Smith Players Open College Drama Series

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — As its first production of the season, the Ira Aldrige Dramatic Guild of Johnson C. Smith University presented three one-act plays, High Window" and Minor Miracle" by Verne Powers, and "The Neighbors" by Zona Gale, last Tuesday in the Biddle Memorial Auditorium.

The melodrama, "High Window" is a gripping play which concerns itself with an old lady who holds a strange and uncanny power over the inmates of her home, until a clever reporter ferrets the secret and solves the mystery. The leading role was played by Dorothy Brice. The supporting cast included Miss Helen Lawson, Miss Jean Allen, Eugene McAdoo and Frank Davis.

"Minor Miracle" also by Powers, is a psychological drama of men against sex. The cast included Wentworth Bunton, Robert Dingle, Speffard Blackwell and Robert Davies.

"The Neighbors," a comedy of down-to-earth folks, tells a touching yet amusing story of what happens when a little orphan boy falls into the hands of "the neighbors." This cast was composed of Misses Ruth Houston, Marion Laws, Susie Moore, Ada Hunt and Messrs Robert Mecheam and William Gibson.

Laundry Workers Get Jobs, $1900 in Back Wages

Albert Black (center) director of the United Cleaners and Laundry Workers Union presents to Mrs. Fannie Vickers a $1500 check for back salary due from the Home Laundry and Dry Cleaning and Dyeing Co., Inc., in Washington. The laundry also reinstated Mrs. Vickers in the job which she had held for 16 years and lost during a labor dispute in 1947. Miss Virginia Lloyd, (right) 1916 Belmont Place N. E., received $400 in back pay and returned to her job at the same establishment.

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Best Student

Pfc. Walter Mathews of Augusta, Ga., recently completed courses in the radio school of the Eighth Army in Japan, with the highest grades in his group. He received a diploma and congratulations from Brig. Gen. Vennard Wilson.

Dance Group Presented

WINSTON-SALEM, N. C. — The Church Street School Dance Group of Thomasville was presented in a recital recently in Prince Auditorium of the Winston-Salem Teachers College. The group is directed by Mrs. Ernestine Lewis. Composed of six girls and one boy, it has given recitals all over the State.

The program included interpretation of spirituals, dances of foreign countries and rhythmic tap. Mrs. Winston, of Winston-Salem Teachers College, Dance Group and has studied dance education at Hampton Institute, Columbia University and the Mary Bruce School of Dance in New York.

Accompanist was Miss E. Calhoette McLean, graduate of the Winston-Salem Teachers College and a member of the Church Street School faculty. Several selections were given by the high school band under the direction of E. M. Olde, a graduate of A. & T. College.

Sarah Vaughan Set for Blue Note in Chicago

CHICAGO — Sarah Vaughan, singing star, will open a four-week engagement at the Windy City's Blue Note nitery on Monday with the backing of pianist Jimmy Jones and Lester Young.

It was just last summer that Miss Vaughan set an all-time attendance record at the Blue Note in a five-week engagement. During her stay in the Windy City, Miss Vaughan will do a series of guest appearances on leading network broadcasts.

Randolph Edmonds to Discuss Little Theatre

GRAMBLING, La. — Randolph Edmonds, playwright, dramatist, sketch-writer and director, will appear as guest of the Little Theatre Workshop at Grambling College, Feb. 8, to give a historical account of "The Little Theatre Movement in Colored Colleges."

DR. CLAIR AUTHORS PUBLICATION

CHICAGO—The Rev. Dr. Matthew W. Clair, pastor of St. Mark Methodist Church, is one of four Methodist leaders having written a address to be used as resource material for talks by laymen during the Week of Dedication, March 1-20.

Bows Into Club Astoria

"Wild Bill" Moore, sensational sax player, whose band bows into Club Astoria tonight (Friday), as the headline attraction for one week.

