AROUND HARLEM

(By J. A. (Billboard) Jackson

New York, N. Y., Dec. 12. (By The Associated Negro Press)—The George Wintz "Shuffle Along" Company has been booked into the Lafayette Theatre for the holiday weeks, beginning December 22. The show, with Eddie Connors and Edgar Martin in the star parts and with the biggest and finest production of the piece that has ever been offered, has been doing a phenominal business since its opening five weeks since.

On December 11, the "Tattler" will present a number of professional artists who have donated their services for a midnight show, the proceeds of which will be used to provide Christmas toys for a number of Harlem children who would otherwise be without these essentials for a real holiday.

"The Negro Character Combinations of a Surface Melody of Carefree Happiness on a Ground Basis of Sorrow and Melancholy" is the wording of the Lopez program with reference to W. C. Handy's, "The Evolution of the Blues."

Mable Loving, a former member of the Philadelphia Club, is also in New York. The clever and dainty little lady plans to join the Manhattan Players but for some reason the Robert Levy aggregation seems to have been disbanded.

Bert Goldberg, the young advance man of the Seven-Eleven show, has been in New York, where he is negotiating contracts that will keep the show busy in the metropolis from about New Year until the sun shines on both sides of the street.

If Matilda A. Walton, the concert singer from Seattle, who has been touring with the Harrod Jubilee Singers for the past five years, is as entertaining on the platform as she is as a conversationalist, (and a big scrap book of clippings assures that fact) she is simply marvelous. There are many callers in a big newspaper office, and some are long remembered by the most callous journalist. We shall always be grateful to Archie Harrod for bringing into sanctum this brilliant and cultured young lady.

Johnson and Lillard, the big Chicago Harmony boys have at last fallen into the hands of the police. They are no dowards. They held their own against over three hundred blue coats, but odds were against them and they had to finally give up to the New York minions of law and order. No. They were not arrested. They just sang for the graduates of the Police School to the new members of the force at the banquet celebrating their admission to the force of "the finest" at the Boulevard Hotel.

Harry G. Edwards, the magician who has been touring the western territory, spent a few days in New York before sailing on the S. S. la Savoie for Paris for an indefinite stay.

Davis and Connie have opened with Wild Wild Love at the Lenox Theatre, to dotheir specialty with a notherwise all-white musical comedy that is in the hundred and Tenth Street house for an indefinite run.

Jimmie Howell, now with the Eddie Hunter revue, was host to a large theatrical party which attended the Metropolitan A. M. E. Church, Sunday morning with him and Mrs. Howell to witness the christening of Baby Arline Elizabeth Howell.

There is a new club in the Lafayette Theatre block. The Elite Social Club, John E. Given, president, and Alvin Smith, secretary and treasurer, has been recently incorporated. The club occupies the premises at 2221 Seventh avenue. In addition to the usual features of such institutions, the management announces that plans are being laid to operate a ticket bureau for the sale of theatre, sporting events and dance tickets for both uptown and Rialto district theatres and affairs.

Dropped into the Comedy Club at the other end of the same block just in time to see Jesse Crawford presenting the organization with a large package of music rolls, records and song sheets. Met Mrs. Frank Montgomery (Florence McCialn) there and talked with the busy assistant secretary. It is marvelous how the new club has taken with the professional women. Its furnishings indicate quite clearly that they have had a strong influence from the beginning. The Comedy is our most elaborately furnished club.

BLEDSOE—BARITONE PLEASES REVIEWERS

New York, Dec. 10.—Julius Bledsoe, baritone, appeared in recital at Town Hall last Saturday afternoon, and confirmed the earlier good impression made last April.

The singer gave a four language programme and was accompanied by Emil J. Polak. Numbers by Handel, Bach, the rarely heard aria from Purcell's "Indian Queen," followed by a mixed group of Schubert and Brahms, Duparc and two Peruvian songs in French, and a concluding group of American numbers and spirituals were splendidly sung.

