

PAUL WILLIAMS WINS BATTLE OF MUSIC

Rating Hot Records

MOOD ELLINGTON
For the most part, Duke Ellington's music has gone far astray from its roots in Negro life. I have no objection to good healthy experimentation, but I don't like it as an end in itself. When it becomes merely a superficial striving for effect, it's like a hollow shell. Go around back, and you find nothing but empty space.

That's the way the Duke's new Columbia album "Mood Ellington," impresses me. If the eight sides, only two are down to earth and as such catch the genuine feeling of America. One is HY'A SUE, carefree and rocking with a lot of the blues and with jaunty solos by Hodges and Tyree Glenn, who is a lighter, less vital Nanton. The other is THREE CENT STOMP, a happy hopping side in which many of the boys get off good riding solos. This is the kind of music that made Ellington great.

But the others vary from the interesting to the boring. Technique, yes, but guts, no. There's ON A TURQUOISE CLOUD, with Ray Davis' voice an integral part of the ensemble; NEW YORK CITY BLUES, a descriptive piano solo mainly; LADY OF THE LAVENDER MIST, gentle and moody; GOLDEN CRESS, with a little backbone; THE CLOTHED WOMAN, a display of keyboard technique, and PROGRESSIVE GAVOTTE probably the third best side because, among other things, you hear a lot of Carney's baritone, the mainstay of the band. You may go wild about the album; I say it's not worthy of Duke.

Still, speaking of albums, let's turn to the great Spanish composer, De Falla, whose ballet, "The Three Corner Hat," is represented in three dances recorded by Alceo Galliera conducting the Philharmonia orchestra for a Columbia album. THE NEIGHBORS is gentle, DANCE OF THE MILLEN for more vital and FINAL DANCE very exciting. Richly colored and strongly rhythmic, this should have wide appeal.

BOP AND JAZZ.—The Bop label has recorded a concert performance by outstanding artists in this field that ought to really send followers of this music. Using the title, THE HUNT, there are six sides. Howard McGhee on trumpet and Sonny Kriss on alto feature two sides, Trummy Young's trombone and Barney Kessel's guitar star on another platter and a third biscuit finds two tenor saxists, Dexter Gordon and Wardell Gray, chasing each other all over the shellac. Musically, the Kessel work is tops but the fanatics will blow their wigs over the Gordon-Gray battle.

John Hardee on Regent shows his mastery of understatement on the tenor sax as he plays the easy BABY WATCH THAT and the driving BAD MAN'S BOUNCE. This sparkles except for the vocal on the first. . . Eddie Davis, a bop tenor man who doesn't go to extremes, blows two highly interesting sides on Apollo, the easy swing SHEILA and the more explosive FOXY. Except for trying to out-squeal Jacquet, Davis does mighty fine.

Hot Lips Page debuts on Columbia with the riffy LA DANSE combining Latin with straight jazz rhythm. His growl trumpet is wild and powerful. Reverse is the blues, WALKIN' IN A DAZE, with Lips' gravel voice, a punchy tenor sax and excellent open horn in the Armstrong tradition. . . Here's another platter recorded at concert. It's 7 COME 11 by Red Norvo on Disc, a terrific bounce done informally with tremendous rhythm, excellent Slam Stewart and Norvo and unidentified trombone. It has its weak spots but the good parts are so good the rest can be overlooked.

SWING STUFF.—Joe Liggin leaps in ON SPOOKS HOLIDAY for Exclusive but the better side is a hopping version of DARK TOWN STRUTTERS BALL. . . Arnett Cobb punches out ARNETT BLOWS FOR 1300 and COBB'S BOOGIE on Apollo. Both leap all over the place with Al King's fantastic trombone cutting in for a share in the honors. . . Over shuffle rhythm, Jack McVea renders the story telling FIGHTIN' MAMA BLUES on Exclusive, then pairs it with a lot of live over Latin rhythm entitled CARLOS which never comes off. It would have been better had the piano had its say uninterrupted.

