

Entertainment Whirl

STAGE—SCREEN—NITE-LIFE RADIO—RECORDS—TELEVISION

Gertrude Gipson Theatrical Editor

Candid Comments

● GERTRUDE GIPSON

IF IT'S NEWS, IT'S HERE:

We think perhaps you just might be interested in our impression of "STROMBOLI," the film starring the nation's most talked of and talked about woman, Ingrid Bergman. In glancing at our program we received at the Press preview, we notice it states "under the INSPIRED direction of Roberto Rossellini. Frankly, we seemed to have missed the point (if there was one), the story was empty, the publicity given the picture building it up as one of those sexy, raging love stories is false so if you're expecting Ingrid to give out with some real frantic love-making, you're in for a big disappointment. The kisses are like one I would give my brother or mother. Ingrid plays her part well, naturally, that of a Czechoslovakian girl who, after the war is placed in a displaced persons camp for women, and, in order to obtain her freedom, she marries an Italian youth and lives with him on the volcanic island of Stromboli.

I was very much impressed with the wonderful photography.



Gertrude Gipson

For awhile you are almost spell-bound with the volcanic scenes. Ingrid, as I have said before, displays her usual great performance. . . . Talked with Curtis Mosby Jr., in town for a few days and making a round of the nite spots. . . . George Tredwell (he's the hubby of Sarah Vaughn), not recognizing some of the people that he should. . . . Sarah, pleasing at the Club Oasis, enjoyed particularly her rendition of "Summertime." . . . California School of Photography to be commended on their very well organized "Open House" last Sunday. Wendell Franklin, public relations director, introducing the special guest, Bishop "Daddy Grace," to friends. . . . Understand that in Memphis, Tenn., censor board chairman, Lloyd T. Binford said he would ban the Ingrid Bergman films without even taking a peep at them. (Now I ask you, does that make sense?) . . . Jake Porter and combo at the Club Downbeat with his own show. . . . Lena Horne attended the Democratic Dinner at an invitation extended by the President. . . . Lena due here most any day now.

Duke Ellington concert packed . . . didn't enjoy this concert as much, could be that there wasn't the usual dignity exhibited by the Ellington crew. . . . Duke's new vocalist, Chubby Kemp, rocked the place with blues. . . . Visited Sidney Potier out on 20th Century's "No Way Out." Sidney had to come back for some added scenes with Richard Widmark and Linda Darnell, whose graciousness and sweet personality matches her Madonna beauty.

NOTES, NEWS AND NONSENSE:

Pasadena full of onlookers during the shooting of the Jackie Robinson film. . . . Lillian Randolph to star in a new radio show—will give you more of the details later. . . . Hermon Spurlock's "Tan Hollywood" creating a lot of attention. . . . Will Allen (he's the Beckman fur salesman) may now be found at "Spellman's," so when it's courtesy you want plus quality, you'll want to see Will Allen at C. Spellman. . . . (take it from me) . . . Jean Young on the infanticipating list with the capable Doctor Body in charge. . . . Mable Fairbanks returns from Honolulu this week after making a terrific hit as the only Negro Ice Skater with the show. . . . Leonard Reed off to a resort for a quick, quiet rest. . . . aha! did I say quiet? . . . Pretty Elaine Robinson coming out after being in for quite some time since the death of her husband, Bill. . . . surprised everybody with her new short bob. . . . Gladys Mondy creating ahs and ohs with her new Lustrasilk bob. . . . New York's Tonda-Lyo has also joined the parade with short bobs.

The dictum that "songs can sell anything" is neatly amplified by the fact that lots of Southern Pacific Railroad ticket offices are featuring displays in their windows that sing the praises of Ivory Joe Hunter's latest disc, "S. P. Blues" . . . and I could listen all day to his current hit labeled "I Almost Lost My Mind." . . . Camille Howard makes her debut with her trio next week at the popular Oasis Club. . . . I understand music lovers are in for a real treat.

SUDDEN THAWT: I think I need a little rest for a few days with all of these parties, press meetings, etc. . . . Understand that Pearl Bailey is quite angry over the prejudice of her co-workers in "Arms and the Girl" . . . according to Broadway critics, Pearl is a terrific success with her comedy role. . . . Greetings sent from concert artist Lillian Evanti now in Wilmington, N. C. . . . C. T. Webb raving over his newest love (for three months) . . . Well, lokes like time again to put this Royal away for another week for the reading of Candid Comments but we would like to leave you with this thought: "Most enemies are just misunderstood friends."

In Hot Water Over Censor of "Boundaries"

ATLANTA, Ga.—Movie Censor, Christine Smith, under fire in Federal Court action which seeks to overthrow her powers to ban movies refused to pass judgment on the film, "Stromboli" until the all-male Carnegie Library Board sees the film.

Said the blond censor, "I don't want to get out on a limb on this one, like I did with "Scarlet Street" and "Lost Boundaries."



AT OASIS . . . Sarah Vaughn, the girl with the "magnificent voice," is the current headliner at Curtis Mosby's and Eddie De Sure's Club Oasis on Western ave.

