CONVENTION SLATED

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J. — The executive committee of the National Baptist Laymen's Movement is currently making plans and programs for the annual convention to be held at Elis Auditorium, Memphis, Tenn., Sept. 7-10.

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Moments Musical

By ADAM K. JENKINS

A -ROVIN' - (continued from Aug. 20): Folk dances by a group from Philadelphia International Center—seen and heard at Fellowship House Farm.

The four dancers, from Denmark, Switzerland, the Ukraine and Hungary, began their program with a 15th Century Jewish dance of friendship, with its warmth of the circle figures and clasped hands.

Then followed an Hungarian

Then followed a Hungarian with stamping rhythms. One of the most effective and moving numbers was a Catalonian "engagement dance," between a man and girl.

It is serious and slow, with measured movements, as the lad and his sweetheart circle and kneel in turn to each other.

It shows the influence of both Spanish and French folk rhythms. At times it suggested also the grave Sarabande, an ancient Spanish dance found in the suites of Bach, Haydn and other classic composers.

A fast and furious South Italian "tarantelle" completed the cycle, with beribboned tambourines flashing in the hands of the dancers.

ONE DOES not have to be a professional or an amateur dancer in order to appreciate the far-reaching influence of the dance upon music—both folk and composed.

The earliest instrumental music was used largely as accompaniment to religious and war dances.

Snatches of folk dance melodies and rhythms found their way to the pens of Mozart, Beethoven and many other composers, who preceded and followed them.

The folk expression continued a balance and simplicity that has appealed to the creative musicians in many periods.

IN THE 19th century when Germany supplanted Italy as the center of formal musical instruction, musicians from various countries flocked there to study at the conservatories and privately with the leading teachers.

However, when they returned to their native lands they began to apply their knowledge to expressing the character of their own music.

Musicians of Bohemia, Russia, Sweden, Norway and Denmark began to study their century-old folk songs and dances. They delved into the scale forms, melodies and rhythmic and harmonic patterns.

This general interest flowered in the works of Gade, Glenka, Tschaikowsky, Rubenstein, Liszet and Grieg.

OUR 20th CENTURY sees even further making off of the traditional classic and romantic styles and more expression of racial and national trends in music.

The writers quite frankly display the choice treasures from the rich storehouses of folk dance and song of their native countries.

To mention a few that are favorites in our concert halls and on the air—Dohnany and Bartok of Hungary, Enesco of Rumania, Finland's Sibelius, Stravinsky and Prokofiev of Russia.

SAMUEL COLERIDGE - TAYLOR (the anglo-African composer and Percy Grainger, also from England, did much to popularize the African and American Negro folk songs and dances.

Coleridge-Taylor's transcriptions for piano are especially notable for their polished workmanship.

He frequently used the theme and variations form and accomplished the difficult feat of retaining the basic emotional message without the repetition becoming monotonous or tiresome.

The folk music of Israeli is also opening a fertile field for the composer of today. All of them are not religious and there are many striking examples of work and recreational songs and dances.

The "Hora" is frequently danced by American - Jewish groups and several transcriptions are available for piano.

VFW welcome mat

BOSTON — Visiting VFW members are always welcomed at Patrick E. Toy Post 953, 158 W. Springfield St., according to William R. Stewart, adjutant. Mr. Stewart reported that someone will always be at the door to take care of their housing and other needs.

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BEECHWOOD PARK

FRIDAY, AUGUST 26, 1955

8 P.M. Until

Tickets—In Baltimore: Royal Record Stores, 1328 Pennsylvania Ave.

In Washington: Super Cut Rate Record Store 1110 Seventh St. N.W.

Busses Leave: Baltimore—400 S. Fremont Ave. and 1135 Argyle Ave.—7 P.M.

Washington—1012 Tenth St., N.E.—7 P.M.

Safety clinic for drivers on exhibit

A mobile-safety clinic, mounted in a 40-foot trailer, was set up Wednesday at the intersection of Baltimore and Liberty Sts. and is open to the public as a special feature of Highway Safety Week, which ends on Saturday with the 8th Annual Truck Safety Rodeo at Memorial Stadium.

The Safety Clinic is fitted with driver - testing devices and with a highway-accident photographic display loaned by the Maryland State Police.

Included among the instruments installed in the clinic are two telebinoculars, visual testing machines which test driver's vertical eye balance, lateral eye balance, fusion point and peripheral vision. A portoclinic tests reaction time and the effects of glare.

