

# Hamp, Billy Daniels On Ed The Sullivan Show Sunday

## LANGSTON HUGHES CONTRIBUTES TO OPERA "STREET SCENE"

### Playwright Joins With A. Frierson

NEW YORK (ANP) — Last Saturday evening marked the closing of the 2nd of a 5-week run of the New York City Opera, featuring strictly the work of "American" operatic composers and simultaneously celebrating its 15th anniversary as a cultural institution of regional proportions.

The emphasis on "American" opera material assumes the proportion of down-right daring due to the financial assistance in the \$100,000 bracket, of the well-known Ford foundation.

Judging from the music of "Lost in the Stars," a work of Kurt Weill, no one would surmise that this composer was capable of writing such melodious and harmonious music, and with a feeling for background to the soloists in heel, as he has in the opera: "Street Scene."

Elmer Rice wrote the libretto based on that author's own play. Langston Hughes, well-known American Negro poet, furnished the lyrics, and Andrew Frierson, a Negro baritone product of the Juilliard School of Music, sang the part of Henry Davis.

Rice could not have been more economically considerate for the high costs of staging opera, in that there was no change of scenery in the entire 3-act work. All of the action took place in one evening and the afternoon of the ensuing day in an ordinary New York City apartment house in which there dwelled some half dozen or more married couples: the Maurrains, the Fiorentinos, the Kaplans, the Osbons, the Jones, the Hildebrandes, etc.

The women folk gather in groups to carry on oft-time witty gossip, precisely as we hear it in New York City streets of today. The children also play a part in games and singing.



**MISS WATERS BACK ON TOP** — Ethel Waters, a movie actress and singer for more than two decades, has made a comeback in both the movies and on the stage. Following her appearance in the movie, "Cabin In The Sky," with such stars as Lena Horne and Eddie (Rochester) Anderson, Miss Waters went on to add a number of theatrical triumphs to her reputation. She wrote a book, "His Eye Is On The Sparrow," her autobiography, which sold millions of copies. Then came the "lean years," when there was no work for her. After appearing on several national television shows, Miss Waters is being acclaimed for her roles in "The Sound And The Fury," a movie, and "One-Woman Show," now playing in Greenwich Village, New York City.

### Open Contest For 30th Popular Songs Festival

CHICAGO — (ANP) — A popular singing star of the future may be discovered this summer in a vocal contest for popular songs, to be conducted as part of the 30th annual Chicago Folk Music Festival.

The contest is open to amateurs 16 years of age and older. Competition will be held in Chicago, and in 14 other cities where preliminary festivals will be conducted. These include Annual Night of Stars, Lake Worth, Fla.; Southern Illinois Music Festival, Carbondale.

A band concert, a variety program by the Willow Grove Elementary School, Whitakers, a choir concert, a play, "Angel Street," by the alumni of the drama guild, and a concert by the "Rudysaires, college quartet. An art exhibit will be on display throughout the week in the foyer of the auditorium. The program will end with the May Day festivities on Saturday, May 2 at 4:30 p. m.

III; WHEN Voices of Tomorrow Buffalo, N. Y.; Santa Clause Land Music Festival, Santa Claus, Ind.; Lafayette Music Festival, Lafayette, Ind.; Badgerland Music Festival, Madison, Wis.; Northeastern Wisconsin Music Festival, Green Bay, Wis.; Gary Music Festival, Gary, Ind.; Hawkeye Music Festival, Cedar Rapids, Iowa; Minneapolis Aquatennial Upper Midwest Music Festival, Minneapolis, Minn.; Ohio Area Baton Contest, Hudson, Ohio; International Music Festival, Michigan City, Ind.; Peoria Area Music Festival, Peoria, Ill.; and Kenosha Music Round-up and Festival, Kenosha, Wis.

The new contest is expected to rival the festival's yearly operatic vocal contest in the number of entrants. Some great singers have been discovered in the operatic vocal competition, which has been a part of each annual festival, sponsored by Chicago Tribune Charities, Inc.