RHYTHMY SINGING.—Johnny Moore has two clean little sides on Exclusive, I'M LOOKING FOR LOVE, a blues ballad with fine guitar, and the rhythmic HUGGIN' BUG. This combo maintains its high standards. . . Both the Basin Street Boys and the backing band have an easy bounce on the Exclusive of YOU'RE MINE FOREVER, coupled with the slower and melodious NEAR TO YOU.

NOVELTY AND HYBRID.—A clever and most amusing biscuit is Arthur Godfrey's Columbia of TURKISH DELIGHT. If this doesn't bring chuckles, it's hopeless. Flipover is the hill billy number with god twists, TRAIL OF THE LONESOME PINE. . . Lennie Tristano, whose piano is loved by musicians but is confusing to most laymen, plays THROUGH THESE PORTALS and SPECULATION on Disc. Anyway, it's kin to Kenton's "progressive jazz". . . Dorothy Shay's FINISHING SCHOOL WAS THE FINISH OF ME on Columbia has much of the sparkle that brought her fame, but the flipover, MAKIN LOVE MOUNTAIN STYLE, is boring. . . Khachaturian is represented on two recordings showing the rich color and excitement of his work. They are the DAGGER DANCE, slightly skin to the Sabre Dance, waxed by the Bolshoi State Theatre orchestra, and GALOP played by the Santa Monica Symphony on Disc.

BLUES AND SPIRITUALS.—Joe Williams has the hottest blues platter, a Columbia of DON'T YOU LEAVE ME HERE and KING BISCUIT STOMP. Both pack a terrific punch over strong beat, fine vocal and marvelous harmonica. This thing smokes. . . The Dixie-Aires, a less polished version of the Elden Gaters, sing two rhythmic spirituals on Exclusive, the fast ELIJAH and the slower MY TROUBLE IS HARD. Both are excellent.

Nitelite In New York

NEW YORK (ANP) — JO FLORES, popular and genial president of the Chateau Lounge Social club, Inc., is busier than a bird dog scratching for fleas these days preparing for the first annual dance of his organization to be held Wednesday evening, Sept. 15, at cozy Club Danceland. . . Needless to say with such men as Mr. Flores George Jones Jr., Teddy Thayer, Ray Pinder, Mike Ahmed and E. Thompson throwing their full weight into every detail, they hope to make their first affair a memorable one in Harlem's gay club-life history.

Well known members of the club are Curtis Leak, secretary of the Negro National Baseball league and sort of "right arm" of Prexy UJohnny Johnson, rector of St. Michaels church; John H. Carter, Charlie McDonald, Edward Allen, Lawrence ("Sonny") LaForte, Lionel Simon, Buster Durant Jimmy Eggleton, Thomas View and Philip Holmes. . . This column wishes you and your associates much success, Joe, and remember,—we are always in-your-corner.

THELMA CARPENTER, the velvet-voiced girl for whom we predicted a brilliant future after her first appearance at the famous APOLLO THEATRE was given a swell column-story in the Sunday edition (Aug. 8) of the N. Y. Daily News.—Local nitelife and theatre-goers can never forget Miss Carpenter's rendition of an Ethel Waters hit, "Stormy Weather." It virtually made her reputation, bringing the help to her career of such notables as John Cantor to name a few.

Nitelife offers came and an after-school booking at the Black Cat club in Greenwich Village. . . Mr. Hammond spotted Thelma out of this one and she went on to the swank LE REUBAN BLEU hotspot as vocalist with Teddy Wilson's band and with the help of Count Basie and J. C. Flippen.

PRODUCER RAPS SHOW BUSINESS' STALE ROUTINES

ATLANTIC CITY (ANP) — Embarking on what may be the most spectacular phase of his colorful career as a showman and producer, Ziggy Johnson announced this week his intentions to canvass the country from college campuses to farm houses seeking undiscovered talent for his "Sensations of '48," due to go into rehearsal in six weeks.

