

SO LONG FOR AWHILE, THAT'S ALL THE SONGS, FOR AWHILE

A last minute announcement was inserted into many editions of the March 2-8, 1957 edition of TV GUIDE made it official: there would be a new cast for "Your Hit Parade."

The stars on the cover of this edition of TV GUIDE just happened to be Gisele MacKenzie and Dorothy Collins.



Dorothy Collins



Jill Corey

Dorothy Collins who just the other day told TV GUIDE that she'd hate to think of a future without *Your Hit Parade* (see page 8) topped the list of those fired from the show in a surprise move last week. The firings take place at the end of this season.

Also scalped: Snooky Lanson, Russell Arms and Dorothy's band-leader husband Raymond Scott. Earlier Gisele MacKenzie had announced that she wouldn't return to the show next year under any conditions.

To Dorothy, a star on the show since its TV debut seven seasons ago, went this largesse: Her \$2500 weekly salary for the four months beginning with the date she heard her swan song. Other cast members also got four months' "severance pay."

Picked from a field of hundreds at top-level auditions conducted by the program's sponsor, ad agency and producers were singers Jill ("I

Love My Baby") Corey, of Avonmore, Pa., and formerly of *The Dave Garroway Show*, Virginia Gibson, of the Broadway musical "Happy Hunting," and Tommy Leonetti, once of *The Johnny Carson Show*. To vocalists Jill, Virginia and Tommy the big news was a bombshell. All had auditioned last January, subsequently had abandoned hope. Then, two hours before the news was made public, they were let in on the secret.

According to grapevine, *Hit Parade's* sponsor decided on the shake-up "to stimulate new interest in the program." And from a source close to the show came a further hint: More heads may roll.

