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STAGE SCREEN Pittsburgh Courier DRAMA MUSIC

NOTABLES PAY TRIBUTE TO RICHARD HARRISON

STERLING QUALITIES ARE CITED

CHICAGO, March 21—(ANP)—Ministers, educators, editors and many persons from all walks of life, paid tribute last week, to Richard B. Harrison, "de Lawd," of "The Green Pastures," on the occasion of his death in the Fifth Avenue Hospital, New York. Among the tributes were the following:

Washington (D. C.) Evening Star—"Mr. Harrison will be remembered. Personally, he was a kindly and gentle soul, and as an artist, he abundantly deserved his success. The monument which he would choose, it may be supposed, would be the continued prosperity of the play with which his name is so notably linked.

Robert R. Moton, president of Tuskegee Institute—"It was given to Richard B. Harrison to play an unique role in American life, that of interpreting the most exalted personality in the Universe, as 'De Lawd' in 'The Green Pastures.' The millions who sat under the spell of his inspiration, can testify to his irreproachable merit. What a glorious climax to his career!

Marc Connelly, author of "The Green Pastures"—"Richard Harrison was not an actor in the conventional sense. Up to the production of 'The Green Pastures,' his life had been largely spent in teaching elocution and poetry in Negro schools. He was a gentle, simple man, whose mellowness evidenced itself the first time I saw him. Everyone loved him and with him I feel that a great deal of sheer goodness has gone out of the world."

Roark Bradford, author of the book from which the play was adapted—"More gifted pens than mine will record the greatness of Richard B. Harrison. It seems appropriate for me to write only that he was my friend. I cannot bring myself to think about the loss to the world. It seems to me that Mr. Harrison left so much behind him that it will take a long time for the world to realize that he is gone."

Lloyd Lewis in the Chicago Daily News—"If the angel Gabriel, is what I think he is, he went right down to the pearly gates, last Thursday morning, wailed around till the shade of Richard B. Harrison appeared, then led it up the golden streets with the big exultant cry: 'Gangway! Gangway!' He was the only mortal, except Adam Lang of the Oberammergau players, who ever played God without offense or failure.

"And Mr. Harrison was more remarkable than Lang, for the German had the aid of religious tradition, natural mountain scenery and impressive atmosphere to aid him in his celebrated impersonation of the Divinity. Old Mr. Harrison, one evening, just walked onto a stage in the heart of pagan, money-changing Broadway, and began accepting 10-cent seegars from Negro angels who were having a fish fry in a plantation edition of Paradise * * * * he was as inherently a gentleman as I ever knew."

Charles Winter Wood, Harrison's understudy—"We thank the good Lord for the victory and triumph of Richard Harrison. He was one of the rare souls of our American life. He was the embodiment of simplicity."

Raleigh (N. C.) News and Observer—"...Is will be missed, but he will have left behind him, thousands who saw through his acting that the simple faith of simple men may not be half so comic as those who think themselves so superior in the forms and aspirations of their worship that they may laugh at others' conception of God and others' faith in that conception."

Am. N. Fields—"Not many men of his generation were better equipped for the service he gave to the world. When the call came, he did not falter nor repine but retreated with the aspect of a victor and though he succumbed, he seemed to conquer."

F. D. Blueford, president of the Greensboro A. & T. College, where Mr. Hason once taught and for which he planned to return: "He was a great teacher, a conscientious and dependable worker and a loyal friend. The people of both races here loved and honored him and he, in turn, loved them. Few men have done as much to bring about good will in the South as he. His death was a great shock to the college and the people of North Carolina are deply grieved at his passing."

REJECT OFFERS IN ST. LOUIS, DETROIT

CHICAGO, Mar. 21—The dance trio of Dink, Blink and Dink, who Earl J. Morris rated as the best dancing trio between Chicago and New York in his "Grandtown" column recently, turned down a lucrative offer to appear at Tony Scarpelli's Plantation Cafe in St. Louis Saturday. Two days before they refused a contract with Mr. Rosenbloom to work at the Ballyhoo Cafe in Detroit. The trio is currently appearing at Dave Cafe here.

