



During press reception in the London Grill Allen Jones chats with hotel manager Paul Himmelman in front of 1793 English fireplace.



Entertainment Guide

by Allan Jones

LONDON GRILL RE-OPENS IN THE BENSON

The London Grill, Portland's gourmet landmark in The Benson, reopened its doors with a new look December 10th. The Grill has been closed for remodeling since early November, and an interim restaurant set up in another area of the hotel. The remodeling was the final step of a six-month upgrading program on The Grill.

The most obvious change to greet Grill patrons will be the open, uncrowded atmosphere. This has been accomplished by removing the low partitions, decreasing the seating by 25% and installing new and more traditional chandeliers and wall lights.

The familiar oak casks along the far wall have been removed. In their place is a circa 1793 English polished steel fireplace, accented with mirrors. The big cooking hood over the display kitchen has been embellished with a covering of brass foil.

The gray-black ceiling has given way to a raisin-brown color that picks up the red tones in the leather upholstery. Red wallpaper and new hunting scene pictures further accentuate the decor. All the original oak panelling has been retained.

The bar has been relocated to near the base of the main stairs, especially convenient for diners as a meeting place for a before-dinner drink. New bar tables in the "early Industrial Revolution" style retain the flavor of an English pub.

The already-famous dinner menu has several delicious additions. Appetizer choices now include Columbia River caviar, fresh artichokes (served hot or cold), shrimp cocktail with avocado and freshly marinated herring. From the "new French cuisine" comes a house specialty; sauteed chicken with tarragon ("Poulet Saute a l'Estragon"). New seafood entrees include Filet of Red Snapper with Ginger and Poached Filet of Flounder with Mussel Sauce. And the already-extensive beef section now offers "Flamed Peppersteak Madagascar." Another new dish, Sauteed Chicken Stuffed with Crabmeat, joins the Northwest salmon (baked or poached) and prime rib on the complete dinner. New breakfast and lunch menus have been similarly expanded.

The London Grill first opened in 1955 and has won nearly every significant U.S. dining and cuisine award. It had remained unchanged for 23 years, longer

Black soap operas mask discrimination in media

by Earl Ofari

(PNS) — George Jefferson, star of the popular Black comedy series, "The Jeffersons," returns to his old Harlem neighborhood on Christmas Eve to aid a needy family. At the commercial break, a Black family celebrates a reunion with smiles and Pepsi-Cola all around.

From all such outward appearances — "The Jeffersons", Black faces in commercials, Black reporters and Black radio broadcasters — equal opportunity now prevails in the media.

But behind his Black and white picture of harmony on the airwaves is a pattern of Black exclusion from media employment as serious as ever.

The myth that Blacks now play a consequential role in the shape and operations of the networks was effectively shattered last summer by a lengthy U.S. Civil Rights Commission report on women and minorities in television. Appropriately titled "Window Dressing on the Set," the report presented statistics on the number and percentage of minorities employed in program, administrative, and management positions.

The findings, based on a sample of forty stations, were dismal. The majors, ABC, CBS, NBC, came under particular fire. In the off-camera positions (sound, lighting, direction and production) minorities made up less than two percent of the crews.

Blacks and minorities in management fared even worse. In four categories of officials ranging from news director to business manager, there were no Blacks employed. Of the top thirteen management categories, only one was held by a Black. That slot, which is a general managership, is held at an NBC affiliate in Jackson, Mississippi.

The prospects for any substantial

change in this situation appear equally grim, especially after considering the expressed opinions of those station managers the commission interviewed. Most were convinced that minorities "lacked the appropriate qualifications or experience necessary" for the higher positions.

The report also revealed that the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), whose responsibility it is to monitor station practices, has no guidelines specifying that any of its licensees take affirmative action steps to correct deficiencies in minority employment.

While Blacks were making little progress in behind-the-scenes employment, there did appear to be a significant breakthrough in screen access. New shows (almost always comedy or variety) were being scripted, and a few name personalities began to prosper.

However, the new 1978-79 season represents a different ball game. There are no Blacks in any lead roles in any of the new series. Only two Blacks have supporting roles in the 21 shows. The four shows in which Blacks held leading roles last season were cancelled. Presently, only NBC has even developed a pilot for a Black show, "Harris & Company," which may or may not be seen later in the viewing season.

