The personal magnetism and melancholy voice of Hollywood's Frank Sinatra will pull a record crowd in the Forum tonight.

Officials said 6,200 seats have already been sold for the singer-actor's performance at 8:45 p.m. Another 500 seats, located behind the stage, will go on sale at 7:30 p.m. at the Forum.

Famous Artists Ltd. officials said Sinatra will attract more people than Bing Crosby, Liberace or Victor Borge did here.

Frankie boy sets Forum on its ear

By BEN METCALFE
Province Staff Reporter

Frank Sinatra, singing sultan of swoon, broke every rule in the book here Saturday while the 10,000 at his two performances cheered him on.

He was late, he forgot his words, he bullied his audience and acted as if he was just killing time till the bars opened. But they loved it.

Which may prove that the job of covering his concerts is better suited to a psychologist than a music critic.

A music critic could have left after noting that the old Frankie boy has now progressed from the musical whisper that brought him fame to a deeper, arrogant baritone that is still pretty fascinating.

The psychologist would stay on till the end just in case he was needed.

FRANKIE ARRIVED by special plane at 3 p.m. with his well-known retinue of handlers to find that it was Air Force Day and that most of the girls were on the other side of the field.

Only eight greeted him, without cries, but there were thousands more waiting for his first performance at the Forum. Another wave of worshippers packed the Forum for the evening show.

Between performances, he made the press beg before giving interviews while he rested in his suite at the Georgia Hotel.

He looked tanned, healthy and as cocky as they come, a cross between a delinquent go-getter and a great artist.

CAME THE EVENING and the hard seats were packed with bobbysoxers of all ages, pointing up the fact that the 41-year-old Sinatra is a success from way back when mother was a girl.

His comedian and three dancers worked for 90 long minutes before he himself appeared.

He started modestly, moved straight into the long list of bal-

lads which are associated with The Voice. But he didn't stick to the well-worn versions.

Instead, he experimented, ad libbed, stumbled on a number of lines, then looked out at his devotees as if to say, "Sue me."

FACT IS that Frankie doesn't sing a song well unless he really likes the song.

He confessed this after lousing up "Jealous Lover." "I detest that song," he said.

When his voice started to crack after a dozen numbers, he paused to refresh, and talked.

He had high praise for Canadian rye, but he couldn't understand why Bing Crosby comes here to fish.

"I don't dig that kind of action," he mused, "Have you still got those crazy liquor laws up here?"

HE DIDN'T HIT his peak till near the end of the show with Johnny Mercer's "One For The Road."

Using a spotlight, a cigaret and his well-known straw hat, he proved in this song that he is a great actor whatever happens to his voice.

There are two schools of thought about Sinatra:

Songwriter Sammy Cahn says he can forgive him anything so long as he functions as an artist.

Columbia Records director Mitch Miller says that the ability to sing 32 bars of music doesn't entitle him to flout the rules of society.

Both schools had their adherents in Vancouver after Saturday night.



TIME OUT for a coffee was taken by singer Frank Sinatra at Exhibition Forum Saturday night when Province photographer Eric Cable caught this close-up view. "The Voice," entertained an overflow crowd at show.

←The Province, ↑
June 10, 1957, Page 5

There were no Sunday papers in Vancouver on June 9, 1957 so the first reviews appeared on June 10th. Ben Metcalfe's review was mixed but it certainly wasn't flattering. Sinatra fans objected Metcalfe's review in letters published a week later:

Letters from our readers

Frankie's all right!

Who the heck does Ben Metcalfe think he is; talking about Frankie like that? I was there on Saturday night and his whole show was just wonderful. If he was late I didn't know it. His entertainers were good. Rather than being rude I thought he was very courteous in general. As for his voice cracking; Ben's would too if he had been singing for an hour or more.

Vancouver.

WILMA

... Some of the writers really broke down and said a few pleasant things

about Frank Sinatra. They omitted saying the orchestra was wonderful but Sinatra didn't forget to. He led them, and he was in complete control of the stage as well as the audience. He also laughed at himself and you can't find many people who can do that . . .

West Vancouver.

B.

←The Province,
June 17, 1957
Page 6



BRILLIANT OR MEDIOCRE?—Whatever the verdict, singer Frank Sinatra packed the Forum for two-hour performance Saturday night. For critics' reports see below. —Ralph Bower photo.

↑The Vancouver Sun, (Vancouver, British Columbia), June 10, 1957, Page3

The Vancouver Sun ran a much more flattering picture of Sinatra and their review on the next page at least attempted to review his performance from two viewpoints.

TWO VIEWS

Frankie Sinatra— King or a Clod?

By JIM GILMORE
Sun Entertainment Writer

I interviewed Frank Sinatra Saturday night, and I didn't get punched in the nose.

It was the first press interview the volatile performer has granted during his 40-city tour and it was in stark contrast to the many fist-swinging, name-calling encounters he has had with other newspapermen.

"What do I think of rock 'n' roll?" he puzzled. "It's a deviation or variation of the blues, but with more punch. It's a phase."

Q: What do you think of Elvis Presley?

A: "I've never actually seen him operate, but he seems pretty natural."

Q: Do you think Marilyn Monroe is still Hollywood's foremost exponent of sex?

A: "I'd say (Kim) Novak is now. She's the No. 1 dame in the business. But as a man, it's pretty hard to choose between the two."

Q: You've never been a fan of television, how come you signed that two-year contract with ABC?

A: Well, nobody is a genius, and if everybody is going to make mistakes for me, I would like to be the one to make them. I am completely free to do what I want on the show. ABC has faith in me."

Q: How about the series Look did on you?

A: "Time passes."

(Sinatra has filed a \$2,300,000 damage suit against the magazine and writer Bill Davidson over the first of the three-part series.)

Then Frankie walked onto the stage and showed a record crowd of 6,400 just why he is hailed as the most valuable and exciting entertainer in show business. At the afternoon show he drew only 560.

Sinatra enthralled his listeners with brilliant showmanship, a marvelous sense of timing, unique phrasing, artistry and intimate sincerity. He has the finest voice in the business.

Outside the Forum, it looked like 1943 all

By STANLEY BLIGH
Sun Music and Drama Writer

Knowing the seeming popularity of Frank Sinatra it is with some misgiving that this reviewer appraises his peculiar talent.

To treat him as a serious artist is not possible.

His financial success proves that he has what is necessary for a singer of popular songs, but there was nothing in his performance that revealed any genuine musical artistry.

Then, too, his sense of showmanship savored of mediocrity. He appeared to a personable, middle-aged man, who had the facility to project with apparent ease songs of a sentimental and often morbid nature in the speaking style of a crooner.

For 65 minutes he paced the stage from side to side, singing into a hand microphone. He poured forth his "songs of love and longing," interspersed with somewhat inane patter and reminiscences. Judging by the enthusiastic response the huge audience in the Forum enjoyed every minute of it.

At times his words were inaudible but this did not affect the listeners who, from the shrieks of delight which greeted the opening phrases of each song, showed that they knew what was coming.

One came away from the show wondering what attraction Sinatra had that caused bobby-soxers to swoon during the early days of the Second World War.

The event offered further proof that true artistic ability has little chance against high powered publicity.

over again. A milling throng of 2,000, still buoyant after Sinatra's wonderful performance, waited to catch a glimpse of him.

"I only want to touch him," said an elderly white-haired woman.

Of course there were letters in response to Stanley Bligh's poor review of Sinatra's performance. Unfortunately the reviews of Bligh's reviews were split:

Frankie an Artist

Editor, The Sun: Sir,—Stanley Bligh's article Monday night in which he gave his bush-league criticism of Frank Sinatra was exactly what was expected of him. His column laughingly subtitled "Music and Drama Critic," was a perfect example of a small time critic who thinks that in order to be a distinctive critic one must pan what the majority of critics praise . . .

As for S. B.'s last statement, and I quote: "True artistic ability has little chance against high-powered publicity." I think that egregious comment more rightly reserved for the Elvis Presley and Tommy Sands fans.

In my estimation Stanley Bligh is still a dilettante who should stick to reviewing things a little less artistic.

RICHARD BARKER.

1096 W. Fourteenth.

Sinatra Tops

Editor, The Sun: Sir,—I must say that your critic, Stanley Bligh, gave a very untrue presentation of a great and serious artist, Sinatra.

I would like to suggest that Mr. Bligh study recordings of the prospective artists he is to review. He should listen to several Sinatra recordings and then compare them to the same recording by any other artist. I doubt if he will be able to find any other artist who can compare to Mr. Sinatra for perfect diction and intimate delivery of any selection . . .

BRUCE PEEL.

Box 2597, Kitimat.

←The Vancouver Sun,
(Vancouver, British Columbia),
June 13, 1957, Page 4

The Vancouver Sun
(Vancouver, British Columbia),
June 17, 1957, Page 4↓

Sorry for Fans

Editor, The Sun: Sir,—Congratulations to Stanley Bligh, but he didn't go far enough on Sinatra. I could talk and bawl as well as him. Publicity, backed by big money put the Thing where he is . . .

Some smart New York boys figured it was about time to find some one to imitate Bing Crosby, so they originally put up \$60,000, found Sinatra, publicized him and the bobby soxers' howls and faints, and still draw their portion of his earnings.

I passed the Forum . . . that night and I felt sorry for the poor people paying good money to listen to that Thing, and my thoughts were similar to, or probably a little more harsh than, your later publication . . .

J. D. LONG.

←The Vancouver Sun
(Vancouver, British Columbia),
June 19, 1957, Page 4

A very nice article regarding Sinatra's appearance in Vancouver did not even appear in a Vancouver publication. On the next three pages are the excerpts about Sinatra in Vancouver from Music World out of Toronto, Ontario published June 22, 1957.

music world

Published Twice - Monthly TORONTO, JUNE 22, 1957 25 cents

In This Issue

**FRANK SINATRA
IN VANCOUVER**
Picture and full report

●

**Pop, Country and Jazz
Record Reviews**

●

**Special articles
by
ELWOOD GLOVER
HELEN McNAMARA**

●

**What Is This Thing
Called SKIFFLE ?**

●

**Music News From
Canada, U.S.A., England**

●

**RECORD CHARTS AND
BEST - SELLERS**

CANADIAN DISC - JOCKEYS MEET ELVIS PRESLEY

"All chums together!" might well be the motif of this photo, taken when the Pelvis played Toronto recently. The two deejays with him come from the CHUM station — Hank Noble (left), who does the all-night stint; and Josh King, whose country programme is very popular on the station.

