



CHARLES GRIFFIN

"Showboat," Opens at Village Dinner Theatre on September 18

Most of the cast of the Village Dinner Theatre production of "Showboat" were not even born when the classic of American Musical Comedy was first presented some forty-six years ago this month. Yet, Producer Bill Hartigan has once again achieved the impossible and has mounted the most lavish show in the history of his theatre. Truly, "Showboat" is the masterpiece of the American stage.

Advance sales at the theatre point for a record breaking run with six weeks scheduled starting on September 18th. Nine performances have already been sold out.

"Showboat" is the most beloved piece by Jerome Kern and Oscar Hammerstein II, the songs of which have been such long time favorites that they are now among our most familiar tunes.

The memorable "Old Man River," "Only Make Believe," "Why Do I Love You?" and other timeless songs in the show are woven into a story about high-spirited Magnolia Hawkes, daughter of a riverboat theatre impresario on the lower Mississippi of the 1880's, who falls lyrically in love at first sight with Gaylord Ravenal, a handsome drifter addicted to gambling. Their idyll as man-and-wife takes them to the splendors of the Chicago World's Fair of 1893, where Ravenal, feeling himself incapable of responsibility for his wife and their little girl, Kim, deserts them, leaving Magnolia to make a new life for herself. The poignant story concludes by showing Kim grown up to be a star of the modern theatre, and the wandering Ravenal returned into their lives when old and defeated.

In the current production, Laura Manning plays Magnolia, singing "Make Believe That I Love You" in duet with Lee

Evans as Ravenal, at their first meeting, which blossoms into the romance of "You Are Love" and answers the happy question of "Why Do I Love You?". She learns from her best friend, Julie, played by Diana Schuman the tell-tale song "Can't Help Lovin' Dat Man," which Julie balances with the attractions of her "Bill." All this takes place against the atmospheric backgrounds of the riverboat theatre and its roustabout's "Old Man River" sung by Charles Griffin. Amusing interludes are provided by their fellow showboat troupers, Frank and Ellie, played by Andrew Tabbat and Carole Field, describing "Life Upon The Wicked Stage" and having fun with the laconic humors of "I Might Fall Back On You."

First produced by Florenz Ziegfeld in 1927 in New York, "Showboat," an adaptation to the stage of Edna Ferber's novel, has continued ever since to be the most popular musical comedy of modern times. It has been made into a movie three times, and given full-scale elaborate stage productions in New York four times (the most recent in 1954), and is found more often than any other show on the schedules of summertime operetta seasons.

Recognition that "Showboat" had made a place for itself unique in the history of the American musical comedy stage was proved by the big revival of it that ran a solid year in New York in 1946, when it was hailed by metropolitan critics 19 years after its first production with even greater praise than when they first encountered it.

The production at the Village Dinner Theatre is being staged by Michael Davidson, its dances directed by Lori Parker and its music under the direction of Philip Gaberman, ably assisted by Patricia Huffman.



JIM BROWN has trouble with his confederates after a spectacular million and a half dollar hit on the syndicate in MGM's "The Slams." "The Slams", presented by Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, starring Jim Brown, is an action-packed drama of a convict's escape from prison to recover over a million dollars in stolen underworld money. Gene Corman produced and Jonathan Kaplan directed the screenplay by Richard L. Adams. Judy Pace co-stars in "The Slams" which was filmed on L.A. locations.

Can't Kick The Habit

NITEROI, Brazil — A Roman Catholic priest warned off a female admirer from the pulpit of his church. "Please, stop sending me love letters," he said. "I will cer-

tainly not be tempted by anything, because I've always wanted to be a priest."

When you are making pickles and want to keep them light in color, use distilled white vinegar.

Mayor Bradley To Be Honored By Congressmen

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Mayor Tom Bradley of Los Angeles will be honored at the third annual Congressional Black Caucus dinner to be held here Saturday, Sept. 29, at the Washington Hilton Inn. Senator Edward W. Brooke, the only black member of the U. S. Senate, will be the main speaker.

