

I'VE BEEN AROUND New York

By TED YATES



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A Reporter At Large . . .

Ella Fitzgerald headlines the all-girl revue at the Howard Theatre in Washington, D. C. that backs up Jean Parks' all-girl ork on Dec. 8th . . . Out-of-town reporters please copy: The Andrew Bruno-Pearl King romance has chilled again because of a communication originating in Tulsa, Oklahoma. And it's no military secret that the vivacious Miss King, who hails from Phila., Pa., will become a "bloo-buster." Busting Bruno's block!! . . . Babe Lawrence, the tap dancer, "stopped" the Apollo Theatre show here last week with his clever tap-dancing . . . Boxing Judge Frank Forbes checked in from Nashville, Tenn.



Ella Babe Marie Courtney

Midge Williams quit Tondeleyo's nitery in a huff . . . Marie Hight contemplates returning to our town for the Xmas holidays—and forever after . . . Bette Drake, the milliner, has resumed her vocal aspirations under the handle, "Bette Barnes, the Magnificent." Cute, what!! . . . Alan Courtney's Station WOV radio program aside from its appreciated output of jump, jitter 'n' jive has registered with all of us because of his democratic ideals, candid opinion and perfect slant on race relations. Against prejudice and discrimination, Courtney's delivery is easy on the ears and accepted by liberals. A staunch member of the National Urban League, he has performed as emcee at the League's annual Beaux Arts Ball.



Lil Durham Lena Deek

What's become of all those young cartoonists? We'd like to receive some of their samples—for publication . . . Incidentally, Elias Lustig, proxy of Adam's Hats, wants material on Negro athletes for use in the cartoons—"Sports Out of Adam's Hats" . . . Lil Green renewed her contract with Gale Agency . . . Cab Calloway, Paul Robeson, Duke Ellington and Lena Horne head the patriotic committee setting up canteens throughout the U. S. for Negro Wacs and Waves . . . Eddie Durham, the ex-bandleader, did all the arrangements for the Jean Parks musical aggregation . . . "Deek" Watson, the former (original) Ink Spot, will be with the new group—if and when.



Gatemouth Ella Page Alberta

Gatemouth Moore a sensation with Luis Russell's ork . . . Now that Sir Stork did his honors, Ella Johnson is back with brother Buddy's band . . . "Hot Lips" Faige, the ace of trumpet, off on a theatre and one-night dance date tour . . . Pops and Louie to appear with Frank (The Voice) Sinatra on an extensive theatre tour taking in the entire U. S. prior to their Hollywood pix stint . . . Alberta Payne and a host of stars of radio, stage and screen doing their bit for the Citizens' Christmas Cheer Committee charity affair this Sunday at the Renaissance Casino here. Besides "Bert" some of the stars include Minto Cato, Billy Maxey, Mabel Hart, Lavina Mack, Carol Tinsley, Virginia Groves, Angelina Mitchell and June Hawkins from "Carmen Jones." Also Georgia Burke ("Anna Lucastra"); Artie Belle McGinty, Midge Williams, and LaValle Cooke and Girls. Gertie Martin is guest conductor. Music by Don Wilson's Orchestra, staged and directed by Elnorist Yancy. It's the Dance Jamboree and yes, indeed, for a good cause!!

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Wyatt Williams Talks Sets Theme At Zion Ceremony

Portland's only practicing Negro attorney Wyatt W. Williams, invited to speak at the Mortgage Burning ceremonies at AME Zion Church last Sunday set the keynote for all the speeches that followed. An impromptu speech, it showed that the speaker had the interest of his race uppermost in his mind.

In the opening sentences of his talk Mr. Williams said that the newcomers should be extended a helping hand and welcomed into the community by the older residents. After voicing his admiration for the pastor and his wife, Rev. and Mrs. J. F. Smith, Mr. Williams continued—"to the older residents and the newcomer, I say to you, save your money so that when the war is over if things are not so good and you can make only ten dollars a week, you will still be able to eat."

Every speaker, including the Honorable Earl Riley, Mayor of Portland, referred to the thought advanced by Mr. Williams in his opening speech. An admonition to "pay your debts" as portrayed by the occasion of the Mortgage Burning was brought out by the Attorney as an evidence of good citizenship. Few if any of the audience missed the impact of the wisdom of his remarks. That his opinion voiced by the speakers who followed was an endorsement of his words, was very evident. The church, filled to capacity, applauded to give evidence of the audience's approval to this timely suggestion.

Mr. Williams is not a new resident here, Portland has been his home for some thirty years and aside from being Portland's only Negro lawyer, he is the only Negro Real Estate Broker in Oregon.

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Large Attendance At Portland Recreation Centers

That Portland's recreational facilities made available to the public through the program of the Bureau of Parks and Public Recreation are being used is evidenced in records kept by the recreational directors at the various community centers scattered here and there about the city and throughout Multnomah county, and on attendance at city-sponsored sport events. November reports submitted to Miss Dorothea Lensch, director of the recreational division of the park bureau, reveal that an average of 9,821 persons per day, on a seven-day a week basis, used the recreational facilities. Spectators at various tournaments and other programmed events numbered 22,375 for this period.

This attendance record is about double that reported for November 1943, Miss Lensch avers, and points out that November must be considered a conservative month since activities are pretty much confined to the indoor play centers.

FAIRVIEW

Fairview, one of the most outlying centers, reported attendance for November of 4,552. This community building, serving the Troutdale industries area, has a very active place in the community life. A survey conducted in the district for the purpose of ascertaining the recreational desires of the residents resulted in the following interesting votes: archery 253, badminton 252, baseball 260, basketball 396, bird study 38, bowling 521, chorus or choir 133, dramatics 175, folk games 67, hiking 380, parties 479, ping pong 350, band or orchestra 86, roller skating 679, community singing 223, tumbling 289, volleyball 283, and woodcarving 100.

Since effort is made on the part of the recreational division directors to serve the dishes requested, no doubt all recreational appetites in the Fairview community will be appeased. "We aim to please our customers" is the park bureau's motto! That may account for the fine attendance records at the recreational centers and for the steadily increasing use of the park bureau-sponsored facilities for wholesome fun and sports.

Hanging of the Greens Follows Dinner at YWCA

Following a Dinner that was a complete sellout, the YWCA held their annual Festival of the "Hanging of the Greens." Both beautiful and musical, the affair was one of the most colorful of all the affairs held at the "Y."

"Hanging of the Greens" is the ceremony of decorating the Young Women's Christian Association's building and rooms for the Yuletide season. The actual decorating is done by a volunteer group of girls who sing Christmas Carols as they work. Also included in this beautiful ceremony is the lighting of the Yuletide Log which will burn all during the Xmas holiday season and the lighting of a candle that will burn every evening during the holiday season.

Preceding the ceremony a dinner was held that was open to the general public. All reservations were sold long before the day of the dinner, Tuesday, December 12, and many who wanted to attend had to be refused.

The popularity of the affairs at the YWCA is definitely on the upgrade and a larger attendance is noted at each succeeding affair.

Professor of Lewis and Clark College Speaks at Forum

Dr. Coleman, professor at Lewis and Clark College, was the principal speaker at the First Unitarian Church on Wednesday of last week. He choose for his subject, "How to Handle Race Problems," and also discussed the problems of Post War in the matter of race relations.

Dr. Coleman was formerly president of Reed College and instructor at Spellman College.

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