

KING COLE IS CENTER OF HOUSING FIGHT

Niteline In New York

NEW YORK (ANP) — EACH WEEK we publish the most interesting letter dealing with our monthly series of profiles and sketches of theatre and music-world headliners titled "Silhouettes in Bronze." From Darby, Pa., Muriel Holland, dental technician writes:—

"I enjoyed your recent sketch of Duke Ellington and my club (Athenian Girls) I wish you would do one soon on either Florence Mills; Ethel Waters or star of yesterday, Aida Overton Walker. We are making you an honorary member of our 'Patrons of the Arts' branch of our club and extend to you an invitation to visit us (at our monthly meetings) at our expense. We desire to get Mr. Ellington's newest album and are enclosing a check to cover same in addition to any expense you might be put to personally."

It is for appreciative letters like the above that we of ANP spend long hours of research. Thank you so very much, Miss Muriel Holland, the Ellington album will reach you in less than three days. We might give you an insight on what you are receiving in this connection.—

Under Columbia Recording label the famous Duke and his talented musicians have turned out... LADY OF THE LAVENDER MIST—OOPS—ON A TURQUOISE CLOUD—GOLDEN CROSS—NEW YORK CITY BLUES—HYA SUE—THREE-CENT-S'OMP—THE CLOTHED WOMAN, Billy Strayhorn, noted Ellington arranger, lends the magic of his musical effects to a number titled PROGRESSIVE GAVOTTE. Time permitting, a profile of one of the three stage celebs mentioned will appear in this column next month.

DAWN PATROL NOTEBOOK

A letter from Miss Phrasley, promotion manager of EBONY (September, issue) grants us permission to quote or reprint from its advance release sheets of this pictorial new organ, one of the country's best... Be sure to read "Ann-Brown Becomes A Norwegian"... You will thrill to its heartbeats, its sociological study of the oneness of the human family; its news picture story of love and life at its best.

The best picture we scanned from out-of-town papers was THE CAROLINIAN'S (Releigh) shot of lovely BILLIE (Lady Day) HOLIDAY and her manager (some say new hubby) JOHN LEVY. And the HERALD'S (Oakland, Cal.) double page of fotogenic de-lovelys in brown-tone... The N. Y. DAILY NEWS' shot of the finish of the Olympic 100-meter final showing HARRISON DILLARD, BARNEY EWELL and LABEACH, all colored runners, hitting the tape far in advance (two-yards) of DEAN CROMWELL'S pet, Mel Patton, often called "world's fastest human" who has linked Dillard and Ewell prior to the Olympic test over this route.

JOE FLORES, best pal of man-about-town LAWRENCE (Sonny) LAFORTE, of Lotus restaurant and Elks rendezvous, can whip together any Spanish dish you can think of counting up to 1-2-3... His pal likes curried-plates as does his well known dad, Bill LaForte Sr., nationally known maitre-de-hotel now at New York's swell eating spot, KING OF THE SEA.—

CAB CALLOWAY, got a terrific hand after finishing the first show at the ROXY THEATRE the day we caught the show when the doors opened at 10:30 A. M.—The "Four Cabaleers", a part of the show that Cab dominates, can hold their own with the best extant—

BASIE'S NEW DISC INSPIRED BY 7TH AVENUE EXPRESS

NEW YORK — Count Basie, the "Jump King Of Swing," was inspired by a famous New York subway line for his newly released RCA Victor recording of "Seventh Avenue Express," which rates as one of the most exciting Basie swingers of all time.

Cost as "Take The A Train" became a great A class classic for Duke Ellington, "Seventh Avenue Express" is expected to join the long line of Basie originals that have become

standard items in the realm of modern American music.

Basie's "Seventh Avenue Express" is unquestionably one of the most destructive pieces of music that has ever been put on wax. His arrangement and orchestral rendition, as one disc-jockey put it, gives one the impression that he is riding the subway while listening to the highly realistic Basie record.

The national peanut crop this year totals slightly more than four million acres.

Nearly 500 Ton Heel farmers have entered the 200-bushel corn products contest for 1948.

