On the TOWN

Exactly seven brights and darks from this one (Friday) this burg will swing high and there's good reason.

It will signal the Monumental City's debut of one of the hottest items on the entertainment circuit.

Damita Jo, song stylist who had left a legion of critics shouting glowing adjectives at home and abroad, will open at the Casino.

In addition to being first looksee, the occasion will also amount to a homecoming for an adopted daughter.

As previously reported, dynamic Damita recently became the wife of her personal manager, James (Biddy) Woods, a native son.

• • •

THE NEXT light, Saturday the 22nd, the Cossocks, perhaps the most prominent group on the scene throws its extravaganza at the Fifth Regiment Armory.

It takes little imagination to predict what a swinging deal this will be. Especially if you combine the reputation of the Cossocks and Etta James, the featured star.

Less than 30 later, another group which is giving the Cossocks stiff competition for a place at the top of the popularity ladder, Pyramids, do an encore on the March 20 concert stage.

As you recall, that one, too, featured the Soul Man himself, Ray Charles. But the "Georgia on My Mind" man met with misfortune and couldn't make the scene.

So May 14, he'll make good and with his complete band. Those who attended the earlier concert and still have their ticket stubs will be admitted at half price.

• • •

SPEAKING of the Pyramids, reminds that they are entitled added comment. Perhaps the stature of this group can best be appreciated by a flashback to last Sunday.

Because these guys have a lot on the ball, the March 26 event which bore early marking of a standard Coliseum fiasco, when Charles pulled out, was turned into one of the most memorable and praiseworthy affairs to hit the town in recent months.

With only 24 hours' warning, they told the town of the sudden change and gave detailed information as to substitutes.

In grateful appreciation of an honest deal, concert lovers swooped to the affair by the thousands and had a living ball.

And can you imagine what they did on Sunday?

In appreciation for the cooperation they received from the various communication media, the Pyramids picked up the tab on one of the most elaborate spreads for the radio, and newspaper guys and gals these tired peepers have beheld in many a moon.

Among those partaking of choice foods and liquids were the AFRO's award winning editor, Jimmy Williams, City Editor Moses J. Newson, veteran Herbie Mangrum and of course, you know who.

Well known radio voices accounted for included Eddie Morrison, Sammy Jaye, Wiley Daniels, Mike James, Kelson Fisher and Larry Dean.

DURING THE past seven 100 Crawlers had a look at a

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CURVACEOUS BARBARA EDEN flirts with Navy lieutenant Pat Boone in the presence of a controversial turkey - mascot in "All Hands on Deck." The 20th Century - Fox CinemaScope DeLuxe Color spoof is now playing at the Regent Theatre with Buddy Hackett and Dennis O'Keefe.

Baltimore Notes

By DORIS ADAMS

One of the poised and captivating young ladies who made her debut at the Me-De-So Ball was Miss Myrna Clement, daughter of Mr. and Armah Ave.

Myrna's gown was of flowing white pure silk, the bodice, round necked pearl and rainbow sequined. The very full skirt was completely embroidered and underlaid with yards of fine netting.

Myrna's mother is Mrs. Edith Clement, Baltimore County Teacher who for ten years was a teacher at Banneker High School and is now teaching at Catonsville Junior High. Mrs. Clement was attired in a pastel green formal gown with back panel extending to each side and matching [illegible]

The new debutante is a freshman at Morgan State College. She is president of the Youth Council of Pennsylvania Ave. AME Zion Church and active in the Sunday school young group dedicated to the furtherance of live theatre, The Arena Players.

Their presentation of "Night Must Fall," which closed Sunday, bore the proverbial stamp all the way. No attempt to review the show will be made here. That's in the erudite department.

But to say that wholehearted support is the least they deserve is the understatement of many moons.

Another event dotting the coming up calendar is the Sphinx's Mardi Gras, blazing on the scene this coming Monday.

If past years are any standards of measurement, fabulous will be the word to describe it.

Other comments cut since the trek of the caravan this seven, but a rundown on all happenings at happy houses is forthcoming. Meantime, you can beat the Crawlers to the punch if you make it to:

North End: Dotson's, Knotty Pine, Athambra, Jones Cocktail Lounge, Red Fox, Vilma New Jockey Club, Adams Cocktail Lounge, Chick's, Phil's, Mel's Hide-away, Maceo's, The Rally Club and Lucky Number.

Meadowbile, we'll dig you in the dawning.

She is a graduate of Eastern High School. She is a member of the Ivy League Pledge Club, Alpha Kappa Alpha and the Social Events Committee of Student Government.

