

STAGE
SCREEN
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ENTERTAINMENT WORLD

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Allen Brown Heard In Recital

MARY POTTER'S PIED - PIPERS



Music lovers in North Carolina have acclaimed the above group of youngsters who comprise the musical aggregation known as the "Pied Pipers" of Mary Potter Academy located in the town of Oxford. Under the direction of Prof. Hamlet E. Goore who also directs the

COMING TO TOWN



Sunset Royal Orchestra

BAND ROUTES

- INTERNATIONAL SWEET-HEARTS OF RHYTHM**
- May 21 Suffolk, Va
 - May 22 Portsmouth, Va
 - May 23 Washington, D. C.
 - May 24 Baltimore, Md
 - May 25 Alexandria, Va
 - May 26 Cambridge, Md
 - May 27 Middletown, Del
 - May 28 Wilmington, N. J.
- BROWNSKIN MODELS AND BARNEY JOHNSON'S BAND**
- Week of May 22-29 Globe Theatre, Cleveland, Ohio
- SNOOKUM RUSSELL AND HIS ORCHESTRA**
- Week of May 21-28 Scott's Theatre Restaurant, Kansas City, Mo.
- GENE POPE AND HIS ORCHESTRA**
- Week of May 21-28 Stein's Buffet Bar, Indpls, Ind.
- CAROLINA COTTON PICKERS ORCHESTRA**
- May 21 Monroe, La.
 - May 22 Joplin, Mo.
 - May 25 Wichita, Kansas
 - May 26 Junction City, Kan.
 - May 27 Tulsa, Okla.
 - May 28 Kansas City, Mo.
- CHRISTINE CHATMAN AND HER ORCHESTRA**
- May 21-22 Monroe, La.
 - May 23 New Orleans, La.
 - May 25 Pascagoula, Miss.
 - May 26 Pensacola, Fla.
 - May 28 Hattiesburg, Miss.
- RUPERT HARRIS AND HIS ORCHESTRA**
- Week of May 22-28 Club Plantation, Nashville, Tenn.

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Around The Town

WITH LIN HOLLOWAY

How you like to see a band directed by a young lady who was formerly held prisoner by the ruthless Hitler henchmen in one of his old dilapidated concentration camps which always play host to a bunch of oversized rats. In the German concentration camps all that a person has to eat is a bowl of messy mush and a piece of big black bread. Wouldn't you like to see a band directed by a beautiful young lady who has undergone this kind of punishment? You will not have to wait very long to witness this spectacle. In fact on the 28th day of May in the year 1943 which is now upon us, Miss Valaida Snow will come to Durham in the City Armory directing the Sunset Royal Orchestra. The Sunset Royal band was formerly under the direction of Doc Wheeler and the band came to Durham before with the Inkspots in two former engagements. Don't forget the time and place, Durham City Armory on Friday May 28 to see a lady who was formerly inmate in a German Concentration camp, leading one of the greatest bands in America. The dance is another Lath Alston presentation.

The wind sings its nocturnal serenade in the branches of the trees which are rapidly garbing in their spring togs of green. The birds twitter sweetly their songs of love and spring from the tree-tops. The grass burst forth from its long-winter's sleep to shade the young flowers from the warm, soothing rays of the bright sun. All the world is clothed in radiant beauty. But in the midst of all this beauty, there is sorrow every day, boys are marching away from their mother's sides to join in our fight for liberty. We must not let them fight in vain. We can do much to speed their return. We can buy defense stamps and bonds. We can batter those ratters 'til their heads get flatter by putting our money in the hands of our great government to be used to supply our fighting forces with the implements of modern warfare. Let's do our share to speed the day of

victory when the world will again be a free place for free people. BUY WAR STAMPS AND BONDS!

