

HOLLYWOOD

☆☆ Happenings ☆☆

BY WALTER BURRELL

His name is Don Mitchell and he's the kind of actor who doesn't cut corners when it comes to his screen roles. He does them with what he feels is honesty, or he turns them down. To many he's the image of the new Negro actor -- young, talented, aggressive -- and it's undoubtedly his breed of black actors who will bring a more honest image of the American Negro to television and movie screens.

Mitchell is starring in his first really big film, "Ironside," with Raymond ("Perry Mason") Burr and it's one of those movies being made especially for TV. Of his role, he says frankly: "The first half of the show is great for me. I come on strong as the beautiful, confident black man who has all the strength. But in the second half, I wind up walking around as Burr's aide. Well, that's what's happening right now in films for the black actor. That's where it is."

"However," Don continues, "this is a film which will be considered by the movie-making establishment as being outstanding for this generation, simply because it says more than most films have had the guts to say thus far. But it still isn't a completely honest portrayal. This lack of honesty (whether conscious or not) is partially due to the fact that few, if any, scripts are ever written by Negroes and whites simply can't tell it like it is."

"They just don't get to the heart of the matter," Don points out. "The white writer, producer, director comes to us and asks us about ourselves or watches us, then he writes a script from his point of view. And what he puts on paper isn't usually the deep-down truth."

"I forget who said it, but some Negro writer once pointed out that 'I got one face for white folks to see, got another I know is me,' and it's so true. We don't tell them the whole truth because we know they don't really want to hear it, so we just feed them what they want to hear about 'how it is to be a Negro.'"

And just how far off does Mitchell feel an honest portrayal of the Negro on the screen is. "I don't think it's very far away," he reflects. "Maybe about five years. There are too many young Negroes coming into the industry -- both in front of the camera and behind it -- and they'll insist on more."

"And when the real breakthrough comes, it'll be with films we've produced ourselves, independently. We've got to produce them ourselves because the big studios won't make a really honest effort for perhaps another 15 years. We've got to get the money together and produce our own movies. And to hell with this myth that 'the public isn't ready.' The movie industry has always been a force in selling ideas to the country, so why shouldn't we help speed up the brain washing?"

"As for the Negro actor's part in this, well, he has a very basic problem. Like a ditch digger or a lawyer, he has to eat so he takes the parts he can get. The roles which have been handed to him in recent years have, for the most part, been just short of Uncle Tom parts, but he's taken them because he wants to go on acting -- and eating. But now more and more Negro actors, especially the younger ones, are saying 'no' to certain parts or they're saying 'okay, I'll take the part, but I'll play it this way, with

some substance.' Through more of this aggressiveness the honest portrayals will emerge.

"Right now we have the white writer's interpretation of us on the screen. And we have either stereotype casting or casting to play it safe; casting to make sure that not too much of the realities of today come through. And this means anger; the anger which is happening to almost every Negro today. Just stop and think of the many ways this suppressed anger and suspicion shows up in everyday life; the looks, the rejections, nods, unspoken curse words which are part of reality, but hardly ever shown on film.

"To tell it like it is' is an over-used phrase, but that's where it is; that's where the movie industry has to wind up. And you can be sure that black people will have to instigate such change, because the white-controlled establishment isn't going to just hand us anything."

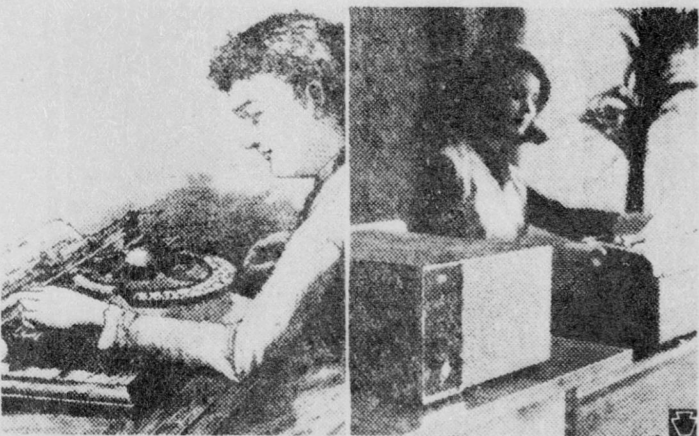
Brock Peters, who scored so heavily as the villainous pimp in "The Pawnbroker," has been set by producer Edward J. Montague for the top featured role of a Bahamian chief of police in the Raymond Burr-George Peppard starrer, "Criss Cross." Mr. Peters will be the subject of an upcoming edition of this column.

