

AT THE PLANTATION



Louis Russell, with his Orchestra, featuring Milton Buggs and Nora Juntz, are the hold-over attraction at the Club Plantation in St. Louis, Missouri.

New York Showfronts

BY DON DE LEIGHBUD

WILLIE BRYANT CHALLENGES POWERS THAT BE TO SEND HIM OVERSEAS TO ENTERTAIN THE GIs

NEW YORK—Willie Bryant, singing Negro emcee and national-ity famed showman, returned to the United States with a bold challenge to the USO-Camp Show and morale division of the army to send him abroad with a unit of entertainers to perform for servicemen. In an open letter to this column, Willie Bryant, who has been the toast of Washington, D. C.'s night-life circuit for almost a year, says that the popular Club Cavender declared:

"I'd like to start 45 out by going overseas again, and I'd like to take that C. B. I. (China-Burma-India) Battle command to go to the front. I have heard many say it is rough, but nothing could be rougher than the hell those poor boys are going through and the stuff they have to put up with. I have been getting letters from boys who know me all over the world asking me to please bring a show over there.

gets when he walks on the stage and guys let out a big 'Hello, Willie Bryant, the old Apollo and Porto Then after the show they crowd around you and say 'I remember seeing you in my home-town. And another and another the same thing, then they all say 'it was nice of you to come over here and play for us. Then you feel like you want to cry to think they think things so nice of you to come over.

"Hell, what else can you do but love these boys? They give lives and once they give their lives, that's all. You give a show and come home."

"Yes, I'll go again and be happy about it. The guys who are keeping me from going again have never even seen me and never will go. Why? They are scared. I'm not and I'd like for you to print this letter and let the mothers and sisters and sweethearts of the boys who are over there know that I'm over here and ready to go. I'll take a letter and send it to the boys and let them know that I'm over here and ready to go. I'll take a letter and send it to the boys and let them know that I'm over here and ready to go.

My, My, My! Dig This Choice Bit Of Femininity



Yes, siree! This is the stuff you gotta watch. She's Marie Wells, charming vocalist with Frank Humphries' Orchestra. Come on, you GI guys. Here's a real one!

HARLEM BEAM

BY FLOYD G. SNELSON

NEW YORK (CNS)—TAN MANHATTAN—The Yuletide burst into SWING (32 Street) Old SANTA having tucked away his bag of sensational thrills a myriad of new fangled hi ho hum and hee hee!

"Tantalizing TANDALEYO 'stole' her own show with the opening of her new revue Thursday eve. The exotic dancer unsuspecting 'duded' a brand new surprise upon her public when she so nonchalantly departed from her usual chore as mistress of ceremonies at the mike and went into her own 'song and dance' routine. Never before has a dancer or emcee made such a sudden 'about face' with similar gesture and arresting success. The famous night club sirens of yesterday like Tex Guinan and the rest would 'turn green with envy' and marvel at TONDA's diabolical variety.

BILLY DANIELS, silver tone voice tenor whose triumphant return to Tondaleyo, by popular demand, has added a brand new thrill to his bag of tricks. His seductive style of song simply oozes into the hearts of the fair sex with soulful ecstasy. Accompanied by NORINE

LUCKY'S BAND "TOPS"



Lucky Millinder and his Orchestra are the headline attraction in Los Angeles, Calif.

TATE, at the piano who adds to the rendition a rare technique of understated appeal. GLADY'S BENTLY, 'queen of cabaret entertainers,' holds her place as the tops in intimate club entertaining.

PETER RABBIT TRIO, the latest and best sensation of Swing Lane, is the peer of the critics... in the world's most famous music mart, Irmitable stylist of music in luke-warm tempo and divine simplicity Peter and his Rabbits are the answer to the most exquisite entertainment idolized by the gay sophisticates of ultra modern taste and decorum.

Among the first to express rapacious words of praise and compliments was Maceo Burch, noted state producer and now with Count Basie... in company with Sgt. Joe Louis, worlds heavyweight champion, and members of the Zanibar show who voted the opinion of a party who came to see the opening new show.

Tondaleyo's new antics are the talk of Swing Street.

PASSING SHOW Mrs. Ed Small, fondly known as Dottie, with the charming Mrs. Percy Harris of Syracuse and her manager, Gibson, of SMALL'S PARADISE stepped into wish TONDALEYO'S A Merry Christmas. Mrs. Small was glad to express great pride in her new show revue produced by Pasty Hunter, a newcomer just from Los Angeles. Includes Flo Washington, Phil Gomez, Pitts and Pitts, Rastus Murray, Fred Wiley, Charming Dancing Dancer M. C. George Wilshire with Christopher Columbus and His Band. It's a swell show and one of the best Harlem affords.

