

# Billie Holiday Wows Harlem, Broadway

By FLOYD SNELSON  
NEW YORK — Billie Holiday, again proves convincingly and conclusively her right to the title "America's Number 1 Song Stylist," by public acclaim and popular demand, with packed audiences at every performance.



BILLIE HOLIDAY

Variety newspaper, considered the bible of critics of the stage, screen, radio and amusement world paid high tribute to La Holiday. Quote: "Billie Holiday, making her first New York appearance for some time due to legal snafus, was topliner of the new all-star show at the Apollo, in Harlem. She duplicated and tops, all previous engagements at the ace vaudeville house."

"Lady Day," as usual, didn't let them down. Superbly gowned and niftily coiffed, the noted song stylist gave out a solid song session... a thriller that had 'em begging for more.

To those in the know the Harlem playhouse, the Apollo is said to be the jinx of show business... the toughest house to please the sophisticated audience... All the past season the place has been nearly empty, until the arrival of "Lady Day," which proved to be a bonanza, which reaped a harvest of gold.

SCORES IN TELEVISION

Also appearing the same night as guest artist of the Art Ford program over W.P.L.X., New York Daily News Television. These great successes marked Billie Holiday's initial video entry here; and already other plans are underway to televise her in other extensive T. V. shows, including the Arthur Godfrey Show.

HOLIDAY ON TOUR  
Miss Holiday's next appearance include a concert in Boston, the scene of many of the noble triumphs of music masters, and the greatest artists of the day.

Joe Glazer, head of the Associated Booking Corporation is readying a tour for Billie Holiday through the Deep South, her first trip to that part of the country. Managers have been requesting her appearance there for a number of years and she is glad to fulfill their eager expectations at this time.

LATEST RECORDS OUT  
Miss Holiday has just completed a series of recordings for Decca Corporation, of whom she is an exclusive artist. An Album of Bessie Smith numbers including "Ain't Nobody's Business," "Keeps On Raintin," "Give Me A Pigfoot and A Glass of Beer," Also "Them There Eyes," and "Baby Get Lost."

## Jacquet To Appear In Atlanta

ATLANTA, Ga. — The coming one-night stand of Illinois Jacquet and his high-flying Sextete at the Memorial Auditorium in Atlanta will be marked by an assembly of this city's top disc-jockeys, who will turn out to greet the mighty mite of the saxophone in his first local appearance.

Jacquet's RCA Victor waxing of "Black Velvet," which is a big hit in every section of the country, has caused an extra special stir in this city and for the past couple of weeks has been just about the most-played record on local disc-jockey shows.

Among the Atlanta disc-jockeys who will be on hand to welcome the renowned "Dynamo Of The Saxophone" in his first local stand are Zenas Sears of WGST, Ned "Jack The Bellboy" Luken of WEAS, Don Barber of WAGA, Bob Watson of WSB and Don Elliot of WCQN.

## Four More Added To NCC Staff

The appointment of four additional faculty members at the North Carolina College at Durham was recently announced.

Dr. Alvin W. Rose, University of Chicago, Ph. D. degree-holder who received the A. B. degree from Lincoln University (Mo.) and the M. A. degree from the University of Iowa, will be professor of sociology at the college. Mrs. Addie Scott Powell, recipient of the A. B. and M. A. degrees in English from Paine College and the University of Iowa respectively, and of the B. S. degree in Library Science from the Atlanta University Library School, will join the library staff.

Substituting for Dr. Raleigh Morgan, French professor on leave for the 1948-50 term, will be Mrs. Estelle J. Himes, holder of the B. A. degree in Spanish and the M. A. degree in French from Ohio State University. James W. Younge, who received the B. S. degree from Virginia State College and the M. S. degree from the University of Indiana, will serve as assistant football coach and will be instructor of physical education.

second straight year. The ice was broken last year and the experiment was watched closely. The smoothness with which the engagement went off prompted promoter Weddie Huffman to extend the invitation once again

## First Steps Towards Polio Recovery



FIRST STEPS TOWARDS POLIO RECOVERY: It's a big day for 4-year-old polio patient Willie Shelton of Pine Bluff, Ark., who shows his happy mother how well he can walk aided by crutches and a leg-brace. Thousands of youngsters like Willie have been speeded to polio recovery with the assistance of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis now conducting a nationwide Polio Epidemic Emergency Drive for the first time in its history. High costs of providing medical care have exhausted the National Foundation's epidemic aid funds. Contributions should be sent to POLIO, care of your local Post Office.

