Moments Musical

By ADAH K. JENKINS

The 40th anniversary of the Municipal Bureau of Music was observed at the Druid Hill Park Sunday evening with a combined concert by the No. 2 Park and City Bands with the Baltimore City Chorus.

The players seemed inspired by the occasion and performed with considerable finish. Music of more than correct notes, played in correct rhythm and at the proper rate of speed, important as these are.

Sunday, the two bands seemed to have that added touch of latre and style, under the able direction of Charles E. Gwynn and Harrison M. Dodd.

"Calif of Bagdad Overture" and the blood - tingling march "Them Brasses," were admirable examples.

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ACCORDING TO Earl F. Forman, superintendent of the Bureau of Music, the audience was one of the largest to attend the combined concerts at Park Grove. A set there was music to suit all tastes, from jazz and swing to semi-classics and classics.

It is interesting to note, over a period of years, the marked improvement in the attention and appreciation of the audiences.

Leroy B. Davis, a dramatic tenor of considerable gifts and excellent poise, was the main soloist. He gained confidence as the evening progressed and deserved the warm applause that followed his rendition of "All Alone" and "Because."

He is a voice pupil of Fannie Newton.

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BOTH BAND Conductors wisely limited the number of musicians accompanying the soloist and the chorus. In this way the singers were not obliged to spoil their numbers in an effort to be heard.

The Baltimore City Chorus, led by Mr. Dodd, sang a spiritual, a song of World War I, "Roses of Picardy," the "Gloria In Excelsis" from Mozart's Twelfth Mass and Rossini's "Inflammatus et Accensus."

In this last number the solo was taken by Fannie Newton, whose lovely lyric soprano soared above chorus and band with feeling effect.

Community singing of popular numbers was led by William Pulley of the band. To add to the "honey" atmosphere, which is one of the charms of this annual program, a bouquet was presented to Mr. Dodd and his recent bride. Altogether it was a delightful evening.

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AMERICAN PIANIST, will be the soloist at the Rose Garden Concert at the Baltimore Museum of Art, Wyman Park Dr. and 31st St., Tuesday, Aug. 10, at 8:30 p.m.

He is widely known and has been described by Virgil Thomson, the New York critic, as a musician who does "great piano playing."

The concert is open to the public. At a nominal fee, with a reduction for concert goers who are also members of the museum. Membership in the Baltimore Museum of Arts is open to the public and its facilities are available to all.

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NEXT TUESDAY'S program represents a wide choice of piano literature and includes masterpieces of taxing difficulty. The recital opens with Brahms's "Variations on a Theme" by Robert Schumann." This work was dedicated to "Her," said to have meant the gifted pianist, Clara, wife of Robert Schumann.

Beethoven's famous "Appassionata Sonata," Opus 57 is full of fury and calls for all the resources of both piano and pianist. "Piano Sonata-1954-6" is a strong and brilliant modern composition by the American writer, Elliot Carter, who taught formerly at St. John's College in Annapolis.

Gaspard de la Nuit," by the French composer, Maurice Ravel, is an extremely difficult and complicated work in three parts. With the weather cooperating, next Tuesday promises to be an exciting evening in the Rose Garden.

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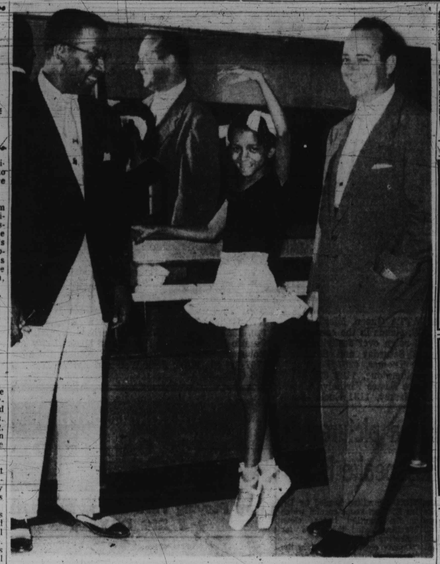
WEDNESDAY, AUG. 11 at 8:30 p.m. in the Baltimore Stadium on 33rd St., birds will occupy the center of attraction—that is, song birds.

The outstanding three winners of the vocal contest, sponsored by a local daily newspaper, will appear in concert with the No. 1 City and Park Bands. Prizes for the winners in the contest will be awarded by a star of stage and opera.

