

New York Showfronts

BY DON DE LEIGHUR

LODD DUNCAN HEADING FOR SOUTH AMERICA

NEW YORK (AP)—When Todd Dun can, director of the Latin American Music Society, returns from his recent tour of South America, he will bring back a new record of the Latin American music scene. The big, handsome baritone has spent the past few months in the continent of South America, touring the continent and collecting records of the music of the continent. He will bring back a new record of the Latin American music scene. The big, handsome baritone has spent the past few months in the continent of South America, touring the continent and collecting records of the music of the continent.

all did something very special. They got some system into the Latin American looking business. Andre Martens, director of the Mexican and South American Division of Columbia Records, and the Latin American school, the district school, supplied the material. They had up a regular subscription program in mind to make a record of the continent. They found out a regular subscription program in mind to make a record of the continent.

Then they started figuring out who should lead off in the concert series. There were plenty of possibilities. Columbia Concerts had a talent list that would reach from the top of the continent to the bottom. It was the only number one artist in the world. He would be the first to go. He would be the first to go. He would be the first to go.

So the first artist who would work in "Latin American Music Society" was the big, handsome baritone. He was the first to go. He would be the first to go. He would be the first to go.

So the first artist who would work in "Latin American Music Society" was the big, handsome baritone. He was the first to go. He would be the first to go. He would be the first to go.



Louis Jordan All Set For Record Return Paramount Date; Plans To Sing Bert Williams' Old Tune

NEW YORK CITY (AP)—This week, Louis Jordan, sensational band leader playing the Apollo Theatre, was busy getting ready for a record comeback into the Paramount Theatre June 13th. He just closed his first engagement there February 27th, after three weeks of wowing Broadwayites. To get ready, he's ordering summer uniforms for the boys and searching for new tunes. He plans to sing "That Couldn't Happen To Nobody" (The Big Man) by Bert Williams, made famous in the old days.

His return Paramount date is a record no one else has set. It seems that Harry Levine, theatre talent selector and Bob Weisman, managing director of the Paramount house,

agreed that no one but Louis Jordan has stimulated so their patronage in the last five years—that is no one but Frank Sinatra! So they booked him and his band to come back in less than 3 1/2 months. In addition, they're trying to find a way to get the inimitable Jordan in pictures under their own banner. They claim that every star built has signed with another studio. Harry James with MGM; Frank Sinatra with RKO, and so on. Their scout, Boris Kaplan, interviewed Jordan during his three weeks at the theatre and suggested that his studio might cast him in a comedy role as a musician and an actor. But they put in their bid to be sure they get him for Paramount! Meanwhile, Louis, untouched by



Outstanding Quartet contributes its unusual talent to A. F. of L. Union Label program. Seated, left to right, Jack Manning, Bruce Bratton, Hector Sonderland, Bernard Lentow, First row standing, Jackson Beck, Guy Rupp, I. M. Olanoff, John Moore.

Union Label Quartet Of Durham On Radio Broadcast

The Union Label Trades Department of the American Federation of Labor sponsored a broadcast "Together We Fight" over the standard broadcasting system on about 22 The Union Label quartet of the Tobacco Workers' National Union, Local No. 201, of Durham, N. C., accompanied by instrumental music, rendered the background songs during the entire radio program. This popular Negro quartet showed unusual facility in rendering popular songs as well as well as Southern melodies and spirituals.

The history of the Union Label Shop Cards and Service Stations was dramatized on this radio broadcast. J. M. Olanoff, Secretary Treasurer of the Union Label Trades Department, made a short address after the quartet sang "This

Big Three Unit ALL SET FOR FOUR NEW YORK (AP)—Its coming your way. The celebrated Big Three Unit, starring the Ink Spots, America's famous quartet; Ella Fitzgerald, the nation's No. 1 song stylist; Slim Thompson, top in jazz, and Duke and Duke ("It Ain't No Joke") backed up by Cootie Williams, the Growl Trumpet King and His Orchestra with blues singer Bob Merrill.

The four calls for dates in Gary, Ind.; Detroit, Mich.; Toledo, Cleveland, Columbus, Akron, Youngstown and Dayton, Ohio. Also engagements in South Bend, Indiana, Pittsburgh, Pa., Washington, D. C., Hartford, Connecticut and Boston, Massachusetts. At the Paramount Theatre here the unit set an all-time new high in attendance and every set was a solid show-stopper, according to manager Bob Weisman.

Attendance Record Smashed By Billy Eckstine And Orchestra

A brilliant new star has flashed on the "name band" horizon. It's the romantic singing maestro Billy Eckstine and his sensational new orchestra, now playing to jam-packed theatres all over the country. In Detroit, Cleveland, Washington and other key cities, attendance records have been shattered from opening day on.



BILLY ECKSTINE

— such a downright "natural" wonder why it hasn't happened before. Young Billy is gifted with an exciting baritone singing voice that swept him to stardom fame through four years' nation-wide tour with Earl Hines' acclaim and personal following are immense. It was Walter Winchell who wrote in his column: "Billy Eckstine's blues singing racks like the Bronx Express." Abel Green, famed editor of "Variety" magazine, chose Billy for the Photo "Bill of Fame" radio program, designating him as the most promising of new singers.

