

Suitcase Stuff

By "Skink" Browning

HARLEM! — HELD HOLE OF MANHATTAN
The old COTTON CLUB, The New York Giants, The Savoy Ballroom are no longer a part of Harlem. The Elks Rendezvous, Connie's Inn, The Bamboo Inn, The World's Tea Room, The Little Gray Sheps, Casper Holstien's, Turf Club, Al Monroe's Uptown House, The Yeah Man and Fritz Pollard's ole Poosepotuck went with the wind years ago. Such muscle men as Bub Hewlett, Desverny and Blue are around no more. Nationally known playboys as Willie Bryant, SAM OWENS, Mal Frazier, C. T. Collins and the late Dick Wheeler slipped away from the glamour of a decade ago and entered the professions or a worthwhile business. With the exception of a few other minor changes, HARLEM remains just about as it was twenty five years ago.

JAMPACK 600,000 LIVING, LOVING AND DYING units of humanity live in an area of only three square miles. Set this seething unmanageable mass smack down in the middle of the mightiest metropolis in the world. Throw in some marijuana for spice. . . add mayhem and mugging for flavor, sweeten with sex, garnish with murder and what have you got? HARLEM! !! A city within a city. A hunk of real estate set off by Sugar Hill (where the professionals and well-to-do live), 125th St. (a kaleidoscope of blinking neon signs screaming "Beer", "Whiskey", "Beds"), East Harlem (where a buck will buy anything from a woman to muscle-for-hire) and Lenox Avenue (where the cats meet their clicks and get their kicks from the augmented rhythms of cool combos that mellow the tune down to the right beat.

In the bright glare of daylight, Harlem is unable to hide the layers of littering and broken down tenements that comprise most of its acreage but as soon as OL ESOL sinks behind the New Jersey Palisades and the moon rises over the Triboro Bridge, the region turns into a sinister world of vice and corruption. . . During the last war, Harlem was off limit to some soldiers. There are some fine residential areas of course, as in any other community, but they do not predominate. Most of Harlem is a jungle.

A swelled number of Negroes have been placed in high positions, but the overflow of small town and rural people are lost in the millions of souls who flock to the dumping ground of the world. Real New Yorkers live in a small community and seldom patronize the public dance halls and honky tonks. Harlem is tough. Police are even wary about patrolling its streets alone at night. They walk in pairs. You never know what might happen underneath that Harlem moon. Very few of the summer crowd that flood the area for school and visits know much about Harlem. They are not there long enough to get into the doings of things that take place on the banks of the Harlem River.

Generally speaking, to get around in Harlem—you're slumming—to move in downtown, you're living, providing you can shell out the living price. To really see the sights of New York you've got to get out of Harlem, unless you'll settle for Yankee Stadium and the Triboro Bridge and what's left of the Polo Grounds.

OVER THE WEEKEND

JIMMIE REED, the guitar and harp playing singer, missed everything except the stage, while performing in Durham on the Fourth. . . Wayne Bennett, the guitar player with the Al Smith band carried him all the way. . . So fitted up was he, until a hustler stopped him in the midst of one of his feeble renditions to collect for a fifty cents drink. . . He remembered the intermission gulp and paid. . . **THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OF JOHNSON COUNTY TRAINING SCHOOL OF SMITHFIELD**, is stronger and better organized than that of most Negro colleges. Last week the Raleigh chapter, headed by president Eddie (Restful Pines) MORRIS, Sanders threw its annual summer picnic supper at the spacious and inviting RESTFUL PINES country club. Barbecued chicken and potato salad, with all the trimmings, was served to three hundred guest, that came from miles around to mix and mingle with longtime friends and classmates. . . The 28th annual picnic is set for July 20th in NEW YORK CITY. Such well-known alumni members as **THE FABULOUS FRED FORT** and wife **MABLE**, **NEIL LANGSTON**, **HAYWOOD PECKWICH** and **LENA DANCY** will head the New York delegation. . . On other big well-nitted high school alumni association is **ARMSTRONG TECH** in Washington, D. C. . . College grads nix the uninteresting upper associations to become working organs in the **TECH** organization—Their summer picnic is a solid sender. . .