"Baby, Don't You Cry," "I Don't Care Who Knows" and "Did You See Jackie Robinson Hit That Ball?" appears to have come up with a real smash in "Lovely In Her Evening Gown." His Decca record of the ballad, which is sung by the Johnson's band's romantic balladier, Arthur Prysock, is scheduled for release on September 15 and tremendous interest already has been aroused on the strength of that one Mutual Network airing.

## La Vaughan Is Headliner At Convention

DAVENPORT, Iowa — Sarah Vaughan was accorded another signal honor in being chosen as the headliner at the annual convention of the Tobacco Association of America, which was staged over the Labor Day week-end at the Davenport Coliseum.

The incomparable singing star who never before had made an appearance in this section of the country, was selected for this prime engagement on the recommendation of several members of the Tobacco Association's entertainment committee, who caught Sarah's recent stint at New York's Bop City and were so impressed with her performance that they practically insisted upon signing her for the convention.

Upon her return east next week, Sarah will open a brief engagement at the Rainbow Inn, New Brunswick, N. J., on Friday, September 9, and then set out on a theater tour.

## Buckner Is Back At Hub City Nitory

BOSTON, Mass. — Milt Buckner, whose exciting new band set the Hub City's jazz quilt on its collective ear earlier in the summer in an engagement at the Hi-Hat Club, has returned to that nitory for a repeat booking by popular demand, which got underway on August 31.

The roly-poly former pianist-arranger of Lionel Hampton's crew solidly established himself at a top musical favorite of Boston in his first appearance at the Hi-Hat and his quick return booking at the nitory is ample evidence of the impression he made.

One of the big factors in Maestro Buckner's fast rising popularity with Bostonians has been the tremendous play accorded his MGM platter of "Milt's Boogie" by the local disc-jock-

## Dinah Tempted By Religious Music Again

NEW YORK — Dinah Washington, currently holding down the top spot in most record popularity ratings, has for the second time in a year been the recipient of a serious offer to enter the religious and gospel singing field.

The latest offer, which the singing star described as "tempting" was made through envoys of the evangelistic group to La Washington backstage at the Apollo Theatre here, where she is being featured on a big holiday bill.

Although Miss Washington did not give an affirmative reply to the overture, it wasn't because she wouldn't have been perfectly at home in the new surroundings. At one time, when she was a key voice of the Martin Singers, Miss Washington was one of the most highly regarded gospel singers in the country.

The popular songstress admitted to being kindly disposed towards the gospel field. However, while she wouldn't accept the present proposal, she said there was no guarantee that she might not go back to her first love in life.

Aw, currently in New York but who preferred that his name not be revealed keen disappointment in failing to nab what he described as "A certain asset in the fight to win new souls to the cause."

## NAACP Lauds Rep. Opposing Rankin Bill

WASHINGTON — Leslie S. Perry of the Washington Bureau of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People this week congratulated Rep. Earl Chudnow (D-Pa.) for his objection to the otherwise unanimous consent of the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to consider the Rankin Jim Crow veterans' hospital bill, H. R. 6034.

Mr. Perry wired the Pennsylvania lawmaker that the NAACP "deeply appreciates" his interest in blocking the plan of Rep. John Rankin (D-Miss.) to establish a segregated hospital for Negro veterans. (Please turn to Page Eight)

# Ravens, D. Washington, Joe Thomas Band To Tour South

NEW YORK — Plans were completed here this week for another whirlwind fifteen state tour of the three star unit, which last season smashed attendance and box office records all over the country. Teamed for the monumental tour arranged by Universal Attractions will be the Ravens, poll winning quartette; Dinah Washington, singing favorite and reigning "Queen of the juke boxes;" and the hard hitting, sock rhythm aggregation of tenor sax sensation Joe Thomas, former backbone of the Jimmy Lunceford orchestra when that combo was in its heyday.

The entertainment juggernaut which the trade dubbed "the steamroller unit" because of its crushing impact, is being eagerly awaited by entertainment seekers all along the route it will cover.

The huge "package" will be played in the largest halls, auditoriums in every principal city in order that the fun, fun, fun, armories and municipal gym crowds might be accommodated.

Since each member of the unit has scored with additional record hits since last year's triumphant tour, promoters anticipate even greater outpourings of dance devotees this time.

The unit will visit principal cities in Virginia, North Carolina, West Virginia, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Texas, Oklahoma, Mississippi, Colorado, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Kentucky, and Louisiana.

The tour leaves New York November 1st and will last three full months.

Applications Pile In For Bostic Singer  
NEW YORK — The offices of Earl Bostic's booking agents, Universal Attractions, headed by Ben Bart, were busy this week trying to dig out from under an avalanche of envelopes containing eager responses from more than two thousand candidates for the yet to be filled singing job with the band of the famous "Stomp King" of jazzdom and top alto saxist.