The concert is open to the public without charge and is sponsored by the Municipal Bureau of Music, under the supervision of Earl F. Forman and the Department of Parks and Recreation.



REHEARSES FOR TV — Ten-year-old Paula Nealy of 1828 N. Carolina St. is shown rehearsing for the "Children's Party," the TV show sponsored by the Fred Astaire Studios which returns to the airways this fall. Watching her are Chuck Richards, left, popular announcer, and Bill Howard, manager-director of the Fred Astaire Studios at 319 N. Charles St. and emcee for the "Children's Party." The show on the air for the past four years, is open to all children, regardless of race, color or creed.

Liberty hotel almost sold out for big Shriners' convention August 15-20

By SAMUEL A. HAYNES

ATLANTIC CITY — If you plan to stay at the popular Liberty Hotel here during the Shriners' Convention, Aug. 15 to 20, you have not yet made your reservation, don't wait any longer — you may not get a room.

R. Levy informed the AFRO on Monday that room accommodations have been practically sold out for the convention.

In addition, many reservations have already been received for September and the long Labor Day weekend.

July Banner Month

Mr. Levy points out that the hotel experienced one of its best months in July in many years.

He attributes this in a big way to the many activities being sponsored by the resort's Centennial committee.

More reservations are coming in also from those who plan to come here for the racing season this month.

Last week, Club Estrelita of Philadelphia and the Ten Pals of Club of Baltimore, Md., a number of ministers and wives attending the AME Leadership Institute en masse, hospitality of the Liberty Apartment.

Many guests welcomed from all over the country included: Sheldon Fyson and Juanita Grant from Washington, D.C.; Jeanette Spright, Baltimore, Md.; Faye Adams and James Fultz, Newark.

Also Ed Smalls, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Buchanan, Mrs. Cynthia Tomlinson and Mr and Mrs. William S. Bryant, New York City.

Also John W. Dobbs and Joseph Phinazee, Atlanta; Dr. E. O. Selby and James Lamb, Nashville, Tenn.; Dr. L. P. Armstrong, Rocky Mount, N.C.

Also Mr. and Mrs. Mitchell Lewis, Albany, N.Y.; Jimmie Jones and Booker T. Alexander, Detroit; Lt. George Lee, Memphis;

Also Mr. and Mrs. C. Bellamy, Mr. and Mrs. S. B. Allen and P. B. Metcalf, Indianapolis, Ind.; E. R. Carter, Chicago; D. Littlejohn, Knoxville, Tenn.; and George Mitchell, Waterbury, Conn.

4 bootblacks stop robbery, commended

TRENTON—Four bright shoeshine boys were commended last week by police and city officials for sounding an alarm which resulted in the arrest of three men on charges of attempted robbery.

The youngsters who took a stand for law and order are: James Thomas, 14, and his brother Ferris, 12, of 6 Chestnut Ave.; Robert Carter, 11, of 316 Monmouth St.; and Enoch Perry, 9, of 30 Walnut Ave.

They saw three men hostile their intended victim, Dillard Flatt of Yardley, Pa., into an alley off South Stockton St. Opposite Sears and began searching his pockets.

The boys stopped Dave Weaver, 12 Randall Ave, who was passing in his car, and told them what was happening in the alley.

Weaver in turn notified Patrolmen Molnar and Nagy who were in a patrol car.

BEATING THE HEAT — The formula for keeping cool, says Sheila Gregory, pretty daughter of an Atlantic City school principal, is a dip in the sea, she says. Picture was taken on Atlantic City beach where she is playground worker.

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New bridge helps route to Washington

The Burtonsville - Scaggsville Bridge over the Patuxen River will be formally opened to the public on Monday, August 9 at 11 a.m.

The bridge is expected to become an important link in the relocated Route 29 from near Ellicott City to the northwest part of Washington. This road, in effect, will be a new and additional line for traffic between Baltimore and Washington.

ALONG THE AVENUE

Our man, Bill Wilson, the tenor sax star extraordinary, is currently sparking the Organax, the excellent trio now playing wonderful music at the COMEDY CLUB.

— o O o —

Honest George, up until Tuesday night the column went along with the notion that Bill Swindell was the top tenor man the town has produced recently. But after listening to Wilson and his talents, that opinion has to be revised.

Not only does Bill play a lot of saxaphone, he has real showmanship, a pleasant personality, a keen knowledge of music and what the public wants, and a nice singing voice to boot.

