

★ ★ ★ SUPERLATIVE BIG "3" UNIT SET FOR TOUR



LUIS RUSSELL and his orchestra  
"Hit Band of the Year."

SAVANNAH CHURCHILL  
"America's Song Favorite."

"DEEK" WATSON'S QUARTET  
"Singing Sensation of the Nation."

HERE they are the greatest hit show of the 1945 Spring season, the superlative Big "3" Unit which is set for a tour across the country—north, south, east and west. Savannah Churchill, America's favorite song stylist, popular Manor Records best-seller whose waxing of "Daddy, Daddy" and Irving Berlin's "All Alone," is tops, will be featured with "Deek" Watson and His Brown Dots, the quartet that N. Y. critics hailed as, "the singing favorites of the nation." The Brown Dots recently recorded (for

Manor Records). "31 Miles For A Nickle," "Let's Give Love Another Chance," "For Sentimental Reasons," and "You're Heaven Sent."

Luis Russell and His Orchestra hailed as the "Hit Band of the Year," will round out this star-studded show. Russell's (Manor) recordings of "Boogie in the Basement," "You Taught Me How To Smile Again," along with "St. Louis Holiday," and "I Need Your Kind Of Loving," is first rate. Milton Buggs is the vocalist with the band.

Exclusive to Ted Yates Publications

Good Luck Smiles On Negro Liberty Ships

Only two out of the 18 Liberty ships named for outstanding Negro Americans and Negro seamen who have lost their lives in this war were among the 570 United States flag merchant ships lost from direct war causes between September 1, 1939, and May 8, 1945, the War Shipping Administration announced this week.

The two ships sunk by direct enemy action were the SS FREDERICK DOUGLASS, named for the famed abolitionist leader and editor, and lost in the northwest Atlantic September 20, 1943, and the SS ROBERT L. VANN, designated in honor of the founder and publisher of The Pittsburgh Courier, and sunk in the northeast Atlantic on March 1, 1944.

The WSA report did not include American-owned vessels under foreign flags. Two of the Negro-named vessels are in this category. They were the SS PAUL LAURENCE DUNBAR, bearing the name of the famous Negro poet, and the SS ROBERT S. ABBOTT, the Liberty ship, which honored the founder and publisher of The Chicago Defender.

The 570 vessels were part of 1,554 United States flag merchant ships of 6,277,077 deadweight tons lost from war causes and marine casualties largely due to war conditions between 1939 and 1945.

The destruction of ships by the enemy was accompanied by heavy loss of life. The latest Merchant Marine casualty list reports 5,579 merchant seamen dead and missing, and 487 prisoners of war, a total of 6,066 as of May 1, 1945.

An overwhelming percentage of the merchant vessels were de-

stroyed by German or Italian submarines, air attacks and mines, with 68 lost in Japanese areas. The most extensive destruction was in the north Atlantic, where wolfpacks of U-boats prowled against convoys to the British Isles and north Russia until curbed by fast-expanding Allied naval and air power, including the use of escort carriers, such as the 50 designed and built by the United States Maritime Commission for the Navy.

The dark days of 1942, before new methods of combatting enemy attacks on shipping had been perfected, witnessed the height of the German and Italian attempt to halt the transport of troops and munitions to the European war theater. In the five months from March through July, 204 American merchant ships were sunk, an average of more than one a day. In June of 1942, the highest point of losses of the war was reached, the enemy sending 49 U. S. vessels to the bottom in 30 days.

Starting with the sinking of the SS CITY OF RAYVILLE, November 8, 1940, after 1943 losses were cut to 129, of 885,076 deadweight tons. Last year the enemy sank only 59. To the 1944 total should be added as war losses, however, the 27 U. S. flag vessels that were over-age or had been knocked out but not sunk in combat. These vessels were scuttled by their own crews to form the artificial harbors that helped make successful the Allied invasion of Normandy. From January 1, 1945, to May 8, an additional 22 vessels were lost.

The North Atlantic has naturally proved the most desirable hunting ground for Axis submarines. Up to the end of last year, 219 American merchant ships were sunk, 141 in the northwest area and 8 in the northeast Atlantic, in addition to the 27 sunk off Normandy. Next, the Caribbean Sea was the most thoroughly exploited area for enemy submarine operations, with 122 of our vessels lost.

In the Pacific, Axis submarines and air attack account for 44 American ships; in the south Atlantic, 42; in the Mediterranean and Black Seas, 39; in the Gulf of Mexico, 25; in the Red Sea and Indian Ocean, 27; in the approaches to the Mediterranean, 18; and in the undetermined areas, 7.

GI's Contribute To College Fund

New York—As an indication of their interest in America's future, Negro enlisted men and their officers in the Armed Forces of the United States have already contributed \$10,220 to the 1945 United Negro College Fund campaign for the war time needs of 32 private accredited colleges and universities, it was announced this week by Thomas A. Morgan, national chairman.

"The significant thing about this gesture is that \$8,500 of the amount has been sent from overseas," Mr. Morgan pointed out. "Letters received at national headquarters indicate that Negro soldiers on battle fronts through-

out the world are giving serious thought to their future."

In many instances, according to the letters, contributions for the College Fund have been collected at special chapel services where Negro education has been the subject of discussion.

"Many of the men of this battalion," wrote the Special Service Officer of the 784th Tank Battalion, "have already shown an eagerness to take advantage of the post-war educational opportunities under the GI Bill and will attend some of the colleges that participate in the Fund."

One of the largest contributions received was from the 24th Infantry, a Negro unit fighting in the South Pacific Theater which sent a check totaling \$4,523.13. Four companies of the 1887th Engineers Aviation Battalion in the same Theater contributed \$1,137.99.

In the European Theater, officers and men at Headquarters of the 41st Construction Battalion gave \$1,062.28 and from the 607th Ordnance Ammunition Company \$232.55 was received.

During the 1945 United Negro College Fund campaign the importance of providing adequate education opportunities for the returning Negro veteran in schools associated with the Fund has constantly been stressed. Approximately 30,000 Negro soldiers intend to enroll in colleges and other educational institutions above the high school level following discharge according to a recent Army survey.

Other Fund contributions from 1534th Truck Company in the the Armed Service include: Pacific, \$134; members of the 892nd Engineers Aviation Company, 214.84; Quartermasters Service Companies at Indiantown Gap Reservation, Pa., \$250.83;

Company B, 4th Medical Battalion, 4th Infantry, \$100; Headquarters, 267th Quartermasters Battalion, \$512.

Also, members of the 707th Medical Unit, \$7.20; the 394th Quartermasters Truck Company, \$226.20; officers and men of the Headquarters of the 87th Chemical Unit, overseas, \$125. Enlisted men and officers in the various branches of the Armed Services have made individual gifts ranging up to \$100.

Negroes in the Armed Forces contributed \$35,000 to the Fund in last year's campaign. On the basis of the \$10,220 received thus far, it is expected that 1945 Armed Service contributions will surpass the 1944 total.

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