Attorney **JAMES R. WALKER** and **NORTHAMPTON COUNTY** race cases. There are two cases in the federal court and one on the verge of going to the U. S. supreme court. Where the money is coming from to fight these cases is the 64 dollar question. The local citizens of Halifax and North Hampton counties have been pouring it in the till alone, without remote citizens around the state realizing that it is also their fight. Organizations and churches have rallied to out-of-state civil rights legal actions and adjustments, but a letter to **SUITCASE STUFF** reveals that the Northampton county situation has been passed by leaders and organizations that could lend a helping hand in directing a financial drive to support court action of the three cases now on docket. . . **CASES:** Lassiter vs Board of Elections—a case in which a Negro citizen is bringing action against the illiteracy test, which is a hangover from the old grandfather clause which was applied mainly to Negroes—Ivey vs Cole—an action against registrar Cole that refuses to allow a prominent Negro minister to exercise his right to register in the primary—The other case is against **Atty. WALKER**, who was convicted for interfering with a registrar in trying to register his client. . . Any financial help whatsoever will be appreciated by the citizens of Northampton and Halifax counties. All donations can be sent to Dr. S. J. Cochran Jr., Weldon, N. C.

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President Elder Of NCC Seeks \$573,800 Student Union Bldg.

DURHAM — North Carolina College President Alfonso Elder Tuesday asked the State Advisory Budget Commission to issue a \$573,800 Student Union Building in its capital improvements recommendations for the 1959-61 biennium. Dr. Elder justified request for the Union Building on the basis of its usefulness in "developing student initiative, wholesome values in recreation, and desirable social behavior." The building was one of eight items the NCC President recommended in an eight-point capital improvements program estimated

Miss Croom, Harold Suggs Are Married At Kinston

KINSTON — Miss Frances Loren Croom, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wilbert N. Croom, Sr. of Kinston became the bride of Mr. Harold Suggs, son of Mr. Riley Smith of New York City, at 8:30 Saturday evening, June 21, at the Saint John's Free Will Baptist Church, Kinston. Rev. Colonel W. Sutton officiated. Wedding music was presented by Mrs. Eleanor Harris, organist and Miss Dolores R. Howard, soloist.



The bride, given in marriage by her father, wore a formal length gown of white silk bombazine over interlon, fashioned with long fitted bodice, portrait neckline, that was outlined with hand sewn pearls over scalloped lace details and the traditional long sleeves ending in calla points over the hands. Her bouffant skirt featured lace panels. She carried a white prayer book outlined with white feathered carnations centered with a white orchid. Miss Glyndora Croom, sister of the bride wore a ballerina length dress of two-tone yellow chiffon, designed with low square neck and

\$338,240 for the biennium. Next largest item was \$300,000 request for underground wiring. The project would modernize the NCC power facilities and remove "present unsightly and uneconomical" above the surface wiring. Other projects recommended to the Commission included waterproofing Administration Building and re-roofing Annie Day Shepard Dormitory and Women's Gymnasium, \$21,000; Helen's Gymnasium, \$11,000; Cafeteria Renovations, \$10,000; Alterations in Science Building, \$25,840; P. N. Duke

Auditorium Annex, \$14,500; and sidewalks and parking areas, \$10,000.

Anticipating early utilization of a projected \$500,000 dormitory for senior and graduate women, Elder sought \$32,000 in cafeteria renovations. He said present facilities for two lines are inadequate for 900 present boarding students. Additional 150 students from the new dormitory would justify the requested two lines.

The NCC educator told the commission that the college's growth makes it necessary to consider a more economical wiring system. Speaking in support of the \$200,000 recommended for underground wiring, Dr. Elder said: "Throughout the years as our college developed, no systematic and efficient plan of providing electric power on our campus has been followed."

