DETERMINES ITS SHARE IN THE PEACE THAT FOLLOWS
COLORED AMERICA'S SHARE IN THE WAR EFFORT WILL

M.P.'s Taking Over Avenue; Proposed Sunday Ban Faces Taverns

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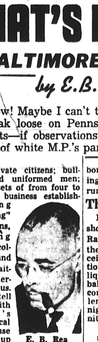
WHAT'S BUZZIN' in BALTIMORE NITE LIFE

by E.B. Rea

Not now! Maybe I can't tell you when, but hell's gonna break loose on Pennsylvania Avenue one of these nights—if observations are correct concerning the action of white M.P.'s parading up and down the Avenue.

Jostling private citizens; buldozing colored uniformed men; trampling in sets of from four to nine through business establishments eyeing and "cracking" about patrons, and making plays for colored tavern and night-club waitresses in after-hour rendezvous. No one can tell when but, with the M. P.'s backed by local police, the fuse is sizzling up near the bung in the dynamite keg.


E. B. Rea

Last night (Thursday) was the beginning of lean nights for after-dark spots. At least two suburban fun houses went black because they depended on auto-drivin' patrons for support, but the new gas ruling wouldn't let them turn out.

This is the beginning of the end for many of them, and quickly so—if the newly-proposed Sunday ban is put into effect, and the newly-proposed tax on licenses is imposed. Some groups are going to fight—wonder which one is not!

Priority on Anthem

From all reports, the American Federation of Musicians, Local 544, has put a priority on the playing of the National Anthem on a phonograph because that mechanical box was in a hall controlled by the local, and the lessees, or renters, did not use a union band.

William B. Dixon, who aids in the promotion of basketball games at the New Albert Auditorium, says that happened to him, even though service men in uniform are allowed free admission and the anthem was played to open the game.

Well, whether Petillo, the National Musicians' Union, or the local outfit—my opinion is that Hitler, Hirohito and Mussolini can use that as a strike against complete unity in America. Whether a union-bound hall, a night club, or church choir—the National Anthem is just that. What about it, Unionites?

After this little sermon, let's turn to the boys and girls who are sending for Uncle Sam—the jive bombers turning out dive bombers! Female welders carrying the torch, and screwy nuts running loose in a riot of laughs.

The Big Swing Show

Let's hit the first big swing show of the swing shift at Lloyal Randolph's Gay Nineties, where there's no priority on the fun; no ceiling on the songs, and no rationing of mixed wines, beer and liquors. Rookie Davis calls it "Babalu." The new addition is the comedy team of Snooks and Allen. The new show opens tonight.

It's still swingtime on parade at Schlosa's Twentieth Century Club with the lads and lassies hitting the ceiling with rhythm and fun. Here Billy Cornell is shaking up another hot header with Vi Richardson and her Conga Room Senders beating out hit parade numbers.

Henry Mitchell has returned to his first love, the Spot, McMechen and Pennsylvania, where Frank Culley's little band beats the tunes. Muriel Barrett is on the torchy side. Milton (Sherlock Holmes) Thompson, drummer in Culley's band, is a cousin of the late Chick Webb. Incidentally, he's playing Chick's first symbol.

Bernice Burns, formerly at the Savoy, opens Monday night at the Club Orleans to add to the music and rhythm as jelled by Orgie Kimball, Luther Toye and Roy McCoy's Club Orleans' band. Detroit Red, who has manned the mike for so many moons, is confined to her room at the Penn Hotel on account of illness. The gang hopes Red'll soon buzz out.

Doris, the Wow Gal

Personable Doris Rheubotton has a large following at Gamby's, where Mary (Brown Gal) Dixon also carries a torch before the Doc Green band with Zerita Stepteau at the solovox. Chandler Wynn, the new proprietor, and Walter Rouse, Baltimore's No. 1 manager, are making things turn on the sunny side. One day they are going to rename the place so one cannot find Joe Campher at Gamby's any more.

Night liters! See Senorita Valdes, the violent, voluptuous vamp who, win and wow Happy Jack, colossus of comedy and rajah of madness; Delia Douglass, singing a new kind of torch song, and Bob Thornton's Knotty Pine Rhythmeers of hot tunes at the Knotty Pine. Here you'll find everything for a swingy, zippy good time.