### "Whaling" Duo Will Share Spotlight With Other Stars

NEW YORK (ANP) — Lionel Hampton and his orchestra and singer Billy Daniels will join a group of actors and entertainers who will headline "The Ed Sullivan Show" Sunday, May 3, over the CBS Television Network, 8-9 p. m., EDT.

The appearance of Hamp' and his "big band" on the show will provide jazz fans a session of top musical entertainment.

Daniels is expected to sing some of his top song hits. Joining them on the show will be songstress Gogi Grant, and the comedy teams of Wayne and Shuster and Ford and Hines.

### Miss Susie Strother:

## Female "Dee Jay" Wins "Golden Mike" Honors

NEW YORK — Susie Strother of Station WJLB in Detroit was today named winner of McCall's 8th annual "Golden Mike" award in the "service to women" category. The awards are the highest honor given exclusively to women in the radio and television field.

Miss Strother was cited in the current issue of McCall's magazine (out April 28) for her "Cradle Time" radio program. The program is planned expressly for mothers and their newborn babies.

The article says that the program "displays a concern and a kind of programming that deserves encouragement."

Miss Strother will receive her award at the McCall's Award Dinner to be held on May 2 at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel in New York City. The dinner is a traditional highlight of the annual convention of American Women in Radio and Television.

Mildred Freed Alberg, executive producer of "Hallmark Hall of Fame" (NBC-TV), was the Top Award winner in the McCall's "Golden Mike" awards.



MISS SUSIE STROTHER

### New York City Opera Presents Ward's "He Who Gets Slapped"

NEW YORK (ANP) — The New York City Opera recently presented an operatic 3-act work by Robert Ward, former member of the music theory faculty of the well-known Juilliard School of Music.

The performance was part of a five-week operatic festival featuring the work of American operatic composers. The libretto by Bernard Stambler is based on Andrejev's play, centering around Paris, France, along about 1910, over a lapse of three weeks. It is well written and the orchestrated music furnished by Ward is quite commendable.

The scenic expense is again curtailed, a mere circus rehearsal and lounging room, throughout the three acts. The circus is a small one with Briquet, the owner, who is approached by a once wealthy individual - who fails repeatedly in love - for a job as a circus clown with Briquet's group. The individual is accepted and turns out to be a great attraction for the circus. In the meantime, Zinda is not altogether satisfied with her marriage to Briquet, makes love to Bezane, equestrian member of the circus company - but is repelled.

Concurrently, Consuelo, the bareback Tango Queen is attracted to Bezane her partner in performance, but her father, a fake count Mancini who is subsequently found out, schemes to have her marry Baron Regnard, one of the "new" rich, whom Consuelo does not love. Pantaloon, the

new circus clown, tries to gain her affection but receives his usual compensation - a slap in the face.

But when the circus company is about to celebrate Consuelo's marriage to the Baron, however, Pantaloon ingeniously provides a show a European custom for ages in connection with a marital event - in which he and two other clowns play the part of Count Mancini, Baron Regnard and Consuelo, in which it is clearly brought out that the count has no money.