Convinced that theatregoers and nitelife aren't patronizing the entertainment places throughout the country because they've become tired of witnessing the same chorus lines who've lost that sparkle and other acts who repeat their routines year after year, Johnson expressed his desire to revive this lost interest. He will assemble a heavy of dancing beauties, showgirls, and emcees to stage a musical that he will take across the nation.

"Something has to be done soon if show business is to survive," said Johnson in his dressing room at the Club Harlem here. "Young boys and girls don't show any interest in the stage as a career because, they too long have been discouraged by low wages, unscrupulous agents and the thousand and one hazards that go to make up show business."

"Already I've gotten many letters and pictures from young girls from various walks of life wanting to join 'Sensations.' I want all young performers to contact me here. The girls don't necessarily have to know how to dance as I will teach them myself. I think it's about time that something is done for these neglected future stars, or else we can just forget about any future at all for them."

Typical of Ziggy's style of producing, "Sensations" will be a book show with a theme and will feature music written by Ziggy and his staff. These type of shows passes out of existence when the old Cotton Club folded in Harlem years ago and the popular producer will attempt to revive them with his newest opus.

Born in Chicago where he broke into vaudeville as a chorus boy in "Get Lucky," Ziggy, who's first name is Joseph, started producing in '35 at the Plantation Club in St. Louis. His genius and flare for the sensational is largely responsible for the "Y Circus" revue there being made a national affair with stars each year begging to play this affair, which is sponsored by James E. Cook, to send children to summer camp.

Johnson is responsible for the rise of many popular entertainers in show business. He discovered Hortense Allen, who graduated from the chorus line to a future spot; Dinah Washington, singing star, and George Hudson, who fronts a topnotch ork. Each year Leroy Williams has commissioned Ziggy to produce his Club Harlem revues and this marks his fifth season here.

Sonny Thompson On Coast-To-Coast Tour

Keyboard wizard Sonny Thompson, whose original recording of "Long Gone," the nation's No. 1 "most-played, most-listened-to" record, will commence a coast-to-coast tour of ballrooms, parks, theatres and clubs in mid-August.

Returned By Popular Demand

in Person THAT MAN WITH THE GOLDEN TOUCH ON THE SAXAPHONE



EARL BOSTIC

"TEMPTATION 8's STOMP"

AND HIS ORCHESTRA

Featuring his Famous *Bostic and Slompers*

RALEIGH MEM. AUDITORIUM MONDAY NIGHT

Sept. 20

Advance Tickets On Sale At All Of The Usual Places.



TO RETURN.—Above is shown Earl Bostic, the man with the golden touch on the saxophone, who will bring his famous orchestra to the city for Raleigh's next big dance. Bostic is being returned to Raleigh by popular demand following his great success here on May 16 h.



Lonnie Johnson who is scheduled to appear for a Labor Day dance to be held in Raleigh's Memorial Auditorium. His "Tomorrow Night" continues to remain near the top among record sales.

PAUL WILLIAMS SCORES IN DANCE AT AUDITORIUM

RALEIGH—Paul Williams and his famous orchestra, or should we say sextette, literally rocked the roof of the newly remodeled Raleigh Memorial Auditorium on Monday night.

It was Williams all of the way in the battle between him and Bullmoose Jackson.

It must have been that the roof was well bolted down, for at times it seemed to swing and sway from the hot numbers Williams and his boys gave out.

Born in Louisburg, Tennessee, thirty years ago, Paul Williams' earliest ambition was to spend the rest of his life in professional athletics. To achieve this goal while in high school he tried out for the Bowling Green Academy football team. The coach took one look at him and said, "You're much too small."

Dejected Paul looked around for another school activity in which to partake. One of his friends said, "Hey, why don't you try out for the school band?" Within three months Paul was one of the star members of the Bowling Green Academy band, and on his way to a career in the music business.

It was this initial training that kept him going through the rough years of the depression. He had to quit school before he graduated high school and, outside of playing a saxophone, had no skill of course. So he took a job tooling the sax in a Detroit band. He stuck with this small outfit until the war broke up the hopeful group.

