

PAUL WILLIAMS TO PLAY FOR XMAS DANCE



How Benny's Rochester Became Star Comedian Of Screen And Radio

HOLLYWOOD (AP) — Since in this week of the woods something to be ignored, but never you keep plugging it through the years. One man knows this is Eddie Anderson.

Happy-go-lucky and amiable, he is said to be the only member of the Benny cast that does not show up at the studio in white tie and tails with a top hat and an enormous topknot and a show-off's supporting cast.

Anderson holds his own as Benny's only white man. He has been negotiating all his movie contracts. Anderson has appeared in a number of pictures since "Green Pastures," some of them with Benny.

Eddie Anderson lives in a Los Angeles house complete with swimming pool which he doesn't use. He has a private theatre in the basement.

A skilled carpenter and mechanic, he spends much of his time building model airplanes and miniature engineering automobiles. He is also a breeding enthusiast and owner of a small racing stable.

His most prized steed was a 1940 yearling named Sir Lancelot named "Barred Clock." When the horse won a race at Arlington Park, Anderson showed up at MGM showing in the costume of a King of the South Sea Islands. The picture, "Green Pastures," was a success. Anderson's father, the late Benjamin, was a comedian and actor. He was a member of the Elks Club and was a member of the Elks Club. He was a member of the Elks Club and was a member of the Elks Club.

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'BROWN FRAME' CONTEST ENDS NEW YEAR'S EVE

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MARCHANT TOPS IN OPENING AT CAFE SOCIETY

By GLADYS P. GRAHAM
New York (AP) — Claude Marchant, the leading male dancer in the East, electrified Cafe Society patrons present to witness the new show last week. The expert of the Afro-Cuban rhythm was an impetuous force and received a tumultuous ovation.

Mr. Marchant evidently portrayed Yoda Mera, a champion of the Palm Beach and a waltz routines which demonstrated the perfect coordination of bodily movements set to intricate timing for which the dancer is noted.

The Cafe Society program is the first in which Mr. Marchant has been seen this season with his dance troupe. His drummer accompanied him in music arranged specially for Marchant by Patricia Anderson, composer and pianist.

Other performers on the bill were Clifford Jackson and his Serenades, The Golden Gate quartet and Jack Gilford.

La. Disc Jockey Talked His Way Into Job

Lake Charles, La. (AP) — If you can talk and say the right things you can get a job as a disc jockey even if you are a Negro in the South.

Well, that's the way disc jockey Tony Alexander got his program here in Lake Charles on the city's largest radio station, KLOU, since May when he first started the program. It has grown from a half hour once a week show to a 1-1/2 hour weekly affair.

Alexander, an ex-GI, first decided station KLOU needed a change one night when he listened to a program which he considered a bit square. His first idea was to call up the station and ask why it did not have a colored disc jockey.

First he talked it over with a newspaper man, Tommy Martin. Martin thought the idea was great, then they telephoned the program director of the station. The director invited them up to dig the idea more thoroughly.

Evidently he was sent by Alexander put down because the first program was a half hour then an hour, then an hour and a half and finally twice a week for an hour and a half.

Still growing in popularity the program seems headed for a big sale daily stint. Alexander also has two assistants, announcers these days. They are Willie Maghland and his old standby, Tommy Martin, both colored.

Alexander's program is considered real cool by his public. It features the latest records. When a leading Negro star appears in this city he is usually interviewed by Alexander over the air.

Besides his radio work, Alexander is also studying to be a radio technician at the Lake Charles vocational institute. He is married and the father of a two-month-old son.

ARBEE STIDHAM ALSO SLATED FOR HOLIDAY DANCE

Raleigh's biggest Christmas week attraction in the entertainment field is slated for Monday night when a double feature attraction, Arbee Stidham, rising young vocalist, will be presented at the Raleigh Memorial Auditorium with Paul Williams and his Men of Music.

Stidham, whose two recordings of "My Heart Belongs to You," and "I Found Out Myself" have commanded his reputation among the nation's record and juke box fans, promises to bring several new numbers to town for the Holiday week dance.

Paul Williams who brings an emotional band to the Auditorium on Monday received into the grab bag of life hoping to come up with a football or a baseball but instead grabbed on to the saxophone.

Black when he was attending Bowling Green Academy in Kenton, Ky. Paul had a burning desire to get on the school's football team but the school's coach, a former coach, explaining that he wasn't suited for any position on the team because of his height.

