

# The Pittsburgh Courier's Feature Page

## America's Highest Paid and Most Glamorous Band, Led By The Inimitable 'Duke', Coming Here For Monster Coronation

### ATTESTS TO DUKE'S POPULARITY



KATE SMITH

Famous "Moon Comes Over the Mountain" radio crooner, who cast her ballot for the one and only Duke Ellington on the eve of the closing of The Courier's annual band contest. Miss Smith's soothing voice is heard and appreciated in every village and hamlet in America.

### Father of Blues Congratulates Duke

New York, Jan. 3, 1933.

Floyd G. Snellson, Theatrical Editor, Pittsburgh Courier, Pittsburgh, Pa.

The father of the blues, who is also the grandfather of jazz, congratulates the Duke on his accession to the throne, King of Jazz Rhythm, for which he fought so valiantly. Knowing what the people want and giving it is why Cab is their Prince of Jazz Rhythm. Long live the King.

W. C. HANDY, Author and composer of "St. Louis Blues."

### ACE OF SYNCOPATION



NOBLE SISSLE

Noted orchestra leader, who took third honors in the nationwide contest for the title of "King of Jazz Rhythm." Mr. Sissle stood very high in the running.

### New York's First Nighter

By TED YAKES

Teddy Hill and His Orchestra, that hail from the Savoy Ballroom, the showplace of Harlem, furnish some of the hot music which they give Lindy Hoppers, dance lovers and their radio audience when they appear nightly at the "Home of Happy Feet." The Gaines Brothers "steal" the show with their acrobatic bits; hurling themselves about the stage, crawling, flying through space, giving every indication that they themselves hardly know what's coming next. Comedy by Mutt & Jeff is fair, but the dancing of Addison Carey's "Careyettes" tossed in between bits pleased most. These girls, wherever they appear, bring forth new steps and dance movements which might be termed "origines" by the Careyettes.

"Thirteen Women," with Irene Dunn and Ricardo Cortez, a thriller is presented on the screen. It will thrill you—and probably chill you to the bones.

Chilton & Thomas appeared at the Paradise, Loew's beautiful Bronx playhouse, for the first half . . . Buck & Bibbia, headliners at Loew's State . . . Duke Ellington & His Orchestra, billed at the Keith-Albee Theater . . . A new "Hot Chocolate" is due on Broadway . . . Claude Hopkins continues at the Roseland Ballroom with a croole floor show . . . Earl Howard and His Cincinnati remain at the Rose Danceland . . . Elmer Snowden & His Orchestra and a nice club revue at the Saratoga . . . Don Redman and His Orchestra, with the Four Mills Brothers, Marian Lattimore and a specialty show, click at Coma's Inn . . . The Savoy Ballroom, the show place of Harlem continues to present its monster dance attractions, Bennie Moten and His Kansas City Orchestra, along with the San Domingans and a bevy of charming

### BLUES AUTHOR

W. C. HANDY

The father of the blues and the grandfather of jazz, writes his approval of the victory of Duke Ellington, who will be crowned the "King of Jazz Rhythm" at the Pythian Temple in Pittsburgh Monday evening.

hostesses . . . The New Checker Club featured club dates had a busy holiday week and promises to regain its popularity of former days . . . At the Radiant Club the Monday morning breakfast dances at the . . . Small's Paradise presenting its "Black Rhythm Revue" and Charlie Johnson's Orchestra . . . A different type of entertainment—pleasing personalities greeting nightly, the Yesh Mant Theatre . . . Marjorie Sipp, Detroit Red and Eric Henry entertaining, Louis Mitchell, maitre d' hotel . . . The Alhambra Grill, Harold Hatter's Music and Victoria Vigil . . . Reservations advisable. Cab Calloway and His Orchestra . . . A smart, hilarious and fast-stepping revue, the Cotton Club—The Aristocrat of Harlem! Pizzant surroundings and "Corky" Williams at the piano, the Theatrical Grill . . . The First Nighter will be back again next week! . . . So long!

Hazel Lee and Her Boys somehow slow up the act presented at the 13th street playhouse. Can something be done about it? Comedy, songs and dance numbers were part of the gigantic New Year's show.

"Love Me Tonight," "Somebody Loves Somebody With," "The Seal Song" and a perfect arrangement of Duke Ellington's "Wood Riddle" as presented by those up and coming radio artists, The Three Keys, won the gratitude of the audience and a warm ovation. I am positive of that.

