

Former Chicago Bank Is Now Palace Hotel

CHICAGO, Dec. (A. N. P.)—Ten years ago the nation's lone Negro national bank and the pride of Chicago's Southside, the Douglas National bank, is today the Palace hotel for men. It made its bow as a hotel last month with William C. Johns as general manager and Roy V. Huffins, his assistant, along with 10 other full time employes.

Organized in 1922, the Douglas made history in the race's financial circle. It was empowered to issue currency as a member of the federal reserve system and played a leading role in Southside business. Then came the depression and in 1932, in common with many similar institutions of both races, it was forced to close its doors.

It's a far cry from a proud bank to a hotel for men, but the Douglas has changed into the Palace without any appreciable loss of dignity. The Palace management evidently intends to see to it that the hotel does not deteriorate into the conventional "flop house."

The lobby is thoroughly modernized with comfortable lounging chairs and streamlined bridge tables distributed tastefully about. Indirect lighting is discreetly utilized. The first floor also has a recreation parlor, lunch room, smoke shop and barber shop.

Upper floors of the Douglas bank building, which once housed headquarters of the Overton Hygienic Co., Victory Life Insurance Company and Chicago Sunday Bee newspaper as well

as private offices, now contain hotel rooms, 250 in number. Each of these rooms has a locker closet and each floor boasts six shower baths adjoining the lavatories.

Rooms with larger lockers are for residential guests and the smaller for transients. The regular central heating plant is supplemented with emergency heaters on each floor. There is just one price for accommodations in all rooms; 25 cents nightly or \$3 weekly.

Because of the acute housing shortage here and the large number of Southsiders on direct relief and WPA, the Palace hotel may be doing as well in its field as did its predecessor in the lush 30's when money was more plentiful and congestion not so great.

ADMINISTRATOR NOTICE

HAVING QUALIFIED as the administrator of the estate of Mrs. Annie C. Alston late of Durham County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons having claims against the estate of the deceased to present them to the undersigned at 1501 Fayetteville Street on or before the sixteenth day of December 1940 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment.

This the 5 day of Dec. 1939. JAMES B. ALSTON,

NOTABLE SOCIAL WORKER



K. M. Williams, associate executive secretary Southside YMCA community center, Columbus, Ohio, who after 12-1/2 years of outstanding work is signing to seek larger opportunities.

Organized to improve conditions for migrants in an industrial district after the world war Mr. Williams has guided the community center into a city wide organization of great importance. (ANP.)

Cab Calloway

Continued from page 3 sister Blanche, in the cast of a colored show, "PLANTATION DAY," which was playing at a loop theatre. Later they worked together as singers and entertainers in the Dreamland Ballroom. Then Cab left Blanche to step into the floor show at the old Sunset Cafe, then operated by Joe Glazer who became and still is LOUIS ARMSTRONG personal manager. The cast of this floor show included such colored stars as George Dewey Washington, Adelaide Hall and others.

Cab's first big chance came one night when Miss Hall was too ill to appear. She was the soloist in the most important production number of the show,

MODEL LAUNDRY and DRY CLEANERS PHONE L-1711

Down Beat Selects America's Most Favorite Artists

CHICAGO—This year's annual Down Beat poll to select America's favorite swing musicians has ended, once again bringing national recognition and acclaim to many great Negro jazz artists.

Ballots of more than 14,000 musicians were tabulated in two months' voting, and final results, to be published in the January issue of Down Beat, will put Coleman Hawkins, tenor sax; Charlie Christian, guitar; Fletcher Henderson, arranger, and vocalist Ella Fitzgerald all on his 1939 All-American band of bands.

Hawkins, favorite of a decade ago, surprised the swing world by running off with top honors in the tenor sax division, having returned to America only in August after several years of comparative obscurity abroad. Hawkins won out over Chu Berry, Lester Young, Bud Freeman and Eddie Miller in the heaviest voting the poll has ever known.

Unknown a few months ago, the sensational young Negro guitarist, Charlie Christian, now with Benny Goodman's band, skyrocketed to the top of the heap to run off with guitar honors. Christian beat out such stellar box men as Floyd Smith (with Andy Kirk), Freddie Green (with Count Basie) and Teddy Bunn, Allen Rebus and Carmen Mastren.

Fletcher Henderson topped the arrange sport with a total of singing "THE SONG OF THE WANDERER." At once Cab volunteered to substitute and did so well and with such complete success that he became the official understudy for the entire cast. This caused him to double for someone just about every night. Earl Hines, who has an orchestra of his own now, was at the piano while Louis Armstrong played the trumpet in that Sunset orchestra. Calloway's personality made him popular with the boys in the band. At times they would permit him to play the drums, again to sing vocal choruses, and at times would allow him to "mess around" in front of the band stand, improvising syncopated dance steps and beating time with wildy arms and swaying body.

(Continue To Next Week)

CHARLOTTE Social Notes

BY MRS. BESSIE HARDY

The Ladies Auxiliary to the Medical Society entertained at a Morning Bridge Party last Monday at 11:30 at the Private Club house on Magin Street. Guests included Mesdames Wm. McKissick, Alice L. Cook, G. W. Murray, Wilma L. Williams, Missouri Wilson, Doris R. a., Thelma Colston, M. L. Brewington N. L. Syphax, Ida G. Lewis, Marie McKinney, Ardrey Harn, Dorothy Atkins, Christene Brown W. O'ane Martin, Marvane Alexander, Reba Thayer, Bertha Blue, Gladys Moreland, Misses Arrelia Williams, Lola Dugas, Irma Kyles, Grace Crawford-Shirley Williams, Blanch Tyson, Edna Morris, Frances Sampson, Flora Chisolm, Hattie Russell, and Lillian Rudisell.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Cornwell, and Chester Vincent of New York City were in the city for Xmas visiting relatives and friends.