SEEN ON THE STROLL

While walking along minding nobody in particular's business, your truly was struck aghast on seeing one of the chicks who most indefinitely habitates the block come tearing out of the pool-parlor and strike at a gent with a cutting utensil that was about two-third nasty. Seems as though he had accused her of borrowing without asking the permission of the owner (that's the glossy way of saying stealin) when Your scribe saw the chick strike, he struck also, he struck out in the other direction. While on the stroll signs advertising the Blue Ribbon Show were seen in the most unexpected places. Included in the lineup of the Blue Ribbon entertainment unit are such favorites as Jive-man, Ralph Cooper, Earl Hines and his Orchestra, Louis Jordan and his tympanny five and a complete roster of screen, stage and radio favorites. This entire crew exhibited its talents in Raleigh at the Memorial Auditorium on Tuesday, May 11 and will hold forth from the spacious Ballroom of the Durham City Armory on Friday, May 15. The price is right and the show is right so we'll all be there. Sarah Vaughn and Billy Eckstine and Louis Jordan will be in charge of the singing chores with their respective orchestral units so the nite will be filled with music and song will be the order of the hour.

The Bull City Nite Hawks were in the well-paled hole the other nite when they were playing for the local High school Garden Party for a while. The Hawks were trying their best to please the public with two semi amateur brass-men in their line-up. Everything seemed to be going bad for the Frank Wright managed crew until the navy appeared on the scene to take the matter in hand. The cats started jumping when Prof. Cole draped his massive frame over the keyboard, Trumpetman

Tate picked up his horn and began to blow and the rest of the navy-white clad musicians took their correct places in the line-up. From that time on, there was no stopping the Hawks, and they swung some mighty fine jive till the wee-wee hours of the dawn. Hargraves knocked the bugs out with his fine sax wailing. This lad uses his entire body to bring forth melody from his too-box, especially his stomach.

THE SULTANS AND THE SERVICE

The old saying is that everything must come to a stop. It took an entire war to bring the fine jive-slinging of the Kemp Long version of the Southland Sultans to a stop. Most all of the original crew is in the armed forces or in the defense industries. The erstwhile leader, Kemp Long is now an M. P. at Fort Dix. James (Papa) Hedgepeth is in the army somewhere in Tennessee. Pap was a trombonist in the orch. James (Bear) Thoomer is now in the calvary in Texas. He was featured alto sax-man. Abe Graham, drummer for the Sultans is now encamped in New Jersey. Bill Strayhorn, bass-fiddler is somewhere with the 99th Pursuit Squadron. John (Horseface) Holloway, Jr., tenor saxophonist is a new member of the armed forces at Fort Bragg in dear old North Carolina. Henry Edmonds pianist is in defense work in Washington. Dek Judkins, also of the sax-crew is in the navy

band at Chapel Hill. Dick Peetel is in the army somewhere on manoeuvres. Silas James of the reed department is also in the navy band at Chapel Hill. All that is left-of the original crew is yours truly B. Lin H., who is expecting an invitation from Uncle Sam any day and then the entire line-up of the Southland Sultans will be swinging for victory.

NCCN Students Master Difficult Numbers In Graduation Recital

BY LIN HOLLOWAY THEATRICAL EDITOR

On Friday, May 14, 1943, the North Carolina College Department of Music presented the graduation recital of Allen Orlando Brown, pianist. A native North Carolinian, Brown has been noted in the music field since his earlier high school days. Nearly eighteen years of age he has mastered some of the most complicated compositions of the Great Masters. Included in his extensive repertoire, Brown has some of the most intricate compositions of Bach, Chopin, Liszt and other composers of like calibre. The immaturity of Brown's poise and grace at the keyboard was graphically illustrative of the care and attention students in the music departments at North Carolina receive. The complete programme included: Bach's Toccata in D Major, Schumann's Sonata, Op. 22, Brahms' Intermezzo Op. 28 in E-flat minor, Chopin's Nocturne, Op. 62 in B flat Major, the Scherzo movement from Chopin's Op. 29 in B Minor, Liszt's Dance of the Gnomes, Debussy's Reflections in the Water and Abraham Chasin's Rush Hour in Hong Kong.

Looking Around Harlem

BY DON DELEIGHBUE

NEW YORK — There has been a lot of discussion in the back-rooms around Harlem as to whether the cabaret operator in the Big Apple is on a par in thinking and in the methods he employs with the fellows who run the joints in big cities like Chicago, Detroit, Cleveland, St. Louis, Los Angeles, and other places. The question is a serious one because it involves entertainment values and hinges on the all important axis as to what is the future of Negro show business.