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FILLING OUT THE TRIO are Teddy Wood on the organ and Tommy Williams on the drums. Teddy is from Virginia and Tommy comes from Rocky Mount, N.C. Both of the lads are past masters at their trade with Teddy having served a brief spell with King Cole.

Before switching to the organ Teddy was a whale of a guitarist and had quite a niche for himself among lovers of la jazz hot. He is also responsible for a number of the original tunes which the group features.

Wilson is a local lad, the son of the late Llewelyn Wilson, head of the music department at Douglass High School. Bill grew up in Morgan Park in a musical household and he began receiving musical training at an early age.

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HIS FIRST instrument was the violin, then the piano, the alto horn, the clarinet and finally the saxophone. After graduation from Douglass Bill went to Howard University for three years and majored in business administration.

One of these days Bill intends to finish his last year at Howard, but at the moment his eyes are set on his music career, and a great one it smould be. For several months last year, Bill was featured at an Avenue club and then he, Teddy and Tommy got together and decided to organize a trio.

They picked the name Organax from a combination of organ and "axe" a term used by musicians to describe a saxophone. The boys had a pretty rugged time during their early days but things got better the day they walked into the office of the Moe Gafe Agency in New York.

They persuaded Gale to give a listen to several tape recordings they had made and the agency head was sold from the jump. Under his management they obtained engagements in clubs in New York City and the west.

— o O o —

THE GROUP RECENTLY cut six sides for the Decca label which are slated to be released in September. Two of the numbers to look for are "Kickin' Off" and "Begging," two originals.

It is very seldom that the column goes overboard for an act, but these guys have it and, George, don't miss them. They play it hot and they play it sweet, and everything they play glistens like a new penny.

Wilson's style on the horn brings back memories of men like Herschel Evans, Don Byas and Dexter Gordon. He is top and the group is one of the best to come along in a long time.

— o O o —

THE DIXON BROTHERS plan to hold them over for another week and that makes good news. Take our advice, George, that group is out of this world.

One of the coziest and nicest places in town is the popular RICTORS RED FOX LOUNGE at Fulton and Pennsylvania, where the transplanted New Yorker, George Fox, has earned the reputation as one of the most sincere hosts in the city.

To make things even better, now it is possible for clubs and individuals to rent the beautiful lounge Monday through Thursday for parties and affairs of a similar nature.

The rates are so reasonable that they are amazing, and who could ask for a better place to have a party than in the confines of the RED FOX LOUNGE.

If you are interested why not give Fox a ring at Madison 3-9707 and get the full details. Entertainment at the club is being handled in wonderful fashion by the Arterio group and mighty fine food is being dispensed by Margaret. Prices are always right at the RED FOX where everybody has a wonderful time.

The entertainment at RICTOR'S RED FOX LOUNGE underwent a last minute change just before prestime with Rudy Bond and his trio replacing the Joseph Arterio group. Bond is at the piano, Vic Lee takes care of the drum work, and the saxophone is in the capable hands of Cornell.

— o O o —

DRUMMER LLOYD SCOTT of the Cecil Scott orchestra of NYC paid a visit to the city recently to say hello to fellow musicians and entertainers. He was on his way to Columbus, O., to visit his sons.

Lloyd recently recovered from a seige of illness and is back in there swinging as one of the nation's top drummers.

The beautiful Dot Kelly is serving as official hostess at TILLIE'S, Fayette and Wolfe Sts. The charming young lady told the column last week that she is a native of Virginia who is simply wild about Baltimore.

In addition to being blessed with one of the nicest personalities in show business, Dot also chirps a mighty pretty song. She will say hello when you enter TILLIE'S and with a greeting from her, any evening is off to a good start.

— o O o —

THE FOUR JAYS are the music makers at the club and the boys make up one of most balanced - and pleasant - sounding groups in the city. Newest added attraction at TILLIE'S is draft beer. The system was installed last week at a cost of several thousand dollars and the beer that is served in iced mugs is sheer enjoyment.

Had wife a talk the other afternoon with Ann Nelson, barmaid at an eastside club, which also employs Mary Booker and Bessie Holland, two other capable and pleasant barmaids.

Ann started working as a barmaid back in 1947 and, though she has left the field several times, she always returns because she likes the work and derives a real pleasure from hearing a customer say "thank you."