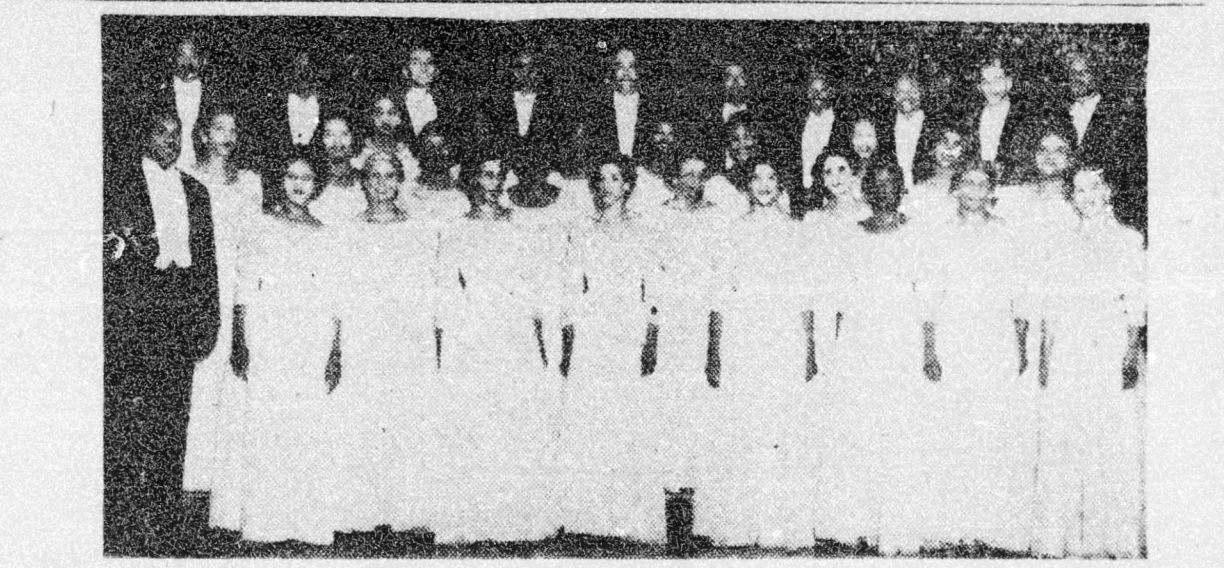
The real Baron discovers the imposture, withdraws in disgust, followed soon after by the fake Count, Consuelo, now rid of the Baron, takes solace with her circus partner, Bezane.

Thus, one sees that the subject of the opera has depth. The lyrics are smart and humorous, only pervaded occasionally with sadness. The chorus sang somewhat hesitantly, for it must be remembered that American opera is new to it, a somewhat different situation from singing choruses from traditional, operatic masterpieces.

Then too, inexpensive opera cannot afford elaborate scenery, an elaborate opera house, larger orchestra, better players and conductors. Nor are we fortunate in having composers confine their time to composing as opposed to teaching. Therefore, it would be unfair to compare Ward to Leoncavallo, who also wrote a circus opera.

Emerson Buckley, well-liked by orchestra players, conducted to the admiration of a well-filled house.

## Theatricals



COLLEGE COMMUNITY CHORALE GROUP—The College Community Chorale group of Durham is shown above. It will give a concert at St. Mark Methodist Church, New York City, on May 2 at 8:15. (See story this page).

### College Community Chorale Of Durham Presents Concert At St. Marks In NY

DURHAM — The College Community Chorale of Durham will appear in concert at the St. Mark's Methodist Church, W. 137th Street at Edgecombe Avenue in New York City on Saturday, May 2 at 8:15 P. M.

The 40-voice chorale, under the direction of Howard A. Roberts, is in its second season of concert performances, and has compiled an admirable record for superb performance in a short period of time.

Soon after its inception at North Carolina College at Durham in September, 1952, the group presented a magnificent concert in the school's E. N. Duke auditorium, and later last spring, scored a "smashing hit" as it performed for the Second Annual Congress of the International Comparative Literary Association at the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill.

More recently, the group appeared in a successful concert at Burlington, and is presently completing plans for an extended northern spring tour.

Director Roberts is a member of the North Carolina College music faculty and a versatile performer and tenor as well. He has made several New York appearances in such highly acclaimed productions as "Porgy and Bess," "Shin Bone Alley," and others, and has arranged several numbers for the chorale.

Some of the composers to be represented by the group in its New York appearance include Palestrina, Handel, Schubert, Brahms,

Parker, and Debussy and the program will also include and spirituals by Robe-

son.

NEVER HAS THE WESTERN SUN BLAZED ON SO HOT-BLOODED, SO SAVAGE A SAGA!

SUSAN HAYWARD

ACADEMY AWARD WINNER

"BEST ACTRESS"

Billings in her first role when "West To Live"

JEFF CHANDLER

at his roughest and rawest...



THUNDER IN THE SUN

JACQUES BERGERAC

Starts SUNDAY!