"Power has been supplied by connecting a building to whatever pole or source that was nearest to the building. When our campus was small, there was no need for great concern in this matter. Our program and campus have expanded without adequate planning for electric power. As a consequence, we now have a confused system which is uneconomical, un-

sightly, and unsuitable for present and future needs.

"In addition, because of our expansion, our campus can no longer be considered safe without adequate campus lighting."

Limited renovation is now in process on the college's Science Building. The sum presently available from 1957 appropriations is \$65,200, but NCC officials are seeking an additional \$25,840.

The supplemental appropriation is necessary to put the Science Building "into desirable shape for a reasonably high quality of instruction" the commission was told. It was explained that some essentials were omitted when the contract was cut to fit funds available.

Additional funds for the Science Building would help "add items of equipment and repair which should have been included in the original estimate but were not included because the original appropriation was entirely inadequate for our needs."

Members of the Commission's party listed to visit NCC were: Sen. J. C. Engles, Jr., Wilson; Sen. Nelson Woodson, Salisbury; Rep. Carl Venters, Onslow; Rep. William F. Womble, Forsyth; Rep. Kemp Douglass, Alleghany; Sen. J. W. Opeland, Murfreesboro; Paul A. Johnston, Raleigh, director of Administration; Davis S. Coltrane, Raleigh, State Budget Officer; L. D. Moore, Raleigh, Assistant State Budget Officer; and Frank Turner, Raleigh, Chief of the State Property Control Division.

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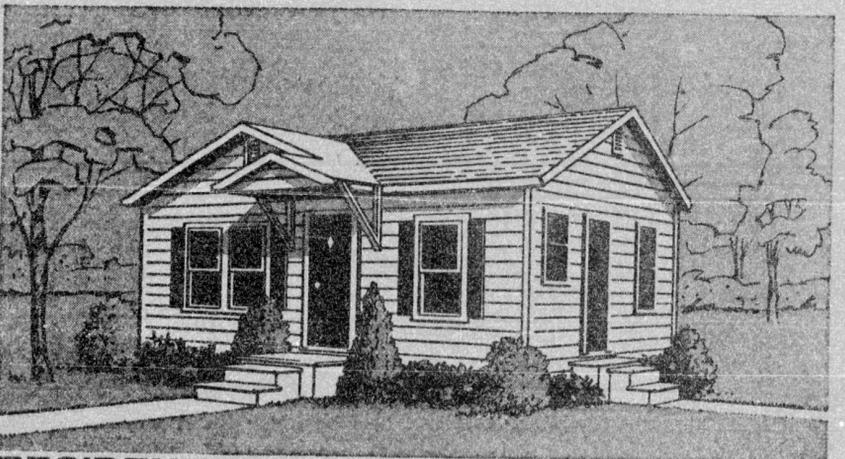
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World Happenings

TO TRACK SPACE VEHICLES

PASADENA, Calif. — The construction of an eighty-five foot Radio antenna to be built soon will be the first ground equipment to track trips of space vehicles. The bowl-shaped contraption will solve the problem of tracking and communicating with lunar vehicles at ranges up to 250,000 miles. According to Dr. Eberhardt Reinert, chief of guidance research at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory here, lessons learned from the United States satellites would be used in building the antenna which is to be placed on the Mojave Desert in California.

ANNUAL JAZZ JAMBOREE ATTRACTS 12,000

NEW YORK — The third annual jazz jamboree held here in Lewisohn Stadium Saturday last was attended by 12,000 fans. Louis Armstrong and his All-Stars, Lionel Hampton and his Orchestra, Anita O'Day and her Trio were the participating musicians. The finale brought together all the musicians.

LOWER FALL AND WINTER PRICES ANNOUNCED

CHICAGO — Sears, Roebuck & Co. have officially announced a lowering of prices on the average to be carried in their fall and winter catalogue. The average over-all price cut is said to be 1.5 per cent, the largest average price decrease being in house furnishings.

