

New York Showfronts

BY DON DE LEIGHBUD

HAVE A LITTLE MERCY ON UNA MAE CARLISLE

NEW YORK — The busiest gal in town is none other than photogenic, lovable Una Mae (Walking By The River) Carlisle, whose commitments call for super human effort within the next two weeks. Of course showfronts are usually overhauled with weeks (that is, those who get the nod for success) but in the case of Una Mae Carlisle it's different. To begin with, she's a singer, not a model, and the constant strain of posing, playing, singing and entertaining should have retarded her long ago. But something down in the Carlisle breast keeps her at it and, despite her physical handicap of being just a wisp of a gal, she has managed to maintain a standard.

One of the great figures — miraculously and pictorially in the field of jazz and swing piano playing and singing, Una Mae Carlisle has upped the ante with her new show front titled "Jive Star Final" which opens last Thursday night in Grand Street's bar-restaurant, the Onyx Club. That, in itself, is a task that most male pianists would complain of, despite the healthy coin Mike Westernman is paying for the attraction. You see, this show begins at about 10:00 p. m. and ends at 3:45 a. m. This means that the Carlisle gal goes to her Hotel Theresa suite in Harlem around 5:00 a. m.

From 5:00 a. m. to 8:30 a. m. is long enough to blow up a city, kill ten thousand Nazis, drink oneself silly, put the cat out, bring in the dog, have a ball, or spend all one's money. But those three and a half hours aren't enough to gain much-needed sleep in order to carry on with a major assignment. The Carlisle gal must be out of bed at 8:30 a. m. in order to make a radio broadcast at station WHN at 9:00 a. m. Then follows a mid-afternoon broadcast which keeps her up, and at 6:45 p. m. she's back in the studio where she has replaced Bob Howard, famous radio pianist, composer, and one of the stars of "Early To Bed," who last week went on a theatre tour.

It's all Una Mae Carlisle's fault that her talent so brilliant that she's booking agents swarm around her door. That's a reason why her day is filled with such difficult methods of earning a bit of dough as being her twice-a-week television broadcast with an all-star cast, and in addition, Soundies, Inc., the people who put out those boxes in which you drop dimes to see and hear the pictures of your favorite band or vocalists singing, have a long-term contract on the services of Una Mae Carlisle to make at least two pictures a week. This calls for long, tireless rehearsals.

Capping off the current misadventure of the Carlisle agenda in the coming week is the broadcast of

the habit of flopping and, under all this load, she is almost sure to come through some way and, in that way, with colors flying.

At the Onyx Club, the girls whose "Walking By The River," "I See A Million People," and other compositions will be surrounded by an all-star revue, featuring the great Ben Webster, Esquire's All-American tenor saxophone wizard, Jack (The Bear) Parker, famous drum musician, and The Caballeros Trio, the instrumental and vocal artists who were featured so long with Cab Calloway's orchestra, plus Willie Duke, 32nd Street's "famous boy and scat singer."

FOUR INK SPOTS AT APOLLO

NEW YORK (C) — In one of the first engagements since the week-end, the four Ink Spots come to the Apollo Theatre this week featuring Bill Kenny as their leader. They will be booked into the Paramount Theatre later this month. Also on the Apollo bill is the Lala Russell band.

ERSKINE HAWKINS AT APOLLO

NEW YORK (C) — Twentieth Century Gabriel bows in at Harlem's Apollo Theatre this week to be gilled with Jimmie Mitchell, Ace Harris, Carol Tucker and the Three Smith Sisters. Gabriel is also known as Erskine Hawkins, the "man with a horn."

SCORES WITH DECCA RECORDING

Buddy Johnson (above) with his celebrated orchestra and Ella Johnson on the vocals has just waxed (exclusive for Decca Records) the season's outstanding live number, "That's The Stuff You Gotta Watch."



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The band is currently being featured in the far west, setting box office records, and is enroute to the west coast to fill an engaging extra-ordinary at the Club Plantation, in Los Angeles.

"DEEK" WATSON AND HIS BROWN DOTS IN THEIR DEBUT AT CLUB PLANTATION



The much discussed "world premiere" of "Deek" Watson's Brown Dots ("Deek," you recall, was one of the original Ink Spots) comes off on February 17 at the Club Plantation in St. Louis. All we can say for the present is that the combination consists of four boys and a guitar, and they're groovy as a movie. That's the stuff you REALLY got to watch!

SEEN' STARS With Dolores Calvin

NEW YORK CITY (CNS) — GLENA BOINE, returning to the Capitol Theatre in March to do with Xavier Cugat, promises to break all records. "The Tempest," which made \$40,000 for the first week, is looking for a new house after 8 weeks are up at the Alvin Theatre. Best Adams, Louis Jordan, young manager, in town to see the Impassioned Paramount Theatre doors. Louis's new record, "You Can't Get That No More," is claiming. Town talking of the page of prose I've printed recently by Bunaro Overstreet — a soldier's letter to his father telling him to let Negroes into his union.

