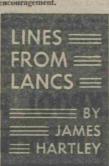
## SALFORD WELCOMES VARIETY REVIVAL

THERE are enterprising people around who still obstinately refuse to accept the moth-eaten theory that the music hall has had its day. Down Salford way just now one may find abundant evidence to justify their faith, and the all-out effort of some such stalwarts to keep the flag flying is meeting well-deserved encouragement.

It calls for craft and courage—plus money in the bank—to take over a theater and launch a new

il week.
cess so far is only the spur for

fides their owner. Oh, Mister Burglar, have a heart!









Roy Rolland-planning emigration.

### CLUB CORNER

### THE SMALL WORLD OF TONY DEXTER

A MAN of many parts is Yorkshire-born Tony Dexter. Since he left home at the age of 15—just nine years ago—he has earned his living as a commercial artist, magician, medical hypnotist, and writer. Now, thanks largely to the noted Welsh pupper-master Eric Bramall with whom he has been closely collaborating since 1958, Tony is a star puppeteer in his own right.

puppeteer in his own right.

Under the aegis of Manchester agent Sonny Gross, for two weeks past Tony has been touring Manchester's popular night spots, scoring most effectively in the smaller ones where close working proved distinctly advantageous.

Young Dester's multi-faceted presentation is a striking combination of fantasy, buriesque and saire. It is, in fact, a complete cabaret bill in miniature, featuring half life-size marionettes—colourful caricatures which come alive at their master's command.

There's the Prima Doma, pre-The Show-biz bug has bitten John

it is, in fact, a complete it is, in fact, a complete bill in miniature, featuring half life-bill in miniature, feature half life miniature, feature h



Tony Dexter

transport, and a wardrobe really "with it." In addi-pops and standards, they have line in old-time fav-and, with six costume change can inject their contrasted of with maximum visual impac-seven months since the lads p

JAMES HARTLEY.

V.A.F. Official News

by Melville Thomson

# HOT from \* \* \* \* SCOTLAND

Gordon Irving reports

## **Scots Singer-on-the-Ascent** is Booked for Russia

SINGERS and comedians from Scotland certainly travel the world these days. Next to go a-travelling is Bill McCue, the singer, who'll be in Moscow later in the year. This former electrician from Lanarkshire is to tour Russia with the English Opera Group in September and October for their performances of Benjamin Britten's "Rape of Lucretia" and "Albert Herring"

They say, in fact, that 1964 may be a turning point in Bill's oratorio and opera care and operation of the Messiah" in the Albert Hall.

Bill—his wife is Patricia Carrick, of Dumfries, a music teacher—got his first radio series in Scotland in 1962. Like David Hughes, Kenneth 1962. Like David Hughes, Kenneth Murray and many more, it was Eddie Fraser who gave him this first break."

STRIDING down Broadway this

### MORE MONEY FOR MANDY!

"OME over on the Sunniside!"
This was the invitation issued to MANDY RICEDAVIES Isst week by ALEX Have been against singing in a sunniside, near Newcastle, following her expulsion from Turkey.
Announcing that she had been booked to appear in cubaret for a week in May, a spokesman for Mr. Watson added:
"She will patter a little and sing a little—but mothing suggestive".

HIS "" that: I hear that Pete Murray, the compère and discipciones in the support of the support

"She will patter a little and sing a little—but nothing suggestive". Etorted TONY PELTON, chairman of Newcastle Yould watch Committee. "We urge the people of Tyneside to boycoth her performances," it hey do, the Parrot might rock on its perch, Her fee is rumoured at \$800." A.H.B.

B.M.H.S.

Andy Stewart . . . strode down Broadway this week, kilt and all. He re-turned for a Scottish tour and a summer season at Aberdeen.

### **GLASGOW'S** GO-AHEAD

"Stars for Spastics" variety win Glasgow. I vy Carcy, Day and musician Alan Beale new artists joining the resident or gany when "Bonnie Scotlar gives way to "Spring Sho changing programme weekly, at Glasgow Metropole on March Flive weeks of variety helps on Alex McLean at the Failadin Theatre, Edinburgh.

CLARKSON ROSE will be the speaker at the next meeting of the British Music Hall Society at the Garrick Hotel on Monday, March 23, at 8 p.m. He takes the place of Ada Reeve who is filming. "Clarkie's" subject: "Red Plush

A COUPLE of "achtungs"! The figs is from Ravie and Babs who will be roundabout way via Solidaritat, the roundabout way via Solidaritat, th

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