The musical reviewer of the *Herald-Tribune* said: Mr. Bledsoe, who is also a Columbia medical student, has a voice of considerable size, with a mezzo-forte tone of a clear, unusually appealing quality. His louder notes had gained in smoothness over last season, and rise expressive vigor contributed much to the general effectiveness of his performance. His english diction was very commendable, while among his foreign languages he seemed best in German.

A first appearance of Mr. Polak's well-received "I do not sing your name" opened the last group, with La Forge's "Songs of the Open" preceding the spirituals; Gaul's setting of "Keep a inchin' along" and Mr. Polak's of 'Go Down, Moses." These were sung with artistic expression and unexaggerated sincerity, finely graded vocal shading, and the plangent eloquence brot out by the best negro singers in their own music. More spirituals followed as encores.

"DEMI-VIRGIN" PRAISED

New York, N. Y., Dec. 12. (By The Associated Negro Press)—The company playing the Demi-Virgin opened at the Elmore Theatre, Pittsburgh, December 1. Tuesday morning, B. Engleberg, the home manager, sent the following pleasantly surprising wire to the Billboard office:

"A. H. Woods farce comedy, 'The Demi-Virgin,' with talented cast of colored artiste, opened my theatre last night to absolute capacity and gave a performance of merit that surpasses any similar attraction I have ever played."

Marie Hicks, Daisy Pizarro, Baby Green, Mara Basil, Margaret Brown, Marion Taylor, Alonzo Fenderson, Rudolph Grey and H. L. Pryor, the latter stage director, are the cast that supports Evelyn Ellis in the piece.

"WE GOT IT"

A card from Joe Carmouche informs that "We Got It" is playing the Booker T. Washington Theatre, St. Louis, Mo., this week, with the Orpheum, Clinton, Iowa, to follow the week of December, 14.

THE STAR THEATRE

MONUMENT STREET NEAR BOND STREET

PROGRAM FOR WEEK BEGINNING MONDAY, DECEMBER 15th

VAUDEVILLE TO PLEASE

Monday—"The Son of Tarzan"—No. 11

Tuesday—Marilyn Mills in "Come On Cowboy"

Wednesday—"Ten Scars Make A Man"—No. 8

Thursday—Wm. S. Hart in "Captive God"

Friday—"Clarence" A Paramount Special

Saturday—Wm. Duncan in "Fast Express" No. 13

Matinee Saturday and Monday Open 2 P. M.

COMING, Tuesday, Dec. 23—Ben Wilson in "His Majesty, the Outlaw."

HANDY NUMBERS HIGHLY PRAISED

At th Symphonic Jazz concert by Vincent Lopez an augmented orchestra, at the Metropolitan Opera House on November 23rd, one reviewer had this to say: "The evolution of the Blues," by W. C. Handy and Joseph Nussbaum, which closed the first half, was the first serious work to command attention. It is comparable to the Gershwin "Rhapsodie in Blue" of Whiteman and possessed a marvelous idea that required a master to transcribe and compose. The tracing of Negro music from the tribal drums of the jungle villages down through the ages of spirituals and into the famous W. C. Handy "blues" was a bright thot that just missed the mark. It started off symphonically and concluded in a jazz fanfare. In between it had its highlights but the tone-poem lacked the punch to distinguish it. It possessed many interesting points but comparatively there is more substance in total in the Gershwin 'Rhapsodie in Blue" than in the Handy-Nussbaum composition.

For the venerable Mr. Handy, a Negro, who is a credit to his race, thru his field, in making America's popular music, it was a fine tribute, a reward that may not quite compensate the veteran "blues" composer for his blindness and other vicissitudes, but certainly a simulation of appreciation in as fine a musical centre as any mortal could desire. . . ."

The composer of "St Louis Blues" and others of that type wrote a remarkably fine composition and it was arranged equally as well. One of the leading high-brow critics of a New York morning paper immediately expressed a desire to meet and talk to Mr. Handy.

