SHOWTIME

What's Happening

IDA PETERS



Welcome to Baltimore members of the National Newspaper Publishers Association, now meeting, downtown.

The Mechanic has "The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas" starring Susan Beaubian, a maid in Miss Mona's boarding house. It's a vulgar, ribald, romping, stomping musical.

The Arena Players have an excellent musical "Eubie" at the Playhouse, not far from downtown. This weekend the John Wesley United Methodist Church and the Baltimore Conference of Laymen's Organization are holding theatre parties. Next week, Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity and New Mt. Hebron Church.

Letters blasting WMAR-TV Channel 2, the NBC station for preempting "Sister, Sister" are still hitting our AFRO desk.

In a statement issued by the Association of Black Motion Picture and Television Producers, of which Stanely G. Robertson of the Los Angeles Sentinel is chairman of the Network Television Liaison Committee said: "We strongly oppose any form of creative and economic sensorship, based solely on an opinion, which denies the right of the American Public to judge for itself the acceptability or unacceptability of a film or television program..."

The black producers also contended in their release that the "real danger" in such pressure groups as that headed by Wildmon is that they act as an "inhibiting force" with the networks and others producing and disseminating mass entertainment.

"Sister, Sister" has had a stormy life since it was put into production as a "Back door pilot" by a young black man, Peter Andres in 1979 when he was a programming vice-president at NBC in Burbank.

During the development of the project there were "stormy arguments" between Maya Angelou, the writer and the white co-executive producer Irv Wilson and the film's director John Berry.

The tthen NBC president Fred Silverman saw the completed film and shelved it in his struggle to move NBC from No. 3 to No. 1.

Blacks and journalists complained and "Sister, Sister" was screened and charges of "racism" were buried at NBC. Peter Andres left NBC and Maya Angelou left Hollywood to teach in North Carolina. Fred Silverman was replaced by Grant Tinker. Because of Rev. Donald Wildmon's complaints 35 markets cancelled "Sister, Sister". In the opposite columns see what AFRO readers have to say.

..... More happenings

Maria Broom will present in concert The Dance Bringers with Olufumilayo and Company as guest artists in a benefit for the Park Heights Street Academy and Sojourner-Douglass College, Saturday, June 19, 8 p.m. and Sunday, June 20 3p.m. at the Dunbar Performing Arts Center. For tickets call 922-8168.

Invitations are in the mail to the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra's Gala Inauguarl Festivities in the Symphony Hall. The Thursday, Sept. 16 concert will have Sergiu Comissiona conducting with Leon Fleisl..r at the piano. A dinner-dance follows the concert will have Sergiu Comissiona conducting with Leon Fleisher at the piano. A dinner-dance follows the concert with music by the Peter Duchin Orchestra. Tickets are $1,000, $500 and $250.

The Monday, September 20 will be a "Favorites" Gala Concert with Isaac Stern guest violinist and the Baltimore Symphony Chorus, directed by Edward Polochick. A champagne reception follows. Tickets are $250, $150 and $100. If you're going... deadline is Aug. 1.

Re our comment about Richard Pryor's recent TV show. We said his spoof as the first black President of the United States was "sick". We were upset when he said "the White House is for white women" and also with his portrayal of the black reporters from Ebony and Jet. (Newspaper reporters are a different breed of cats).

Last week Bob Scott used our column on V-105 call in. He got 45 to 50 people to call in who read the article. Most agreed with the comment and the four used on the air also agreed. See letters for further comment.

People in this area were wondering what happened to Ruth Brown who was supposed to open with Leslie Uggams and Debbie Shapiro on Broadway in "Blues In the Night".

She is upset because the producers terminated and didn't inform her until the morning of the first night's public previews. A 1949 auto accident leg injury flared up during rehearsal. She had told the producers she could not do strenuous dances, but they insisted and Brown ended up on crutches and cane. Plus, she has lost out on $250,000 worth of engagements "turned down to do the show.

The initial injury occured in 1949 when she was on her way to her first engagement at the Apollo Theatre. The car in which she was riding with her late manager, Blanche Calloway (Cab's sister, died in Baltimore in Dec., 1978) was wrecked in a collision. Brown was hospitalized for a year with two broken legs and internal injuries.

