PARIS THEATRE CROWDED A MONTH FOR "JO" BAKER FILM

"SIREN OF TROPICS" IS 'JO' BAKER FILM

Picture Has Been Showing Day And Night To Crowds At Paris Blvd. House

'JO' STILL SINGLE

Application For Passport Says She Has No Hubby

PARIS (Special to the AFRO)—While the Austrian Parliament is deciding this week whether Josephine Baker can give performances in Vienna or other Austrain cities, the American dancer and comedienne is winning new honors on the screen here in "Siren of the Tropics", a film in which she is starred.

The photoplay has been showing at the Aubert Palace on the Grand Boulevard for the past month and keeps the place crowded day and night. The play, a rather conventional one showing a native girl falling hopelessly in love with a white man, was written by Maurice Dekobra, one of France's most popular writers.

The Story

The story relates how the Marquis of Severe, gay sportsman and proprietor of lands in the West Indies, wishes to divorce his wife and marry this adopted daughter. The wife objects and tells him of the love of the daughter for a young engineer in the employ of the Marquis. The sportsman sends the engineer to his West Indian lands, to prospects for minerals. There he (Berval) meets Papitou (Josephine Baker) a daughter of a white man and a native woman. The girl falls in love with Berval and even takes passage to France as a nurse in order to be near the man she loves.

Upon arriving there she is engaged to do native dances in a great music hall. She accepts only because she hopes Berval will be in the crowds. Leaving the hall in anger after the first performance because her lover is not there, the proprietors are alarmed and secure the services of the Marquis with the hope that he will have Berval come to see the girl.

The nobleman takes the girl to the home and announces her as a visitor. When she and Berval embrace the Marquis order a duel with his prospective son-in-law. At the time of the duel Berval shoots into the air but the girl, hidden in a tree, kills the Marquis. She then goes back to her music hall work with renewed effort.

"Count" In Cast

Miss Baker disports herself as a frolicsome maiden, doing the dances with the naturalness which characterized her work at the Folies Bergere. Many other race people take patr in the film. Appearing as the music hall manager is Signor Albertini, the "count" to whom Miss Baker was supposed to have been married last year. The star is single, however, according to her declaration, for she stated this much in applying for her passport at the American consulate before leaving for Vienna.

Austrians Debating

The American girl, who rose from obscurity to the leading music hall artist of Paris, is being guarded in Vienna following the demonstration against "Johnnie", a jazz opera which caused a near riot there before the star's arrival. The piece showed an African in a leading role proclaiming that no white woman had yet resisted him. Austrian students rebuked the audience for applauding the actor by tossing stench, smoke and sneezing bombs from the balcony.

A group of Budapest promoters has also offered the girl a month's engagement with a salary of $10,000 and expenses. Disposition of her case will be made during the sessions of the Parliament this week.

White Stars To Replace "Jo" Baker In Paris

PARIS.—Josephine Baker's place in the Moulin Rouge revue will be taken by Dollie and Billie, American white sister team, according to advices.

THINGS THEATRICAL

By OBIE McCOLLUM

Throwing Away A Stage Art

Two weeks ago the Pittsburgh Guard came out with an editorial which severely criticized the race stage for the blackface humor which constitutes a large part of every revue, musical or whatnot. Declaring that the themes of the comics, namely chicken stealing, superstition, ignorance, were no index to the race, he declared that they should be discarded and entertainment more representative of the group substituted.

White Man's View

The dramatic editor of the New York Daily Mirror, white, in a column of comment Thursday, presented a different attitude toward the travesty on dark folk. According to the writer, George Le Maire and Rex Van, white comedians who receive almost fabulous sums for their imitative drollery, have just opened for 20 weeks on one of the country's biggest circuits. They also receive handsome weekly incomes from their "clowing" record, "Black Jacks".

The writer passes his opinion upon the blackface art in this summary:

"Some day wise parents will teach their children to apply burnt cork properly and tell gags in preference to making such things as presidents, bank officials, doctors and lawyers out of them."