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Music World Magazine, June 22, 1957, Cover

SINATRA CAPTIVATES VANCOUVER

Special report for 'Music World'
by BOB TURNER

FRANK SINATRA, singer, actor, play-boy, and terror of the press descended on Vancouver, June 8, and completely captivated the city; held a record-size Vancouver audience spellbound for two performances, and left several dozen Vancouver newspapermen wondering whether they should believe what they read in the papers.

Performing at the Vancouver Forum, Sinatra played to the largest crowd ever assembled for a singer since Bing Crosby's appearance at the same place in the late forties.

A near-capacity audience at a matinee and 6400 fans jamming the sell-out evening performance sat enthralled as he sang the many numbers which first brought him fame in the forties, plus the ones which revitalized his sagging career five years ago, and a number of new ones.

Right from the opening number through his famous 'beat' songs to the ballads that set young girls swooning fourteen years ago, the audience was in the palm of his hand.

HIGHLIGHT

In what turned out to be the highlight of the evening, "One More for My Baby", with just one baby spot on his head and shoulders and a complete blackout, the proverbial pin, dropped, would have resounded like a cannon.

At the end of the show, after repeated curtain calls, Sinatra finally had to leave the stage and get out to Vancouver International Airport to catch his chartered DC-6B for the flight to Portland, where he appeared the following afternoon.

As he attempted to leave the building after changing he found a crowd of more than 2000 people waiting outside between him and his limousine.

Finally after some brief problems which left him without a hat or handkerchief, looted of some rather avid fans, police broke a path through the wildly cheering crowd to his car.

But it was the newsmen who were actually left with the biggest impression of the man.

On the heels of orders prohibiting interviews, and barring cameras from The Forum, Sinatra took special pains with, and seemed to enjoy talking to reporters, disc-jockeys, and photographers. Several tape interviews were made, one of them twice.

Jerry Davis, DJ with radio station CKNW, New Westminster, after a long interview, discovered that the sound had not taken on the tape. By this time, the performance over, Sinatra was on his way to the airport. Davis rushed to the airport,



Ralph Bower photo

Jack Kyle, well-known deejay on radio station CKNW, New Westminster, interviews Frank Sinatra as the singer alights from his plane on arrival at Vancouver International Airport.

collared the singer, and explained his plight.

All Sinatra said was, "Gee, that's too bad, do you have time to do it again?". Davis did . . . and so did Sinatra.

In answer to newsmen's questioning, Sinatra came up with some answers on music, show business, television . . . and his reputation.

Asked what he thought of rock 'n' roll, Sinatra replied, "It's a deviation or variation of the blues, but with more punch. It's a phase."

FRANKIE ON ELVIS

His opinion of Elvis Presley: "I've never actually seen him operate, but he seems pretty natural."

"Whatever happened to Axel Stordahl?" didn't seem to cause any embarrassment. Sinatra replied, "When I left Columbia to go to Capitol, Axel stayed, that's all."

His next album is "Where Are You", on Capitol, with Gordon Jenkins accompanying. "It's stringy and quiet," he said.

With this departure from the now-famous Nelson Riddle, who made himself a name along with Sinatra's comeback, the next query was about Riddle.

"Nelson is a real doll," said the Voice, ". . . the most brilliant man in the music business today." High praise from the man

who has once again made "good" music popular.

Some sidelights that didn't tie-in with his fiery reputation:

Two young girls who suddenly found themselves face-to-face with their idol at the side door of The Forum requested autographs. Since they didn't have any paper they suggested he write it on their white jackets. But Sinatra refused to "ruin the jackets", said "wait here", and disappeared into the building. A few minutes later an attendant appeared with two signed programs which Sinatra had gone to the trouble to obtain himself.

Everywhere he went the younger members among his admirers received his full attention. The younger they were, the friendlier he was.

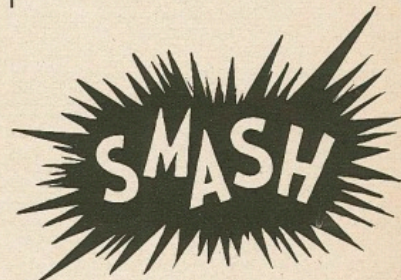
During the show itself, in seeming contravention of orders, photographers were kneeling and sitting at the foot of the stage, shooting as they pleased. Sinatra stopped the performance long enough to order attendants to bring chairs for the

(Please turn to page 9)

THE ROCKETS

featuring

DAVE FOLKES



THROUGH WITH

ROCKIN' THE BLUES

Sparton 406

Another BMI Clicker

FRONTIER MUSIC Pub. Co.

3423 Bathurst St. Toronto

New York critics were unanimous in praising the suite, which, according to Ellington, is an attempt "to parallel some of the vignettes of some of the Shakespearean characters in miniature . . . sometimes to the point of caricature." The suite has been recorded, and will be released in Canada by Columbia Records in the near future.

With the 1957 music season, jazz is again taking a leading role. The line-up

**"Then music with her silver sound
with speedy help doth lend redress."**

(Romeo and Juliet)

includes Count Basie and his Orchestra with singer Joe Williams, blues singer Billie Holiday, the Gerry Mulligan Quartet and the Teddy Wilson Trio.

Appearing with these American stars will be Toronto's Ron Collier and his Quintet. Trombonist Collier has played

in most of Toronto's dance bands and radio orchestras, but jazz is his major interest, especially jazz that uses forms and techniques associated with classical composition. He was a member of the Norm Symonds group which appeared at Stratford last season.

His own group, formed in 1954, has played several Toronto concerts. At Stratford, the Quintet will be joined by Toronto pianist Norman Amadio, appearing as guest soloist.

Jazz concerts will be held in the Festival Concert Hall on Friday and Saturday evenings over a three-week period. Count Basie and his Orchestra will appear on August 2 and 3, Billie Holiday and the Ron Collier Quintet on August 9 and 10, and the Gerry Mulligan Quartet and the Teddy Wilson Trio on August 16 and 17.

Just as we close for press, further good news breaks for jazz fans with the exciting information that Duke Ellington has been booked for Stratford in September. More about this in our next issue.



RON COLLIER

which sold 100,000 copies in Canada alone."

It was in New York that Gordon began his long association with the Leo Feist organization. He wrote several songs for Feist, and they did very well, but disappointment awaited him.

At that time Canadian songwriters had no mechanical protection, so he could not receive one cent of the royalties due to him. In those pre-radio days the bulk of a songwriter's income came from phonograph recordings, and the fact that Canadian songwriters were not entitled to any mechanical rights—under the copyright laws then existing—was a grievous blow.

★

This legal anomaly needed fighting and Gordon Thompson is nothing if not a fighter. He hurried back to Toronto and, in 1919, formed the Authors and Composers Association of Canada. Then he took his coat off and started the battle to get the copyright laws changed for the benefit of Canadian songwriters.

It was a long and tough fight but, by constant lobbying and hard work, he had the satisfaction of getting the law enacted in 1924. Except for a few amendments over the years, the law for which Thompson fought still stands, and Canadian songwriters owe him a deep debt of gratitude for his efforts on their behalf.

Gordon Thompson is also a pioneer in another very important respect for he sponsored the first commercial radio show in Canada.

"In the early 20's," he told us, "there was only one radio station in Toronto—CFCA, run by the Star newspaper. I thought I could popularize the songs we were handling by taking an hour of their air-time every Thursday evening, so I made a deal with the Star and that hour cost me twenty dollars a week!"

Later on, in about 1930, he was instrumental in organizing a very popular coast-to-coast program for CPR. It was called Melody Mike's Music Shop, and Percy Faith was the musical director. Al

SILHOUETTE

(Concluded from page 7)

and Bob Harvey were in charge of the program, and the announcer was Charles Jennings, now an executive of CBC. The programme was a huge success, and by the time it came off the air it had brought in a fan mail of 45,000 letters.

Turning back to Gordon Thompson's publishing activities, at one time he sold out to the Feist organization and became general manager for their Canadian branch. Subsequently he broke away, and started out on his own again, although he continues to represent Feist in Canada, and still does.

★

From its small beginning in Richmond Street, Gordon's own company moved on to Bay Street, and then, for 29 years had their offices in the Heintzman Building in Yonge Street. In 1919 they bought their own building at 902 Yonge Street but sold it three years ago to come to 32 Alcorn Avenue, where they are to this day—and are likely to remain for a long, long time ahead. Still active in every respect, Gordon Thompson retains a keen and perceptive interest in every kind of music. His own tastes veer towards the classical but he is tolerant enough to appreciate that his job is to give the people the music they want—even rock 'n' roll.

An acknowledged authority on copyright he has often been called upon to lecture on this subject in the United States. When he relaxes, he goes to his cottage in Muskoka and enjoys fishing, boating, and listening to music in the open air.

A happy and contented man, he has only two unfulfilled ambitions. One of them is to see that Canada gets that individual song—something that is entirely Canadian. As for that other ambition—

all his life he has been trying to write that worldwide hit but so far it has eluded him, although there have been several near misses.

Gordon V. Thompson now handles an enormous range of music of every kind, and Gordon himself remains the guiding light of the enterprise. Typical of his active and happy outlook on life is the remark he made to our photographer when we photographed him for this article.

He particularly asked to have a picture taken of himself with his staff (you can see it on page 7).

"You see, I don't want them to think this is an old man's business," he said. "After all, I'm only 18."

SINATRA CAPTIVATES VANCOUVER

(Concluded from page 3)

photogs. "I can't have my guests sitting around on the floor," he pointed out.

And here's the caper. Sinatra didn't receive a nickel for his performance.

His Canadian appearance was part of the settlement of a threatened suit by Australian promoter Lee Gordon. Sinatra's Australian tour was cut short by his much-publicized refusal to go on when a member of his party was unable to get last minute plane reservations. Apparently Gordon agreed to settle for some concerts in North America.

In common with a great number of other performers, Sinatra said that he had never played to so responsive an audience as that in Vancouver and promised to come back soon. He said that he thought Vancouver was "the greatest".

Vancouver thought the same thing about Frank Sinatra.

Three other articles ran in Vancouver newspapers in the days and weeks following his appearance in that city. The first talked about how he almost didn't make the concert and the other two extolled Sinatra's praise for Crown Royal whiskey.

★ ★ ★
A Swingin' Affair — Now it can be told that **Frank Sinatra** almost didn't make it to Vancouver for his Saturday concerts. On June 1 he was in Albuquerque, N.M., on a one-nighter. The air conditioning wasn't working and the room was boiling. So was Frankie. If this is the way the tour was going to be, Frankie decided, he was through. The word was sent north. At that time the Vancouver Forum was already sold out for the June 8 evening performance. Fast phone calls between Seattle, Hollywood and New Mexico finally convinced Frankie that he should come to Vancouver but it was **that** close . . . The matinee performance didn't even make the out-of-pocket expenses. The evening performance was a different story. The promoters cleared an estimated \$22,000 after taxes . . . Along for the ride with Sinatra was fabulous Hollywood cafe operator **Mike Romanoff** and **Patsy D. Amore**, operator of the Villa Capri, Frankie's favorite Italian eat spot . . . Troupe left for Portland by charter plane immediately after the evening show. Sinatra had asked to have a quiet Italian dinner in Portland. After his reception here he was so elated that he ordered one of his flunkies to change the reservations to a nightclub where they could ball it up.