Jazz musician Lionel Hampton brought his vibes and played three songs in a finger-popping jam session during Hollywood Blvd. ceremonies unveiling Hampton's sidewalk star on The Walk of Fame.

It was the first time an entertainer performed during what are usually bland ceremonies surrounding implantation of a celebrity star. And the 100 tourists and fans on hand gave Hampton, 73, a rousing welcome.

Hampton just returned from Japan where he entertained at concerts for three weeks prior to open with Leslie Uggams and Debbie Shapiro on Broadway in "Blues In the Night".

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At the movies...

ROCKY III- In "Rocky I" Sylvester Stallone is the Great White Hope who goes the distance with the Champ, Carl Weathers, the All-type Apollo Creed. In "Rocky II", the Philadelphia hero goes thru changes in his personal life with wife Talia Shire and ends up taking the title away from Apollo Creed. In "Rocky III" the champ has money, a son, a big house and is stalked by Clubber Lang (Mr. T) a hungry fighter. Mr. T clobbers him and Rocky turns to Apollo Creed to teach him how to fight "Black".

AUTHOR, AUTHOR- Opening this weekend Al Pacino stars as Ivan Travaliam, the harried playwright husband, father and stepfather trying to keep his play from folding and his extended family from falling apart. Fair.

CONAN THE BARBARIAN- As a child Conan witnesses the brutal deaths of his father and mother at the whim of the evil Thulsa Doom a villainous character brought to life by James Earl Jones. Boring but a lot of fun.

VICTORY (VICTORIOUS- Ultra-sophisticated comedy starring Julie Andrews and James Garner. Full of sly wit and sexual innuendo. For audiences looking for a good time.

Richard Pryor

Dear Mrs. Peters:

I disagree with you (Richard Pryor "sick"). Our young people need to know about black backlash and strife of the past. If we as blacks cannot laugh and still keep reminding our youth of our black strife, they will not overcome the new form of backlash.

The young people need to know about the past in order to cope with today's new prejudices. Young people need to learn to struggle and work instead of waiting for their Uncle Sam or city checks and the W.I.C. program.

Our black digtimers need to open up jobs not just barmaids or start a Black Social Service. We would be more respected. Integrated schools are just confusing our young people.

Mrs. Mary Mickey
Southclare Road

Jazz Weekend '82

Jazz Weekend '82 a festival of contemporary jazz from New York, Boston and Baltimore is being presented by the Urban Services Cultural Arts Program on June 19 and 20 at Gallery 409.

Saturday, June 19, 8 p.m., from New York — Zahir Batin (zah-heer' bah-teen') and the Notorious Ensemble.

Sunday, June 20, 2 p.m., from Boston — Christopher Brooks, guitarist with vocalist Jan Forney-Davis.

Sunday, June 20, 5 p.m., Abdu-Raschid Yahya (ah-doo' rah-sheed' yah'-yah) and Ensemble featuring vocalist Nataska Hasan (nah-tah-skah Hah-sahn').

In the mold of the Jazz Messengers of the 1950's, drummer Zahir Batin's ensemble is a familiar group to New York jazz audiences. They have appeared at Lincoln Center, the Kool Jazz Festival and the Left Bank Jazz Society, as well as at such New York nightclubs as Ali's Alley, Sweet Basil and the Tin Palace.

A native of Baltimore, Batin has been working in New York for the past 16 years. He has performed with Archie Shepp, Sun Ra, and Leon Thomas. The Notorious Ensemble includes some of the finest New York sidemen: Richard Williams, trumpet and flugehorn; Marvin Blackman, tenor saxophone; Robin Eubanks, trombone; Michael Fleming, bass; Ron Burton, piano.

Christopher Brooks is also a Baltimore native. Currently he resides in Boston where he recently graduated from the New England Conservatory of Music. The product of a highly musical family, Brooks' grandfather is the famed entertainer Cab Calloway. He has recorded for the Arista label with pianist-composer Ron Blake, and has worked with Jaki Byard and Chuck Wayne.

For this performance Christopher Brooks will be joined by Jan Forney-Davis, a young vocalist who has participated in the Jazz Connoisseur Series at the Smithsonian Institute, and who frequently performs in gospel programs in the Boston area.

