

DATA 'N' CHATTER

CHICAGO (ANP)—From Hollywood to Harlem... The question making the rounds backstage in night clubs coast-to-coast is, "why did Harry Belafonte turn down that \$55 bid to appear at the World's Fair?"

You know how it is with rumors, and one tongue starts to wag, the answers to the question gets wilder... and wilder!

Some say Harry's ill. Nonsense, we checked with his medic and Belafonte was given a clean bill of health. Others say he doesn't need the money!... ha ha... A few feel that the extra loot would go to his tax bracket and this, Belafonte (a millionaire already) does not need! There are two reasons no one (so far) has mentioned. One is that Harry's schedule doesn't allow him time to do such a show, and

secondly the hard-working entertainer just needs some extra rest this summer.

Ruth Brown gifted her dresser with a mink stole for her birthday! Ruth wasn't being impulsive... Her traveling companion for many years, who gave up a position as a registered nurse to join the Brown entourage, cut short her birthday singer became ill. Loyalty, thy holiday last year when the name is Ruth...

What's about the Frederick O'Neal-P. Jay Sidney feud? ?? Two such talented men shouldn't let a misunderstanding keep them at odds with each other.

Chicago model Andrei Cameron doesn't know what the shouting is all about, but since his photo appeared in a national magazine a

few weeks ago, all sorts of \$\$\$ offers have been pouring in. He laughingly said probably being a Negro helped. He just might have a point there. What with the "cullud" brethren popping up all over the video screens, billboards and other forms of advertising outlets, being a Negro, especially a photogenic (tall, tawny and handsome Negro) certainly is a point in his favor. The last offer Andrei received included an airplane ticket to France to attend the Cannes Film Festival, where he would have been sort of an "unofficial" public relations man for a talent agency. Chuckled Andrei, "the next time I get an offer that has a round-trip ticket home, then I'll be off in a jet!"

Hazel Scott, the world traveler who for a time called New York City home, has been making inquiries about real estate in the picturesque Bucks County (N. Y.) area. But I'd be willing to bet two books of green stamps that this does not mean that La Belle Scott is planning to return to the States for a lengthy stay. Always wise when it comes to earning (and keeping) a dollar, it just might be that Adam's former wife has her eye on a good investment!

Whatever happened to those plans (that everyone was talking about a scant year ago) that called for Diahann Carroll to star in her own television show? ??

GOSSIP of the MOVIE LOTS

BY CALLA SCRIVENER
BOB MCFERRIN SCORES IN COAST CONCERT
HOLLYWOOD (ANP)—There was a joyous sound in the Linda Opera House last week as famous Metropolitan Opera star Robert McFerrin and the California Jubilee Singers presented their "Festival of Negro Spirituals" before an enthusiastic audience which sat spellbound through the entire performance.

McFerrin and the Jubilee Singers reached their peak during the concert with such soul-stirring numbers as "Go Down, Moses," "Joshua Fit de Battle of Jericho," "Rock-a-My Soul," "I'm Gonna Tell God All My Troubles," "Ride On, King Jesus" and "De Gospel Train."

The solos were arranged by famous composer Hall Johnson. Vocal numbers were done a capella. McFerrin was featured both as soloist and with the Jubilee Singers.

Duke Ellington, Count Basie and Bennie Goodman and their orchestras will command the spotlight this Friday night when the first "Disneyland Big Band Festival" is telecast over station KTTV, Channel 11.

Duke and Count will play their favorite tunes, past and present, from various locations in the Hollywood area.

"My Childhood," a poignant and authentically autobiographical story of two great Americans, Sen. Hubert Humphrey and author James Baldwin, and now being critically acclaimed throughout the East, was presented on KTTV, Channel 11 in Los Angeles, Tuesday, June 9.

A special repeat telecast, the program represented a radical departure in style, format and technique from conventional productions. Baldwin recalls how it was to be a confused and ugly child in the ghetto of Harlem.



DOING WHAT COMES NATURALLY—High voltage smiles light the faces of Sammy Davis, Jr., and Tammy Grimes as they dance at the Richard Buxton party last week. Tammy is currently appearing in "High Spirits," a musical version of Noel Coward's "Blithe Spirit." The party took place in New York City. (UPI PHOTO).



