

In New Picture

"Native" Moves Out Of The Red

BOSTON—(TYP)—Preparations in staid Boston indicate that "Native Son," which opened here at the Majestic Theatre on Monday, will do a big business. The advance sale was terrific. Plans now indicate that "Son" will be a hold-over.

Last week before leaving New York, Lee, who recently was embarrassed when notes of his gift car came due received notice that his salary was raised to four hundred and fifty dollars per week, which indicates that the much publicized B-way play of sex in that inter-racial manner is now out of the well-known red that caused it to come to a sudden stop in New York.

On last Sunday Lee was heard over WINS (New York) 4:30-5 p.m. in an adaptation of "Uncle Tom's Cabin," the same radio script that recently found mammy singer Al Jolson in over MBC in the Star Spangled Theatre. Lee's performance topped that of Jolson.

Ellington's 'Joy' Jumping To Fame

By TED YATES

NEW YORK — (TYP)—Sky-rocketing two of his latest tunes, "Flamingo," and "Take the A-Train," Duke Ellington deserted the East jumped to the Coast and there starring in his own revusical, "Jump for Joy" at the Mayan in Los Angeles, has won the praise of both press and public.

Last week "the Duke" mopped the airwaves, appearing on an East-West hook-up of "Jubilee" (all-Negro) with Ethel Waters, the Hall Johnson Choir, Comedian Hamtree Harrington and many others. It was CBS's adieu of the swellegant Forecast program.

LOUISE BEAVERS, one of the most popular member of Hollywood's septa colony, is currently working on the Metro-Goldwyn Mayer lot in "The Shadow of the Thin Man," which stars William Powell and Myrna Loy. The picture is to be ready for distribution around the middle of October.

Horace Henderson Now 'Sweet' Band

NEW YORK — (ANP)—Horace Henderson, brother Fletcher Henderson, noted orchestra leader, composer and arranger, has recently organized a new band to play "sweet" music designed exclusively for the dancing set and is making a tour of a dozen or more bandstands along the eastern seaboard.

Much skepticism is going the rounds as to whether he will be able to realize his ambition to create one of the nation's distinctive bands, or whether his brain child will be a flop. Either way, he will hold the distinction of being the first colored band leader to cater to the public's taste for sweet rhythm.

The band is composed of artists who have at some time or other been connected with one or more bands as hot or jazzmen. From Jackie Fields, who handled alto sax in Coleman Hawkins' outfit, down to Willie Beason, who replaced the late Chick Webb, the organization reads like a page out of who's who in the world of music. The combine is under exclusive contract to Amusement Book- ing corporation.

Henderson, himself a graduate of Wilberforce university where he re-

ceived his A. B. degree, entered the music profession in the footsteps of his illustrious brother, Fletcher. His entrance into the music world brought to light that he was a personality in his own right and not trading upon his brother's popularity.

Using essentially the same instrumentation employed by Basie and Lunceford, Henderson's aggregation has the distinguishing feature of striving for sweetness of tone, a blending of sections that is commonly associated only with ranking white bands.

He points out that music of this nature is the "inherent preference of colored people" and that commercialism and various exploitation motifs alone are responsible for the mistaken idea that no colored band can do justice to a sweet tune. He further avers, that no attempt is being made to copy the Miller or Dorsey style. In some quarters, it is held that his new venture will be a remarkable success, with opinions based upon the superlative ballad arrangements made by Horace while acting as chief arranger for Charlie Barnett's orchestra for over a year.

Negro Artists Booked For Air Show Sept. 21

Freedom's People To Be Aired Over Nat'l Networks

By HAROLD JOVIE

CHICAGO — (ANP)—Joshua White, famous singer of spirituals; W. C. Handy, composer of "St. Louis Blues"; Paul Robeson, the great baritone who was just signed by Columbia records; the De Paul Chorus and either Noble Sissle or Jimmy Lunceford's orchestra, will highlight the program, Freedom's People, Sunday, September 21, at 10:30 p. m. New York time over the NBC Network.

The program, depicting the Negro's contribution to American music, will present dramatizations of the origin of spirituals and of the blues; and interview with W. C. Handy, who will tell how he came to write the "St. Louis Blues"; demonstrations of spirituals and the blues by White, Robeson and the orchestra, with the De Paul chorus finishing a choral background.