←The Vancouver Sun
June 11, 1957, Page 21

The Vancouver Sun→
June 12, 1957, Page 25

The Province, →
Vancouver, B.C.
June 17, 1957 Page 6

★ ★ ★
Stage Brites—First-rate recording group, **The Accidentals**, opened at the Pacific Athletic Club Tuesday for five days. In addition to their club chore they'll brighten CBUT's "Cool Pepper" show Friday. . . . Only souvenirs **Frank Sinatra** took back from Vancouver, besides the stacks and stacks of dollar bills, were two cases of Crown Royal. Seattle spies tell me he interrupted his show there to discourse on the fine quality of Canadian booze and to complain that Crown Royal wasn't available in the U.S.

★ ★ ★
Yep, that Frankie Sinatra is a versatile fellow, all right. First time I ever saw him personally he was acting the perfect fond father to his brood of three youngsters at the opening of Disneyland. Next time, just a few days ago, he was extolling the wonders of Crown Royal whiskey to an adoring audience of 1,000 teen-agers at our own Exhibition Forum.



The Penthouse Nightclub, Vancouver, 1957

A story has been passed around for years that after Sinatra's evening performance in Vancouver in 1957, that he shouted to the audience for everyone to follow him to the Penthouse Nightclub. In 2012, author Aaron Chapman published "*Liquor, Lust, and the Law: The Story of Vancouver's Legendary Penthouse Nightclub*". The following highlight was listed on the website, <https://theyee.ca/Books/2012/12/08/Penthouse-Nightclub/>:

CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD: *In 1957, at the end of Frank Sinatra's final encore at his sold-out show one night at the Orpheum Theatre, Sinatra announced from the stage, "That's it everybody, see you all at the Penthouse!" The audience rushed out of the Orpheum and down Seymour Street where a line quickly overflowed down the block bending over to Granville Street. Ross and Mickey Filippone had to sneak him through the back exit, where once inside he drank and socialized with club patrons. "I just wish he'd [turned up] on a slow night," said Ross Filippone. "We were already busy that evening."*

Note: The above excerpt again perpetuates the error that the 1957 concerts were at the Orpheum.

On May 14, 2013, the Vancouver Sun ran the article below as part of their 'This Day In History' series. The article looked back on Sinatra's death on the same day in 1998 and included references to his appearances in Vancouver with the Hoboken Four in 1935 and his appearance at the Forum in 1957. This article was the first to correctly identify the November 8, 1935 date at the Orpheum and references the 1957 appearance at the PNE Gardens which is the current day name for the Forum.

THIS DAY IN HISTORY: MAY 14, 1998

Fifteen years ago, Frank Sinatra died at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles. He was 82.

The "Chairman of the Board" had a singular career, bursting into the limelight during the big band era of the 1930s and lasting through the grunge era of the '90s.

As a singer, he was without peer, recording more than 2,000 songs, including standards like My Way, One for My Baby, and Fly Me to the Moon. As an actor, he won an Academy Award for From Here to Eternity.

His personal life made just as many headlines as his professional one, as the press detailed his dalliances with stars like Ava Gardner, Mia Farrow and Juliet Prowse.

He wasn't always happy with what they wrote, or photographed. In Italy in the early '50s, a posse of paparazzi reportedly offered him \$16,000 to pose with Gardner. Sinatra counter-offered that he would pay \$32,000 if he could break one photographer's arm and another one's leg.



RALPH BOWER/VANCOUVER SUN FILES

Frank Sinatra performs at the Pacific National Exhibition Gardens on June 8, 1957. He died on this day in 1998.

Sinatra's first appearance in Vancouver was on Nov. 8, 1935 at the Orpheum with the Hoboken Four, who were touring with the popular radio show Major Bowes Amateur Hour. Apparently, he

remembered the date well — he broke several light bulbs while practising his golf swing, and was almost mauled by an irate electrician. He did several more local shows over the years, but the

legendary one was June 8, 1957, when he played the PNE Gardens. Seven thousand fans turned out for two shows, and one was surreptitiously recorded by Vancouver radio legend Jack Cullen.

After spreading some "liquid sunshine" among the ushers who saw what he was up to, Cullen hid under the stage with his reel-to-reel recorder and got a surprisingly good recording of the gig, which he broadcast for years afterward on his radio show. Sinatra was not amused — he refused to ever do an interview with Cullen.

The Sun's classical music writer Stanley Bligh was assigned to cover the 1957 show, and panned it. "To treat him as a serious artist is not possible," Bligh wrote.

"His financial success proves that he has what is necessary for a singer of popular songs, but there was nothing in his performances that revealed any genuine musical artistry."

John Mackie, Vancouver Sun

↑The Vancouver Sun, May 14, 2013, Page 2.↓



On June 8th, 2013, The Vancouver Sun ran another article about Sinatra in their 'This Day In History' series. This time the article was completely dedicated to Sinatra's June 8th, 1957 appearance in Vancouver and the reviews he received at the time.

THIS DAY IN HISTORY: JUNE 8, 1957

"I interviewed Frank Sinatra on Saturday night, and I didn't get punched in the nose" was the catchy, opening line by a Vancouver Sun entertainment reporter in his story on the crooner with a reputation for being tough and combative with the media.

The reporter talked to Sinatra 56 years ago before his sold-out concert at the Forum at the PNE. Sinatra's best quote was in response to a question about rock 'n' roll: "It's a deviation or variation of the blues, but with more punch," Sinatra said. "It's a phase."

OK, so he got the future of rock music all wrong. But as far as the reporter was concerned, Sinatra got everything all right on stage. He was praised for his "brilliant showmanship, unique phrasing, artistry and intimate sincerity. He has the finest voice in the business."

About 6,400 fans were in attendance for Sinatra's 65-minute show of songs and banter.



RALPH BOWER/VANCOUVER SUN FILES

Frank Sinatra performs at the Forum on the Pacific National Exhibition grounds on June 8, 1957.

At the time, Sinatra had reclaimed the spotlight as a star. In 1953, he rejuvenated his career by winning the best supporting actor Oscar for his role in From Here to

Eternity. A member of the famed Rat Pack, Sinatra was on his way back to being one of the top entertainers in the world.

Running alongside the positive review in The Sun was a more negative one written by the paper's music and drama writer. Stanley Bligh found it difficult to like anything about Sinatra's performance at all.

He described his showmanship as mediocre. He was called a "personable middle-aged man, who had the facility to project with apparent ease songs of a sentimental and often morbid nature.

"There was nothing in his performance that revealed any genuine musical artistry," Bligh continued.

"One came away from the show wondering what attraction Sinatra had that caused bobby-soxers to swoon during the early years of the Second World War.

"The event offered further proof that true artistic ability has little chance against high-powered publicity."

Kevin Griffin, Vancouver Sun

↑The Vancouver Sun, June 8, 2013, Page 2

On June 8, 1957, Pickett did two Frank Sinatra shows at the PNE Forum. The Sinatra file has Frank's itinerary for Vancouver, Portland and Seattle, and it is incredibly tight — he flew to Portland after his Vancouver shows, played an afternoon show the next day, then flew to Seattle for an evening gig.

Frank's contract stipulates he wanted a two-bedroom suite, or a one-bedroom suite with an adjoining suite for his piano player Hank Sanicola. The promoter also was to make a 1 a.m. reservation "for Sinatra and party of twelve" at an Italian restaurant.

"If he doesn't show," says the itinerary, "we will pay anyway."

The Sinatra show at the Forum is famous among his fans because DJ Jack Cullen snuck a tape recorder under the stage and surreptitiously recorded it. Cullen used to broadcast from time to time on his Owl Prowl radio show, and Sinatra was reportedly so mad about it he refused to let Cullen ever interview him. (The recording has been released in England, mislabeled as Frank Sinatra Live at the Orpheum Vancouver.)

There is a guest list for the Sinatra show in the file, and guess what? Cullen was on the list.

←Vancouver Sun, Online Version, October 7, 2017

<https://vancouversun.com/news/local-news/bob-dylan-frank-sinatra-and-hugh-pickett>

An article appeared in the online version of the Vancouver Sun on October 7, 2017 dedicated to the archives of entertainment promoter Hugh Pickett. Pickett passed away in 2006 but left behind an estate containing many posters, programs, photos, and oddities from Pickett's lifetime as a promoter. The excerpt to the left mentions some of Sinatra's stipulations for his appearance in Vancouver in 1957. The article also mentions Jack Cullen's bootleg recording of the matinee performance.

Reprinted as well, was a copy of Sinatra's itinerary for Vancouver, Portland and Seattle. The itinerary is reprinted below and enlarged on the next page.

NORTHWEST RELEASING CORP.

FRANK SINATRA SHOW

Vancouver, B. C.: Exhibition Forum, Saturday, June 8th, 8:45 p.m.
Portland, Oregon: Auditorium, Sunday, June 9th, 2:15 p.m.
Seattle, Washington: Civic Auditorium, Sunday, June 9th, 8:30 p.m.

ARRIVALS: Vancouver - 1:30 P.M. ¹⁵
Portland - 12:00 Midnight
Seattle - 6:00 p.m.

✓ 36-Passenger bus to meet plane with luggage compartment for all instruments.

✓ Lincousine for Sinatra. Lincousine and driver must stand by during show. Sinatra leaves stage after show and goes right into lincousine.

Collect for bus and lincousine direct from Heffernan or Gordon.
WE DO NOT ASSUME THIS BILL.

Someone from our organization will be at airports.

Troop will stay overnight in Portland.

ACCOMMODATIONS: 22 rooms, 11 of which must be doubles. *Pickett*

For Sinatra, two-bedroom suite or one-bedroom suite with room adjoining for Hank Sanicola.

1:00 a.m.: Make reservation at Italian restaurant for Sinatra and party of twelve. If he doesn't show we will pay anyway.

STAGE: ✓ Two spots with two operators, or one spot with carbon to last one hour and 15 minutes. Sinatra is on stage for one hour and 15 minutes.

✓ 29 chairs on stage.

✓ Piano in tune.

✓ 610-volt outlets for handstands.

✓ Another outlet near piano for guitar.

✓ 3 hand mikes; 1 piano mike; 1 pencil mike for stage with clip to walk around with.

