MURIEL RAHN

A bitter December wind whips along Broadway but the magic name of Hammerstein has filled the house. Theatre-goers are present in full force, equally ready to praise or blame. It's Muriel Rahn's opening night in "Carmen Jones." As the curtain descends on Act One, a blase audience is brought to its feet by the golden voice . . . the superb acting . . . of Muriel Rahn, *the original* "Carmen" of "Carmen Jones." New York Times' critic Olin Downes is scribbling, "Muriel Rahn's 'Carmen' is excellent, sensuous, seductive and accomplished in song." Few know that Muriel Rahn won this role at a Carnegie Hall audition by singing for the author, Oscar Hammerstein II, fully two years before the play was produced.

the unforgettable

CARMEN JONES

A SPARKLING NECKLACE of "FIRSTS"

A Conservatory graduate from the University of Nebraska at 17 . . . a teacher at 18 . . . Supervisor of Public School Music at 19 . . . Muriel Rahn has attained a notable list of "firsts" in both music and acting.

FIRST Negro artist to appear with an otherwise all-white opera company at Carnegie Hall . . . in Mozart's "Abduction from the Seraglio."

FIRST Negro artist to appear at Chicago's famous outdoor Grant Part Shell, with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, where she sang to an audience of over 20,000 people.

FIRST Negro concert soprano to appear at Water Gate Barge, Washington, D. C. with the National Symphony Orchestra, with Kenneth Spencer, bass.

FIRST in an audition of 100 fellow artists, held by Alfred Lunt and Lynn Fontaine and selected to appear with them in the Broadway comedy, "The Pirate."

FIRST again, Muriel Rahn established the Carnegie Hall record in the summer of 1947, for the highest number of solo appearances with the famous Carnegie "Pops" Symphony . . . singing to over 30,000 music lovers.

A GREAT ARTIST . . . WITH A GREAT HEART . . . A YOUNG BUT TRULY GREAT AMERICAN

Born in Boston, but reared in New York, Muriel Rahn was educated at Tuskegee Institute, Atlanta University and the Conservatory of the University of Nebraska. She has appeared successfully in Concert, Stage, Radio and Screen, both here and in Europe.

During the war she sang on a 10,000-mile tour sponsored by the Treasury Department and sold a million dollars' worth of War Bonds. Her rich soprano voice cheered untold thousands of Americans in the Armed Forces at camps, canteens, hospitals and other military installations.

In peace, Muriel Rahn has given herself generously to hundreds of benefit performances for such worthy causes as the Damon Runyon Cancer Fund, National Infantile Paralysis Fund, Tuberculosis Committee, United Jewish Appeal, United Negro College Fund and others too numerous to mention.

This young and brilliant artist has won the applause . . . the good will . . . and respect of all who have heard her, regardless of their race, nationality or creed.

SCHMIDT'S OLD HOME BREAD

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Double Amputee Refuses to Let 'Little Thing' Like Loss of Arms Hurt Morale

Crippled in Accident 2 Years Ago, Man Finds He Can Use Toes to Perform Work of Fingers

BY PEYTON GRAY

"Can you turn a door knob, write your name or twist radio dials with your toes? Neither could Wilford Covington, 23, until he lost both of his arms.

Covington, an orphaned native of North Carolina, lives with his uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. Bulaus McCray, in the 1100 block of W. Fayette St., and has been a double amputee since April 4, 1946, when he was almost fatally injured by an accident on his job.

Placed on Unfamiliar Job

The young man had been doing odd jobs at the Standard Wholesale Phosphate and Acid Works, in Curtis Bay, when on the night of the accident he was asigned to work on a winch unloading rock from an open gravel car.

Reticent and a difficult person to talk with, Wilford somewhat reluctantly told his story as though preferring to forget the tragic episode which had changed his life.

With encouragement, however, and he told of being left alone the first night on a job normally handled by a seasoned and experienced worker.

Cable Saws Arm Off

"All of a sudden," he related, "the steel winch cable loosened and looped around my legs. While I was trying to get free, the cable struck me across the face and neck.

"When I tried to slap it away, it caught my left arm, then cut my fingers off."