HIGHLIGHT SKETCHES OF PLAY MADE FAMOUS BY RICHARD B. HARRISON

Note: Both tMr. Harrison and Salem Tutt Whitney have died.

James Fuller as "Cain the Sixth" and Edna Harris as "Zeba" in an exciting scene fro m"The Green Pastures."

Courier's Chicago Columnist Is Ill

Johnny Hudgins Wows 'em in Phila

PHILADELPHIA, March 21—John Hudgins, late star of Lew Leslie's Blackbirds and famous the world over for his pantomime performances, continues the talk of the town, heading a floor show of 24 people, namely, Eunice Wilson, Three dancing Jacks, a fast dancing chorus, Doc Hyder and his Southernaires, and many others at the spacious Plantation, on the East River Drive in Philadelphia.

Hudgins continues to knock the folks out of their seats at every show, with his silent pantomime act. Despite his many years in the business, the sleek and suave Johnny is a star of the highest, and still a tremendous box office attraction, wherever he appears.

Vanishing Americans: The Republicans and the Indian.

CHICAGO, March 21—Earl J. Morris, nationally-known columnist of The Pittsburgh Courier, was stricken with illness, Saturday, March 16th, Dr. Northcross, his personal physician, diagnosed the ailment as high blood pressure resulting from nervous strain and a cold complication.

Mr. Morris is noted for his interesting individual style of writing and is widely known all over the country and abroad, especially in the theatrical world. He has been ordered to remain in bed for at least two weeks longer to thoroughly recuperate.

Letters from his friends will reach him at his home, 4410 South Parkway avenue, Chicago, Ill. Joe Mark Kennedy will carry on during his illness and write his column, "Grandtown, Day and Night."

NADINE IN BUFFALO

BUFFALO, N. Y., Mar. 21—Nadine Henderson, 200 pounds of singing and dancing joy, arrived here last week to start rehearsals for the new revue to open soon at the Vendome Cafe.

Eddie South Opens In Rochester, N. Y.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., Mar. 21—Eddie South, the dark angel of the violin, opened at the RKO theater last Friday to fill a week's engagement. The famous violinist and his band moved here after a successful run in Troy the week before. Mr. South and his orchestra are touring the East. They are under RKO bookings.

WELCHER-BAINES DUO CLICK AT REGAL

CHICAGO, Mar. 21—Miss Mercedes Welcher and Miss Pearl Baines held their own in sharing starring honors with the Berry Brothers, James and Warren, Arthur Lee Simpkins and Carroll Dickerson's orchestra at the Regal theater this week in the "Grand Terror Revue of 1935."

A NEW ROAD SHOW?

DETROIT, Mar. 21—Reports have it that Herbie Benson, owner of the Black Kat Cafe here, will soon put a show on the road. The company will include such stars as Lawrence Stock, Loving Sam Theard and John Oscar. The troupe will hop to Pittsburgh on the first leg of the trip.

Lafayette Theatre Offered Rent Free For Drama Revival In Harlem

DON REDMON RETURNING TO HARLEM OPERA HOUSE

NEW YORK, March 21—The Harlem Opera House announces that Don Redmon and his orchestra will return as a feature attraction for the week beginning, Friday, March 29.

According to Jimmy Marshall, the manager of the Harlem Opera House, Don Redmon was received more enthusiastically than any of the well-known orchestras with the exception of Cab Calloway.

Real Effort to Be Made to Bring Serious Stage Productions Back Into Popular Favor.

NEW YORK, March 21—Harlem lovers of community inspired and community managed drama have an opportunity to launch a program in a regular commercial house at no expense, according to Frank Schiffman, manager of the Lafayette Theatre, 7th avenue and 131st street, who closed his house last week. For several weeks the Lafayette, formerly a vaudeville center, has been running as a motion picture theatre.