Band Leader Was Former Pugilist

They laughed when "Wild Bill" Moore walked into Gus' gym, the training spot for prize fighters New Haven, Conn., and said he would take his daily workout. But to their amazement the tenor sax playing band leader turned out to be a fancy leather-pusher who had a tricky left hook.

Currently appearing at Club Astoria, here, with his band, Moore is proud of the fact that his name is listed on the Michigan amateur record books as Golden Glove champ in 1937 as a light-heavyweight. And he might have continued his pugilistic career if money-hungry managers hadn't thought he could count his purses as well as they.

As he tells it Moore said that after he won the amateur title he turned pro and appeared throughout the State in various clubs. But as his money started to increase he received less of it and his managers' suits became fancier and their cars longer. Moore said according to the theory of economics he had learned in school it was supposed to be the other way around and so he gave it up and returned to the horn he had temporarily shelved.

School of Music's Band, Glee Club Set Concert for Feb. 25

WASHINGTON — The Modern School of Music's concert band and glee clubs will be presented in the third of their annual concerts Feb. 25, at 8:15 p. m. in the Armstrong High School Auditorium, under the sponsorship of the Armstrong Parent-Teacher Association.

An unusual feature of this year's concert will be the trio for harp, organ and violin. For this special number the school will move its $3500 organ to Armstrong. This will mark the first time this instruments has been featured in these concerts.

Other features on the musical extravaganza will be a trumpet solo with band accompaniment, vocal duos and duets, piano solos, and a flute solo.

Two students, members of the advanced conducting class, will make their first public appearance. One will conduct the band during one selection, and the other will conduct the glee club.

The band and glee club was one of the highlights on the program at Uline Arena last June 17, sponsored by the AFRO-AMERICAN, at which the winners of the "Around the World Trip" contest was announced.

Hampton to Offer the "Blythe Spirit"

HAMPTON—Miss Esther Merle Jackson, director of the Hampton Institute Communications Center Theatre and her student players, will present their second production of the year, Noel Coward's "Blithe Spirit," in Ogden Hall on Friday night, Feb. 25, with James E. House as Charles Condomine, the husband, who is haunted by the ghost of his first wife.

Still Time to Enter Douglass Night School

Registration for Douglass Evening High School will continue through Feb. 17, according to W. Lewellyn Wilson, principal.

In addition to the regular high school courses, if a sufficient number of applications are made, classes will be formed in journalism, income tax compilation and public speaking. All classes will begin on Feb. 21.

Additional information may be obtained from the office of the school at Calhoun and Baker Sts., from 8 to 10 p.m., Monday through Friday.

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PAUL BAKER, Piano
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Pennsylvania Avenue

By E. B. REA

THE POLITICAL FRONT—Dick Whittington of the Plymouth Apartments is the third name being mentioned for the Liquor Board Inspector's job recently held by Jack Pollard.

MY MASTER SCOUT turns in the information that Nickie Rice, who has all of the requisites necessary for good inspectorship, may get the job if he can keep his name out of bounds" district—which is high-powered (but legitimate) politics. The chances of William (Bill) Haynes, I've been told, have peeled away.

THIS COLUMN SALUTES Robinson's drug store, 2100 block, Regent Theatre and Gallagher's variety store both in the 1600 block, for their hearty interest in Boy Scout Week. Robinson's and Gallagher's for their decorative window displays, and the Regent for playing host to the boys at a special show. The gesture are treasure builders, and it can be said that they do their share along the line of making the opportunity presents itself. Surely, they deserve our thanks.

AVENUEGY ITEMS—William Clarke, guard of the Belmont billiard parlors chain, a patient at Provident Hospital—improving. . . William Lewis, day bartender at Gamble's confined to his home, 2203 Druid Hill Ave.—spinal trouble . . . Mickey Johnson drew a year in the "out" Monday for frisking the Monogram Cafe in shambles. Monogram Cafe in shambles. Four others are being sought as participants . . . Tank, of "Housegripper" fame, mysteriously absent from the Avenue.

