

Hollywood Phony On Sepia Films, Writer Charges

"Screen Portrayals False, Leave The Subject Vague"

BERKELEY, Calif.—Screen portrayals of Negro-white relations are usually false and leave their supposed subject "vague, inconclusive, and undiscussed," charges Albert Johnson, Assistant Editor of "Film Quarterly," published by the University of California Press.

In the current issue of the magazine, Johnson analyzes race relations as shown in recent movies such as "Island in the Sun," "Imitation of Life," "The World, the Flesh and the Devil," and others.

He points out that Hollywood has seized upon miscegenation or possible miscegenation as a new source of thrills. However, he notes that Hollywood so far has always falsified its portrayals of Negroes on the screen, relying on distasteful stereotypes.

Johnson maintains that the movie image of the American Negro is decades behind times. Hollywood, he suggests, should hire Negro screenwriters capable of producing real Negro characters, not just caricatures.

He also notes that Hollywood casting has steered away from putting Negro actresses in roles of Negro girls who are "passing" in the white world. The whole idea is handled with "farical cliches," he says. For instance, it was ridiculous, he declares, for Jeanne Crain to be cast as "Pinky."

He concludes that if Hollywood deals with race relations, as it should, the job should be done with more artistic integrity and less heating around the bush.

GOSSIP OF THE MOVIE LOTS

BY HARRY LEVETTE

HOLLYWOOD (ANP) — NEWS HORS D'OEUVRES: I overheard (rather eavesdropped) two young caucasians plotting in Spanish against Premier Nikita Khrushchev, when he visited Sound Stage 8 at 20th Century-Fox studio on Sept. 19. No sign of hostility, however, from Negro spectators during his visit to L. A.

SIDNEY POITIER and the cast of Columbia's big Korean War thriller, "All the Young Men," are still on location at Glacier lake in the high Sierras. Poitier is co-starred with Alan Ladd, but in the supporting cast is Ingomar Johansson, whose debut as a nactor will make one of the few heavyweight champions to have added the stage or films to their already difficult careers.

ATHLETICALLY-BUILT COLORED EXTRA players were called last week to Warner Brothers for the jungle set on the back lot, where "Rachel Cade" is in the midst of its three months shooting. They were selected and trained to portray native warriors of the Belgian Congo, locale of the story.

A number of famous sepia names are included in the group, such as New York's Frederick O'Neal, former All-American footballer Woody Strode, internationally noted Juano Hernandez; from UCLA, class president and noted athlete Rafer Johnson; "Scat Man" Crothers of stage and film fame etc.

ARCHIE MOORE, WORLD'S LIGHT REAWWEIGHT CHAMP, ION—with the \$50,000 check for his first picture, MGM's "Huckleberry Fin," safely tucked away in the bank alongside his ring earnings—has gotten into his role of "Jim," the heroic runaway slave, just like an old trouper. He had the entire 16 pages of dialogue fully memorized before he took his screen test—which he passed with flying colors.

Incidentally, Archie had just raised a mustache following his last fight, but never complained about having to shave it off for his screen test. Besides mastering the script in record time, he also read Mark Twain's famous book, from which the film story is taken.

"Never got to read it when I was a boy," he explained. "I was too busy earning a living to do much reading."

Eddie Hodges is the talented young star in the title role.

SHAPELY TALENTED DANCER Calla Scrivner—whom I escorted to "All the Young Men" kick-off party at Beverly Hills Hotel, where we were photographed with Sidney—is now working in Warner Brothers, "Rachel Cade."

Other well-known local players added as atmosphere were Play Piffy, Marie James and children twins Ronald and Donald Craig, Debra Neal and Lucille Clark. All the other stars but three are famous Negroes.

which will net her something like \$100,000 for playing before the net before basketball fans turned out to view the Harlem Globetrotters.

How's this for "showmanship" (or brotherly love or hail fellowship, etc.)? Young Martha this, Johnny that, is knowing real talent when he sees it. got a four-week engagement for Larry Daniels, also a boy-singer, after seeing the latter in a West coast club.

What's Next Dept: Here'll Archie Moore will sing yet in "Huckleberry Finn." So Mary McCarthy's fellow is looking for the laundry that shrinks Belafonte's pants.

