Concords and Discords

By LLEWELLYN WILSON

Baltimore has been inspired from time to time by the efforts of musically inclined personalities who have come to our city from other communities. Some such musicians were singers, others were instrumentalists.

Very recently Isadore Oglesby, a lyric tenor of considerable merit, who is now an instructor at Morgan State College and Douglass Evening School, is immediately joining the music colony here.

Mr. Oglesby, whose first teacher was the late lamented R. Nathaniel Dett, is now a pupil of Romani, who at one time coached Rose Ponselle, who for many years was the leading soloist with the Metropolitan Opera Company of New York City.

Mr. Oglesby was the first colored singer to appear as guest artist in the North Carolina Festival of Music.

The young singer has made successful appearances in concerts and oratorios throughout North Carolina. He has been heard in solo portions of Theordo DuBois's "The Seven Last Words."

On Tuesday, Dec. 14, Mr. Oglesby will be heard as soloist at Union Baptist Church with the senior choir of that church, under the direction of Houston Jackson, in a sacred concert.

Collaborating with the Union Baptist choir, will be the Star Choir, under the direction of Professor Fitts of the Providence Baptist Church.

Elks Band Concert

Edward Prettyman, conductor of the Elks Band here in Baltimore, will present his 40-piece organization in its initial concert on Friday night (tonight) at Bethel AME Church.

Sarah Prettyman, the talented daughter of the conductor, will be presented as guest soloist. Miss Prettyman, since her high school days here in her native city, has been a prime favorite with her fellow townsmen.

In addition to the contribution which will be made by Miss Prettyman, Morris Davis, who has made quite an enviable record for himself as an earnest singer of better class music, will be heard.

Training Union Program Loaded

Sharon Baptist Church's Baptist Training Union gave an excellent program recently, which combined music and literary selections.

Appearing on the program was Mrs. Mildred Seaborne, who read an enlightening paper on pertinent topics of today.

Vocal solos were given by Amos Travis, Charles Carter, Katie Thompson and Vashil Christopher. Kermit Campbell gave a reading of an original poem.

The program was made possible through the efforts of Mrs. Mary Smith, president of the organization; Mildred Williams, organist, at Sharon Baptist Church, and Mrs. Mamie Ridout.

Lyric Soprano at Mass Meeting

Miss Fannie S. Newton, lyric soprano, will be guest soloist on Sunday when the Coleman Association for the Handicapped, holds its annual mass meeting at 3:30 p.m. at the Memorial Baptist Church.

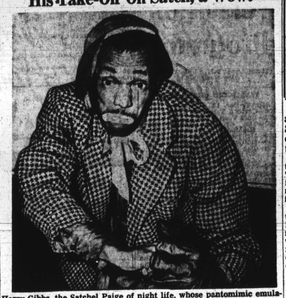
A voice major at Howard University, she is a member of the choir and also is affiliated with the Kershaw's Royal Singers. While on a recent tour, she was their guest soloist of the group at Girard College and Town Hall in Philadelphia; and at the Bordentown Military Institute.

Speaker at the meeting will be Milton A. Dugger, vice-principal of School No. 139, Cherry Hill.

The Memorial Church choir, under the direction of Mrs. Lovey Hasketh, will sing.

William H. Langley is president of the association while Mrs. Mary A. Coleman, widow of the late founder, Robert W. Coleman, is manager.

His Take-Off On Satch, a Wow!



Harry Gibbs, the Satchel Paige of night life, whose pantomimic emulations of the baseball star are stopping the show nightly at the Avenue Cafe. Gibbs is playing a return engagement through popular demand.

Johnson's "Brown Frame" Finals Set for Newark

NEWARK, N.J. — Buddy Johnson, glorifier of the "Fine Brown Frame," will present the national finals of his third annual contest at Laurel Gardens on New Year's Eve, Friday, Dec. 31.

Sectional winners of the various preliminary contests will be invited to Newark to vie for the coveted crown of "Miss Fine Brown Frame of America."