### THE HOTTEST BAND IN THE WORLD--DUKE ELLINGTON, "THE KING OF JAZZ RHYTHM"



When you see and hear Duke Ellington and his orchestra, the Aristocrats of Jazz, you have seen and heard the best that the Race has produced. There is only one band that plays like this, and that is the Duke. Hot! Hot! Hotter than Hot! Bluer than Blue! Bluer than Blue! The center photograph includes: Duke Ellington, conductor and piano; Harry Carney, Johnny Hodges, Barney Bigard and Otto Hardwick, saxophone and clarinet; Artie Whetsol, Charlie Williams (also lower left) and Freddie Jenkins (also top left), trumpets; Joe Nanton, Lawrence Brown and Juan Tizol (also upper right), trombones; William Brad, bass; Freddie Guy, banjo, and Sonny Greer, drums. The comely young lady in the lower right is none other than the charming hot-cha songbird, Ivie Anderson. These are the very latest picture of the famous aggregation, who will appear at Pythian Temple, Pittsburgh, on Monday evening, January 9th, when the Duke will be crowned the "King of Jazz Rhythm."

## DUKE HAS WEEKLY INCOME OF \$5,500 AND EQUIPMENT VALUED AT \$30,000

NEW YORK, Jan. 5.—Carrying more than \$30,000 worth of musical and uniform equipment and the startling earning power of over \$5,500 weekly, the debonair Duke Ellington's brilliant band, which will come to the Pythian Temple in Pittsburgh next Monday for the colorful coronation of the Duke, has earned the unique distinction of being the highest paid and most glamorous musical aggregation in all America.

Sweep along to a dramatic victory after a veritable flood of votes in the final stages of The Pittsburgh Courier's second annual Most Popular Orchestra contest, the national system in which the inimitable Duke and his band are held, was easily apparent. At times during the 1932 battle of ballots for the musical supremacy of America, it appeared that the trend of popularity was toward the hi-de-hoing Cab Calloway, but an eleventh hour volley of votes for Duke to retain the coveted crown of King which he won in 1932, carried him to a glorious triumph. Popular acclaim, however, gave to Cab, runner-up in the contest, the coveted crown of Prince of Jazz.

Duke's Troupe Travels in Style Rated along with Paul Whiteman, Bing Crosby, Guy Lombardo, Kate Smith and other headline band and radio attractions, Duke's orchestra has all the embellishments of America's greatest entertainment aggregations.

Entour the band travels in two luxurious, fully equipped Pullman sleepers. When the Duke "stops out," his band personnel includes 12 ace musicians in addition to himself, Ivie Anderson, celebrated hot-cha crooner; a personal secretary, two other assistants, a chauffeur, a specially trained caretaker for the \$30,000 worth of instruments, and two other assistants.

Equipment Most Prestigious in U.S. Almost every type of horn, brasses, reeds, and accessories known to the musical profession has been almost phenomenal.

### BURLESQUE



THE "DUKE"

No, this caricature is just a burlesque picture from the pen of a famous cartoonist, R. Berman, who has given his impression of the "King of Jazz Rhythm."

are included in the equipment of Ellington's band. Most of the band members are versatile and have the capability to use three, four and five different instruments. Band First To Break Into Movies. Duke's rise to national popularity is being almost phenomenal.

### Who's The King Of Rhythm?

Some says give me Cab, the hi-de-hi man. Others says Fletcher Henderson, has a premium band. Father Hines is O. K. with me at the keys. While listening to Bennie Moten, I am pleased. McKinney's Cottonpickers, I liked to forget! Ye a man, don't forget Cecil Scott. Noble Sissle is the man, that leads. No Don Redman with his Chant of the Weed's). Edward's Collegians and Johnson pals. Jimmie Lunceford, has had his day. How am I doing it, Blanche Calloway is in your way. Claude Hopkins and Les Hite, they are honorable names. Bama, Collegians and Andy Kirk, likewise the same. Edward's Collegians and Johnson pals. All go over big with the gals. Hardy Brothers stand out by themselves. Zack Whyte by no means on a shift. Don't forget Harlem the Black and Tan. Now, I have my favorite, Duke Ellington is the band. By JAMES KENDRICK.

Nashville, Tenn.

Not only has the troupe become the toast of most of America's major cities, and especially its two biggest metropolises, New York and Chicago, but the Duke's band was the first one to really crash into the films in Hollywood. "Amos 'n' Andy" was their initial venture, and it was the first time in the history of the movies that a Negro band was given a real "spot" and played up as one of the big features of the picture. His Popularity Still On the Ascent. Due to the fact that most of Duke's musicians are young men, who are constantly perfecting, studying and improving themselves, it is highly probable that his band will continue its phenomenal popularity for the next ten or fifteen years. Their ages range from 23 to 33 and they are considered everywhere as one of the trimmest and most alert group of musicians in Negro band circles.

Pittsburgh Awaits The Appointment. All Pittsburgh is planning a welcome worthy only of royalty, when the Duke comes to town to receive the coveted crown next Monday night. Even the sensational reception tendered him last year is expected to fade into insignificance in the face of the ovation which is being arranged. And one of the biggest dance crowds in Pittsburgh's amusement history is being predicted by local prognosticators.