It was Teddy Reig, musical director of Savoy records, and Joe Battles, owner of a Detroit music shop, who convinced Paul Williams that he was ready for his own band. Any doubts that Paul had were eliminated when his first Savoy record, "Hastings Street Bounce," became an overnight hit.

When the record had gone into effect, Savoy had stored enough hit masters of the Paul Williams band to keep jump-happy fans satisfied for at least a year.

"Bullmoose" Jackson and his sensational Buffalo Band, the nation's top-ranking record makers for 1948, whose newest smash-hit, "I Can't Go On Without You" bids fair to surpass the tremendous popularity of their previous best-selling discs, "I Love You, Yes I Do," "Sneaky Pete," "All My Love Belongs To You" and "Bowlegged Woman," have been booked for a special 8 week series of one-nighter engagements in the south, southwest, west and midwest.

The saxophone-playing songster, who played Raleigh Monday, is heading for Georgia, Alabama, Tennessee and Virginia with the "Harlem Hit Parade Bandwagon," co-starring with Paul (35-30) Williams and his band, will commence his own "in person" tour in Pensacola, Fla., August 31st.

This will be followed by consecutive one-nighter engagements in Little Rock, Ark., Shreveport, La., Vicksburg, Miss., New Orleans, La., Port Arthur, Texas, Lafayette and Lake Charles, La., Elmerado and Camden, Ark., Fort Worth, Lufkin, Houston, Waco, San Antonio, Galveston, Austin, Dallas, Wichita Falls, Texas, Oklahoma City, Hot Springs, Ark., Tulsa, Okla., St. Louis and Kansas City, Mo.

The remaining 26 engagements, to be played in west and midwest-

Gossip of the Movie Lots

HOLLYWOOD (ANP) — Boy, oh boy, how our septa celebrities go into joyful hysterics when a column in a daily happens to casually mention his or her name (especially her) in a half paragraph of eight point type.

Clutching the little clipping and excitedly gasping for breath, he or she will gurgle, "Oh did you see what Joe Deaks said about me in this c.o.l.u.m.n?"

But if a paper of his own race announced him or ballyhooed him and his family all his life in whole pages, well—if he dropped a penny post card of thanks to the publisher, it's a miracle.

I could mention offenders, but instead I shall mention three of the most appreciative stars. These are Nellie Lucher, Louise Franklin and Marie Bryant. Louise who is Beau of Bryon and Beau, and Marie have always esteemed the tan press. Nellie, it seems, will not be afflicted with enlargement of the cranium no matter how famous she may become.

Lucius Harper of the Chicago Defender, vacationing here in California for the first time, says this state has thrilled him with its beauty. Accompanied by his wife and daughter, he is stopping at the swanky Watson hotel on the exclusive west side.

Jesse A. Graves minus 37 pounds has left the Lebanon hospital where he underwent treatment for a hart ailment. His sister arrived this week from her home in Des Moines. He missed several good roles during his hospital stay.

SPY PROBE
Red spy investigation in Washington have given several of our local septa super radicals the jumpy jitters. Next week, maybe ex-party leader Luke Rosser will have told me something about the present state of mind among this group.

Congratulations to Eddie Burbridge who was promoted last week from the double job of sports and theatricalical editor on the Los Angeles Sentinel to its managing editor. A native of New Orleans, he virtually grew up on his uncle's paper, The Louisiana Weekly.

Little Toni Harper made a terrific hit last week at the Million Dollar theater. Dizzy Gillespie packed them in at the Cricket club. Because the Rev. Clayton D. Russell was among a group of several white ministers, the group was asked to leave the Brown Derby last week. They went to a drive-in.

Bravo for Capt. Leon H. Washington who in his Sentinel editorials took a slash at sex pervasions. The recent Foster murder case was a climax of a sordid unnatural association resulting from perversion. Such abnormal persons, male or female, are a menace to young girls, weak willed wives or young boys.