Sponsored by the Maryland Motor Truck Association, and made available by member firms, the clinic will be open to the public until Saturday afternoon when it will then be taken to the stadium, where it will be placed in the exhibit section of the annual rodeo performance.

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Along The Avenue

Night clubbers are in for a week of sheer pleasure at the COMEDY CLUB starting next Tuesday p.m. when the vivacious Rose Murphy sits down at the piano and begins her distinctive song stylings.

Little wonder that the Dixon Brothers have such wide smiles on their faces knowing that they are able to follow up the delightful Little Jimmy Scott with such an outstanding artist to keep the customers very very happy.

Not that it will come as a surprise to many readers, but Rose Murphy is known as the "Chi Chi" girl, a rather obvious tribute to the singer's habit of inserting the phrase at various points of her song renditions.

IF MEMORY serves correctly, this will be Miss Murphy's first appearance in the comfortable environs of the COMEDY CLUB, here she should be a sure fire attraction.

Jimmy Scott, the present star on the bandstand, is playing a return engagement at the COMEDY, here he captured the affections of the patrons several weeks ago with his very enjoyable vocalizing.

Our favorite person, Julia, is still checking hats at the club and still flashing that warm smile that makes every visit to the club a real pleasure.

• • •

ONE OF THE newer fun spots is the CREAM CLUB at 1438 N. Gay St., only a short distance from North Ave. The club is in the process of receiving a complete face-lifting job that should lure it into one of the most distinctive gathering spots on the eastside of this man's town.

The reins of the club are in the hands of Seymor Friedman, who swears that the idea for naming the club struck him "like a bolt from the blue," one bright afternoon when he was ambling down the street.

Featured on weekends is the music of the Mello Notes with Noble Johnson on the piano. The column, unfortunately, has not had the pleasure of hearing the outfit in person, but we understand that they are a promising outfit.

The bar at the club is capably handled by Jean Baylor and Sylvia Pyrtle, with assistance from Waller Eader and Clarence Gillman.

The club is doing a healthy business and the patrons seem to be having a ball, which is another way of saying that there is fun for all at the CREAM CLUB.

• • •

A YOUNG man the column met the other night in the CLUB ASTORIA noticed a trade paper in-our hand and asked what some of the headlines meant.

For instance there was one that read, "Show Biz Names Gives Red Peepers Up But No Info," which means that at the recent investigation into Communism among theatrical people the witnesses gave the probers a lot of talk but very few facts.

Then there was the one that said, "Chirps Take Play From Hub Strips," which in English means that in Boston the singers are getting the choice dates while the strip tease artists are finding it hard to land a job.

So you see it's very simple to understand this kind of talk, if you really put your mind to the job.

• • •

AND SPEAKING of the CLUB ASTORIA, it's well to note that the entertainment is being handled in a very nice fashion by Irving Bean and his excellent musicians. The last time the column heard the outfit was at a gig on the Avenue, and since then they have shown marked improvement. They rank high on the "must hear" list.

It's a little too early for any definite report from the eastside of New York City where Baltimore's own Ethel Ennis is starring in one of the plush clubs as a single. She wound up her chores early Monday morning at RICTOR'S RED FOX LOUNGE and then headed for the Big City, and what we hope stardom.

On the trip were Ethel's mother, Reba and George Fox, the two persons primarily responsible for her success, and several additional relatives of Ethel's.

• • •

ON FRIDAY, Saturday and Sunday, the RED FOX LOUNGE resembled a bon-voyage scene from a movie, as friend after friend stopped in to wish Ethel good luck in the Big Town.

Trying to list the people who visited the club during the weekend would take a full working day, so suffice it to say that there was many a person on hand. The celebration reached a high when the popular spot was so filled that there wasn't standing room.

Hors d'oeuvres were served to the guests and then came the cake cutting ceremonies. It was a beauty, too. All done up in red, white and green, with the words, "Good Luck Ethel, We All Love You," written for all the world to see. And the cake tasted as good as it looked.

During the festivities celebration the patrons were given an opportunity to hear the charming Miss Dorothy Lee, another singer of note. Currently making with the vocals is another promising young artist, Billy Fox, who has the voice and the appearance to make a success of this singing business.

GOT QUITE A chuckle at the CLOVER CLUB, Fayette and Wolfe, where a couple of fellows were telling with relish the story of a musician out in Las Vegas who kept playing boo when the manager told him he wanted something sweet.

The guy had a contract and since the manager couldn't fire him, he made him play out in the club's parking lot where the only audience he had were a number of disinterested fishtails and lored parking lot attendants. Poetic justice they called it.