Few Artists

There aer a few actors who have refined the work of blackface until it has become an art with them. Miller and Lyles find it fairly easy to command big offers from the Schuberts and other producing companies than can well pay for the work. They have also retained the respect of the general public because of superior training and generally casting their lot with the "upper crust." Andrew Tribble, the Ophelia of "7-11", is another individual who has taken a role so ridiculous that few will accent it and has made himself an institution.

While the gradual discard of many the burlesqued themes which arose from slavery and ignorance should be carried out, there is certainly danger in following out the editor's suggestion and beginning anew. The present trend of the race stage certainly indicates that blackfaces will remain for awhile. Variety? Yes, but the raw material that we have thrown away will certainly be polished and utalized by the other group.

S. R. O. SIGNS OUT FOR FISK SINGERS

PARIS.—The Fisk Jubilee Singers were greeted by an overflowing audience in their appearance at the Salle Gaveau. Seats on the platform were all sold.

The audience was a most appreciative one, and the number of encores sung were almost as long as the bill itself. They are billed at the same hall for another recital in two weeks.

Philly Theatre Gets Movietone

PHILADELPHIA.—The Royal Theatre here has just closed contracts with the Vitaphone and Movietone Corporations for installation of apparatus for talking pictures, it was announced Monday.

It is believed that the Royal is the first Eastern house to install this invention which has been made practical only in the past two years. The first features will include Al Jolson, Sissle and Blake, the Utica Jubilee Singers, and other leading acts and stars.

McClane Back

Charles P. McClane is back in the house as manager after an absence of two years. McClane, who is also manager of Shingzie Howard, movie actress, expects to have her begin on a photoplay in April. The film will be made by a white company.

Artists Draws African Studies

NEW YORK.—Miguel Covarrubias, Mexican artist who recently published his book of "Negro Drawings," is back from Paris with a portfolio of race studies which he made while in Africa.

Brown Fails As Husband, Makes Good As Dancer

Brown And Marguerite Dancing Team Will Get Divorce But Keep On Dancing Together

The matrimonial team of Brown Marguerite will split on the rocks of divorce in the courts in Chicago next month, but the pair, as exponents of the terpsichorean art, will continue on the stage, Mrs. Brown revealed in an interview here Saturday.

The team, that is, theatrically, played the Royal Theatre here last week with Irvin C. Miller's "Brownskin Models", and this week is at the Howard Theatre, Washington. They are scheduled to close with the revue at the end of the week and proceed to Chicago, the home of Mrs. Brown, for the divorce suit, she said.

Herbert Brown, a Baltimorean, who spent most of his early life in Philadelphia, met Mrs. Brown, then Miss Marguerite Banks, in Chicago, in 1921. Mrs. Brown was a clerk in the mail order house of Sears, Roebuck. Mr. Brown had already won some recognition as a whirlwind dancer and taught the girl preparatory to teaming with her.

Always agreeing on the stage and succeeding over the Orhpeum and old circuits operated by Martin Klein, white, in the mid-west. Last season they played with Jimmy Cooper's "Black and White" revue over the Columbia wheel. Their marital troubles increased, incompatibility being blamed for the rift by Mrs. Brown.

Last summer the two opened a night club in Atlantic City and later began a dancing studio in Washington. They parted in December.

Agree To Disagree

The team now has an offer to open in Chicago for a run at the Regal Theatre. The dancers are under the management of Morris L. Walgren, theatrical agency there. An offer has come, according to the two, for a tour of Australia. The team will wait this year as soon as the proceedings are completed.

Mrs. Brown's parents live at Harvey, Ill., a suburb of Chicago. Her mother, Mrs. Mary Thornton, is pastor of the First Pentecostal Church there. Herbert Brown's grandmother, Mrs. Ellen Day, lives in Baltimore at 1543 E. Madison street. His father died here 15 years ago.

The two dancers sought and found success in demonstrating their stage art but failed in the art of domestic harmony. But with that, as Mrs. Brown puts it, "We have no idea of breakink up the team."