To get to the bottom of such a discussion, one would have to study and take into consideration certain factors and components that go to make a really hitting nightclub or cabaret. There's the question of bands, of name entertainers, of producers, of song-writers, of costuming and so on. A big name producer working on a show that will use a little known orchestra brings up one situation, and a revue that uses an unknown producer or someone out of the chorus to do that job and has all sorts of fancy costuming and no name band or attraction is another.

In Harlem the principal night clubs are Murrain's Lounge and Cabaret, Smalls Paradise, and the Elks Rendezvous. The places get the lion's share of the nightlife trade and are large enough to support top flight revues, orchestras and name entertainers. In Chicago the Rhumboogie Cafe and the DeLiza are the top spots. In Detroit the Club Congo, the Club Zombie and the Three Sixes, reported to have been close last week, are the no. nities. Washington, D. C. with its overflowing crowds of war workers, has the Crystal Caverns and the new Club Bali as its principal spots while the Plantation Club is St. Louis' main attraction.

The late Leonard Harper, one of the top producers of the generation, had most of the Harlem business locked up. He had his revue in Smalls, in Murrain's and the Elks Rendezvous. Harper in his latter years had it hard and in convincing tight fisted club owners the value of talent, had in most instances to take low on nearly every issue. Consequently, few really big names got into the clubs where his shows were on display.

The Elks Rendezvous, operated by an Italian, Johnny Barone, in the old days went all out for top names in show life. Barone, who is now in the Army and who left his business in the

care of Danny (Prince of Joy) Henry, a Negro, made it a practice of buying such acts as the Berry Brothers, Valda, Flash and Dash, Ralph Cooper, Barrington Guy, Willie Bryant, Pigneat Markham, Edna Mae Harris, Claudia McNeil, Beverly White and others. The small confines of the Rendezvous eliminated the possibility of its supporting a big name band, but Louis Jordan got his start on the bigtime there. Barone also bought time on the radio and had broadcasts nightly.

Smalls in late years hasn't featured big names either in its bands or in its entertainment. Edna Mae Holly, Norton and Norton and a few others represents the tops it has attained in this respect. One reason is that Smalls is a Harlem landmark and its bar does a tremendous business all way and all night. Consequently the piece doesn't have to depend upon topnotch entertainment to survive.

Murrain's, which is Bill Robinson's old Mimo Club, started out with a bang headlining Ralph Cooper, Eddie Rector and an all-star supporting cast with Chris Columbus' hard hitting orchestra. Murrain, an old time bar and grill owner, but making his first venture in the nightlife and entertainment field, bought acts right and left, including Jimmy Smith, the boy who dances atop an xylophone; Margaret Watkins, Norton and Norton, Babe Wallace, Willie Bryant, Thompson and Johnson, the dancers, and others.

As yet, no Harlem club has hired a name orchestra, although Smalls and Murrain's can accommodate such bands as Count Basie, Cootie Williams, and others which aren't embellished with revue units such as Cab Calloway, Lionel Hampton and Earl Hines. On the other hand, the Rhumboogie in Chicago is doing turnaway business with Tiny Bradshaw and his band and a revue headed by the Edward Sister, Bobby and Foster Johnson and the dynamic Harlem shake dancer, Verida LaSalle, the Club Congo in Detroit has had Bradshaw, the Ink Spots and similar high price bigtime acts. Other clubs have shown a similar

inclination to buy the best on the market.

The producers operating in the Harlem area are Llewellyn Crawford, protégé of Leonard Harper, Charley Davis, old timer, now working in spots at the Apollo Theatre; and Charley Morrison, Sammy Dyer of Chicago's protégé. Crawford has

(Continue on Page Eight)

Behind The Play-

It is not too much of an effort of the real baseball enthusiast to forget the whole business and buy his bleacher seat for the Cardinal-Giants game, the Yankee-Indian tilt, or even buy a box seat for a game between the Pirates and Phillies. Baseball has no color line in the customer side of the equation. Despite contrary agitation, Negro fans make up a big part of the take at various major league parks.

Notice how they jam in Griffith Stadium in Washington and at the Polo Grounds in New York? Well, these fans aren't too much interested in the spade version of the pastime to begin with if they've got to listen and read a lot of popcock and be blinded by a smoke screen that obtains in the midst of a supposedly well established business proposition such as Negro Baseball is believed to be today.

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