Don't look now—but the band swinging the tunes on yonder bandstand on Tuesday at Club Manhattan is none other than the Sophisticates of Swing—the guy who's doin' the songs is that peerless Robuster. Of course, we are not braggin' about it but the Swings are directed by none other than Stanford East, who, as soon as work is completed on the upstairs, will be back at the Wagon Wheel.

Club Harlem has added the pulsating voice of Ruth Russell, pint-sized gal, to the singing list to aid Peaches Rankin and Count Thomas, while the Randolph boys continue to pump rhythm all over Harlem's little world.

So Hep Meta See 'er

Baby Lazarr, twinkle-toed dancer, heads the fun at the Comedy Club, where her dance numbers are rattled off to the tunes of "Conchita," "Marquita," "Lolita," "Pepita" and "Rosita." Geneva Howard is wowing 'em with 'Saturday Night." Geneva Greer is recovering from a case of hoarseness, while Emerson Sylvester still handles the introductions for Earl Hines's band.

Dropped in on Calvin Wilson at the Ritz and found the boys really swinging. Other features are Elaine Johnson and Bertha Jones, songstresses; Mildred Wilkins and her blackout dance; Daybreak, Jr., comedian, and Herman Hicks, a swell emcee. Dig Calvin here to keep up the morale.

The holidays are over, but every night is a pre-holiday celebration at John Whirley's Comedy Club with buxom Ann White on the side of the sweet songs, and Harvey Hill doing a bang-up emceeing job in font of the Ubangi Swingin front of the Ubangi Swingsters.

The Savoy, 1600 East Monument Street, is being kept alive by Joe Reed's swing trio. The Silver Moon, down on Fremont Avenue, is trying out a novelty string band, which is creating raves nightly.

The Vilma's the Spot

There is no rationing at Wendell Wilson's Vilma. This spot at Pennsylvania Avenue and Baker Street is just in the place where one needs no gas, no tires, no auto, just a thirst, or a pang of hunger. Both can be satisfied here.

Contacted John Spencer at the Spot. He's working on the production line at Bethlehem-Fairfield. Made the grade in thirty-three days after entrance. Also Albert Hunter, navy inductee, who wonders why Stanley Sherman, his pal, won't invite him over to D.C. on some of those week-end trips.

Ran across Leon F. Boston of Norfolk, Va., who's stationed at Aberdeen. Also Pvt. Philip J. Smithey, another Norfolkian, now at Camp Kilmer, N.J. Calvin Anderson of 1219 Cleverdale Road, celebrating his birthday at Gamby's. Edward L. (Fritzy) Buchanan, now at Camp Sutton, N.C., holiday with Brother J. Francis.

Thelma Johnson threw a light party at the Vilma with A. D. Powell, B. Jackson, Sis Jackson, Harold Jamison and Sgt. Brooks.

The hoidays left Smiling J. C. Bailey laughing out loud: Kiyi Johnson thankful for many presents, and George Tyler with a hang-over; Al and Dave Miller, of the Harlem Gardens, more friendly patrons than ever.

They Are All 4 to 1

The boys are wondering what'll happen to "playing the numbers" if folks can't go to the tracks to see the stock—go to the stocks, my boy, the stocks.

Louvon Millard is renovating the Wagon Wheel which should be completed within the next few days with the Sophisticates of Swing and Robuster picking up where they left off. Next week, this is where I pick up. "That's All, Folks!"

Bette Davis Okays Mixed Dancing at Hollywood Canteen

HOLLYWOOD. — Bette Davis, one of Hollywood's most famous celebrities and an official of the Hollywood Victory Committee, has settled the question of mixed couples dancing at the elaborate Hollywood canteen.

While Miss Davis was resting at Palm Springs, a white women on duty became so perturbed when colored girls started dancing with white soldiers, and colored soldiers with white girls, that she called Miss Davis by long distance and asked if it wasn't wrong for colored and white to be dancing together.

