

LABEL NOTES AND IDENTIFICATION

After Asch died in 1985, the Smithsonian Institution purchased Folkways, where Asch's rule that all his recordings remain in print is still honored by the current staff and owners. (Wikipedia and Peter D. Goldsmith, author)

AUDIO EDUCATION

Associated/subsidiary labels: Decca

Distributed and produced by: American Book Company and Decca Records, Inc.

Manufactured by: Decca Records

Overall description of content: educational/entertainment for children

Record: 10" black vinyl

Record label: blue on white, text only

Holder/cover: book style album holders except for the Listen and Do series, which is gatefold style. The Listen and Do have graphics on the cover; the other series just have text.

Date range: Listen & Do, 1951; American Singer, 1950; Primary Music, 1953; Music Appreciation, 1955; Miscellaneous, 1953/54

Series and record-numbering sequences: Listen & Do: four sets (ABC 1 – 4); American Singer: eight sets (AS 1 – 8), each corresponding to the school grade year—1st through 8th grade. Primary Music: four known sets AS 20 – 23; Music Appreciations: 4 known sets, AS 30 – 33. Miscellaneous: five known sets, no numbering pattern discerned.

Miscellaneous: This series was prepared in conjunction with the American Book Company and Decca Records.

AUNT THERESA'S

Associated/subsidiary labels: none

Distributed, produced, and manufactured by: Moody Press, Chicago, IL

Overall description of content: religious (Christian)

Record: 4" and 7" various colored vinyl

Record label: red or green on white (4"), blue on yellow (7")

Holder/cover: cardboard box (4"), none seen (7")

Date range: 195?

Series and record-numbering sequences: Two boxed sets of Aunt Theresa's "KYB Club," Set No. 1 and Set No. 2 (4"); a 7" set of unknown quantity entitled Aunt Theresa's Bible Stories.

Miscellaneous: "Aunt Theresa" is Miss Theresa Worman. She was director of children's programs at radio station WMBI in Illinois. She received her training at the Moody Bible Institute (MBI), Chicago, IL. MBI was founded in the late 1800s by D. L. Moody and continues today as a major Christian evangelical organization.

This is one of several small and obscure labels in my collection that offer religious children's records. Very little is known about these tiny companies, including this one.

BANNER

Associated/subsidiary labels: none

Distributed and produced by: Banner Records, New York

Manufactured by: Plaza, Regal, Emerson, Pathe, Cameo

Overall description of content: adult catalog with a few kiddie records thrown in.

Record: 10" black shellac and vinyl

Record label: standard Banner silver on blue, also blue on yellow

Holder/cover: singles — no color artwork covers, just generic; one album seen, cartoon color cover, book-style album.

Date range: 1922 – 1939

Series and record-numbering sequences: no children's series

Miscellaneous: Banner Records was a United States based record label of the twentieth century.

Banner Records was launched in January of 1922 by the Plaza Music Company of New York City. Banner was a fairly popular label in the 1920s, concentrating on popular music of the day. The audio fidelity of the records, when new, was average to slightly below average for the time; but the records were pressed from cheap materials that did not well withstand repeated playing with the heavy phonograph reproducers of the time, so Banner records tended to display significant surface noise and audio distortion with moderate wear. Banner's recording studio was in New York City; the recording director was Adrian Schubert, who also led the label's house band.

Early on, some Banner Records were reissues of recordings made by Emerson Records and Paramount Records using masters leased from those labels.

In 1928 Banner merged with Pathé Records and Cameo Records to form the American Record Corporation. ARC continued the Banner label through 1938.

In 1939 the Banner label was revived, primarily as an outlet for Klezmer recordings; it continued to issue recordings on Banner into the long-playing vinyl record era. (Wikipedia)

BANTAM

Associated/subsidiary labels: none.

Distributed, produced, and manufactured by: Bantam Records, New York, NY

Overall description of content: children's general entertainment

Record: 10" black vinyl

Record label: black on red and yellow; cartoon drawings of kids and animals

Holder/cover: four-color paper sleeve

Date range: 195?

Series and record numbering sequences: only six records seen, consecutively numbered BR1 – 6.

Miscellaneous: This label is not to be confused with the Allegro Bantam Intermediate series. No other information is available.