Guests of Mr. and Mrs. Clement were Mr. and Mrs. Nereus Jackson, godparents of Myrna, Mrs. Norma Clement Jones and Mrs. Doris B. Adams.

Imagine Mrs. Shirley (Harold) Meyers' surprise when a fellowed registered nurse ushered her into a private room on the pretext of coffee with the gang and found a surprise baby shower in her honor at University Hospital. The Meyerses reside in Chase.

• • •

AT THE Ebenezer Methodist Church located in Sparrows Point, Md. three beautiful babies, all related, were christened.

The babies christened were Jeffrey Scott Ellerbe, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lacy Ellerbe of Washington, D.C. and grandson of Mrs. Augusta B. Torrence and the late Harry Lee Torrence;

Sharon Annette Ferguson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Donnell Ferguson, granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harrell Ferguson and Mr. and Mrs. Simon P. Carter Sr. and great-granddaughter of Mrs. Augusta B. Torrence and the late Harry Lee Torrence;

Valerie Beatrice Curbeam, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert L. Curbeam and granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Evans and Mr. and Mrs. Curbeam. (Mrs. Evans and Mrs. Torrence are sisters.)

After the service an elaborate dinner was served to approximately 75 members of the family and friends.

Members of the family and friends who were present at the christening and the dinner included: Mr. and Mrs. Helen Whims, Miss Frances Whims, Mr. and Mrs. Broadus K. Whims of Washington, D.C., Miss Norma Green, Mrs. Margaret Green, Mr. and Mrs. Roosevelt Tyler.

Simon P. Carter Sr., Simon P. Carter Jr., Mrs. Mary S. Brown of Catonsville, Mrs. Maureen de Lemos of Bethesda, Md., Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Turner, Mr. and Mrs. Russell Parrish, Misses (Sandra and Mrs. Josephine Jones and daughter, Bernadette.

Mrs. Pearl Price, Mr. and Mrs. Colonel Wynn, Mrs. Clara Green and son Herbert Green Jr., Mrs. Idell Pugh and sons Clifford and Melville, Mr. and Mrs. Melville Pugh Sr.;

• • •

MR. AND MRS. Charles Evans, Miss Ellen Evans, Meredith Evans, Mrs. Marguerite Oliver and daughter Veronica, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Pugh and children, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas E. Campbell, Charles O. Weems Sr., Miss Evelyn Weems, Harrell Ferguson, Theodore Ferguson, Preston and the Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Abernathy.

• • •

AND FOLKS are still raving about the swelligant Lambda Kappa Mu formal held at the Famous Ballroom! Elegant was the basic of dots chapter, Susie B. Myles, and equally charming was the grand first vice president, Naomi Johnson. Looking quite sophisticated in that new look for evening wear, the short from all was Towson's Iona Smith.

Guests of your columnist were Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Brinkley, the William A. Rooks, who hied off to North Carolina to visit Pinnie's mother after the formal), Mrs. Edith Clement, Marguerite Tynes and Misses Shirley Thomas and Barbara Jackson. Also John Taylor, Thaddeus Quarrels and guests.

After the ball was over, to 237 N. Calver St. went guests to enjoy breakfast prepared by Mrs. Mary Johnson (co hostess and Mary Alston. Next big Lambda Kappa Mu affair: the May Champaign sip!

• • •

HOME TO visit his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Leigh Allen, Winters Lane, Catonsville, is Thurman Allen of Detroit.

Do attend the Music Festival at Catonsville Senior High, today (Friday). Participating will be Ernestine Boston, Carol Williams, Herman Brown and David Lumpkin.

Don't dare miss the Banneker School Fine Arts Club presentation April 15 "Africa Comes to Banneker."

• • •

BANNEKER SCHOOL principal, David S. Driver will be vice principal at Dundalk Senior High. Gerald Griggin and Joseph Hobbs will be on the faculty of Johnny Cake Junior High School. Boy, wishes to you on your new assignments.

Harry birthday to Joseph Cooper, April 1, Mrs. Henrietta Brown, Mrs. Marguritte Reid and Miss Mary Beasley, April 4; Mrs. Dora Meyers, sister of Mrs. Elsie Brown who sends us Chase News, Mrs. Rosa Grinnage, April 6; and Mrs. Margie Matthewes and Mrs. Mamie Veney April 8.

Glad you're feeling better to John Posz, Halethorpe, who suffered an accident on the job at Aberdeen, and Mrs. Jane Foreman, prominent Catonsville civic and church worker.