Miss Davis, says the report, answered with out hesitation: "Of course not, let them dance with whom they want to." And, now, all the pretty colored hostesses are as much in demand as dance partners as their fair-skilled sisters of the opposite race.

Tavern Owners to Discuss Proposed Changes in Law

All colored tavern owners and owners of taverns operated for colored people will hold an important meeting Monday at 2 p.m., at the Bartenders' and Waiters' Association Club, 1502 Pennsylvania Avenue, to discuss proposed changes in the liquor laws, including the proposal for Sunday closings.

Kenneth Bass is acting chairman of the committee which is calling the meeting. Other members include Lloyal Randolph and Otis Warren.

Sales of Records in Columbia Film Total 18,000,000

The largest ready-made audience in many months will be waiting for release of Columbia's Ann Miller-starring musical, "Reveille with Beverly," if advance sales of records are any indication.

Combined sales of records of the numbers played by Count Basie, Duke Ellington, Frank Sinatra, the Mills Brothers, Freddie Slack and Bob Crosby in the picture have already reached the 18,500,000 mark.

In the film, each band plays the number highest on its own national Hit Parade, with Basie leading the others with his playing of "One o'Clock Jump," which leads all other record sales in the country.

Drama Workshop Presents Play at Banneker Center

The Recreation Drama Workshop on Tuesday presented an original one-act play, "The Soldier's Christmas Light," at the Banneker Service Men's Club, under direction of Miss Gertrude P. McBrown and Bernard Pryor.

Music was provided by members of the girls' battalion. In the cast were:

George Brown, as the soldier; Miss Evelyn Parker, the soldier's mother; Miss Mary Welch, high-strung romantic daughter; Peggy Horne, his understanding sister; and Robert Terry, his friend.

Miss Maxwell to Sing in Newark

NEWARK, N.J.—Miss Ber Maxwell, soprano, will appear in a recital at the Thirteenth Avenue Presbyterian Church, Thirteenth Avenue and Boston Street, Thursday evening, January 21. E. Vernon Scott, violinist, will be guest artist.

This affair is sponsored by the Men's Club for the benefit of the church.

Miss Maxwell, winner of a Griffith Music Foundation Award, is a member of the Wynn Music and Dramatic Guild. Her accompanist will be Mrs. Cora Wynn Alexander.

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Attorney General Studies Union's Ban on Playing National Anthem

Butterfly Flits Into "I Dood It"

CULVER CITY, Calif.—Butterfly McQueen, she of the squeaky voice whose role as Vivian Leigh's maid in "Gone with the Wind," was a standout performance, is now cast as Eleanor Powell's lady-in-waiting in the MGM comedy-musical "I Dood It."

Her real name is Thelma McQueen and she hails from Florida. Her family moved to Long Island, N.Y., where she graduated from high school and studied dramatics under Vennuela Jones who gave her the stage name of Butterfly.

Starred in "Brown Sugar"

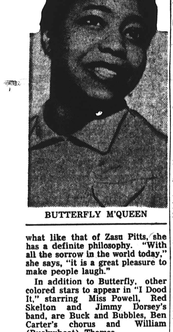
In 1938, she appeared in "Brown Sugar," a play about Harlem, which proved a flop, but Butterfly emerged as the star. Next she had roles in "Brother Rat," "What a Life" and "Swingin' the Dream."

Hollywood, and "Gone with the Wind," was her next stop after which she appeared in "The Women." Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer then gave her her first role which was not a maid's role. She played neighbor and confidant to Ethel Waters in "Cabin in the Sky."

Has Definite Philosophy

With her unique style of comedy portrayal which is somewhat like that of Zasu Pitts, she has a definite philosophy. "With all the sorrow in the world today," she says, "it is a great pleasure to make people laugh."

In addition to Butterfly, other colored stars to appear in "I Dood It," starring Miss Powell, Red Skelton and Jimmy Dorsey's band, are Buck and Bubbles, Ben Carter's chorus and William (Buckwheat) Thomas.