STANDARD LUNCH ROOM, Pitcher at the Avenue, victim of a pin-ball machine robbery early Monday morning. Police staged a raid on the place Tuesday evening at 7:15 and patrolled off five men to Northwestern, described as "trouble-makers." This beginning of a "drive on stragglers," I've been told . . . Casey, familiar figure along the Avenue, "brutal" by beaten by two Avenue cops on a sergeant, on Monday. The motives are many and varied. What's the real one? The Shadow knows, he has his hat.

LENA HORNE made her debut on Thursday at the Regent Theatre, not in person, but on the screen in "Words and Music." It's an interesting picture—musical, of course. Her role is novel and, along with that of June Allyson, Judy Garland and Ann Sothern, that motion picture censors of Memphis, Tenn., cut her completely out of the picture—because she is featured on equal basis with white stars.

"WILD BILL" MOORE, currently at the Astoria, formerly played with Lionel Hampton and Louis Armstrong. He once was a prize fighter, but cracked manager tut and broke his hand on him. He then was forced to throw in the gloves. He now plays the piano, trumpet, drums, clarinet and sax.

DO WOMEN CAUSE TROUBLE?—The Royal screen bill says so with "Leather Gloves," the story of a fighter who double-crossed himself for a dame, and "Man From Colorado" in which the State wasn't big enough for both of them when a woman came between them. Good entertainment.

THE AVENUE CUT RATE store opening at Dolphin St. is operated by Irv Seigel and Willie Goldman. Seigel and Goldman's father are co-operators of the Keystone Pharmacy at North and Druid Hill. John R. Ford, just out of the Army, will be one of the clerks. Pierce's Three Star Lunch Room, 1300 block, has been shuttered for the past several days . . . Mary F. Burrell's Flower shop is reopen in the same old stand, 1800 block, any day now, after a complete remodeling.

MAHATMA DANTINI, the mental marvel, doing a midnight mystery show tonight (Friday) at the Morgan Theatre . . . Harry Rustin's new vets' band to do an encore at the Elks Home on the 17th for the Hi-Hatters. The outfit went over big there last week . . . I guess it's legal, but it's a strange sight to see walking income tax 'experts' soliciting business in lower Avenue taverns after dark. Their fee, $1 . . . Bootleg cabs on the decrease, wonder why? I HAVE SAID IT ONCE and I say it again—civic organizations, directly interested in community welfare, should have an official, private investigator to probe certain happenings on the city streets, uptown and downtown.

FAMILIAR SIGHTS along the Stroll . . . Baby Scruggs and Mac nightly made rush to grab a cab . . . Cab drivers picking up trade for bawdy houses . . . Kiddies soliciting for the March of Dimes to get movie fare . . . uncalled for traffic jams, day and night.

NOTES AND TIPS worth knowing—The late Willis Laney, laundry owner, a blood relative of the Duchess of Windsor, Pent-up officers of the Northwest Boys Police Club anxious for street duty . . . The former Ruth Wallace Williams (now Brunson), of Mansfield, Ohio, visiting her family in Robert St. (Note, Grandma) . . . Piney Brown, the blues shouter, has formed his own band which make its debut tonight (Friday), at the Pythian Castle, Mother of Pa . . . The Three Strikes have cut out from Club Orleans. DORIS PICKFORD doing a guest number. "Wrapped Up in a Dream," to the delight of Wagon Wheel patrons in the Hub Room.

You won't regret the price of admission you pay to see Harlem's sensational screen drama, "Joan of Arc," which has been held over another week. It's a heart-rending story of a girl who would sell her soul for anything . . . Dinah Washington and the Raven's to highlight the Royal stage show, opening next Friday. Stars will be plentiful in this one.

MARY ANN CONLEY, record ing artist, pianist and singing sensation, does an encore at Club Orleans . . . Depression talk gaining impetus along the Avenue as some of the spots begin to feel the pinch . . . Bob Mitchell's Rendezvous 1900 block, reopened after a three-day suspension . . . Sam Bradley, Ebanji manager, does a rating of "Colonel" in the ranks of the "Old Guard" in "Pennsylvania" (mixologists).