CITIZENS DUPES OF FAKE MOVIE SCOUT

St. Louis, Dec. 11.—More than 400 Negroes with visions of movie careers in Hollywood lost all hope and $700 when a fake Negro promoter "beat it."

Late last week a negro, said to be Al Edwards, arrived in the black belt and announced he was general manager of the "greatest negro moving picture company in the world." Edwards backed up his announcement with "loud" clothes and a smooth tongue. He opened an office and sent out word he needed 100 'beautiful negroes" for a film entitled "Jingle of the Jungles." A day of two later his office was crowded with applicants.

Edwards explained it would be necessary to charge each $1.50 to assure their sincerity and that they would show up when the special train pulled out for Hollywood, California. The sweet sound of coin stirred Edwards to more chatter and he telephoned the Missouri-Pacific Railroad.

More money rolled in until Edwards finally left word he would be waiting for his future movie stars on the Special train which departed at 7:13. On his desk in the office he left a note for his secretary. It follows:

"To all my movie stars and my many colored friends of this most splendid city, St. Louis: I wish to thank you, one and all, for generous contributions. My only regret is I cannot personally appear before you, each and every one, and thank you personally. I could, but I cant, because I am gone, just gone. You may sing this to 'He Came and Stole My Confidence,' etc."

Who's Who — And Where

Attached is Floyd Shackelford's news of the activities of colored film actors out California way, published in the *Eagle* of Los Angeles.

The William Fox Co., seems to be having a lot of bad luck with their production of "Checkers."

As Mr. Harry Tracey who is in the supporting cast has been called back to work three times in the last three months.

Mr. Robert Frazier is appearing as Blackman in Herbert Brenon's production of "Peter Pan" for the Famous Players Lasky Corporation.

"The Wizard of Oz," Larry Semon's latest production must have been a doctor. According to Curtis Mc Henry as poor Curtis looks like he just returned from a hospital after finishing his part in the picture.

Spencer Bell has returned to the Hamilton-White Studio after having finished two pictures for the William Fox Co.

And Motion Picture fans, don't forget to look for our Xmas issue, in which we will give you a full report of all actors and motion pictures for the year of 1924.

FOX STUDIO

Art Collins, L. Lamar, Ernest White and Ely Reynolds.

UNITED STUDIO

J. W. Swan and Virgil Owens.

GOLDWYN STUDIO

18 Members of the Cinema Auxiliary

MACK SENNETT STUDIO

Hayes (Fat) Robinson

LASKY STUDIO

Tom Blackalle, Gertrude Howard, Robert Frazier.

18 members of the Cinema Auxiliary.

CANADIAN CRITICS LAUD HAYES

"If we look for an analogy to him as a singer it would not be found among the vivacious and richly endowed vocalists of the type of the once famous Fisk Jubilee Singers. Rather must we turn to European singers like the great French interpreter, Edmont Clement or Italians like Gigli and Schipa.

Like these artists he has a voice of the purest lyric beauty, but with more luscious warmth, and more innate poetry. In technical graces he is really approached only by Clement as the latter was 15 years ago. He has a most modest and engaging personality and his mastery of the finer shades of all school of song is amazing, considering his youth and antecedents. . . . Perhaps his greatest triumph from the standpoint of technical beauty was his rendering of "The Dream" from *Massenet's* "Manon."

His pianissimo was ravishing in mysterious dulcet loveliness, and the atmospheric suggestion of the whole interpretation made it a supreme artistic achievement."—*Toronto* (Can.) *Saturday Night*, Nov. 4, '24.

"One of the best singers that we Montrealers have heard or are likely to hear. The accounts of Mr. Hayes' singing produced great expectations not only in the skill of the singing, but the truth was far beyond these, but in the amazing musical understanding. . . . .