The gorgeous dame Hilda Croig, dancer at the Zanibar and one of the famous Brown twins, quit the cast to assist her husband in business in Buffalo... he was recently discharged from the Army. The great showman, Bill Robinson, refused to bid adieu to the review of a heavy cold... the show must go on!

Never tell what lovers will do... Dr. J. Frank Andrews and his charming school teaching wife back together again in a new show revue in the city from Syracuse for a gay time during the holidays... it was hers without the asking.

The noted dancer, Pearl Primus, together with Edith Hurst, Pemica Sparlock and one of the famous Brown twins, quit the cast to assist her husband in business in Buffalo... he was recently discharged from the Army. The great showman, Bill Robinson, refused to bid adieu to the review of a heavy cold... the show must go on!

Paul Robeson star in the new Columbia album, 'Othello.' Benny Carter and the King Cole Trio to College Women of New Jersey Club who had a grand time. Dorothy Williams, charming librarian of Fisk University, in for the Christmas festivities spent most of her time with the folks at her home in Chicago. A film offer may result. Her manager, William B. Graham is eyeing Mabel Fairbanks, the only

Child Pianist Contributes Allowance To Fund

NEW YORK—There has been an alarming rise in the epidemic of infantile paralysis in America. Last year was the worst but one in the eight history of polio. It is fearfully democratic, striking rich and poor, black and white alike. None of us can conquer it alone. We can only hope to overcome it by the help of others. Now, how can we insure the help of others? When a member of a large family becomes ill, all of them pitch in and help. That is what a family is for. Mutual aid and comfort. A nation must do the something but on a larger scale. Since children are the worst sufferers in this dreaded disease, they would like some positive way to help fight it. They can't be doctors or nurses and they haven't money—so what can they do?



Philippa Schuyler, 13-year-old concert pianist, appeals for support of the March of Dimes in celebration of the President's birthday. Miss Schuyler contributed one month's allowance to the March of Dimes. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Schuyler of New York City. Her father is the well-known author, columnist, and lecturer.

LENA HORNE THE LOVELY

Lena Horne, exciting singer, joins the George Gershwin number one stellar cast for MGM's 'Ziegfeld Follies' when she comes to the screen for the first time in 'Ziegfeld Follies.' Incidentally, Miss Horne and Long started their careers nine years ago as youngsters at the famous Cotton Club.

Humphries' Trampet And Band Set To Woo Bobby-Sock Youngsters



Here's a good deal in the musical sense. It's Frank Humphries and his trumpet. He's bent on wooing the bobby-sock crowd along with fancy lovers and thrashers. Currently on a whirlwind tour playing Michigan, Ohio and Maryland, the band after a sensational three-month stand at Harlem's Savoy Ball-room, where it packed 'em tight, is set to set new records. Humphries formerly was featured with Lucky Millinder's Orchestra that once featured Taft Jordan and Fak Smith.

DO YOUR SHARE AND BUY MORE BONDS!

I'VE BEEN AROUND

I'VE BEEN AROUND New York

By Ted Yates

I Wanted the Tree That Grows in Brooklyn for Xmas (Gus Santa, the Black Marketer, Give Me a Cigar!)

From the stories going the rounds nearly everybody got what they wanted for Christmas. A lotta folks read that bunk in the newspapers that FBI was cutting down on his cigarettes, so how Mr. Blue went to worry about his puffs for some time. (Good Deal!)

Kate Smith has been chipping about 'What Are You Gonna Do With All the Jeeps After the War?' and says nothing of 'Dear Little Rhode Island' and the unknown in the nation's capital has relayed the message: 'Blonnie did a creep spotted jeep.' Well, ain't it?

Ed Sullivan, News comments that which eye-fel seen at the gay spot on Broadway with Sgt. Joe Louis is Miss Annie Mae Williams, which brings us to wonder just which partridge eye-fel did he refer to as the champion seems to have a supply of choice ladies on hand and winds up at Tondaleyo each eve.

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL You're cruising reported. Floyd Snelson, N. Y. C.

HILDA SIMMS CANCELS BENNETT TRIP Greensboro, N. C.—Wartime transportation difficulties force the cancellation of the scheduled appearance here Sunday, January 7 of Hilda Simms and George Rindall of the Broadway 'H.' 'Anna Lucasta.'

The two stars had planned to make the trip here by plane and were unable to secure satisfactory transportation between New York and Greensboro.

KINSTON—Horace Aldridge Lofton, 50, succumbed to a heart attack Saturday morning at 9:15 at his home here.

He had operated a meat market in Kingston for 27 years and was respected by members of both races. Surviving are: Mrs. Lofton, a brother, sister, one daughter and two sons, one of whom is stationed with the Army on Saipan.