SEE THE NEW REMODELED

RALEIGH MEMORIAL AUDITORIUM

This will be the first dance in the new Remodeled Memorial Auditorium — Dance on this new finished dance floor.

MONDAY NIGHT 16 AUGUST

SPECTACULAR! SENSATIONAL!

in Person "I LOVE YOU YES I DO!" **BATTLE OF MUSIC BULLMOOSE** "SNEAKY PETE" **JACKSON and his Orchestra**

Featuring HIS FAMOUS **BUFFALO BEARCATS** **PAUL WILLIAMS** and his **FAMOUS ENTERTAINING ORCHESTRA**

Featuring **WILDY WATER** **JOHNNY COX**



The ever popular "Duke" who is expected to resume his American dates soon following his return from his European tour.

D. C. CIVIL RIGHTS GROUP ASKS GOVT. TO RENT THEATER

WASHINGTON, D. C. (G) — Describing itself as "A Civic Organization" with no interest in any particular bidder for the Belasco Theatre, but with a deep concern that no technicality should stand in the way of providing legitimate theatre, so badly needed in the nation's capital, the "Civil Rights Council" offered its services as "intermediary" in working out a suitable compromise.

To this end, the Council has addressed a letter to the Federal Works Administrator, General Philip B. Fleming, calling upon him to cut the legal red tape that retarded the summary rejection of the original bids for the Belasco Theatre, and to ask the Administration to concentrate on ways to make it possible rather than impossible to lease the Belasco.

The compromise proposed, said the letter, would offer simple protection to both the government and the bidders. Pointing out that the bidders are endeavoring to perform a real service to the government, and surely the government should be willing to meet the bidders half way.

It is well known the letter further stated, that bureaucratic red tape has strangled all efforts to have the Belasco Theatre light up when the National closed because it is could no longer operate as a jim crow house. The opening of the Belasco Theatre could symbolize a victory for democracy in at least one major internationally scandalous area in the Nation's capital. It would indicate that our government at least means to practice what it preaches.

BROADWAY CHATTER BY DAVID BETHEA HYA FOLKS!

This is the season of vacations on the main stem, but there are just as many folks around as ever, but they are mostly sightseeing vacationists who failed to discover the quietest theatre season of the year. But despite the sultry, unpredictable summer, there are always enough rumors of things to come to cut with a good sharp steak knife.

Illinois Jacquet, popular young band leader, invaded television via Daily News columnist Ed Sullivan Show on CBS Television... Recently, the Deep River Boy's Quartet scheduled to appear on Vaughn Monroe's Camel Show had to be halted by a highway patrolman to notify them that the Broadcast Local had been changed from Luma to Russell's Point, Ohio.

Life Magazine may bankroll television party on the presidential elections in November... And oddly enough, Drama may find its rightful place in America via television. It is the most popular Sunday evening video shows today... Bob Howard, Stage, Screen, and Radio Star, has just signed a five-year contract with CBS for television, at a handsome weekly sum.

Count Basie and Warble, La Holiday topped all-time record at N. Y. Strand Theatre by nailing the jackpot of \$3 grand after a \$6 grand first week... Joe Comfort will replace Johnny Miller as bassman with the King Cole Trio... and Nellie Luther comes to Cafe Society September 7, for a ten week run... Got a peep in on the movie "Key Largo" the other evening, was a little disappointed at the material my favorite stars, Edward G. Robinson, Bogart and the missus, Lauren Bacall had to work with. There may have been a time (back in he hey days of bootlegging) this corner might have been frightened by underworld antics and intrigues, but there is hardly enough room in a seething world for that now. Too bad, the "Key Largo" couldn't have imprinted this point in the hey days of bootlegging this BIRTH-O-GRAND — Sir Stork's newest song hit is a x pound leucous girl to former dancing beauty and musical comed star Nickie O'Daniels, now Mrs. L. Randolph O'Daniels, Maryland... Loads of best wishes to mother and daughter... Carl, the son of stage and screen star, Canada Lee will star in a play in September, under the name of Canada Lee, Jr... The national sweet potato crop is the smallest since 1924. A harvest of 50 million bushels is indicated.