It is impossible to describe Mr. Hayes' singing of Negro Spirituals; that is something that can only be heard and felt. With a few words he put into the right mood and held us there with the whole religious feeling of the Negro race. While the rest of the programme was great singing, there seemed to be some kind of magic in the rendering of the Spirituals. . . .

There are not very many singers who could sing anything on the programme as well as Mr Hayes, there are few who could sing such a variety of things and be so completely right in all of them."—H.P.B.—*Montreal Star*, Nov. 1, '24.

Harveys Minstrels

Chicago, Dec. 11th.—Harvey's Minstrels open in Harvey, Illinois, Saturday the 16th. The show has 22 weeks booking through the middle West and East.

Hosiery for Christmas

Ladies' Pure Silk Hose With Hand Embroidery Clock ..... $1.98 to $2.98

Ladies Extra Fine Chiffon Hose In All the New Shades $1.98

Ladies Silk Hose Extra Quality in All the New Shades 98c

Large Assortment of Silk & Wool Hose In All Colors. Prices ranging from ..... 49c to $1.69

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Men's Silk and Wool Hose 79c and 98c

Men's Wool Hose 49c

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4t-Dec.19

SISSLE-BLAKE FOR A VAUDEVILLE TOUR

Philadelphia, Dec. 11.—Pat Casey, is said to be negotiating with Sissle and Blake with a view of having the stars head a company of 20 in vaudeville after the completion of the current road bookings of the "Dandies."

It is rumored that the tour will begin at the expiration of the four week run of the show in Philadelphia. Internal trouble in the cast, it is said, has resulted in many of those engaged leaving the production.

"OUR GANG"

Los Angeles, Cal., Dec. 11.—"The Mysterious Mystery," the latest "Our Gang" comedy, shows Farina and Eugene Jackson in some new roles.

The "Gang" follows in the footsteps of Sherlock Holmes, solving the mystery of the disappearance of a wealthy boy who has been kidnapped. They save the father trouble of paying the ransom and quite accidentally run the kidnappers down.

R. R. Porter's Band Tours

New York, Dec. 11.—The Pullman Porters' Band of the Pennsylvania Terminal District, will begin a tour at Columbia Hall, Jersey City, net Monday.

Besides the band of 40 pieces, there is also an orchestra of 20 connected with the organization. The band has appeared at several notable civic affairs in New York, has broadcasted and given several concerts for charity. The tour will include Newark, Philadelphia, Atlantic City and Washington, D. C.

UNCLE TOM'S CABIN MOVES UPTOWN

New York, Dec. 11.—"Uncle Tom's Cabin," with James Downs in the title role, has moved from the Triangle Theatre to the Punch and Judy theatre uptown. Two performances were given last Saturday. If the production is successful, it will remain for a run.

"Dixie To Broadway"

New York, Dec. 11.—"Dixie To Broadway" grossed $17,600 last week. An increase over the previous week's takings of $2,600, and the largest amount of any week's receipts during the engagement. Last week was the 6th week, the production opened on October 29th, and has given about 40 performances to date. Estimated a paying proposition.

Roland Hayes A Mason

Boston, Mass., Dec. 12. (By The Asso. Negro Press)—The three degrees of Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons in this city Thursday night.

Masonry were conferred on Roland W. Hayes, internationally famous colored tenor, at the annual communication of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand

Joe Carmouche's "We Got It Company" is at the Booker Washington Theatre this week. Mamie Smith and her show who appeared at the Palace last week, were held over for the second week. Miss Smith will offer a new programme of request songs.

DURHAM SINGERS IN AN OPERETTA

Durham, North Carolina—"The Merry Milk Maids," an operetta, was given here on Monday and Tuesday, November 24th and 25th. Professor C. E. X. Boisseau, directed the production, and Mr. L. Payne Lawrence of Philadelphia, played the leading role. The success of the affair gives promise that others will be given in Raleigh, Greensboro, and Winston-Salem.