BELDA TALKING KOMICS

Associated/subsidiary labels: none.

Distributed, produced, and manufactured by: Belda Record & Publishing Co., Pasadena, CA

Overall description of content: general children's entertainment

Record: 10" black. **Note:** Three versions were issued, versions 1, 2, and 3 (V.1, V.2, V.3); V.1 shellac, V.2 "plastic" or shellac, V.3 "plastic."

Record label: V.1: white on red or blue; V.2: white on orange, dark green on light green; V.3: various combinations of colors

Holder/cover: V.1: copyright 1946, "Talking Komics" in upper left corner of cover; V.2: copyright 1947 title across top; V.3: copyright 1948, 1949, and 1950, "Komic Book & Plastic Record" across top.

Date range: 1946 to 1950

Series and record-numbering sequences: a total of nine records were issued, #101 – 109. All nine were issued in Version 3 only. Version 1 issued between two and four records (not sure); version 2 had four records.

Miscellaneous: Prices include presence of comic book. If comic book is missing, subtract \$5. No comic book was issued for the Mysto Magic record. This latter is one of the few "magic" records in the genre. A different audio track could be heard each time the needle was placed on the grooves. You never knew which one you were going to hear.

Notable in this series is the voice of Daws Butler. Charles Dawson "Daws" Butler (November 16, 1916 – May 18, 1988) was a voice actor born in Toledo, Ohio, who created and played the voices of many famous animated cartoon characters.

His voice can be heard in countless classic animated cartoons still seen on TV around the world daily. He was Yogi Bear, Huckleberry Hound, Quick Draw McGraw, Baba Looey, Super Snooper, Blabbermouse, Snagglepuss, Augie Doggy, Mr. Jinks, Wally Gator, Elroy Jetson, Cap'n Crunch and hundreds of others. He worked with nearly every major animation director, including Messrs Hanna and Barbera, Jay Ward, Walter Lantz, Chuck Jones, and Tex Avery. He worked puppets for Bob Clampett (Beany and Cecil). Fans included Groucho, Harpo, Lionel Barrymore and even Albert Einstein. His collaborations with satirist Stan Freberg sold millions of records.

BELL

Associated/subsidiary labels: none

Distributed by: Pocketbooks, Inc., New York City, NY

Produced and manufactured by: Bell Records

Overall description of content: adult entertainment with a few borderline children's records in the catalog

Record: 7" black vinyl

Record label: various: silver on black; black on aqua; limited graphics, mostly text.

Holder/cover: some illustrated 3-color picture sleeves; some generic "Bell" sleeves.

Date range: 1954 – 1961

Series and record-numbering sequences: no series or numbering sequences which relate to children's records.

Miscellaneous: The Bell label was started in New York City in 1954 by Arthur Shimkin, founder of Golden Records (see separate listing). Shimkin was president until 1959, at which time Al Massler took over. There is little collector interest in this label at this time. By 1961, the label was moribund.

BEL-TONE

Associated/subsidiary labels: none

Distributed, produced, and manufactured by: Bel-Tone records, New York, NY

Overall description of content: general adult catalog which includes this children's series

Record: 10" black shellac

Record label: white on dark red

Holder/cover: book style

Date range: 194?

Series and record numbering-sequences: series of six in the Playhouse Series of Uncle Bob Stories. Numbered sequentially from BT-AL-1 to BT-AL-6.

Miscellaneous: The "Uncle Bob" who narrates the stories is actor Robert Bailey, a supporting-role actor in many feature films in the 1940s.

BIBLE STORYTIME

Associated/subsidiary labels: none

Distributed, produced, and manufactured by: Standard Publishing Co, Cincinnati, OH

Overall description of content: children's religious (Christian)

Record: 7", laminated cardboard

Record label: picture discs, cartoon drawings.

Holder/cover: cardboard boxed sets of three records.

Date range: ca. 1948

Series and record-numbering sequences: four sets of three records each, sets not named. Prefixes seen: RN and RO. All numbers in the 700's consecutively numbered within each series, but not from one series to another. Numbers are consecutive from A to B side, then to the next record.

Miscellaneous: These records are very similar in appearance and feel to PicturTone and Record Guild of America picture discs, but the companies are unrelated.

This is one of several small and obscure labels in my