MARVA LOUIS, now at Chicago's Downtown Theatre, comes to New York shortly. Stage for Action presented an interracial play, "That They May Win" at the Fraternal Clubhouse Sunday. Orson Welles tells us one. Sometimes ago, Frank Sinatra went into a diner for a

"They May Win" at the Fraternal Clubhouse Sunday. Orson Welles tells us one. Sometimes ago, Frank Sinatra went into a diner for a cup of coffee with some friends of his who were musicians and one of whom happened to be a Negro. The man behind the counter insultingly refused to serve this Negro, and Sinatra knocked him over on his back with a single blow. Orson says "I can't speak for his intentions regarding the man who has repeatedly defended lynching as an American institution, but I'm very sure that if Sinatra felt like hitting him, it wasn't merely because Mrs. Roosevelt's husband was rejected."

PEARL PRIMUS is cover girl for Fraternal Outlook's Negro History issue which includes a story on Fred Douglass by Carter G. Woodson, "Democracy and the Negro People" by novelist Henry Dumas, a profile of Abbie Mitchell Basil Spore, Talledega music major, is still fingering it through the Blue Grass in Cleveland. Gee Gee Jones, Negro maid for comedian Johnny Morgan over the airwaves, read the script. I remember all the good things. Johnny cuts in: "What about the mistakes?" Gee Gee, "That's what I meant!" LOUIS ARMSTRONG, who has been manufacturing jokes by the day since he hit the Cafe Zanzibar, noticed New Yorkers standing in line for cigarettes like they did for turkeys. He thought this up: the all the people were stretched out end to end, they'd be more comfortable. Earl Wilson of the Post reports that when the Zanzibar moved over to double with 8 shows a day at the Roxy Theatre, everybody went to see Tommy, the party cat. Tommy's black and he wandered into the first Zanzibar last year. Wilson interviewed the

Orange, at Tondaleys, Feb. 10. SWING LANE (22nd Street) Eddie South Trio with Lem Johnson band at Kelly's Stab. Dorothy Donegan, pianist, at Three Duces. Ben Webster, Stuff Smith at Onyx. Villepigue's of Sheepshead Bay Comes to Radio City, on West 49th Street with an all-colored crew headed by Tom McGregor, former headliner at Tondaleys. Garryn Buschell's ork at Tony Pastor's in Greenwich Village.

PERSONAL MENTION — Speaking of parties at Tondaleys of Jean Jones and Juanita Logan of Chicago with eye (Zazzy) Jones, Mrs. Bill Robinson and Mrs. Louis Armstrong was an eye-opener. The gorgeous Dorothy Nicholas sad farewell to New York with Ruth Mills, of Mills Brothers, Ardine Illige and Mrs. Hayward Jones. 477 Bondwood Inn, Indianapolis, Ind., with his glamorous wife, the former Beatrice Turner, prettiest Howard 43 grad, of Kansas City, was welcomed by Tondaleys during the visit. People as guests at Hotel Edison, Times Square, with Lt. Bruce Riley of Tuskegee. Marion Mallory, exquisite fashion model was the last word in charm at the Negro Actor's Guild party Friday night. This is the picture from where I see it — pals and gals... Snelson.

Mid-Night Man In Chicago

OLD OBSERVATION CAR school chums, but oh! brother, how about now. Nightly at C and R restaurant, the show people of the Durham production dine and make noises at the C and R. Ink Spots on the Regal stage the past week. Sad! Bill Kenny, notwithstanding Evelyn Cunningham (I knew her as a stage personality), has resigned from the footlights and now is attending the School of Designing at the Art Institute. She talks long about "Pres" Preston, now a Seaman First Class in the Navy and stationed at Great Lakes. He is a photo and was formerly connected with the Louisville Defender.

SONG FESTIVAL ANNOUNCED AT GREENSBORO

GREENSBORO — \$300 in prizes will be given away to choirs and glee clubs of North Carolina at the third annual song festival to be held here Sunday, May 20. It was announced here this week by L. R. Russell, director of the extravaganza event. In announcing the prizes and the date of the event which attracted more than 6,000 music lovers last year, Mr. Russell expressed a desire that the festival will stimulate the musical organizations of North Carolina to a high degree of excellence. He called upon each interested group to write in for additional information and application blanks. The prize money will be divided as follows: first place, \$150; second place, \$100; and third place, \$50. A group of competent judges will be on hand to determine the most outstanding group competing for the prizes and will grade each entry according to the point system.

Interested groups are being urged to write to Mrs. M. Lash Hightower, chairman of Music Committee, 711 East Market Street, Greensboro. cut backstage and Tommy yawned and licked his whiskers this own, not Wilson's. Louis Armstrong came to his room and explaining "Tommy means 'See my press agent, he's the guy who makes me sound witty'."

