

SOUND TRACK



Disc pioneer Ernest Knight

ERNEST KNIGHT . . . born in 1903 in Hamburg, Germany, and a pioneer in disc recording, died suddenly last month in Encino, California at the age of 62. Ernie, as he was known by his associates, started Diacoustic Laboratory in Encino in 1928, and was instrumental in the earliest lacquer formulations for master discs. An electrical engineer, Mr. Knight began his work in America on electric heaters for Hoffman Specialties, from there moved West and into the manufacture of master discs. In 1940, Ernie Knight sold the disc portion of his business and became Western distributor for cutting styli, including his own Diacoustic Diamond, also serviced recording heads for RCA, Preston, Grampion, Olson, and Audak. Mr. Knight was responsible for starting the Hollywood Sapphire Group, followed by the Golden Gate Sapphire Group in 1950. His son Ernest (Mickey) succeeds him as president of Diacoustic Laboratory.