Pianist - Composer Abdu-Raschid Yahya is the present director the Cultural Arts Program's Jazz Workshop. He has worked with Pharoah Sanders, Clifford Jordan and Jimmy Heath, and was a member of the Motown big band which performed with the Temptations and Stevie Wonder. He is also director of the Creative Artists Music Ensemble which performed his composition "The American Afro Brazilian Experience" at the Wilmington Grand Opera House in 1979. This composition was commissioned by the Delaware State Arts Council.

Yahya has received a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts to record his program "Evolution of the Black Man through Music", which toured the D.C. public school system. For his June 20 performance he has chosen several prominent Baltimore jazz artists: vocalist Nataska Hasan, alto saxophone player Carl Grubbs, bassist Drew Gress and drummer Dennis Chambers.



Zahir Batin . . . New York



Christopher Brooks Boston



Abdu-Raschild Yahya
Baltimore

Shirelles' star dead at 41

Addie (Micki) Harris McFadden, a member of the popular '50s and 60s singing group, the Shirelles died following the group's second performance June 10 at Atlanta's Hyatt Regency. She was 41.

She had complained of stomach pains and at AFRO presstime, cause of death had not been determined.

McFadden, along with Beverly Lee, Doris Kenner Jackson and Shirley Alston Owen formed the group "The Shirelles" while in junior high school in Passaic, N.J.

Their greatest hit came in 1962 when they recorded "Soldier Boy" which netted the group a gold record and number one ranking on Billboard's magazine chart for 14 weeks.

Protests on Ch. 2's preemption of 'Sister, Sister'

Dear AFRO:

On Monday, June 7, 1982, 'Sister, Sister,' written by Maya Angelou, was unceremoniously cancelled by Channel 2, WMAR television, Baltimore, Md.

This cancellation came after Channel 2 had heavily promoted the show for two weeks with aired spot announcements and newspaper advertisements. There was absolutely no mention of the fact that the show would not be aired.

I am particularly concerned because of a recent Washington Post newspaper article which stated that sponsors of 'Sister, Sister' had been forced to retract their support by the pressure group called Moral Majority. The sponsors specifically named in the article were Kodak and General Mills.

If this is so, then the future for commerical television in Baltimore, Md. is indeed bleak. Rather than going forth into another "Golden Age of Television" with creative writing genius and acting talent, we will remain on a treadmill of hypocritical mediocrity.

I actively support Public Television because I am able to freely make the choice to view or not to view. Programming decisions such as the arbitrary cancellation of 'Sister, Sister' did not give me this freedom of choice.

Is commercial television in Baltimore, Md. a wasteland of provincialism? Can we look forward to programming that is reflective of a television industry sensitive to the complexities of diverse communities? And, will this television industry recognize the talented and gifted and gifted human resources available to provide for the educational, cultural and entertainment needs of these communities? Time will tell. Ruth K. Lansey.

Dear WMAR:

My wife and I consider it a slap in the face to all black people in Baltimore at your decision not to show 'Sister, Sister,' Monday, June 7, 1982. For too long black needs, desires, and culture have been ignored by the mass media who are supposed to serve the public.

The 1980 Census showed that blacks now make up the majority population in Baltimore City, yet you decided to show some country Music Show over a significant black presentation. We're not saying you should ignore Country Music fans, I'm sure you have a few in Baltimore, but should you ignore the wishes of the majority population, particulary when its' shows are few and far between?

Blacks have been counted as non people since the 3-fifths amendment. Its distressing to see that in your eyes we haven't come that far.

In calling your station that night, some "smart" man said "Well you could have tuned to Channel 4". This is another example of insensitivity and ignorance to the black situation. Most blacks live in apartments and don't have the luxury or roof top antennas capable of picking up D.C. stations with clarity. Particuliar Channel 4 which comes in the weakest of the D.C. stations. We have a very strong set of rabbit ears and have great difficulty getting WRC-TV, and why should we have to anyway. We live in Baltimore. WMAR is supposed to serve us.

If you had to air the country music show, why didn't you at least tape 'Sister, Sister' and show it to Baltimore at another time. I'm sure you could have preempted a rerun of one of NBC's many medicare programs, to show a World Premiere Movie.

Night Scene Seen

BOB MATTHEWS



Looks as though the jazz jam at the Sportsmen's Lounge is one of the top attractions this weekend, with Groove Holmes, heading up a trio.

