

New York Showfronts

BY DON DE LEIGHBUD

INK SPOTS VS. MOE GALE CASE SETTLED

Will the Ink Spots versus Moe Gale case come to a timely end, I hope, satisfactory end in and out of court settlement that occurred last week. The controversy gained more publicity thru out the country than any recent incident involving Negroes in show business and was featured by Bill Kenny, the angular tenor on the one side and Gale, Ivory (Deek) Watson, and Pie Charles Fuqua on the other. Many things were said, making a whole lot of people feel bad on both sides. Most of this has been recanted and while certain aspects of the settlement eliminate the settlement that either side won a clear-cut victory, there is perhaps now a more practical understanding than at the time when Gale had full say over the funds of the quartette which sky-rocketed from obscurity in Indianapolis to international fame in less than ten years.

The Ink Spots, as represented by Bill Kenny, are no longer controlled by Moe Gale Inc. and no longer have to halve their earnings with him. The court controversy which developed into a squabble of the name, Ink Spots, finds Kenny and Fuqua retaining ownership of the name and Watson, the scat-singing member of the quartette until he was dropped a few months ago, out of the picture altogether. However, Gale remains as personal manager for the act for the duration of the existing contract, a period of from three to four years, and in addition Moe Gale's agency, Gale Inc., holds exclusive booking rights for a period of slightly less than two years.

Kenny will collect and disburse all funds, thus getting out of the situation which brought on the court suit, which previously had Gale doing the collecting and the paying. However, this means that he will pay both Gale as personal manager and Gale Inc. as bookers. Each will get 10 per cent of the gross income, which means that in reality 20 per cent of the act will be realized by Moe Gale.

The right to pass on all bookings is retained by Kenny and none can

Muriel Rahn Gives \$50 To Wilberforce Scholarship Fund

WILBERFORCE, Ohio (CNS) — Muriel Rahn, famed soprano and former "Carmen Jones" star, gave \$50.00 to Dr. Charles Wesley, president of Wilberforce University, this week, toward his interracial fund for students in post-war time. Dr.

Wesley's idea is similar to the program sponsored by Antioch College, a liberal institution at Yellow Springs, Ohio, which allows for Negro students to come to Antioch from the fund. Mrs. Rahn, in donating the money, said she was proud to give something to help in education as the future is built on youth. The first \$25.00 contribution to the fund was from Mr. R. Harris, Treasurer of Morris Brown University in Atlanta, Ga. He also felt the fund needed the support of Negroes throughout the country. Mrs. Rahn appeared at Wilberforce University in a song recital Friday evening after being "snowed under" in Buffalo.

Jimmy Rushing To Wax Special Album Of His Most Popular Blues

NEW YORK — Jimmy Rushing, the "Man Who Sings The Blues" to Count Basie's jump rhythms, is slated to wax a special album of eight of his most popular blues specialties for Columbia Records next month. The album, to be appropriately titled "Jimmy's Blues," will be the first of its kind on the market.

Rushing has been one of the Basie band's most prominent stars ever since the band's earliest days in Kansas City. Jimmy's rollicking piano served as the inspiration for the Hit Parade song of three years ago, "Mister Five By Five."

Bragman-Vocco-Conn, Inc., the noted music publishers, recently have released a Jimmy Rushing Blues Folio as an addition to their Count Basie Swing Series. The folio was edited by the famed Basie blues-chamber himself.

20th CENTURY FOX HITS!

A. J. CRONIN'S THE KEYS OF THE KINGDOM is "inspiring! Heart-warming! A MUST on any list!" (GREGORY PECK outstanding!) says Kate Cameron in the N. Y. Daily News! A great experience you'll never forget!

It's all about love and just about perfect **SUNDAY DINNER FOR A SOLDIER** starring ANNE BAXTER and JOHN HODIAK with CHARLES WINNINGER and a swell cast!

WATCH FOR THEM ON THE SCREEN!

Mabel Means Business About Being A '45 Star

BY DELORES CALVIN



Pictured above are Jon Hall and Maria Montez who again appear in Universal's 'THE TOM-TOM OF TIME' a sensational technicolor film.

Mabel Fairbanks to stand out in her sports presentation of 1945. **RECEIVES FAN MAIL**

It seems that 20 year old Mabel has been receiving heavy fan mail from overseas. One unit begs to have her as their pin-up girl. So, Mabel gets to send a show and win a girl.