Fight coverage of the NBC Blue network now includes bouts staged by the Chicago Stadium, the world's largest indoor boxing arena. Addition of Chicago now gives exclusive fight rights in four flistic top arenas, the others being Shibe Park, Philadelphia; Griffith Stadium, Washington, D. C.; and Ebbets Field, Brooklyn.

Another important boxing bout—a 10 round lightweight match between the sensational Ray Robinson and Maxine Shapiro, white, has been added to the Mutual network's impressive roster of pugilistic events.

The Robinson-Shapiro contest will be aired Friday, September 19, from New York's Madison Square Garden.

Two other bouts will be heard over Mutual this month. On Friday, September 12, "Sailor" George Abrams faces Tony Zale, N. B. A. middleweight champion in a ten round contest from the Garden. Monday, September 29, is the time set for the eagerly anticipated battle for the world's heavyweight championship fray between Joe Louis and Lou Nova. The broadcast, scheduled to reach listeners all over the globe, will come from New York's Polo Grounds.

165,000 LEARN ABC'S

WASHINGTON — (ANP)—According to a report made public last week by the educational section of WPA, there have been 165,000 adult Negroes taking training in their various projects.

She's New Honey With Louis



Charming new singing honey with Louis Armstrong and his orchestra is Ann Baker, pictured here. Miss Baker, whose favorite forms of recreation are horseback riding, swimming, skating and hiking, will be heard in Atlanta, Thursday evening, Sept. 18 when "O' Satchmo" plays at the City Auditorium. In addition to singing, she also plays the piano and dances.

Cab Rips Record On Clipping Front

NEW YORK CITY—(S N S)—Another testimonial attesting to the popularity of Cab Calloway was received this week when the Burrelle Press Clipping Bureau, one of the largest services in the world, wrote Cab and stated that his account was the most active one on their lists.

The letter stated in part: "In going over our records, I thought you would be interested in knowing that one of our accounts on which we were able to produce the most number of clippings is that of yours, for whom we have been furnishing press clippings from all papers throughout the country for the past ten years."

"In all of our experience in the press clipping business, this is one of the most active theatrical accounts that we have ever handled."

Calloway recently celebrated his tenth anniversary as a band leader. The Burrelle Bureau represents about 70 percent of the nation's outstanding stars and band leaders.

Calloway completed an engagement at the State-Lake Theatre in Chicago last week and despite the

fact that it marked the fourth time within 24 months that he has played the Loop playhouse, Cab, who holds the theatre's attendance record, smashed his own mark.

In Epic Of War



Photo by White Studio, N. Y. C.

HOLLYWOOD, Calif.—In a moving drama depicting the changes in the armed and motive power of the armed forces of the U. S. Army, Ernest Whitman, famed actor-singer has been cast as Carteret, a faithful friend Sergeant "Hap" Dean (Wallace Beery), in the current Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer studio production "Steel Cavalry."

Hattie Noels In New Film Role

By LAWRENCE F. LAMAR
HOLLYWOOD, Calif. — To Hattie Noels, buxom septa cinema actress, goes the largest femme screen role handed out to a septa screen actor since the memorable "mammy" role in "Gone With The Wind," played by Academy Award winner Hattie McDaniel. Miss Noels will essay the role of "Dora," a lovable governessmaid in Republic's studio's current production, "Lady For A Night," starring Joan Blondell and Ray Middleton.

Miss Noels since her arrival here nearly four years ago for film roles after a sensational success as the sweepstakes winning laundress of Eddie Cantor's radio broadcast, has consistently risen to newer and loftier heights via the celluloid screen.

Jimmy Lunceford Booked For Films

HOLLYWOOD, Calif. — What with Duke Ellington, Erskine Hawkins and Earl (Father) Hines orchestras already gathered here on the coast, come now news that Jimmy Lunceford and his classy aggregation are enroute here for another fling at the films.

At this writing it is not definite but, the rumor seems well enough grounded, that the Lunceford orchestra will report for their film assignment at the Warner Brothers studio in Burbank. Enough later will be reported on the subject, when the band arrives here.

Pinkard Lays Plans For New Revusical

Miller Will Be In Lead Of New Army Musical

'Private Biscuit Jones' To Be Farce On Army
By BERNICE AND DOLORES CALVIN

(Exclusive for Calvin Service)

NEW YORK CITY—(C)—Maceo Pinkard, ace composer of such hit tunes as "Sweet Georgia Brown," "Sweet Girl," the famous "Here Comes Showboat" and etc., revealed to us his plan to do a musical farce on Broadway this season when we visited his comfortable studio at 767 St. Nicholas Avenue this week. Cleverly titled "Private Biscuit Jones," this satire of Army Life was originally intended for an all-white cast, but it was later thought a Negro cast could do it better justice.