Truck crop tonnage this summer is expected to be 7 per cent less than in 1947, but 5 per cent above average.

Whites Protest Home Purchase By Record Artist

By Leon H. Washington, Jr.

LOS ANGELES (ANP) — While the "gentlemen" from the south were filibustering in the senate against civil rights and human decency, Western "Gentlemen" banded themselves together to protest the purchase by Nat "King" Cole, leader of the world famous King Cole Trio, of a 14-room palace.

The King's 14-room palace was purchased at a cost of \$25,000. It was built for the late William Lacey, former president of the chamber of commerce.

The real estate transaction was completed Monday morning. During the period of negotiations, according to Miss Anna Winters, real estate broker representing the seller, and Joe Bradford of Smith and Canady Real Estate brokers who represented King Cole, many threats were made over the telephone and Mrs. Winters was even told that she would be "driven out of the real estate business."

Last Saturday she was told by a person who refused to state his name over the telephone that she would "meet with a serious automobile accident within a few days."

King Cole's palace is located in the fashionable Hancock park section which was known as an area of mansions among mansions. It is only two blocks from world-famous Wilshire Boulevard and Moorfield road is a direct route to Hollywood.

Calls from cranks were so frequent to the office of Miss Winters, which is located on Wilshire boulevard, that she was forced to request the Beverly Hills police department's protection. The department promised full protection.

Miss Winters stated that King Cole called her and offered any type of protection she might need including legal assistance.

Atty. Andrew J. Copp, it is said, was elected chairman of the irate residents' group which had been banded together to protest the purchase of the home.

Irving Hill, attorney representing

Cole, said the property owners' association, headed by Atty. Copp, had presented Cole an affidavit pointing out that homes in the section were covered by covenant restricting ownership to anyone not belonging to the Caucasian race.

Hill said the document stated the residents will "avail themselves of appropriate legal and equitable remedies in event of their breach."

The attorney said that his office has not given a formal answer to the affidavit, but added that in view of the recent United States Supreme Court decision outlawing race restricting covenants he believes no legal action was maintainable.

Atty. Copp declined to make a statement at this time.

Another member of the property owners' association, Atty. Harold C. Morton, said he had offered to buy back the home from Cole, either personally or with other members of the group, for the reported sale price of \$75,000 (the actual figure was \$85,000).

The offer was declined, Morton said.

REGRETS VOICED

King Cole said: "It is regrettable that this unfortunate situation has come about. I am an American citizen and I feel that I am entitled to the same rights as any other citizen and my wife and I like our home very much and we intend to stay there the same as any other American citizens."

Joe Bradford of the Smith-Canady Realty Company, who represented the buyer said, "We showed Mr. and Mrs. Cole 12 or 14 houses in Beverly Hills that were for sale, and he had to spend most of the time outgroping. We were graciously received by all, including the seller of the home, who was still in residence there."

Atty. Loren Miller, who appeared in the cases in which restrictive covenants were outlawed by the supreme court, said that King Cole is well within his rights and there is absolutely no legal action which can be brought against him. Meanwhile, Mrs. Cole is still shopping for furniture and has engaged one of the city's top-flight interior decorators.



Pic of Billie Holiday seen recently in the CAROLINIAN, rated best shot scanned from out-of-town papers by ANP.

JACQUET NOW AT "SILHOUETTE" IN THE WINDY CITY

CHICAGO, Ill. — Illinois Jacquet, the exciting "Dynamo Of The Saxophone," returns to the Windy City with his high-flying Sextette for a two-week engagement at the popular Club Silhouette, starting Saturday, August 14.

The mighty nite of the saxophone blasted every existing attendance mark in his recently concluded two-week date at the Show Boat Hotel in Milwaukee, and following his Silhouette engagement, will train his sights on New York's Roxy Theater where he will make his Broadway theater debut, starting September 9.

