

Anti-Piracy Campaign Still Going Strong

■ NASHVILLE — Significant legal steps have been taken by two more states — Mississippi and North Carolina — in the battle to prohibit the manufacturing, distributing and selling of pirated tapes. To date 24 states are carrying anti-piracy legislation on their books.

Mississippi

Governor William Waller recently signed an anti-piracy bill, adding Mississippi to the list of states with anti-piracy legislation. The bill was sponsored by Senator Dan Boyce, who also served as the State chairman for the anti-piracy committee. He became interested in the tape piracy problem through discussions with two close friends from Nashville—Bill Hall and Glenn Sutton.

Lobbyists

Among those who journeyed to Mississippi to talk with legislators were Joe Talbot, chairman of the board for CMA; Bud Brown of the Acuff-Rose Publishing Co.; CMA board member Chic Doherty of MCA Records; Glenn Snoddy, president of NARAS and head of Woodland Studios; and entertainer Demetriss Tapp.

Tapp Speaks

Tapp spoke and entertained at a dinner sponsored by the CMA for the Senate and House Judiciary Committees set to discuss the anti-piracy problem.

Key People

Others instrumental in the bill's passage were Cotton Carrier of the Lowery Group in Atlanta; songwriter Cliff Thomas from Jackson, Mississippi; Senator W. B. Alexander; Lt. Governor William Winter; Senator Bob Perry; Memphis attorney Harold Streibich; Representative C. B. Newman; and Floyd C. Byrd of the Byrd Music Co., in Pascagoula, Mississippi. Former Louisiana Governor Jimmie

Davis also made several key calls to aid the bill's passage into law.

North Carolina

Tape piracy is now also illegal in North Carolina as Governor James E. Holhouser, Jr. signed the bill which will take effect January 1, 1975. The bill makes manufacturing, distributing, wholesaling or retailing pirated tapes illegal with penalties of six months in jail, a fine up to \$500 or both, for each offense.

State chairman for anti-piracy was Hap Hanson of WPTF in Raleigh, North Carolina. Introducing the bill was James E. Long of Alamance County.

Key figures who helped with their support of the bill included Lulu Belle and Scotty Wiseman, George Hamilton IV, Arthur Smith, Barry Bergman and Bill Golden of Record Bar, Jim Spillman and Senator Lynwood Smith.

Pradines Joins CMA

■ NASHVILLE — Mrs. Jo Walker, executive director of the Country Music Association (CMA), has announced the appointment of Ray Pradines as public relations director.

Formerly the associate editor of Overdrive Magazine, Pradines is a native of Pennsylvania and graduated from the University of Pittsburgh in 1962. He has held positions with Fisher Scientific, Aero Products Research, Electronic Engineering Company of California and Transamerican Press.

He is credited with numerous stories regarding country music performers and events, as well as a monthly column on country music for truck drivers. One of his recent reports outlined the effects of tape piracy and enlisted the nation's truckers to help eradicate the problem by not buying these tapes at truck stops.

Nelson 'Pick-Nick' Sets Date, Talent

By BOB ANDERSON

■ NASHVILLE — Record World has learned details of plans for Willie Nelson's Second Annual Fourth of July Pick-Nick. Scheduled for July 4-6 at the Texas World Speedway in College Station, Texas, this is the outgrowth of the Dripping Springs Reunion in 1972. Nelson picked up the concept last year, holding his own picnic at Dripping Springs.

Call them Cosmic Cowboys, underground or progressive country, or just plain country, most will be at College Station. The

invited guests who have confirmed their appearance at this point are impressive, to put it mildly: Hank Wilson, Jerry Jeff Walker, Michael Murphy, Sammi Smith, Kinky Friedman, Dottie West, Lefty Frizzell, Red Steagall, Towns Van Zandt, Jimmy Buffett, Ray Wylie Hubbard, Ken Threadgill, Johnny Duncan, B. W. Stevenson, Rusty Wier, Red Lane, Billy Joe Shaver, Johnny Darrell, Delbert & Glenn, Augie Meyer, Doug Sahm, Jimmy Day, Lee Clayton, Floyd Tillman, Dee

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NASHVILLE REPORT

BY RED O'DONNELL



■ Mel Tillis, who has a featured role in the "W.W. and the Dixie Dancekings" movie (starring Burt Reynolds), filmed here, was asked if he enjoyed acting in motion pictures.

"I sort of like it," he replied. "It is definitely a change of pace from what I have been doing—singing, picking and stuttering—for the past 17 years. There is a whole lot of waiting around in the movies. Waiting to rehearse, waiting to get made up, waiting for the camera to roll. You wait more than you work. It's like the army. You know, hurry up and wait."

The **Oak Ridge Boys** wing out May 6 for their fourth European tour. They'll perform in major cities over there through May 22 . . . **Ferlin Husky** booked for six dates early next month in Fairbanks and Anchorage, Alaska military bases & clubs.

Birthdaying: **Mike Hoyer, Lorrie Collins, Benny Martin, Bobby Lewis, Hank Snow, Mother Maybelle Carter, The Duke of Paducah (Whitey Ford), Joe Maphis.**

Buck Owens may take some of his pickin', grinnin' and singin' to the People's Republic of China. A tour of that country is tentatively planned for next January, dates and length of which have not been determined . . . "We practically have the approval of the U.S. State Dept.," Owens says, "and now all we have to do is submit some films of our shows to the Republic of China officials for their okay. We're optimistic."

Last winter Owens announced that he did not intend to return to the "Hee Haw" series. He's changed his mind. "We ironed out some problems," he explained. "We'll be in Nashville in mid-June to start taping for next season."

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COUNTRY PICKS OF THE WEEK

SINGLE

DAVID ROGERS, "HEY THERE, GIRL,"



(Jack & Bill, ASCAP). Some of biggest names in the business combine forces on a smooth-as-silk song. Jerry Foster and Bill Rice penned it, and Pete Drake masterfully produces. Rogers puts the ribbon on top with his soaring vocals. This infectious happy-tempo tune is right on target in its aim for the top spot. Atlantic CY-4022.

SLEEPER

BILLY "CRASH" CRADDOCK, "RUB IT IN,"



(Ahab, BMI). This one's going to be a funky change of pace that's sure to draw requests from the first play. Super remake of Layng Martine, Jr.'s hit of a few years back guarantees Craddock heavy action. Heavy beat and perfect back up vocals make this sparkle. Jump on this one quick; it's the perfect warm weather record! ABC 11437.

ALBUM

"COUNTRY FEELIN'," CHARLEY PRIDE.

There isn't much that can be added that hasn't already been said about Charley. This is another great collection of songs given that special Pride touch. The man just gets smoother with each release. Kudos to Jack Clement for sparkling production. Charley's 21st album is overflowing with strong material. Most any song could become a single release. RCA APL1-0534.