THE TALKING TYPEWRITER says "Stop the Music" Sunday night. Just say "Raise Your Cup" on Hits & Misses . . . Jack The Phantom Voice on "Sing It Again." Saturday nights—this column's guess — is Cecil B. DeMille, occasional film actor and movie executive.

THAT'S ALL FOR NOW, except—Incidents happening in Northeast Baltimore during the past week are causing as much concern, lately as is the Cardinal Mindszenty (pronounced Meen-dan-tse) persecution, universally. "Justice" is being administered, in this "politically empty" area through the night stick and "hot red."

Hurtte Added to L. A. Studio Staff

LOS ANGELES—Kurtis Hurtte, well-known Eastern Concert Artist, has been added to the staff of the Carter Studio of Musical Arts to specialize in the teaching of male students of voice.

Hurtte, one of the leading authorities on Eastern Music, is in Los Angeles on a fellowship from the Beard Family of England, doing further research in this field.

The next personal appearance of this young artist will be at the Lincoln Theatre, Baltimore, on Feb. 27, with Marjorie Carter as accompanist.

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Albany State College Choir

ALBANY, Ga. — The Albany State College A-Cappella Choir, under direction of James L. Elkins, returned to the campus this week after a successful 10-day tour through Georgia, Tennessee, Missouri, Indiana and Kentucky.

The concert tour included stops at Miles College, Birmingham, Ala.; Lane, Jackson, Tenn., where the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity's undergraduate chapter sponsored the concert, and St. Louis, Mo., where the Youth Choir of St. Paul Church, the Rev. C. Wayne Love, pastor, was the sponsor.

Journeying from St. Louis, to Paris, Ky., the home of the director, the fourth concert was given before an audience of the city's citizens, who paid tribute to a local son.

In Chattanooga, Tenn., the Federated Clubs of Thompkins Chapel, the Rev. S. C. Spurgeon, pastor, presented the choir.

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FLINK JOHNSON IS STILL GOING STRONG ON THE SOLOVOX — This is his Nth Week

Colier, Ex-S. C. Fugitive Sent to New York Asylum

Saved From S.C. in August

Was Held in N.Y. on Car Theft Count

FEARED 'MENSIES'

Thought Money Was Made on Him

NEW YORK—Johnnie Colier of Newark, fugitive from a South Carolina prison, was committed to Rockland State Mental Hospital at Orangeburg on Monday by Judge George L. Donnellan of General Sessions.

Commitment followed a report to the court on Friday by a lunacy commission which held that Colier is insane.

The fugitive, freed by Governor Driscoll of New Jersey in August after becoming a celebrated case had been confined to prison here since October, when a stolen car in which he was one of four occupants, crashed into a parked car near the Holland Tunnel.

Faced Man Charge

At that time, Colier was charged with many offenses, including leaving the scene of an accident, grand larceny of an automobile, possession of a stolen car and transporting a stolen car.

New Jersey was asked for his extradition since the car involved was reported stolen in Newark about Oct. 4.

At first, he objected to returning to New Jersey along with Hardy Triblett, another resident of Newark.

Later, upon advice of his counsel, J. Mercer Burrell of Newark, he made every effort to return to the State where he had won his release after a 27 month fight conducted by Abram N. Golden and Burrell, in which the case was carried to the U.S. Supreme Court.

Essex County authorities then made no further effort to extradite Colier and no indictment was returned against him for the alleged theft of the car. Except for Mr. Driscoll, a former assembly man, none of the organizations or prominent citizens, who last March had joined in the State wide plea to Governor Driscoll for Colier's release came to his defense in New York.

Companion Freed

After numerous appearances in various New York courts Burrell succeeded in obtaining the complete exoneration and release of Hardy Triblett, and had Colier freed of all charges except that of transporting a stolen automobile into New York. An indictment Branches and Kay vs. Colier, which was the result of a plea of innocent in Special Sessions Court.