Clowns booked for area games

Griffin Stadium will still be the scene for the annual appearance of the famed Indianapolis Clowns, who will make their first visit here on Sunday, May 5, in a game with the New York Royals.

The Clowns also will play the Royals in a night game in this area on Friday night, May 5, when they tangle at Baltimore's Westport Stadium.

The Clowns, as usual, will bring along his popular funshow. Natureboy Williams, sensational first baseman and showman of the aggregation, is again at his old post.

Added to the roster of the Duty Joe Cherry, pitcher. Clowns this year is Doublecatcher, of London Bridge, Va., who is regarded as mainstay of the team, and Edward Craig, second baseman of Belmont, N.C. Both were standouts as the Clowns opened the season in Panama City, Fla. Sunday.

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MUSICAL MOMENTS

Critic is pleased by formation of numerous instrumental ensembles

By ADAH K. JENKINS

In times of exalted religious experience and recollection people turn to music, either as performers or as listeners, to express their deepest feelings.

The recent Easter holy days were observed by numerous musical events, featuring local church choirs. It is of particular interest to note an increasing participation of instrumental ensembles in these programs.

We are noted for our contribution to vocal and choral music in this country, but there has been a regrettable lag in orchestral areas. The formation of these local instrumental trios, quartets and chamber orchestras is highly commendable and should be encouraged.

Of special interest was the premier performance of "Five Miniatures for String Quintet," composed by Dr. R. Hayes Strider, head of the department of music at Morgan State College. The hearing was given at Knox Presbyterian Church last Sunday afternoon.

Titles of the five movements comprising the cycle were: "Calvary," "Crucifixion," "Were You There," "Rolled the Stone Away" and "He 'Rose." Performing were: William H. Haithcock, and Matthew B. Fraling, violinists; Ernest Hammond Jr., Viola; Henry T. Mays, violoncello, and Elizabeth S. Day, piano.

• • •

ON THE previous Sunday the Sanctuary Choir of Knox United Presbyterian Church, augmented by the choir of Randall Methodist Church of Washington, D.C., presented Dubois' "Seven Last Words."

The auditorium was well filled for this cantata which is deservedly liked as one of the most dramatic musical presentations of the Crucifixion. Under the direction of Mercedes Douglas, minister of music at Knox, a thoughtful and realistic presentation was given.

It was apparent that much effort had been exponded by Cleo W. Gaynor, director of the Washington Choir and Mrs. Douglas in securing a well coordinated rendition.

The soloists who acquitted themselves with credit, were: Roberta Bacon, Ruth Crawford, Evelyn Boyd, Wendell Wright, Kenneth Lockett, William Grace and Thomas Knowlin.

Playing with distinction at the organ was the Rev. Julius Carroll, pastor of Randall Methodist Church and Elizabeth Day of Knox at the piano.

The nine-piece string and wind ensemble accompanying the choir included: William Haithcock, Matthew Fraling, Robert Smith, Ernest Hammond, Henry Mayo, Edward Penn, Joseph Day, Reppard Stone and Percy Brown.

• • •

ELABORATE anthems marked the Easter service at Grace Presbyterian Church featuring the senior choir and Floyd O. Adams, minister of music, conducting from the console.

Enhancing the effectiveness of the choral music was an instrumental ensemble with Grafton Adams, alto horn; Raymond Kite, cornet and flute; Kenneth Adames, clarinet, and William Stanford, violin.

• • •

CORA MAPP GAINES, soprano, was the star of a concert sponsored by the annual Women's Day observation at Bethel AME Church.

Able support was given at the piano by John D. Cooper. Miss Gaines is soloist at Old St. George Methodist Church in Philadelphia, where 100 years ago Richard Allen and his friends were segregated because of color. This incident led to the formation of the African Methodist Episcopal Church.

The concert was arranged by Mrs. Mae Pack, who has headed the Women's Day at Bethel for 25 years, assisted by Mrs. Harrison Bryant, Miss Maymie Tilghman, Mrs. Adele Carr, Mrs. Mary Robinson and 82 captains.

• • •

CALENDAR: Sunday, April 16 at 4 p.m. in St. Peter Claver R.C. Parish Hall, Pressman and Carey Sts., the Boys Choir and Variety Performers from St. Joseph's Industrial School, Delaware, sponsored by the Alumni Association, Frank Simmons, president.

Sunday, April 16 at 5 p.m. in the aditorium of Trinity Baptist Church, Druid Hill Ave., and McMechen St., George Leonard Milburn, vocalist, with William Meredith H. Birche Jr., at the piano. Mr. Milburn is a former member of the Baltimore Boys Choir, which was founded and conducted by Mr. Birche.