✓ One dressing room for Sinatra alone.

Have one policeman work backstage.

VANCOUVER: Arrange for Sinatra to come into rear entrance.

No press anywhere. Explain this is because of tight schedule.

NORTHWEST RELEASING CORP.

FRANK SINATRA SHOW

Vancouver, B. C.: Exhibition Forum, Saturday, June 8th, 8:45 p.m.

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- ✓ One dressing room for Sinatra alone.

Have one policeman work backstage.

VANCOUVER: Arrange for Sinatra to come into rear entrance.

No press anywhere. Explain this is because of tight schedule.

Bootleg copies of Jack Cullen's recording of the Vancouver 1957 matinee performance have been circulating among Sinatra collectors for years but releases on vinyl or on CD have been very limited. In 1980 Sandy

Hook records released "Frank Sinatra, Rare Recordings 1935-1970", which included two tracks from the Vancouver concert, "The Lady Is A Tramp" and "Oh Look At Me Now". It turns out however that the two tracks are actually from the concert the next day in Seattle. The Seattle 1957 concert has had an official release and comparing these two alleged Vancouver tracks from the Sandy Hook release with the Seattle concert, it is clear they are identical.





Box C, Sandy Hook, Conn. 06482

S. H. 2040
Sandy Hook Release No. 40
©1980 Sandy Hook Records

FRANK SINATRA

Rare Recordings 1935 - 1970
Thrilling Milestone Performances from
the Career of the Century!



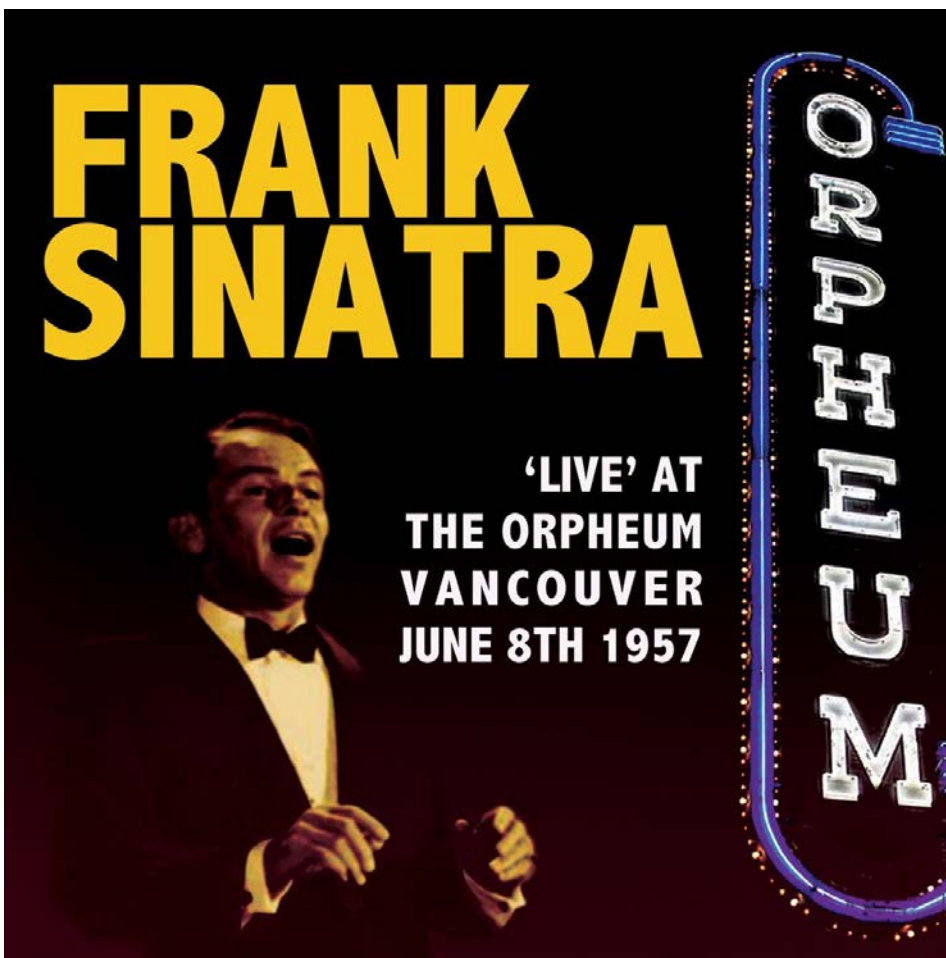
Side A

1. Shine. "The Hoboken Four" (Frank Sinatra's first broadcast) on the "Major Bowe's Original Amateur Hour", 1935.
2. All Or Nothing At All. With Harry James and his Orchestra. 1939 band remote.
3. I've Got My Eyes On You. With Tommy Dorsey and his Orchestra. 1946 band remote.
4. A Lover Is Blue. With Tommy Dorsey and his Orchestra. 1940 band remote.
5. Pistol Packin' Mama. "Your Hit Parade", 1943.
6. Speak Low. "Your Hit Parade". December 18, 1943.
7. I'll Get By. "Your Hit Parade". 1944.
8. I Found A New Baby. 1949 broadcast.

Side B

1. When You're Smiling. 1953 concert at Blackpool, England.
2. Sweet Lorraine. 1953 concert at Blackpool, England.
3. Tenderly. 1954 broadcast.
4. Night and Day. 1957 telecast.
5. The Lady is a Tramp. 1957 concert at Vancouver, British Columbia.
6. Oh! Look at Me Now. 1957 concert at Vancouver, British Columbia.
7. Just One of Those Things. 1958 telecast.
8. You Make Me Feel So Young. 1970 London concert.
9. My Way. 1970 London concert.

In 2010, Acrobat Music released on CD, "Frank Sinatra 'Live' At The Orpheum Vancouver June 8 1957." It



was the first semi-official release of the Vancouver concert on compact disc. The title also perpetuated the incorrect venue of the Orpheum when the concert was really at the Forum. The sound quality is very good for a bootleg recording. It should be noted that the listing for "The Lady Is A Tramp" twice is not an error. Sinatra enjoyed singing the song and given the wonderful reception from the audience, he decided to perform it again. It should also be noted that although "One For My Baby" is listed as the last track, "Lonesome Road" was the final song Sinatra performed at the matinee concert but is not included on this CD nor is it believed to be in circulation.

During Sinatra's monologue he mentions the fact that he was scheduled to be in Calgary that afternoon and blames the switch to Vancouver on the "people who put the show on." He also praises Crown Royal whiskey which he laments is not available outside of Canada. Sinatra also mentions last being in Vancouver in 1935 with the Major Bowes Amateur Group. He would not return to Vancouver until 1976 and would not perform again in Canada until 1975.

In 1957, Frank Sinatra was at the peak of his commercial success and creative output. Since rehabilitating his career in 1953 with his Oscar-winning role in "From Here To Eternity", he had signed to Capitol, and working with Nelson Riddle, had pretty much invented the concept album, with brilliant and massively popular LPs such as "Songs For Swinging Lovers" and "Wee Small Hours", using songs from the Great American Songbook composers. He also had a string of screen successes, with '57 delivering the definitive Sinatra movie "Pal Joey". This concert was part of a jaunt through Vancouver, Seattle and San Francisco with his LA musician buddies, and sees him in relaxed and confident mode, working with Nelson Riddle's Orchestra and peerless big band jazz arrangements to interpret songs from his hit albums. The recording quality is by no means flawless, but it captures the magical style of the great man performing at the top of his game, and is essential listening for any Sinatra fan, or indeed anyone who wants to know why he is regarded as one of the best there ever was.

- 1. You Make Me Feel So Young**
(Joe Myrow, Mack Gordon)
- 2. It Happened In Monterey**
(Mabel Wayne, Billy Rose)
- 3. At Long Last Love**
(Cole Porter)
- 4. I Get A Kick Out Of You**
(Cole Porter)
- 5. Just One Of Those Things**
(Cole Porter)
- 6. A Foggy Day**
(George Gershwin, Ira Gershwin)
- 7. The Lady Is A Tramp**
(Richard Rodgers, Lorenz Hart)
- 8. The Lady Is A Tramp**
(Richard Rodgers, Lorenz Hart)
- 9. They Can't Take That Away From Me**
(George Gershwin, Ira Gershwin)
- 10. I Won't Dance**
(Jerome Kern, Oscar Hammerstein, Dorothy Fields, Otto Harbach, Jimmy McHugh)
- 11. Sinatra banter**
- 12. When Your Lover Has Gone**
(Einar Swan)
- 13. Violets For Your Furs**
(Matt Dennis, Thomas Adair)
- 14. My Funny Valentine**
(Richard Rodgers, Lorenz Hart)
- 15. Glad To Be Unhappy**
(Richard Rodgers, Lorenz Hart)
- 16. One For My Baby (And One More For The Road)**
(Harold Arlen, Johnny Mercer)

ACMCD4351



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1 Norfolk Court, Norfolk
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www.acrobatmusic.net

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**The Forum,
Montreal, Quebec
May 9th, 1975**

JERRY WEINTRAUB
presents
**FRANK
SINATRA**
FRIDAY



MAY 9 — 8 P.M.
MONTREAL FORUM
AN EXCELLENT SELECTION OF TICKETS AT
\$15.00 - \$12.50 - \$7.50
ARE NOW ON SALE AT THE FORUM BOX OFFICE

↑The Gazette (Montreal, Quebec), March 15, 1975, Page 18

This was Sinatra's third appearance at the Montreal Forum. It had been 31 years since Sinatra had last appeared at the Forum back in 1944 and 22 years since his last Montreal appearance for nine days at Chez Paree in 1953. Sinatra had better reviews for his one night performance in 1944 than he had for his Chez Paree performance. I can find no record of any other Sinatra performances in Canada during the gap between his last Canadian performance in Vancouver in 1957 and his return to Montreal in 1975.

HOT NOTES: Well, since it's already been announced in another journal, we might as well supply you with the exact date for **Frank Sinatra** at the Forum May 9. No ticket sales yet . . . Heralded guitarist

←The Gazette (Montreal, Quebec)
January 15, 1975, Page 43

This is the first reference I can find for the May 9, 1975 concert. Although The Gazette article mentions an announcement in another Journal, I could not find the notification.

Frank Sinatra at the Forum?

SHOW BIZ: How solid is the rumor that Frank Sinatra will play Montreal on May 9? Well, his handlers have asked the Forum to reserve that date and serious negotiations are under way. "And you don't hire Sinatra," says one industry source, "he hires you and the hall. He said it in a song, 'I Did It My Way' and that's the way it's done. Very simple." If the deal goes through, tickets will start at \$10 and go to \$15 tops . . .