True Saying of the Week: I guess "Nonchalance is the ability to look like an owl when you have acted like a jackass."

FROM HOLLYWOOD TO HALEM — Whatzis whatzis, Lena Horne playing second fiddle to Ava Gardner? Reports from London would have you believe that that beautiful, gigantic bouquet of roses presented to her from an English admirer were first delivered to Ava who ignored the giftgiver. He in turn reportedly demanded that Ava return the posies—and that's how they landed in Lena's lap.

Speaking of the International set, the local papers didn't let on that the infamous brawl between actor Edmund Purdom, his wife Barbara, an unknown woman and Linda Christian took place in that famed night spot owned by Brick-top in the fashionable Via Veneto section of Rome.

Althea Gibson should feel pretty good, she just signed a contract

DOROTHY MAYNOR TO SING IN DURHAM

Theatricals



FLIES TO HIS FILM'S PREMIERS — Harry Belafonte as he leaves Idlewild airport via TWA for Chicago, to attend the world premiere of his new motion picture, "Odds Against Tomorrow," on Wednesday (4) at the Woods Theatre. He will then embark on a cross-country tour on behalf of the film.

Top Soprano Accepts Nov. 11 Song Date

DURHAM—Dorothy Maynor, internationally famous soprano, will appear in concert in Durham on Wednesday evening, November 11, at 8:15 p. m. in the R. N. Duke Auditorium on the campus of North Carolina College. Her appearance is being sponsored by the Durham Chapter of the Hampton Alumni Association and proceeds will go to the National Hampton Alumni Association Scholarship Fund.

Miss Maynor has won the praise of music lovers and critics wherever she has sung. Koussevitzky called her "A Native Flagstad." Olin Downes, New York Times music critic, called her "one of the leading concert singers of her generation."

She possesses such tremendous vocal range that she sings with equal ease coloratura and dramatic arias, and the deep, tonal beauties of Negro spirituals.

Starting her musical experience singing in the choir of her father's church, Miss Maynor toured Europe with the famous Hampton Institute Choir. A dramatic appearance at the Boston Symphony Bershire Festival and a phenomenal Town Hall debut catapulted her to the front of the American concert stage.

Since then she has made six transcontinental tours and has entertained music lovers abroad. The Durham concert will mark her only appearance in North Carolina this season.

North Carolina grain is produced mostly for livestock feed rather than as a cash crop.

The average rental payment to North Carolina farmers for conservation reserve land in 1950 will be \$16 per acre.

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Jazz Anthology Features Ellington, Smith, Holiday

NEW YORK — (ANP) — Oxford University Press has published a long-needed anthology of jazz criticism, "The Art of Jazz," by Martin Williams, co-editor of "The Jazz Review."

Written during various periods dating from World War I to the present, the essays cover every phase of jazz from ragtime to swing, from boggie-woogie, hop and the blues to modern sounds. It is a field over-run writing, both

self and publicity-conscious, these are significant articles which trace the nature and development of jazz as an art form worthy of serious consideration.

There are studies of artists like Billie Holiday, Duke Ellington and Bix Beiderbecke, along with impressions of lesser-known jazz men like James P. Johnson, Big Maceo, and Cripple Clarence Lofton.

THE WEEK IN RECORDS

BY ALBERT ANDERSON FOR ASSOCIATED NEGRO PRESS

TRIBUTE TO "LADY DAY" — Of all the tributes paid to the late "Lady Day," the finest to date is a four-record LP recording by Decca titled, "The Billie Holiday Story." Featuring 24 of Billie's songs recorded between 1944 and 1950, the disc is actually a musical autobiography of the famous singer. For on it Billie again tells her musical story with the same expression and soulfulness identified with her unique voice.

From the masters which Decca assembled for this project, "Lady Day's" voice floats back across the span of time and space as she sings her famous "Lover Man" and then retreats in the deep recesses of "Solitude." Not all the tunes are melancholy, though, as "Crazy They Call Me," a mild swinger, indicate. Other choice numbers are "My Man" and "God Bless the Child."

Fine background music make the disc truly authentic, and a four-page word-picture story written from notes taken from her autobiography, "Lady Sings the Blues," completes "The Billie Holiday Story."