Mr. Schiffman, who is centering his vaudeville interests at the Harlem Opera House in 125th street, where he is managing director, said if a group of responsible people organized themselves into a dramatic company and came to him in a businesslike way he would give the use of the Lafayette free of rent as his contribution to the effort to revive drama in Harlem. He said all the theater expenses the group would have would be current, such as lighting and janatorial. Mr. Schiffman said also he would be glad to give such a group his professional advice, enabling them to save money on costumes, etc., and would help in every way possible as a friend of the drama, to help make the project a success. He said he has long wanted to see the drama revived in Harlem, but was not able to undertake it himself, in view of his other theatrical interests.

The Lafayette, the oldest playhouse in Harlem and long noted as the finest colored playhouse in America, has a colorful history.

The Lafayette Players became famous fifteen years ago, and many of them later achieved stardom on Broadway.

Apollo Theatre Gives "Success Formula" At End Of First Year

By FLOYD J. CALVIN

NEW YORK, Mar. 21—The 125th Street Apollo theater in Harlem, now in its second year, is going forward on the same principles which brought it safely through its first twelve months in a new field, according to Morris Sussman, managing director.

Known as one of the country's finest colored theaters, and with a reputation for integrity and honest dealings with both performers and the public of which it is justly proud, the management has outlined what may be termed a "Success Formula," which will remain as the basis of the theater's policy.

Mr. Sussman lists his points of achievement as follows:

Operated by Sidney L. Cohen, who also owns the property and the two adjoining buildings.

Policy of fair play the same both in front and back of the theater—meaning with the public and the performers.

Stands high in public esteem because of this iron-clad rule.

Has never broken a contract, nor tried to change after making one.

Never broken a promise nor an obligation.

Never been required to defend a law suit for payment of monies.

Nowhere else is the performer, the house employe, and the patron accorded a warmer welcome.

"The owners of the Apollo," said Mr. Sussman, "treat the public with as fine a grace and consideration as can be expected from anyone. It employs approximately 80 people and was the first theater in Harlem to employ an all-colored crew, including booth, stage hands, service staff and cashier."

"Performers," continued Mr. Sussman, "whether headline acts or minor acts, almost regret the time when their engagement comes to an end, so warm is the feeling of welcome, and so well has it permeated throughout the theater and into the community of Harlem." The management enjoys the confidence, respect and high esteem of the business and social life of Harlem, he said, adding that this spirit, no doubt, accounts for the tremendous popularity and growth of the playhouse in the very first year of its operation.

"The management takes pride in this standing in the community," Mr. Sussman concluded, "and this is a promise of its continuation. Practically all of our employes have been with us since the opening day: Producer Clarence Robinson, Emcee Ralph Cooper, all stage hands, operators, service staff and cashiers, and most of the chorus — the famous Apollo Rockets."

THE
Low Down
ON THEATRICALS IN
DETROIT
By ROLLO S. VEST

DETROIT, March 21—Everyone in Detroit seems to be busy trying to find a name for its colored district so they can ascend to the same level of New York, who has its "Harlem" and Chicago, who has its "Grandtown." ... The names are flying in from all directions with Sepiaville, Hotchie Circle, ... Mellow Rapids and loads of others being among the ones submitted... anyone is eligible to make a suggestion, just send your choice or choices to this writer at 2010 St. Antoine street, Detroit, Mich.

The "Three Rhythm Kings" are at the Fox Theatre and are doing their share to give the patrons their money's worth.

Bill Donaldson, newly appointed mid-Western representative for the Colored Artist Bureau, is busy getting a show together that will tour Ohio, Michigan, Missouri and other states ... Edna "Nacky Sacky" Lewis ... David Goliath ... Homer Jones ... and possibly the "Three Brown Specks," will comprise the show.

Ted Lewis, Detroit's latest contribution to fame and their third famous production, bearing the magic name of "Lewis," is still leading in the contest to determine this city's most outstanding and popular performer ... the contest is on the last lap and Lewis seems almost certain to win.

Atta Blake, after cutting all of the local hoofers, has quietly gone back into seclusion and can be seen nightly at the Club Harlem.