Two Local Girls In "Sugar Cane" Cast

(By LEON McCOY COOKE)

RICHMOND, Va.—"Sugar Cane," a musical comedy with the Hardy Brothers' Orchestra and under the direction of J. Homer Hubbard, played the last half of the week here. Newport News and Norfolk are to follow.

The vehicle is being presented by Coleridge Davis and A. Douglass Price. Musical numbers arranged by Oliver Ditson Price. The principals include Hubbard, Harvey Jones, J. H. Jenkins, Old Piedmont, Florine Jenkins, and Samanthea Katy Price.

In the ensemble are Daisy and Margaret Wilkins, of Baltimore; Baby Harms, Cecelia Markan, Baby Lewis, Lucille Henderson, "Peg" McClellan, Ione Gomez, Lillian Duval, Maise Kennedy and Luan Domaz. A. Douglass Price directs the orchestrations. Costumes are by Maybelle Brown.

Blackface Plays "Hookey"

NEW YORK (PCNB)—Eddie Cantor, white, blackface comedian in the Ziegfield Follies, successor to Bert Williams, is being charged with reporting that he was sick with pleurisy while taking in the pleasures places on Broadway. The spree caused the Ziegfield show to be withdrawn from Philadelphia and the Actors' Association required the producer to pay salaries of the company for one week.

ROUTINGS

WEEK OF FEBRUARY 13th.

Irvin C. Miller's "Brownskin Models," Howard, Washington.

Ed Daly's "Here We are", Royal, Baltimore.

Dusty Fletcher's "Harlem Strutters", Grand, Chicago.

Eddie Lemons' "Dashin' Dinah", Palace, Norfolk.

"Rang Tang", Lafayette, New York.

Ethel Waters in "Africana", Colonial, Cleveland, Ohio.

"Carolina Nights", Elmore, Pittsburgh.

Lee Marshall and "Blackbottom Steppers", Keith, Montreal.

"Pepper Sauce", (stock) Alhambra, New York.

Williams and Brown, Lincoln, Louisville, Ky.

World and Towel, Jennings and Reed, Margaret Johnson Trio, Lasses Brown Duo, Booker T. Washington, St. Louis.

Ma Bailey Revue, Wonderland, Durham, N. C.

Addison Carey's "Heading For Harlem", Lincoln, New York.

Miller and Lyles in "Keep Shuffilin'," Gibson's, Philadelphia.

MORGAN RECITALS

Verdi's "Il Trovator" was reviewed at the Miniature Recital held Wednesday during chapel period at Morgan College.

A resume of the story was given by Clarence Davis, after which Miss Jannie Pettis, soprano and A. Brewington Kiah, tenor, rendered the famous duet from "The Prison Scene."

A number of familiar arias and choruses from the opera were played by the college orchestra.

Miss Frances Berry, '28, pianist, of Lynchburg, Va., and Miss Nellie Henry, '29, dramatic reader, of New Jersey, will be the artists in a recital at Douglass Hi auditorium Friday evening, March 2.

Pauline Writes

Pauline Jackson, marathon swimmer for whom C. C. Fitzgerald, Thomas R. Smith, Miss Margaret Dow and Howard Gross will seek to raise funds at a theatrical benefit to enable her to make a try at the English channel writes:

"I have just completed a pamhlet on my experience as a Marathon swimmer. Cramps and how they can be conquered, record of English channel swimmers, record of Wrigley's second Marathon August 31, 1927, which I am going to put out to the public. I hope that it will be of benefit or help encourage swimmers among our boys and girls, men and women."

Cashier At Capitol Theatre

ATLANTA, Ga.—Miss W. Mae Logans has been employed with an alternate as cashier in its race office of the Capitol Theatre.

All of the large white theatres in Atlanta, except one, solicit colored patronage, but some of them have alley entrances and poor accommodations and they do not employ colored ticket sellers. Keith's "Georgia" has very good accommodations and employs ushers, porters and maids.