SOME OBSERVATIONS

and Home Economics Extension Agents. "North Carolina stands second among the fifteen Southern States in the size of its Negro Extension personnel. This has been made possible because of the encouragement, leadership and general support of Boards of Commissioners, the State Government, and the State Extension Administration. I doubt" says Mr. Jones in his annual report to Dean I. O. Schaub, Extension Director, State College, Raleigh, North Carolina, "that there is any State where Negro Extension work receives the consideration that it does before the General Assembly, and the current General Assembly has been no exception. "Negro Extension work will go forward and greater opportunities will come because of this attitude on the part of North Carolina's leadership and the good relationship that exists between the races here in the State. We all recognize our obligations and responsibilities in this connection." One can readily see the important part Negro ruralists are taking in this phase of human development, so the writer will say more in the future relative to the report of Mr. Jones.

SEEIN' STARS With Dolores Calvin

NEW YORK CITY (AP)—W. C. Handy knows nothing of Dolores Calvin's life. Last week, this column announced that Tommy Dorsey, famous band leader, wanted to do a musical on the life of W. C. Handy out in Hollywood as soon as he and his brother, Jimmy, got through work on their current picture. Well, up until Wednesday this week, W. C. Handy, our Father of the Blues, heard a word from him about it. We called Handy Brothers Music Publishing Company on Broadway and he said he knew exactly what it was all about. He said the composer is himself. W. C. Handy. He said that if Dorsey was planning anything about him, he should know about it. He said that he had written him a letter when he heard the news but hadn't yet received an answer. "I'm not dead yet," he belittled, "and I've two more out and a publishing business on Broadway's work. I work every day so if they intend doing anything, they can always find me. We can talk and hang up."

ON THE TOWN — Cozy Cole, now dancing for "The Seven Lively Arts," Billy Hirsch, who has given up all thoughts on the tour he planned to make with comedy June Bagdikian as his vocalist when the two ended their engagement in "Carmen Jones." He's too busy with

the "Avis" and keeping up his drum chest on West 4th Street incident. The story goes that Billy Rose, who posted "Last Weeks" signs on all advertising for "Carmen Jones," was unhappy on the road closing night. The place was jammed and Billy was sure that if he could just stay a few more days, he could still get more people to see it. "The Tempest," which moved from the Alvin recently, is at the Broadway Theatre, which housed "Carmen Jones." And meanwhile, poor Billy is still looking and searching for a new cast so "Carmen" can travel the highways.

MARVA LOUIS insists she still loves Joe and vice versa. She just turned down "Memphis Bound" (The Fore) because her manager, Bill Gramus, couldn't get the price he wanted. Louis Kauffman, Hollywood's Jewish violinist, gave a performance for servicemen at the Salvation Army's USO Center in Harlem, the largest in the country. The boys thrilled to music by William Grant Still and modern classics. Kauffman's wife, Anette, was his accompanist. She told us that the next time they came to the USO, they will give a benefit performance to help a new piano. The Director apologized that the grand piano hadn't yet been installed as they were still building. Since Brynes' record, many artists will have to

settle. "The Wings Over Jordan" group recently sailed for Europe to conduct a tour among the men of the armed forces. The A. and T. singers were selected from among a number of competing groups from Negro colleges.



The A. and T. choral society of 50 voices, directed by Prof. Coleman V. Brantley, was chosen by the Columbia Broadcasting System to participate in a nationwide back-up of 100,000 Sunday morning for four consecutive times. Beginning Sunday

to play a big role in an all-day performance of "Cinco de Mayo" at the Mecca Temple. The show was good—magnificently good. The five stars, dressed out all their own pieces to praise him, folks remembered, and when George Gershwin was eating "Porgy and Bess" the following year, a friend reminded Gershwin about Dunbar. The Rhoads in Blue" man was up to his ears in would-be Tokyo, but he listened. Dunbar sang an Italian aria and got the job.

When the show was revived a couple of seasons ago, he was once again the star. There wouldn't be a "Porgy and Bess" the producer said, without Dunbar. Before he'd been teaching, doing concert work, and skipping over to England for singing and acting stints. Then luck here, he'd done a leading role in "Cabin in the Sky."

Right this minute, Dunbar is winding up a big cross-country concert tour that had him singing atias, fieder and spirituals to rapturous audiences in nearly 75 cities. Quite a schedule. He leaves for the Latin American stint early in April. He's scheduled to play 19 cities down there, and there may be more added before he's done.

O. K., Mexico City, Guatemala City, El Salvador, San Jose, Panama City, Colon, Bogota, Barranquilla, Cali, Medellin, Quito, Guayaquil, Lima, Caracas, Montevideo, Sao Juan, Ponce, Mayaguez, and Cienfuegos. Truffalo starts complaining. Here comes "Sold" Dunbar—who can't not only sing, but can also pronounce the names of the cities where he's singing!



WYNONIE HARRIS

NEW YORK (AP)—Wynonie Harris, Wynonie Harris and Maestro Lucky Millinder are back together again to bow a parade down there, and there may be more added before he's done.

When compliment by program director Ted Williams, Una Mae smiled and said, "O, Please" And believe it or not she went right home to her suite in the Hotel Theresa and penned another tune, "O, Please!"

THAT MAN THAT SINGS THE BLUES! I SING THE BLUES!

Here comes Mr. JORDAN!

LOUIS JORDAN and his TYMPANY FIVE

Memorial Auditorium RALEIGH

Adv. Sale \$1.25 At Door \$1.50 MONDAY MAY 16th

THAT MAN THAT SINGS THE BLUES! I SING THE BLUES!