Decca has put Miss Holiday on stage again for the benefit of her countless fans with this album which should become a top collector's item.

DINAH SCORES AGAIN — Another strong entry in the popular category is "The Queen," featuring Dinah Washington on the Mercury label. Perhaps not as good as her previous disc, "The Swinging Miss D," this one nevertheless, is highly entertaining. Top number is Dinah's delightful ballad, "Make Me A Present Of You." But she also does a voiceman chere on such other tunes as "I Remember Clifford," dedicated to the late Clifford Brown, and "A Sunday Kind of Love." Four blues are also included, and the background music is subtle enough to permit Miss D to dominate the scene. A GOOD BUY.

QUINCY JONES SCORES — In the jazz category, Quincy Jones, one-time Count Basie trumpeter, makes a smashing debut with his first big bank album on Mercury with "Birth of A Band." Jones' big band reveals man of the traits of the Basie

group swingwise. Quincy is backed up by a group of able sidemen who play his arrangements expertly. Music on the disc is tons and suited for both dancing and listening. This one should click, too.

Also on the orchestral level, Tons Records is out with an album, titled "Tribute to the Big Bands," featuring a band conducted by Russ Williams. It is a sincere effort to recall the type of jazz played in the '40's, an era noted for its richness in hit tunes. "Woodchopper's Ball" is the top offering on the album, which is out in both monaural and stereo. Good, lively orchestral music.

CLASSICAL OF THE WEEK — The complete ballet of Tchaikovsky's "The Nutcracker," as played by the New York City Ballet Orchestra under the baton of Robert Irving, is presented on a two-disc LP by Kapp Records, a label that is growing steadily in popularity. Also heard on the disc are the Boy Chorists of the Little Church Around the Corner, who sing the choral parts of the ballet. Featuring rich, clear music, the LP is a fine introduction to those not acquainted with the ballet and good entertainment for others.

DATA 'N CHATTER

BY DARCY DEMILLE (ANP SYNDICATED COLUMNIST)

FROM HOLLYWOOD TO HALEM — Whatzis whatzis, Lena Horne playing second fiddle to Ava Gardner? Reports from London would have you believe that that beautiful, gigantic bouquet of roses presented to her from an English admirer were first delivered to Ava who ignored the giftgiver. He in turn reportedly demanded that Ava return the posies—and that's how they landed in Lena's lap.

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Paul Robeson Having Top Success In Britain

LONDON (ANP) — Now living in London, singer-actor Paul Robeson is enjoying tremendous success with the British public.

In addition to playing the famous role of "Othello" at the world-renowned Avon-On-Stratford theatre, Robeson is doing 10 programs on BBC radio, which are said to be enjoying unprecedented popularity.

He is featured in a half hour of singing and conversation with Lawrence Brown, his accompanist for the past 25 years.

The internationally famous bass-baritone is scheduled to finish the "Othello" play in November. He and his family then plan to take a long rest.

Erroll Garner's Concert Sells Out Carnegie Hall

NEW YORK — (ANP) — All his life Erroll Garner wanted to be the first jazz pianist to do a solo act at Carnegie Hall, the concert palace that has thrilled to the voice of leading classical singers.

Finally when he got his chance, they had to hang up the sellout sign three days before he was due to take his place at the piano. Impresario Sol Hurok was so impressed with the \$13,000 ticket sale, and the fact that another full house was turned away at the box-office that he's dickering to put on another Garner concert in January.

From the moment he took the stage the first night until he walked offstage to the sound of thun-

dering applause, it was all Garner. With no printed program to follow, the crowd got their full share of his creative ideas and tonal colorings. In rare form he popped through two hours and fifteen minutes in his own inimitable style.

Accompanied by his bassist and drummer he played the gamut of tunes, some of which he wrote like the Hit Parade tune, "Misty," which he's become famed for on records. It's predicted that if Garner comes into this staid concert hall again in the next two months that the "all sold out sign will be hung out again."



GETS GREETED — Actor Gary Cooper straightens his bow tie as he pauses to greet fans gathered outside the Criterion Theatre here Oct. 31st. The film celebrity attended benefit premiere of his new film, "They Came to Cordura." (UPI PHOTO).

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