Mr. Pinkard plans to have Flournoy Miller in the lead. This show will give new talent a chance to appear before the public and new faces for the auditorium to see. Mr. Pinkard went on to explain, relaxing on a soft red leather chair, but "plans are yet premature."

Then the conversation drifted to the filming of Pinkard's Symphonic Fantasy, extravaganza on the 18th, 19th and 20th century composers. There's been much talk on several major studios dickering to put the masterpiece in the movies and it's all true.

"The only thing, there are several difficulties," put in this unassuming and most calm gentleman. "First, the company we want doesn't have a very good studio here. You know the studios are in Hollywood where climate and all are suitable. I'd rather not take the 75 members of the cast out there. And what's more, it's technical equipment is on the coast and we do hope to have the picture in color, it would look so swell."

We added that the \$30,000 costumes would look grand in technicolor. Nonetheless contract signing ought to commence in about two weeks, as soon as all difficulties are ironed out. Once shooting starts, it'll only take about a month before you'll be seeing right in your neighborhood theatre Pinkard's Symphonic Fantasy.

DELAY SCHOOL OPENING
CHATTANOOGA, Tenn.—(ANP)—The opening of school was delayed here until September 15, due to prevalence of infantile paralysis in the community.

SEEIN' STARS

With DOLORES CALVIN
NEW YORK, (C)—Exclusive! Exclusive! CANADA LEE SIGNS NEW CONTRACT FOR \$400. A WEEK!! Canada Lee, in a big leap from his measly \$75 weekly, when "Native Son" was at its peak on Broadway, has signed a new contract this week to draw \$400 every 7 days. In the contract, also, "Bigger Thomas" of the stage receives a percentage on the side. Insiders tell me that "Son" has just about retrieved the \$38,000 it lost when the show went into the red here on Broadway.

Right now, "Son" is paying repeat performances in suburban theatres near New York and is expected to do wonderfully well on a gigantic tour, this fall. And right now, too, our Canada Lee is believed to be the highest paid colored dramatic actor in the business.

PATRIOTIC STREET SCENE.
A chic colored girl, most likely from Harlem, socked an obnoxious ofay woman and then once again merged with the crowds. All this was pravedly done this week. The annoying woman was parading on a street corner calling America to join Lindbergh "in his heroic efforts to save our country." After the blow, which presented her with a beautiful black eye, the woman appealed to a near-by policeman to escort her to her home, a few blocks off the main avenue.

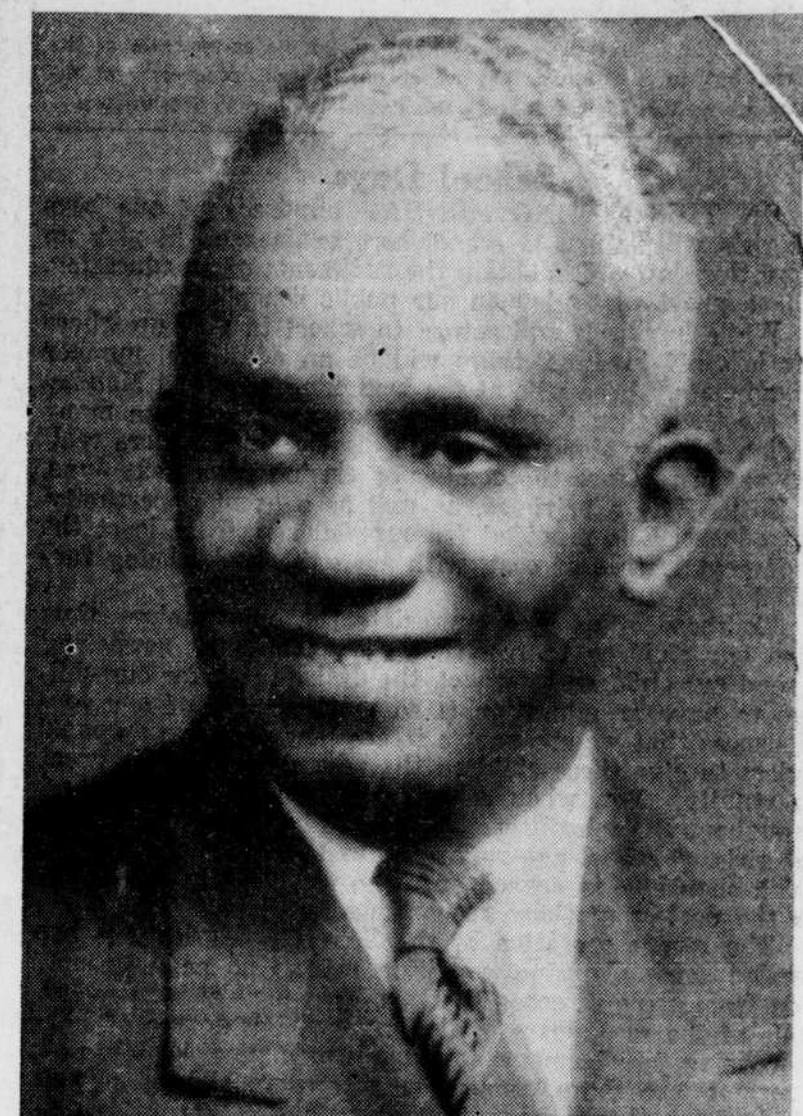
The cop's answer was a thing of beauty, "Lady, I'm not a Aryan!" (Meaning they didn't think alike)