Lawrence Steele just closed at Herbie's Black Cat, an ofay spot after a very successful run of some 24 of 25 weeks ... Steele may leave soon to fill an engagement in Buffalo.

George McClennon will start producing at the Club Ballyhoo, shortly, it was learned ... at the present time, Shelton Brooks ... Charles Ray and Mae Larkins are among the singers, dancers, etc., at that bright and cheery spot.

Lucky Millinger and the Mills Blue Rhythm Band, will play here next Monday, the 25th and it is believed that he will out-draw Chick Webb, who played here last ... Chick Webb drew 3,500 people and not 3,400 as has been previously published ... Detroit's dance record is held by Duke Ellington, who drew 7,400 last August 13th, when he played for the "Unofficial Mayoralty Ball" at which Bill Walker was elected to office.

Herbert Brown and his wife, Loraine, are producing shows at the fashionable Club Plantation and call their initial bit of producing, "Jazz Mania." ... It is the fastest show seen in this spot for quite a time and rates four stars ... the production is ably carried by Paula, Edith King, Ted Lewis, the Three Brown Specks, Plantation Darlings and Earl Walton's orchestra ...

ETHER WAVES
By LILLIAN C. IRBY

C-B-S Network

WABC ..... 860 Kil.
WCAU ..... 1190 Kil.
WJAS ..... 1290 Kil.

The following schdule is listed Eastern Standard Time:

SUNDAY, MARCH 24

WJZ—
Southernaires ..... 10:00 A.M.
WABC—
Claude Hopkins ..... 12:00 Mid.

MONDAY, MARCH 25

WTAM—
Oleanders ..... 10:30 A.M.
WJZ—
Plantation Echoes .... 7:15 P.M.
WBBM—
Carroll Dickerson .... 10:30 P.M.
WCAE—
Four Barons ..... 11:00 P.M.
WWSW—
Amateur Night ..... 11:30 P.M.

TUESDAY, MARCH 26

WEAF—
Riva Taylor ..... 9:30 A.M.
WEAF—
Willie Bryant's Orch.. 8:30 P.M.
WABC—
Mills Bros. ..... 9:00 P.M.
WCAE—
Four Barons ..... 11:00 P.M.

N-B-C Network

WJZ ..... 760 Kil.
WEAF ..... 660 Kil.
KDKA ..... 980 Kil.
WCAE ..... 1220 Kil.

WNEW—
Amateur Night In Harlem ..... 11:00 P.M.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27

WEAF—
Eva Taylor ..... 9:30 A.M.
WTAM—
Oleanders ..... 10:30 A.M.
WWSW—
Elder Beck ..... 1:30 P.M.
WCAE—
Four Barons ..... 11:00 P.M.
WJZ—
Ink Spots ..... 11:30 P.M.

THURSDAY, MARCH 28

WEAF—
Willie Bryant's Orch. 5:45 P.M.
WCAE—
Four Barons ..... 11:00 P.M.

FRIDAY, MARCH 29

WTAM—
Oleanders ..... 10:30 A.M.
WCAE—
Four Barons ..... 11:00 P.M.
WABC—
Claude Hopkins ..... 12:00 Mid.

SATURDAY, MARCH 30

WBBM—
Carrol Dickerson ..... 11:00 P.M.

Actress Stricken; Rushed to Sanitarium

ST. LOUIS, Mar. 21—Mary Richards, cafe star, who is suffering from a nervous breakdown, was rushed here by her stage sister, Daisy Boone, who is starring at the Plantation Cafe, for a rest at a local sanitarium. Miss Richards had been co-starring and co-producing at Dave's cafe in Grandtown.

Wen Talbert Makes Hit At Bike Races

Plays With Orchestra of 60 People at Madison Square Garden.

NEW YORK, March 21—Wen Talbert and his Madison Square Garden orchestra of sixty people are the musical attractions at the annual six-day bike race at Madison Square Garden, which closed last week. The Talbert outfit had two baby grand pianos at its disposal and made a dramatic picture in the center of the garden. There were singers in the organization as well as players.