BUTTERFLY M'QUEEN

At Museum of Art

BELLE ROSETTE

who will present her West Indian dance group in its first Baltimore appearances, Friday and Saturday evenings, at the Museum of Art, Charles and Thirty-first Street. Miss Rosette, other than appearing on the Lucky Crane Coffee Hour, also replaced Carmen Miranda in Olsen and Johnson's Broadway play, "Sons o' Fun" for a brief appearance.

Chaplain Likens Symphony Performance to Life Roles

By C. LEROY HACKER
Chaplain, 366th Infantry

Last Sunday I had the pleasure of hearing the great Boston Symphony Orchestra in a concert given for the personnel of the military service and their friends.

During the performance of the National Anthem, all orchestra members participated and made a definite contribution. The brass and percussion section retired (except for the kettle drums) for the rendition of the Mozart selection. This lasted for thirty minutes.

2 Await Turn

The full orchestra then took the stage. But two men in the percussion section still kept their seats.

The first three movements of Tchaikowsky's Symphony were rendered and then came the finale. After a few measures had been rendered the two men in question stood and addressed their instruments.

At the precise second they made their contribution and brought the desired effect. The program would not have been complete without them.

In this highly specialized age there are many sitting on the sideline waiting for the moment when they are to perform. Time and time again they watch their fellowmen perform.

Must Be Ready

They see the spotlight focus upon first one and then another while still they wait for their chance.

Life moves along and apparently they are left behind—but then comes the opportunity, the one big chance—and then they stand and make the contribution that gives new meaning to life.

It is for this reason that all men should study and prepare themselves. It is a matter of being ready when the opportunity presents itself. It is a matter of observing life all along and knowing what is happening so that at the right moment you will know when to take the stage.

4 in Anderson Fund Finals

PHILADELPHIA

So close was the competition in the contests last month to select a recipient for the Marian Anderson Scholarship Fund award that the judges have named four finalists, it was announced this week by the trustees of the fund.

The four singers who survived a field of twenty-eight competitors at the auditions on December 2 are: Miss Camilla Williams, 6826 Algard Street; Miss Faye Drazin, of 3045 Sedgely Avenue; Miss Mildred Hill, 2335 N. Twenty-second Street, and William Smith, of 1831 N. Seventeenth Street.

Final Test Jan. 16

The final test will be held on January 16 at Ethical Culture Society, where the preliminary auditions were also given.

The fund was established by Miss Anderson from the $10,000 Bok Award which the famous contralto received as Philadelphia's most outstanding citizen in 1941. Winner of the contest will be provided with funds to complete his or her musical education.

Navy Musician Visits Parents in Newark

NEWARK, N.J.—Musician Second Class Abe Thurman of the Navy's Pre-Flight School Band at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, recently visited his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Thurman, of 526 Ridgewood Avenue. He is a former student at A. and T. College. Abe Thurman lege in Greensboro, N.C.

Billy Cornell to Head Congo Room

Lou Schloss, owner-manager of the Schloss Club, 21 W. Oliver Street, this week announces that Billy Cornell has been appointed manager in complete charge of the Conga Room. Billy is widely known in the show business and night life circles.

He was at one time manager of Small's Paradise in New York; a club in Havana, Cuba, and is currently appearing with an all-star cast in the Conga Room's new show, "New Faces of 1943." Billy has been given the go-ahead signal to give Baltimore the best available talent.

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Controversy Rages Over New Albert

AFM Local 544 Denies Use of Mechanical Box

William C. Walsh, State attorney general, has been asked by William B. Dixon, co-manager of the Afro basketball team, to rule on the legality of playing the National Anthem on a mechanical box in a union controlled hall.

The controversy centers around the New Albert Auditorium, 1824 Pennsylvania Avenue, where the Mets play weekly games, and the AFM, Local 544, of 1514 Pennsylvania Avenue, which claims jurisdiction over the auditorium.

Doesn't Warrant Band

Mr. Dixon contends that the anthem is played on the mechanical box, prior to opening of the games, which are free to service men in uniform, and in view of the fact that the lack of desire of patrons to dance does not warrant the hiring of a band to play the anthem as well as dance music after the game.

In February," 1942, the union declined permission for the use of a phonograph, while an appeal to the National Music Association of New York, likewise, has gone unanswered, according to Mr. Dixon.