The previous finals were staged in New York City in 1946 and in Philadelphia last year, with record-breaking crowds in attendance.

Johnson announced that the winner will be awarded a silver loving cup, a cash prize of $100, and a week's engagement with his orchestra at the Apollo Theatre in Harlem, beginning Jan. 14.

As in all previous contests, the winner will be chosen by a board of well-qualified judges. The first judge named for the finals at Laurel Gardens is Bill Cook, popular disc-jockey, whose "Musical Caravan" on WAAT has one of the biggest listening audiences of any platter in the New York area.

The "Fine Brown Frame" finals will be an extra added feature of the dance with Johnson's band, vocalists Arthur Prysock and Ella Johnson providing the dance rhythms.

'TEMPEST IN A TEAPOT?'

Club Owner Denies Barring White Woman

Flatly denying that he had anything to do with the faked arrest of a wealthy white woman from Wilmington in the Showboat nitery last week, Ben Cosgrow, a co-owner of the club, said he is making every effort to "get to the bottom" of the incident.

"I still don't know what the thing was all about," Cosgrow said, "but, several people are acting as if they want to 'give me the business' about something so insignificant it isn't even funny."

The "incident" occurred when the woman, who is reported to have spent a large amount of money in the bar on several visits, was ordered out by two men who represented themselves to Cosgrove's partner, Phil Guber, as plain-clothesmen.

Racial Angle

The fake officers are said to have warned her about frequenting an establishment patronized almost exclusively by colored persons and to have invited her to accompany them to a white club.

Immediately, rumors began circulating that the management had staged the "scare maneuver" in objection to the attention the young woman was openly paying to a colored musician working with Betti May's band.

"I don't have any idea who the men were," Cosgrow insisted, "but I can identify them and I'd just like to catch them anywhere around my place again. I honestly don't see where the thing is worth all the fuss it stirred up, though."

Delores Martin Hailed as Great

NEW YORK—Delores Martin, called "the hottest singer since Lena Horne" by Louella Parsons, and the "nearest thing to Florence Mills," by Walter Winchell, is currently playing the Village Vanguard.

The Messiah' to Be Sung Twice at Brown

Two public performances of "The Messiah" will be given at Brown Memorial Church, Park and Lafayette Aves., at 4 p.m. on Sunday and 8:15 p.m. on Monday.

Soloists will be Misses Catherine Schwarz, soprano; Jeannette Cross, contralto; Samuel Hoback, tenor; and Frank Whitmore, bass. All recitatives and arias will be accompanied by a chamber orchestra.

Lena Horne Hot in Boston Spot

BOSTON—Lena Horne, Hollywood's singing star, is currently doing a return engagement here at the Latin Quarter, playing to capacity audiences. Luther Henderson is her piano accompanist.

Plans Annual Election NW Community Council

The Northwest Community Council will hold its annual election of officers at 8 p.m. on Wednesday at the Mt. Zion Methodist Church, Rigg Ave. and Gilmor Sts., according to Hammond J. Briscoe, president.

RADIO BOW AS PIANIST

CAMDEN — Eutha Davis, 10, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Percy Davis, 842 Spruce St., made her debut as a radio pianist on Station WDAS in Philadelphia

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N.Y. Gunman Slays Dizzy's Drummer

NEW YORK — Chano Pozo, rated as one of the nation's greatest bongo drummers, was shot and instantly killed Thursday night of last week by an unidentified man while drinking at the Rio Bar on Lenox Ave. at 111th St.

Rumors have been circulated that the incident that led to the slaying was an argument over narcotics, but this has not been confirmed by the police department which is investigating the case.

For the past 18 months, and until his untimely death, Pozo was a member of the Dizzy Gillespie band appearing in concerts and theatres throughout the United States and Europe.

He composed several tunes and his latest two, "Manteca," and "Cubana Be-Cubana Bop," are rapidly gaining popularity coast-to-coast.