And Mabel's quite a girl; she knows her ice but she can't roller skate! Once she tried it in the house, against Hunter's wishes, and when he saw her, she was all aroused and definitely against the sport. Mabels from Jacksonville, Florida, she came north to learn ice skating but saw a Soja Heni movie first. It was "One In A Million." Now, that title has her! She practiced on the city's rink until she was a "fair skater," he took her under his wing. Now, after three and a half years, Mabel is the race's only professional skater.

During their first lessons, they ducked spending in the traditional "ice cream" figures and instead, she rehearsed flying around the rink, which prepared her to

Effie Smith Exits Hawkins' Band In Chicago

BY DELORES CALVIN

CHICAGO (CNS) — Effie Smith, one of our finest singers of songs, took exit from Erskine Hawkins' band here this week after considerable alleged discord and the singing of a local singer named Carol Tucker, who is reputed 19 years of age with no professional background.

According to reports, the controversy became evident when Carol Tucker was recommended for the singing berth in Hawkins' orchestra by her brother, Al Tucker, the wife. Eddie, officials of the Regal Theatre stated, was given a two week's notice on the last day of the band's appearance on the Regal Theatre stage. Despite the replacement of Miss Smith in this band, it was learned that she will be used in other arrangements as set up by the Moe Gale offices.

SEEIN' STARS With Dolores Calvin

NEW YORK — (Calvin's News Service) . . . DUNHAM: A DISINFECTANT OF DYNAMITE. Katharine Dunham, a golden brown dancer who not so many years ago was a hard-working girl on New York's 66th St., closes her three week engagement here at the Century Theatre amid cheers and world applause.

Her audience seemed to go to the point of shouting, "Dunham, Dunham, Dunham," the come-hither eyes and the famous Dunham walk. They liked, too, the unique idea of her changing costumes after each curtain call. The troupe, we think, was in its best condition and made for Katy a fine supporting cast. Their impressions of the South American countries were made authentic by Dunham's own extensive traveling which included a Rosenwald Fellowship to the West Indies. However, line the dancing, elaborate costumes and tropical setting, we couldn't help but feel a little homesick. The Negro, that is the American Negro, was never represented—unless you would call the flimsy version of Dark Town Strutters' Ball "typically Negro," and tales like Pearl Primus, who gracefully jumps to poems like "Strange Fruit" and tales of lynchings, hopes and strivings of our people, Katherine Dunham chooses, for some reason, not to include the Negro's music and beliefs. We think such would make "hot" a mild word in describing the real thing. . . . But, you really can't compare Primus to Dunham.

Both are self-made, self-styled artists drawing different types of audiences. Primus is younger, Dunham more of a "finished" artist. Yet, both are outstanding in the dance field. . . . Meanwhile, if you like your dancing "native and sizzling," by all means accept the support of the support country with Katharine Dunham, that dish of dynamite! . . .

DECCA BLUES. News that Helen Dowdy and Avon Long, former principal members of the Gershwin saga of Negro life "Porgy and Bess," have filed a \$250,000 suit against Decca Records, Inc. is a bit surprising. They claim Decca released some of their records without their approval. Avon Long recently completed "Ziegfeld Follies" for MGM co-starring with Lena Horne. Helen is reported in a show on Broadway. . . . W. C. Handy collected \$5,600 in royalties from a song written just after Adam Powell, Jr., died. He has no such intentions. . . .

Count Basie Gets Award

NEW YORK — Count Basie, the "Jump King Of Swing," has been voted the annual Orchestra World Achievement Award as the outstanding musician of 1944. It was announced this week by the editors of the national music trade magazine.

Basie was an easy winner over his nearest rivals in being elected to the high honor. Ballots in the poll were received from all over the world, and showed the Count to be a favorite with many members of the arted totes both at home and on far-flung continents.

This marks but another of the many polls the Count won during 1944, a year that saw the "Jump King" scale new and greater musical heights.

The Basie Band is currently in Manhattan at the Blue Room of the Hotel Lincoln, in New York City, for a return engagement that will extend through February 13.

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Mid-Night Man In Chicago

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CHICAGO (CNS) — From New York, Rushing to Chicago's Bronzeville is the delightful experience of a writer and cruising reporter. . . .

Chicago is a city of contrasts. It is a city of long standing and rich cultural background. It is a city of old acquaintances and yesterday. . . .

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Coming soon to your favorite theatre

See and hear Cozy Cole, world famous drummer

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It's easy, says Cozy, to banish those blues. . . .

Here's some solid advice from Cozy: "Whenever you feel let down, 'quick-up' the popular way—with best-tasting Royal Crown Cola! I tried leading colas in paper cups one lucky day and found R.C. best by a mile!" Ty R.C. next time you need a fresh start!

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