To Study Situation

Mr. Walsh advised the complainant that the problem does not concern any law, but involves terms of the lease and arrangements under which the hall is being used. However, he expressed surprise that any one would prevent the playing of the anthem in any proper way.

Stating that he was unable to advise at this time whether the union had this authority, Mr. Walsh stated that he would be glad to study the lease, or arrangements, and then give such information as he could concerning the matter.

ALBERTA HUNTER'S Little Note Book

NEW YORK

Mr. Johnson of the team of Johnson and Dean is confined in a Minneapolis hospital nursing a broken leg. The veteran team, both in their seventies, will be remembered for their show stopping performances at the Cotton Club on Broadway. It was week contract for Vancouver and other points.

Reginald Beane, Ethel Waters's pianist, is en route back to the coast to pick up the star for a road tour. Creighton Thompson, Chicago baritone, who lived in Bombay, India, so long is in the Merchant Marine and loves it.

Leon Abbey, violinist-orchestra leader, is anxious to hear from a good pianist, drummer and trumpet player. Do not apply if subject to early induction. Just address Leon in care of this column.

Maude Russell opened in Philadelphia last week with a white show, "Dark Eyes," which is headed for Broadway. Bill Bailey took all honors at the Apollo on Wednesday, while Thelma Carpenter scored singing "Good for Nothing Joe." The Four Ginger Snaps are busy rehearsing a replacement in the group.

Actors' Guild Hits Discrimination

NEW YORK.—The Negro Actors' Guild lashed out this week in a stinging criticism of hotels, cafes, eating places and rooming houses for practicing discrimination against its members in Eastern and Mid-Western cities where traveling show troupes have played in recent months.

Brought to the attention of the organization by Dick Campbell, member of the executive board, the guild requested its chairman, Elmer Carter, to notify Actors' Equity Association of the appalling situation which has long been a problem of colored performers on tour.

This has been heightened in recent months due to defense preparations, lack of proper housing facilities, and in many cases just downright prejudice.

The guild also took occasion to remind USO-camp shows that three of its members were about to embark upon long camp tours, and it was the hope of the guild "that very definite plans will be made by your advance men to properly house colored performers traveling with white casts."

BRITISH TO EXPLOIT WEST AFRICA'S WILD RUBBER

LAGOS, Nigeria — (ANP) — Great Britain's recent appointment of a director of wild rubber production indicates an intention to take further advantage of the natural growth in this West African region.

Tiny Heads List Playing at Camps

Dynamic Tiny Bradshaw, king of the jitterbugs, and his orchestra are en route to Hampton Roads, Va., port of embarkation, to give a volunteer program for service men on Sunday under the auspices of USO-Camp Shows.

Eddie Durham and his all-girl orchestra, currently on tour, will give a volunteer performance at the U.S. Naval Air Station, New Orleans, La., on Saturday evening, devoting this open date in their schedule to the entertainment of the men at the Naval Air Station.

The Sons of the South, famous vocal quintet of radio, began a volunteer tour of camps on Tuesday evening at Fort Belvoir, Va., played Camp Butner, Durham, N. C., on Wednesday, and Morris Field, Charlotte, on Thursday.

Other dates and camps to be played are Fort Jackson, Columbia, S.C., Sunday; Camp Croft, Spartanburg; Daniel Field and Camp Gordon, Augusta, Ga., on succeeding dates.

Buy More War Bonds and Stamps

To Sing in Montclair

The famed Southernaires, radio and concert artists, will be presented at Montclair High School, Thursday evening, January 14, by the St. Mark Methodist Church of that town. The personnel of the group, above, includes William Edmondson, basso; Homer Smith, tenor; Jay Stone Toney, baritone; Lover Peters, tenor; Spencer Odom, accompanist and arranger.

Resume Art Series Today

The weekly lecture-demonstration series for school children to be resumed today (Friday) at the Baltimore Museum of Art will be connected this month with two current gallery exhibitions.

This week's lantern slide talk and the January 15 movies will be based on the story of architecture as demonstrated by an exhibition on display until January 31, in the junior museum.