AMBASSADOR

### Fine Arts Festival At FSTC

FAYETTEVILLE — The observance of Fine Arts Week at the Fayetteville State Teachers College was held during the week of April 26 at the J. W. Seabrook Auditorium. The activities will culminate with May Day, Saturday, May 2.

According to Mrs. M. T. Eldridge, head, area of fine arts and music, there will be a full program of activities during the week, including

**LUNCH BREAK**—Famed tennis star Althea Gibson, making her movie debut, shares a hot lunch in the producer's office with actor William Holden in Hollywood, California. Miss Gibson appears in "The Horse Soldiers," a United Artists Release in which Holden is one of the stars. In the foreground is a copy of Miss Gibson's autobiography, "I Always Wanted To Be Somebody." (UPI PHOTO).



### Gossip of the MOVIE LOTS

HOLLYWOOD (ANP) — NOSE COME FROM A NEWS ROCKET: Loyal Hollywood Dodger fans sorely disappointed last week, when 61,552 strong, they watched the beloved "Bum" get a 6-2 licking at the hands of the (not-so-great) St. Louis Cardinals Roy Campanella, here of the star-studded opener, was wildly cheered as he tossed out the first ball. Many a famous Hollywood "name" was in the boxes, including a number of septa celebs, and big-wigs of the business and professional worlds.

**RACIAL PREJUDICE AGAIN RAISED ITS UGLY HYDRA** head, last week when the six-year-old daughter of Dr. A. Palmer Reed was barred from enrollment in a Hollywood private school because she is a Negro. He had been refused \$2,500 damages last Fall in a municipal court, then had carried it to an Appellate court.

Screen Actors guild and Screen Extras Guild are about to merge, which will make it better for the screen players, especially the ten ones who have to pay out two sets

of dues if they want to get occasional work as "extras" - as atmosphere people are called, as well as dialogue parts and bits.

**PREVIEWS OF THE WEEK:** "THIS EARTH IS MINE" A Warner Bros. Cinescope technicolor, starring Rock Hudson, Dorothy McGuire and Claude Rains. Shown at the Screen Directors Guild theatre, with cocktails and other refreshments following, it proved to be a powerful story, the never-ending battle by the small farmer against big land barons directed by Henry King, with introduction by Casey Robinson, and Claude Heilman.

"THE MAN IN THE NET," shown at the Hawaii theatre, Hollywood boulevard. Stars Alan Ladd and Carolyn Jones. Produced by Walter Parische, it was directed by the great Michael Curtiz who gave such famous sopranos as Clarence Muse, the late Bill Robinson, Nina Mae McKinney and others their many good opportunities on the Warner lot.

Seagram's 7 Crown  
The Home Ecker's Trade School of Raleigh, N.C. is sponsoring an Achievement Contest to be held at the Raleigh City Auditorium, Saturday, May 2, from 9 a. m. to 4 p. m.

### For High School Students:

## Home Eckers Sponsor Fashion Show Here Sat. Lois Bell, Model, In

The Home Ecker's Trade School of Raleigh, N.C. is sponsoring an Achievement Contest to be held at the Raleigh City Auditorium, Saturday, May 2, from 9 a. m. to 4 p. m.

Miss Lois Bell, a New York designer and model whose native home is Winslow-Salem, will appear in a Fashion Show at 1:30 p. m.

The morning will be devoted to Performance Contests in which high school seniors from various high schools throughout the State will compete. Performances will be in the areas of spelling, typing, public speaking, child development, family relationships, clothing and band.

There will be competent judges for each performance. Come and witness the performance and enjoy the superb modeling of Miss Bell in her own creations.

The proceeds will go to establish scholarships for the highest ranking students on the Performance Test. The scholarship will be awarded to those who will enter the Trade School.

The Trade School was established by a group of home economists of North Carolina for the purpose of making possible a trade education for those who are interested in this type of training. The school is licensed by the North Carolina Licensing Board of Education.

"THE HANGMAN" a Paramount thriller, Robert Taylor, Tina Louise, Patsy Parker, and Jack Lord. Screened at the Stanley Warner theatre in Beverly Hills. Also directed by Michael Curtiz. It was produced by Frank Freeman.