DRAGS HIT
"Drag balls" encourage perverts. It is hoped that the new proprietor of the Club Congo will not stage them as the previous one did.

The new all-colored musical feature by New Yorks Bryon Anderson for Norwand pictures wound up shooting last week principally at the "Lazy L." ranch. Eunice Wilson, Joe Fluellen, band leader Autin McCoy and Bill Walker are featured players.

The future of all colored cast films is doubtful since Harry M. Popkin spent 200,000 trying to make profits in the field of 450 theaters willing to buy them at a decent rate.

It was nice chatting over old show life with the Rev. Vivienne Brown, formerly the famous Bilyve Brown, stage and night club star, now assistant pastor at the Neighborhood church. She says that Daisy Boone Markham, former secretary at Independent church, is another dancer at her church.

It is good to see my old friend Leigh Whipper back in Hollywood. Opinion is divided on the Hazel Scott bowl program, but the majority, praised her. Herb Jeffries needs plastic surgery on his forehead. It was gashed when an airplane Herb borrowed from Mickey Roney crashed near Las Vegas.

CASTING STARTS FOR NEW VERSION OF "BLACKBIRDS"

NEW YORK (ANP) — Lew Leslie soon will be casting for "Blackbirds of 1948." The fourth edition of the revue he made famous in the '30's is being written now with new skits and music by new writers and authors. Nothing definite yet, but the territory are now being booked by Gale Agency, Inc., New York, under personal supervision of Lucky Millinder, discoverer and manager of the popular "Bullmoose."

has been revealed other than the writers are at work for Leslie and he hopes to have his show on Broadway this fall. At one time, his revues were the most successful and spectacular Negro revues presented — and many colored artists — either starred or got their start with the canny showman.

Lincoln

RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA

SUNDAY AND MONDAY, AUGUST 22-23
Herbert Marshall, Joan Fontaine IN "I'VE"

(The Deadliest of Females) Cartoon — News of the Day

TUESDAY, AUGUST 24
Richard Dix, Leslie Brooks IN "THE SECRET OF THE WHISTLER"

Plus Extra Musical Specialty DESI ARNEZ BAND IN "JITTERBUMBA" COMEDY — METRO NEWS

WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY, AUGUST 25-26
DOUBLE FEATURE MANTON MORELAND IN "TALL, TAN AND TERRIFIC" ALSO KENT TAYLOR "THE SECOND CHANCE"

NEWS — NEWS AND CHAPTER NO. 5 "THE VIGILANTE"

FRIDAY AND SATURDAY, AUGUST 27-28
DOUBLE FEATURE JOHN WAYNE IN "BLUE STEEL" AND Tom Conway, Rita Corday IN "The Falcon's Alibi" ALSO CHAPTER 13 "THE PURPLE MONSTER STRIKES"

Labor Day Dance Monday September 6, 1948 Presenting Lonnie Johnson



Composer and Singer Of "Tomorrow Night" With Milton Larkin Orchestra RALEIGH MEMORIAL AUDITORIUM Advance Tickets \$1.50-At The Door \$2.00 9 P. M. Until 1 A. M.



PAUL WILLIAMS who stole the show in Raleigh on Monday night as he appeared on a twin bill at the Raleigh Memorial Auditorium with Lull Moose Jackson for the enjoyment of local dance fans at the Raleigh Memorial Auditorium.

Lucher To Play N. Y.

HOLLYWOOD — Nellie Lucher, following several successful engagements here on the coast, boarded the Chief last Sunday for New York City where important engagements will keep her active until late in the fall. Following dates at the Biltmore Hotel in Wilwood, New Jersey, and at Ciro's in Philadelphia, the "real gone gal" will open at the Apollo Theater in New York for one week and then will return to Cafe Society Downtown for ten weeks.

The last time Nellie appeared at Cafe Society she had just begun to cause excitement in the music business. It has been a little more than a year that her first records turned the entertainment world upside down and this time she will go in at ten times her original salary.