RACE ARTISTS AID FLOOD SUFFERERS IN ENGLAND

NEW YORK.—James B. Lowe, the screen actor who plays the title role in "Uncle Tom's Cabin," and several other race artists in England recently gave a concert benefit for aid of sufferers in the Thames River floods, according to a letter just received by the N. A. A. C. P. from Lady Mary Cook.

RECITAL AT HOWARD FRIDAY

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Miss Elizabeth Sinkford, a graduate of the Oberlin Conservatory of Music will appear in Song Recital at Howard University, on Friday, February 17, at 8:15 P. M., in the Rankin Memorial Chapel.

Princess, Mebbe, Yes

Miss Leona Emons, Baltimore girl, formerly of Winston-Salem, N. C., is a member of the Croatan Indian tribe. She would rather be colored than Indian, she says.

—Photo by Victor Wright.

GERTRUDE SAUNDERS AT ROYAL NEXT WEEK

The "Dixie Vagabound" starring Gertrude Saunders will come to the Royal Theatre next week following directly behind its New York run.

This is not one of those gotten together in a hurry New York revues, such as critics have remarked in the past often visit Baltimore, but is a real honest to goodness show having a story and a cast of well known stars including Sandy Burns. They are supported by Sweety May, Kid Bumpsky, James Bradsdale, Joe Erron, direct from the Keith circuit and the famous Lilly Yeun Trio consisting of Lilly, Perry and Brownnie Yeun.

The show carries a wealth of scenery and magnificent costumes and a chorus of 10 Dixie Vagabounds.

This Sunday night the Royal will stage its usual midnight ramble beginning at 12:30.

Revella Hughes At Keith's Theater

HUNTINGTON, W. Va.—Revella E. Hughes has just returned from an extended concert tour of the southern states. She was accompanied by her private accompanist, Miss Gladys E. Johnson, of this city.

Upon her return to this city she was engaged immediately to sing at Bluefield, W. Va., under the auspices of the Hyman Brothers at Keith's Theatre. This theatre is one of a chain operated by this company.

Dunbar Features Tenor Soloist

Edgar Nicholson, tenor, is appearing as soloist with the Dunbar Theatre orchestra twice each evening during the picture house's performances.

Nicholson was warmly received by the Dunbar partrons during the week-end and will continue this week with "Are You Thinking Of Me Tonight?" by Berlin, as a feature. The five piece orchestra, under direction of Carlos Daugherty, is offering "Shaking the Blues Away" as a specialty this week. The orchestra and soloist take the "spot" at seven and nine each evening.

CHILDR'N'S SYMPHONY CONCERT FEB. 25TH

Frederick R. Huber, municipal director of music, announces that the February Children's Concert will be given at the Douglass High School on Saturday morning, February 25th, a week later than the usual monthly date of the Douglass High School concerts.

The program is unusually interesting and will be augmented by the appearance of the boy violin prodigy, Benjamin Steinberg, white, whom Mr. Huber has secured as soloist for the concert. Young Steinberg will be heard in the famous D Minor Concerto by Vieuxtemps. Other interesting numbers on the February program include the March of the Gargoyles by Howard R. Thatcher of the Peabody Conservatory staff, the Tone Poem "Pinlandia" by Sibelius, Franz Schubert's "Marche Militare" and the delightful Intermezzo from Offenbach's opera comique, "The Tales of Hoffman". Tickets for the concert, now priced at ten cents in order to make it possible for all young music lovers to attend, are on sale at the Douglass High School.

The concert will be given by the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra under the conductorship of Gustav Strube and will begin promptly at eleven o'clock.

Poag Orchestra at Goucher Dances

Thomas C. Poag, 1920 Madison avenue, Douglass Hi graduate in the class of 1927, directed the orchestra which played at Goucher College last week.

He has other contracts for the college which heretofore used white bands. Dates will take him also into Pennsylvania and Delaware. He will enter Morgan next fall.

Micheaux Finishes a New Drama

NEW YORK.—"Thirty Years After," a drama with an all-race cast, has just been completed by Oscar Micheaux and will soon be released, according to advices received here.