Later that fateful afternoon, a friend of Paul's asked him to join in and listen to the school band. That was all Williams needed to become bitten by the orchestra bug. He joined the school band and soon became good enough to take special instruction from the musical coach.

It was this initial training that kept him going through the rough years of the depression. He had to quit school before he graduated from High School and, outside of playing a saxophone, had no skill of course. So he took a job tending the sax in a Detroit band. He stuck with the small outfit until he was broke on the hopeful goal.

During the war Paul did his share in War Production Administration line between the Ford Motor Company and White head and Koles — boat makers — the instrumentals found little time to spend with his sax. Even this didn't stop him from playing with a band after work, the King Poster Orchestra.

It was Teddy Rein, musical director of Savoy records, and Joe Eames, owner of a Detroit music shop, who convinced Paul Williams that he was ready for his own band. Any doubts that Paul had were eliminated when his first Savoy record, "Hastings Street Romance," became an overnight hit.

When the record began to sell, Savoy had a contract with the Decca label. Paul Williams had to keep making happy faces, satisfied for at least a year. But why wait for his next record release when you can hear him at the Auditorium on Monday.

Farm fire losses throughout the nation will run as high as \$300,000 on any day during the Christmas holiday season unless steps are taken to reduce the fire threat, says the Fire Protection Institute.

GOSSIP OF THE MOVIE LOTS

HOLLYWOOD, CALIF. (AP) — Look for a full-length, high budgeted motion picture on the lives of Booker T. Washington and George Washington Carver.

This production is based on words of MGM's chief executive, Louis B. Mayer, to L. Jordan of the studio's publicity department.

This most promising movie came during a recess at the Hall of Records where Mr. Mayer was on hand in the Cole case, that suspended the MGM writer.

Charles Wherry, crusader for production of films on great Negroes, and I discussed the matter with Mayer. The executive read several letters suggesting the film including one from the governor of West Virginia.

As Dore Schary, producer of "Cressfire" at RKO, and now vice president at MGM, has now favored such pictures, it is probable that all he has been waiting for is a signal from his own boss.

So now you can watch the film. In fact, you may watch the MGM production department that you would like to see such a major picture.

Girl of the week is Ethel Bryant of "Kiss of the Central Avenue" star. Here she has risen up from the ranks of sales girls.

On the side she uses her own by an outside interest to help her more. She uses her own hand-drawn sketches. At this writing she and other colored girls working here are on strike for better wages.

Along with other girls of Retal Clark, AFL local 777, she is striking to break the inequality in wages given him and girls at other Kiss stores.

The Dixie Aires are in the throes of preparation for a 22-state whirlwind tour beginning in mid-January and lasting eight weeks. It was disclosed here last week. The group, which has recently jumped into popularity with juke box and record and music lovers throughout the country, are under contract with Exclusive Records, one of the most successful disc companies of the post-war era.

The Dixie Aires came into being just over a year ago when J. C. Givens, organizer of the CBS Jubilee, left that group to organize another. The quartet first caught public notice when the current record hit "So Long" was introduced. Made just a few hours before the Pettie disc ban last year, the record has hit an all-time high in national juke box circulation of 1,000 records within a month after its release.

On their tour schedule will include various army hospitals and military installations. The quartet will end on the west coast, they are expected to remain for a week's engagement.

Nitelife In New York

New York (AP) — One fails to fully realize the fine box office appeal LENA HORNE has with the folks who count, until you glance at her weekly pay-check of \$7500 when she plays in New York's ultra-swift cafe-society haunts. Sometimes, I buttonhole NOBLE SIBBLE and I think back to the days when charming Lena dreamed in terms of seeing her name in big letters the world over and with four-figure weekly paychecks. She was always a realist and hard worker — this lass whose daily wages my friend from my teenage days.

I write of her as a great artist and gracious hostess, true fighter for those of her blood line who wish to rise to the better things in this Jim Crow crucible we live in, and in our own. In my book, she is a racial ambassador with portfolio just as are Joe Louis, Duke Ellington, Marian Anderson, Channing Tobias, Walter White, Paul Robeson, Adam Pow-H, Judge Royce Poole, Jackie Robinson, Ethel Carter, the Internal Avenue lead, Andy Johnson, a congressman, and scores more. That is why I unflinchingly speak of her handsome showcase on the inter-racial front, in which we see whites and Negroes working together in an effort to lessen racial hatred with that would eternalize 18,000,000 Americans of color, were everyone to sit by and give-the service alone to the issue.

