

# Jazz King from Kilbirnie

**A**BE ROMAIN, born in Wellington and educated at the Kilbirnie School, and the Marist Brothers' School, Wellington, used to deliver the milk from his parents' dairy farm out of school hours, and like all good milkmen, he probably whistled on his way. Now he is a dance-band leader who has performed in 36 different countries since 1933, and who now conducts *Abe Romain's Bandstand* at Station 2GB, Sydney, on four nights a week.

During his schooldays, Romain cast an envious eye on what appeared to him to be the local wizards of dance-rhythm. He decided to go and do likewise and studied the violin. Later he added proficiency on the clarinet, alto saxophone and his vocal chords to his entertainment equipment, and worked his passage to America as a ship-musicians' steward. In the U.S. he bought dance recordings from which he compiled his own orchestrations and so learned how to arrange music.

Playing with dance bands in South America, Canada, Europe, and the Far East, he has been associated with such notables in the rhythm addicts' catalogues as Harry Roy, Jack Hylton, Rudy Vallee, and Paul Whiteman. On one



ABE ROMAIN

occasion he played at a Royal Command performance at the London Palladium with Jack Hylton's Band; on the same bill were Jack Buchanan, Flanagan and Allen, Will Fyfe and Cicely Courtneidge.

Some of Abe Romain's recordings will be heard from 22B Wellington, in a 20-minutes' session on Sunday, November 16, at 2.30 p.m.

## "THE LISTENER" CROSSWORD

(Solution to No. 364)

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### Clues Across

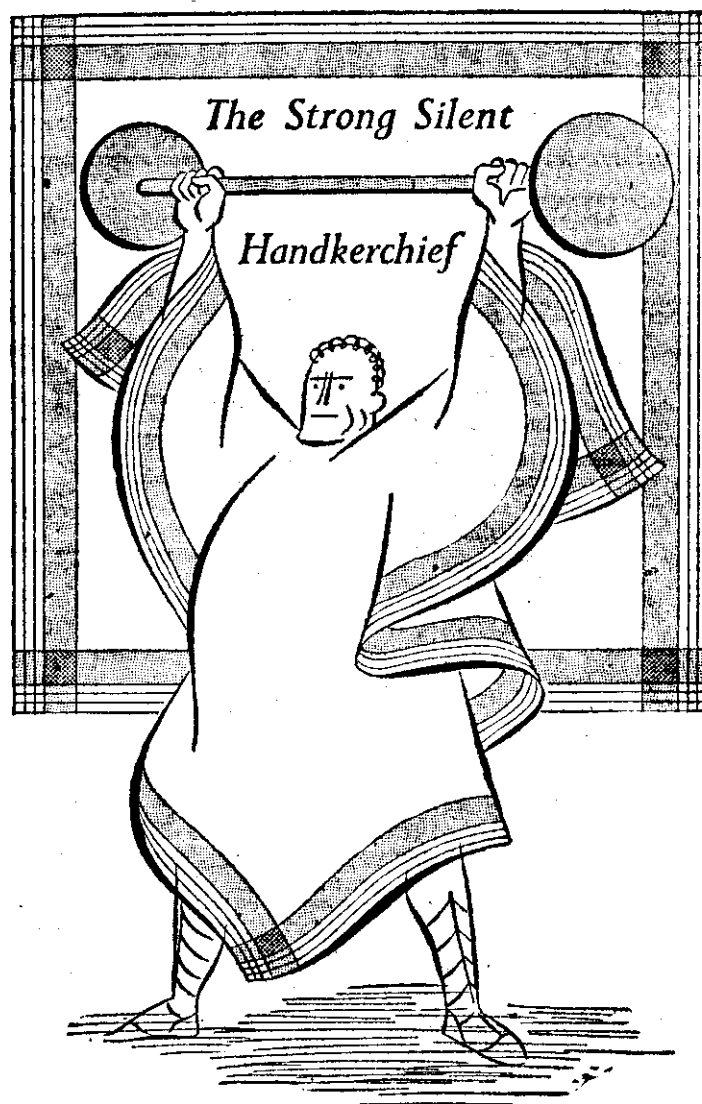
- If you put up with this trimming you will meet with reproach.
- "Jude the—" by Thomas Hardy.
- Relying on experiment.
- Insect found in 6 down.
- Sit alone (anag.).
- Cinderella's two elder sisters were.
- Regard.
- Miscreant.
- "Then a soldier, Full of strange oaths, and bearded like the —" ("As You Like It," Act 2, Sc. VII.)
- Song from a mad girl?
- Suffered prolonged and continuous pain.
- Even rag may impress deeply.
- Touching a sunburnt man?
- This animal is upset when laden.

### Clues Down

- The bear will do this when confused.
- Abundant.
- We might find ourselves in these times again with a continuance of the power shortages.
- Esoteric.
- What the sun never does on the British Empire.
- A conceited and didactic person in a temporary wooden dwelling is nevertheless strictly honourable.
- These vessels are said to make most sound.
- Dismiss without dissolution, this looks as if it's in the rascal's favour.
- Kind of lace.
- Combined spear and battle-axe.
- This expression of grief may be mental.
- Shelley wrote a poem about a sensitive one.
- Large lizard.
- "Tears, — tears, I know not what they mean." (Tennyson.)

No. 365 (Constructed by R.W.C.)

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