Currently playing a series of one-night dance dates, the youthful Jacquet registered still another rousing success in his date at the City Auditorium in Cleveland last Monday night in drawing a record crowd of more than 5000 persons.

APOLLO THEATER DUE TO PRESENT BATTLE OF SAX'S

NEW YORK (ANP) — It'll be the battle of the saxes Friday night, Aug. 13, when tenorman Lester Young moves his band into the Apollo cafe to share the bandstand with Johnny Hodges, also ace from the Duke Ellington crew, and his all-star quintet.

Making his first uptown appearance this year, Young comes to the Harlem bistro from a record breaking run of theatre and nightclub dates across the country. Playing the best horn that he has ever blown since rising to fame with Count Basie's band before the war, Young will bow in for a two-week stand.

Hodges is the winner of numerous band polls and his alto sax has been a part of the Ellington crew since the Duke's rise to fame in the late '20's. With him at the Apollo are Sonny Greer, Billy Strayhorn, Jimmy Hamilton, Junior Raglan and T-Tree Glenn, plus the vocals of Al Hibbler. All these men are connected with Duke's band and will return to his work upon his return from Europe next month.

On Aug. 20, Hodges concludes his eight week stand here and Slim Stewart and his quartet will come in for four weeks to share the musical chores with Young. Manager Bill Bruley said that Hodges' stand here was an attendance breaker and grossed slightly more than \$5,000 weekly.

JOHNSON REVUE IS NEW YORK HIT

NEW YORK — Buddy Johnson, the youthful piano maestro, won the unanimous acclaim of critics and the public alike for a brilliant stage presentation at the 125th Street Apollo Theatre in Harlem last week. Buddy instituted something new in the way of stage revues with a fast-moving show that found a vocal quartet from the band introducing each act on the bill in rhyme.

The Johnson band's showmanship, which won rave notices from all critics, was particularly evident in the rendition of "Lil' Dog," the band's popular Decca record hit, on which the entire Johnson crew left the bandstand to parade up and down the Apollo stage.

Arthur Prysock and Ella Johnson and the band's new vocal quartet, "The Four Buddies," all won enthusiastic receptions from the audience as the Johnson crew registered an all-around hit.

Lena Wins Art Critics Praise For Painting

NEW YORK CITY (G) — Loved by Lena Horne's recently concluded five-week engagement at the Capitol Theatre in New York was productive of more than just a new box-office record. Miss Horne, whisked away the hours between

Rating Hot Records

POLITICS ON WAX

Feature of the week is by Jesse Stone on Victor. Called DONKEY AND THE ELEPHANT, it's a satire on the two major parties done in calypso style. When one considers the special session of congress, it's especially timely. I'm wondering how Victor, one of the giants of the record industry, let it pass. Pairing is DON'T LET IT GET AWAY, in which Stone talks about the dollar in this period of inflation.

PIANO ON TOP:—Dink Johnson, who came out of New Orleans with the original Creole band in 1913, offers four piano sides on the American Music label. Easy and completely informal, when he isn't singing, Dink often hums to himself in a voice something like that of Dan Burley on INDIAN RAG, JELLY ROLL BLUES, FRISCO DREAMS and DINK'S BLUES. His piano has a lot of Jelly Roll Morton to it, incidentally, with the result that it gives the feeling of a honky tonk.

Eddie Heywood, on the other hand, sounds as if he's spanking ivories in a sophisticated cocktail lounge on the Victor of THE MOON WAS YELLOW, with Latin rhythm, and THE WAY YOU LOOK TONIGHT. It's excellent of this type... Altogether different from Johnson and Heywood is the fabulous Theolonius Monk who has a startling excursion into bop pianists on Blue Note called OFF MINOR. This is so unusual as to be almost weird. Flipover finds his sextet playing an exercise in bop called EVONCE.

KIDDIES' CORNER:—Tex Ritter, singer of western songs, brings the cowboy touch to an album on Capitol called "Songs For Children." The numbers are ANIMAL FAIR, I WAS BORN A HUNDRED YEARS AGO, THANK YOU, THE BIG ROCK CANDY MOUNTAINS, THE GREEN GRASS GREW ALL AROUND and CACTUS JACKSON HAD A RANCH. There are sound effects and delightful presentation. This is quite different from King Cole's recent album but the two go well together.