The Congressional Black Caucus, a non-partisan group comprised of the 16 black representatives in Congress, employs a professional staff engaged in research on the problems of America's great cities and its disadvantaged citizens with the objective of utilizing the legislative process to bring about full equality of opportunity in our society.

The 1973 edition of the benefit dinner is being coordinated by Harold R. Sims, director of Corporate Affairs, Johnson and Johnson.

A distinguished dinner committee has been assembled under the leadership of the chairman: Harvey C. Russell, vice president of Pepsi Co., Inc.; Nancy Wilson the internationally famous performer, and Leonard Woodcock, president of the United Auto Workers of America.

The planning committee has lined up an impressive array of stars from the entertainment world to perform for the 3000 guests expected to fill the International Ballroom. Academy Award winner composer-performer Isaac Hayes will join singer Johnny Nash, the Delis, poet Nikki Giovanni, and provide the evening entertainment. Co-chairing will be Nancy Wilson.

Based on the success of the first two Caucus dinners, the Dinner Committee anticipates an even greater turnout this year. As in the past, funds raised by this dinner will be used to continue a wide range of Caucus programs and research coordinated by a full-time staff under the direction of Dr. Augustus A. Adair, Executive Director.

This year the sixteen member Caucus - faced since its inception with the dual challenge of representing their respective districts as well as articulating the needs of twenty-five millions black Americans - re-oriented its priorities under the leadership of Representative Louis Stokes of Ohio. The group now focuses on its potential as a major voting bloc in the legislative machinery of the House of Representatives.

Wilkins To Dedication Of LBJ Center

NEW YORK—NAACP Executive Director Roy Wilkins on August 27 attended the dedication of the Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas, and ceremonies marking the first day of issuance of postage stamps bearing the late President's portrait. The stamp ceremonies were held at the Lyndon Baines Johnson Library in Austin.

In New York, Mr. Wilkins led the dedication August 29 of the \$9.5 million 315-unit housing complex in the Bedford-Stuyvesant section of Brooklyn that was named for martyred NAACP Mississippi Field Director Medgar Evers.

At the site of the six-story, red-brick building, Mr. Wilkins said that, "if we use our heads, as Medgar Evers did, we will have housing, jobs, black political power and all the other things we need to function in this very complex society."

Continuing, he said, "if you lose your head and blow your stack, it won't get you anywhere."

The housing development is

Marvin Gaye's New Album Turns To Gold In One Day

LOS ANGELES — "Let's Get It On," Marvin Gaye's follow-up album to his three million plus selling single of the same title, turned gold the day it was released, and is the fastest selling album in the history of Motown Record Corporation, it was announced recently by Ewart Abner, President.

In making the announcement Abner observed: "The phenomena of the situation is that orders for the album surpassed a quarter of a million dollars every hour for an eight hour period.

"The single, which is being referred to by many as the Soul National Anthem for 1973, is going strong; and the response for this album is so great that the pressing plants, even on an overtime basis, can't fill the orders."

"Let's Get It On," is a sensitive concept album dealing with the emotions of love, which has a broader range of appeal than anything previously recorded by the artist.



FSU LEADERS — Dr. Charles "A" Lyons, Jr., Chancellor of Fayetteville State University, left, talks with Charles Robinson, Student Government Association President at FSU. The two leaders held their discussion after a recent FSU Trustee Board Meeting.

also composed of a two-story commercial building that houses a day-care center as well as businesses. The project was sponsored by the Medgar Evers Housing Development Fund, Inc., a coalition of community groups. Medgar Evers was slain by a sniper in June, 1963, at his home in Jackson, Miss.

Turnbull To Speak

Rutherford H. Turnbull III, president of the Orange County Association for Retarded Children, will address the 21st Annual State Convention of the North Carolina Association for Retarded Children Sept. 22 in High Point. He will present a 1973 legislative wrap-up and 1974 preview.

Atlanta plan ruling called victory by NAACP lawyer

NEW YORK — Nathaniel R. Jones, NAACP general counsel, hailed a decision by the Fifth U.S. Circuit

after they were found guilty of eight counts of first degree murder each.