The case was finally set down for trial before Judge John Mullen, General Sessions Court, early in January. Colier's counsel made a motion for a mental examination and observation of the defendant, who was then committed to Bellevue Hospital.

Peculiar Calmness

A formal hearing was held in General Sessions Court on Jan. 28, when Burrell appeared not only as counsel but as principal witness. Behind the arresting officers, who stressed the peculiar calmness, dullness and lack of interest in Colier at the time of his arrest in the midst of screaming police sirens and pistol shots, in an attempt to stop the three other occupants of the car, who had fled, Colier is said to have sat calmly of having a leak in the radiator of the car repaired.

Many Hallucinations

Mrs. Colier related many hallucinations of Colier, including the belief that he had been shot full of worms or snakes" by guards at Newark City Jail and the belief that he was the heir to more than a hundred billion dollars left by "some of my people who went over to France in World War I, which you know was back in the 16th Century."

The story was also related of Colier's insistence that "someone had written a book about me which was three feet high and had made a million dollars off it."

The chain gang fugitive was also said to have been in constant fear of certain invisible individuals referred to as "South Carolinas," or "mensies," who were pursuing him with the intention to kill him or keep him from getting his freedom.

Among the witnesses who accompanied Burrell to the sanitarium were George Thompson, Delia Martin, secretary of the NAACP State Conference of WAAT Caravan last August.

MR. JOHNNIE COLIER

Newspaper Week to Open Feb. 27

2 Radio Programs, Awards Scheduled

NEW YORK—The seventh annual observance of Negro Newspaper Week will be held Feb. 27 to March 5, Thomas W. Young, president of the Negro Newspaper Publishers Association, has announced.

Programs of both a national and local nature are being organized to project before the American people the theme that the colored press stands as a defender of our Constitution, and as a constant challenge to the full application of its principles to all Americans alike.

In addition, the observance committee has asked schools and colleges throughout the country to hold special observances of Negro Newspaper Week through assemblies, exhibits, public meetings and visits to publishing plants in their areas.

The observance will be launched with a 15-minute nation-wide radio broadcast on Feb. 26, via the National Broadcasting Company.

2nd Annual Awards

The program is now in preparation and will in all probability comprise the announcement of the second annual John B. Russwurm Awards, named after the first colored publisher in this country.

Dowdal H. Davis, vice president of NNPA and chairman of the observance Committee, said also that a second network show later in the week is being sought with one of the other major broadcasting companies.

Heretofore, it has been customary to present two radio shows. Through the initiative of various publishers, he added, other time is being secured by them to serve purely local interests.

Pretty Valentine

Mrs. Lucille Davis gets into the spirit of Valentine Day by posing prettily for the cameraman. She is bookkeeper at Gamby's Night Club and lives at 1928 Lanvale St.

Dawson Making Democracy Work

WASHINGTON — Rep. William Dawson (Dem., Ill.) is proving that he can make democracy work as chairman of the House Expenditures Committee, according to Drew Pearson, syndicated columnist and political commentator.

In one of his columns, this week, Mr. Pearson states that President Truman is "keenly aware of this."

The newspaperman relates that the day before Dawson's committee reported the reorganization measure for House action, Mr. Truman told him:

"I couldn't have asked for better cooperation from your committee on this important legislation. Give a great job added, stating:

Gives Colleagues Credit

Pearson says that Dawson turned to the committee colleagues, accompanied him and asserted:

"Thank you, Mr. President, but these gentlemen and others on the committee deserve the credit, not me."

The columnist pointed out that three outstanding legislators from the South made it a special point to go to the White House with Dawson and support him.

Respect Dawson's Ability

They were Reps. Henderson Lanham (Dem., Ga.), Porter Hardy Jr. (Dem., Va.) and Herbert Bonner (Dem., N.C.).