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ANN LIKES ALL of her customers, but her pet peeve is the guy that comes in with a cigar in his mouth and mumbles his order so it sounds like he said "mmff sfft ttra" instead of "one scotch, one soda, one beer."

Billy Taylor with his unusual great Brand of music is at CLUB TIJUANA where the house is doing a healthy business with the young musician. Billy is a musician well versed in the classics who plays modern music with sheer inspiration.

On Aug. 17 TIJUANA will bring in the music of the Gerry Mulligan quartette, one of the best outfits in the country, and that's the truth.

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AT THE CLUB AMBASSADOR, 1936 E. Fayette St., one of the barmaids is pretty Sadie Briley, a native of Robinsville, N.C., who has been in Baltimore for 12 years.

The attractive young lady has a sure cure for wolves. She just ignores them, which she says is simple but effective.

The Mello - Jacks, with Wild Man Berry on the saxophone, are making the music at the club and keeping things jumping every night in the week.

— o O o —

THE NEW ALBERT had a feature this week called "Monster From the Ocean Floor" which was advertised on the theatre's billboard with a replica of the monster complete with an eye that blined. Would hate to run into it on a dark night.

Jerome Barry had joined Lawson Vessells at CLUB 1017 and quite a combination. With Vessells at the piano and Jerome at the vocals, it makes for easy listening. From the day it opened the 1017 has never lost that air which makes it so nice to visit.

Benny Green is playing a repeat date at the CLUB CASINO and the trombone man gets better with each passing day.

— o O o —

THE BIRTHDAY PARTY for Hot Roof at Carr's Beach was a quite an affair, with some 3,000 fans showing up to see the Roofland on the pier in a helicopter. Several thousand more showing up for the dance that followed.

Hot Roof is quite a man. You've got to give him credit; he has done a lot of nice things for a lot of worthwhile organizations and he doesn't know how to say "No when there is some good that he can do.

In spite of his immense popularity the Roof is always the same. A nice guy and a sincere one.

— o O o —

A QUICK SWING around the rest of the entertainment circuit finds the Jo Jo Mambo group at Jones Cocktail Loung, 1724 W. Lanvale St., and the Valentino Trio at the Knotty Pine Club.

By the way, next time you come across an interesting item slip it along to ALONG THE AVENUE at the AFRO office, 628 N. Eutaw St. Glad to hear from you. That's it. Have fun.

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523 N. GAY STREET
Announces The Re-Opening of their
SODA FOUNTAIN AND LUNCH COUNTER
Under New Policy
FRIDAY, AUGUST 6, 1954
Featuring
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Courteous Service To All

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ROBERT LEW, Proprietor
THIS WEEK SPECIAL
MOO GOO GAI PEN $1.50
With Wonton or Mushroom Soup, Tea and Dessert

Benefit Clubs off to seashore

The Benefit Clubs Association will go by train to Atlantic City Sunday when the local group will participate in the seashore's centennial celebration.

A Legion Day parade and open house at Atlantic City's Soldier's Home are among highlights of the one-day trip. Reserved coaches for the clubs will be on the special train leaving Penn Station at 7:30 a.m. (DST) and returning from the seashore at 11 p.m.

CLARENCE F. Powell is director of transportation; Mrs. V. T. Edmonds chairman, and Bertie Brooks, co - chairman. Among others who are on the committee are:

Arthur B. Thompson, Miss Gladys Barbour, Mrs. Cora Walton, Mrs. Viola Tyler Mrs. Rena Holley, Robert Sydnor, Mrs. Lula Nelson, Mrs. Helen Frazier, Mrs Helen Porter, Mrs. Martha Moore, Mrs. Mable Lawson and Mrs. Henrjita Reed.

Mesdames Ella Harris, Estella Walker, Anna Jordon, Alice Minter, Marian Bond, Marie Hartley, Eleora Shorter, Christina Campbell, and Hattie Medley; Messrs. Braxton Powell, Bernard Knox, Stanley Johnson, Nelson Clifford, Joseph Matthews and Elmer Braxton.

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Announces the Opening Of The PENN HOTEL DINING ROOM
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Serving the finest in home cooked meals and beverages.

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Mixed Drinks by Experts
WENDELL WILSON, Prop.

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AIR CONDITIONED
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Featuring
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Plus: PINEY BROWN — Plus Delores Proctor — Shake Dancer
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Battle of Trombones
J. J. JOHNSON
vs.
KAI WINDING
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Amusements — Fishing — Dining
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