NEW MOVIE STARTS HERE THURSDAY — It was big Hollywood news when Troy Donahue and Suzanne Pleshette, two of the screen's most popular young stars, were wed early in 1964. Here they are seen off-camera, following their honeymoon, as they prepared to start work in Warner Bros. "A Distant Trumpet," new Technicolor-Panavision action drama which opens Thursday at the Ambassador Theatre. The new release is their first joint starring vehicle since they married.

THANK YOU!

I wish to thank my many friends and supporters for their support in the last Primary for the State Senate.

Jyles J. Coggins

Say "Cool Cats" Went "Too Far Out" In N. Y.

NEW YORK (ANP)—The owner of Birdland nightclub, named for the late, great saxophonist Charlie (Yardbird) Parker and called the "Jazz Corner of the World," announced last week that he is through with "far out" modern jazz and was shifting to rock 'n' roll rhythm and blues, and dance music.

Why?

Well, said owner Oscar Goodstein, the "far out" artists have gone too far out and as a result drove away most of the regular jazz customers, mostly of whom want to dance. Until last week, when Goodstein ordered a section of the chairs removed and a dance floor inserted, there was no dancing at Birdland.

People were just content to sit and listen to the "Cool Stuff." "They just weren't dancing," one observer said. Now the emphasis seemed to have swung back to dancing, according to Goodstein, who is convinced people want to be entertained but not to dance.

Have the "way out" modern jazz artists overdone it? Yes, says Goodstein. "In the past two years jazz musicians started to go too far out. They lost their audience. People who had liked jazz a long time, said, 'I don't understand this,'" the

owner said.

He also said jazz groups were charging too much to perform at the club, with the result that they were outperforming themselves.

"I can pack the place with a big band and lose money, because the bands charge too much," he said.

Birdland's jazz shows cost from \$4,500 to as much as \$10,000 a week, the nightclub owner declared. Under his new policy, he can get his entertainment for \$2,000 a week.

The present show consists of the Jive Bombers and Eddie Dee and His Versatiles, both quartets that "play and sing and carry on" in Goodstein's words. Their performances include rock 'n' roll, rhythm and blues, jazz-tinged ballads and comedy songs projected with a strong beat, a generally raucous sound and untrifling fervor.

"The high-priced acts drive the people away," Goodstein said, "but the low-priced acts entertain and people are coming back. I've lost those who want modern music. But the audience for modern music has gone down."

LINCOLN THEATRE
RALEIGH, N. C.

STARTS SUN., JUNE 14TH
"MIGHTY URUS"
Starring
ED. FURY
—Plus—
"RIO BRAVO"

STARTS THURS., JUNE 18TH
"PAY OR DIE"
Starring
ERNEST BORGNINE
—Plus—
"CORPUS CHRISTI BANDITS"
ALLAN LANE

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THE CARPETRAGGERS

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The Man Behind The Shoe, Is The Man With Experience!

Thank You Friends

There is only one satisfaction beyond being elected to office that has been my fortune to experience, and that is the accord shown me during my candidacy for Wake County Commissioner. The friendship and vote cast for me were overwhelming. For this I am sincerely grateful.

CLARENCE LIGHTNER



CLARA WARD IN SALUTE TO PRESIDENT JOHNSON—Gospel singer Clara Ward, left, and her gospel singers enjoyed one of the biggest thrills of their career, when they sang before 17,000 spectators gathered in New York's Madison Square Garden in a special salute to President Johnson. Miss Ward and her group, who flew in from Las Vegas for the tremendous tribute to the nation's Chief Executive, were introduced by Gregory Peck. Shown on the right is comedian Jack Benny.

HEADLINES CLUB'S BILL
CHICAGO (ANP)—Singer-actor Jonny Nash scored a big hit here Friday (June 5) as he headlined a fast-paced show at the grand opening of the New Sutherland Room to start a two-week engagement at the club now being managed by veteran impresario Harold "Killer" Johnson.

Under the new management, the club, which was formerly the Sutherland Lounge, will feature big name singers, revues and music for dancing. The club formerly featured modern jazz artists and stage shows without dancing.

Nash sang many of the hits from his records and from the movies in which he starred.



Who paid enough taxes in 1963 to build classrooms for 36,500 students?



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