Along with Groove will be O'Donel Levy, guitar, and Bobby Ward, drums at the 4 to 8 p.m. set. It's being billed as a jazz workshop, and we heard Groove and Bobby during their gig at the Arch Social Club last week.

It was spectacular then, and with the addition of O'Donel, this has got to be "the" event. Incidently, Bobby is becoming one of the hardest working musicians around town.

He, along with Groove, will be the weekend attraction at the Sportsmen's Lounge, then on Sunday, the Famous Ballroom is presenting the Bobby Ward group, including Jim Bethea, guitar and Mickey Fields, tenor sax.

It is expected that Groove will be a part of this group, although we couldn't confirm it by press time. The Sunday outing is one way to keep the Sunday afternoon jazz sets rolling, since the Left Bank Jazz Society has closed out for the Summer.

The concerts will go on at 5 p.m., lasting until 9 p.m., and we are told that Chef Willis will man the kitchen as usual. Of course, this is incentive enough, despite the music.

This is Jazz Weekend '82 at Gallery 409, as the Urban Services Cultural Arts Program brings in Zahir Batin and the Notorious Ensemble Saturday at 8 p.m.

Sunday, Christopher Brooks, guitarist, with vocalist Jan Forney-Davis occupy center stage. This happens at 2 p.m. At 5 that same day, Abdu-Raschid Yahya and Ensemble featuring vocalist Nataska Hasan will be the featured artists.

The Closet has a swinging lineup for this weekend, with Buck Hill and his trio doing the weekend chores. Was especially happy to see that the Closet brought in the intact quartet, for they have been playing together constantly.

Marc Cohen is on piano; Tommy Cecil, bass, and Hugh Walker, drums, along with Buck Hill, tenor sax.

This is another of those "don't miss" sessions, for listening to Buck with his own group is really a gas. This way, he gets to play a lot of original material, and it swings.

The Maryland Inn is presenting Monty Alexander through Sunday night, and this is without a doubt one of the top pianists on the scene today.

We especially like the way Monty integrates Jamaican rhythms into his jazz expositions, and although we didn't get the lineup of sidemen who are with him, we hope that steel drums player is in the group.

Yes, steel drums, just like you heard in the Caribbean, except this guy plays mainstream bebop on them—superb.

Over at Gatsby's, O'Donel Levy is the main attraction in the Billie Holiday Room tonight and Saturday. Wednesday's, the Billy Murphy Trio is in place.

Calendar

June 18-19: Catonsville Community College's Summernight Theatre will present as its first production of the 1982 season "The Good Doctor" by Neil Simon. The musical, with lyrics by Simon, will be presented in the Humanities Theatre of CCC on June 18, 19, 25 and 26 at 8 p.m. with a 1 p.m. matinee on Friday, June 25. Call 455-4370.

June 18-19-20: Many events especially for children are planned at the 20th annual Annapolis Arts Festival along the downtown waterfront of Maryland's capital city. Youngsters ages three through 11 can enjoy the Discovery Tent, an hour long supervised activity for children only. In addition, programs on the Festival's outdoor stage Friday and Saturday afternoons June 18 and 19 will be geared to young audiences.

June 20: Sunday, Phillip Jason, editor of the respected journal "Poet Lore", will be the featured guest artist at the Seventh Annual Maryland Writer's Program. The program will be held at Catonsville Community College on June 20 and 26. Further details on the Maryland Writers Conference are available from the English Division, Catonsville Community College, 800 S. Rolling Rd. Call 455-4138.

June 22: Tuesday, youngsters are invited to join "Through the Listening Horn", a theatrical introduction to the world of the deaf being presented at Baltimore's two free children's outdoor entertainment series, Little People's Program at noon and Kid's Stuff at 7 p.m. Listening Horn Productions will open the 1982 season at the Inner Harbor's Harry D. Kaufman south shore Pavilion on Tuesday. Listening Horn Productions, a Washington, D.C. based company, has developed an original play combining the arts of mime, dance, music and puppetry to introduce children to deafness and sign language.

June 24: Thursday, the Mount Vernon Brass Players bring some brass music to children at the Inner Harbor's Little People's Program, noontime at the Harry D. Kaufman south shore Pavilion.