I WONDER if you knew that the wealthy 4 Ink Spots, each with a valet and plans in their pockets for a new home, are finishing up at the Brooklyn Flatbush Theatre? If you knew that the Nichols Brothers are a smash hit on taps in "Sun Valley Serenade" starring Sonja Henie and John Payne... at the Roxy Theatre?

In Famous Door
Negro actors and interested theatre-goers, may select one of their own number who will appear at the committee hearings as an "observer" with authority to seek an insertion of question calculated to properly boost their position in the vast motion picture industry.

DANCE FOR SOLDIERS
RALEIGH, N. C.—(A N P)—The state recreation department of North Carolina, through its Negro director, M. G. Busckus, gave a colorful formal dance for 400 soldiers from Fort Bragg, September 15. The department picked 400 girls with chap-ones to attend the affair. Soldiers were in complete khaki uniforms and the girls dressed formally.

Planning New Revusical



Maceo Pinkard, ace composer, has revealed plans to do a new musical farce to open on Broadway during the current season. Cleverly titled "Private Biscuit Jones," the show will be a satire on the life of a draftee in a Southern army camp.

Eye Racial Issue In Movie's Probe

By LAWRENCE F. LAMAR

HOLLYWOOD, Calif. — Word seeping out of the Hays Office, of the Association of Motion Picture Producers, Inc., indicate the seriousness of the charges made by Senator Nye, John J. Flynn and others, that the great film industry with the connivance of the Roosevelt administration is busily engaged in the making of propaganda pictures designed to get the U. S. into the present world war.

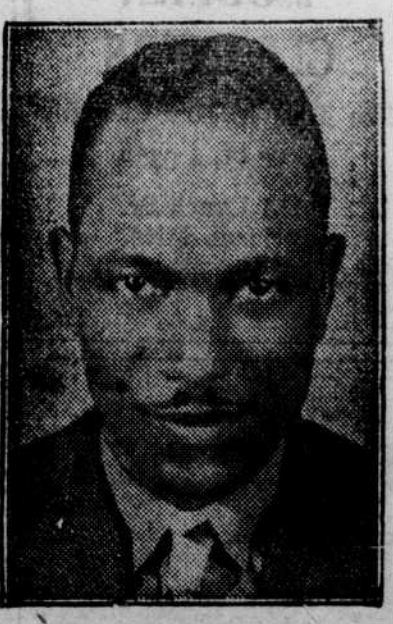
Wendell L. Willkie, former Republican presidential candidate, as counsel for the entire motion picture industry in defending its policy during the debate on Resolution 152 before the Senate subcommittee, charged in a letter to U. S. Senator D. Worth Clark, co-author of the resolution, that the measure was a broad attempt to smear the motion picture industry.

Negro actors here on the scene, who have long urged the industry to give a fair and more accurate airing of their more advance social and economic position in the American scheme of things without avail sense in this investigation an opportunity to be heard and seen.

