

I'VE BEEN AROUND New York

By TED YATES



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A Reporter At Large . . .

The Lindy Hoppers are still much in evidence at Harlem's Savoy Ballroom where Buddy Johnson and his Orchestra "give out" with rhythm . . . Gladys Bentley at Tondelayo's after a triumphant Hollywood stand giving New Yorkers a repeat performance reminiscent of The Clamhouse, Queens Terrace days . . . Daisie Y. Anderson's Beauty Box, the latest in milady's make-up and primp-up mart, in formal opening . . . At Harlem's swank Hotel Theresa we find the crowd gathered about the bar. John D. Thomas, whom we all remember as the proprietor of Gray Shop No. 2, wearing that welcome smile . . . Eavesdroppers heard talk of "Anna Lucasta," "Carmen Jones," the recent Chalky Wright-Willie Pep fistcuffs, and Pearl Primus and her troupe of dancers at the Belasco Theatre . . . that's Harlem for you!



Buddy Johnson



John D. Thomas

They have a machine now that wraps 150 bars of soap a minute, but it's strictly for GI Joe . . . War spending goes up despite cutbacks. That should indicate that war production is going down. The federal government put out \$288.8 million daily in August. That was 2.1 percent more than July. The total cost since June, 1940, is \$215 billion . . . and federal statisticians, who ought to know about such things, predict that total payments to wage earners in manufacturing under full-time peace employment will be 1/2 percent less than the current total of \$32 billion . . . The folks in Washington last week, incidentally, got an eyeful and an earful of Nora Blunt and Milton Buggs—the romantic singers with Luis Russell's great band . . . Another singer, Billy Kenny, of the Ink Spots, sends out from one to two thousand autograph pics of himself a month. Such popularity must be deserved!



Billy Kenny



Nora Blunt

Willie Mae Reed, who hails from Miami, Florida, is the topic of our success story of the month. Miss Reed's recently opened beauty shop that is located in the Harlem Building at 206 West 135th Street, offers the usual treatment for milady—finger wave, marceling and croquinole. We're not up much on this sort of thing, you know, but Miss Reed, whose hobby is horseback riding (she also likes movies, plays and to read a novel now and then—and don't we all?), insisted that we drop in, and we did. We found ourselves most welcome—though we are of the male gender. Most of her training was taken up at the Sunlight Beauty School in Miami, Miss Reed said. Belle Williams (Miami); Hattie Coleman (N. Y.); and Katie Robinson, of Englewood, N. J., are the other operators. While we didn't ask anyone—what interested us most was the fact that once in our life we came across a beauty salon that didn't smell from here to there with that "hair-frying" odor . . . Cecelia Smith was in town from Cleveland, Ohio, looking for a part for her Cleveland Starlets in the forthcoming production of Lew Leslie's "Blackbirds" . . . The PORTLAND INQUIRER, and the CLEVELAND GAZETTE have been added to the long list of newspapers syndicating our stuff . . . Lena Horne and Artie Shaw have collaborated on a swiny-thingy (Victor) "Don't Take Your Love From Me," backed by Shaw's ensemble in an instrumental of "It Had To Be You" . . . Ralph Cooper is the best of the Apollo Theatre em-ceeds, bar none, when it comes to staging that (WMCA) Wednesday nite amateur show . . . and, don't look now but, the Hurricane has been erased by the Cafe Zanzibar.



Cecelia Smith



Ralph Cooper

MEET TWO SUPER-COLOSSAL HEADLINERS



GATEMOUTH MOORE

Mail the No. 1 blues stylist and top-ranking emcee who is featured with Luis Russell and His Orchestra currently featured at Club Louisiana in Washington, D. C.



JEAN PARKS

Enchanting provoker of songs sweet 'n' hot whose great all-girl band is currently playing leading deluxe theatres throughout the U. S. Jean hails from Dayton, Ohio.

Independent Press Service Photos

SEC. 562 P. L. & R. We have been asked so many times why we leave the blank space on the front page that we decided to print the story that goes with it.

The Post Office Department demands that we leave that space for printing the address when mailing the Inquirer. This is due to the fact that we are mailing under a permit

and use pre-cancelled stamps. That space will not be left there after we have been publishing a year.

As to that Sec. P. L. & R., it means Section 562 of the Postal Laws and Regulations,—the section of the laws under which we hold our permit. This must be printed on each copy that goes through the mail, unwrapped.

We hope this satisfies the curiosity of those who are interested.

Awards Given Federal Workers

Two of the four Awards of Excellence made to Washington area employes of the Department of the Interior Wednesday, November 29, by Secretary Harold L. Ickes for inventions or suggestions for improving the department's home-front service were won by Negroes.

The Negroes were:

Alfred L. Pace, head messenger of the Division of Information, whose legal residence is Albany, Ga., and William G. Brown, Washington, a messenger in the Geological Survey.

Along with 47 other Washington employes of the Interior Department, who won lesser honors, Mr. Pace and Mr. Brown and their families were guests of honor at ceremonies held in the department auditorium and addressed personally by Secretary Ickes. This gathering was one of five simultaneous coast-to coast meetings to make awards to 121 Interior employes throughout the country for suggestions that have resulted in saving the Government millions of dollars annually. The other meetings were held at Pittsburgh, Pa.; Denver, Colo.; Salt Lake City, Utah; and Portland, Ore.

Mr. Pace won a \$100 cash award and a \$60-a-year salary increase for devising a new kind of signature tab indicating the place for signatures on official documents and correspondence. His idea will have hundreds of dollars and hundreds of pounds of paper annually, not only during the war but in ensuing years. In addition to the estimated savings, Mr. Pace's tab has special advantages over that now in use, in that a neat attachment can be made as a result of a perforation into which the paper clip is inserted.

Mr. Pace's idea has not only been adopted officially by the Department of the Interior, but has been referred to the Government Printing Office for possible adoption by all Government departments.

Mr. Brown won a \$60-a-year increase for suggesting a new schedule of messenger service between the Geological Survey and the General Land Office, which maintains a constant messenger service. His schedule will result in eliminating delays of from 24 to 48 hours in the delivery of mail, and in an estimated saving of one man-year of labor and \$1,500 cash.

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