Mrs. A. S. Hunter, affectionately called by her friends "Nell," appeared at a musical given by the Chicago College of Music on Sunda., November 20th, in Chicago. The programme was broadcasted from station WGN and was heard in Durham at 4:30.

We recommend the following Numbers as a valuable addition to Your Record Catalogue:

14042—Weeping Willow Blues / Bye Bye Blues

14037—Rainy Weather Blues / Salt Water Blues

14032—Work House Blues / House Rent Blues

8166—Jug Band Blues / Don't Quit Me Daddy

8162—Nobody Knows How I Feel This Morning / Absent Minded Blues

8159—Poor Man's Blues / The Funny Blues

236—Go Long Mule / Mandy (From Chocolate Dandies)

8143—Dark Alley Blues / Box of Blues

14039—Hard Hearted Hannah / Gouge of Armour Ave.

237—She Loves Me / Too Tired

SACRED

1364—Will the Circle Be Unbroken / Memories of Mother

13035—My Lord Gonna Move Dis Wicked Race / Father, Prepare Me

1035—23rd Psalm and Lord's Prayer / Onward Christian Soldiers

3385—Sweet Hour of Prayer / Rescue The Perishing

THE JAZZ SHOP

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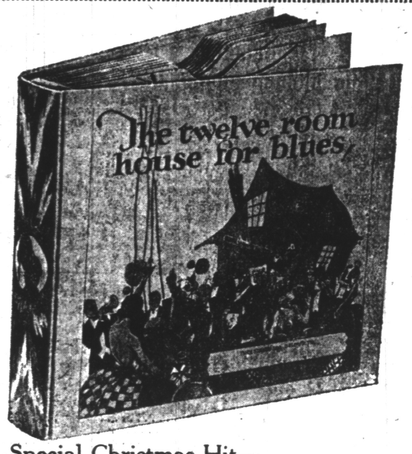

OKeh Records Make Ideal Christmas Gifts

—specially if you give 'em enclosed in the handsome "Twelve Room House For Blues"—Okeh's brand new Handy blues record container with the twelve record pockets, the signed interviews with famous Race artists, and the special list of 25 of the world's BEST blues records personally selected by the foremost blues specialist of the Race, Clarence Williams. This is the Race's own record container and any blues lovin' member of the Race will be delighted and proud to receive one for Christmas! Come in and see the "Twelve Room House For Blues" or send for one today. Price, only 75c!

Hear These "Hot" Blues!

8173 — 10-In. — 75c — You've Got the Right Key, But the Wrong Keyhole. Bill Draw / By VIRGINIA LISTON

8171 — 10-In. — 75c — House Rent Blues / Texas Moaner Blues / By Clarence Williams Five

8172 — 10-In. — 75c — Cage of Apes / Sobbin' Hearted Blues / Sung by SARAH MARTIN

40230 — 10-In. — 75c — I Aint Gonna Blame It On the Blues / Muddy Water Blues

8174 — 10-In. — 75c — Fe Day Blues / Low Down Blues / Sung by ANNA SUMMERFIELD

8163 — 10-In. — 75c — A To Z Blues / Construction Gang Blues / By Butterbeans and Susie

Special Christmas Hit—

10027 — 10-In. — 75c — SILENT NIGHT, HOLY NIGHT / OH, JERUSALEM / BAND WITH CHIMES

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PROGRAM FOR WEEK BEGINNING MONDAY, DECEMBER 15th

MONDAY—Harrison Ford, Madge Kennedy and Marc McDermott in "THREE MILES OUT"—6 Acts

THEY WANTED HER. So did the Brutal Leader of the Rum Running Crew. Her honor was at stake. Her life in Peril. She was helpless three miles out at sea. ONLY A MIRACLE COULD SAVE HER.