SWING STUFF:—Best Count Basie platter in some months is his Victor of SEVENTH AVENUE EXPRESS and READY GO. The first leaps all the way with excellent solos and some of the old K. C. fire found too infrequently these days in the Basie band. Jeanne Taylor sings the flipover and hits her stride on this bouncing rendition with torrid backing... Tex Benek's Victor of AT THE FLYING W' hops with a western accent, although the other side, A WOMAN ALWAYS UNDERSTANDS, is nothing to cause excitement... Few bands get the arrangement equat to those of Ray McKinley, and probably most wouldn't know what to do with them anyway. But Ray does and his ALL THE WAY FROM SAN JOSE is a model of quiet but effective Latin scoring, with BAHAMA MAMA having punch as it bounces with a jivey vocal and a fine alto solo.

RHYTHM SINGING:—ALSO on Victor, the Deep River Boys give hopping advice on THAT'S WHAT YOU NEED TO SUCCEED. Coupled is AIN'T MISBEHAVIN' which accents slow harmony instead of boogie rhythm... The Delta Rhythm Boys have warm melody on I CAN'T TELL A LIE TO MYSELF and then leap on MY BLUE HEAVEN, which features a bop chorus... Louis Prima's THE SAD COWBOY probably belongs in the rhythm singing class. Prima does well by this satire on western songs. Other face is the commercial BUBBLE LOO BUBBLE LOO.

BLUES AND SPIRITUALS:—Roosevelt Sykes has the best blues side of the week in the Victor of TIME WASTED ON YOU, with a fine beat and A-1 lyrics, with the flipover, HIGH AS A GEORGIA PINE, almost as good... Second place goes to Sonny Terry Capitol of the double meaning CUSTARD PIE BLUES, eight best, and the slow TOUGH WOMAN. Sonny's vocal and harmonica, along with Brownie McGhee's guitar, insure a real treat... That scouter, Crown Prince Waterford, tells all about Los Angeles on the Capitol of L. A. Blues and then reveals his love life on the lusty STRANGE WOMAN'S BOOGIE with excellent piano.

Other new platters, all on Victor, include Lil Green singing I GOTTA HAVE IT (one's supposedly talking about a cigarette) and THEM THERE EYES, the latter a rhythm tune totally unsuited for Lil's style... Tampa Red bouncing I KNOW MY BABY LOVES ME, with a fine beat and ROAMING AND RAMBLING, slow and low down... The fine folksinger, Arthur "Big Boy" Crudup shouting KATIE MAY and BOY FRIEND BLUES, both with terrific beats and the real cellar atmosphere... There is also a reissue of two marvelous and completely unaffected spirituals by the heavenly Gospel Singers, LEAD ME TO THE ROCK and HEAVENLY GOSPEL TRAIN which you ought to have by all means.

ENTERTAINMENT ON DOWNGRADE IN CHICAGO'S SPOTS

BY DAVE CLARK

CHICAGO (ANP) — Entertainment is strictly on the downgrade in the "windy city." Many spots have discontinued flesh entertainment until the fall season. Even the Regal theater will be on a strictly "frisk" policy until fall.

Club Delisa is still the south side's top spot offering a fine floor show. Joe's Deluxe club and the Ritz lounge are also putting on floor shows. Joe Williams, former Andy Kirk and Lionel Hampton crooner, heads the Ritz show.

Some of the smaller spots are featuring combo Floyd Smith is "ops at the DeSable lounge. The Tampico features Sax Mulard, Gold's, the Four Cats on the Kick; Pub, Lil Palmere; Brookmont Macomba lounge, Tom Archia; Jits lounge, Cool Breeze and the Breezes; Blue Dalia, Duke Crooner Trio; Circle Inn, George Dixon, Circle Inn, George Dixon.