Tan stuntmen-actors Cal Brown and Eddie Smith will have lots to say in the very near future regarding a Negro branch of the Stuntmen's Association. The group, composed of both men and women, is already in existence and has purchased motorcycles and other equipment to train members in the breath-taking behind the scenes art of stunt coordination in motion pictures. Brown and Smith have been on the Hollywood scene for years and their group has already gained impressive stature.

Otis Smith Promoted

SHORT-SHORTS... Long-time record mogul Otis Smith has been promoted to director of national sales and promotion at Orpheum Productions (Riverside Records)... Sultry Barbara Rinehart may be signed to a Mercury recording contract if negotiations hold up. The attractive young singer has been in the business for only four years, but has already created quite a stir with her Aretha Franklin-Della Reese-type chirping... Motown's artists' development school is now being run by ex-singer Johnny Bristol and Harvey Fuqua, former leader of Harvey and the Moonglows... Muhammad (Cassius Clay) Ali, heavyweight champion of the world, has endorsed Alvin Cash's new One-Der-Ful release of "Doin' the All Shuffle." Disc has completely overshadowed a prior effort by The Brothers and Sisters... MGM recording artist Johnny Nash recuperating from tonsillectomy and being informed that his mother was injured in an auto accident in Houston, Texas, his hometown... "Brighten the Corner" is the title of Ella "First Lady of Song"

Background Music Comes Of Age



Evolution of the secretary is still taking place in the business world of the 1960's, with background music joining the electric typewriter, good lighting and air conditioning.

In the 1880's secretaries were called "typewriters." Their work areas were dark, drafty and cluttered.

The ideal modern office is bright, clean, quiet and efficient.

However, somewhere between these two extremes is the place where most office workers toil. Telephones ringing, typewriters clacking, people talking, file drawers closing, elevator doors opening, all contribute to an unhealthy, harsh noise level. Background music, such as 3M Company's "Cantata" 700, provides pleasant sound to replace irritating noise that creates fatigue and employee distraction.

While there's nothing new about the marriage of work and music, background music avoids attention-getting vocals.

loud passages and peaks and valleys of stimulation, concentrating instead on uniform, flowing sounds.

The Chicago branch of Associated Aviation Underwriters, for example, replaced the background noise of 12 girls working in one large office with background music at a pleasing tempo. Liberty Life Insurance Company "turned out business chatter" with lively music from a 3M system.

Banks, restaurants, hotels and even hospitals and schools are becoming major users of background music, apparently convinced that the benefits of music are also the benefits of business.

"Children's Film Festival"

Quality TV Series Set For Children

"The Children's Film Festival," a series of eight internationally-acclaimed motion pictures produced for and about children will be presented by Xerox Corporation over the CBS Television Network on Sunday afternoons beginning February 5 (4 to 5 p.m. EST).

The films, produced in several countries in various parts of the world, mark an unusual approach to quality programs for young viewers. The Sunday afternoon period was selected specifically as a time when the entire family can view the programs together since they are expected to be as entertaining for adults as they are for children.

Burr Tillstrom will join with Fran Allison in their famed "Kukla, Fran and Ollie" characters as host-narrators for seven of the programs. The eighth and final show will be a 90-minute children's film classic on Easter Sunday, March 26, 4:55-5:30 p.m. EST.

Commenting on the sponsorship, David J. Curtin, Xerox vice president in charge of Corporate Communications, declared: "Both as a television sponsor and as a company concerned with young people through the Xerox Education Division, we have recognized for some time the need for TV programs to enlighten and stimulate our younger viewers, as well as to entertain them."

"We hope that our sponsorship of 'The Children's Film Festival' will spark as great a resurgence of quality in the area of children's programs as our sponsorship of 'Death of a Salesman' on CBS last spring did for quality TV drama."

The premiere program will be "Skinny and Fatty," a story produced in Japan about a fat, rich, spoiled boy who, through



"SKINNY AND FATTY": In the premiere program of "The Children's Film Festival," the friendship between these two Japanese boys helps them mature. Xerox Corporation will present the series over the CBS Television Network on eight consecutive Sunday afternoons beginning Feb. 5.

the friendship of a poor, slender lad in his new school, learns to make his own way in the world.