Many observers thought that the spectacular success of a series like "Roots" would turn the head of some industry officials. Their concern has always been over the proven marketability and "appeal" of Black shows for white audiences. The lack of commitment this year shows that Hollywood remains unconvinced of Black drawing power.

The pattern of media racism is the same in commercial advertising. Black visibility, which certainly has increased in commercials, again does not represent a significant employment shift.

than any other restaurant in the Western International Hotels group of which The Benson is a member. The London Grill was one of the first in a trend toward bringing distinctive, specialty dining into the country's fine hotels, rather than dining rooms that were merely considered places for guests to eat.

The Grill's redesign is the work of Seattle designers John Fikkan and John Jones, both Senior Designers of Western Service & Supply Company, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Western International Hotels. Kaspar Murer, a recent addition to The Benson staff, is Director of Restaurants and Xavier Bauser is Executive Chef for the London Grill.

Western International Hotels is a wholly-owned subsidiary of UAL, Inc., parent company of United Airlines. The prestigious hospitality firm owns or manages fifty hotels in fourteen countries throughout the world. Western International Hotels is the oldest operating major hotel management company in America.

Community Calendar

The PSU Educational Center will present "Purlie Victories," Ossie Davis' play about the pre-civil rights South December 21st, 22nd 23rd and December 28th, 29th and 30th at 8:00 p.m. at PUS Lincoln Hall (229-4440).

Crime Prevention Workshop for senior citizens. Thursday, January 18th and 25th, 3:00 p.m. Ockly Green School.

Ockly Green Community School classes begin January 8th (call 285-8269).

Business and Professional Circle of Mt. Olivet Church, second annual Christmas Tea, December 17th, 1:00-3:00 p.m., 116 N.E. Schuyler. Proceeds will go to the scholarship fund. Chairman is Mrs. Jewell F. Bowman.

Portland Modulators' "Disco Break," Friday, December 15th, 9:00 p.m.-1:00 a.m. at Elks Club, 6 N. Tillamook. Music by Gene Holmes. Proceeds to scholarship fund.

Margaret Hill, choir member of St. Philip Episcopal Church, will play the part of the witch in Lake Oswego Community Theater production of "Hansel and Gretel." Thursday-Saturday, December 14th-16th and 21st-23rd at the Theater in Lake Oswego (635-3901).

Grand opening will be held at the newly refurbished North Precinct/St. Johns City Hall, 7214 N. Philadelphia. The ceremonies will begin at 10:00 a.m. and offices will be open until 6:00 p.m. The building will be open on Saturday from 11:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. and on Sunday from 1:00-4:00 p.m. The opening ceremony will feature Mayor Neil Goldschmidt, Commissioner Charles Jordan, and Commissioner Frank Ivancie. The Jefferson High School Brass Band will perform.

On December 16th, at 7:30 p.m. at Portland's Memorial Coliseum the Portland Winterhawks will sponsor a Portland Police Sunshine Division Night to raise food for the Sunshine Division's Annual Christmas Food Drive.

The game will feature the Portland Winterhawks vs. the Seattle Breakers. Children under 12 years of age will be admitted free with a donation of canned food or a non-perishable food item. Sunshine food barrels will be available at the front gate. Standard admission fees will be in effect for all people 12 years or older. Please come, bring your family and friends and help the Sunshine Division lend a helping hand to a needy family at Christmas.

Olga Broumas, 1976 Yale Younger Poet, will give a benefit reading for A Woman's Place Bookstore on Tuesday, December 19th, 8:00 p.m. at the Northwest Service Center, 1956 N.W. Everett. A native of Greece, Ms. Broumas brings to her powerful feminist poetry an unusual precision in the use of the English language. Tickets are available at A Woman's Place Bookstore (1300 S.W. Washington) and at the door. Childcare will be free and refreshments available. For further information and to make childcare arrangements, call A Woman's Place Bookstore at 226-0848.

