

EVERYBODY GOES— When the Wagon Comes!

By AL MONROE

NEW YORK, Dec. 13—DEAR JULIUS: That yarn I told you about the prettiest girl in the world being in New Orleans still goes, despite the fact that I am in Harlem where Walter Winchell and those other guys find so many Race girls to rave about. I saw Hycinth Curtis, the Cotton Club's beauty in Mike's the other night but she didn't cause The Wagon to consider putting yeast in ye old expense account. FLASH! I am making a confession though, Julius, that expense account that came from New Orleans was skied a bit. You see, those girls down there know how to ask for things just like they do in Harlem and I know you wouldn't wish me to turn the little girls down so I just bought them EVERYTHING THEY wanted.

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SORRY I can't be in town for the big MIDNIGHT SHOW SATURDAY at the Regal. You know my heart will be there. In a way I am sort of glad since I have so many friends who would want those 'comps.'

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FLASH! STEPIN FETCHIT denies romance with Miss Elsie Roxborough, Detroit beauty. Says Gossip is unfair to this charming young lady. . . Fetchit took a plane from here so as to appear in DEFENDER'S MIDNIGHT show. It is swell of him. He's just like that.

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ANOTHER FLASH! I haven't bought a thing for a single Harlem girl though, Julius, which may sound funny since I am asking you to send my check along so I may have it Friday afternoon. You see, Bubbles of Buck and Bubbles just left my room making plans for accompanying me to Joe Louis' camp Friday morning and he has talked me sick about "FORGY AND BESS," the show he is starring in. The point is this, I know you would want me to see that show and also "At Home Abroad" which stars Miss Ethel Waters. Yes, I know Editor Robert S. saw the latter production when he was here but that isn't sufficient because the big boss doesn't write stage stuff so of course there was no review. Then, too, big boss never does send in expense accounts so my going after he has been wouldn't make any difference—financially.

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STILL FLASHING! The Nicholas boys and Nina Mae McKinney were up at camp Thursday and we had a gay time. They were talking about the Cotton Club where Nina works and Ziegfeld's next show that will feature the Nicholas boys and I was helping in the conversation with news of The Chicago Defender. I ran into Marie SAUNDERS, you remember her back in Sunset days, don't you? She still looks as good as ever. . . SAY, just learned that Buster (trumpeter) Bailey isn't with Mills' Blue Rhythm band any more. He is tooting for Fletcher Henderson who is in Boston for two weeks. . . AND SPEAKING of music, Julius, you may wish to know that Duke Ellington uses three pencils all the time when writing his compositions. Flash! Duke is doing the music for the new Cotton Club show now in rehearsals.

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THE CAFES here are all worrying because so few Chicagoans are to make the trip this time. They have stocked up with plenty of liquids, figuring Chicago would be here to buy and now they figure to have the whiskies and wines on hand for a long time. New Yorkers, you know, don't buy nearly as much whiskey in taverns as do Chicagoans. They drink a lot but 'tis usually "moon" made from sugar purchased in the Bowery.

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LITTLE SHEP Sheppard and Anise Bower, two of Harlem's prettiest dancers were up at Pompton Lakes Sunday giving the scribes a treat. . . PAUL GALICO looked at Anise and wanted to know: "How can Mussolini be so cruel"? Although there are no visiting Chicagoans here Harlem looks plenty Chicagoish. On 7th avenue last Wednesday night, seated at one table were Trevy Woods, Walter Clark, Ace Duce Dugan, Leon Hill and four others whom The Wagon did not know but heard they were from the Windy City.

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FLASH! Marva Louis is not coming for the fight. She is to remain in Detroit where Joe will join her Sunday the 15th. Then they will return to New York and sail for Cuba where Joe is to fight December 29. Flash all over again! Julius, you told me to find out why Marva Louis, Mrs. Julian Black and Johnny Roxborough quit going horse back riding. Well here 'tis—ALL THREE fell off horses one morning this summer in Detroit.

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LOTS OF scandal around the night clubs here but perhaps The Wagon had better wait until it rolls out of town before spillin' it. Duke Ellington will be in Chicago December 22 to play for a "coming-out party" up on the North side. A card from Mack and Jean Jones advises The Wagon that they are leaving Chicago for New York this week. . . Flash! Johnny Wooley, so New York hears, has moved out of his apartment in Chicago that is owned by the Jones brothers. Wonder why?

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Friends calling on MISS MAYO POWELL complain about her frequent change of address. They say she has them going every month in a different apartment in Michigan Boulevard Garden Apt. Perhaps MRS. CORDELIA MANN might explain the cause. But we suspect that Miss Powell is dodging her old boy friends.

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Why is it that GOLDIE WALDEN never invites her office-boy friend to dinner? Charles Lewis, see the Oracle and you will find out who took your letter from the mail box.

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Things THE WAGON will hardly live to see:
Chicago women going to paid affairs in appropriate clothes.
Lucius Harper with a pipe and a box of matches.
Mrs. Noraine Mitchell spending Christmas in Chicago.
Dan Burley with just one girl.
Haile Selassie thanking Robert Ephriam for services rendered.
Julius, you told me to find out why Marva Louis, Mrs. Julian Black and Johnny Roxborough quit going horse back riding. Well here 'tis—ALL THREE fell off horses one morning this summer in Detroit.