Subsequent programs will include "Blind Bird," a color film produced in Russia; the Academy award winning "Red Balloon," filmed in France, teamed with Jacques Yves-Cousteau's short subject, "The Golden Fish"; "Yellow Slippers" from Poland; a Russian-produced version of O. Henry's "Ransom of Red Chief" and "Good Luck, Kekeke," filmed in Yugoslavia.

All the foreign-language films are expertly dubbed in English. The 90-minute Easter Sunday presentation will be the British award-winning film, "Hand in Hand." It is described as the moving story of the friendship between a little Catholic boy and a Jewish girl who learn for themselves, and remind those

who might have doubts, that one God watches over all.

Aside from "Red Balloon," the "Festival" presentation marks the first time any of the programs will have been seen on TV in this country.

To Xerox Corporation, the "Children's Film Festival" represents another "first" in TV sponsorship. As the company "in the business of making it easier for people to understand one another," Xerox sponsored "Making of the President: 1960" and "Making of the President: 1964" and also underwrote the production of a series of TV dramatic specials to help explain the work of the United Nations. The company will sponsor later this season on CBS a repeat broadcast of "Death of a Salesman," Arthur Miller's, "The Crucible" and Hal Holbrook's "Mark Twain Tonight!"



DISCUSS MOVIE-MAKING - Director Sidney Lumet (left) explains a fine point of film making to Ruby Dee and Ossie Davis at a cocktail reception hosted by Lumet prior to a midnight showing of his latest suspense drama, "The Deadly Affair," a Columbia Pictures release. With "The Deadly Affair," Lumet becomes a motion picture producer as well. The top notch thriller stars James Mason, Simone Signoret, Maximilian Schell, and Harry Andrews.



IN STAR ROLE - Raymond Burr and Don Mitchell are captured in a tense scene from Universal's "World Premiere: 'Ironside,'" one of 15 full-length motion pictures being produced exclusively for the NBC Television Network. Mitchell stars as the rebellious young Negro who becomes Burr's aide and confidant.

AMONG THE STARS

WITH LEE IVORY

"AND THE SNOWS CAME, YOU HEAR!"

Eldee Young, co-leader of the new and exciting Young-Holt Trio, tried to tell me two days before the "happening" that all purgatory would break loose after two days of plus 60-degree weather in Chicago in January.

"We're just going to have an early summer," I suggested, stupid idiot that I am, as I unzipped the liner of my topcoat and donned my summer web-woven sandals.

Early Wednesday evening was quite beautiful. Mickey Stevenson and the vivacious Kim Weston were about to LEAVE Chicago after visiting Red Holt, Don Walker and Eldee backstage at the Regal Theatre, and I (still a stupid idiot) saw them off to O'Hare International airport. Of course, if I had paid any attention to Eldee, I would have copped me a three-day vacation with my sister, Helen in Hawaii!

The Young-Holt Trio the three of them Windy City natives, were plenty restless. They wanted to leave Chicago immediately after their final show at the Regal -- Thursday night 'round midnight. They had two television spots in Los Angeles, as well as a concert and a seven-day engagement at the Whiskey A-Go-Go.

They didn't make it. And the snows came, you dig?

Joe Black, director of special markets for Greyhound Bus Lines, must have known something too. I talked with him about a week before the "Big Thing" (as we are loath to call it), and he remarked he was leaving town and would not return until the 31st! And, all the time, I thought he was going out on marketing business!

The Y-H Trio decided to catch a Greyhound to St. Louis where they might grab the first thing smoking heading for the West Coast. This might have succeeded, but their instruments were at the Regal theatre and there was nothing moving along 47th street other than a couple of well-fortified wine heads (who, incidentally, still don't

realize that Chicago snowfall record of 1930 has been broken!)

By the time the three musicians retrieved their axes, it was six p. m. Friday and the few Greyhounds that were still in Chicago couldn't move! Red and Eldee (before pianist Dom came on the scene) were noted for their promptness when they were appearing with Ramsey Lewis, Chubboppers around the country know this is true, neither rain, sleet, nor dark of night stayed these cats from the gig!

All they could do in Chicago, in January of 1967, though, was pray for a miracle. Like a midnight sun to melt

HERE IT IS! ADAM CLAYTON POWELL'S HISTORY MAKING MESSAGE TO YOU!