Friday evening, April 28 at Douglass High School, the music classes will present a "Festival of Opera," with two light operas and an excerpt from "Carmen." "Beauty and the Beast" will be conducted by Mrs. Gloria Ford Street, while Mrs. Marion Smith, assisted by Mrs. Mary West Jones, will direct "Bad Boys in School." Norman Ross will wield the baton for the "Carmen" scenes. Mrs. Thelma Ashe is chairman of Fund Raising Activities and Mrs. Lillian Parrott, principal.

Sunday, April 30 at 3:30 p.m. in the Murphy Auditorium at Morgan State College, The Gettysburg Symphony Orchestra will be conducted in a concert by its founder, William Sebastian Hart.

Friday, May 5 at 8:15 p.m. in the auditorium of the Masonic Temple, Eutaw Pl. and Lanvale St., the Morgan State College Singers and Concert Band, conducted by Howard A. Roberts and R. Hayes Strider. The singers, ten in number, are voice majors, while the 31-piece band is comprised of players who are majoring in their respective instruments. Rahab Grand Court, Heroines of Jericho, Maryland Jurisdiction, P.H.A. is presenting the concert. Admissions are $1.50 for patrons; $1.00, general, which may be obtained from Mrs. Annie W. Johnson, the auspices of the Patapsco La 6-8549.

—Quiet Revolution in Balto.

(Continued from Page 17)

was no segregation.

On the day of registration, I stood across the street from the school for two miserable hours trying to find the nerve to join the white students in the buildings on the other side.

I can admit now that I was frightened, because I had never been in a class with a white person. I didn't know what to expect.

I know now that I was foolish, but I was the product of a segregated education and this was the result—fear that I was really second class.

Times do change, however, and the fact that our schools have been integrated so successfully is proof that there has been a quiet revolution.

• • •

WHEN I was a youngster the downtown hotels were forbidden territory, remote and as foreboding as the mountains of Tibet.

You passed the hotels and saw the gay crowds and wondered what it would be like to be inside one of the buildings as a guest.

A few weeks ago several friends and I stopped in the plush cocktail lounge of one of these hotels.

The soft hum of conversation blended with the gentle tinkling sounds of a subdued piano. No one turned around to look at our party, the waitress was polite and efficient and the prices were high.

Sitting easily in the comfortable chairs it was hard to remember the day when I stood outside the hotel and wondered what it would be like inside.

The downtown hotels are open now and you wonder, why were they ever closed?

• • •

AND WHILE the face of Baltimore has changed so very much in the last years, the revolution goes on and on for the face has to be changed even more before it takes on democracy's image.

The end of the revolution is not yet in sight, but in the memory of what life in Baltimore was then and what it is now, lies the knowledge that things do change and once change starts, more change must follow . . . that's the way revolutions come about.

SUNDAY, MAY 7 at 4 p.m. in the Murphy Auditorium at Morgan State College, the Preparatory Senior Choir of Peabody Conservatory, conducted by Donald Reggier, will present a recital under the auspices of the Patapsco Chapter, American Guild of Organists.

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Sphinx Speaks

Topic of discussion this Week is the Biddy Wood and Damita Jo merge. After a honeymoon in Nassau, now back at Hotel Diplomat. Miami Charlie Burns' Casino has booked the talented Damita for one week, starting Friday the 21st. What a treat for Baltimoreans!

The Woods will be here for the weekend (Saturday a m.) S C D T sporting sweater given by Young Phi robably Mardi Gras hosts, 17th-21th.

Junior Board of Sphinx held first official meeting, Tuesday past. Much accomplished. Members are:

Samuel (Army) Armstrong Wardell Crockett, Herb Fisher, John Lindsay, Dave Bacon, Ervin (Moke) Butler, Linwood Johnson, Howard Page, Allen Martin, James Stevenson, Ulysses Johnson, and Jimmy Rogers.

Advisory board has been expanded to include James Jefferson, John (Junkie) Woods and James (Creek) Denkins. The four joined longtimers Arthur Watts, Dr. Bernard Harris Jr., Dr. George Pendleton, Samuel Snowden, James (Rudy) Wood, Bert Hall and Warren Weaver, chairman.

Sphinx 30 - Year Old Timers met Sunday. Large turnout. New officers are John (Junkie) Woods, prez; other officers, Steve Moore, Royal Weaver, Sno Carroll, and Ervin (Moke) Butler.

Final arrangements now being completed for big push off, Monday — Mardi Gras! C. P. T. see y'all come!

Sphinx speaks again next week.

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