In the tussle Covington's arm was broken in three places. In trying to free himself of the swirling cable, his right arm was sawed off at the shoulder.

Frightened Comrades Flee

Frightened, his co-workers, all but one, fled. One of them, however, called an ambulance and the injured youth was rushed by the South Baltimore General Hospital to University Hospital.

There he remained a few days Square Hospital, where he was confined for almost 10 months.

"The nurses, doctors and other people out there were very nice to me," he reminisced.

Handicapped Man Optimistic

It was there that Covington learned to use his toes as fingers.

"After learning to write my name with my toes, it was easy to open doors and tune the radio when I came home," the young man stated.

Though optimistic about the future, he is still helpless. Aunt Arneather and her husband still dress Covington and help him attend the essentials of life.

He goes downtown and to the movies on Pennsylvania Ave., but with a note pinned to his outer clothing.

Draws $23 Weekly

Wilford isn't depressed, though. In fact, he has been receiving a $23-weekly check from the State Industrial Accident Commission on a $7,000 award. In addition, he hopes to have artificial arms attached.

Toward this end, Covington, through interest shown by Emanuel Godine, chairman of the Workmen's Compensation Commission, and J. Fonda of the Vocational Rehabilitation Service, hopes to lead a normal life soon.

A few days ago, Wilford was taken to Newark, N.J., where Dr. Henry H. Kessler, a specialist in cineplasty will work with him.

Hopes to Be "All Right

Cineplasty is the art of applying plastic appendages to the stumps of legs and arms by fitting them to button attachments guided by the muscles of the lost appendage.

Wriggling his shoulders, "Because I feel that my arms are still there and that makes me feel good," Covington closed the interview with: "this time next year I hope to be all right, Mr. Reporter."

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Wilberforce Makes Bill of $30,000

XENIA, Ohio—Records in the office of the Greene County Recorder reveal that a mortgage has been placed against Wilberforce University for $30,000 by the Wilberforce University Board of Trustees.

The mortgage is held by the Citizens National Bank, Xenia, Ohio, and is signed by Bishop Reverdy C. Ransom, chairman of the university board of trustees, and George W. Valentine, secretary. The mortgage was computed Jan. 29, filed at 11.36 a.m., Jan. 31, and recorded Feb. 5.

Varied Reactions

The burning of a 20-year-old $100,000 mortgage during the 1946 commencement exercises had been the signal for great rejoicing. Now that a new mortgage has been placed against the university is producing varied reactions. Many are recalling the stand taken by the university last summer: "We don't need State support;" "The school's future has been made secure by the spirited support which the supporting districts have pledged."

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Her Son Honored

T/Sgt. James T. Horton, member of the 2272nd ASU Escort Company, stationed in Philadelphia, is shown presenting an American flag to Mrs. Martha Wainwright, mother of the late Cpl. Alfred Wainwright of 1509 Mountmor Ct. The body of the soldier, who died in the Pacific, was interred in the Baltimore National Cemetery, Monday.

Her Husband Gave His All

Mrs. Ellen Tate of 1505 N. Eden St. is shown receiving the American flag which draped the casket of her husband, Pfc. Albert Tate, who died in the Pacific Theatre of War. The presentation is being made in the Baltimore National Cemetery by Sgt. Jethro Marcus, a native of Lamar, S.C. Sergeant Marcus, member of the 2272nd ASU Escort Company, accompanied the body to the cemetery.

West Coast Alumni Oppose Meharry Plan

SAN FRANCISCO—Alumni of Meharry Medical College in this area have wired President Clawson and Dr. Matthew Walker, president of the Alumni Association, protesting an attempt by the trustees to make Meharry a part of the propose regional school system of the South.

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McGrath Hears Proposals of Regional Democrats

7 Delegates Confer With Chairman, Ask Support for Philly Congressional Candidate

WASHINGTON

Seven representatives of the National Council of Colored Democrats, Eastern Region, two of them from Baltimore, conferred with National Democratic Chairman J. Howard McGrath in Washington, Monday, on platform policies to be presented during the convention in Philadelphia in July.