Montgomery Ward & Co. and Spiegel, Inc. have also announced similar price reductions.

GHANA TO HAVE AIRLINE

ACCRA, Ghana — The new African nation of Ghana will set up its own airline, Ghana Airways, Ltd., which is scheduled to begin operations on July 16th. The airline is being set up by the British Overseas Airways Corporation. A weekly service between London and Accra, the capital of Ghana, will be furnished.

The new nation is so proud of its forthcoming accomplishment that it plans to issue postage stamps in its commemoration. The stamps will feature an eagle with a plane in the background, and the words: "Airway of Ghana Airways" and "July 1958" inscribed.

"TRUE DEMOCRACY" OR THE REDS

KAMPALA, Uganda — "It is important that Africa not become a football for a match between East and West." These were the words of Kenya statesman Tom Mboya, African member of the Kenya Legislative Council. The occasion was the Pan-African Students Conference held here last Tuesday. Mboya warned that Africa might become Communist if the Western powers did not introduce "true democracy" for the African people. The statesman went on to say that "Ghana's independence had exposed one and for all the myth of European superiority."

The first meeting of its kind, the Pan-African Student Conference was attended by delegates from eleven African territories.

BANDA BACK TO AFRICA WITH PLEDGE

SALISBURY, Southern Rhodesia — Dr. Hastings Banda arrived here with a pledge "to fight to the death for my people" after a self-imposed thirty-year exile. The aspiring leader of the Nyasaland African National Congress was greeted by more than 4,000 wildly cheering Africans, watched by over 400 policemen. His avowed aim is to get Nyasaland out of the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland (British).

Banda is an American educated medical doctor. He left Nyasaland thirty years ago, and has practiced in London and Ghana.

GHANA'S NKURUMAH TO VISIT U. S.

ACCRA, Ghana — Prime Minister Kwame Nkrumah, at the invitation of President Eisenhower, is scheduled to visit the United States during the latter part of July. The State Department is busy planning the itinerary of the American-educated statesman while he is in the United States.

Prime Minister Nkrumah's trip, which will also include a visit to Canada, is to be commemorated by an overprinting of "Prime Minister's Visit U. S. A. and Canada" on Ghana's first stamps issued on Independence day, March 6, 1957. The National Philatelic Museum, Philadelphia, has planned a three-day Ghana Stamp Exhibition on July 25-27, in the statesman's honor. A visit to Philadelphia will be included in the State Department itinerary. Mr. Nkrumah graduated from Lincoln University and received a doctorate from the University of Pennsylvania.

INDUSTRY ON THE PRIZING IN THE CONGO

BELGIUM, CONGO — Leopoldville, a fast-rising capital with busy airport, docks, modern office buildings, apartment houses, gives all indications of a prosperous town. And so it is. The Congolese have gone full swing into industry. Their rapidly expanding economy is based on rich mines. With a production of 75 per cent of the world's cobalt and industrial diamonds, 50 per cent of the world's free supply of uranium, plus much tin, zinc, and gold, the Belgium colony is rapidly the world's richest, 205,550 square miles.

The former savage wilderness, on the last leg of its first 10-year plan, has undergone road and rail construction, airport, and schools (800) relocations, education and housing improvements. A second two-year plan is scheduled to pick up where the present plan ends in 1960.

Candidate Meets With 12 Leaders

MAGNOLIA, Ark. (AP) —

Chris E. Finkbeiner, candidate for Governor, held a question and answer session with a dozen Negro leaders last week in this south Arkansas city where Negroes make up 40 per cent of the population.

Asked about his feelings for the NAACP, he replied: "It is not doing what at the present time I think is good for the state of Arkansas."

When asked "Why?" he replied: "At the present time, any particular effort to push a situation that already strained can't possibly bring about any harmony."

He was then asked when would be the "right time." He said "Nobody has the answer, but each situation will have to be met as it presents itself. For the good of the state, I can't say when that time would be. Nobody else can."

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