The photoplay was taken from a play, "The Tangle," by Henry F. Downing. Principals in the cast are A. B. Comathiere, Mabel Kelley, William Edmondson, Ardelle Dabney, Barrington Carter, Gertrude Snelson, Mme. Robinson, Arthur Ray and Ruth Williams.

Lincoln Musical Club To Make a Tour

LINCOLN, Pa.—Lincoln University Musical Club, composed of 32 male voices, accompanist, violinists and vocal soloists, plans a spring tour to take in all schools and cities of the Eastern seaboard.

James E. Dorsey, a student, is director and Cornell X. Holmes, manager. Last year the club broadcast over WOO.

Glee Club To Tour

INSTITUTE, W. Va.—The young men's Glee Club of the West Virginia Collegiate Institute, directed by Prof. Clarence C. White, will leave here February 21 on an extended tour including Parkersburg, Clarksbug and Wheeling of ths state, and Pittsburgh, Pa., in its tour, which is to last through to the 29th.

HEAR HAZEL HARRISON

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla.—Miss Hazel Harrison, nationally known pianist, gave a recital here last Friday night at Bethune-Cookman College. Mrs. Anita Patti Brown, soloist, of Chicago is scheduled to appear here March 28.

Deserted "Blackbirds" Team; Sued For $3,000

NEW YORK.—Claiming that Lew Leslie, white producer of the "Blackbirds", left them stranded in London after signing a contract for a run, Rucker and Perrin, vaudeville team, are suing the promoter for $3,1000. The pair are known here for their Chinese-Negro skit.

HAMPTON CLUB HOME

HAMPTON, Va. — The Glee Club sang at Paine College, Augusta, Ga.; City Auditorium, Atlanta, Ga.; City Auditorium, Durham, N. C.; A. and T. College, Greensboro, N. C.; Reedsville, N. C.; Danville, Va.; Lynchburg College, Va.; and Hollins College, Roanoke, Va.

A Warning

Theatrical performers are warned against persons who claim to represent the AFRO-AMERICAN without showing their credentials. Last week two performers paid for a cut and a story on their show which never came to the office because the writer was a fake.

The AFRO does not charge any fee for news stories or pictures appearing in its columns.

MUSICIAN LEAVES SHORE

ATLANTIC CITY.—Willam Watson, local pianist and orchestra leader, has left the shore for his health upon advice of his physician. His wife accompanied him to the home of his parents but has returned to her home here. Mr. Watson expects to oranize an orchestra before returning to the shore.

ROGERS AND MOENS AT PARIS CLUB

PARIS,—J. A. Rogers was recently the guest of honor at the monthly dinner of "The Sugar Cane Club", an organization of natives from Martinque, French West Indies, composed of professional men and government officials. The president of the club, M. de Montagne, Legion of Honor, in welcoming on the occasion that a warm welcome was extended to Negroes from America. The club rooms are one the Boulevard St. Denis.

Another recent guest was Prof. H. Berneloet Moens, whose articles in the leading journals on the Negro question is America is causing considerable stir.

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PROGRAM FOR THE WEEK BEGINNING ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 20th

MONDAY—NOAH BEERY, MARY ASTOR, CHARLES EMMETT MACK and FRANK HOPPER in

"THE ROUGH RIDERS"

TEN (10) ACTS

Battle at San Juan Hill!

A barbed wire fence forty yards from the top halts Roosevelt. He dismounts and flings himself over it. The Rough Riders come on furiously in the assault. Aligned with them are the brave, black regulars of the NINTH CAVALRY, a colored regiment that never knew the word FEAR!

SAMBO, FARINA and OUR GANG in "TIRE TROUBLE"—2-Acts

TUESDAY—JACK MULHALL, DOROTHY McKAILL, ROCKCLIFFE FELLOWS in

"THE CRYSTAL CUP"

SEVEN (7) ACTS

She Was Afraid To Love!