↑The Gazette (Montreal, Quebec), January 18, 1975, Page 3

The previous article in The Gazette from January 15, 1975 made Sinatra's appearance at the Forum on May 9th sound like a fact but three days later The Gazette reported it simply as a rumor and that "serious negotiations are under way." *Dimanche-Montreal*, a French language paper would make it official near the beginning of February:

↓*Dimanche-Montreal*, February 2, 1975, pg.9

Sinatra In Montreal.

Since the time we talked about it, the news has just been confirmed. Singer and comedian Frank Sinatra will come to Montreal in May. He will give his show on May 9 at the Forum. This show is part of a tour he will make in several major cities in the United States. He will also go to Toronto. Sinatra's last engagement in Montreal was in 1953 when he sang at Chez Paree. Incidentally, Frank Sinatra's favorite French actor was the late Fernandel. For him, was the best comic in the world.

SINATRA À MONTRÉAL

Depuis le temps qu'on en parlait, la nouvelle vient d'être confirmée. Le réputé chanteur et comédien Frank Sinatra viendra à Montréal en mai. Il donnera son spectacle le 9 mai au Forum. Ce spectacle fait partie d'une tournée qu'il fera dans plusieurs grandes villes des Etats-Unis. Il ira également à Toronto. Le dernier engagement de Sinatra à Montréal remonte à 1953 alors qu'il chanta au Chez Paree. Incidemment, l'acteur français préféré de Frank Sinatra était le regretté Fernandel. Pour lui, c'était le meilleur comique au monde.



Frank Sinatra...à Montréal!

The Gazette would come close to making Sinatra's Forum appearance official by posting that there would be an announcement about ticket prices on Friday February 28th, 1975.

SHOW BIZ: Frank Sinatra is all but locked up for a May 9 appearance at the Forum. Promoter **Don Tarlton** (Donald K. Donald) will announce ticket prices (\$10 to \$15) and other details next Friday

← The Gazette (Montreal, Quebec), February 20, 1975, Page 3

The Gazette (Montreal, Quebec), February 27, 1975, Page 3 →

Frankie and Donnie

SHOW BIZ: Frank Sinatra's May 9 appearance at the Forum becomes official at two o'clock this afternoon when promoter **Donald K. Donald** (Don Tarlton) announces details of the concert, including ticket scales (from \$7.50 to \$15 tops). When **Elton John** comes to town, Tarlton gets ticket requests from people who say they went to school with him. For the Sinatra show, Tarlton will doubtless receive calls from people who went to school with his father



Old blue eyes is back

Frank Sinatra appears Friday, May 9, at 8 p.m. at the Montreal Forum. Tickets, at \$7.50, \$12.50 and \$15, go on sale this Saturday at 9 a.m. Sinatra, who has not performed here since

Nov. 20, 1944 (also at the Forum) will present his concert "in the round", with the stage set up in the centre of the hall and seating available on all sides.

←The Gazette (Montreal, Quebec), March 6, 1975, Page 45

Ticket prices would finally be announced at pricing of \$7.50, \$12.50, and \$15. Tickets finally went on sale on Saturday March 8th, 1975.

The Gazette (Montreal, Quebec)
March 6, 1975, Page 45 →

The advertisement in The Gazette the day
before tickets went on sale.

Jerry Weintraub Presents



FRANK SINATRA
FRIDAY, MAY 9, 8 P.M.
MONTREAL FORUM

TICKETS \$15.00 — \$12.50 — \$7.50: LIMITED 6 PER PERSON.
ON SALE STARTING SAT., MARCH 8 — 9 A.M. FORUM BOX
OFFICE ONLY

PRODUCED BY
DONALD K. DONALD FOR MANAGEMENT III

Tickets finally go on sale:

SHOW BIZ: The lineup at the Forum this morning is not for hockey tickets. Seats for **Frank Sinatra's** concert May 9 go on sale at 9 a.m. (\$7.50, \$12.50 and \$15). Where are the best seats? Well, Sinatra will perform "in the round" right at center ice . . .

←The Gazette (Montreal, Quebec), March 8, 1975, Page 3

Another newspaper's view of the ticket sales notes that sales were brisk and makes mention of Sinatra's last appearance in Montreal at Chez Paree.

LA MOITIÉ DES BILLETS POUR SINATRA VENDUE EN 1 HEURE

Près de la moitié des billets pour le spectacle que Frank Sinatra donnera le 9 mai au Forum a été vendue en un peu plus d'une heure, samedi matin.

Plusieurs heures avant l'ouverture des guichets, des centaines de jeunes et de moins jeunes faisaient la queue et attendaient avec impatience le moment de se présenter aux guichets. Les meilleurs billets se vendent \$15.

On sait que c'est la première fois que Frank Sinatra se produira à Montréal depuis près de 20 ans, alors qu'il avait rempli un engagement au Chez Paree. A cette époque, l'idole des années



Frank Sinatra... toujours aussi populaire!

40 connaissait une "période creuse" et son étoile avait pâli.

Mais son rôle dans le film "From Here to Eternity" devait le lancer de nouveau. Depuis, Frank Sinatra connaît une popularité extraordinaire.

Parmi ceux qui achetaient des billets, se trouvaient surtout des jeunes.

"On vient acheter des billets pour nos parents", ont-ils confié aux journalistes.

Dimanche-Montreal, March 9, 1975, pg.3→

Half The Tickets For Sinatra Sold In 1 Hour

Nearly half of the tickets for Frank Sinatra's May 9 show at the Forum were sold in just over an hour on Saturday morning.

Several hours before the opening of the wickets, hundreds of young and old waited in line and waited impatiently for the moment to appear at the wickets. The best tickets are \$15.

We know that this is the first time Frank Sinatra has been performing in Montreal for almost 20 years, when he made a commitment to Chez Paree. At that time, the idol of the 1940s knew a "hollow period" and his star had paled.

But one role in the film "From Here to Eternity" was to launch it again. Since then, Frank Sinatra knows an extraordinary popularity.

Among those who bought tickets were mostly young people.

"We just buy tickets for our parents," he told reporters.



Le producteur Eric Villon avoue devoir une reconnaissance éternelle à Frank Sinatra.

«...té une aide financière, mais un support moral et la collaboration de tous ses amis.»

Présentement, Eric Villon connaît un succès incroyable avec ses fins de semaine aux Etats-Unis pour assister au spectacle d'Elvis Presley. Le week-end de Pâques s'est vendu en l'espace de quelques jours et déjà tout est réservé pour celui à Tampa qui aura lieu à la fin avril.

«Après avoir éprouvé par le passé un petit problème avec une compagnie aérienne, je viens de recevoir mon acceptation par la société Air Transportation of Canada, ce qui me lave complètement de tout doute qui aurait pu naître dans les esprits en ce qui concerne ma fiabilité.»



Claude Valade...elle sera du spectacle de Sinatra.

FRANK ÉTABLIRA UN RECORD DE RECETTES À MONTRÉAL

SINATRA

Après deux années de travail acharné, l'impresario Eric Villon est finalement parvenu à convaincre l'unique Frank Sinatra à venir présenter son tour de chant à Montréal et tout laisse croire que le célèbre crooner américain établira un record de recettes, puisque jusqu'à présent plus de \$200.000 de billets sont

déjà vendus.

Rencontré à l'élégante Auberge Richelieu, le mari de la chanteuse Claude Valade est heureux de constater que tout va pour le mieux présentement:

«On a écrit une foule de propos à mon sujet par le passé, mais il ne faut pas tout prendre à la lettre.

On a même été jusqu'à dire que j'étais mêlé indirectement au crime organisé, mais si tel avait vraiment été le cas, je ne me serais pas vu dans l'obligation, il y a quelque deux ans, de vendre ma maison de \$100.000 après avoir rongé toutes mes économies pour rencontrer mes obligations.

«D'ailleurs je ne me gêne pas pour avouer que si j'ai été sauvé de la faillite, je le dois en très grande partie à mon bon ami Frank Sinatra. Il ne m'a pas appor-

tué des vols nolisés pour voir le Canadien à l'étranger.

Fier de cette reconnaissance et constatant que le vent tourne en sa faveur après trois années de vaches maigres, Eric Villon se relance dans l'action à pleine vapeur.

C'est ainsi qu'il nolisera des vols pour permettre aux sportifs d'assister à toutes les parties en finale du Canadien pour la Coupe Stanley, persuadé qu'il participera aux éliminatoires.

Plusieurs autres projets sont déjà planifiés pour

l'été et l'automne, «mais je préfère ne pas en parler immédiatement, car je considère qu'il faut fonctionner par étape. Maintenant que le voyage pour le spectacle d'Elvis en Floride est entièrement réservé, je pense à celui de Frank Sinatra au Forum le 9 mai et aux éliminatoires de hockey. Par la suite, j'annoncerai les prochaines manifestations auxquelles mon nom sera relié.»

Même si Eric Villon a connu les plus grands inter-

nationaux du monde du divertissement en amenant par exemple au Canada les Dean Martin, Paul Anka, Johnny Mathis, Trini Lopez, Tom Jones, Jerry Lewis, Sergio Mendes, Pat Boone, Nancy Sinatra, il a également été éprouvé par divers déboires et il s'en souvient.

De retour sur le chemin du succès, il n'oublie pas ces moments difficiles, car ils lui ont permis d'accéder à une maturité qui lui permet de contrôler ses émotions.

↑Dimanche-Montreal, April 13, 1975, pg.13

Producer Eric Villon admits he owes eternal recognition to Frank Sinatra

FRANK SINATRA TO ESTABLISH RECORD OF RECEIPTS IN MONTREAL

After two years of hard work the impresario Eric Villon finally managed to convince the one and only Frank Sinatra to come to present his turn of song in Montreal and everything suggests that the famous American crooner will establish a record of receipts, since until now more than \$200,000 of tickets are already sold.

Meeting at the elegant Auberge Richelieu, the husband of the singer Claude Valade is pleased to see that everything is going well for the present:

"A lot of things have been written about me in the past, but you do not have to take everything literally, you even went so far as to say that I was indecently involved with organized crime, but if it had really been the case I would not have seen myself forced, some two years ago, to sell my house of \$100,000 after eating away all my savings to meet my obligations.

"Besides, I do not hesitate to confess that if I was saved from bankruptcy, I owe it in large part to my good friend Frank Sinatra. He did not bring me a financial help, but moral support and the collaboration of all his friends. "

Presently, Eric Villon knows an incredible success with his weekends in the United States to attend the Elvis Presley show. The weekend of Easter has sold in the space of a few days and already everything is reserved for Tampa which will take place at the end of April.

