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SHAKESPEAREAN REVIVAL

The Broadway stage is this season witnessing a revival of Shakespeare with Katherine Cornell starring in "Romeo and Juliet;" Alfred Lunt and Lynne Fontaine in "The Taming of the Shrew" and "Othello" with Philip Merivale and Gladys Cooper all going at the same time. Of special interest to The Age readers is the fact that a white actor was given the title role in "Othello" while Paul Robeson and several other capable colored performers were available. Robeson recently essayed this role in a London production of the play and according to reports acquitted himself very well. Is it that New York is not yet ready to have a colored actor star opposite a white actress?

Or is it the fact that few Negro actors have a following of any considerable size among their own people, while the leading white actors do have such a following that assures some measure of success to any play in which they appear.

In looking over the public prints, I noted that the Yiddish Theatre would open its season with 11 separate shows at as many theatres and the thought occurred to me that the Negro theatre group would again be dormant this season. Can't something be done by the Little Theatre groups of Harlem?

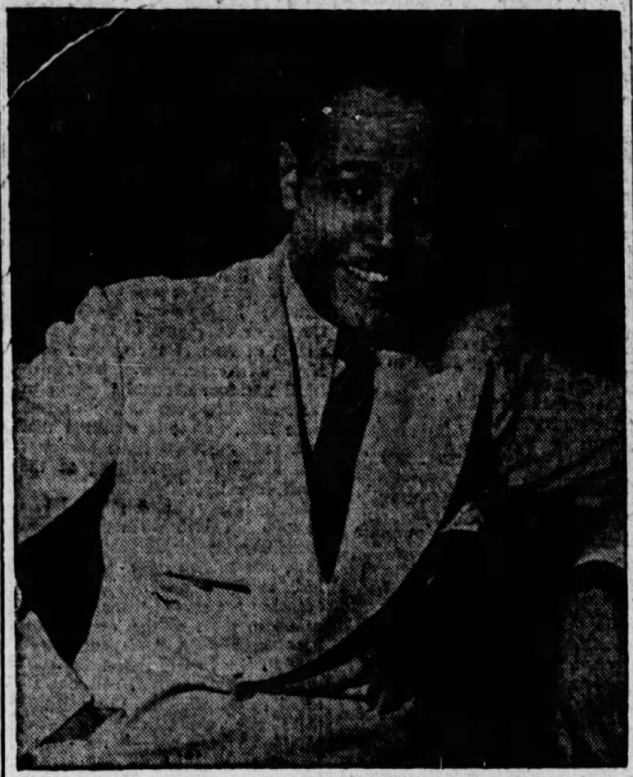
DUKE ELLINGTON

In a recent issue of "Variety" there appeared a full page advertisement calling attention to the fact that the services of Duke Ellington and his band were available for a commercial radio broadcast. For the past ten years the Duke's orchestra has been kept so busy that there was little need for them to advertise. But now they are finding the going tough too, and the fact that so fine a group of musicians as this find themselves unable to get regular employment causes one to wonder if there isn't a conspiracy to keep the Negro bands off the air.

If one were to make a list of the half dozen best bands in the country certainly the name of Ellington's or Claude Hopkins' or Don Redmon's band would have to be included, and yet these bands are all forced to make personal appearances at theatres in colored neighborhoods to earn a living. We often hear the phrase, "Art transcends race" but in the case of the colored artists this is not always true, for them opportunity is still limited and very few get the chance to appear in the large public forums where all races may hear and appreciate their art.

Incidentally, Ellington's band will be featured at the Apollo Theatre for the week beginning Friday, October 4.

To Start At Apollo This Friday



Here is an unusually happy pose of Duke Ellington, internationally famous orchestra leader, who will appear at the Apollo Theatre during the week of October 4th. Ivy Anderson, Meers and Meers, the 3 Dukes and several other celebrities will appear in the supporting cast. The revue is being staged by Clarence Robinson.

Paramount Plans All-Negro Musical Comedy Production

HOLLYWOOD—Plans are being ade by Paramount for a screen musical starring an all-colored cast. The name for the vehicle, which has been conceived and developed by Ernst Lubitsch, is the "Chocolate Princess." Lubitsch will supervise the production also.

All of the biggest colored names in the field of stage, vaudeville and radio will be signed up for the picture which is scheduled to go into producion early nex spring.

Pacific Coast Youth

Harlem Movie Houses

LINCOLN — Wednesday and Thursday, "Cimarron," with Richard Dix, Estelle Taylor and Irene Dunne, also Clive Brook in "Return of Sherlock Holmes." Friday and Saturday, "Woman Wanted," with Maureen O'Sullivan and Joel McCrea, also Bob Steele in "Kid Courageous." Sunday, Monday and Tuesday, Clark Gable, Jean Harlow and Wallace Beery in "China Seas," also "School For Girls," wth Sidney Fox and Paul Kelly.

ROOSEVELT — Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, Louise Beavers in "Annapolis Farewell," with Sir Guy Standing and Richard Cromwell, also "Smart Girl"

"Hot Chocolates" Pleases At Apollo

By R. P. O.

"Hot Chocolates" is really hot It's a fast moving, peppy show at the Apollo. Stars scintillate, from Leroy Smith and his superb orchestra down to the comedians.

Leroy dances near the wings and otherwise clowns to add to the zest of the occasion. The first sax player creditably renders some singing numbers to the singing and playing of the other musicians.

Gladys Palmer sings entertainingly, accompanying herself on the piano.

Radcliffe and Rogers, of international fame, keep the customers in roars of laughter. What R. and R. know in comedy of "Jography" and the English language may be compared to Baer's capability of evading Louis' lethal punches. Rogers plays piano for Radcliffe, who sings and here they also shine.

Teddy Hill whispers that about 5 years ago Rogers was a member of his orchestra and is a first-rate musician.

The 3 Miller Brothers, hard working trick and artistic dancers; Roland Holder, also a well attired and clever dancer; the Dixie Four, Susaye Brown, George Williams, Gallie deGaston, Louis Jordan, Ford Marshall and Bones all contribute to an excellent show.

The picture is "The Daring Young Man", featuring James Dunn.

Paul Robeson To Appear In 'Showboat' For Universal

HOLLYWOOD — Paul Robeson, internationally famous singer and star of "Showboat" has signed with Universal to play his original role in the company's talkie version of the famous Broadway production, it was announced here this week. Robeson is expected to arrive here from London by November 15, stopping off in New York for radio and concert engagements enroute. According to reports, Robeson will receive $5,000 a week from Universal.

Band Leaders Booked For Apollo This Month

Among the well-known orchestra leaders who will bring their organizations to the Apollo Theatre between now and the 15th of Novem-