Others who accompanied the committee chairman were Reps. Chet Holifield (Dem., Calif.), Frank Karsten (Dem., Mo.) and John McCormack (Dem., Mass.), House majority leader, Pearson added, stating:

"Men like Lanham, Hardy and Bonner have worked with Dawson because they like him personally, respect his ability, and because they have a high regard for the democratic process of Government."

Cripple Jailed for Disorderly Conduct

Norman (Mickey) Johnson, long a familiar figure on Pennsylvania Ave., will not visit his regular haunts on his two crutches for quite some time, unless the one year jail term he was given Monday is reduced.

Magistrate Fitzpatrick ordered Mickey committed to the House of Correction for 12 months for creating a general disturbance in a tavern in the 1600 block Pennsylvania Ave., late Friday, and throwing a beer bottle at the proprietor, Danti Righini.

Officer Leo Mataraso testified that the trouble started when he ordered a group of from 10 to 15 loiters from a corner at McMechen St., and Pennsylvania Ave.

General Disorder

"At that time," the officer related, "the bunch became very noisy and abusive and members took their own time in leaving the corner."

A short while later bedlam broke loose in the tavern a few doors away. The proprietor said the gang stormed in and began overturning tables, tossing bottles around and that Mickey threw one at him.

"In no time at all, the customers had left the place and broken glass and stuff was all over the floor, Danti continued.

Offers Alibi

Mickey said he was talking with the proprietor about mending a hole in the floor through which he had lost the tip of his crutches a week before when all of a sudden some fellows that he did not know started the rumpus.

"I know about the gangs you fellows travel in and how you terrorize people in Northwest Baltimore and I'm going to do every thing in my power to break them up," declared the magistrate as he imposed the jail term.

A fine of $25 and costs on a charge of acting disorderly, placed against Johnson, was suspended. Johnson listed his address as 1112 Druid Hill Ave.

Color Line at Notre Dame and St. Mary's Vanishes

Five Men Now Enrolled at South Bend University; Three Women at Nearby School

SOUTH BEND, Ind.—With five colored men now enrolled in the University of Notre Dame and three women in the neighboring St. Mary's College for Women, the color problem in South Bend is "no longer a reason for concern."

At least, that is the concensus of opinion expressed by the city's educational and civic leaders this week. Speaking on the schools policy, the Rev. Robert H. Sweeney, C.S.C., executive assistant to the president of Notre Dame, and Sister Mary Madeleva, C.S.C., president of St. Mary's declared:

"The university maintains today, as in the past, a policy of non-discrimination regardless of race, color or creed."

"Accepted" on Campus

Dr. Marshall Smelsler, chairman of the local St. Joseph's County chapter of the Americans for Democratic Action, pointed out that colored students had been "accepted" on the campus of Notre Dame and that the esprit de corps 'of students "is strongest in any racial prejudice this might bring with them."

He added "our desire to see the both freshmen, and Alison Adams, a junior transfer student who entered this month from Syracuse University. Adams is a native of the Virgin Islands.

Three at St. Mary's

The three women students at St. Mary's are Juanita Boozer, a sophomore of Richmond, and Mary J. Pate of Chicago, and Barbara Ann Poulson of Winchester, Va., both freshmen. St. Mary's authorities say the girls are "well-received now, and all opposition has broken down in clubs, dormitory life, and of course, our classes."

Miss Lois G. Dozier of Washington, a Howard University graduate, recently was added to the staff of the Notre Dame library in charge of the gift and exchange division.

Two persons, Frazer Thompson, a member of the Naval Reserve, and the Rev. Edward B. Williams, former local Methodist minister, are Notre Dame graduates, both having received bachelor's degrees in 1947.

TENNESSEE STATE GROUP SINGS FOR KIWANIS CLUB

NASHVILLE —The Tennessee State College Singers appeared before the Nashville Kiwanis Club on Feb. 5 in the Chamber of Commerce Building. The Singers appear regularly throughout the State and are under the direction of Mrs. Marie B. Strange.

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