After experiencing a small problem with an airline in the past, I have just received my acceptance from the Air Transportation of Canada, which completely wipes out any doubts that may have arisen in my mind regarding my reliability. "

Charter flights to see the Canadian abroad

Proud of this recognition and observing that the wind turns in his favor after three years of lean gates, Eric Villon is reviving in the action at peak steam.

This is how he will draw voices to allow athletes to attend all games in the final of the Canadiens for the Stanley Cup persuading that he will participate in the playoffs.

Several other projects are already planned for the summer and fall, "but I prefer not to talk about it immediately because I consider it necessary to work by step. Now that the trip to the Elvis show in Florida is nearing I think of Frank Sinatra at the Forum on May 9 and hockey playoffs, and then I will announce the next events to which my name will be linked. "

Even if Eric Villon has known the greatest international entertainment world by bringing to Canada, for example, Dean Martin, Paul Anka, Johnny Mathis, Trini Lopez, Tom Jones, Jerry Lewis, Sergio Mendes, Pat Boone, Nancy Sinatra, he also has experienced various woes by which he is remembered.

Back on the road to success, he does not forget these difficult moments, because they have allowed him to accede to a maturity that allows him to control his emotions.

Dimanche-Montreal, April 20, 1975, pg.29→

FRANK SINATRA
AU FORUM, LE 9 MAI

CINQ PAIRES DE BILLETS DE \$15.00

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CLAUDE VALADE VEDETTE DES DISQUES LONDON ANIMATRICE DU SPECTACLE



La chanteuse Claude Valada a servi de professeur pour Frank Sinatra pour la finale de son spectacle alors qu'il interprétera une partie de son succès "My Way", en français.

FRANK SINATRA

CHANTERA EN FRANÇAIS AU FORUM LE 9 MAI

"C'est bien beau de charrier, mais il ne faut tout de même pas aller à l'extrême," disait jeudi le promoteur Eric Villon en prenant connaissance d'un article paru en page frontispice du Toronto-Star mardi dernier.

Dans ce reportage il était fait mention que pour la venue de Frank Sinatra au Maple Leaf Garden de Toronto, on avait aménagé une loge spécialement décorée avec un épais tapis rouge tout neuf, un bar amplement garni de Don Perignon et de whisky Jack Daniels, une discothèque comprenant ses disques et ceux de Tony Bennett.

De plus, pour assurer sa protection, outre les 200 gardes de cet amphithéâtre il y aurait à l'extérieur 100 policiers en uniforme de Toronto et à l'intérieur 24 autres officiers qui ne sont pas en devoir officiel, mais qui sont payés \$10.25 de l'heure et qui sont armés de revolvers de calibre .38.

Entin, on mentionne qu'il n'est nullement question qu'il tienne une conférence de presse.

On exagère nettement, commente Eric Villon. Il est vrai que pour son arrivée à Dorval, si besoin est, nous pourrions compter sur la présence de 40 policiers à l'aéroport, mais les autres services sécuritaires ne seront pas différents de ceux utilisés lors de la venue de Tom Jones d'Engelbert Humperlink ou des Beatles.

"Suite à l'atterrissage, il serait vraisemblablement amené ici (au nouvel Au-

berge Richelleu qui était inauguré jeudi ou il y aura un cocktail privé en son honneur avec quelques amis, après quoi il profitera de quelques moments pour aller se détendre dans une suite.

Il sera conduit au Forum en limousine pour y donner son spectacle le 9 mai et c'est le lendemain qu'on le retrouvera à Toronto. Toutefois, il est prématuré d'annoncer, comme dans ce reportage, qu'il quittera la métropole immédiatement après son tour de chant pour retourner à New York d'où il s'envolerait à nouveau le lendemain. Il se pourrait fort bien qu'il séjourne à Montréal.

"Par contre, ce qui est important de savoir c'est que le public montrealais présent au Forum ce soir-là aura en primeur, que dis-je, une exclusivité qui ne se répétera peut-être jamais.

"En effet, le populaire crooner américain terminera son tour de chant en interprétant sans doute son grand succès qui lui sert de chanson-thème "My Way" non seulement en anglais, mais également en français. C'est mon épouse Claude Valada qui lui a servi de professeur au point de vue prononciation et qui le fera répéter ici peu avant le spectacle."

Entin, nous avons appris qu'on profitera sans nul doute de la venue de Frank Sinatra à Montréal le 9 mai pour mettre sur le marché un livre sur cette idole et dont Eric Villon détient les droits pour le monde entier.

(Jean Laurac)

←Dimanche-Montreal,
April 20, 1975, pg.13

The singer Claude Valada has served as a teacher for Frank Sinatra for the finale of his show while he will interpret part of his success "My Way", in French.

FRANK SINATRA CHANTERA IN FRENCH AT THE FORUM ON MAY 9

"It's all well and good to spoof, but you should not go to extremes," said promoter Eric Villon on Thursday, reading an article published on the front page of the Toronto-Star last Tuesday.

In this report, it was mentioned that for Frank Sinatra's arrival at Toronto's Maple Leaf Garden, a specially decorated box had been created with a thick new carpet on the road, an ample bar stocked with Don Perignon and Jack Daniels whiskey, discotheque including his records and those of Tony Bennett.

In addition to the 200 guards at the amphitheater, there would be 100 police officers in uniform in Toronto and 24 other officers who are not on official duty but who are paid \$ 10.25 an hour, and who carry 38 caliber revolver weapons.

Finally, it is mentioned that there is no question that he holds a press conference.

"One exaggerates clearly, comments Eric Villon, " It is true that for his arrival in Dorval if need be, we can count on the presence of 40 policemen at the airport, but the other security services will not be different from those used during the coming Tom Jones or Englebert Humperdink or The Beatles.

"Following the landing, he would probably be brought here to the new Auberge Richelieu which was inaugurated on Thursday where there will be a private cocktail in his honor with some friends after which he will take advantage of a few moments to relax in a suite.

He will be taken to the Limo Forum for a show on May 9th and will meet him the next day in Toronto. Anyway it is premature to announce as in this report that he will leave the metropolis immediately after his singing tour to return to New York where he would fly again tomorrow. It could well be that he is staying in Montreal.

"But what is important to know is that the Montreal public present at the Forum tonight will have the promise that I say an exclusivity that may never be repeated.

"In fact, the popular American crooner will finish his singing tour by probably playing his great success that serves him as theme songs" My Way "not only in English, but also in French. This is my wife Claude Valade who has him served as a teacher in terms of pronunciation and will repeat it here shortly before the show. "

Finally, we learned that we will undoubtedly benefit from Frank Sinatra's coming to Montreal on May 9th to put a book on this idol on the market and Eric Villon holds the rights for the world.

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Montreal
May 9-11**

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↑*The Pittsburgh Press*
(Pittsburgh, Allegheny, Pennsylvania),
April 20, 1975, Sun · Page 100

ILS POURRONT VOIR



SINATRA

Dimanche-Derniere Heure et le promoteur Eric Villon ont fait des heureux. En effet, cinq couples pourront assister vendredi soir au spectacle tant attendu de Frank Sinatra au Forum. C'est la première visite de Sinatra à Montréal en 20 ans.

Cinq lettres ont été choisies au hasard parmi les cinquante de lettres reçues. Les gagnants sont M. et Mme

Gilles Lefebvre, 76-2e boul Terrasse Vaudreuil, M. Marcel Larocque, 2188 De Mexico, ville Laval; Mme Pierrette Soucy, 11948 Taylor, Montréal; M. Jacques Prince, 957 Douville, Notre-Dame-du-Sacré-Coeur, et M. Paul Delaney, 4664 est, Sainte-Catherine, Montreal.

A tous ces gagnants et gagnantes, nos plus sincères félicitations. Ils recevront leurs billets cette semaine.

Frank Sinatra à Montréal, vendredi.

↑*Dimanche-Montreal, May 4, 1975, pg.2*

THEY WILL SEE

SINATRA

Sunday-Last Hour and promoter Eric Villon have made happy. Indeed, five couples will be able to attend Friday night's long-awaited show of Frank Sinatra at the Forum. This is Sinatra's first visit to Montreal in 20 years.

Fifteen letters were randomly selected from among the containers of the winners. The winners were Mr. and Mrs. Gilles Lefebvre, 76-2nd Terrasse Vaudreuil, Mr. Marcel Larocque, 2188 De Mexico City, Laval; Mrs. Pierette Soucy, 11948 Taylor, Montreal; Mr. Jacques Prince, 947 Douville, Notre-Dame-du-Sacré-Coeur, and Mr. Paul Delaney, 4664 est. St. Catherine, Montreal.

To all these winners, our most sincere congratulation and they will receive their tickets this week.

FRANK SINATRA

UN ALBUM-SOUVENIR
EN PRIMEUR AU FORUM



Lors des spectacles que présente Elvis Presley en tournée, il y a sur place foule de camelots qui offrent en vente toutes sortes de gadgets aux spectateurs. Ça va des cassettes aux médaillons en passant par des albums souvenirs, les chandails, les posters, les mouchoirs avec son nom inscrit. On ne semble avoir oublié que les petites culottes pour femmes.

Dans le cas de Frank Sinatra, il en va toutefois autrement et il n'est pas question qu'on trouve au Forum vendredi prochain de tels colporteurs.

Il n'y aura qu'une seule chose en vente officiellement avec son accord dans ce vaste auditorium et ce sera un programme-souvenir actual sur sa carrière.

C'est ce que me confiait à St-Petersburg, en Floride, le promoteur Eric Villon qui l'édite et qui le mettra par la suite en vente sur le marché international.

"Frank Sinatra est un type anti-gadgets. Il veut conserver sa réputation grâce à sa voix uniquement. Il ne veut rien savoir des droits d'auteurs qui peuvent se rallier à des bebelles. J'étais donc fier qu'il donne son consentement au projet de programme-souvenir que je lui ai confié. On le mettra sous presse sous peu et ce sera le seul album à son sujet qui ait pu obtenir son approbation".

(J. L.)

←Dimanche-Montreal, May 4, 1975, pg.24

FRANK SINATRA

A SOUVENIR-ALBUM PREMIERES AT THE FORUM

During Elvis Presley's shows on tour, there are a lot of hawkers selling all kinds of gadgets for spectators, from cassettes to medallions to souvenir albums, sweaters, posters and handkerchiefs with his name written. We seem to have only the little panties for women.

In the case of Frank Sinatra, however, it doesn't go away and there is no question that we will find hawkers at the Forum next Friday.

There will be only one thing on sale officially with his agreement in the large auditorium and it will be a current souvenir program on his career.

This was confided to me in St. Petersburg, Florida, by the promoter Eric Villon who edits it and will put it on sale on the international market.