"The Healthy Body," a practical course in health maintenance and body awareness, is being presented this winter by Portland State University. The instructor is Dr. Arn Strasser, a Portland chiropractic Physician interested in preventive and drugless wholistic health. For further information contact the Department of Continuing Education at 229-4812.

The Albina Ministerial Alliance announces the sponsorship of the U.S.D.A. Child Care Food Program. Meals will be made available to enrolled children at no separate charge with regard to race, color, or national origin. Meals are provided at the following sites: Bethel Child Care Center, 5828 N.E. 8th Avenue; Berean Child Care Center, 4822 N. Vancouver Avenue; Children's Millennium, 1624 N.E. Hancock; Hughes Day Care Center, 111 N.E. Failing; Woodlawn Day Care Center, 1425 N.E. Dekum; Iris Court Day Care Center, 400 N. Sumner; North Area Sattelite, 9009 N. Foss; and Southeast Day Care Center, 2800 S.E. Harrison. Approved U.S.D.A. Family Day Care Homes.

Bill Cosby's smiling face and O.J. Simpson's sprints through airports obscure the fact that there are thousands of Black actors and actresses denied employment because they don't possess celebrity name and status. A TV executive admitted that an advertiser's sales depend on the public "identifying" with the product's on-camera representative.

TV is, of course, America's glamor medium, so it might be expected that selectivity in hiring of minorities would be a persistent issue. But could this also be said of the operations of radio networks?

The problem for Blacks in radio boils down to one simple thing: absence of ownership. Radio stations yearly reap millions from broadcasting "soul" music, while Blacks control virtually none of the product. Blacks own 51 commercial stations nationally, in contrast to the more than 8,000 white-owned stations.

The deteriorating situation for Blacks in the commercial media has prompted many to explore the possibilities of employment and access in the public or non-commercial media outlets. A few public networks such as the independent Pacifica stations have recently made gains in Black employment. Black managers and program directors have been hired at Pacifica stations in Berkeley and Houston.

This positive trend has not carried over to those public stations, both TV and radio, funded by the government-supported Corporation for Public Broadcasting. National Public Radio, which airs news and views programs daily over thousands of stations across the country, has only one Black correspondent. He serves as part of the national/international news team, with the primary charge of covering African affairs.

If tokenism is the order in TV and radio, their are still large numbers of newspapers that don't offer even

that. A study by the American Society of Newspaper Editors found that fully 88 percent of U.S. newspapers with circulations under 10,000 employed no minority reporters. Other survey findings showed:

- Eleven minority members of management out of the thousands of editors employed by newspapers;
- expenditures for scholarship and training programs for prospective minority journalists decreased from \$225,000 to \$115,000 between 1972 and 1977;
- and only four percent of the editors and reporters of the newspapers surveyed were minority.

Not surprisingly, the lack of Blacks in the media has severely limited coverage of news and events from the Black community. White editors, either through ignorance or disinterest, often confine their coverage of the Black community to stereotyped reporting of crime or entertainment events.

Moreover, there is the additional problem of biased reporting which continues to creep into the media's style. "Forced busing," "reverse discrimination," "whites massacred," are loaded terms used again and again by reporters and announcers in describing the day's events.

With affirmative action under attack, and federal and state agencies increasingly reluctant to "tamper" with the media, the chances of reversing what the Urban League's Vernon Jordan labels "the new negativism" as it affects the media seem remote. Robert Maynard, chairman of the Institute for Journalism Education, noted that newspapers are no longer looking for minority journalists. "It's not an issue of supply," he said. "It's an issue of demand."

(Earl Ofari is public-affairs analyst for KPFK radio, Los Angeles, and the author of "The Myth of Black Capitalism.")

MARIE'S KITCHEN
 Tues-Thurs 6:30 am-6 pm - Fri-Sat 6:30 am-3:30 am - Sun 6:30 am-3:30 pm
CLOSED MONDAY



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SPECIAL CHITTLINGS DAILY
 5246 N.E. UNION
 287-9363
 PORTLAND, ORE.

NEW LIFE SERVICE COMPANY
 "Exquisite Quality"
LEATHER RECOLORING AND VINYL REPAIR
 AUTO & FURNITURE
 STRIPING & SIDE MOLDING
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 7 lbs. **1.79**
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