The Tune Toppers are making some wonderful notes at the club, which delights the steady stream of patrons the club always attracts. There's always good entertainment and the best of drinks at the CLOVER CLUB.

• • •

THE WAGON WHEEL Tavern at 1202 Laurens St., has come up with the talented Tan Foot Hines and his group, while JONES Cocktail Lounge at 1724 W. Lanvale St., is also offering top notch entertainment.

Then there's the CLUB SARA at 1521 E. Fayette St., offering one of the liveliest and Rockingest outfits in town, the Mello Jacks. The KNOTTY PINE on Park Ave. and Biddle St., offers dancers the chance to try out their latest steps to the music of Eddie Gough.

No evening is ever complete without a visit to the VILMA TAVERN at Pennsylvania Ave. and Baker Sts. The LAS VEGAS is offering the talents of Chris Conner at 128 Warwick Ave.

That's about the size of things this week so go out and enjoy yourself . . . As the man said . . . Have Fun.

ROSE (CHI CHI) MURPHY

In Baltimore Next Week

Ft. Smallwood beach open, resort damaged little by hurricane

No damage was done by Hurricane Diane or her aftermath said the beaches at Fort Smallwood are open, the Department of Parks and Recreation has announced.

The heavy winds and rain had no effect on the beaches it was said, although the pier was damaged.

The department made the announcement that the city beach would be open this weekend after receiving numerous calls asking about the extent of the damage done.

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Happy Birthday

Birthday greetings can be said in many different ways, but to those persons born between Aug. 25-31, the AFRO-AMERICAN Newspapers and readers will total them together and just say Happy Birthday.

Why not write a card or letter to the AFRO telling us whom you would like to send greetings. Be sure that all mail reaches the office two weeks prior to publication date.

Send names, dates and cities of persons to whom you wish to extend greetings to the AFRO-AMERICAN Newspapers, 628 N. Eutaw St., Baltimore 1, Md.

AUG. 25

Bertha L. Jefferson, Charles City, Va.

Mrs. Gertrude Mason, Jersey City, N.J.

Marie R. Vernon, Orangeburg, S.C.

Kenneth Bass, Baltimore.

Geneva Blair, Everettsville, W. Va.

Larry Matthews, Cincinnati, O.

Margie Jubilee, Turner's Station, Md.

AUG. 26

Robert Carter, Pulaski, Va.

Miss D. M. DeBerry, Jenkinsjones, W. Va.

Johnny Boyd, Spartanburg, S.C.

Mrs. M. E. Kyle, Chicago.

M. Annette Moorer, Orangeburg, S.C.

Dave Ham Jr., Washington.

Mrs. Betty F. Gray, Tarboro, N.C.

AUG. 27

Jane W. Adkins, Charles City, Va.

Mattie B. Moody, Nashville, Tenn.

Dorothy Gabouriel, Washington.

Avon Wright, Tallahassee, Fla.

Mrs. J. L. Pearson, Durham, N.C.

Mrs. Elizabeth Porter, Newark, N.J.

AUG. 28

O. C. Jackson, Darlington, S.C.

Mrs. Rosa Vaughn, Crewe, Va.

Thomas Teamer Jr., Buffalo, N.Y.

Otis Hammond, Philadelphia.

Norsalus McKissick, Chicago.

Roger Willis, Los Angeles.

Mildred V. Jones, Whitesville, N.C.

Mrs. Celia B. Norman, Elizabeth City, N.C.

AUG. 29

Vincent E. Hassell, Bronx, N.Y.

Mrs. Willnette Parker, Richmond, Va.

Maureen Morrison, Havre de Grace, Md.

A. Houston Gordon, Chicago.

AUG. 30

Willis A. Knowles, Key West, Fla.

Chandler Williamson, Coward, S.C.

James D. Weston, New York City.

Mrs. Captala Collins, Detroit.

Joseph B. Nelson, Brooklyn, N.Y.

T. Ewell Hopkins, Washington.

Charles K. Anderson, Baltimore.

James G. Wolff, Boston.

AUG. 31

William Simmons, Dover, Del.

Emuf R. Mathien, New Orleans.

Saunders S. Mason, Tampa, Fla.

S. Morgan, Orangeburg, S.C.

Ruth B. Brown, Baltimore.

Rev. Miss Agnes Alston, Baltimore.

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Albert Doughton, Sparks Md.

Mrs. Beatrice L. Merritt, High Point, N.C.

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