"Frank Sinatra is an anti-gadget type, he wants to keep his reputation by his voice only, he does not want to know about royalties that can be railroaded to this, so I was proud to get his consent to the project of a souvenir program that I entrusted to him. It will be published shortly and it will be the album about him that has been approved."

Vol. 10 No 32 11 Mai 1975

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DE MORT**



**SINATRA
PROTÉGÉ PAR L'ESCOUADE
ANTI-ÉMEUTE
LIRE PAGE 3**

Dimanche-Montreal, May 11, 1975, pg.1→

DEATH THREAT

SINATRA

PROTECTED BY

ANTI-RIOT SQUAD

Read Page 3

MENACES

PROFÉRÉES

À L'ENDROIT DE SINATRA



Frank Sinatra a remis à Claude Valade un disque d'or.

- PROTÉGÉ PAR L'ESCOUADE ANTI-ÉMEUTE
- IL QUITTE PRÉCIPITAMMENT MONTRÉAL
- 10 MINUTES CHEZ LES BRONFMAN

UN REPORTAGE EXCLUSIF DE JEAN LAURAC

Des policiers du Bureau des enquêtes criminelles (B.E.C.) et de l'escouade anti-émeute étaient venus prêter main forte à leurs confrères de la police de Montréal et aux agents de sécurité en faction vendredi soir au Forum où Frank Sinatra prenait la vedette. Habillés en civil et armés de caméras, les membres du B.E.C. se faufilaient dans la foule sans avoir pour but de photographier

l'idole, mais diverses personnes qui venaient assister au spectacle. De leur côté, les policiers de l'escouade anti-émeute, vêtus de leurs casques protecteurs, surveillaient attentivement les allées et venues de tous et chacun, prêts à intervenir. Bref, contrairement aux prévisions initiales, les dirigeants de notre corps policier ont décidé de déployer le grand arsenal pour

assurer la sécurité du "crooner" international qui nous rendait visite pour la première fois depuis 1953, soit 22 ans. Même si il nous a été impossible de connaître les raisons officielles qui ont motivé ce déplacement, il semblerait que de sérieuses menaces auraient été proférées au cours de l'après-midi de vendredi aux autorités du Forum. On chuchotait d'une part qu'on voulait effectuer du chantage sans quoi le spectacle n'aurait pas lieu ou qu'il y aurait de la casse au Forum. D'autre part, on murmurait que certains petits "punks" du milieu underground auraient décidé d'attenter à la vie de Frank Sinatra, histoire de se valoriser auprès de leurs tristes confrères.

Frank Sinatra était au courant de ces menaces, mais il a accepté les risques du métier et c'est sans sourciller, sans laisser paraître la moindre crainte, qu'il est monté sur la scène spéciale aménagée pour lui et a donné un tour de chant qui devait durer plus de 75 minutes.

Il modifie son programme

Logéant à New York, au Waldorf-Astoria, où il avait loué un étage complet, le fabuleux Frank se levait vers les 15 heures vendredi. À 16h30, il était encore dans sa suite en train de se raser.

La veille, une dizaine de musiciens de son orchestre, qui en comporte une quarantaine, arrivaient à Montréal et logeaient au Château Champlain ou en avait réservé 35 unités et une luxueuse suite Sinatra n'y devait finalement jamais mettre les pieds, modifiant entièrement son programme à la dernière minute.

Toujours vendredi, à 18h30, accompagné de ses autres musiciens et de quelque 50 autres membres qui font partie de son organisation, Frank Sinatra décollait de New York à bord de son avion personnel, un DC-9.

À 19h30, il faisait son entrée par le garage du Forum, après avoir circulé sur le boulevard Maisonneuve en sens inverse, mais bien escorté de policiers en motocyclettes, en autos-patrouilles et en autos-fantômes

à effectuer le trajet de Dorval à la rue Atwater en brillant sous les feux rouges. Il n'y a rien de trop beau pour l'as-chanteur. Même si les quelque 20 000 personnes qui avaient déboursé au total \$252 000 pour voir leur idole à l'œuvre n'avaient pas tous réussi à occuper leurs places, le spectacle débutait tel que prévu à 20 heures avec un fantasme qui rechauffait l'assistance après avoir été présentée par la chanteuse Claude Valade. Une brève intermission suivait, puis après avoir remis un disque d'or en roulesse à Claude Valade, Frank Sinatra montait sur la scène, accueilli par une ovation.

10 MINUTES CHEZ LES BRONFMAN

À la fin de son tour de chant, présenté sans incident heureusement, une haie de policiers, de gardes et de placiers du Forum, d'agents de l'escouade anti-émeute assurant sa sortie de la scène aux coulisses ou il s'engouffrait pour immédiatement se diriger au garage arrière où, toujours escorté de policiers-motards et d'autos-fantômes, il se dirigeait à la résidence de Charles Bronfman ou l'attendaient quelque cent invités triés sur le volet. Mais il ne devait rester là qu'une dizaine de minutes, échangeant des poignées de main à droite et à gauche.

Immédiatement après, on l'escortait à l'aéroport de Dorval où il s'envolait à bord de son avion DC-9 vers Toronto où il allait louer, présentant deux spectacles dans cette ville hier soir.

Pendant ce temps, au Château Champlain, 38 chambres demeuraient inoccupées, mais Frank Sinatra n'aurait pas cours de rasques et changeant sans à l'improviste et à la dernière minute son itinéraire. D'ailleurs, samedi soir, immédiatement après ses deux tours de chant au Maple Leaf Garden de Toronto, il reprenait son jet, pour aller se détendre aujourd'hui toute la journée, toujours au Waldorf-Astoria, de New York. C'est journée de relâche pour le crooner, mais il poursuit sa tournée demain à Providence, puis dans de nombreuses villes américaines avant d'affronter le public parisien à la fin du mois de mai.

NO RECEIPT RECORD

With some \$252,000 of receipts for admissions to the Forum, Frank Sinatra failed to set a record for Friday night.

It is still Tom Jones who holds it with a colossal sale of \$ 295,000 on June 20, 1970. However, it should be noted that in the case of the English idol, the majority of the notes are \$20 and \$ 15, while in the case of American "crooner" tickets were available for \$ 7.50, \$ 10, \$ 12.50, and \$ 15.

THREATS MADE ON THE LIFE OF SINATRA

- PROTECTED BY ANTI-RIOT SQUAD
- HE HASTILY LEAVES MONTREAL
- 10 MINUTES AT THE BRONFMAN

Dimanche-Montreal, May 11, 1975, pg.3↑

Police officers from the Bureau Criminal Investigations (BEC) and the Anti-Riot squad came to lend a hand to their Montreal police colleagues and security guards on duty Friday night at the Forum where Frank Sinatra took the spotlight.

Dressed in plainclothes and armed with cameras, members of the BEC sneaked into the crowd without aiming to photograph the idol, but various people who came to watch the show. On their side, the policemen of the anti-riot squad, dressed in their protective helmets, watched attentively the comings and goings of everyone, ready to intervene.

In short, contrary to initial forecasts, the leaders of our police force decided to deploy the large arsenal to ensure the safety of the international "crooner" who visited us for the first time since 1953, that is to say 22 years.

Even though it was impossible for us to know the official reasons for this deployment, it seems that serious threats have been made during the Friday afternoon to the Forum authorities. It was whispered on the one hand that they wanted to blackmail otherwise the show would not take place or that there would be breaks at the Forum. On the other hand, it is whispered that some small "punks" of the underworld have decided to attack the life of Frank Sinatra, just to value themselves from their sad confreres.

Frank Sinatra was aware of these threats, but he accepted the risks of the job and it is without a hint, without leaving the least stain, that he climbed on the special stage arranged for him and gave a singing tour which lasted more than 75 minutes.

He modifies his program

Staying in New York, at the Waldorf-Astoria where he had rented a full floor, the fabulous Frank was getting up around 3 pm Friday. At 4:30, he was still in his suite shaving.

The day before, a dozen or so musicians from his orchestra, which numbered forty, arrived in Montreal and stayed at Chateau Champlain, where they had reserved 35 rooms and a luxurious suite. Sinatra never finally set foot there, completely modifying his program at the last minute.

Friday, at 16:30, accompanied by his other musicians and some 50 other members who are part of his organization, Frank Sinatra took off from New York aboard his personal plane, a DC-9.

At 7:50 pm, he made his entrance through the garage of the Forum, after driving on the Maisonneuve Boulevard in the opposite direction, but escorted by police officers in motorcycles and by patrol cars and ghost-cars he made the journey from Dorval to the Atwater Street, running all the reds, there is nothing too beautiful for the singer.

Even if the 20,000 people who had spent \$252,000 in total to see their idol at work had not succeeded in occupying their places, the show began as expected at 8 pm with a comic who warmed the audience after being presented by the singer Claude Valade. A brief intermission followed, then after giving a gold album behind the scenes to Claude Valade, Frank Sinatra went on the scene greeted by an ovation.

10 MINUTES

AT THE BRONFMAN

At the end of his singing tour, happily presented without incident, a hail of policemen guards and guards of the Forum, and agents of the anti-riot squad ensured his exit from the backstage scene where he rushed to immediately head to the rear garage, still escorted by police-bikers and ghost-cars, he was heading to Charles Bronfman's residence where he was awaited by some certain invited guests. But he was only supposed to stay ten minutes, exchanging hands on the right and on the left.

Immediately after escorting him to Dorval airport where he flew aboard his DC-9 plane to Toronto where he was staying, presenting two shows in that city last night.

During this time at Chateau Champlain, 35 rooms remained unoccupied, but Frank Sinatra would pretend not to run any risks and change so unexpectedly and at the last minute his itinerary. Moreover, Saturday night, immediately after his two singing tours at Toronto's Maple Leaf Gardens, he was on his way again to relax today, all day long, at the Waldorf-Astoria in New York. It's a day off for the crooner, but he continues his tour tomorrow in Providence, then in many American cities before facing the Parisian public at the end of May.



Montreal this morning

By Glen Allen

Sinatra 'calm and wistful?' *Ask Ava and the Aussies . . .*

"Calm and wistful." That's how one reviewer described the bearing of Frank Sinatra at his show here Friday.

Where did we go wrong? In Australia a whole nation holds him hostage. In Las Vegas, his heavies clear paths for him with their fists. Sinatra and entourage brawl their way around the world, but in Montreal he's "calm and wistful."

It wasn't that way for his first visit.

He appeared then at the old Chez Paree, and the club's press agent of the day, Bruce Taylor, recalls Sinatra spent most of his time on a pay telephone by the men's washroom trying to get hold of his wife Ava Gardner, who was making *The Snows of Kilimanjaro* in Kenya.

"He'd just broken up with her and he'd be on that phone all the time trying to get through to Africa. He'd finally get her and just as he got to say, 'Hello Ava — is that you?' she'd hang up on him.