Mid-Night Man In Chicago

BY TED WATSON

CHICAGO (CNS)—Tonight in Chicago, downtown it to the girls on the girl show year celebration, and the Chicago and the team of Buck and Doodles in the huge orchestra of the downtown theatre, on the steps edge, they ain't sayin' no playin' this heavy extravaganza. Enjoy Campbell and the band will be heard. The evidence of the midnight revel for the celebration... Deities Parker is presenting on songs for Christine Muse, who is in Oklahoma City recuperating from a recent illness. Benny (Louis) Robinson is the new Hollywood and reported to be starting a new band. Milton Fletcher who did time last week with Benny Carter at the Downtown Theatre, will join Noble Sissle's band which heads for Florida this week.

The plays have been fighting in their city playfair room of the downtown Blackstone Hotel. That said Red Allen received from Louis Armstrong was a killer. Ask Red to let you see it? O. J. and Margie's news bureau is the latest thing at \$20000 cash. I doubt Forest B. Annerson of Bukey, Oklahoma having \$200,000 cash! 'Purple Moonlight' is this column's ballad of romance for top tune of 1945 and that's CAP GUNS TO CANNONS. (Copyright 1945, by Ted Watson)

By the way, Ella Fitzgerald is scheduled to open at the Macomb on the 15th of the month. Charlie Morris is putting on a heavy show at Chicago's Rhythmatic. It's starring Willie Bryant, noted master of ceremony, who will do a guest column here in a week or so. Mildred Whitlow, Pearl and Yo-Yo, Claudia Melow, and Red and Cutley are in that show.

Oliver Johnson, who currently is working with her bluesendations at the El Grotto, has composed a number of songs which will be played this year. In that number we find 'Never To Return,' 'New Year's Eve,' 'Losing My Mind.' She has a potential in the ballad, at which time I almost forgot to mention that I can't reveal the title. 'Sten Kenton's' 'And Her Tears Flowed Like Wine' has traces of 'Yes, Indeed.'

Happy birthday to the following: Bill Bowman, January 7th (this columnist's birthday) January 6th, Jay Von Chapman of the St. Louis Artway, January 8th, Allen McKel, former Pepsi Cola representative and January 9th; Howard Woods of the St. Louis edition of the Chicago Defender. Letter in from John Curd of Muncie, Indiana. He's been a column for since 1941. The Xmas card from Deloit

SEEIN' STARS

NEW YORK (CNS)—THE NEW YEAR HAS BEGUN. A trooper to the end, Lena Horne this week stopped her USO tour, sponsored by the Hollywood Victory Committee, because Jim Crow ran wild. In doing so, she became the first theatrical person to do a 'good deed' in 1945. Look Magazine's January 8th issue names the King Cole Trio as one of five in their prediction for greats of '45. They say that Nat (King) Cole, 28 year old pianist with 'quick-silver' hands and a soft, shy voice, formed the trio in 1937. Their recordings are such sell-outs, that the King can't buy one himself!

In Look's boxing prediction, Ray Robinson is chosen. BILL ROBINSON finishes at the Zanibar the end of January, heads for a tour. The Four Step Brothers, which this column recently penned for their Uncle Tombs in 'Greenwich Village,' played the Apollo Theatre this week on a bill with Jimmie Lunceford. The Theatre Guild is being severely criticized for its 'Swing Out, Sweet Land,' they have a white girl playing a colored blues singer and wearing dark make-up and extra-red lips.

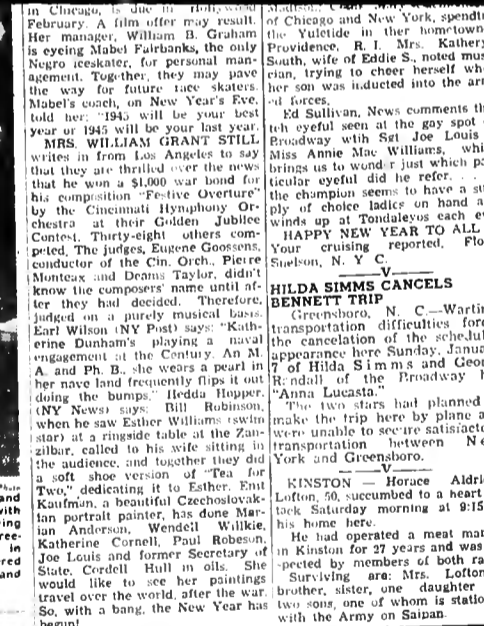
MILDRED BLOUNT, top Hollywood hat designer, had a 2 page lay out in December's Newsweek Magazine. This week, she received a fan letter from an Alabama boy who, reading Newsweek, fell in love with her picture. Leigha Whipper, daughter of the famed Hollywood star Leigh Whipper, is making a name for herself as song writer. Theatre this week on a bill with Young and chic in silver fox great coat, Leigha's latest is a Calypso

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DO'S AND DON'TS. Shorten that phone call! More consideration for others and less small talk about others is good citizenship.