There are rings, ornamental jewelry, watch bands, radios, electric clocks, nylon stockings, cameras, mirrors, etc. etc.

On the buying angle, this corporation buys anything of value from chains to all the other things we've discussed already. That is my answer to you about A to Zee. I am in position to know about the activities of this creative-minded, young man struggling for his own little emerald and diamond.

PERSONALS

BILL (Bojangles) ROBINSON, recall of top dancers, is a must see on the list of Broadway and Harlem folks. As we write, Bill is at the Capitol theatre on a bill that features LUBA MALINA, GEORGE PAXOR and ark, and a feller titled Let's Live a Little — We've met W. A. SMALL, personable and business-like representative of the Rock-O-Roll Records, located in the Corn Exchange Bldg, bids fair to make newspaper headlines some 1949. Last Sunday evening this firm sponsored a very fine affair at the Central Ballroom of 125th St. featuring vocalist, DELLA SIMPSON and her Rocket band. We had a most enjoyable time from 7 until midnight, and found Bill Small to be a swell host. The occasion was designed to acquaint more and more of the general public with Rocket records, and we've got a feeling many will be used as collector's items. We recommend, I wonder why you do me like you do, by Della Simpson and ark, ark — I Need a Little Sugar in My Bowl on reverse side by the same artist Warren Evans, voice you will remember, since a few trading numbers for this firm titled "I Just Can't Stop Loving You, and You Sweet Me Off My Feet" — MAXINE SULLIVAN, small-waisted charmer, whose singing of Scottish ballads earned her an all time spot on the American — singing scene, is currently appearing in person at Warner Bros. Strand Theatre, along with others, the King of Be-Boys, DIZZY GILLESPIE and his wild — ark, the incomparable dancing team of the BERRY BROS., DEEP RIVER BOYS, and funny man (Spider) Bice.

When Eddie Anderson was 14, he joined an all Negro troupe. Later his brother took him along on a theatre engagement. He developed into a clever singer and dancer, transforming the boards of back street theatres and honky-tonk night spots to his own.

In 1923, he got his first big break when a road manager with whom he was acquainted, went to the States and landed with the Ziegfeld vaudeville circuit opening at the World Theatre in Omaha.

After more than a decade in the variety halls, he struck out for Los Angeles, played two years at the Cotton Club there and did his bit in the movies. His first important film role was as Noah in "Green Pastures," which brought him national attention.

In 1937, the Jack Benny troupe, on a continental trip, was regarded by a Pullman porter who was a close acquaintance as a philosopher and humorist. The Benny writers conceived the idea of putting such a character in his program.

Benny agreed and the call went out for candidates. Anderson won.

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SARAH VAUGHAN MAKES TELEVISION DEBUT IN NEW YORK

New York — Sarah Vaughan, the nation's No. 1 girl singer, will appear in her first major television performance in the television debut on Toast of the Town, columnist Ed Sullivan's popular variety show, on the rapidly expanding CBS Television Network.

Miss Vaughan, whose column in Sunlight topped the top list for a year ago when she first started ascending the ladder of popularity, closed the show with her rendition of "It's Magic," the lovely ballad she originally introduced earlier this year via her best-selling "Just a Little" recording.

Miss Vaughan already has been set for a similar appearance on Toast of the Town immediately following the completion of her exciting nationwide concert tour with Illinois Jacquet's band.

Dear Al Moses.

On my way to Joe Wells for an evening of pleasure, I stopped to look into a nicely set window of the A to Zee Inc. on Seventh Avenue. Tell me Al, isn't this a novel idea for the Harlem, Lucy Thomas, NYC 32, N. Y.

Dear Miss Thomas.

You can say that again and be sure you are right in every way. Jimmy Helm is a merchant known to the rank and file of nitelite patrons and sport-conscious citizens of Harlem.

This operation, consisting of Jimmy Helm and his life-partner, Clara Helm, offer for sale items ranging from needles to giant electric fans. One has the choice of items that cover office equipment like mahogany desks.

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Willard Community In Full Program Of Post-Yuletide Activities

The Scotch Jubilee singers will appear at the Bland High School on January 9, at 8:30 P. M. Every one is cordially invited.

The Lower Sampson NAACP will meet at Bland High School on December 28 at 7:30 P. M. The public is invited to attend.