Downtown pubs are clicking with terrific business while featuring septa attractions. Anna Hathaway, one of the few colored stars to play at the Chez Paree, is stopping the show nightly at this world famous ritz spot. Sarah Vaughn is great at the Blue Note.

Jimmy Dale's band, fronted by Gene "Red Top" Ammons, will tour the east coast and return to Chicago in September. Louis Armstrong and his all stars are booked for the Oriental theater text month. Carmencita Romero has opened a studio of dance, music, languages and dramatic arts on Cottage Grove Avenue.

Shows taking painting instruction, along with her young daughter, Gail.

Her last finished product, a portrait of a friend, was privately shown to several prominent art experts for criticism, and strangely enough, it evoked such marked praise, Miss Horne has been persuaded to complete a series of similar works for public exhibition.

Brice Clicks In 8th Appearance With Symphony

Carol Brice, the most sensation-home which she has purchased in American contralto sang the role of Jacoste, the legendary Greek queen again last evening before an estimated seven thousand music lovers at the Berkshire Music Festival.

The Jacoste role is part of the opera oratorio "Oedipus Rex," written by Igor Stravinsky. The performance marked Miss Brice's eighth consecutive appearance with the Boston Symphony. She performs on Sunday afternoon when she will sing her famous rendition of De Falla's "El Amor Brujo." This work is one of Miss Brice's more popular recordings which she waxed with Dr. Fritz Reiner and the Pittsburgh Symphony.

After completing this performance on Sunday, Miss Brice will return to New York and begin furnishing and decorating her new St. Albans, Long Island.

Gossip of the Movie Lots

HOLLYWOOD, Calif. (ANP) — Saw Landis "Skippy" Buford, graduate, West Virginia State college, former writer on several local sheets and publisher, dressed in rough jean coveralls and heavy work shoes, driving a tractor clearing land far from Alhambra.

"What goes Skippy?" I stammered in surprise. "You, a top newsman—?"

"I'm a well paid laboring man now," he smiled with a well fed look. It seems to him that pay with the newspaper here does not compare with rewards for labor.

Girl of the week — (she'll be surprised) — is no celebrity, socialite queen or "slick etc." She is Agnes Williams, for years, Curtis Taylor's office manager. She is the perfect receptionist, genial and accommodating. She is quite different from a conceited "jane" who seems to be working to drive the clients away in the office of an old friend of mine.

Eric Johnston, head of the Motion Picture Producers association, had publicity director Arch Reeves invite Negro studio correspondents as well as whites to his press conference last Monday.

In the field of neglected parents of celebrities, Juan Panella's father wrote me from New Orleans recently asking me to tell him to please, please write to his parents there. They saw an item about him in this column.

Reviews of the week, RKO's "Good Sam" and "Rachel and the Stranger" were both good entertainment. Would like to hear from Theodosia and Howard Washington, Marilouise George, Marnie Crawford and Reginald Fenderson, member of the London "Anna Lucasta" company.

They may radio, cable, plane or stamp me at 727 E. 24 Street, Los Angeles 7.

Lincoln

RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA

SUNDAY AND MONDAY AUGUST 15-16 Johnny Weismuller, Maureen O'Sullivan IN "TARZAN'S NEW YORK ADVENTURE" Cartoon, Comedy, News Flashes

TUESDAY, AUGUST 17 Edward G. Robinson, Orson Welles IN "THE STRANGER"

IT'S A THRILLER! ADDED MUSICAL TREAT Jingle, Jangle, Jingle Starring The Page Cavanaugh Trio Comedy — News of the Day

WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY, AUGUST 18-19 Peter Lawford, June Allison, Mel Tormé IN "GOOD NEWS"

CARTOON — METRO NEWS! ALSO CHAPTER 4 "THE VIGILANTE"

FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AUGUST 20-21

— DOUBLE FEATURE — WILD BILL ELLIOTT IN "CONQUEST OF CHEYENNE"

AND BORIS KARLOFF IN "BEDLAM"

ALSO CHAPTER 12 "THE PURPLE MONSTER STRIKES"