SNUB POLLARD in "THE GREEN CAT"—2-Act Comedy

TUESDAY—Tom Moore, Mary Miles Minter, Leonard Clapham and Cast in "THE COWBOY AND THE LADY"

7 ACTS

A Dramatic Story of a Beautiful Girl who's ideals were shattered by a reckless marriage and goes West to forget. A story liberally sprinkled with thrills, excitement, tense climaxes.

BABY PEGGY in "STEPING SOME"—2-Act Comedy

WEDNESDAY—Tom Mix, Leo Maloney, John Bowers and Gertrude Vail in "THE MAN FROM TEXAS"

5 ACTS

A breathtaking story o fthe West where a quick trigger finger meant life or death. A two-gun hunt for the man who betrayed his sister, which led him into plenty of trouble with Indians and bad men.

Zip and Jeff in "On the Job"

2-Act Monkey Comedy

"BALI THE UNKNOWN" No. 2—A Puzma Story of a South Sea Island

THURSDAY—Alleen Ray and Jack Mower in "TEN SCARS MAKE A MAN"—No. 3

JIMMIE ADAMS in "HERE AND THERE"—Some Comedy

Dustin Farnum, Mary Warren and Lloyd Whitlock in "THE MAN WHO WON"—5 Acts

Is it fair for a wife to leave her husband and children because she don't get what she wants? Is it right for him to bring her back by force? What would you do?

FRIDAY—Fred. Thompson and Silver King, the Wonder Horse in "THE MASK OF LOPEZ"—5 Acts

The adventurous story of a cowboy and his thrilling exploits in running down a gang of rustlers with a mysterious leader. And SILVER KING in the fight with all four feet.

CHARLIE CHASE in "ACCIDENTAL ACCIDENTS"—Some Comedy

Benny Leonard, Stuart Holmes and Ruth Dwyer in "THE EVIL EYE"—Episode No. 1

Benny Leonard, Champion Lightweight Fighter, and he puts plenty of pep—punch and action in this serial.

SATURDAY—Wm. Desmond, Helen Holmes and Eileen Sedgwick in "THE RIDDLE RIDER"—No. 2

JACK MULHALL in "THE GIRL AND GANGSTER"—2-Act Detective Play

MARIE WALCAMP in "TEMPEST CODY GETS HER MAN" 2-Act Western

NEELY EDWARDS in "WHEN LOVE IS YOUNG"—Some Comedy

AESOP'S FABLES in "GOOD OLD CIRCUS DAYS"—Cartoon Comic

COMING—

DOUGLASS McLANE in "GOING UP"—6-Act Special

THOMAS MEIGHAN in "BACK HOME AND BROKE"—7-Act Special

JACKIE COOGAN in "CIRCUS DAY"—6-Act Special

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Admission—50; Reserved Seats—75c

Played 2 Years in New York

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A MELODIC PAGEANT OF YOUTH-BEAUTY-LAUGHTER AND PRETTY GIRLS

Special Note—Do not miss seeing this wonder show as "Shuffle Along" is positively the biggest and best musical comedy event of the season. The management advises ordering seats without delay, as company is playing to capacity business everywhere. Positively Guaranteed—New York Cast and Chorus

World's Record Breaking Musical Comedy

A SPECIAL MIDNIGHT SHOW FRIDAY, DEC. 19th

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THIS WEEK WE ARE GOING TO SHOW THEM

5:30 to 7:30 P. M. Every Day

CHILDREN—10c - ADULTS—20c

Curtain Rises at 2:15 and 8:15 P. M.

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"SOME ONE ELSE WALKED IN"

Wednesday and Thursday—

HOW TO BE HAPPY THO MARRIED!

SEE—

"6 CYLINDER LOVE"

ELMER CLIFTON PRODUCTION, presented by William Fox,

with Ernest Truex

Friday and Saturday—

A WALLACE WORSLEY PRODUCTION

William Farnum

"THE MAN WHO FIGHTS ALONE"

with LOIS WILSON

Presented by Adolph Zukor and Jesse L. Lasky

A Paramount Picture