Buster Brown, Mary and Tige in "BUSTER'S INITIATION"—2-Act Comedy

PATHE NEWS No. 13—Interesting and Educational

WEDNESDAY—JEANNE MORGAN, SAM NELSON and RANGER, the Wonder Dog in

"BREED OF COURAGE"

SIX (6) ACTS

The faithful protector of his mistress—the devoted lover of his mate—how can he serve both at the hour when life itself depended upon this noble dog?

FOX COMEDIANS in "GENTLEMEN PREFER SCOTCH"—2-Act Comedy

FOX NEWS No. 39—Interesting and Educational

THURSDAY—TED WELLS, LILLIAN GILMORE, BUCK CONNORS and WILBUR MACK in

"STRAIGHT SHOOTING"

FIVE (5) ACTS

A heroic fight to save a mine in the teeth of starvation. Spattering bullets on the sun-baked sands. Treachery that will make you hate! A fight that will make your blood tingle!

LARRY KENT and JEAN ARTHUR in—

"MASKED MENACE"—No. 9

OSWALD the Jack Rabbit in "HAREM SCAREM"—Some Comedy

FRIDAY—LEO MALONEY, EUGENIA GILBERT, BEN CORBETT and ROSA GORE in

"THE MAN FROM HARDPAN"

SIX (6) ACTS

Go back to the days when the old frontier was more than a name and outlaws robbed the mails with all the dash and cunning of a Jesse James.

JACK DAUGHERTY and JOSEPHINE HILL in

"TRAIL OF THE TIGER"—No. 8

ALICE, the Kid in "MIDNIGHT SHOW"—Some Comedy

SATURDAY—JACK HOWE, WHITE FURY and JOE BONOMO in

"HEROES OF THE WILD"—No. 8

CHARLES HUTCHINSON and EDITH THORNTON in—

Al Cook and his Guard in "A CHIN HE LOVED TO TOUCH"—2-Act Comedy

"LIGHTNING HUTCH"—No. 6

FRED GILMAN in "ON SPECIAL DUTY"—2-Act Western

AESOP'S FABLES in "WANDERING MINSTRELS"—Cartoon Comic

COMING—RICHARD BARTHELMESS in "THE DROP KICK." CLARA BOW in "CHILDREN OF DIVORCE." HOOT GIBSON in "RAWHIDE KID."

REGENT 10c 15c 20c

MONDAY—TUESDAY—WEDNESDAY

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The supreme effort of the screen's most glorious lovers!

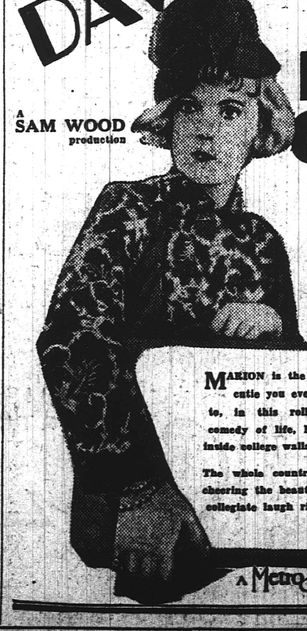
MARY ASTOR and GILBERT ROLAND

A rose—a kiss—a sigh—and a brive youth goes forth to avenge an oppressed people. He didn't know he would have to take the dearest thing in HER life to return victoriously to his countrymen!

THURSDAY—FRIDAY

MARION DAVIES has come to town as THE FAIR CO-ED

A SAM WOOD production



Adaptation and continuity by Byron Morgan. Suggested by George Ade's play. Titles by Joe Farnham. Directed by Sam Wood.

A MARION DAVIES production

MARION is the peppiest campus cutie you ever lost your heart to, in this rollicking, frolicking comedy of life, love and laughter inside college walls.

The whole country's roaring and cheering the beautiful star in this collegiate laugh riot!

A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer PICTURE

SATURDAY

RENEE ADOREE in another great hit

HEAVEN ON EARTH

AS a girl in love and war—just as in "The Big Parade." A thousand throbs and thrills! See it!

RENEE ADOREE

CONRAD NAGEL

Directed by PHIL ROSEN

Written for the screen by Harvey Gates.

A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer PICTURE

Chapter No. 4 "VANISHING RIDER"