Jackson vs. Jacquet Or Joe Bostic vs. Jim McCarthy

NEW YORK—Willis Jackson, brilliant young tenor sax sensation of the Cootie Williams band this week issued a clear cut defy to Illinois Jacquet, whom press agent Jim McCarthy has tabbed "Mighty Mite of the Tenor Sax" for a showdown battle to establish supremacy on the popular instrument.

Willis Jackson, popular acclaim victor in the recent abortive battle at the Savoy Ballroom here, feels that the issue has been clouded by statements appearing in the public print, authored by McCarthy wherein the accent was on personal in-jective while skirting the subject of relative artistic merit.

Jackson, seeking a showdown, this week addressed the following telegram to Jacquet:

"Greatly surprised at statements appearing in national publications, apparently authorized by you. Unwarranted resort to personalities and asperations on my artistic abilities hardly is worthy of you. Why not let the public decide on our respective artistic merits? That would be the sporting thing don't you think? To that end, I offer the following suggestion to settle this controversy once and for all: That Illinois Jacquet with his band and Willis Jackson with the Cootie Williams band meet in a "battle of tenor saxes" on any podium that you (Jacquet) might select, with the terms of the contest dictated by you. A series of such contests, each in a different locale, also acceptable to me. It is my further suggestion that either a part or all of the proceeds (less operating expenses for the bands) be given to the Damon Runyan Cancer Fund, the Heart Fund, National Urban League, NAACP or any other charity that you might care to designate. May I hear from you regarding this matter immediately?

Musically yours,
WILLIS JACKSON

"Typical Hollywood" Excuse the "Yawn" Please

By Gertrude Gipson

Hollywood is all smiles, they feel they have accomplished much toward the Negro problem in the Film Industry. Sure, maybe they did put out a little more effort the past year by releasing such films as "Home of the Brave," "Lost Boundaries," "Intruder in the Dust," and "Pinky" but with the release of all these pictures they "have really said nothing, as a matter of fact, with perhaps the exception of two of these films, the Negro was presented in a hard crude manner, so untrue to the majority of American Negroes.

We feel positive that after 20th Century's "No Way Out," these sort of films will immediately come to an end, there won't be any more of these films that the Negro will have to take these "spiritual beatings being called "Nigger," "sambo," "black (so 'n so)" etc., why? because, Hollywood will discontinue producing them, they will sit back, relax, feel that their conscience is now clear, for they have done their share toward this problem.

As usual, Hollywood is wrong again, because, conditions were not pictured as they actually existed, they scream to high heavens stating that their many Negro films gained great strength from the fact that their principal characters were not "all good nor all bad" . . . well let me tell you something, they were "neither."

You didn't think too much of your pictures either did you? with none of them getting any sort of an award, you tried solving this problem with nominating Ethel Waters for an Academy award for "supporting actress," that's it, nothing more. Well, frankly I'm not impressed, and I'm not attempting to speak for 250,000 Negroes but when you start employing Negro Publicists

writers, photographers, etc., in your vast studios, well, I will be impressed that you are sincere in your efforts, to help the Negro, but as Andy Razaf would put it:

"My color has stamped me as lazy,
One picked out by nature to shirk
But the wonders performed by the Negro
Could have only been done through work.

My color stands for a people
Whom you have called evil and wild,
Yet never a land have we stolen
Or a weaker race defiled.

Yes, I am a Negro,
And from the hilltop I'll shout it loud,
For one of a noble race,
Should evermore be proud.

HOLLYWOOD — Problem of adopted children will be brought to the screen by Pete Smith in new short subject, "Wrong Son." First serious subject in four years produced by Smith is currently being edited for early preview.

HOLLYWOOD — "The Magnificent Yankee," one of Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer's most important story properties acquired this year, will go before the cameras this summer with Armand Deutsch as producer.

Bill Robinson
43rd and Central—AD. 1-9341

Try Our Easy Chair Loges

PLAY \$1,000.00 JACK POT KENO EVERY SATURDAY

PLAY WIN THE MONEY EVERY WED. AND SUN. \$500.00 TO \$5,000.00

NOW ENDS SATURDAY

WARNER BROS.
MONTANA
TECHNICOLOR
ERROL FLYNN ALEXIS SMITH RAY ENRIGHT

ALSO

Bomba on PANTHER ISLAND
STARTS SUNDAY

CAPTAIN SIROCCO . . .
The Pirates of Capri
LOUIS MAYNARD
MARIELLA LOTTI

ALSO

THIEVES' HIGHWAY
Richard CONTE
VIRGINIA DERTUSA Lee J. COBB



HAS OWN TRIO — Camille Howard will be previewed by members of the press on next Tuesday at the Club Oasis when she presents her recently formed trio.

La Vada Ballroom
Under New Management
Rent for Parties
Clubs and Dances
REASONABLE RATES
249 E. Vernon Ave.
AD. 9706 or
AD. 3-8028

ZENDA BALLROOM
LARGEST DOWNTOWN FLOOR
AVAILABLE FOR
CLUB DANCES—MEETINGS, etc.
GREATLY REDUCED RENTALS
O. E. BOHLEN
HL. 6476 MA. 9-9384