June 27: Sunday, the 1982 Best Dressed Pet Contest, a special event for children and their pets, will be held at Catonsville Community College, at 1 p.m. It is the beginning of many gala Community Festival events. Prizes will be awarded on the basis of ap- 94.

June 29: Tuesday, the Sheryl-Lynn Dance Studio will present a "Summer Review", in War Memorial Plaza at noon. Featured will be a group of approximately 20 children who will demonstrate tap, ballet, and gymnastics techniques. Admission is free.

June 29: Tuesday, Tradition "Americana" comes clogging to the Inner Harbor's Little People's Program and Kid's Stuff at noon and 7 p.m. The Fiddle Puggett Cloggers bring their traditional dance form of the Southern Appalachian Mountains to the Harry D. Kaufman south shore Pavilion.

July 1: Thursday, Maryland Hall Story Theatre, an energetic company of four professional actors from the Annapolis area, will perform "Maryland Yarns" at the Little People's Program, noontime, at the Inner Harbor's Harry D. Kaufman south shore Pavilion. This children's performance is fre to all.

July 6: Thursday, youngsters can experience the biggest little circus imaginable when the New World Theatre Company brings "The Hot and Cold Running Circus" to the noontime Little People's Program and Kid's Stuff at 7 p.m. Both free outdoor children's performances will be held at the inner Harbor's Harry D. Kaufman Pavilion.

Free events for children

Children will be "Master Adventurers" at all agencies of the Enoch Pratt Free Library this summer. This year's version of the Liberty's annual reading incentive program, designed as a board game, may be played by children 6 to 11 years old at any hour the libraries are open. Children will move their knights from a castle along a path of adventures in book- and library activities to rescue or escape from seven mythical creatures pictured on the board. For detailed information, call the neighborhood branch children's librarian.

Northwood Branch: Celebrate "American Indian Days during the week of June 21-25. Help build a teepee; learn about Indian crafts and lore; and taste some delicious Indian food. For more information, please see Angela Mavis, young adult librarian.

Monday, June 21

Central Library, Wheeler Auditorium: Film — "SPFX: Special Effects — The Empire Strikes Back", 2 p.m.

Northwood Branch: Film — "More Than Bows and Arrows," 3:30 p.m.

Canton Center: Films — "The Magician" and "Mixo's Journey," 4 p.m.

Reisterstown Road Branch: Paiama Story Hour for ages 3-5, 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, June 22

Cherry Hill Center: Films — "The Great Silence" and "Winter of the Witch," 3 p.m.

Light Street Branch: Film — "The Boston Tea Party," 3:30 p.m.

Northwood Branch: Films — "Arrow to the Sun," "The Ballad of Crowfoot," "The Old Chiefs Dance," "Conquista," and "Ishi in Two Worlds," 3:30 p.m.

Pennsylvania Avenue Branch: Films — "Tap Dance Kid" and "The Music Box," 3:30 p.m.

Wednesday, June 23

Gardenville Branch: Preschool films — "A Little Girl and a Gumy Wolf," "The Red Carpet," and "The Shoemaker and the Elves," 10:30 a.m.

Herring Run Branch: Preschool story hour, 10:30 a.m.

Hamilton Branch: Film 1 — "The Swimming Pool" and "The Amazing Cosmic Awareness of Duffy Moon," 1 p.m.

Northwood Branch: Film — "The Little Princess," 1:30 p.m.

Highlandtown Center: Film — "Loaded Pistols," 2 p.m.

Morrell Park Center: Films — "The Laurel-Hardy Murder Case," "Pushmi-Pullyu," and "The Ride," 2 p.m.

St. Paul Street Center: Films — "Luke Was There" and "Busy Bodes," 2:45 p.m.

Broadway Branch: Films — "Anansi the Spider" and "Everybody's Different and That's Okay!," 3:30 p.m.

Dundalk Avenue Branch: Game time, 3:30 p.m.

Herring Run Branch: Films — "It Must Be Love, 'Cause I Feel So Dumb" and "A Movie Star's Daughter," 3:30 p.m.

Thursday, June 24

Hamilton Branch: Preschool films — "The Three Robbers" and "Andy and the Lion," 10 a.m.

Cherry Hill Center: Story hour for ages 5 to 11, 1 p.m.