"He'd go up and sing for a while and come back and try again. Nobody got to talk to him. He was too busy putting coins in the phone."

Colin Gravenor, who was also handling press relations for Sinatra, said some of the well-known Montrealers of yore who had ringside seats for Sinatra's gigs were Hal Banks, Louis Greco, Frankie Petrula and Charlie "the Chauffeur" Borodoff, who had to check his dog in the club's check-room.

←The Gazette, (Montreal, Quebec),
May 12, 1975, Page 3

The Montreal Gazette described Sinatra's 1975 appearance as "calm and wistful" but quickly compared his 1953 appearance in Montreal at Chez Paree to the debacle Sinatra had in Australia in 1974.

Sinatra is first-class at the Forum

By HERBERT ARONOFF
of The Gazette

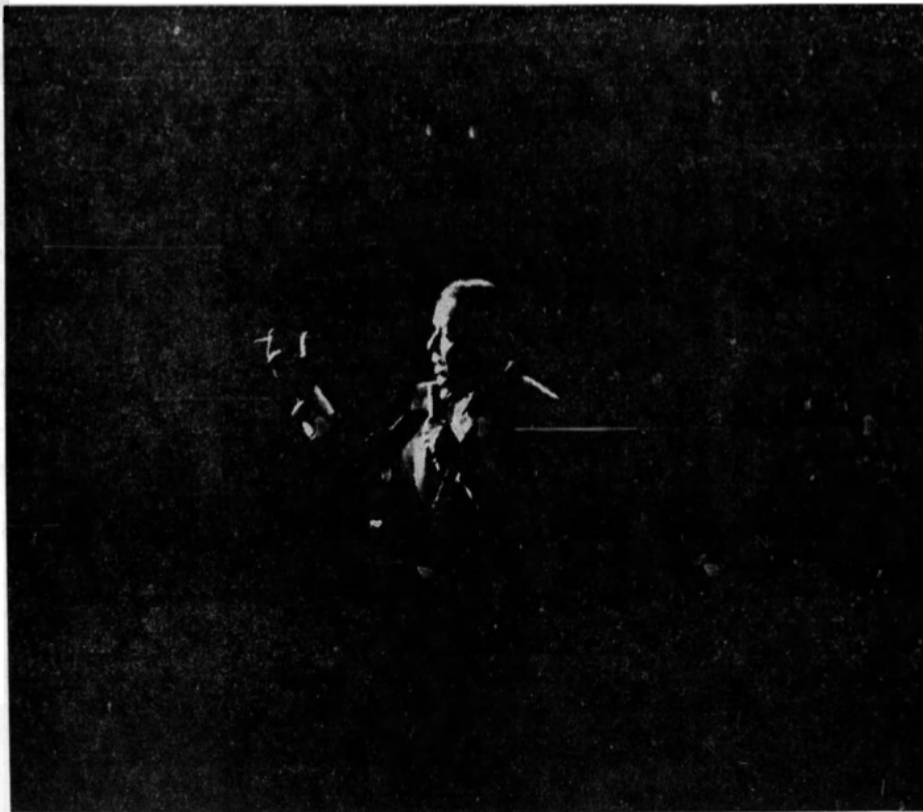
Frank Sinatra almost — but not quite — had a sellout house for his one concert at the Forum on Friday. About 16,000 fans paid up to \$15 a ticket to hear America's premier crooner sing an hour's worth of the songs he has made his own during 30 years in the business.

There may have been a touch of morbid curiosity in the air just before "ol' blue eyes" appeared — old fans and youngbloods together wondering if the wealth and middle-aged spread had dulled the edge, blunted the point, softened the blow.

Nossiree. While he may have been grimacing a bit as he strode onstage (flanked by some of the burliest beef on the hoof that any security force would be proud to own), and while it may have taken 10 minutes or so to work the tension out of his vocal chords, Francis Albert hadn't come to soak up any unearned applause. He worked for what he got and earned all the warmth and applause that came his way at concert's end.

The Forum never felt better. Only the night before, les Canadiens had been ignominiously swept from the ice in the Stanley Cup playoffs so a little sadness may have been detected still hanging in the air, but Sinatra soon showed what professionalism really is and quickly dispelled the gloom.

He had brought his own orchestra and leader — about 35 of New York's finest musicians under the direction of



Frank Sinatra in a mellow mood at Friday's concert at the Forum.

Gazette, George Croe

none other than Don Costa, a man who has worked with Sinatra many times over the years, leading the band as well as providing some of those lush and tasty arrange-

ments that have been one of the hallmarks of Sinatra's music ever since the days of Harry James and the Dorsey Brothers.

The orchestra sat at centre ice surrounded by a raised walkway with a microphone at each corner. Much like his televised special from Madison Square a couple of months ago, Sinatra appeared as "the

main event," a musical combatant going head-to-head with an audience that looked on from all sides of the arena. For a man nearing 60, one obviously privy to the best of

the Good Life, Sinatra still moves with the grace of a good prizefighter, jogging from corner to corner along the ramp, turning time to time, taking in as much of the crowd as he could, trying hard not to let anyone down.

Nine spotlights followed him around with varying hues of white and pink and blue and amber. The microphones picked up his every growl and quaver. Technically, there wasn't a single hitch in the entire show.

His last time at the Forum, in 1944, Sinatra was greeted by hordes of screaming bobby-soxers. In 1962, he was back, this time on the nightclub circuit, playing the old Chez Paree on Stanley Street, and this time without much of a crowd. His career was on the skids and he was hustling for jobs and adulation.

On Friday, he worked and got what he wanted. The crowd wasn't one of the liveliest, chicest, most with-it amalgamation, but it was made up mostly of genuine Sinatra-lovers — people who had danced, romanced, cried, lied and sighed to this man's music. And as he once again worked his magic, the muscles relaxed, the mind's cares floated off and the fans warmed and smiled more and more as the tunes kept coming.

Sinatra sang some newish stuff — Stevie Wonder's Sunshine of My Life, Harrison's Something — but that was just paying dues. The real goodies were Chicago, Granada (!!), Nice and Easy and, his finale, I've Got You Under My Skin.

Some of the bite may have gone, the tempo may have slowed a bit and the occasional note may elude him, but Sinatra still SINGS his songs, making music with his voice and sense out of the lyrics. He may not be the world's most lovable philanthropist, philosopher or humanitarian, but he is without doubt one of the great popular singers.

↑The Gazette, (Montreal, Quebec), May 12, 1975, Page 27

↓The Gazette, (Montreal, Quebec), May 13, 1975, Page 3

POSTSCRIPT: Backstage observers were amazed at the precision with which **Frank Sinatra's** handlers staged his appearance at the Forum last Friday. Sinatra's Lear jet departed New York at 5.40 p.m., touching down at Montreal an hour later, scarcely 80 minutes before the warmup acts were to begin. Sinatra waited to go in the relative comfort of the Canadiens' wives' lounge, where his people had laid in a supply of bourbon (Jack Daniels) and cigarettes (Lucky Strikes). They even brought along an Italian chef in case Sinatra felt hungry. The locals were only asked to supply some soft drinks and crushed ice. Sinatra arrived wearing a trainer's jacket with the legend "coach" across the back and left in his concert tuxedo to attend a small party thrown by **Charles Bronfman**, before flying on to Toronto . . . Sinatra took a 70 per cent share of the estimated \$200,000 gross, but most of the 17,034 persons who paid their way in seemed to think he earned it . . .

The Night I Heard Sinatra

(Editor's Note: Jane Milizia is on the staff at The Burlington Free Press.)

By JANE MILIZIA

Francis Albert was in Montreal Friday night. I told the customs inspector, "We're going to see THE MAN at the Forum." He needed no explanation. Thousands of others had the same idea: The Forum was packed. Teen-agers to septuagenarians were still pouring in after 8 o'clock. I never saw so many people and so few empty seats.

At rough count, 1,700 people were seated on the main floor.

A Montreal chanteuse was introduced about 8:10. Her greeting was brief but when she presented her "favorite comedian," I thought "I didn't pay \$12.50 to see a variety show. Where's Frank?"

The comedian kidded Watergate ("the hearings were on TV so long my mother thought it was a series"); his two children ("I hope my son's not a fag. . . I don't intend to pay for two weddings"); the Polish, the Jewish, the Italians.

He asked one late-comer, "Did you bring a note?"; to another, "Where ya been? The bathroom?" He referred to Sinatra as "the boss" and said Frank is such a big man that "He wears a cross, but nobody's on it."

The acoustics were so poor I didn't realize until he left the stage that we had been enjoying Pat Henry. There had been whistling and booing from those who could not hear him, and when a 15-minute intermission was announced at 8:35 I half expected a riot.

Tension mounted as the ushers formed an aisle. Lightly clasped fingers tightened until they hurt, the goose flesh arose, eyes strained through the darkness to catch the first glimpse of Sinatra. Suddenly he was on stage and the audience was on its feet.

A few shaky notes, some off key, made me uneasy and I was prepared to

be disappointed. But I wasn't — nobody was.

He sang for more than an hour, mixing eras, moods, rhythms: "Bad, Bad Leroy Brown," "But Beautiful," "This Time (We Almost Made It)," "Nice and Easy," "My Way." He really poured it on with "Granada" and "My Kind of Town."

Even standing still he moves. His left arm gestures almost constantly (he makes you see the sky and the falling snow in "I Bought You Violets for Your Fur") and under that beautifully tailored suit, the shoulder and leg movements are visible. Such rhythm and grace. It's impossible not to tap a toe or finger to keep time.

All the while, he flirts with the crowd: an elegant bow, a curtsy, a light running step to the next corner of the runway while the orchestra plays on. He picks up the mike and the lyric at that next corner and never misses a beat.

The audience responded with foot-stomping accompaniment ("I've Got You Under My Skin"), absolute silence ("Bring On the Clowns") and several standing ovations.

At his refreshment time-out he referred to himself and Tony Bennett as the only saloon singers left. He said he and Dean Martin gave Sammy Davis and Mai Britt a zebra-striped loveseat as a wedding gift (Sam thought it was hilarious. Mai didn't); if we believed he was drinking tea and honey, he'd like to sell us the Edsel in his garage.

No politics, no unpleasant references to the press.

When he started "Put Your Dreams Away," I knew that was the end of the show and there wasn't a dry eye anywhere.

We listened to CBC radio on the way home. People called in with comments: marvelous, fantastic, wonderful.

There were no "strangers in the night" in the Montreal Forum by the time Frank's concert was ended. And he did it his way.

←The Burlington Free Press
(Burlington, Chittenden, Vermont)
May 13, 1975, Page 9