Willkie has stated the motion picture industry is opposed to the Nazi program of racial discrimination. His letter to Senator Clark regarding the proposed investigation in part read:

"If the committee feels that the racial and geographic background of American citizens is a condition to be investigated, there is no need for the investigation. We frankly state that the motion picture industry there are in positions, both prominent and inconspicuous, both Nordics and non-Nordics, Jews and Gentiles, Protestants and Catholics, native and foreign born. This industry, with many others in our country, demonstrates that neither race, creed nor geographical origin is essential qualifications to participate in American business. This fact illustrates a basic principle of American life, as we have known it over 150 years. The motion picture industry, composed like other industries of loyal patriotic Americans, despises the racial discrimination of Nazism and is devoted to the cause of freedom both in this country and abroad."

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KILLED IN CRASH
NEW YORK—(T Y P)—Fresh from a sensational dance tour ANDY KIRK and His Band, which won praise from both press and public in the hitherlands, steamlined in to town a fortnight and almost immediately was booked for the Famous Door—ace nitery here.

RATING THE RECORDS

By FRANK MARSHALL DAVIS

ELDRIDGE BLOWS HIS TOP

If you listen to a pair of new Okeh platters by Gene Krupa's band, you'll understand why the great Louis Armstrong ranks Roy Eldridge at one of history's finest trumpet stars. The tunes on which "Little Jazz," the only dusky member of Krupa's crew, struts his stuff "Rockin' Chair."

The first is a breakneck speed after a live intro. Eldridge then gives his brass a phenomenal work-out, making unbelievable runs from the stratosphere into the low register at Jesse Owens speed. This is show stopping stuff. Couple is KICK IT a jump and live tune with more hot horn and good bit of hide handling by Krupa. ON ROCKIN' CHAIR, Roy improvises at a much slower pace and his ideas and phrasing are sensational except for one clicker. The echo ending is excellent, and incidentally a little reminiscent of Armstrong's old work. The companion piece is TUNIN' UP best described as a musical joke that to me falls flat except for a chorus of top clarinet.

On Decca the Ink Spots revive the Andy Kirk tune, UNTIL THE REAL THING COMES ALONG and give it the works with their success formula. The song fits them perfectly and it sounds like a best seller. Flipover is KEEP COOL FOOL, slow and smoky in the "Java Jive" manner. However, Ella Fitzgerald has the best pressing of this number. Matty Malneck, the salon sycophant specialist, draws rays for his Columbia of MEDITATION and SONG OF INDIA. He bounces strongly or lightly and his arrangements are brilliant. This biscuit appeals especially to devotees of sophisticated swing.

Bob Eberle and Helen O'Connell team up on the season's No. 1 torcher, JIM, by Jimmy Dorsey on Decca. This means the platter's

commercial success is just about assured. Other side is A NEW SHADE OF BLUE, a smooth tune boasting a fancy intro and rather intricate scoring behind Eberle's vocal. Benny Goodman's Columbia is strictly soft lights music. He pairs two pop tunes in a slow and melodic manner with Tommy Taylor, his new vocalist, heard on both. THEY ARE FROM ONE LOVE TO ANOTHER AND ANYTHING

Boasting gutty, rhythmic accompaniment by piano and harmonica, Pettie Wheatstraw comes up with a sparkling blues double. SEEING IS BELIEVING and I'M A LITTLE PIECE OF LEATHER, the latter gentle boogie woogie.

Mme. Garner To Aid Todd Duncan

LOS ANGELES, Calif.—Music lovers of the Angel City will have an opportunity hardly bargained for, if not uncrempt of the afternoon of Sunday, October 12, when the Rev. Walter L. Bryant, pastor of the Birch Street Christian Church, presents baritone artist Todd Duncan in concert at the Mayan theatre, but, will have the pleasure of hearing and seeing Mme. Netta Paulyn Gardner, internationally famed concert pianist on the same program.

Mme. Gardner will appear only as guest artist, however, since she must prepare or her own concert season. Both she and Mr. Duncan are appearing in this concert in order to assist raising the Organ Fund for the church. Some of the nation's most prominent people are listed as patrons.

He's Ending 17-Week Tour



Eddie "Rochester" Anderson is scheduled to end his current 17-week personal appearance tour at Providence, R. I., the week of September 19, it was announced this week. Rochester is scheduled to return to his home in California to resume his duties on the air as the dandruff in Jack Benny's thinning thatch. (C).