

RISE OF THE L.P.

THE RECORD industry has undergone some rapid changes over the last five years and perhaps the greatest of these is the rise in popularity and sales of the long-playing album over the single.

Release Records, Ireland's greatest independent label, are currently building up an impressive catalogue of L.P.'s. And this week they issue a collection of hits by many of the top C & W artistes including Larry Cunningham, Dermot Hegarty, the Hillbillies, Brian Coll and many more, on an album titled, 'Ireland's Best on Release.'

Who's Who

The budget-priced record is ended as a sampler of Irish country and Western artistes and, as such, it reads like a 'Who's Who' of contemporary music.

Larry sings "Pretty Little Girl From Omagh."

Dermot Hegarty, whose version of "21 Years" is currently at

Number One in the charts, is featured on "Gay Galtee Mountains."

And the Hillbillies' single, "Busted", is also included.

Top class

Other bands on this top-class collection are the Fitzgeralds, Sandy and the Royal Earls, Gary Street, Shay Hutchinson and the Melody Aces, Brian Coll and the Buckaroos, Pat Hanrahan and the Sahara, The Rhythm Stars, The Navaks and the Ollie Moloney Band.

Other release albums scheduled for July include "21 Years" and other hits by Dermot Hegarty, "Country My Way", featuring Larry Cunningham; "The Sound of Maurice Mulcahy", "The Fitzgeralds of Donegal" and Brian Coll's LP, "Sing Me Back Home".



Joe Dolan and the Drifters will be playing in Limerick tonight.



The Reform will be playing in the Royal George Hotel on Tuesday night next at the An Oige dance, and now that Noel Casey has left the group it will be very interesting to see the Reform turned into a trio

BY PADDY TOBIN



Thin Lizzy.

THIN LIZZY JUST CAN'T GO WRONG

THIN LIZZY are a Dublin group. They play the same circuit as the big names like Grannies and Skid Row before them.

Philip (Lynott), who sings and plays bass guitar, arrived by way of Skid Row, and the two Erics, Bell and Wrixon, on lead guitar and organ respectively, are both former group heads from Belfast who gained invaluable experience with their stints in the Dreams and the Trixons.

Drummer, Brian Downey's most successful former group was probably Sugarshack (remember Morning Dew), although he has been through a number of musical happenings since then.

By now the term "super group" is probably a bit worn out, though it wouldn't be an exaggeration to describe Lizzy by that name.

Ideas

They are absolutely bursting with musical ideas, and have a much fresher approach than most other groups around.

Philip and Eric Bell often take part in folk/poetry sessions which are held in a number of Dublin pubs and clubs.

The only trouble is that the group scene, as it stands at the moment, is too confined.

Groups like Lizzy, find that

once they have played on the rather limited circuit, that is about as far as they can go.

However, lately things are looking up a bit.

Gradually the provincial cities and towns are becoming more "group conscious," and groups find that dates are coming in now from most parts of the country.

Chance

A few years ago only the cities promised to give the bigger Dublin groups a chance.

Thin Lizzy's manager, Terry O'Neill, told me the other day that things are beginning to happen at last.

They hope to have a record out in the near future called "Won't You All Come," written by Philip.

As well as this, a top British producer from E.M.I.'s new progressive Harvest label, is coming over to hear them.

This could lead to greater things.

The opportunities are there for Thin Lizzy now, and I only hope that they take their chances and become as big a group as they deserve to be.

And I'm quite sure that with a singer like Philip, they cannot go wrong.

FEW POP stars in years and the girl from and in the band again with her Maisie have a record is "Ok"

The disc, released ago on the Qu produced by Gerry features the music the Nashville Re Maisie's husband ley.

Maisie, Gregory have completed successful tour ballroom circuit "Okie" will be there next week.

Maisie, McDan turned to a full career following which kept her stage for about

Enjoy

Is she finding with the strenuous "one-nighters," long sessions, hot warm lights in the etc.?

"I'm enjoying round immensely! It's like a new be able to move with my friends —and I feel you doing that

"There have been ges on the scene many. My old Cunningham, Se mot O'Brien, an still at the top.

"There are s istes among the too — the wa handle an audi to amaze me!



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