Just three weeks ago, Bostic revealed through the columns of Negro papers from coast to coast that he was in search of a new face singer to handle the vocal assignments with his band.

The response has been nothing short of staggering. As a hurriedly engaged staff of clerks began the task of reading the letters, Bostic prepared to begin his nationwide auditions. He will listen to aspirants in every town in which the band appears and candidates present themselves. The actual count of replies to the request was 2,467.

## Roy Brown Issues Challenge To All Singers Of "Blues"

MONROE, LA — Blues singing Roy Brown, leader of the biggest box office magnet on the one night circuit, tossed a figurative bombshell into the music profession last week when he flatly charged that "there isn't a single one of the so-called blues singers around today, who actually knows anything about singing them as they should be sung." The unequivocal statement will probably ignite a tempest in the blues singing teapot.

Brown, in continuing his blast pulled no punches. He fairly bristled as he asserted there wasn't another singer, other than himself, who actually understood the feeling and mood of the indigo walks of unrequited love.

According to Brown, it's impossible to interpret the meaning and mood of the blues unless there has been research into the background or this great American folk idiom. "Show me one of the so-called blues singers who knows anything about the background of blues," he cried. "As for me, I've done nearly as much research in that field as in American history."

And as if to prove that he was speaking an earnest conviction Brown hurled a challenge to meet any singer who'd accept his challenge in a "battle of the blues" in any hall they might choose.

Thus has he tossed the gauntlet to all who might accept the defy. Are you listening Wynonie, Rob Merrill, Mr. Cleanhead et al?

## Bostic Says Sepia Stars Have Future

PORTSMOUTH, OHIO — The future isn't near as dark as some folks would paint it for Negro musicians in the opinion

of Earl Bostic, popular band maestro. According to the celebrated virtuoso of the alto saxophone, attitudes are changing everywhere towards the musician of color, including the areas south of the Mason-Dixon line.

Bostic points to the booking for his aggregation at Greensboro, N. C., October 8 as a pertinent example of this improving attitude. The Bostic band has been engaged to appear at the Greensboro Youth Center for the

## REGAL THEATRE

\* SUNDAY ONLY—SEPT. 11 \*  
ROY ROGERS \* TRIGGER in  
NIGHTTIME IN NEVADA

Final Chapter, Gang Buster, 13 — Added: Contest Crazy

\* MON.-TUES.—SEPT. 12-13 \*  
SCOTT (Cannon City) BRADY in  
HE WALKED AT NIGHT

Serial: Brick Bradford, Number 14  
Added: Squareheads Of The Roundtable

\* WED.-THURS. (Double Feature Special) SEPT. 14-15 \*  
JOHN IRELAND \* HUGH BEAUMONT in  
RAILROADED

CECIL B. DE MILL'S  
KING OF KINGS

(The Simple Story of Christ... If you failed to see it before — Don't miss this final release showing).

Added: Novelty Short

\* FRI.-SAT. (Double Western Program) SEPT. 16-17 \*  
ALLAN (ROCKY) LANE in  
Desperadoes Of Dodge City

KEN MAYNARD in  
SMOKING GUNS

Serial: Sea Hound, Number 8  
Added: Color Cartoon — Colored News

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## Band Routes-

EARL BOSTIC  
Sept. 14—Macon, Ga.  
Sept. 15—Atlanta, Ga.  
Sept. 16—Charleston, S. C.  
Sept. 17—Tuskegee, Ala.

Sept. 16—Philadelphia, Pa.  
Sept. 17—Newark, N. J.

DINAH WASHINGTON  
JOE THOMAS BAND  
Sept. 18—Bridgeport, Conn.

Publishers  
Vie For Buddy's  
Latest Song

NEW YORK — Buddy Johnson, the youthful composer-pianist-maestro, currently finds himself in the midst of spirited bidding by several of Tin Pan Alley's major music publishers, who are offering lucrative contracts and bonuses in vying for publication rights to Buddy's new song hit, "Lovely In Her Evening Gown," which he introduced last week in a broadcast on the Mutual Network's "Treasury Bandstand."

EDDIE VINSON  
Sept. 8—Chadbourne, N. C.  
Sept. 9—Lynchburg, Va.  
Sept. 10—Chattanooga, Tenn.  
Sept. 11—Clarksville, Tenn.  
Sept. 12—Flint, Mich.  
Sept. 13—Indianapolis, Ind.

DINAH WASHINGTON  
JOE THOMAS BAND  
RAVENS  
Sept. 9—Boston, Mass.

# OPENING Sept. 15

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