War Theme

The second exhibition on plastics will be featured in a talk on January 22 and a movie on January 29, explaining how plastics are made and are serviceable in wartime.

Duke to Repeat Concert in Boston

BOSTON — Immediately following his debut at Carnegie Hall in New York on January 23, Duke Ellington will play a concert for New Englanders here at Symphony Hall later in the month.

NITE CLUBS AND RESTAURANTS

Ohio Students Kick J.C. Out of Theatre

YELLOW SPRINGS, O.—Antioch (white) College and Wilberforce University students planned and executed a successful conspiracy here last week to uphold the constitution and laws of Ohio, both of which ban racial segregation, and kicked Jim Crow out of the local theatre.

Each armed with copies of the State civil rights laws, colored students took seats in the jim-crow section. Later a group took seats at the front, when the manager went down to order them to move, the others deserted the jim-crow section and took seats by white students in other sections. The battle was won.

GAY NINETIES CLUB
Baltimore's Favorite Downtown Nite Spot
SMITHS HOTEL
Presents its Gay Nineties REVUE
BABALU
—FEATURING—
★ Jerry Claybrooks ★ Nani Harold
★ Baby Banks ★ Cliff Morris
★ Snooks & Allen ★ Dorothy Lee
LLOYAL RANDOLPH, Proprietor
Music by ROOKIE DAVIS AND HER ORCHESTRA
NO COVER CHARGE
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SPECIAL SUNDAY DINNER
STEWED CHICKEN — DUMPLINGS
2 Veg., Hot Bread, Dessert.
5-9 P. M.—50c
Sea Foods Our Specialty — Ice Cold Beer, Wines Served at Our Bar.
Service with a Smile."
MRS. JULIA V. PLEASANT
HOBERT STEWART, Mgr.

COMEDY CLUB
featuring
BABY SCRUGGS, CONGO RHYTHM QUEEN
GENEVA HOWARD, SONGS & TAPS
GENEVA GREER, TORCH SINGER
EMERSON SYLVESTER, M.C.
MUSIC BY
EARL HINES (of Baltimore) and His Orchestra
CONTINUOUS ENTERTAINMENT 9:00 TO 2:00
Matinees Sundays and Thursdays—3:30 P. M. TILL . . . ?
FLASH! TWO BANDS AT THURSDAY MATINEES
Earl Hines' Band Gradwell's Swingsters
1414 Pennsylvania Ave., Baltimore, Md.
OLLIE WISE, Mgr. IKE DIXON, Prop.
CONGO FLOOR SHOW
12:00 O'CLOCK EVERY NIGHT

EAST BALTIMORE'S FINEST NITE CLUB
CLUB HARLEM
714-16-18 N. SPRING STREET — Near Monument
(Directies Mr. and Mrs. George Buchanan)
Starring
★ LOUIS RANDOLPH
AND HIS
HARLEM KINGS
RUTH RUSSELL
COUNT THOMAS, M.C.
SPECIAL MATINEE EVERY SUNDAY
Program
MONDAY Clothesline Night Get a Prize From Our line
TUESDAY Souvenir Night
WEDNESDAY Amateur Night 3 Cash Prizes.
THURSDAY Female Impersonator Night Nuff Sed!

LA CONGA ROOM
21 WEST OLIVER
E. B. Rea—
Selected more Schloss Club Talent for His "All Baltimore Floor Show" than from any other Nite Club!.
"NEW FACES OF 1943"
Marion Ford "Tea" Dancer
Tenita Carlos "Mexican Conga Dancer"
Billy Cornell "Broadway Showman"
"M" RICHARDSON and her Conga Room Senders
Oliver Travers M.C.—"Ringing Troubadour"
Alvaria Reed "Tap Dancer"
Betty Wise Shake Artist
MATINEE—SUNDAY "SKIES" AT-THE-BAR

GAMBYS
UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT
"MORE FUN THAN EVER"
at GAMBY'S
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★ DORIS RHUBOTTOM
★ MARY DIXON
★ JOE CAMPHOR, M.C.
DOC GREEN AND HIS ORCHESTRA
Featuring ZERITA STEPTEAU AT THE SOLOVOX
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