MARY BRUCE, warm-hearted and shapely dancer, is excited over the second Starbuc musical show to be put on at the Regal Theatre, February 18th. Her first, over a month ago, was a terrific success. Miss Bruce is presenting her star dancers in an effort to raise enough funds to build her dream — a children's theatre to help combat juvenile delinquency in the area. A New Yorker, Luce Carter, is a promising songwriter. Kathryn South, wife of violinist Eddie, is singing. He is at Kelly's Stable as the Eddie South Trio. Miss Rhaphody, blues specialist, a holdover at the Three Sixes in Detroit. Jeri Hooks' "Don't Be Late," recorded

New York City, is the personality girl of the week. Harlem Herron of Chicago cannot be overlooked in the same category. Dorothy Donegan is currently playing the Hurricane Lounge along with Bob Merrell and Tommy Dean. That's the OLD OBSERVATION CAR. (Copyright 1945, by Ted Watson)

Dorothy Donegan To Make \$1,500 Weekly In New York Night Club

BY DOLORES CALVIN — Most exciting news of the week is that Dorothy Donegan, the Chicago boogie pianist who started with \$8 a week a few years ago, will take over key duties at the Three Duces on 52nd Street for \$1,500 weekly starting February 9th. She was last at the Zanzibar. While in New York, she made a personal appearance doubling for the dancing Berry Brothers in "Star Time" which was her first Broadway musical. Last year in Hollywood, Dorothy did another "first." She debuted in pictures as Cab Calloway's bouncin' gawing pianist in "Sensations of 1945." But never had Dot come to New York to stay. Always compared to the queen of them all, Hazel Scott, Chicagoans boasted Dorothy as being greater than Hazel. Now that Dot will only be 8 blocks from Cafe Society Up-

My, My! Dig This Choice Bit Of Femininity

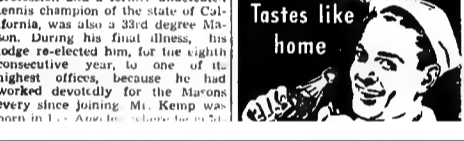


Yes, sweet! This is the stuff you gotta watch. She's cute with those dimples, that smile and lots of oomph. She's Marie Wells, charming vocalist with Frank Humphries' Orchestra. Come on, you GI guys, here's a real omelet!

Film Stars Send Floral Tributes To Angeleon

BY VERNA AVERY — HOLLYWOOD (C) — When Ballinger Kemp, who would have been fifty-one years old on February 17 of this year, died in Los Angeles last week from a brain tumor, they had to hire a truck to accommodate the floral tributes that were sent to the chapel of an Estadale funeral parlor by film stars Bertha Davis and Clark Gable, and by many other friends in the community. The Chapel was filled with friends at the hour of the funeral, and the service was highlighted by the singing of "I Walk Alone With God" by Harold Browning, noted tenor. Mr. Kemp, a contractor by profession and a former undefeated tennis champion of the state of California, was also a 32nd degree Mason. During his final illness, his lodge re-elected him, for the eighth consecutive year, to one of the highest offices, because he had worked devotedly for the Masons ever since joining. Mr. Kemp was born in 1894. Now he is buried in St.

Buy That Extra Bond!!



Surviving are a son, Ballinger, Jr., who is active in YMCA work, and a widow who is a Hollywood personality in her own right, having been mentioned recently in Life Magazine as "Kemp's Betty." Betty Davis' personal maid Mrs. Kemp the former Edyth Thompson, is a Wilberforce man who has been employed by many film stars for years at a time, and whose sharp wit has earned her the title of "the most temperamental maid in Hollywood." For she has always been courteous and sympathetic but never servile. She has fought for her right to be dignified and once, when Hedda Hopper made the mistake of printing an anecdote concerning town, there'll be a good deal of comparing back and forth.

Scratching It May Cause Infection

For relief from itching, use the famous, backache, weak, nervous feelings, distress of "irregularities"—due to monthly disturbances. Start at once—try Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound. Have such symptoms because this famous medicine has a soothing effect on one or more of a host of important organs. Taken regularly throughout the month—it helps build up resistance against such symptoms. Thousands upon thousands of women report benefit!

THIS GRAND MEDICINE made especially to relieve 'PERIODIC' FEMALE PAIN

And Its Weak, Cranky, Nervous Feelings— Take heed if you, like so many women and girls on such days of "D.D." from cramps, headaches, backache, weak, nervous feelings, distress of "irregularities"—due to monthly disturbances. Start at once—try Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound. Have such symptoms because this famous medicine has a soothing effect on one or more of a host of important organs. Taken regularly throughout the month—it helps build up resistance against such symptoms. Thousands upon thousands of women report benefit!

Lydia E. Pinkham's VEGETABLE COMPOUND

HARLEM BEAM BY FLOYD G. SNELSON

NEW YORK (CNS) — TOWN TOPICS — To save fuel in the production of electricity is the reason for the "Brownout" of New York City... only a 60 watt lamp allowed in the front door of all establishments... it's a terrible handicap for the nightworkers of the downtown... stumbling around in the dark... the week hours is difficult with light and not to speak of brownout. But we can take it and get along for the benefit of the war. The night clubs are especial-

TAN TOPICS BY CHARLES ALLEN



TAN TOPICS. "I simply can't scold him about this report card when he gave me such a lovely Valentine."

"Next Door" By TED SHEARER



NEXT DOOR: "Autograph and address please."