On December 29, the third grade will present a play, "Santa Claus Comes to Town." On December 16, the grammar grades presented a religious play, "The Lost Star." The audience was thrilled when they saw evidence of a very enjoyable evening. Shows were Mrs. M. A. French and Miss N. E. Brown.

On December 18, the following 4-H Club members of Bland School participated in a broadcast over Station WET. Miss Edna Branson, Harold West, Raymond Pollard, Miss Edna Johnson and Miss Ella Johnson.

Bland High School began its fall season early this year. It has played four games to date. Two against Gallant one against Barboursville and one against Clintwood. Bland won the two against Gallant High School, but the other two games were lost.

The Young People's Missionary Group of the Bland school community will give a Christmas Eve and early on December 24 at 8:30 P. M. at the home of Mrs. Virginia Bandy. The group will give presents to the needy ones of the community.

MILLINDER NOW WITH RCA VICTOR

New York (AP) — One of the latest additions to RCA Victor's specialty recording ensemble is BandLeader Lucky Millinder and his Orchestra. It was announced here recently. Millinder, a Chicago-born ex-producer of night club shows, will first appear in a dual capacity — as recording artist and as executive consultant to the recording

Ramon Bruce, Disc Jockey, Feted By Noted Maestros

Philadelphia, Pa. — Ramon Bruce, who has won fame as the Quaker City's favorite disc jockey, is being feted by noted maestros on Radio Station WJZL, recently the number one of the nation's top ten records. Bruce, who is celebrating his third anniversary as a disc jockey at a special celebration at the Powelton Cafe.

The popular plate number, which became one of radio's very first, Negro disc-jockeys when WJZL three years ago, was feted by such recording stars as Count Basie, Illinois Jacquet, Buddy Johnson, Tony Pastor, Sarah Vaughan, Ted Weems, Paul Weston, the Orioles, and the Deep River Boys.

Highlight of the celebration was the presentation to Ramon by maestro Buddy Johnson of a trophy symbolizing Ramon's selection as Philadelphia's No. 1 disc-jockey.

Jacquet Waxes New RCA Victor Recording

New York — Illinois Jacquet, the renowned Dynamite of the Saxophone, comes forth this week with a new RCA Victor recording close that promises to be one of the biggest disc hits the youthful saxman has turned out to date.

The new Jacquet platter bears two original compositions by the exciting instrumentalist, Embury, and a Jacquet for Jack The Ball boy. The latter selection was titled in honor of Ed McKenzie, famous Detroit disc-jockey, who is known as Jack The Ballboy.

Jacquet, who clicked with a number of disc hits on the Apollo, Dixie, Savoy and Aladdin labels before signing an exclusive RCA Victor contract late last year, already has established himself on the RCA Victor label with such top-sellers as King Jacques, Symphony in Sid, King Production, and Mutton Leg.

at specialty artists and repertoire, Steve Sholes.

In his necessary capacity, Millinder will scout for new talent and plans to segment Victor's rapid expansion in that field.

XMAS WEEK DANCE WEEK XMAS WEEK

DOUBLE ATTRACTION

SPECTACULAR! SENSATIONAL!!

The Nation's Newest Singing Star

ARBEE STIDHAM

My Heart Belongs To You

I Found Out For Myself

PAUL WILLIAMS and his FAMOUS ENTERTAINING ORCHESTRA

ADV. SALE \$1.50

MON. NITE Dec. 27

RALEIGH MEMORIAL AUDITORIUM

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RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA

Sun. Morn. Dec. 26-27
BIBB LANCASTER
BARBARA STANWICK
IN
Sorry, Wrong Number

Important!! See it from the beginning!! No one will be seated during the last 5 minutes.

Color Cartoon
News of the World

Tuesday
Double Mystery Show!
TOM NEAL
ALLEN JENKINS
IN
The Hat Box Mystery
AND
The Case of the Baby Sitter
PLUS
BUSTER CRABBE
IN
Raiders of Red Rock
News

Wed.-Thurs. Dec. 29-30
TYRONE POWER
RITA HAYWORTH
IN
BLOOD AND SAND

Color Cartoon
News, Flashes
AND
Chap. 7 — Daughter of Don Q
Fri. Sat. Dec. 31-Jan. 1
(Tops in Double Features!!)
SUNSET CARSON
IN
Alias Billy The Kid
PETER LORRE
VICTOR FRANZEN
IN
The Beast With Five Fingers
ALSO
Chapter 4 — King of the Forest Rangers
HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!