Representing the thousands of Democrats along the Eastern Seaboard, the delegates submitted the following proposals to McGrath:

That the National Democratic Committee:

Call a conference among President Emmett S. Cunningham of the national council, Congressman William L. Dawson and key party members from the States represented by the council;

Set Up Authority

Organize advocates of Democracy throughout the jurisdiction; arrange a budget for carrying out this program;

Establish a department of publicity to acquaint colored Democrats with the activities, aims and objectives of the party;

Establish a department of public relations to explain President Truman's civil rights program to citizens of all States covered by the council; favor the selection of a colored Democrat from Philadelphia to run for Congress and,

Recognize Council

Recognize the National Council of Colored Democrats, the spearheading of the jurisdiction.

The proposals of the delegation, according to an informant, were received enthusiastically by Chairman McGrath, who promised to study the measures and pledged the continued support of the party principals.

Reiterating a previously issued statement, McGrath avowed his allegiance to President Truman and his stand on current pertinent controversial matters.

Members of the delegation included Lionel Randolph and Mrs. Victoria Adams, both from Baltimore; James E. Williams, Miss Marjorie Copeland and J. Luther Sylvain, of New York, and J. Thompson Pettigrew of Philadelphia.

Child's Letter Wins Fortune for Family

DANVILLE, Va.—Fortune has smiled on Mary Alice Dodson, 11, a cripple, and her poverty ridden family of Sutherlin, Va. Funds, gifts, medical care and clothing have poured in ever since Mary Alice's appealing letter reached station WDVA.

It all started months ago when, after hearing the "Heart's Desire" program over the Mutual Network, Mary Alice started writing letters about the plight of her family and sending them in to the program. "I was just hoping," she says.

Tired of Turnips

Her prize winning letter said in part:

"My father died recently and mother needs a coat to keep warm in going to church, and the family wants some food other than frozen turnips to live on. I have been in a cast as long as I can remember and cannot help out." The letter was read over the air on Feb. 19.

Bill Alexander, of the Phillip Morris program, says that all wishes are being granted. Over $300 has been collected for the family, food has been sent and a brace has been obtained for Mary Alice, who is now being treated at the Children's Clinic. Members of the family include an aged man, an invalid woman, Mary Alice's sister, Helen Louise, and the mother.

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Maryland Soldiers

— At Home and Abroad —

Three Baltimoreans, all veteran soldiers, recently arrived at the Ft. Dix 9th Infantry Division for a new assignment.

They are Pfc. George E. Roye of 549 Mosher St., Pfc. William Patterson of 211 N. Arisquith St., and Cpl. Everett J. Graves of 601 Pennsylvania Ave.

Pfc. Roye served 16 months in Europe, Pfc. Patterson 24 months in the same theatre and Cpl. Graves 7 months in the Pacific.

Returning to States

T/4 Elliott A. Nelson of 1717 Etting St. recently left his station with the 24th Infantry in Japan for return to the States and discharge.

Sergeant Nelson entered the Army in March, 1946, received his basic training at Fort McClellan, Ala., and shipped for the Pacific in Feb. 1947.

Officers of the same outfit announced the recent arrival of T/5 Randolph Phillips of 1148 Myrtle Ave., a former student at South Carolina State College.

Cpl. Phillips entered the Army in April, 1945, was trained at Fort McClellan, and left for overseas duty in Oct. 1945.

Completes Leader's Course

Pfc. Harry S. Johnson of 1815 Lorman St. recently completed a Leader's Course, at the 9th Infantry Division, Fort Dix, N.J.

Candidates for the course are selected on the basis of intelligence and potential leadership abilities as shown during the initial period of training.

Mitchell L. Brown, of 205 Arch er St., Baltimore, was recently promoted to technician fifth grade by officers of the 316th Bomb Wing VII Okinawa.

A former student of Maryland State Teachers College at Bowie, Corporal Brown entered the Air Force in June, 1946, and has been stationed on Okinawa since Jan. 4, 1947.

At present he is assigned as a communications linesman to the 473rd Signal Heavy Construction Company, a unit of the Far East Air Force.

Air, was recently promoted to technician fifth grade by officers of the 316th Bomb Wing VII Okinawa.

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