Herring Run Branch: Preschool films — "Leopold the See-through Crumpsicker," "Mike Mulligan and His Steam Shovel," "The House That Jack Built," and "Georgie to the Rescue," 2 p.m.

Serderville Branch: Film — "Maurice Sendak's 'Really Rosie' Starring the Nutshell Kids," 3:30 p.m.

Northwood Branch: Film — "End of the Trail," 3:30 p.m.

Friday, June 25

St. Paul Street Center: Preschool films — "The Story About Ping," "Whistle for Willie," and "Curious George Rides a Bike," 10:30 a.m.

Dundalk Avenue Branch: Film — "The Big Wheels and the Sailor," 3:30 p.m.

Northwood Branch: Films — "The North American Indian" (Parts 1-3), 3:30 p.m.

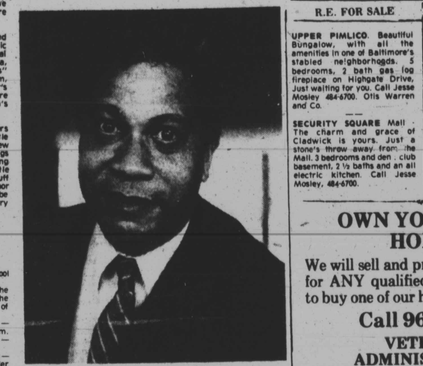
Waverly Branch: Film — "Tomorrow is Yesterday," 3:30 p.m.



$1500 WINNER — Eighteen-year-old Carol Stockton, graduating senior at Western High School, won Lorraine Hansberry $1,000 Scholarship Award, and the Sheldon B. Hoskins Humanitarian Award of $250, at Arena Players Awards banquet on Friday evening. She plans to enroll at Towson State University in the fall. Women's Committee of Arena presented $2,000 to Arena building fund duzing the ceremony. In photo, Miss Stockton accepts one prize from Clifton W. Sherrard. Other was presented by Mrs. Christine Moore — (Moss Photos)



ARENA HONOREES — Sixteenth annual Awards Presentation sponsored by Arena Players on Friday evening featured special citations to supporters. From left, Mrs. Camilla Sherrard, and in rear, Samuel H. Wilson Jr., who presented the honorees, beginning second from left, Mrs. Zerita T. Skates, Mrs. Vancountess Payne and Mrs. Shirley Johnson Griffin.



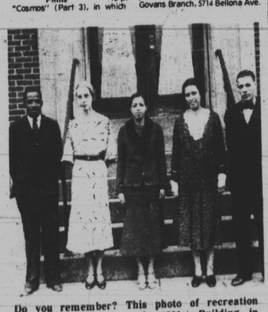
Daniel L. Comegys Jr. in recital at the Waxter Center, Saturday, June 19 at 1 p.m.

Pratt calendar

Bokjack, a reading game for the 12-21 year-old set with 21 ways to play and chances to win paperbacks, posters, certificates, Orioles tickets, and many more prizes, begins at 18th library branches on June 21. Call Cathi Esparlon, 396-5484, for more details.

Films — 18 pt "Cosmos" (Part 3), in which Dr. Carl Sagan explores how each society has interpreted the heavens in its own likeness, will be screened at 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, June 24, at the Dundalk Avenue Branch, 912 Dundalk Ave.

"Cosmos" (Part 4), which describes the evolution of the universe, will be screened at 7 p.m. on Thursday, June 24, at the Govans Branch, 5714 Bellona Ave.



Do you remember? This photo of recreation leaders "fan in the early 1930s: Building in background is the Sharp Street Community House. Above from (L) C. C. Jackson, Juanita Gorham Hill, executive director; Mrs. Charlotte Hackett, Mrs. Adah Killon Jenkins, former AFRO Music Critic and Powell Sheffey.



Black writer Langston Hughes was the most prolific writer of the literary movement called the Harlem Renaissance.

LEGAL NOTICES

RELIABLE CONTRACTING COMPANY, INC. is soliciting bidding SHA Contract Q-605 501-277, Concrete pavement repairs and Ramp and Ride Extension on Route 50 in Queen Anne's County. Subcontractor bids re requested from MDOT Certified MBE and FBE firms for any bid item including excavation, concrete work, trucking, furnishing stone and other materials.

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