The first case, in which the defense team headed by New York Civil Rights Attorney William Kunstler has asked for a new trial, arose from the slaying of eight persons and the wounding of four others during an armed robbery last September at the Rockefeller-owned Fountain Valley golf course.

The five men convicted in that case were sentenced each to eight consecutive life imprisonment terms. The second armed robbery, at the Brauhaus Restaurant two months later, closely paralleled the Fountain Valley attack in that the four gunmen were masked and wore green fatigues.

With the two trials over, the tourist-dependent island still had investigation underway in six other murders committed within the last few months.

Court of Appeals as "an important victory" because it held that the civil rights organization could intervene in a case involving the disputed Atlanta compromise school desegregation plan. The decision, which was handed down in New Orleans, reversed a district court ruling which held that the NAACP and three other groups could not intervene

to challenge the constitutionality of the plan. The appeals court ruled that hearings on the plan should be scheduled so the district court could issue a final order by May 1, 1974.

In his statement, Jones said:

"It was our position that the Atlanta plan did not measure up to constitutional standards.

During the last 20 years, higher on-the-farm yields have enabled agriculture to increase crop production per man-hour by 140 per cent.

"TRICK BABY" AND "BLUE"

They laid the con on the wrong dudes... now the contract's out on them!

TRICK BABY

Based on the novel by ICEBERG SLIM

A UNIVERSAL RELEASE • TECHNICOLOR •

"Shake hands with 'Folies' and 'Blue', then count your fingers"

LATE SHOW SAT. 11:30 P.M.

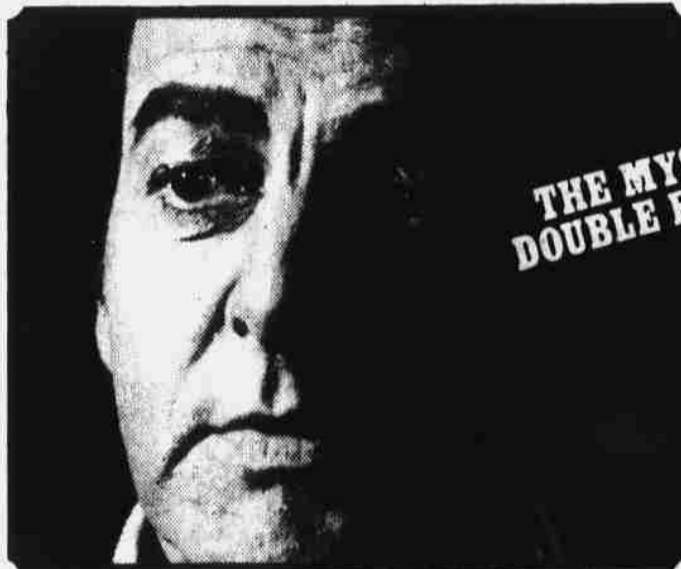
DOORS OPEN 11p.m. All Seats 2.00

yorktowne theatre

SUNDAY NIGHT THE BEST IS RIGHT HERE



AMERICA'S FAVORITE CRIMINAL LAWYER IS BACK. DEFENDING THE INNOCENT. TRAPPING THE GUILTY. MONTE MARKHAM STARS. **7:30** NEW SHOW: THE NEW PERRY MASON



PRIVATE EYE JOE MANNIX IS A SURE CRIME DETERRENT. ESPECIALLY IN THE PERSON OF MIKE CONNORS. GAIL FISHER CO-STARS. **8:30** MANNIX



JONES HAS A SECRET WEAPON IN THE FIGHT AGAINST CRIME—HIS BRAINS. BUDDY EBSEN AND LEE MERIWETHER STAR. **9:30** BARNABY JONES



SHE'S OPINIONATED. INFURIATING. AND TOTALLY IRRESISTIBLE. BEA ARTHUR IS THE LADY WITH A WHIM OF IRON. **10:30** MAUDE

THE BEST NEWS IS ALSO RIGHT HERE. CBS MORNING NEWS WITH HUGHES RUDD AND SALLY QUINN, MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY AT 7 AM. **wtd 11** Durham-Raleigh