"Keep the Faith, Baby!" ADAM CLAYTON POWELL'S MESSAGE TO THE WORLD DATELINE: JANUARY 1967, AN EXCLUSIVE LIVE RECORDING



"KEEP THE FAITH, BABY"

An exclusive "live" recording featuring... Keep The Faith, Baby My Dear Colleagues Handwriting On The Wall Burn, Baby, Burn Death of Any Man One Day

NOW ON SALE AT ALL RECORD SHOPS (or contact your local Jubilee Record Distributor or Jubilee Industries, Inc. 1790 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10019)

THEATRICALS

The World Of Entertainment

Lou Rawls Hits To Be Featured On Feb. Show

One of the greatest soul-jazz singers in the music world today, Lou Rawls, will appear in Raleigh at Dorton Arena, for one concert, on Saturday, February 18th at 8:30 pm.

Tickets for this outstanding concert are on sale at Thiem's Record Shop and Patterson's Record Shop in Raleigh, and the Record Bar in Durham and Chapel Hill.

The Rawls voice doesn't

stop at expressing merely the words and music, but communicates a rich range of emotions: frustration, sardonic wit, teasing good humor, the urgency of love, and love's fulfillment, to pick and choose just a few. With them, he transforms a song into crackling fresh, meaningful statements about man and woman and life.

Lou Rawls has been called "the greatest soul-jazz-singer of the 60's." He is an artist whose deep-moving performances take the audience with him wherever he goes. He has also been called "the entertainer with the finest phrasing since Sinatra."

A few of his recent hits have been "Love Is A Hurting Thing", "Tobacco Road", and "You Can Bring Me All Your Heartaches". The album, "Lou Rawls Live", was chosen as the number one rhythm and blues album of the year.



LOU RAWLS

representing an advance against royalties that are expected to exceed a quarter of a million dollars. Jubilee president Jerry Blaine stated the check paid off the original court claim against Rep. Powell. Mrs. Esther James won a defamation of character judgment against Powell.

LINCOLN
RALEIGH, N. C.
STARTS SUNDAY, FEB. 19
THE EMBALMER
Starring MAUREN BROWN
—plus—
THE SHE BEAST
Starring BARBARA STEEL
STARTS THURS., FEB. 23
BELLE STARR'S DAUGHTER
Starring GEORGE MONTGOMERY
—plus—
Second Feature
THE LAST MAN ON EARTH

DORTON ARENA
N. C. STATE FAIRGROUNDS SAT., FEB. 18, 8:30
IN PERSON
An Evening With
LOU RAWLS
PLUS OTHER OUTSTANDING ACTS
All Seats Reserved
TICKETS: \$2.50 & \$3.00
ON SALE AT: THIEB'S RECORD SHOP, PATTERSON'S RECORD SHOP, THE RECORD BAR IN DURHAM AND CHAPEL HILL

WLLE RADIO
500 WATTS — 570 KC
PROGRAM SCHEDULE
Monday Thru Friday
4-6 A.M. — ROLL JORDAN SHOW
6-9 A.M.—RICK DARNELL SHOW
9-10 A.M.—JAMES BLOUNT SHOW
10-10:15 A.M.—A. A. ALLEN REVIVAL
10:15-10:30 A.M.—REV. DAVID EPLEY CRUSADE
10:35-12 Noon—WIL RUDD SHOW
12:00-1 P. M.—NOONTIME SPIRITUALS
1:05-2:00—WIL RUDD SHOW
2:05—SIGN OFF—WILD CHILD SHOW
Wake Up With BRO. JAMES THOMAS MON THRU SAT. 4 A.M.-8 P.M.
BULLETIN BOARD ON THE 1/2 HR.: NEWS ON THE HOUR
Saturday Programs
4-6 A.M.—ROLL JORDAN SHOW
6-6:15 A.M.—FARM PROGRAM
6:15-10:00 A.M.—WILD CHILD SHOW
10:00-10:15 A.M.—A. A. ALLEN
10:15-10:30 A.M.—REV. A. JONES
10:30-12 Noon—HOME COMPANION SHOW
12 Noon-2:00 P.M.—RICK DARNELL SHOW
2:00 P.M.—SIGN OFF—WIL RUDD SHOW
BULLETIN BOARD ON THE 1/2 HR.: NEWS ON THE HOUR
Sunday Programs
5:00 A.M.—ROLL JORDAN SHOW
3:0 P.M.—SUNDAY AFTERNOON SHOW