The deceased hailed from Havana, Cuba, and is survived by his wife.

Marian Anderson Bucks 'Met' Prem

PHILADELPHIA (ANP) — Fifteen hundred music lovers heard Marian Anderson sing with the "Little Orchestra Society" last week at Town Hall, NYC.

Considering the fact that the famed Metropolitan Opera opened its 64th season the night with a "gala performance" of a favorite opera with well publicized stars, this was no small accomplishment.

Only The AFRO Has All Three
The Baltimore Afro-American, December 11, 1948
Second News Section—Page 5

Featured at the Swanky Comedy Club

The Jolly Jacks, vocal and instrumental quartet, currently playing the Music Bar at the "new look" Comedy Club, Baltimore's most elaborate musical center, and who will be held over as a holiday attraction, through public demand, featured with Flink Johnson, one-man Solovox show, who has an unlimited repertoire for special requests.

Pearl Bailey Reveals Dream for Washington Nursery Home

WASHINGTON — A dream which has long lurked in the back of Pearl Bailey's mind was revealed to members of the press here last week in an informal talk to members of the Capital Press Club at its regular weekly luncheon-meeting.

"I have given a great deal of thought to the establishment of a nursery in the District of Columbia," declared the singer, "where working mothers can leave their children without charge."

She pointed out that such projects had been established in other cities and she saw no reason why ɯoqɐ ǝq ʎnu ɟnɔ ʇnɐ ʇnɐ ʇnɐ in Washington. It could be financed by an annual benefit presenting leading radio, screen and stage stars.

She assured newsmen that if they would take the lead in getting the ball rolling, she would use her influence in securing the services of leading theatrical people.

Is $75,000 Bracket

Miss Bailey, the $75,000-a-year entertainer, is a native of Virginia but came to Washington at such an early age, that she claims Washington as her home. She made her first stage appearance at the Pearl Theatre in Philadelphia at the age of 15.

"I did a little bit of singing, and a little dancing both," she recalled. "In those days an entertainer had to do a little of everything. And, too, one is never quite sure what form of entertaining he will eventually follow when he first begins. He usually follows the thing which he can do best. But I still like to dance," she added.

The entertainer is planning another European trip about the latter part of February. "I plan to stay a long time this trip," she declared, "perhaps until September."

She spent three months in Europe this year, but visited only England and Scotland. Returning home on Aug. 7, Miss Bailey became the bride of John R. Flukers Jr., son of one of the "first families" of Washington," on Aug. 31, WHO is playing at the Club Ball here, Miss Bailey made several radio and telecast appearances—(ANP).

June Eckstine Studies Suit Against Winchell

By CONRAD CLARK

PHILADELPHIA, (ANP)—It was learned here late last week that June Eckstine, wife of Billy Eckstine, may institute a law suit against Columnist and Radio News man Walter Winchell for his "statement" over the air Sunday night, Nov. 27, concerning herself and husband.

Winchell, during his regular weekly broadcast, said that June was on her way to Reno, Nev., to secure a divorce from Billy and for such a remark, it is rumored the former chorine will bring suit.

June was hurt in an accident while on her way to meet her husband in Chicago. Her 1947 Cadillac turned over near Decatur, Ill. Others in the accident at the time were Stan Hasselgard, a white clarinet player who was killed, and Bob Robertson, the chauffeur, who was uninjured.

June was treated for a broken arm at St. Mary's Hospital in Decatur. Billy arrived soon after the accident and took her back with him to the Windy City.

Mrs. Eckstine is now in Philadelphia and will be joined by her husband upon the completion of his engagement at the Blue Note in Chicago.

Hunter-Anderson in Spokane Spots

SPOKANE, Wash. — Alberta Hunter, internationally famous singing star, opened here Monday at the Greek-American Club for a two-week engagement, following a successful engagement in San Jose Calif.

Also playing here is Ivy Anderson, crystalist with Duke Ellington, who is being held over a third week at the Boulevard Club.

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