R. J. Johnson of Rocky Mount was the guest of Miss Frances Sampson at her home on East Cleophas Walker of Washington spent the holiday with his parents Mr. and Mrs. Walker on Spring Street in Cherry.

Mr. and Mrs. Lois Blakney entertained Rev. and Mrs. A. H. Price and their two daughters Dorothy and Susan at a Xmas dinner at their home of N. McDowell St.

Rev. A. H. Prince of Oaklawn Avenue left the city for Albany Ga. Friday, where he will spend the first week of the New Year.

P. H. McPhail of Danville Va. was a visitor in the city over the Xmas holidays. Mr. McPhail is Assistant District Manager of the North Carolina Mutual Insurance Co. in Danville.

Mrs. Ella M. Williams of Decatur Ala. spent Xmas with her sister and brother in law, Dr. and Mrs. J. Eugene Alexander at their home on Flint Street.

Mrs. Reba Thayer also of Decatur Alabama was the house guests of her sister Mrs. U. Adam of Johnson C. Smith University.

Dr. and Mrs. R. H. Green had as their guests during the holiday Mrs. Greens sister and nephew, Mr. Adrey Wright and son Wilba of Greensboro.

Dr. and Mrs. L. G. Bruce and Miss Mebane of Durham were in the city for Xmas while here they were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Plater of Beatties Ford Road. On Xmas Day they were the dinner guests of Dr. and Mrs. Eugene Alexander. Quite a few other Xmas parties were given for them while here.

Ruben Knob of Baltimore and New York accompanied Miss C. Withers also of New York to Charlotte for the holiday. Miss Withers is the daughter of Mrs. Elizabeth Withers and sister of Miss Madgalene Withers of Cherry. Miss Withers is making her home in New York, where is a trained nurse in the Harlem Hospital.

The Modernettes, a social club

SPENDS XMAS HOME



These winsome young ladies are Miss Helen Phelps of Statesville, left and Miss Edna Taylor, of Wilson, students of Bennett College, in Greensboro, caught by the cameraman as they were leaving Pfeiffer Hall to spend Christmas with their parents. Activities are resumed at Bennett College on January 3.

Thelma King, N. C. State College, Gwendolyn Hagan, Virginia State Natalie Tate, Robert Phillips, Albert Saxon, John L. Walker, West Virginia State and Vardry Spence, Morris Brown.

Un-Americanism May Delay Dies Appropriation

NEW YORK — Because the House Committee investigating un-American activities, under the chairmanship of Representative Martin Dies, of Texas has been conducting hearings for "more than a year, but has willfully failed to investigate the Ku Klux Klan, the Black Legion, or the question of lynching and mob violence by organized groups," the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People has asked Congress to consider this phase of the Committee's laxity before determining whether to vote funds for its continuance for another year.

The NAACP's attitude toward the Dies Committee was expressed in a letter sent out today to Speaker of the House, William Bankhead, of Ala., who appointed the committee June 7, 1938.

Pointing out that the Association has "carefully followed the proceedings of the Committee since its inception," the letter accuses the Committee of failing "either to investigate or hold hearings on the Black Legion, the Ku Klux Klan, or mob violence by organized groups."

The letter said that failure on the part of the committee to investigate these un-American activities has resulted in giving them the go signal, and this, despite the fact that the NAACP had written Dies at least five times during the committee's activity, urging an investigation of these un-American groups.

The letter gave the following dates, as the periods when these Please turn to page 7

Achievement Award Given Howard Dean

NEW YORK — A gold plaque for his achievement in being the first Negro named to a Federal judgeship, was awarded to Dean William H. Hastie, of the Howard University law school, at the 28th annual convention of the Omega Psi Phi fraternity held at the Harlem YMCA here Thursday, Dec. 28.

Dean Hastie is a member of the national legal committee of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, and has taken part in the prosecution of cases against local school boards in southern and border states, who have sought to deny Negro teachers the right to receive equal salaries for doing the same type of work as white teachers. Walter White, secretary of the NAACP paid, tribute to Hastie's legal service with the Association during past years.

Young Named

Continued from page 3

Honor Roll goes only to those who achieve above and beyond what is expected of them. It is not sufficient to do a job well. It must be done superlatively well.

"Service to Virginia is the criterion by which those on our annual Honor Rolls are judged."

"Mr. Young was cited for his contribution to interracial understanding both in the state and the South, for his journalistic accomplishments, as an interpreter to the white press of what the Negro thinks, and as a systematic campaigner for increasing opportunity for Negroes."

The paper pointed out his "national position of leadership," his membership on college and educational foundation educational foundation boards and of official positions with such organizations as the National Urban League, Negro Organization Society, Virginia and Southern Interracial Commissions, Crag House Art Center in Richmond, and listing among other recognitions given him a citation by the Harmon Foundation and the bestowal upon him of honorary doctorate degrees by Shaw and Virginia Union Universities.

He is a trustee of Howard University, St. Paul School and the Jeanes Foundation.

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