The reception received by the singers in this unique spot was lavish. Mr. Talbert's outfit furnished music for the hockey races in the same auditorium recently.

Herbert and Loraine form the famous Apache team of "Brown and Brown."

If New York starts it ... the whole world will soon follow and this Detroit starts an amateur show ... The Gold Leaf ballroom is the first to start this latest craze, their first attempt was Sunday, with Raymond Winchester and His Rhythm Aces a novelty band of homemade instruments, drums, bass violin, etc.) ... Snakehip Peterson ... Henry Paschel ... Lillian Ryedale, finishing in the order named.

If you think you have a good name to submit for a name for the colored district of Detroit, don't fail to send it to me immediately, as the contest closes April 1st ... Don't fail me!

"Shep" Allen Feted By Admirers In D.C.

Likeable Manager of Howard Theater Finds Out Just How Popular He Is—Don Redman Plays.

By WILLIAM FORSYTHE, JR.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 21—All Washington's theatre-goers and hundreds more of the admirers of the genial Shepard "Shep" Allen, manager of the Howard Theatre turned out anuaaase Tuesday night at a testimonial Midnite Show given in his honor at the Howard Theatre.

Judge Wm. C. Houston, Sr., headed the special committee that planned this gigantic gesture upon the part of the admirers of this most popular and well-liked person in the form of a special program with selected artists famous in site club life and also on the stage.

A splendid program was presented with Don Redmond and his famous band furnishing the lyrics for the occasion, that headline such names as Wade and Wade of the D. C. Cotton Club, Babe Wallace of the same nite spot, Bee Foote, Harlan Lattimore, Roland Holder, Dusty Fletcher and several other stars of national repute.

Mr. Allen was the recipient of hundreds of telegrams from his friends a numbered among whom were Duke Ellington, Cande Hopkins, Cab Calloway, Bill Robinson, Earl Hines, Ethel Waters and a host of other notables in the theatrical world and other fields.

Roscoe Ales, the stuttering comic, playing currently at one of the downtown theatres, was also one of the specia guests at the affair.

Prior to the testimonial ceremonies fo Mr. Allen he was honor guest at a stag dinner given by the committee at the Capital Pleasure Club.

"SHEP" ALLEN

HONORED

ACTOR-PLAYWRIGHT SCORES IN RECI

CHICAGO, Mar. 21—(ANP)—Joseph R. Jones, actor-playwright, appeared in recital at the Baptist Church Monday night. He was supported by Dr. Scott, Russian soprano, and H. C. Bridgeman, and Cooper, tenor.

Mr. Jones directs the "Jones Ahead" all-colored program on radio station WCFL at Friday afternoon.

BABERO BEST EMCEE

BUFFALO, N. Y., Mar. 21—Basil Babero, half-caste singing dancing master of ceremonies, rated by the local press as the cleanest emcee in this city, will be held as an opener in Harlem soon.

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OPERA HOUSE
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Week Beg. Friday, Mar. 22
TINY BRADSHAW
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FAMOUS BAND
With Cast of 50
GALLIE & CRACKSHOT
DORIS RHEUBOTTOM
Ubangi Club male chorus
Special Added Attraction
"BIRDLAND"
One of the most amazing novelties on the stage
ON THE SCREEN
'Wings of the Dark'
MYRNA LOY, CARY GRANT
LEONARD REED
Master of Ceremonies

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THEATRE
Near 8th Ave., New York
Week Beg. Friday, Mar. 1
—ON STAGE—
FLETCHER
HENDERSON
And His
NEW ORCHESTRA
Return Engagement of
BOB HOWARD
RADIO'S AMBASSADOR OF THE IVORIES
BIG STAGE REVUE
Clarence Robinson's
'NICE GOINGS ON'
Every Wed., 11 p. m. to 12 M. Broadcast From Stage
THE ORIGINAL
Amateur Night In Harlem
With the one and only
RALPH COOPER
Now In Its 31st Week